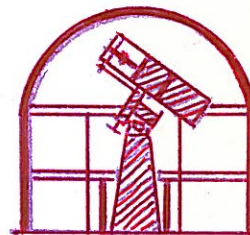




the spectrum



MARCH 1965

THE BUFFALO ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION

EDITOR B. COOK

MEETING MARCH 12TH

The Buffalo Astronomical Association is pleased to have as its speaker for the March meeting, Mr. Norman J. Vester. His subject will be "Certain aspects of the New Cosmology and Their Possible Effects in a Rapidly Changing Society". He will give you some startling thoughts over which to ponder. You may or may not agree with all he has to say, but he will make you think, and may even jar you up a bit.

When Mr. Vester was a student in the philosophy classes at the University of Buffalo, he did outstanding work, and his ideas provoked many serious and exciting discussions. Many have remarked that his thinking is years ahead of his time. He has studied and digested the works of the world's greatest thinkers. He revels in the philosophies of modern scholars like Ouspensky and Korzybsky, and studies from many books simultaneously in order to form a continuing synthesis.

Mr. Vester is also a fine musician and a superb trombonist and possesses that rare gift of absolute, or perfect pitch. As a profession, he chose to be a teacher of band and instrumental music, and has been at Hutchison Central Technical High School for many years where he has had great success with the boys in the school.

We dare you to come to our next meeting and have the cobwebs removed from your cranium by our alert, well-read thinker. He has promised to present those attending with a mystery which nobody has ever seen before: that they will be the only ones to see it, and it will never be seen again. You won't want to miss our March meeting, though you may not be the same after it is over.

CONVENTION

We are pleased to announce the first annual Niagara Frontier Astronomical Association Convention to be held on Saturday, May 15th. This will take the place of the regular monthly meeting which would have been held on the fourteenth of the month.

Area clubs which have been invited are from Niagara Falls, Ontario, Hamilton, Ontario, Rochester, Erie, Pittsburgh, Jamestown and Lockport.

A schedule has been tentatively arranged to include exhibits, presentation of papers, a tour of the Kellogg Observatory and Walter Semerau's Solar Observatory. There will be a banquet at the Continental Inn and possibly a visit to the Newstead Observatory if the weather is favorable.

We are sending out an urgent plea for volunteers to head and to serve on various committees - in particular arrangements, scheduling, and guides. Please phone Ron Clippinger at NF4-4718 or let him know at the next meeting if and how you will be willing to help. This is a large undertaking and we are all urged to do our share.

As plans develop members will be kept informed of news concerning the Convention.

NEW MEMBERS

The Buffalo Astronomical Association is happy to welcome two new members to our association. They are:

Craig Ransom

James Fields

We hope they will find membership in the B.A.A. both profitable and stimulating.

JUNE PLANS CHANGED

The previously announced trip to the David Dunlap Observatory scheduled for June has been cancelled. Instead, we will visit the Allegheny Observatory in Pittsburg by chartered bus. In order to be certain of the number of people who will make the trip we are asking that the fee of \$8.00 be paid in advance. This fee does not cover food and it is suggested that the members bring a box lunch.

The bus will leave the Museum late in the afternoon of Saturday June 12th and will arrive about 5 hours later.

We will stay at the observatory for about three hours and return the same night.

NEWS BRIEFS

Two of our distinguished members spoke at the annual conference of The Science Teachers Association of New York State on the 23rd of February.

For the section on Earth Science Mr. Walter Semerau spoke on "Astronomy Practiced and Studied in daylight".

Dr. Seville Chapman spoke before the Physics Section on "How an Employer looks at the Young Research Physicist".

STAR CHARTS

Included in this issue of the Spectrum is the 2nd set in a series of six simplified star charts. This issue is also supplemented with a more detailed chart of the Leo-Virgo region for the purpose of charting the positions of Mars during this 1965 opposition. The writer is requesting aid from the subscriber to take part in this observational survey regardless of the number of sightings.

Each observation should be marked with a dot on the chart accompanied by a number that would correspond to the date and time (EST). The sightings should be taken at about one week intervals and continue through July. Would the completed charts then be submitted to the Museum of Science in care of Dick Zygmunt.

SECTION MEETINGS

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The Advanced Study Group and the Advanced Observing Section will meet in the Museum of Science on Saturday, March 27th at 1:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. respectively. Members of the latter group will again be requested to give short reports on their observing during the previous month.

At the February meeting of the Instrument Section a discussion of mirror holders and eye-pieces by the members, some of whom are also on the Observatory Committee, led to some recommendations which are being sent to the Board of Directors of the B.A.A. Ed Dahlke, who was a guest at the meeting, made further tests on his mirror. The group will next meet on Friday, March 26th.

ERNST E. BOTH

(The following is the first of a series of character sketches which The Spectrum is pleased to present to its readers. We wish to express our gratitude to Edith Geiger for this excellent biography.)

Because Ernst E. Both is a quiet, humble man, few people realise the extent of his talents. Though a young man, his life has been filled with an array of experiences from herding cattle in the Alps, being a janitor and car mechanic, to rubbing elbows with the great men of science and art.

Having lived in Austria and Germany during the last war, he knows the horror and terror in countries being torn to shreds, and lives being snuffed out before his eyes as he ran to escape machine gun fire. He knows the anguish of loved ones lost and found in the shuffle along the roads before the darkening shadows of oncoming conquering armies. He understands what it means to have a brother with great promise as a fine musician and superb artist, listed among the missing in battle. He knows how it feels to be in a refugee camp as a citizen without a country. This part of his life he

prefers not to remember, and hopes some day he may find the answer to why there had to be a war. Having been a part of history in the making, he has lived under every major and minor form of government devised by man, and understands it from first hand experience.

Born in Romania of German parents, he has a rich European background. He was introduced to Astronomy at the early age of ten by his fraternal grandfather who was a teacher, and possessed an atlas showing a fine picture of the moon. His father, who was a biochemist and pharmacist, taught Ernst the constellations.

Ernst's education brought him in contact with many famous scientists. In Austria, he became a pupil of Dr. Kasimir Graff, the renowned astrophysicist who was well known for his planetary and lunar studies, and Dr. Oswald Thomas, an equally well-known astronomer. From these men he learned math, physics and astronomy. It was Dr. Graff who crystalized Ernst's interest in the moon and Mars in particular. Among his other famous teachers were Dr. Kuhlmay, with whom he studied calculus, and Dr. Oberbeisteiner, the rocketry expert.

As a young man absorbed in astronomy, he became interested in sunspots, and after carrying out a program of sunspot observations, sent the results to Dr. Sarne in Vienna, and received most encouraging words from him.

To further add to his contact with the scientific elite, Ernst joined an astronomical group in Lintz, Austria, headed by Dr. Walter Martinetz.

In 1950, fate brought Ernst to the United States and Buffalo. He became a student at the University of Buffalo, where he received his B.A., B.S. and M.A. degrees. He also did some work toward a doctorate.

Beside his knowledge in the fields of mathematics, physics and astronomy, Ernst is well-versed in some aspects of biology. Because of his intense interest, and having taken many courses in it, he, at one time, thought of going into the field of biology as a profession. So well equipped was he as a student of biology, that he was able to serve as a bacteriologist at the Deaconess Hospital for six years.

Added to his other accomplishments is Ernst's ability as a linguist.

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Besides speaking German and English with all their embellishments, he is able to read French, Dutch, Swedish, Italian, Romanian and Latin. He studied Latin for six years, and has read many of the important Latin works. He taught German at the University of Buffalo, and at Washington University in St. Louis.

Our scholar's skill in the humanities is further shown in his appreciation of medieval literature, which he delights in reading.

Ernst is not only well-versed in science, the languages and literature but is also at home with an artist's brush in his hand. While a student in Austria, he had extensive training in art with Dr. Wilhelm Traeger, a well known Austrian painter. Ernst helped Dr. Traeger with the collecting of art pictures to be used as teaching material by the master. They became close friends, and Ernst became a capable artist.

His artistic accomplishments also extend into the realm of music, inheriting his ability and appreciation from his forebears. His maternal grandfather trained for the opera and appeared on the concert stage. His father, besides being a pharmacist, played the violin with considerable skill, and Ernst, under his father's guidance, studied violin for five or six years. Our gifted member has taken many courses in music, including counterpoint, and numerous classes in music history. His new stereo, from which pour the works of the symphonic greats, affords him much pleasure. In the world of music, he singles out piano concertos as holding the greatest enjoyment for his listening hours.

Other interests include battle-ships, collecting Roman coins, and entomology.

Ernst has become known internationally for his work as a lunar and planetary specialist. He has been the Jupiter and Mars Recorder in the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers, and also the Foreign Language Coordinator for this same organization. His astronomical articles have appeared in Sky and Telescope; Strolling Astronomer, the publication of the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers; The Moon, a publication of the British Astrono-

the International Lunar Society, in which Ernst is a Senior Fellow; the Museum Journal of the Buffalo Museum of Science; and the Review of Popular Astronomy. He has written booklets for the Museum series and has written for our local papers.

As a lecturer, he has appeared before the Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers at their convention in Montreal, and before the Astronomical League Convention held in Denver. He has been very willing to give of his time to fill the many requests he has to speak before various groups in our area. His appearances on television are numerous.

This man of endless energy has been collaborating with Dr. Joseph Ashbrook of Harvard Observatory on several articles, and together they are working on some special astronomical projects.

Our busy Mr. Both, besides his museum duties as Curator of Astronomy which he carries out with enthusiasm, is working on an extensive history of lunar studies, and also an observers guide to the moon which will include a large map which he is preparing.

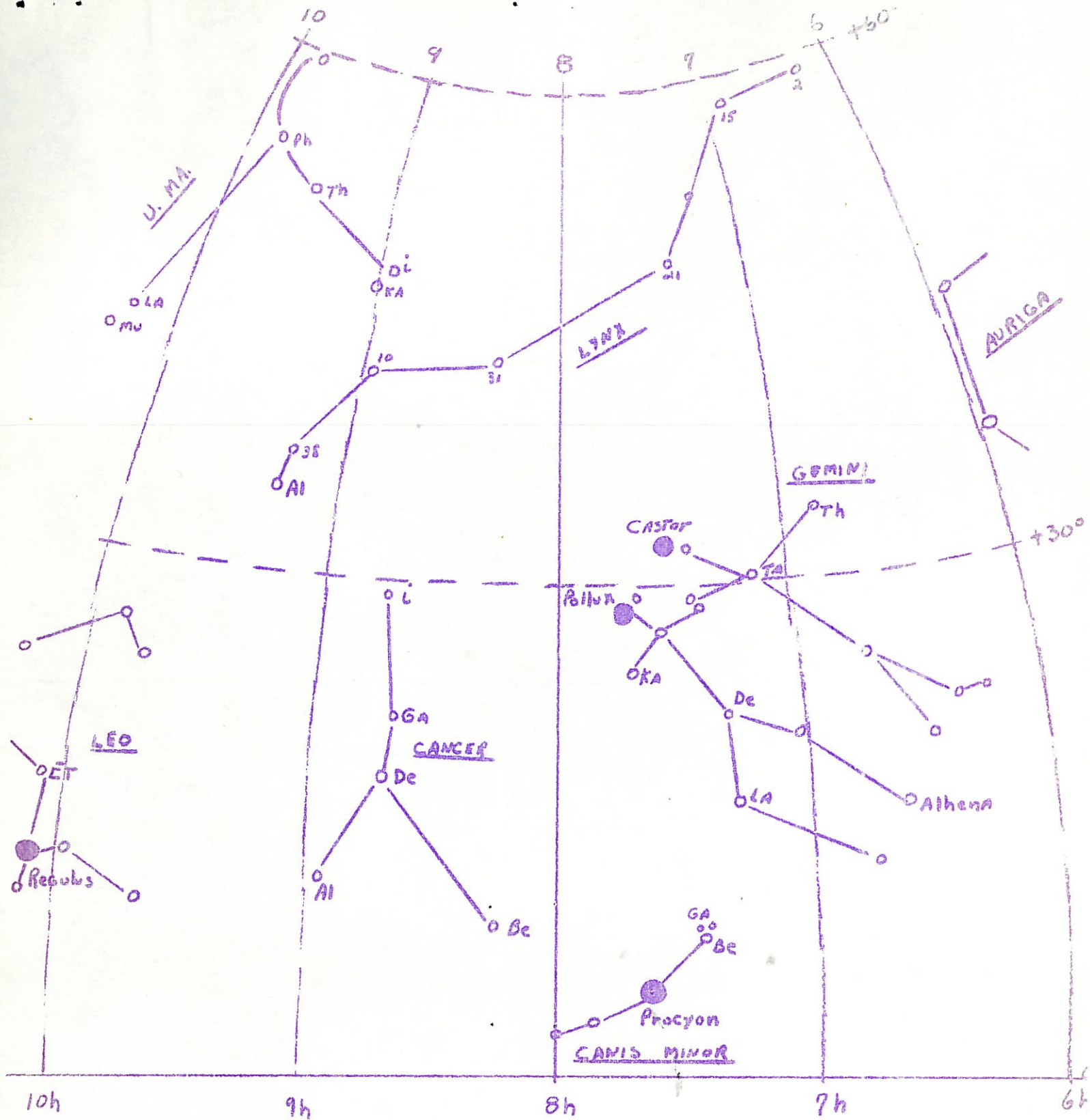
Ernst's greatest astronomical interests are the moon, the history of astronomy, and helping others, especially the young, to enjoy the wonders of the heavens. He hopes that the equipment at the museum can be modernized in order to meet the space information needs of our citizenry, and also hopes that it will be possible, under the

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auspices of the museum, to build a large telescope outside of Buffalo, to provide scientific enrichment for for the communities of the Niagara Frontier.

Along with all of his talents, accomplishments and service to youth and mankind, this man finds time to walk through the woods and meadows, over hill and dale admiring all that Nature has placed on this earth for all to see and enjoy. Ernst, who knows well the things of which the heavens are made, knows too the wonders of his earth, and can pluck the lowly mushroom from the field and know that it is safe to eat as his knowledge lets him pass by those which should only be gazed upon.

The countryside of North Collins knows the happiness that dwells in the home of Ernst and his charming and delightful wife, Billie, and their three wonderful children, Heidi, Eric and Ingrid, as they find peace and joy in the wonders of country living.

Ernst is a man of kindness, warmth, generosity and consideration for his fellow-man. He enriches the lives of all with whom he comes in contact. A completely selfless man, he has dedicated himself to others. He is a guiding light of our B.A.A., and for us to be associated with this remarkable human being is an honor and a privilege.



Gemini
 Cancer
 Lynx
 Leo

CANIS MAJOR
 CANIS MINOR

