



the spectrum



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THE BUFFALO ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION

Editor B. COOK

JUNE MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Buffalo Astronomical Association will be held in the Buffalo Museum of Science on June 9th at 8:00 P.M. The annual business meeting and election board members will be held at this meeting. Another thing to be discussed is the time and locations of the star nights.

Following the meeting there will be the usual social hour during which coffee and doughnuts will be served.

CONVENTION REPORT

The reports are in - the convention was an outstanding success! For the benefit of those who were unable to attend all the events we would like to touch on a few of the aspects.

Approximately 60 people took advantage of the magnificent weather and showed up at our observatory at Newstead. Most of the people attending the convention came in their own cars and with the aid of the fine maps made by our artistic member, Olga Lindberg, transportation presented a minimal problem.

The Saturday meetings at the Hotel

Statler were well received and there was no dearth of material. As a matter of fact enthusiasm was high and the meetings ran overtime.

Sunday dawned dark and gloomy. It was feared that our piece de resistance, the visit to Walter Semerau's solar laboratory, might not get the interest it deserved. On the contrary, however, a crowd showed up promptly at 1:00 and close to 80 people were present. But Walt was ready for them with pictures and cameras on display and the back yard telescope in operation. Happily, the sun came out and Walt was able not only to explain the equipment but to show it in operation. Many people took pictures of the sun's image as it was projected on the screen. The crowd was well behaved and boasted a few non-conventioners who had read about the solar laboratory in the newspaper and phoned to ask if they might also be permitted to see it.

One of the editors of Sky and Telescope attended the convention and after Walt's speech at the Hotel Statler asked if he might come out

a bit ahead of the others and have a little talk. He is anxious to have Walt write an article for the magazine and wants to raise some money to help Walt make a movie with sound track and a professional narrator. He realized, as we all have for some time, that Walt has something that is absolutely unique and that the astronomical world should have the opportunity of seeing it by means of a film which would be in the neighborhood of a half hour in length. It was anticipated that the Astronomical League might handle the distribution of the film.

We have always been supremely proud of Walter Semerau's accomplishments and are delighted that others may know of them. Unfortunately, the movie will not be able to transmit Walt's personal character and charm which we have had the privilege to know and admire.

Congratulations are in order to all who worked hard to make the convention a success. The list is too long to print here but we wish to thank everyone, from pamphlet folders to those who took heavy responsibilities. It was a job beautifully done!