

Supplement to the JOURNAL

of the ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY of CANADA

ANNUAL REPORT 1975

PRESIDENTS OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

1890-1894	C. Carpmael	1936-1937	R. E. DeLury
1895	L. W. Smith	1938-1939	W. Findlay
1896-1897	J. A. Paterson	1940	J. A. Pearce
1898-1899	A. Harvey	1941-1942	F. S. Hogg
1900-1901	G. E. Lumsden	1943-1944	A. V. Douglas
1902-1903	R. F. Stupart	1945-1946	A. E. Johns
1904-1907	C. A. Chant	1947-1948	J. W. Campbell
1908-1909	W. B. Musson	1949-1950	A. Thomson
1910-1911	A. T. DeLury	1951-1952	C. S. Beals
1912-1913	L. B. Stewart	1953-1954	J. F. Heard
1914-1915	J. S. Plaskett	1955-1957	R. M. Petrie
1916-1917	A. D. Watson	1957-1959	H. S. Hogg
1918-1919	A. F. Miller	1959-1960	A. McKellar
1920-1921	J. R. Collins	1960-1962	P. M. Millman
1922-1923	W. E. W. Jackson	1962-1964	R. J. Northcott
1924-1925	R. M. Stewart	1964-1966	K.O. Wright
1926-1927	A. F. Hunter	1966-1968	M. M. Thomson
1928-1929	W. E. Harper	1968-1970	J. E. Kennedy
1930-1931	H. R. Kingston	1970-1972	H. Simard
1932-1933	R. K. Young	1972-1974	J. L. Locke
1934-1935	L. Gilchrist	1974-	J. D. Fernie

SECRETARIES OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Corresponding Secretary 1890-1901; Secretary 1902-1919, General Secretary 1920-1949; National Secretary 1950 onwards.

1890-1899	G. E. Lumsden	1932-1935	R. A. Gray
1900-1901	W. B. Musson	1935-1958	E. J. A. Kennedy
1902-1917	J. R. Collins	1958-1964	J. E. Kennedy
1918-1919	W. E. W. Jackson	1964-1971	N. Green
1920-1923	A. F. Hunter	1971-1974	C. E. Hodgson
1924-1927	F. T. Stanford	1974-	D. J. FitzGerald
1928-1931	L. Gilchrist		

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The 1975 General Assembly took place at St. Mary's University in Halifax, June 27-29, and maintained the continuing high standards of recent Assemblies. The only contretemps was the absence of the Northcott Lecturer, Dr. Owen Gingrich, due to a sudden bereavement in his family. We thank and congratulate the Halifax Centre for their hard work in producing an excellent program.

During the year the National Council decided to proceed with the sale of the National Headquarters building in Toronto. It long seemed as though a favourable settlement would be reached with the neighbouring Clarke Institute, but cut-backs in provincial spending resulted in this falling through, and the property has now been placed on the open market. The National Secretary and a small committee will deal with the concomitant problem of where to relocate our Headquarters once a definite date of sale is known, although Council has several times debated general ideas on this matter.

The Society's library has become a matter of increasing concern during the year. Although any member anywhere in the country may borrow books by mail from the library, it is in fact a service that is hardly used at all. Council must now face the question of whether it is worth trying to maintain the library in view of the current very high prices for books (as well as the cost of the space they occupy), or whether to convert it into purely a slide- and film-library. No decision has yet been made on this, but members who have strong feelings on the subject should make them known to Council as soon as possible.

Dr. Ian Halliday has now left the post of editor of the Journal and been replaced by Dr. Lloyd Higgs. We thank Dr. Halliday for his years of hard work on our behalf, and welcome Dr. Higgs to the editorship.

It is a pleasure to announce that two new Honorary Members were appointed during the year: Dr. Allan Sandage of the Hale Observatories, California, and Dr. Audouin Dollfus of the Paris Observatory.

Once again, I am most grateful to the many people who have given generously of their time in assisting the Council during the past year.

J. D. Fernie

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

1975 has been another year of extensive and varied activity by the Society's Centres across Canada as described in the reports which follow.

During the year Council Meetings were held in Toronto on January 25th, April 26th, and September 27th. The Annual Meeting was held in Halifax on June 28th in conjunction with the General Assembly and Council Meetings.

Membership in the Society at September 30th, 1975 decreased by 5% compared to 1974. Comparative figures are listed below.

	1974	1975
Calgary	61	61
Edmonton	42	63
Halifax	33	37
Hamilton	66	62
Kingston	18	12
London	36	35
Montreal	139	102
La Society D/Ast. Mtl	54	53
Niagara	31	25
Ottawa	206	195
Quebec	69	55
St. John's	11	12
Saskatoon	58	56
Toronto	647	594
Vancouver	112	129
Victoria	85	104
Windsor	45	37
Winnipeg	53	52
Unattached		
Canada	173	186
United States	369	327
Overseas	26	26
Honorary	14	15
TOTAL:	2348	2238

The Society gratefully acknowledges the receipt of annual grants from the National Research Council of Canada and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities of the Province of Ontario.

In addition, we are grateful for a donation of \$10,000. bequeathed to us by the Estate of the late Edward Russell Paterson, who died January 2nd, 1975.

D.J. FitzGerald, National Secretary

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARIAN

I am pleased to submit the following report on the activities of your Library Committee during 1975.

The Committee consisted of Mr. Peter Broughton, Mr. Ralph Chou, Mr. Cyril Clark, and Dr. Helen Hogg. Valuable assistance was also rendered by Mr. Moody Kalbfleisch (Toronto), Mr. Paul Brown (Kingston), Mr. B. F. Shinn (Winnipeg), and Miss Rosemary Freeman, Executive Secretary.

Circulation was disappointingly low this year, primarily because of a long postal

strike in the fall. However, about 125 books were borrowed during the year. Requests for books came from members from such diverse places as St. John's, Newfoundland; Port Elgin, Ontario; Mould Bay, N.W.T.; and Prince Rupert, B.C. Plans to add a number of new volumes to the Library were postponed when the postal strike slowed to a trickle the cash inflow to the National Office.

A new storage facility for our slide collection arrived in the autumn. However, there is still quite a lot of work to be done before the collection will be ready for circulation again. Mr. Paul Brown (Kingston) and Mr. Frank Shinn (Winnipeg) were able to overcome a number of technical hurdles and record a sound track on Mr. Shinn's film Sand, Silver and Stars, which describes the fabrication of a 12-inch Cassegrain telescope for Jack Newton. Finally, a number of old films were discarded as they were worn beyond repair.

The September, 1975, meeting of National Council included a discussion about the future of your National Library. In particular, concern was expressed over the relatively little use being made of the facility. As Librarian, I would ask that interested members communicate to me their feelings on how the Library might best serve the Society. In particular, what kinds of materials (books, slides, films, etc.) should the Library stock, and for what purposes? Any suggestions will be welcomed.

In closing, I should like to express my sincere gratitude to all of those who assisted with the operation of the Library during the year. It has been a pleasure to serve the Society in this capacity.

Harlan Creighton, National Librarian

REPORT OF THE EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

It is with pleasure that I submit the following report on the *National Newsletter* for 1975.

During the year, the Editorial Committee consisted of Marie Fidler, Norman Green, Dr. J. F. Heard, William Peters and Celeste Peters, as Assistant Editors, with the undersigned as Editor.

A total of seventy-two pages were published — twice the number of any previous year. As the result of work by Mr. Peters, photographs became a regular feature in the *Newsletter* and we hope to add a photographer to our committee in the new year. The response of the membership, in terms of contributions, has been very gratifying. In fact, we were unable to print all of the material submitted for the December issue, since the addition of another leaf would have made the Journal too fat for its binding!

The Editorial Committee aims to publish material that is of interest to our membership at large. We want the *Newsletter* to be an expression of the varied interests and activities of the entire membership. We hope that the *Newsletter* will provide a national forum through which our membership may share their fascination of astronomy with others.

In closing, I wish to pay tribute to the entire Editorial Staff for their exceptionally fine work. It has been a real pleasure to work with them. Special thanks are due to Bill and Celeste Peters who have been responsible for a number of innovations, some of which will appear in 1976; also to Jan Davidse of the University of Toronto Press, who has assisted in many ways. Finally, I am deeply grateful to our growing number of contributors, without whom the Newsletter would not exist.

The Editorial Committee looks forward to serving you in the coming year.

CALGARY CENTRE

1975 was another interesting year for the Calgary Centre. The usual number of Council meetings were held together with special committee meetings to plan for the 1976 General Assembly in this city. Our membership increased about ten percent and the meetings were all well attended. These included:

January 16 "The Black Hole Mystery": Dr. D. J. I. Fry, University of Calgary

February 20 "Junior Forum": Cameron Treleaven on "Using a Camera with your Telescope"

March 20 "Fact and Fiction in Astronomy": J. Brian Clarke

April 17 "Relativity and Randomness in the Universe": Dr. Philip Greenberg (exchange speaker from the Edmonton Centre)

May 15 "Immanuel Velikovsky — Let's Take a Look": Dr. E. R. Milton, University of Lethbridge

September 18 "Aurora, Modern Ideas": Dr. T. Berkey, University of Calgary

October 16 "Observatory Night" at Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, Priddis

November 20 "Archaeological Astronomy": Dr. G. Milone, University of Calgary

December 11 Annual Banquet held at Hy's Steak House. The entertainment included a slide show by Dr. Fry on his recent visit to India.

In October over 150 members and guests enjoyed a special Planetarium Night, hosted by John Findlay.

The Centre is again indebted to the University of Calgary for the use of their facilities for some of our meetings as well as access to the Observatory at Priddis and to Dr. Alan Clark for his assistance in this regard. Meeting places were divided between the University and the Calgary Centennial Planetarium.

Marie Litchinsky, Secretary

EDMONTON CENTRE

The Edmonton Centre held nine regular and five council meetings during the 1974-75 season. The regular meetings were held in the Queen Elizabeth Planetarium. The first meeting was on October 21 at which time the new executive and council were elected. At the Centre's Annual Banquet, in November, the President's Award and McBain Astrophotography Award were presented.

Speakers and topics for the regular meetings were:

October Dr. Jack Winzer: "Polluted Stars".

November Annual Banquet; Dr. Philip Greenberg: "General and Special Relativity"

December Film presentation: "The Crab Nebula".

January Dr. Doug Hube: "Binary Stars", or "Seeing Double".

February Planetarium presentation: "The Year of the Younger Wood Rabbit".

March Anthony Whyte: "The Light of the Night Sky — the Gegenschein, Zodiacal Light, Aurora, et cetera".

April Dr. D. J. Fry, exchange speaker from the Calgary Centre: "The Black Hole Mystery".

May Paul Deans: "Here, There and Everywhere - the Case for Extraterrestial Life" and Alan Dyer: "Are We Alone?"

June Film presentation: "The Jupiter Odyssey" and "Space in the 70's – the Knowledge Bank".

The Edmonton Centre and the Queen Elizabeth Planetarium again jointly hosted *Star Night*, a two day public programme of displays, lectures, films and telescope observing. It was held in September, 1975.

Membership, attendance at meetings and the Centre's bank account all showed a healthy increase this season and this will make for a very active Centre next year.

HALIFAX CENTRE

Our major activity in 1975 was of course the General Assembly held at Saint Mary's University, June 27-29. From all accounts, it was a successful undertaking attracting almost 100 registrants from 14 of 18 centres across the country.

Our regular meetings (normally held in the Nova Scotia Museum) are briefly described below. In addition, we held several general observing sessions.

- January 17 Spacecraft: Manned Vehicles to the Planets Past, Present, Future by Martin Zatzman.
- February 21 Black Holes, White Holes and Worm Holes by Dr. Robert Roeder, University of Toronto.
 - March 21 Members Night: slides and movies.
 - April 18 Weather Patterns in Atlantic Canada by Reid Dexter.
 - May 16 Mirror Optics and Grinding by Roy L. Bishop and Peter Edwards.
 - June 20 The 1975 General Assembly: a final organizational meeting.
- September 19 Current Research in Astronomy at Saint Mary's University by Dr. David L. DuPuy, S.M.U.
 - October 17 The Dunn Observatory, a description and tour of the new facility by members of the Dalhousie Physics Department.
- November 21 The Plate Tectonic Revolution by Dr. B. D. Loncarevic, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, N.S.
- December 19 A Cylindrical Astrolabe by Dr. L. Bogan, Acadia University.

P. H. Reynolds, Secretary

HAMILTON CENTRE

The Hamilton Centre had a rather mixed year of activities and events. The regular monthly meetings were quite successful and the other weekly activities were generally well attended. The Observers Group with its regular meetings at the end of the month had the main problem of being clouded out but it was encouraging to see that members were willing to come out when there was a scheduled time rather than have a poor invidiual response. Also much was learned and the big event of the year, the lunar eclipse of May 24, was well attended with a dozen or so members coming out. It's too bad that the eclipse was clouded out just at totality.

The large event of the year was the third tri-annual congress of the International Union of Amateur Astronomers, that was held at McMaster University during the summer. The week long event attracted members from 8 countries and the programme was enjoyed by all. The lecture part of the programme was shared between professional and amateur papers and various business meetings of the Union. The elections of the officers saw Ken Chilton elected to President of the Union for three years and Peter Ashenhurst elected as secretary for the same three year period.

A new activity of the centre is the monthly shopping mall tours in which the centre has a travelling display go to varius covered malls in the area. This display is to advertise the existence of the Hamilton Centre and the various services made available to the public by the Centre such as school lectures, etc. This has been so successful that the programme is being continued during 1976. In the short fall term that the displays have been in use the membership has increased by 11 people. While not a great number, as a percentage of the total membership, it is quite large.

In the regular programme at the monthly meetings, the format is being changed to include about a half hour of films on astronomy along with the regular monthly lecture. The local Library has an excellent collection of new films of astronomical and physical sciences and it was thought that this would add a new dimension to the meetings.

Project Starlab, the Centre's efforts to build an observatory, has fallen on difficult times with the current economic downfall. It is hoped that by this time next year things will have changed sufficiently for the main dome to be constructed and be in use.

P. H. Ashenhurst, Secretary

KINGSTON CENTRE

During most of this year the centre at Kingston has been a small tightly-knit centre. We did not consider ourselves large enough to warrant inviting outside speakers. Thus we contented ourselves with films and mini-lectures from members themselves. We hold a meeting every other Tuesday night and in good weather we hold an observing session for the whole centre on the intervening Mondays. Most of our lectures have been concerned with observing, the solar system and telescope-making. We had for instance a lecture on the moons of the planets and one on celestial coordinate systems. We were lucky to get some films from the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa that were excellent. A new addition to the National Film Library Sand, Silver and Stars made by Frank Shinn about the making of Jack Newton's 12 inch reflector, was screened recently. This was in connection with the several telescope-making projects which are in progress. Right now, (early March) we are all continually trying to get ourselves up at 4 o'clock in the morning to see Comet West, and we hope to get some good pictures.

As we exist as a double entity — being the Queen's University club as well — the AMS, the governing student body at Queen's, has required that all clubs on campus submit a constitution and be ratified. This means that the financial year of the club must run from September to September, therefore we are unable to submit our financial report for 1975 at this time. However, in the summer when the AMS has reimbursed us a report will be be sent to the National Office.

Paul Brown, Secretary

LONDON CENTRE

London Centre held nine regular meetings at the University of Western Ontario campus, and ten executive meetings, chaired by president Peter Andreae. The Program for 1975 was as follows:

- January 18 Annual Meeting and Third Annual Banquet of the London Centre.

 Dr. T. Bolton, U. of T. "Observational Evidence of Black Holes."
- February 14 Mr. Christopher McAlery, U.W.O. Astro. Dept. "Explosive Variables."
 - March 14 Mr. G. Christopher Essex, U.W.O. Astro. Dept. "AAVSO and the Role of the Amateur Astronomer."
 - April 11 Dr. H. R. Kingston Memorial Lecture Dr. W. H. Wehlau, PhD. U.W.O. Astro. Dept. "3.6 metre C.F.H.T."
 - May 9 Mr. L. Huneault and Mr. Gary Drouin, exchange speakers from the Windsor Centre, presented "Astronomical Extravaganza."
 - June 12 Mr. Peter Jedicke "Colonizing Space."
- July-August Weekly Observer's Group meetings at the London Urban Resource Centre.
- September 12 Member's night. Mr. Peter Andreae and Mr. John Conville "Stellafane 1975" and John Conville "General Assembly Halifax N.S."
 - October 12 Mr. Steven Zronik, field investigator A.P.R.O. "U.F.O.s"
- November 14 Mr. Martin Connors, U.W.O. Physics Dept. "Cosmic Rays."
- December 12 Film night, BBC productions of "Crab Nebula" and "Continental Drifting".

The London Centre Annual Banquet in January saw the presentation of the Merit award to two outstanding members of the Centre, past President Martin Connors, and "London RASC News" Editor Dr. David Turner.

The Observer's Group held two, well attended expeditions away from the polluting lights of London this year, the May 25th Lunar Eclipse and Perseid Meteors and Comet Kobayashi Star Night in August. Unfortunately like many observing sessions in the past, these were also plagued with poor sky conditions. Also held under the leadership of Observer's Group head Mike Wallis, were several summer public education sessions on theoretical astronomy and observational techniques, held at the London Public Library's Urban Resource Centre. Several of our members took part in AAVSO variable star programs, such as Recorder and Variable Star head Steven Sharpe who recorded 4,000 estimates from September 1974 to August 1975. Congratulations, Steve.

The Centre's newsletter again this year published many pages of informative reading, and thanks for a job well done Editor Michael Wallis. Seven years of publication, six Editors and (what else) five different printing formats later, "Astronomy London" newsletter is pioneering the techniques of editing, typesetting and mass producing with the aid of an economical, and efficient computer at Western. Our young executive hopes 1976 will be a progressive year for the centre and we can only hope, if the weather permits, for better observing nights for those whose telescope making efforts have paid off successfully.

Eric Clinton, Executive Secretary

MONTREAL CENTRE

The Montreal Centre held two general meetings during the last fiscal year, i.e., October 1, 1974 to September 30, 1975.

In addition, the Observatory was open to the public every Saturday night. At these meetings, talks were given by members of the Centre, and when the weather permitted, various celestial objects were viewed through the Centre's 8-inch Celestron.

Observation nights, for members only, were held every Wednesday, at the Observatory, while the telescope makers met on Tuesday evenings, at a member's house.

Our observatory building was in constant use for additional activities such as Board of Directors and various Committee Meetings, courses, visits by interested groups, newsletter production, etc.

Some of our members lectured to various organizations in the Montreal area.

"Stellafane", the Mecca of Amateur Telescope Makers, was attended by several of our members.

Work on the 20½ inch mirror has progressed slowly but steadily.

"Deep Sky Nights" for members were held successfully during the year. One of these was attended by some members of the Ottawa Centre.

Last but not least, 1975 was the year of "Smog and Telescope", a special issue of our monthly newsletter "Skyward". It was a spoof on "Sky and Telescope" and it drew many favourable comments from all over North America.

Constantine Papacosmas, Secretary

LA SOCIETE D'ASTRONOMIE DE MONTREAL

La grève des postes nous a forcé à tenir notre assemblée générale le 16 décembre 1975 seulement.

Au cours de l'année dernière la Société a acquis un terrain à St.-Valérien, situé à environ 42 milles au sud-est de Montréal, dans le but d'y ériger un observatoire. Les travaux préléminaires ont débuté et on espère qu'à l'automne 1976 la construction de l'édifice

sera terminée. Puis on procédera par la suite à l'installation d'un télescope de 16 pouces.

Dix numéros de notre journal "Le Québec Astronomique" ont été publiés au cours de l'année 1975. Vu le coût de production, le journal sera à l'avenir imprimé avec les appareils disponibles au secrétariat de la Société.

Les conférences du mardi soir n'ont pas été aussi nombreuses, mais une réorganisation du comité des conférences nous assure dorénavant une continuité plus stable.

Quoique le nombre de télescopes construits par nos membres à notre salle d'optique soit moins nombreux que par les années passées, on note une amélioration très sensible dans la perfection des miroirs polis et des télescopes construits. La Société possédera sous peu son propre atelier d'aluminage.

La Société d'Astonomie de Montréal a terminé l'année 1975 avec 374 membres dont 54 étaient également rattachés à la Société Royale d'Astronomie du Canada.

Le Conseil d'administration s'est réuni onze fois au cours de l'année 1975. Le banquet annuel de la Société fut tenu à l'auberge du Vieux Foyer, à Val David (prop. M. Franco Caverzelli, membre actif de notre Société). A cette occasion, le trophée "Etoile d'Argent" fut remis au Dr. Jean-Louis Tassoul, astrophysicien de l'Université de Montréal, pour son travail de vulgarisation de l'astronomie au sein de la population francophone du Québec, et le prix Georgette LeMoyne fut décerné à M. Pierre Beauchamp en témoignage d'appréciation pour les nombreux services rendus à la Société.

La soirée populaire d'astronomie, que l'on organise chaque année en septembre, n'eut pas un grand succès en raison de la température inclémente. Toutefois plusieurs centaines de personnes vinrent nous rencontrer au Planétarium Dow.

Au cours de l'année, des représentants de divers groupes intéressés à l'astronomie au Québec se sont réunis dans le but de favoriser des relations et des échanges entre les intéressés. On l'appelle l'Association des Groupements des Astronomes Amateurs.

Rolland Noël de Tilly, Secrétaire

NIAGARA CENTRE

During 1975 the Niagara Centre completed its arrangements for forming the Corporation. We are now a Corporation, we are still continuing our plans for our Observatory.

During the year we had a number of public Star Nights which were well attended. (When we weren't rained out.)

Our regular meetings were held at the Drummond Hill Library in Niagara Falls and were as follows:

- January 9 Election of Officers. Annual Tres. Report, Joe Hauser's Slide Show. Constellations and Deep Sky Objects. Mariner 9 Slides, and The Four Royal Stars.
- February 13 Ken Chilton was the speaker: topic "Future of Space Flight and a few other things".
 - March 13 Film Show.
 - April 10 Tony Aakerman, Demonstration and Lecture on "Making a Newtonian Telescope, and some hints on mirror grinding".
 - May 15 "Astronomical Discussion General".
 - June 12 "Film Night".
 - July 12 Public Star Night.
 - August 11 Meteor Watch "Perseus Showers".
- September 11 "Astronomical Discussion General".
 - October 9 Robert Winder's "Paper on Grazing Occultations".

 Al Kindy "Astronomical Yard Sticks".
- November 13 Film Night.
- December 11 General Meeting and Film Night.

OTTAWA CENTRE

In 1975 the Ottawa Centre conducted a varied and well-attended series of programs at the National Research Council building:

- January 22 Annual Dinner Meeting, Dr. C. C. Costain, National Research Council, "Is Absolute Time Absolutely Necessary"
- February 19 Film Night "The Story of Mariner X"
 - April 4 Observers' Group "Comets and Comet Hunting"
 - April 24 Dr. Alan H. Bridle, Queens University, "Interstellar Eavesdropping
 Radio Searches for Extraterrestial Life"
- September 16 Dr. M. Quigley, Appleton Laboratories, Slough, England, "Millimetre Radio Astronomy"
 - October 16 Film Night "Lunakhod" and "Who's Out There", Commentary by Rolf Meier
- November 17 Film Night "The Planets", Commentary by Dr. P. Millman, National Research Council
- December 11 Dr. P. A. Feldman, National Research Council, "The Broom-Star of Bethlehem"

The Observers' Group continued its active programs with regular meetings the first Friday of each month and frequent observational evenings at the North Mountain Observatory and the Quiet Site. In July the Centre was thrilled when one of its members, Art Fraser, independently sighted a new comet in the sky, becoming the first Canadian to find it — and just missing the world recognition of having his name attached to it. At the prestigious annual gathering of amateur telescope makers in Stellafane, Vermont, in August, Rolf Meier and Pierre Lemay, both very active Observers' Group members, won awards of excellence for their telescopes. In late summer the group lost its very popular chairperson, Cathy Hall, to the University of Victoria. Her office was ably filled 'till the end of the year by Doug Welch, who was also selected as Observer of the Year for his many activities in the group.

The Centre's newsletter, Astronotes, prepared under the very capable Editorship of Rolf Meier continued to be a focus for shared experiences and activities of Observers' Group members. For the first time twelve numbers were issued during the year and distribution included not only all Ottawa Centre members and copies to all Centres in Canada but, on an exchange or subscription basis, copies have been sent to the United States and Great Britain.

The membership for 1975 was 194 including 21 life members and 37 student members.

It was with regret that the Centre learned of the death in December 1975, of one of its members, Mr. George A. Browne, formerly Canadian Consul General in Sydney, Australia.

E. H. Dudgeon, Secretary

CENTRE DE QUEBEC DE LA S.R.A.C.

L'année 1975 a été des plus riches en activités pour notre centre. De 56 membres que nous comptions au 31 mai 1975 (année 1974-75), nous voici maintenant avec 80 membres en février 1976 (année 1975-76). Le "Bulletin", dont la qualité n'a rien à envier aux autres Centres, a paru à 10 reprises. La bibliothèque s'est enrichie de 50 volumes (30 achats et 20 dons), de brochures et revues, de photos et diapositives d'observations, de cartes du ciel. "L'Almanach Graphique" a été édité pour la 31e année consécutive et a été distribué gratuitement (sur demande) dans toute la province de Québec.

Deux de nos membres sont parus à des émissions télévisées concernant l'astronomie. M. Damien Lemay, membre et conseiller de notre Centre, a été le premier canadien (presqu'en même temps que le premier américain) à observer la Nova du Cygne le 30.06 août T.U. Cette observation extraordinaire a fait l'objet d'un article du journal "Le Soleil" le 3 septembre 1975.

De nombreuse conférences et des soirées d'observation, qui s'adressaient — à nos membres et au public en général (annoncées à la radio et dans les journaux), ont été tenues:

- 23 janvier Soirée d'observation de l'occultation de par Eros l'étoile K des Gémeaux.
- 12 février "Les Missions Mariner" par M. Claude Frémont, univ. Laval. Conférence.
 - 5 mars "La Photographie Astronomique" par M. Yvon Dufour. Conférence.
 - 21 mars Soirée d'observation à l'observatoire du Collège de Lévis, à St-Nérée de Bellechasse.
 - 2 avril "La Naissance et l'Evolution de l'Univers" par M. Hermanno Borra, Ph.D., univ. Laval. Conférence.
 - 14 mai "L'Astronomie Amateur" par M. Damien Lemay. Conférence.
 - 24 mai Observation de l'éclipse totale de la lune à l'observatoire du Collége de Lévis, à St-Nérée.
 - 31 mai Visite au Planétarium Dow à Montréal.
- 28 juillet Pique-nique et soirée d'observation populaire à la base de Plein-Air de Ste-Foy.
- 28 septembre Soirée d'observation à l'observatoire de l'université Laval, à St-Elzéar. Cet observatoire est doté d'un télescope Cassegrain de 16 pouces, f/11.
 - 8 octobre "La Nova du Cygne" par M. Damien Lemay. Conférence.
- 12 novembre Soirée consacrée aux réalisations des membres.
- 10 décembre "La Dérive des Continents" par M. Roger Laurent, D.Sc., univ. Laval. Conférence.

Réjean Dutil, Secrétaire

ST JOHN'S, NFLD. CENTRE

The year started off as its usual slow self, with the first meeting being held on the 23rd of September, 1974.

The annual election of officers in October saw Mr. Gary Dymond elected to the post of president, Mr. Peter Allston elected as vice-president, Mr. David Bennett elected as secretary, and Dr. Peter Lockwood returned to the position of treasurer.

In February, we received notice of the forthcoming General Assembly that was to be held in Halifax in June. This announcement prompted the discussion of what type of display the centre would send to the assembly with the centre's representative.

Prof. John Hodych, of Memorial University, was kind enough to give the centre's members a very informative lecture concerning the origins of the atmosphere, on our March 10th meeting.

The April meeting was concerned mostly with the question of how to attract new members. This action prompted the formation of a Public Relations Committee, consisting of Mrs. D. Russel, Mr. G. Dymond, Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. R. Dodge, and Mr. B. Hurley. The committee's goal is to make the public aware of the centre's activities, and encourage new memberships. It was also brought to the committee's attention that they should study the possibilities of organizing classes in astronomy for the benefit of any teacher in the city who must have some knowledge of astronomy for their courses.

During the summer recess our centre had the pleasure of entertaining Harlan Creighton, a visiting member of the Toronto Centre.

We began the new year with a meeting on the 22nd of September 1975.

SASKATOON CENTRE

The year 1975 was a fascinating year for the Saskatoon Centre.

Astrophotography activities have been centred at Gordon Patterson's observatory and will be expanding to Doug Beck's, with the completion of his observatory later this summer. During a regular outing in July, Lillia Wilcox made the independent discovery of COMET 1975h and the group tracked it as long as practicable. Later, when NOVA CYGNI became obvious, the Astrophotography group re-examined some previous photographs of the area and found the Nova showing on at least one of these.

Our third annual wiener roast and picnic was held in July, at Diefenbaker Park, a cold and damp evening and not much of a turnout.

The annual outing in August, at Awklands farm, 20 miles west of Saskatoon was well attended, with at least seven telescopes set up. But again the weather did not co-operate, the night remained overcast.

At the monthly General Meetings, we had either a Film or a Lecture, with Speakers as follows:

Dr. Ray Skinner ... Black Holes.

Mr. Ron Waldron ... Pioneer and Mariner Close-ups.

Dr. M. Watson, from Ottawa ... Meteors and Infrasonics.

Prof. J. E. Kennedy ... Halifax General Assembly.

Mr. Gordon Patterson ... Building an Observatory.

Dr. J. A. Koehler ... Radio Astronomy.

Mr. Alan Blackwell ... Meteorite Impact Crators.

A great vote of thanks goes to our Editor Mr. Greg Towstego, for an informative and interesting monthly Newsletter for this past year.

Lillia Wilcox, Secretary

TORONTO CENTRE

In 1975 the Centre completed its first full year as an incorporated association, and while the Fiscal Year ended 30 September, this report covers activities for the calendar year.

During 1975 the Toronto Centre held 11 regular meetings. In addition there were 9 Members' Nights arranged for the most part by the Observational Activities Committee. The Council held 4 meetings.

Regular meetings were:

January 10 Andreas Gada reported on the Astronomy for Campers program.

January 24 Annual Meeting, followed by a film, "The Crab Nebula."

February 7 Dr. Pim Fitzgerald. "Probing the Edge of the Milky Way."

March 7 Dr. Janet Mattei of the AAVSO spoke on Variable Stars.

April 4 Dr. Philipp Kronberg. "Super Explosions in the Universe."

May 9 David Haines spoke on the Hubble Constant.

September 12 Open House at the David Dunlap Observatory.

September 26 Dr. Ian Halliday, Ottawa, "Meteorites and the Solar System."

October 31 Steve Shore. "Peculiar Spectra Stars on the Main Sequence."

November 28 Dr. J. D. Fernie. "Incidents on the Way to the Solar Parallax."

December 12 Dr. E. R. Seaquist. "Fair Dinkum Astronomy."

Members' Nights, largely given to plans for observing and reports on observations and other activities were held on February 21, March 21, April 18, May 23, June 6 and 20, October 3 and 17, November 14.

Activities of the Public Education Committee included arranging four Star Nights in the Toronto area, an exhibit during the 10-day run of the Canadian National Sportsmen's Show (in association with the Youth Science Council), and providing telescopes and other exhibits on numerous occasions at the Harbourfront park.

The Optical Workshop Committee continued to maintain the telescope-making classes and associated activities at the McLaughlin Planetarium and during most of the year held two classes a week. A dozen members completed telescope mirrors and, in addition, the staff completed work on the optics for the 12½-inch telescope which is to be mounted on a trailer for portable use. It is also hoped to have the 10-inch Cave Cassegrain telescope installed in a semi-permanent observatory building within a few months.

The Study Group ran one program in the spring, and another in the autumn, with an average of 20 attending the 11 Saturday-morning meetings; about half of them being adult members.

Astronomy Day was held November 8 with about 150 attending, most of them young members of astronomy and science clubs in Toronto and region schools. Several members of the Centre gave talks on various aspects of astronomy and visits were made to the McLaughlin Planetarium Star Theatre for a show, and to the Univertity of Toronto astronomy department facilities and rooftop observatory in the McLennan Physics Building.

Frederic L. Troyer, Secretary

VANCOUVER CENTRE

1975 was a successful and exciting year for the Vancouver Centre. With the strong guidance of President David Hurd the Centre has managed to increase membership and offer a greater number of activities for it. In 1975, we held ten regular monthly meetings, featuring guest speakers, special displays, members observations (of which there was a healthy increase over 1974), special planetarium shows at the H. R. MacMillan Planetarium, movies, and field trips. In addition to the regular meetings there were a number of major activities conducted by individuals and sections of the group.

In May the Centre staged a Lunar Eclipse Party for the public. On May 24, more than two thousand people gathered on the Planetarium grounds to look through more than two dozen telescopes at the eclipse, Venus, Saturn and other objects. Though weather became bad for much of the eclipse, it improved later on, affording a good view of the event for everyone.

In June some members of the Centre attended the "Conference on Amateur Astronomy" in Seattle. Several members set up displays for the two day event.

Late July saw the arrival of Comet Kobayashi-Berger-Milon, and despite moon interference, the Centre once again opted for a public star party to celebrate the event. On two nights late in July, hundred of members filed past the telescopes, many took pictures, and some even caught a glimpse of the comet with the unaided eye.

In mid-August, six members took off to the Kootenay Region in the British Columbia interior for the purposes of recording the Perseid meteor shower. The team did exceedingly well, getting four clear nights in a row, centred on the night of maximum. The comet peaked in brightness at this time, too; observations thus gained from these nights filled our meetings with material for several months in a row!

The Centre made its annual excursion to Victoria in October, for a visit with that Centre. We were privileged to once again be received at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory for a visit and tour before proceeding to the University and the joint meeting. Dr. David Crampton addressed us there on "The Franco-Canadian-Hawaii Telescope". His talk was well received.

Following the Victoria trip, the Centre succumbed entirely to cloudy weather, the best remaining event of the year turning out to be the election of officers on December 11. This new council has been inspired by recent surges in membership and Centre activities and therefore promises to invoke new changes and improvements for the Vancouver Centre.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

MORRIS ALTMAN

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

95 KING STREET EAST TORONTO 1

To the Members and Council of The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

I have examined the statement of financial position of The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada as at December 31, 1975 and the statements of revenue and expense and equity for the year ended on that date. My examination included a general review of the accounting procedures and such tests of accounting records and other supporting evidence as I considered necessary in the circumstances, except as hereinafter noted.

The receipts of the Society, because of their nature, are not susceptible to complete verification by audit procedure and are therefore shown in the accompanying statement as they have been recorded in the books of the Society. My verification of these items was limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with bank deposits.

In my opinion, subject to the limitation in the scope of my examination as noted in the preceding paragraph, the accompanying statements present fairly the financial position of the Society as at December 31, 1975 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Moris altman

Chartered Accountant.

Toronto, Canada, April 5, 1976.

<u> </u>				W
		THE ROY	AL ASTRO	MIE DU
		STA	TEMENT (POSITIO
			AS AT I	975
	(1	Vith compa	rative fi	ecember
		1 9 7 5	1974	
ASSETS				
Current Assets				Current Li
Cash Term deposits Accounts receivable \$ 9,54	\$10,856 2,000 7		\$19,490 2,000	Accounts
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts 31 Marketable securities (at cost)	<u>6</u> 9,231 3,019		8,009 3,019	Deferred R
Accrued bond interest Prepaid expenses	197 135		197 30	Membersh Advance
		\$25,438	\$32,745	Prepaid Unapprop (per s
Special Funds (per schedule)				
Ruth Northcott Memorial Fund Edward Russell Paterson bequest	\$12,419 10,000		\$ 8,647	
		22,419	\$ 8,647	
Fixed Assets (at cost)				eserve for
Land Building	\$17,000 17,500		\$17,000 17,500	guity
Office furniture and equipment Apartment equipment	5,918 1,641		5,465 1,378	i.
Less: Accumulated depreciation	\$42,059 13,718		\$41,343 12,821	
		28,341	\$28,522	
Library (nominal value)		100	\$ 100	
		\$76,298	\$70,014	
APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL				
J. D. Fernie PRESIDENT				
C. G. Clark TREASURER				
				<u> </u>

ASTRON E ROYAL	CIETY OF CANADA NOMIE DU CANADA			
MENT OF	L POSITION			
AS AT DE	1975			i
tive fig	December 31, 1974)			
1974			1975	1974
	LIABILITIES AND EQUITY Current Liabilities			
\$19,490	Accounts payable and accrued charges		\$ 9,459	\$ 5,058
2,000	necounts payable and accided charges		• 0,430	
8,009	Deferred Revenue			
3,019		\$ 6,021		\$ 6,428
30	Membership fees for ensuing year Advance subscriptions for Journal and Handbook Prepaid advertising	13,347		19,560
\$ 32 ,74 5	Unappropriated life membership fees (per schedule)	5,983		5,050
	, por bonocure.		25,351	\$33,358
\$ 8,647				
	TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$34,810	\$38,416
\$ 8,647				
	Reserve for Special Funds		22,419	\$ 8,647
\$17,000	Equity (per statement)		19,069	22,951
17,500 5,465	the second secon		23,003	22,332
1.378				
\$41,343 12,821				
\$28,522				
\$ 100				
\$70,014			\$76, 298	\$70,014

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA LA SOCIETE ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

STATEMENT OF GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENSE

FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975

FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 19	7 5		
(With comparative figures for l	974)		
47		1975	1974
REVENUE			
Membership fees R.A.S.C. Centres Individual members Life membership reserve - annual appropriation	\$10,406 5,732 566		\$11,285 6,349 491
		\$16,704	\$18,125
Grants and Donations Government of Canada - annual grant Province of Ontario - annual grant Miscellaneous donations	\$ 6,000 1,000 5		\$ 5,000 1,000 46
		7,005	\$ 6,046
Publications Journal of the R.A.S.C. Observer's Handbook Reprints and publication fees Advertising	\$ 6,273 29,833 5,650 2,320 \$44,076		\$ 6,039 30,691 8,651 1,870 \$47,251
Less: Agent's discounts	5,394	38,682	5,106 \$42,145
R.A.S.C. Building (per statement) Excess of revenue over expense		350	\$ 633
Miscellaneous Revenue Interest earned Insignia sales	\$ 760 269		\$ 469 21
		1,029	\$ 490
TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 63 ,77 0	\$67,439
EXPENSE			
Printing of publications Office salaries and editorial assistance Postage and shipping Stationery, printing and supplies General and office expenses Telephone Canada pension plan and unemployment insurance Library accessions Annual life membership allotment to Centres General assembly and travelling expenses Insignia, medals and awards Bank charges and exchange Depreciation of office furniture and equipment Bad debts	\$46,642 12,340 1,652 1,457 1,332 566 310 267 500 1,088 725 120 295 358	an ara	\$42,575 10,503 2,347 1,533 1,325 332 242 247 492 1,265 122 996 250 233
TOTAL EXPENSE		67,652	\$62,462
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSE (EXPENSE OVER REVENUE)		(\$ 3,882)	\$ 4,977

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA LA SOCIETE ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

STATEMENT OF BUILDING REVENUE AND EXPENSE

FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975

(With comparative figures for 1974)

(with comparative rigures for 1974)		
REVENUE	1 9 7 5	1974
Rentals for space not occupied by the Society	\$ 4,560	\$ 4,563
EXPENSE		1
Property taxes \$ 1,225		\$ 1,102
Heating 1,173		1,011
Light, gas and water 363		265
Maintenance and repairs		8 7 0
Insurance 170		106
Property appraisal 500		-
Depreciation of building 438		438
Depreciation of equipment 164		138
TOTAL EXPENSE	4,210	\$ 3,930
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSE	\$ 350	\$ 633

SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS AND ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1975

ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION

	COST	Balance Dec. 31/74	Depreciat'n For Year	Balance Dec. 31/75
Land	\$17,000	s -	\$ -	\$ -
Building	17,500	7,751	438	8,189
Office furniture and equipment	5,918	3,816	2 9 5	4,111
Apartment equipment	1,641	1,254	164	1,418
l	\$42,059	\$12,821	\$ 897	\$13,718
		-		

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA		
LA SOCIETE ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA		
STATEMENT OF EQUITY		
FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1975		
(With comparative figures for 1974)		
	1975	1974
Balance at beginning of the year	\$22,951	\$17,974
Excess of revenue over expense (expense over revenue) for the year	(3,882)	4.977
Net equity at end of the year	\$19,069	\$22,951
SCHEDULE OF UNAPPROPRIATED LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES		
Balance at beginning of the year Add: Life membership fees received during the year	\$ 5,049 1.500	\$ 4,041 1.500
Add: Life membership fees received during the year	\$ 6,549	\$ 5,541
<u>Deduct</u> : Appropriation to general revenue for the year	566	491
Balance at end of the year	\$ 5,983	\$ 5,050
	100 100 100 100	
SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL FUNDS		
Ruth Northcott Memorial Fund		
Balance at beginning of the year	\$ 8,647	\$ 7,861
Add: Proceeds from Ruth Northcott Estate Public contributions	3,10 7 50	:
Interest earned	800	786
Deduct: Allocation for guest speaker at	\$12,604	\$ 8,647
General Assembly	185	
Balance at end of the year	\$12,419	\$ 8,647
Edward Russell Paterson Bequest		
Proceeds from testator's estate	10.000	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF THE YEAR	\$22,419	\$ 8,647
Composition of funds: Bank balances	\$15,156	\$ 1,384
Securities	7,000	7,000
Accrued interest	263	263
	\$22,419	\$ 8,647

CENTRES	
ASURERS OF	
EPORTS OF TRE	١

	Calgary	Edmonton	Halifax	Hamilton	Kingston	London	Montreal	Centre d'Astronomie Montreal	Niagara Falls
REVENUE									
Membership Fee Life Members Grants	\$ 905.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 837.50	\$ 688.38	ZO	\$ 345.00	ZO	\$ 411.00 8.00	\$ 345.00
Donations Educational Activities	22.00		10.00	211.00	×		R		3.90
Interest & Dividends Sales of Handbooks Net	162.69	23.85	5.68	2.98	ਜ਼ ਦ	11.25	퍼 &		3.12
Advertising General Assembly Miscellaneous	150.00	19.18	3701.99	1982.64	ORL	44.50	ORL	55.00	
Total Revenue	\$1287.19	\$ 896.03	\$4595.67	\$2900.00	A	\$ 412.75	A	\$ 474.00	\$ 382.02
EXPENDITURES					> <		> 4		
Fees Remitted to N.O.	663.00	594.30	00.099	420.00	ГП	207.00	ГП	383.00	163.50
Meetings & Newsletter	71.03	75.00	62.64	44.00	B	74.01	ВВ		75.40
Annual Dinner-Net General Assembly	27.00 150.00		3142.00	1851.85	ıн	9	ıн		
Equipment & Supplies Office Administration	48.13	$\frac{16.00}{3.01}$		179.42 61.00		10.58		91.00	
General Expenses & Audit			09.9	25.33					42.37
Insurance Awards & Donations		23.55		35.00					
Operating Expense-Observatory Miscellaneous	1.00		20.00	78.31		15.90			41.00
Total Expenditures	\$1335.70	\$ 717.06	\$3891.24	\$2694.91		\$ 307.26		\$ 474.00	\$ 322.27
Surplus or (Deficit) on	48.51 D)	178.97	704.43	205.09		105.26			59.75
Operations Balance from 1974	\$ 743.35	\$ 837.47	\$ 76.62	\$ 120.52		\$ 112.06			\$ 204.54
Balance to 1975	\$ 694.84	\$1016.44	\$ 781.05	\$ 325.61		\$ 217.32			\$ 264.29
Other Assets	\$1500.00	\$5000.00							

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REPORTS OF T	1

	Ottawa	Quebec	St. John's	Saskatoon	Toronto	Vancouver	Victoria	Windsor	Winnipeg
REVENUE									
Membership Fee Life Members Grants Donations	\$1965.00 80.00 176.95	\$ 832.50 8.00 154.50	\$130.00	\$ 582.50 4.00	\$ 6342.89 144.00	\$2048.00	\$ 560.00 72.00	\$ 327.76	\$ 637.50 16.00
Educational Activities Interest & Dividends Sales of Handbooks Net Advertising	254.78 254.78 55.81 59.00	100.00		143.75	384.00	75.69	32.00 205.57 61.50	72.50 7.40 5.25	64.62
General Assembly Miscellaneous	34.13	95.15	6	130.00	3000.00	155.00 66.28	165.00 240.00		
EXPENDITURES	10.02026	\$1190.13	130.00	9 983.43	51.15/01\$	\$2422.97	\$1336.07	\$ 412.91	\$ 935.76
Fees Remitted to N.O. Library Macrines & Naurelatter	\$1179.00 164.45	\$ 552.00	\$ 78.00 29.45	\$ 349.50	\$ 3705.00	\$1942.50	\$ 387.50	\$ 243.00	\$ 318.75
Annual Dinner-Net General Assembly Equipment & Supplies	12.09	103.23		107.62	410.00	310.00	96.64 269.00 450.00	123.63	963.06
Office Administration General Expenses & Audit Educational Activities	134.16 20.56	150.00	17.35		485.97 777.32 160.14	89.09	80.45	82.00	97.
Insurance Awards & Donations Operating Expense-Observatory Miscellaneous	50.00 4.00 119.73	22.42	7.50	119.20 172.39 2.00	80.50	374.60		2.25	22.00 1318.57
Total Expenditures	\$2118.57	\$ 909.67	\$ 132.80	\$ 881.04	\$ 8751.22	\$3218.76	\$1325.93	\$ 450.90	\$1992.74
Surplus or (Deficit) on Operations	507.10	280.48	2.80 D)	104.41	1999.93	795.79 D)	10.14	37.99 D)	1056.98 D)
Balance from 1974	\$2388.29	\$ 260.48 D)	\$ 80.79	\$ 275.39	\$ 1562.49	\$2105.03	\$4019.40	\$ 287.38	\$1553.04
Balance to 1975 Other Assets	\$2895.39	\$ 20.00	\$ 131.66	\$ 379.80	\$ 3562.42 \$ 9500.00	\$1309.24	\$4029.54	\$ 249.39	\$ 496.06

VICTORIA CENTRE

Regular meetings of the Victoria Centre were held at the University of Victoria, through the kindness of the University authorities. Seven meetings were held in 1975, and were as follows:

January 10 Annual Meeting and Dinner, held at the University of Victoria. Elections were held, and Dr. E. H. Richardson showed slides of his European travels.

February 12 Dr. C. H. Costain, D.R.A.O.: "Aperture Synthesis in Radio Astronomy".

March 12 Mr. D. Dundee, Victoria Centre: "Legends of the Stars".

April 9 Activities Night – Exhibits and Films.

September 10 Dr. B. Harris, Victoria Centre: "Celestial Spheres".

October 5 Joint Meeting with Vancouver Centre, in Victoria. Dr. D. Crampton, D.A.O.: "The Hawaiian Telescope".

November 12 Panel Discussion.

December 10 Mr. E. Pfannenschmidt, D.A.O.: "Hints and Wrinkles on Amateur Telescopes".

Again this year, the Centre maintained a booth at the Hobby Show held in the Spring by the Victoria Lapidary Society and also looked after a booth at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory on Saturday evenings when the Observatory has been open to the public.

Mr. George Ball was on duty at the University of Victoria each Saturday evening, weather permitting, for observing sessions. Also, through his leadership, several members have completed mirrors during 1975.

Membership of this Centre for 1975 consisted of 18 life members and 93 regular members.

Frank Younger, Secretary

WINDSOR CENTRE

January 21, 1975

Mr. Hallum gave an informative presentation on how to use The Observer's Handbook and a film entitled "Radio Sky" was shown.

February 18, 1975

Mr. Huneault reported on the February sky and mentioned several articles he found to be most interesting. A film entitled "About Time" was viewed.

March 18, 1975

Mario Fabris gave a very informative talk on current events including chalkboard diagrams and a home-made moving model of the earth, moon and sun. Walter Manzig reported on the legal problems of space and extracts from a meeting held at the United Nations in 1963. Robert Thibert presented the members with constellation maps of the northern sky which he had prepared. Three movies were shown:-

- 1. Mystery of the Sun
- 2. Exploring the Universe
- 3. The Powers of Ten

April 15, 1975

Mr. Henry Lee reported on the current state of the universe and explained the computerized star process.

Michael Wallace, a London Centre member, gave a slide shown on his expedition to Costa Rica to study Comet Kohoutek with EEI (Educational Expeditions International). May 10, 1975

Field trip — Cranbrook Institute of Science.

June 17, 1975

Mr. Huneault gave aninteresting talk on current events which dealt with such things as the total eclipse in Maine, sun spots, and some of the recent discoveries concerning the planet Venus. Robert Thibert conducted an Astronomical Quiz which included skill-testing questions, puzzles and diagrams and Dr. Shannon Sanborn presented a lecture on Celestial Navigation covering definitions, concepts, and how to use a sextant and an accurate timepiece in order to determine position at sea — all of which were most interesting.

September 16, 1975

Mr. Huneault presented a lecture on such things as quasars, pulsars, neutron-stars, black holes, a new nova in the constellation of Cygnus. Two films were presented — Flaming Sky and Tornadoes. A lecture followed presented by Mr. John Mornan, officer-in-charge of the weather office at the Windsor Airport. Mr. Mornan explained exactly what tornadoes were and answered questions most explicitly.

October 21, 1975

Henry Lee gave a report on the annual meeting of the R.A.S.C. held in Halifax last summer and showed some slides he took.

The President handed out a questionnaire with about 40 topics and asked the members to indicate their choice of at least ten topics. From these topics will be planned a series of educational talks with a duration of thirty minutes or less for the year 1976. These talks will be part of a planned on-going series, and every member is asked to participate and give a talk of his or her choice.

Mr. Jim McTavish showed a thirty minute film on measuring the distance of astronomical dimension.

November 18, 1975

Mr. Dan Bodenheimer presented a brief history of the Windsor Centre of the R.A.S.C. indicating that our group was composed of only 4 persons who met at John Campbell School back in 1944.

Elections of Officers and Council was conducted by Mario Fabris.

A film entitled "The Nearest Star" was presented by Bert Huneault, which he acquired from Mr. Mornan of the weather office at the Windsor Airport.

Heather Hurst, Secretary

WINNIPEG CENTRE

The Winnipeg Centre was on the move again in November, changing meeting locations from the University of Manitoba, to the University of Winnipeg. Ten general, and five secondary membership meetings were scheduled with President, Roy Belfield as chairman, and on one occasion First Vice-President Herb Davis presided. Snow storms during January cancelled one meeting, but, sixty percent of our membership managed to attend on the night of the "Great White-Out" storm. The activities of our programme committee, Don Hladiuk, Hans Thater, and Bill Krosney, have proven successful, with better than fifty percent membership attendance at most meetings. The October 1974 Annual Meeting resolved the membership proposal, limiting the age of Winnipeg Centre members to sixteen years and over, plus setting a single membership fee of fifteen dollars. The other major decision of the year, the goal of the Observatory Fund, reached its high point at the May Special Meeting of Members. The membership voted to purchase a large professional telescope, if the University of Manitoba erects and maintains an observatory for the instrument. The membership shall be active in the next year raising funds for this project.

The City of Edmonton gained our first Vice-President, Alan Dyer, in April. He was replaced by Herb Davis, and the vacant councillor position was filled by Jay Anderson. Three meetings of the Executive Council dealt effectively with the business of the Centre. Miss Ella Dack volunteered to be our Observing Recorder, and helps keep the membership

informed of activities by way of our newsletter Winnicentrics. Steps were taken by Council to improve the Centre's Cooke refractor, by purchasing a portable mount, thus insuring a fully serviceable instrument for the membership. Most observational activities are centred on the astrophotographers, however, serious contributions are made by a few in the fields of occultations, grazes, variables, planetary and solar work. A few members involved in the public and school observing sessions were: Roy and Phyllis Belfield, Jay and Judy Anderson, Frank Shinn, Bill Krosney, Paul Moffat, and Jim Gould. Other members participate in telescope making, general observing, and everyone shows an interest in the Observatory Fund.

Programmes for the year were:

- November 8 Festival of Astronomical Films. Eclipse at Grand Mère, Flaming Sky, to the Edge of the Universe, Story of Palomar.
- November 22 Mr. Roy Belfield, Mr. Alan Dyer Constructing an Observatory.
- December 13 Mr. Frank Shinn Why Watch Variables. Film Exploring the Milky Way. Roy and Phyllis Belfield, Alan Dyer Eclipse slides. Mr. Don Hladiuk, Mr. Hans Thater The Star. Mr. Tom Wujec Lunar slides
 - January 10 Mr. Paul Moffat Construction Techniques 14-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain.

 Mr. Don Hladiuk Apollo Missions and Lunar Science. Mr. Alan Dyer

 Extraterrestial Intelligence. Discussion Observatory Fund.

 ("Great White-Out" snow storm)
 - January 24 Astrophotography Night cancelled by snow storm.
 - February 14 Dr. Hesse Radio Astronomy and Pulsars.
 - February 28 Mr. Wayne Keith History of the Winnipeg Centre. Mr. Frank
 Richardson One Amateur's Homebuilt Observatory and Telescope
 Installation. Film Skylab III. The Events of 1975.
 - March 14 Dr. Richard Bochonko Black Holes. Mr. Frank Shinn, Dr. Richard Bochonko April 19 Graze Expedition. Discussion Observatory Fund.
 - April 11 Mr. Jay Anderson Astronomy and Weather Forecasting preview. Mr. Frank Shinn, Mr. Paul Moffat, Mr. Rene Lamontagne — Telescope Discussion. Mr. Frank Shinn — Occultations and Grazes. Discussion — Observatory Fund.
 - April 25 Mr. Jay Anderson Astronomy and Weather Forecasting.
 - May 9 Astrophotography Night. Mr. Bill Krosney, Mr. Hans Thater Colour Films. Slides and photographs from members.
 - May 9 Special Meeting Observatory Fund Proposal.
 - May 24/25 Lunar Eclipse Belfield residence. Mr. Don Hladiuk Eclipse Expedition at the Scatliff Observatory.
 - June 6 Mr. Malcolm Ellis Programmes of the British Astronomical Association.
 - July and Summer Observing. Halifax Convention Mr. Del Stevens.
 - August Astronomical Display Polo Park Mall. Comet Observing.
- September 12 Mr. Paul Moffat Report from Stellafane. Mr. Del Stevens Report from the General Assembly at Halifax. Mr. Frank Shinn Three Dimensional Cometary Models. Mr. Don Hladiuk, Mr. Hans Thater Summer Observing.
 - October 10 Annual Meeting. Reports of chairmen. Election of Officers.

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