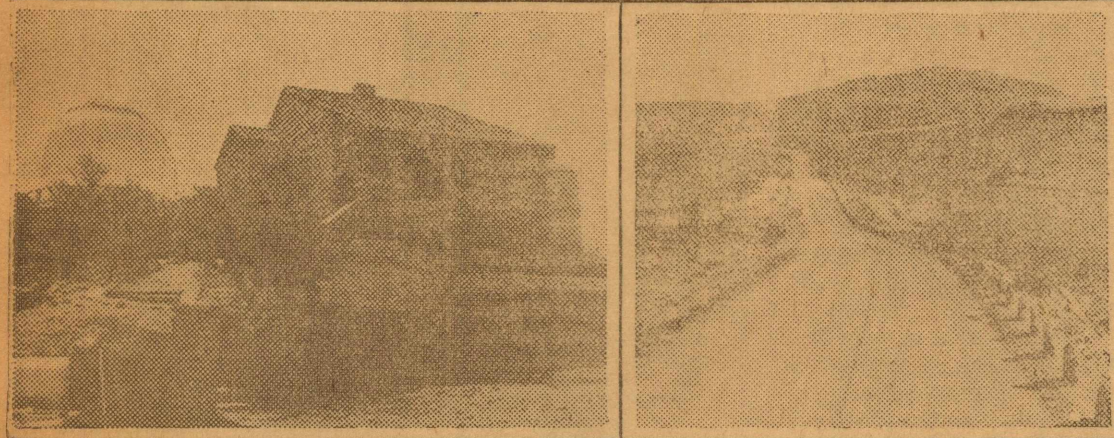
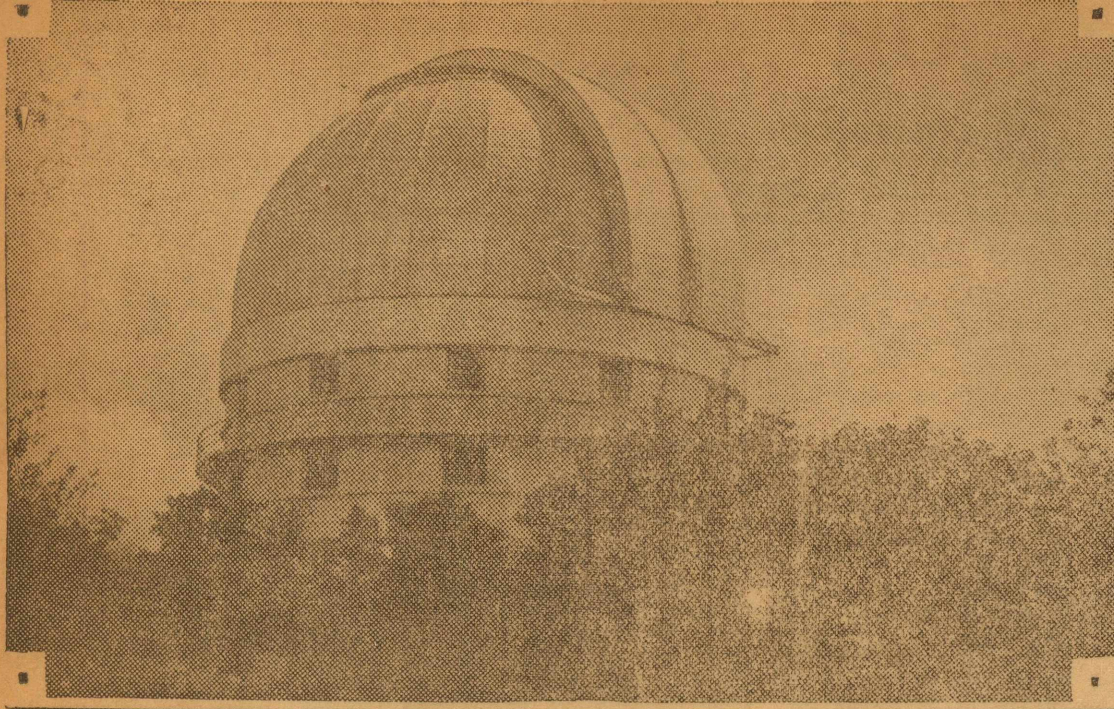


Universities Cooperating in Astronomical Research



Top—The University of Texas W. J. McDonald Observatory, situated on Mt. Locke, near Fort Davis, Texas; Observatory in distance with residence of member of staff in foreground; especially constructed highway leading to Observatory.

Austin, Oct. 30.—In a mountainous part of southwest Texas where less than sixty years ago Apache Indians were wont to make frequent attacks on venturesome white settlers and slow-moving wagon trains, a new institution for the gaining of scientific knowledge is being established.

Located at an elevation of 6,791 feet on the summit of Mt. Locke in the Davis Mountains the building of the new W. J. McDonald Observatory of the University of Texas now awaits the installation of its equipment.

The 82-inch mirror of the reflector type telescope, which will be the second largest of its kind in the world, has been cast in Corning, N. Y., and is now being ground in a laboratory in Cleveland, Ohio, which has built and mounted some of the world's largest telescopes, both reflectors and refractors. It will be another twelve or eighteen months before the laboratory work is completed and the installation accomplished.

In the meanwhile the construction of homes and other facilities for the accommodation of members of the staff is in progress upon the scenic summit adjacent to the Observatory.

Astronomy Benefactor's Hobby
It was through the benevolence of the late W. J. McDonald of Paris, Texas, that the establishment of this astronomical observatory is possible. Astronomy was his hobby for many years, although his principal vocation was banking. Precisely what caused him

to bequeath almost his entire fortune of over \$1,000,000 for the construction and maintenance of the observatory which bears his name is not known.

In order to conserve their research resources, the University of Texas and the University of Chicago entered into a cooperative 20-year agreement for the joint operation of the Yerkes Observatory at William's Bay, Wisconsin, of the University of Chicago and the W. J. McDonald Observatory of the University of Texas, Dr. Otto Struve serving as director of both observatories.

"Because the W. J. McDonald telescope must supplement and not duplicate equipment already available at Yerkes, and must satisfy the interests and needs of the staff of astronomers who will use it, we decided that the most useful type of instrument would be a reflector having a concave mirror of about 82-inch aperture and a focal ratio of about one to four," Dr. Struve explained. "This means that the

distance from the mirror to the focus would be four times 82 inches, or 27 feet.

Faint Stars To Be Photographed

"The McDonald reflector will be much shorter than the Yerkes reflector, which is 62 feet long, but it will have twice the aperture, or about four times the light-gathering power, and will therefore be much more efficient for the photography of faint stars or of stellar spectra.

"The mounting of the McDonald instrument is to be constructed in such a way that the light of any star may be concentrated in a room of constant temperature, where it may be analyzed with the aid of prisms, photoelectric photometers or other analyzers. Second only in light-gathering power to the 100-inch mirror at Mount Wilson, the McDonald telescope will have a mirror made of glass with a low coefficient of expansion and therefore suitable in a climate where appreciable changes of temperature during one night are com-

"Greatest" Observatory in One Respect

The McDonald telescope will reveal stars of the twentieth magnitude, so faint it takes a million of them to make a brightness equal to that of a star barely visible to the naked eye. The chief work of the observatory will be in astronomical spectroscopy using photography, and in this respect it will be the greatest observatory in the world, according to Dr. Struve.

The work to be done will be in the newer phases of astronomy and astrophysics, having to do particularly with the physical nature of heavenly bodies. The problems to be taken up will include a study of the chemical composition of the atmosphere of the stars, a study of the distant gaseous compositions of nebulae, comets and planets.

Photometer Being Used
There has been installed at the W. J. McDonald Observatory a sky photometer for the measurement of light of the night sky. This instrument is equipped with a 12-inch refractor telescope from Yerkes Observatory.

Under the agreement with the University of Chicago, the W. J. McDonald Observatory will be operated jointly by the two institutions. Members of the staff who so far have been selected consist of a group of well known astronomers including Prof. George Van Biesbroeck, Prof. F. E. Ross, Dr. W. G. Moffitt, Dr. C. L. Elvey, Dr. W. W. Morgan, Dr. P. C. Keenan and Dr. Franklin E. Roach.

COUNTY'S FIRST MARRIAGE VOWS TAKEN 34 YEARS AGO

Many a year ago it was, the Rev. A. T. Talbert of San Angelo recalled Monday when he performed the first marriage ceremony in Schleicher county.

The Rev. Mr. Talbert, a Baptist pastor, performed the ceremony in 1901 that united Miss Maude Byrd and James Garrett, who was manager of the Vermont Ranch. Later Mr. Garrett moved to Oklahoma where he died several years ago.

The Rev. Mr. Talbert, who was through Sonora Monday, said he was preaching as a missionary in Eldorado until he organized the Baptist Church there. A pastor was then assigned to the work. The marriage license giving him authority for the wedding of the two was the first issued in Schleicher county, he states.

No Hunting or Trespassing
—on my ranch, 25 miles southeast of Sonora. Officer in charge! Joseph Vander Stucken. 52-9tc

Let the NEWS print it for you.

MEXICAN BOY DILIGENT IN EFFORTS TO EARN DINERO

Not a word did he speak but the little Mexican boy who came in the NEWS office recently was doing his best to do the job that had been assigned to him.

Clenched in his tiny, grimy fist were half sheets of typewriter paper on which were scrawled these words:

Red Fish
Cleaned and Sliced
30c lb.

A child's school crayons had been used for the "printing" work. There was no indication as to where the fish might be bought.

He deposited one of his "messages" on the business counter and departed, mutely confident he was aiding someone somewhere in selling his "stock in trade."

The NEWS will print it for you.

BAPTISTS WILL IMPROVE THEIR CHURCH STRUCTURE

At a congregational meeting following the regular service Sunday morning members of the Baptist Church decided to undertake work which it is hoped will eliminate water seepage in their building walls.

A gutter will be installed soon on both edges of the roof and it is thought that this will prevent water from running on the bricks, seeping through and discoloring the plaster on the interior walls. The water will be pitched to the front and back of the building where it will be carried to the ground.

The work will begin this week or next.

"Fireman, Save My Child!!
You'll laugh Stunt Night—Nov. 15. Benefit, hot lunch fund. Sonora's best talent. U-B-There.—adv.

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