

Operators of Small Telescopes Receive National Notice

Calif., Forsyth's chief interest is the starry skies.

Star Observer

Our astronomer is an unusually active member of the American Assn. of Variable Star Observers, the American Meteor Society, and the Los Angeles Astronomical Society. Around 1912, his observations on variable stars appeared in Popular Astronomy almost every month.

His reports on meteors are so complete as to put to shame most younger observers. At the time of the great meteor shower of Oct. 9, 1946, he organized a most efficient observing party, so arranged that all sections of the sky could be watched. His report was widely published.

Watched Comet

From Oct. 19 to Nov. 10, 1947, when Encke's comet was easily visible telescopically before dawn, Forsyth observed on 11 mornings. He sent the present writer detailed reports with the notation, "All other dates, sky overcast."

Last August this amateur astronomer received notice from H. L. Freeman, president of the Los Angeles Astronomical Society, that "last evening it was unanimously voted that the society confer on you life membership." The recipient modestly writes, "I'm proud of that letter. I didn't think

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PROP MAKING can become fairly involved for University of Oregon members of the Theater Workshop. This is particularly so since some of the coeds didn't know a hammer from a saw before they started the class work. But they learn, since this class turns out the scenes for the University Theater productions. Shown here at work on props for the forthcoming production of "The Adding Machine" are, from left, Mary Ellen McKay of Roseburg, Beverly Marinas of Eugene, and Howard Ramey of Portland. "The Adding Machine" will open on the campus Feb. 3 for an eight-day run. (Wiltshire engraving).

Driver License Renewals Due

Oregon's new driver's license license renewal system continued to gain momentum last month as 30,690 motorists received current operator's permits, Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry has announced.

The revised procedure, begun last June, will take another year and a half to complete. After that time, all licenses will expire every other year on the birth date of the holder.

Meanwhile, licenses are falling due for renewal in accordance with the "5R" serial number printed on the face of each card. Schedules listing correct expiration dates are available at police stations, sheriff's offices, and from driver's license clerks and examiners.

Any driver's license numbered lower than 5R264001 will be invalid after January 31.

"No individual notices are sent when licenses expire," Newbry stressed. "Each holder must obtain a schedule and apply for renewal at the proper time."

Examinations are not necessary for those renewing valid "5R" permits, it was pointed out.

I had it coming — but they said I did."

Railroader

Forsyth spent most of his adult years in the employ of the railroad and "nearly" all his life as an astronomer. He remembers when five years old "my dad took me out to see the great comet of 1882."

At eight he was given a small spyglass, which he still has. When 15, he bought a larger one — a la Montgomery Ward. "When I really started looking at the stars."

At 16, he saw the huge mounting of the 40-inch Yerkes refractor on display at the Chicago Columbian Exposition, and a few years later visited the completed observatory at William Bay, Wisconsin.

On his way home to Topeka he obtained a "damaged lens" for \$25 and made a telescope of it.

Bought Refractor

In 1909, our enthusiast purchased a splendid 3-inch Brashear refractor for \$150. His 6-inch Melish reflector was bought in 1944. Both are now given abundant use, both public and private, in his hilltop Sunny Brae observatory, fully described in the recent publication, Observatories of the United States.

Around 1920, Forsyth's astronomical and photographic activities in his spare time became so intense that he had to curtail them. "I needed a clear head to drive my locomotive over these mountain grades." However, since he was retired and pensioned a few years ago—"Oh boy, but I'm having a wonderful time with my telescopes."

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Councilmen Set Monday Meet

SPRINGFIELD — A council meeting to clear up unfinished business of the regular meeting held Jan. 12 is scheduled for 7:30 p. m. Monday in the city hall.

Among items on the agenda will be a final reading of the franchise ordinance for the Northwest Cities Gas Co.

A public hearing on proposed changes in the new zoning ordinance originally scheduled for this meeting has been postponed.

Fred Korschot, president of the council, will preside over the meeting in the absence of Mayor Claude Gerlach.

Eugene Men Help Model Legislature

Two Eugene men, Robert D. Clark, chairman of the YMCA public affairs committee, and Robert Cross are members of the YMCA board on members of a state committee to promote a model boy and girl legislature which will convene at Salem in April.

The model legislature is part of a nation-wide YMCA program to teach high school students the fundamentals of government through actual practice and will be instituted in Oregon this year.

Under the program students representing between 75 and 100 Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y groups throughout the state will be elected to the legislature.

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Western Education Meet Set in Boise

Key officials in education from Oregon, Washington and Idaho, will meet in Boise, Idaho, Jan. 26 and 27 to attend a regional conference of the National Education Assn.

The group will discuss teacher supply and demand, selective admission to teacher preparing institutions, reciprocity of teacher preparation, improvement of teaching standards, and certification of teachers.

Representing the University of Oregon will be Dr. Paul B. Jacobson, dean of the school of education. Mrs. Jennelle Moorhead, associate professor of health education in the University will also attend. Mrs. Moorhead will represent the Oregon P-TA.

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University String Quartet Said Improving With Every Concert

By BARBARA HEARTFIELD

The University of Oregon string quartet, which gave its second concert of the season Sunday afternoon in the school of music auditorium, becomes a more significant musical organization with each performance.

This time it gave the audience a heavy, but rewarding, dose of chamber music. One hour and 30 minutes of string patterns, without an intermission, is a lot to ask an audience to absorb—and a lot to ask performers to play. The audience, at least, was tired at the end... but the music was well worth the effort.

Quintet

Major work on the program was Cesar Franck's Quintet, in which George Boughton and Mary Kapp Allton, violins, Edmund Cykler, viola, and Milton Dieterich, violoncello, were assisted by pianist Jane Thacher.

The Quintet is a magnificent work, long and complex, alternately powerful and as gentle as a series of intertwining dreams. The five artists treated it with the requisite musicianship and understanding.

Haydn Piece

Some of the best playing of the afternoon occurred in the opening quartet, Op. 76, No. 1, by Haydn. The university quartet's authority, good balance, and warm tone displayed its charming melodies and crisp rhythms to advantage.

Debussy's Quartet, Op. 10, remaining number on the program, is colorful, emotional music, as demanding as the Franck and in some ways more interesting. The Quartet met its intense climaxes with unabashed depth. Especially delightful were the rhythmic second movement with its bass pizzicato for cello, and the lyric interplay of viola and second violin in the third movement.

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