

## Newly-Discovered Planet Swings Nearest the Sun

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Our discussion September 11 of last century's hypothetical planet Vulcan brought an incidental mention of the newly-discovered object, 1949MA, which has been found to swing inside the orbit of Mercury and approach nearer to the sun than any other known planetary body.

Early notices regarding this little asteroid showed considerable disagreement in the statements of leading astronomers, both in the press and in scientific publications, but with more observations the differences seemed to adjust themselves considerably.

The designation 1949MA means that the project was the first asteroid discovered during the second half of June 1949. On June 26, Dr. Walter Baade was photographing a section of the sky near the brilliant southern star Antares with the 48-inch Schmidt camera on Palomar Mountain. The exposure was continued for one hour. The developed plate showed a considerable trail of light (2.7 minutes of arc in extent) among the round images of the so-called fixed stars. This indicated that something relatively close to the earth, which had a motion in relation to the stars, had been caught.

Dr. Baade did not know which way the object was moving—it could have been either way along the line—but calculating how far it would move in two days, he photographed the more likely of the two positions on June 28 and again caught a trail. Two days later another picture was taken; and again July 12 and 13.

The elaborate calculations made from these photographic observations determined the path around the sun of this new planetoid. This orbit has been likened to a line drawn on a football around the long way. The sun is inside this oval figure but relatively near one end.

At this end position the little planet was only about 20,000,000 miles from the sun on April 22, 1949. After its swing around the sun, it started off into more remote regions of space, and on June 21 passed relatively near the earth—missed us by a mere 8,000,000 miles. It is now nearly as far from the sun as it ever gets and in the region well beyond the orbit of Mars, the planet next in order past the earth from the sun.

It seems that this little world must be about 0.9 mile in diameter. Sky and Telescope for September 1949 pictures such an enormous ball "on the loose" and rolling over a populous section of New York City.

Figures indicate that if 1949MA is not rotating it may reach a temperature of 1000 degrees F. when nearest the sun, and glow a bit because of its own intense heat. It is visible otherwise—only in telescopes, of course—due to sunlight reflecting from it. Another close solar approach is scheduled for it next May.

Most of the asteroids revolve in the space between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. The first ever to be discovered was spotted Jan. 1, 1801, the first day of the 19th century. Up to January 1, 1949, the official number had reached 1564. Five, all found since 1930, come inside the earth's orbit. Four of these (Apollo, Adonis, Hermes and 1949MA) at times gets nearer the sun than Venus, but only the last named loop inside the path of Mercury.

Dr. Baade holds the unique honor of having discovered the



**Legless Scout Wins Honor**—Don Lee, 17-year-old Salt Lake City high school student, whose limbs were amputated when he was a baby because of severe burns, received from his guardian, Miss Anna Rosenkilde (left), the highest rank in Boy Scouting, the Eagle Badge. Don had to return from a deer hunting expedition for the ceremonies. He hunts from a horse and participates in other sports on either artificial legs or with none at all. Don failed to get a deer this trip. (AP Wirephoto)

## Silverton Hobby Display Is Devoid of Sweepstakes

Silverton, Oct. 31—“Sweepstakes? NO!” was the reverberation from the judges report of the Friday and Saturday Parent-Teacher association hobby show at the Eugene Field auditorium. The different individual judges felt that practically every one of the more than 200 entries were of “sweepstake” value in educational interest, and the co-ordination of exchange ideas of personal pleasures in collecting what appeals to whom.

No money awards were considered. Merely a small cardboard hobby horse, decorated in ribbon harness, colors white, red and blue, designated the preference of the judges for “displays.” Since there were fairly “herds” of these horses loose on the various exhibits, no exhibitor need to have felt that he went unappreciated.

When the eight judges appeared on the scene at 5 o'clock Friday evening, realizing that they only had two hours to do a two-day job, they divided into four groups of two, did likewise with sections of the Eugene Field auditorium, and began to tie a horse to the good, better and best displays. The judges were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Anderson, Dr. E. L. Henkel, Mrs. Ethel Brown, Mrs. Glenn Bridwell, Mrs. Reber Allen, Mrs. Ernest R. Ekman and Clifford Almqvist.

Although more than 40 workers of the 300 members of the PTA did his job assigned to him, perfectly, one name should be mentioned for her untiring efforts in arranging the auditorium into a veritable simulation of a large city floor of a department store, show-cases and aisles, and locked-in and guarded protection of valuables. This was Mrs. Rolf Bentson. She had assistants but it was under her direction that the show was a real pleasure to all guests.

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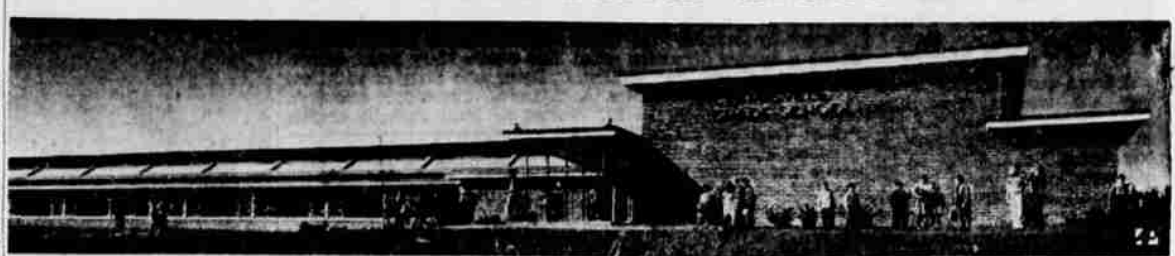
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## Modern Schools Find Class in Glass



**Design of the Future**—This Clarksville, N. Y., grade school, photographed by Robert Damora, was designed by Henry L. Blatner, architect.

By DAVID TAYLOR MARKE  
(AP Education Writer)

New York—If educators have their way the school house of the future will have outer walls of window panes and glass blocks. The buildings will be functional rather than traditional in design.

They will be sprawling structures, liberally splashed with color, even to “blackboards” of yellow, green and white.

The catch is, educators don't know where the \$10 billion experts estimate will be needed in the next ten years to house America's bumper crop of children is coming from.

School Management Magazine queried 10,400 city, county and diocesan school superintendents on the type of buildings and equipment they would like to have. Their replies show typical forms such as Colonial, Early American and Gothic are out. There is a marked tendency to conserve taxpayers' dollars by eliminating such unessential detail as old fashioned pitched roofs.

The greatest external change would be window treatment. Instead of single-pane windows, which offer little insulation against temperature extremes, double-pane glass is wanted. Glass blocks, used primarily for directional lighting, are favored also.

The educators want a room designed for television reception and other visual education media. Music rooms, gymnasiums, auditoriums, a dispensary and cafeterias are considered essential also.

On the question of heating equipment, most educators pre-

fer a central-type system utilizing either steam or hot water. They want unit ventilators as a means of keeping classroom air healthfully fresh as well as comfortable. Air conditioning also appears on the list of desirable items for modern schools.

About 10 per cent of the people known as Afghans are able to read and write.

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## 'HUMAN HYENA' IS GOING TOO FAR

### What Can a Man Be Called In Court? Rulings Given

Raleigh, N. C. (AP)—The Supreme Court of North Carolina holds that even prosecuting attorneys have to watch their language when they are working for a jury conviction.

But the state's top court said it was perfectly okay when the solicitor called Hilbert Bowen “thieves” while trying them on charges of larceny and receiving.

It wasn't any worse, the court added, when the solicitor repeated over defense objection: “That's exactly what I called them, two thieves.”

The solicitor's remarks were “a conclusion drawn from the evidence introduced for the consideration of the jury,” the supreme court held.

“But there are limits, the court added.

The prosecution went too far when it called the defendant a “human hyena” in the case of the state v. Ballard, the justices pointed out.

“A severe reprimand by the court would have been justified,” the seven justices said, when a private prosecutor in the

state another trial again in the case of the state v. Murdock, the supreme court said.

In that case the solicitor overstepped legal propriety by telling the jury: “I do not know when I have seen a more typical blockader. Look at him, his red nose, his red face, his red hair and mustache. They are sure signs. He has the earmarks of a blockader.”

The only case cited by the supreme court in which it had granted a new trial because of loose language by the solicitor was that of the state v. Tucker.

Counsel assisting the solicitor said to the jury: “Look at the defendants. They look like professed (professional) bootleggers. Their looks are enough to convict them.”

The presiding judge saved the



**Christmas Trimming**—Uncle Holly, character introduced by British to brighten this year's holiday season, presents gift to Roberta Flood in London store. Despite austerity, British have assured kiddies that Uncle Holly, here played by actor Jimmy Charters, will not replace Santa Claus. He'll serve as a sort of negotiator to handle difficult requests.

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