

Through The Telescope, Or: Athanas In Wonderland

By Verne Athanas

T'other evening, I was close enough to moon to shake hands with it. Providing it had hands, of course, which it has not. The moon does have limbs, though, or so I am informed by Jay Mundlin. I am also informed that "limb" is an astronomical term used to designate areas of the object being viewed, and has nothing to do with cheesecake. Darn it!

Most of Ashland seems to be blithely ignorant of the fact that we have a real telescope in town. And I don't mean just a little old dime-store gimcrack 'scope, but a real honest-to-pete, ten-inch reflecting telescope. And it is just as effective in its way, as the much-publicized Mount Palomar 200 incher.

Last April, Jay Mundlin, Philip Ankeny, and William Draper started to build a telescope. None of them had ever had any experience along such lines, but start it they did. Now in case you don't know it, you don't just go out and pick up a reflecting mirror for a telescope. No indeedy.

You buy a slab of pyrex glass and various abrasives, and you grind a slight hollow in that slab of glass. Which sounds simple until you are told that you must grind a curve representing a ten-inch segment of a circle 33 feet four inches in diameter. Some of you mathematicians can figure how few thousands of an inch the center is below the rim, because it's way over my head. But I do know, to make the thing reflect a true image, that the curve must be accurate to a tolerance of about 1/1,000,000 of an inch. Take a look at the edge of the paper you are reading. Not very thick, is it? Well, suppose you sliced it into 1000 thicknesses. You can't, so don't try it, but suppose you did. You'd have a smidgen of paper roughly 1/1,000,000 of an inch thick. Well, that's what these three men did.

They mounted a slab of plate glass on a pedestal, about waist high, charged it with carborundum, and ground out the mirror by hand. It took 60 man-hours of scrubbing those two pieces of glass together before the job was done. Then they silvered it by a complicated chemical process that made me tired just to hear about it.

Then followed a rather intricate bit of cabinet work. The tube which houses the mirror is a hexagonal spiderweb of short bits of wood, linked into geometrical patterns, about ten inches across and 100 inches long. The whole thing is mounted on a counterweighted swivel base that allows the tube to be aimed at any point from the horizon to the zenith, or straight up.

Oddly enough, the eyepiece is not located at the mirror, but at the other end of the tube, 100 inches away. And the eyepiece does not sight into the mirror, but into another little reflector, about one inch in diameter. And it works!

Mr. Mundlin aimed the thing at the moon, t'other evening and actually, the image was so big, you couldn't see it all at once. I had to move the scope in a circle to see all of the thing. The craters and spiderweb traceries of the rugged surface were as plain as the nose on my face, and people with 20/20 vision have spotted by probocels a full block away, as a matter of record.

We also got a look at Jupiter, though it was pretty low on the horizon, and made ripply by the heat waves coming off the mountains. Even so, I saw two of its moons and Jay spotted three.

The 'scope first went into operation June 27th, and to date, recorded observations have been made of Mars, Saturn, Jupiter, Venus and the Moon.

I asked Jay why they had put the terrific amount of labor into the 'scope.

"Well," he said simply, "Southern Oregon College needed a telescope. We couldn't buy one, so we built one. We three chipped in and raised \$55.00. No one kept track of the labor. It isn't finished, because we need a permanent mounting and housing for the tube, but it's useable. I'm

the only one left of the original three, and the problem now, is to raise enough money for the mount."

"This is a private venture, then," I said.

"We three built it with our own labor, and our own money," Mundlin replied. "When its finished, it will be donated to the college. We are raising money by selling tickets to see through the 'scope. Tickets are 25 cents, and

are good for all showings this fall."

I might add parenthetically, that Jay Mundlin is one of the married students at SOC, who somehow find time to make a living, get an education, and still find time to donate this kind of work to the public benefit. He sets up the 'scope on the lawn behind the gym on the SOC campus, and the public is definitely sized salmon.

invited to come out and get acquainted with their planetary neighbors.

And believe me it's worth two-bits of anybody's money to see the moon close enough to shake hands with it.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Homes went on a fishing trip last week behind the gym on the SOC campus, and the public is definitely sized salmon.

Wolves Down Raiders 13-6

The Red Raiders of SOC dropped a non-conference game to Monmouth Friday, October 23, on a fogbound field.

Southern Oregon scored near the end of the first period on a 16-yard pass from Chuck Jan-dreau to Jerry Edwards. The Wolves scored in the second quar-

ter and again in the closing minutes of the third quarter.

Final score, OCE 13; SOC 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Cullen had as dinner guests Monday evening Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Lawrence. The dinner celebrated the occasion of Mr. Cullen's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ritchie returned this week from a trip to California.

NEXT TUESDAY YOU WILL ELECT A GOVERNOR



LEW WALLACE. "I believe that a man who aspires to be governor of Oregon should be guided in his attitude by the will of the people, as repeatedly demonstrated at the polls."

On the man you elect rests the welfare of this state; this means your welfare, your family's welfare and the welfare of your business! Never before have the ISSUES in an election been so vital. In the cloud of campaign dust you hear words and words of promises and opinions by candidates and committees. It is to avoid confusion on the real issues and to help you to judge them on the basis of ACTUAL FACTS from Oregon state records that this committee supplies the "voting test" below; try it on yourself.

The Honorable Lew Wallace has served in the Oregon State Senate as has his principal opponent. Both candidates have ACTUAL RECORDS OF PERFORMANCE. The major issues that will affect the everyday life and welfare of all of us are shown below. The action of each candidate is described. Space is provided for your convenience in checking. See for yourself on a basis of the actual record how you stand on the men and their action records.



There is nothing about being elector that changes the essential character of a man." (Excerpt from McKay committee literature.)

HERE are the FACTS on BOTH candidates...check in the squares below...see how they stand with YOU!

LEW WALLACE:

ON THE SALES TAX:

Fought the general sales tax in the senate—voted against it in 1947 legislature. Will veto any general sales tax.

Check if you agree.

ON THE INCOME TAX:

Long legislative record fighting for lower income taxes. Voted against increasing income taxes. Will continue to fight for lower income taxes.

Check if you agree.

ON RESTRICTIVE LABOR LAWS:

Fought AGAINST and voted against both restrictive labor laws in the legislature.

Check if you agree.

ON ADDITIONAL GASOLINE TAX:

Is opposed to the proposed 2 cent per gallon increase in gasoline tax.

Check if you agree.

NOW — TOTAL YOUR OPINIONS AND VOTE FOR THE MAN YOU BELIEVE IS RIGHT, REGARDLESS OF YOUR PARTY!

McKAY:

ON THE SALES TAX:

Voted FOR a general State 3% Sales Tax—contributed money for sales tax in special election—spoke on radio in an effort to pass it in last May's election.

Check if you agree.

ON THE INCOME TAX:

Voted FOR increased income taxes—lower exemptions so that old age pensioners now pay tax. Now reverses his stand in election literature promises — two weeks after Lew Wallace's lower tax platform was made public.

Check if you agree.

ON RESTRICTIVE LABOR LAWS:

Voted FOR both restrictive labor laws in the Senate.

Check if you agree.

ON ADDITIONAL GASOLINE TAX:

Advocates a 2 cent per gallon increase in gasoline tax.

Check if you agree.

NOW — TOTAL YOUR OPINIONS AND VOTE FOR THE MAN YOU BELIEVE IS RIGHT, REGARDLESS OF YOUR PARTY!

TOTAL YOUR OPINIONS...THEN VOTE!

LEW WALLACE FOR GOVERNOR

100 per cent Pure
Maple Sugar
Vermont Candy
15c to 1.25 per box

McNAIR BRO'S DRUG

on the Plaza