

Scientists Improve Einstein's Theories of Curvature in Space

BY JOSEPH L. MYLER
United Press Correspondent

Washington—(U.P.)—A word of cheer for interplanetary pilots of the future: Don't let those space curves scare you; and can take 'em safely with all rockets blasting.

That doesn't mean they don't exist. They do—at least in the Einstein relativistic sense.

That is today's word from the U. S. Naval Observatory here where staff scientists have worked out new verifications of the late Albert Einstein's space curvature theories.

These confirmations, painstakingly calculated over a period of years, are based on oddities in the orbits of Earth and the planets Mars and Venus.

Old-fashioned notions of gravitational force—the force that Newton credited with keeping the planets in their orbits around the sun—do not explain these oddities.

Consider Space
Einstein's general theory of relativity, now 40 years old, does not explain them—if you can bring your mind to think of space as a complicated something instead of mere boundless nothing.

In trying to figure out why moving bodies like planets behave as they do, Einstein found it necessary to think gravitation in a new way.

As Dr. Gerald M. Clemence, director of the Naval Observa-

tory's Nautical Almanac, put it: "Einstein concluded that gravitation must be viewed as not a force at all but simply as part of the geometry of the universe."

Considered as a force, the gravitational influence of the other planets could not explain certain peculiarities in Mercury's orbit around the sun. Mercury's orbit is not fixed in space; it slowly rotates.

Predictions Verified
Einstein attributed this in part to the planet's efforts to stay on the track in a space that itself is curved. His predictions about Mercury's orbit have long since been verified by actual observation. Now Clemence and his colleagues have added the orbits of Earth, Mars, and Venus to the confirmation list.

Clemence spent 15 years on the tedious and complicated calculations which showed that the motions of Mars obeyed what might be called relativity law. He didn't devote all his working hours to them and for four years during the war he dropped them altogether.

Nevertheless, he spent a prodigious amount of time on his task, with the help of the best mechanical computer available when he began it.

Now, just to verify his figures, Clemence and his assistants are feeding the problem to a giant electronic brain, the Naval Ordnance Research Calculator (NORC) at the Navy's Dahlgren, Va., proving ground.

EGGS AWAY!
Grand Forks, N.D. — (U.P.) — State Treasurer Albert Jacobson was dive-bombed by a bird near here recently. The bird dove at Jacobson's car but pulled up in time to avoid a crash. However, it dropped an egg that splashed across the windshield.

Catholic Announces Clerical Appointments

Portland — (U.P.) — Archbishop Edward D. Howard has announced in Portland changes in clerical appointments of 13 Roman Catholic priests in Oregon. They included:

The Rev. William Maher, returning from leave and resuming work as chaplain at Sacred Heart hospital, Medford; The Rev. Charles Scott, who has been assistant at Medford, appointed principal of the Catholic high school in Eugene, and the Rev. Robert J. Timmis, assistant pastor at Medford.

State Vet Bureau To Pay Loan Bonds

Salem — (U.P.) — The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs will pay off its first \$1,000,000 of veterans' home and farm loan bonds Saturday, Oct. 1, M. C. Saalfeld, director, said yesterday.

The 10-year bonds were sold in October, 1945, the first issued to finance loans under the state's home and farm loan program.

The department since 1945 has issued \$53,000,000 in bonds to finance the program at an average rate of 1.87 per cent.

Veterans as of Aug. 31 had repaid \$37,332,678 in principal and interest of which \$7,408,731 represents interest earnings. No tax levy is required to finance the program.

Maximum loan under the program is \$9,000 for a home and \$15,000 for a farm, at an interest rate of 4 per cent.

Family Hurt as Car Strikes Locomotive

Prineville — (U.P.) — A man, his wife and their two baby daughters suffered severe lacerations Wednesday night when their car struck the front end of a locomotive at a switch crossing north of here.

Injured were Robert E. Powers; his wife, Margaret, and their daughters, Jean 2, and Joan, 1. They were taken to a local hospital.

Their car was dragged 85 feet down the track and was demolished. The engineer and his trainload of 22 cars of lumber was moving downgrade at about four miles an hour. He said he blew the whistle which Powers apparently failed to hear.

Around Hollywood

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Milton Berle, Mr. Television Himself, left a gap in the New York scene when he moved his show to Hollywood a few weeks ago.

Uncle Milt is one of the few TV stars who have been around long enough to reminisce about the "good old days" eight years ago when he put on a show with a \$12,000 budget for his viewers.

Now his budget is eight times that, and the one-time bachelorette pusher of seltzer bottles is a subdued 47-year-old who has settled down to "country life" in the California sun. He is producing, directing and appearing on 13 color shows from NBC here, and he speaks loftily of contributing to "the progress of television."

Tries to Relax
"I change my format last year, and now I've changed again to a variety show," explained the comedian as he relaxed, or tried to, after his strenuous hour-long program.

"As I'm going on every third week, I can't use continued stock characters or situations. "I've always had the urge," he continued, waving his cigar, "to further the progress of television, to try to create something for the future."

Criticism in Handling of Ike's Case Unwarranted

Boston — (U.P.) — Dr. Paul Dudley White, heart specialist who rushed to Denver to treat President Eisenhower, said yesterday that criticism of the early handling of the case by the President's physician was unwarranted.

White told a news conference that the President's physician, Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder, handled the early stages of Mr. Eisenhower's attack of coronary thrombosis "excellently."

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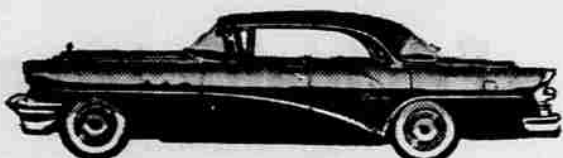
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