

TWIN CITY ASTRONOMY CLUB

TWO GRAZE EXPEDITIONS WILL BE MOUNTED

Tuesday, December 17, 1974 assembly point just north of Hugo at 4:30 P.M. and Wednesday, December 18, 1974 assembly point east of Austin, Minn at 3:45 P.M. For details contact James H. Fox at 459-6360 or Donald Tate at 483-4257.

URSIDS METEOR SHOWER

The Geminids shower was clouded out, however the Student Section intends to observe the Ursids shower, if the weather permits, which will take place December 22nd. Contact John Botkin at 739-4417 if you are interested.

Minutes of The Regular Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1974

This was a joint meeting with the 3M Club Astronomical Society held at the University of Minnesota in the Physics Building. Dr. Edward Ney was the speaker. A total of 60 regular members, student members, and visitors attended this meeting. There was no business discussed. The speaker was introduced at 7:30 P.M. by Hubert U. Brueckner, the President of the 3M Club Astronomical Society. The 3M Club Astronomical Society records all of their meetings. This lecture is now on file in the technical library of the 3M Club Astronomical Society and will be loaned to responsible members on request.

Dr. Ney described the 30" cassegrain reflector of the University of Minnesota's O'Brien Observatory at Marine on St. Croix. This is an Infrared instrument. The detector is in a liquid helium dewar at 4 K. When it is evacuated the temperature goes down to 1 K, thus its sensitivity is increased. The liquid helium dewar is inside a liquid nitrogen dewar at 70 K. The telescope's secondary is oscillated at 10 cycles per second. This sweeps the line of sight back and forth and allows the instrument to subtract out the sky-light. This technique permits stars up to the 9th magnitude to be measured in day light.

Dr. Ney described the observatory's work on comet Kohoutek, in the infrared. At its perihelion passage Kohoutek was observed in the day time. The dry Minnesota air, at that time, gave the observatory a unique advantage and other observatories, including Palomar called the University of Minnesota to get information on the comet.

Dr. Ney described a strange, infrared radiating object in Cygnus which might be a planetary system in the process of formation. This object will be written up in a future issue of Sky & Telescope.

Respectfully submitted,

Hubert U. Brueckner, Secretary

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 7, 1975 - 7:15 P.M.

In the TOZER CLASS ROOM

This will be a business meeting with a "show & tell" after the meeting. Bring your ideas for future meetings. Remember the Museum which is letting us use this meeting room. Become a member of the Science Museum of Minnesota. Individual membership is only \$10.00 per year. Family membership is \$15.00 annually.