

## ASTRONOMY

# Plan for 1954 Eclipse

Astronomers already are eyeing suitable spots to see the sun's eclipse two years from now. The heavenly show will be visible from North America and Europe.

► **ASTRONOMERS ALREADY** are beginning to take out maps, and plan a summer trip two years hence. Many are casting their eyes on cool Canada, Labrador, Greenland, The Faeroes, Norway and Sweden.

Though the exact location each would prefer may not have been selected yet, the date is definite. All will choose the last week of June, and as long before as they can arrange. The reason? The next total eclipse of the sun will take place June 30, 1954.

This will be an international eclipse, seen by many peoples. Russians as well as Canadians from their own soil can see the sun's bright disk slip behind the moon. Cubans and Egyptians, Alaskans and Finns all will be able to see the moon hide at least a little of the sun.

Everyone in the United States except those in the West and Southwest should be able to see at least part of the sun hidden by the moon. The sun will rise more or less eclipsed in the southern and central states. It will be above the horizon before the eclipse begins in the eastern and north-eastern states.

The total phase of this eclipse, like all that take place far from the equator, will not last very long. At most the moon will be between the earth and the sun only two minutes 35 seconds.

Unlike most total solar eclipses, the path of totality passes over more land than water, according to calculations made at the U. S. Naval Observatory, Washington. The eclipse begins at sunrise in the United States and ends at sunset in India.

Millions will have an opportunity to observe the total phase of this eclipse from the

United States, southern Canada, Scandinavia, Lithuania, Russia, the Middle East and India. But much of the land which the path of totality crosses in Canada, Labrador and Greenland is uninhabited.

The eclipse begins at sunrise for people in northeastern Nebraska. Its path crosses the southern part of South Dakota and the extreme northwestern corner of Iowa, then enters Minnesota, northern Wisconsin and the upper peninsula of Michigan. People in Minneapolis and St. Paul will be able to see the dark moon slip in front of the sun.

Crossing Lake Superior, the eclipse path crosses the provinces of Ontario and Quebec to the coast of Labrador. Passing over the southwest coast of Greenland between Arsuk and Lichtenau, it goes just south of Iceland, then heads toward The Faeroes, the Shetland Islands and the coast of Norway at about Bergen.

Crossing well-populated southern Norway and Sweden, the path passes over Memel in Lithuania and Kiev in Russia. It crosses the Caspian Sea, passes over Asteradad in Iran, Farrah in Afghanistan and continues through Pakistan. The eclipse ends at sunset when its path leaves the earth near Jodhpur, India.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

## AERONAUTICS

## World War II Seaplane Given Up-to-Date Design

► **A MADE-OVER** World War II seaplane having a new and improved flying-boat hull bottom currently is undergoing taxi and flight tests in Chesapeake Bay near Baltimore.

Known as research model M-270, the new slenderized hull bottom has been designed by the Navy and Glenn L. Martin Company to provide superior aerodynamic qualities, and to improve the body efficiency. Its lines also were designed with an eye toward jet engines.

The M-270 is not a new plane. It is a further improvement of the PBM Mariner, veteran of many anti-submarine campaigns during World War II. The lower part of its hull, however, is new and embodies in full scale the results of years of extensive towing-tank and wind-tunnel tests.

After its aerodynamic qualities have been studied, the made-over plane will be used as an aid to design engineers of future flying boats.

Science News Letter, June 14, 1952

### TO THE BIOLOGY TEACHER, EVERYWHERE!

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Since comparative histology tells so much about the nature of man, this study should begin in high school, and be enlarged on in the liberal arts and teachers colleges, and in the university. Like English, it should be a required study for all students in every school of intermediate and higher education. The result would be a better citizenry: better parents, better teachers, better preachers, better physicians, a better man, and a more perfect society, which is the purpose of education. It should always be borne in mind that nothing can justifiably take the place of knowledge based on truth; and that no discipline can tell so much about the true nature of man as modern comparative histology. Premedical students should make comparative histology their biggest course, because the medical schools devote very little time to the study of this most important discipline. The medical students should realize that knowledge of cellular biology gives meaning to pathology, anatomy and physiology and is the natural and least costly approach to all medical problems. **Begin study histology in high school.**

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