



Of the world's telescopes now in operation, there are only three exceeding these in size.

In addition, there are several large refracting, or lens-type, telescopes in the Southern Hemisphere, which may be used on Mars this summer. The largest of these, one with a 27-inch lens, belongs to the University of Michigan and is located at Bloemfontein, South Africa.

In 1954, as Mars approached within 39,800,000 miles on July 2, this fine instrument was employed by Dr. Earl C. Slipher of the Lowell Observatory at Flagstaff, Ariz., which has long specialized on Mars. These observations were supported by the National Geographic Society, and they provided a sort of practice run for 1956, as well as being of great value in themselves.

Since the unusually favorable opposition of Mars is doubtless the most important astronomical event of 1956, the next two star maps will be devoted to that planet,

and some of the things that make it interesting to scientists.

Celestial Time Table for July

July	EST	
1	3:40 a.m.	Moon in last quarter.
4	8:00 p.m.	Earth farthest from sun, distance 94,455,000 miles.
6	12:12 p.m.	Moon passes Venus.
7	11:37 p.m.	New moon.
8	6:00 a.m.	Moon nearest, distance 222,100 miles.
11	2:26 a.m.	Moon passes Jupiter.
14	3:46 p.m.	Moon in first quarter.
17	9:45 a.m.	Moon passes Saturn.
22	6:00 a.m.	Moon farthest, distance 252,500 miles.
	4:29 p.m.	Full moon.
27	9:28 a.m.	Moon passes Mars.
30	2:31 p.m.	Moon in last quarter.

Subtract one hour for CST, two hours for MST, and three for PST.

Science News Letter, June 23, 1956

MEDICINE

Diabetics Normal in I.Q. and Personality

► **DIABETIC PATIENTS** are normal in intelligence and personality, Drs. A. J. Kubany, T. S. Danowski and C. Moses of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, reported at the American Diabetes Association meeting in Chicago.

Previously, there have been conflicting reports on this. Diabetics have been said to have less than average intelligence or to be particularly brilliant intellectually. Some authorities have reported more behavior problems and personality disorders in diabetics, while others have said they found the opposite true.

To learn more about these matters, the Pittsburgh scientists gave a standard personality test and a standard intelligence test to 40 diabetics in the late adolescent and early adult age range. They all had developed diabetes before the age of 16.

The mean intelligence of the group on the Stanford-Binet test was 103. National norms for this are 90 to 110.

On the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory, the young diabetics showed some abnormalities when compared to the general adult population. When compared to normal young people of the same age, however, these differences disappeared.

The abnormalities that a number of scientists have noted and generalized to all diabetics may, the Pittsburgh doctors suggest, be the reaction after diabetes starts to the person's finding he has diabetes and to the doctor and the regimen of tests, regular visits, diet and so on he prescribes.

Science News Letter, June 23, 1956

GEOPHYSICS

Earth Satellites May Circle for Ten Years

► **THE EARTH SATELLITES** to be launched during the International Geophysical Year that starts July 1, 1957, may circle the globe for as long as ten years, Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., has reported.

However, the artificial moonlet could burn out as it spiraled toward the earth about a month after it was shot toward space, Dr. Whipple said. Observations of the satellite will lead to an accurate determination of the upper atmospheric density to an altitude of some 300 miles. If the density is as low as a million-millionth of the sea level value, Dr. Whipple predicted, the satellite's lifetime would be limited to less than a year.

Observations of the satellites will also help to indicate the earth's shape to an accuracy of 30 feet, Dr. Whipple reported. He spoke at a dedicatory symposium for the University of Pennsylvania's Flower and Cook Observatory near Paoli, Pa.

Science News Letter, June 23, 1956

OPTICAL STAR FINDER



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