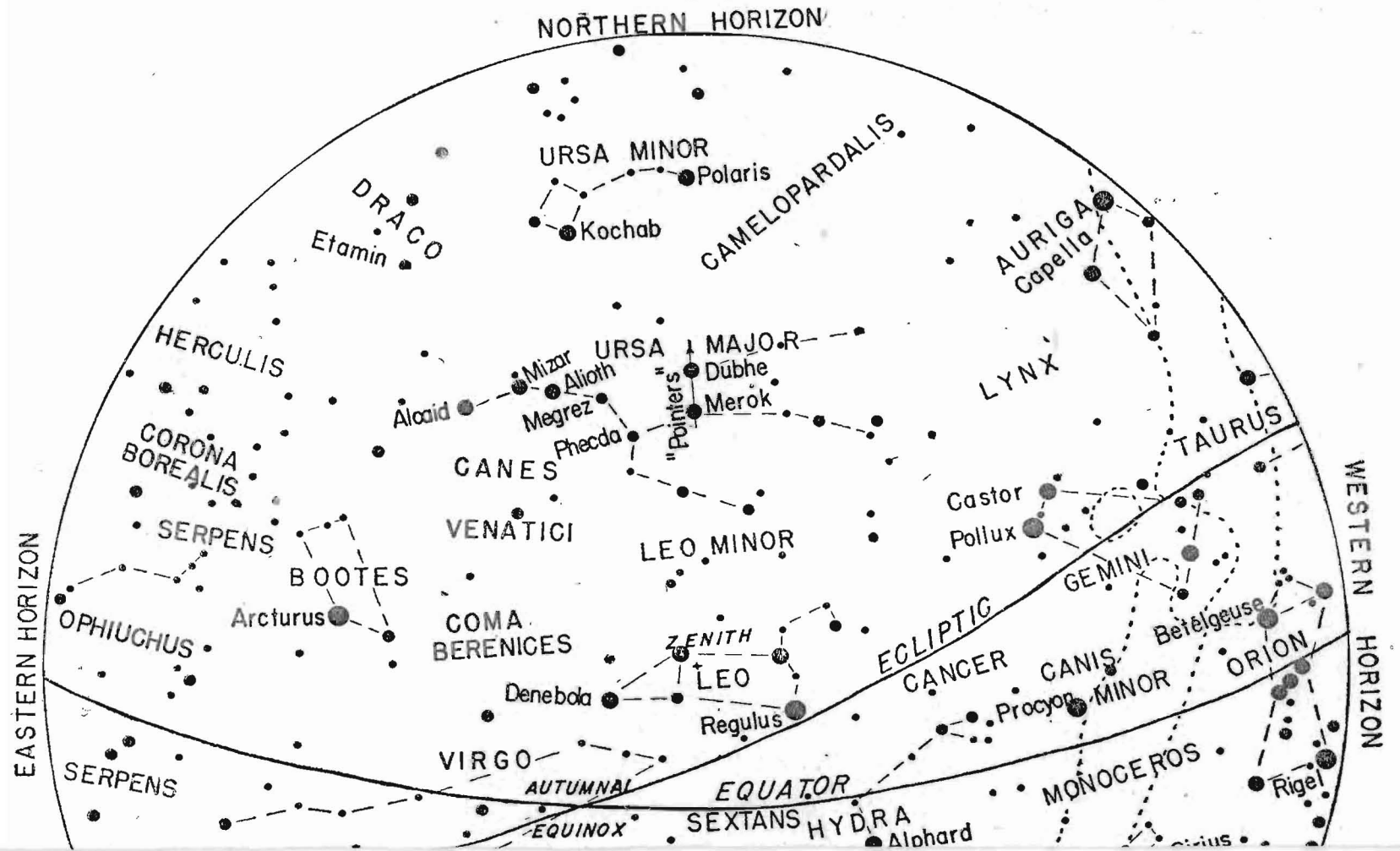


# MAY EVENING STAR CHART



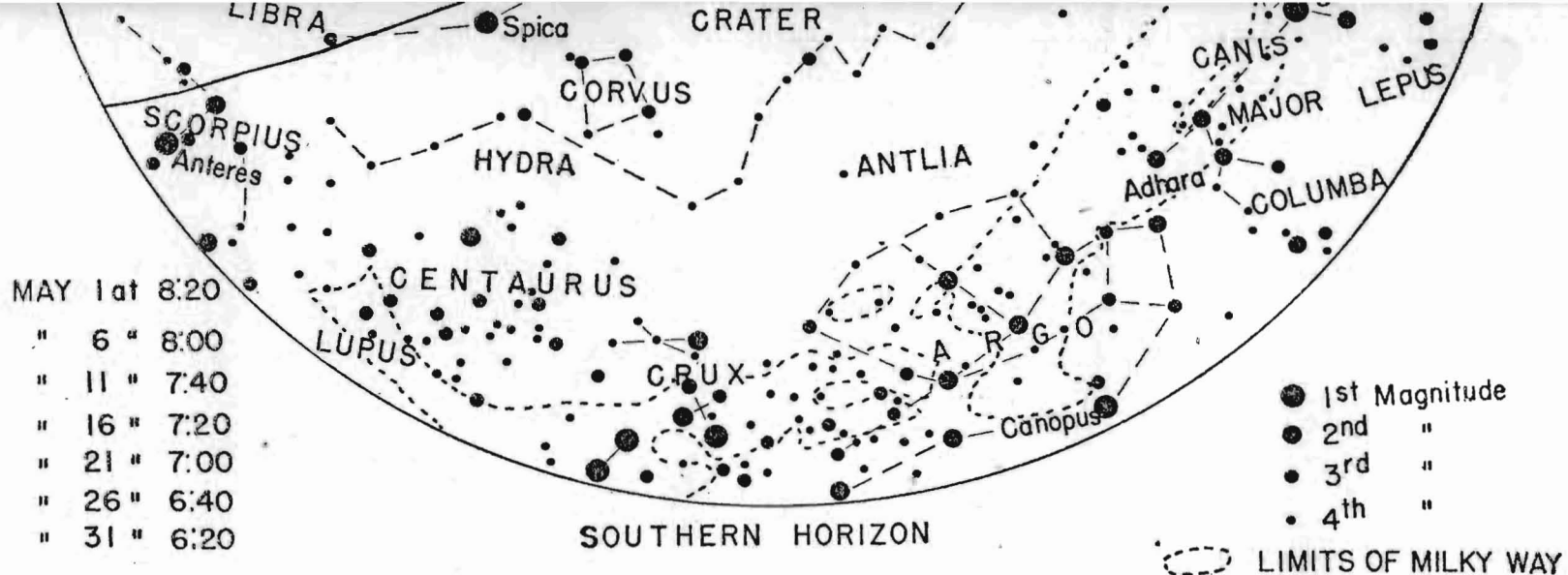


Chart showing the position of stars and constellations as seen from the latitude of Hawaii during May in the early evening. Drawn for The Honolulu Advertiser by E. H. Bryan Jr.

THE PLANETS DURING MAY

**M**ERCURY REACHED its greatest elongation (26 degrees 45 minutes) west of the sun on the morning of May 3. At that time it was low in the eastern morning sky for a short time before dawn.

Venus is also in the eastern morning sky, in the constellation of Pisces, the fishes, at the beginning of this month, in Aries, the ram, for most of the remainder, and in Taurus, the bull, during the last few days of May.

Mars is a little east of Spica, in the eastern evening sky. It will be closest to the earth at 4 a.m. on May 8. At that time it will reach its greatest brightness

(-1.5 magnitude), almost as bright as Sirius, the brightest star.

Jupiter will also be low in the eastern morning sky at the beginning of May, appearing higher in the sky each morning as the month progresses, in contrast to Venus, which will appear to slip through the constellations and remain close to the rising sun.

Saturn, in the constellation of Virgo, the virgin, will be in the eastern evening sky, west of Spica.

PHASES OF THE MOON

First Quarter . . . . . May 1, at 5:58 p.m.  
Full Moon . . . . . May 9, at 10:16 a.m.  
Last Quarter . . . . . May 16, at 4:39 a.m.  
New Moon . . . . . May 23, at 9:28 a.m.  
First Quarter . . . . . May 31, at 11:46 a.m.

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

May is the month when it is easiest to see the Southern Cross. In the early evening this small, kite-shaped group of

four bright stars not only stands clear of the southern horizon, but also Alpha and Beta Centauri are on hand to "point" toward it from the southeastern side.

There are so many small groups of four stars across the southern horizon at this time of year that it may be difficult to be sure which is the true Southern Cross until these "pointers" appear.

The following directions may help, however: Using the pony-shaped group, Leo, the lion, near the zenith, as a pivot, one can follow the curve of the handle of the Big Dipper, around the eastern sky through Arcturus and then to Spica. Just southwest of Spica is the trapezium-shaped group of Corvus, the crow; a small rectangle with one corner out of line. Looking southwest from Corvus one comes to a flat group of five stars, shaped like a partially open pair of shears. The Southern Cross is just south of this.

Alpha Crucis, the bottom star of the cross, is the brightest of the group, nearly full first magnitude. Beta Crucis, on the east side, is magnitude one and a half. Gamma Crucis, at the top, is just a little fainter; and Delta Crucis, on the west side, is third magnitude. A fifth star, Epsilon Crucis, of the fourth magnitude, lies between Delta and Alpha.

The Southern Cross rises, tipped toward its left (eastern) side. It appears to swing in an arc across the southern horizon, to set in the southwest, tipped over on its right (western) side.

In southern latitudes, such as New Zealand, it appears to move around the southern pole of the sky, just as the dippers swing around the northern pole in latitudes north of Hawaii. Here in Hawaii the Big Dipper moves in an arc across the northern sky, and the Southern Cross in an arc across our southern sky, both at the same time of year.