

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

PASADENA

November 3, 1953

Mr. Grote Reber
Box 320, Wailuku
Maui, T. H.

Dear Grote:

I am arranging details of a conference on radio astronomy, described in the attached circular. I see by Dr. Bok's program for the AAAS symposium that you are presenting some material there, although you will not attend. Our conference will be on a considerably more technical level than the one in Boston, and I wonder if you would have anything that you would care to contribute? Is it possible that you could be persuaded to come?

If you would be willing to send a contribution in, will you please let me hear from you? We are going to be somewhat interested in problems of design of low noise level receivers and of antennae systems. There will be several reviews of the current status of work on radio sources and the general galactic radiation.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



Jesse L. Greenstein

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Enclosure

RADIO ASTRONOMY CONFERENCE

sponsored by

THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
AND THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

January 4, 5, 6, 1954

at the Carnegie Institution of Washington
5241 Broad Branch Road, N. W., Washington 15, D. C.

The aims of the conference are:

- a. To obtain a broad picture of the current status of the knowledge of the universe that has been gained by the work in radio astronomy in this country and abroad, to encourage increased activity and to discuss future programs,
- b. To examine the newest techniques of research in this field and the most promising developments, especially in the design of antennae, interferometers and low-noise stable receivers.
- c. To bring astronomers and electronic physicists into stimulating contact with each other and with radio astronomy in the hope that they will begin to appreciate its deeper possibilities, and to give this new and rapidly growing subject more attention and help.

Adequate provision will be made for publication, at our expense, of abstracts and resumes of all technical papers given. These should be of length sufficient to establish authorship and priority, even though the work reported may not be in final form. In addition, important new ideas or contributions arising during the discussion may be presented to the conference secretary for publication.

The organizing committee for the conference includes: - J. L. Greenstein (chairman) Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories; B. J. Bok, Harvard College Observatory; L. A. Du Bridge, California Institute of Technology; J. Hagen, Naval Research Laboratory; R. J. Seeger, National Science Foundation; M. Tuve, Carnegie Institution of Washington; J. B. Wiesner, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Allowances will be made for travel and subsistence. They will be made in a lump sum, and advances when required can be obtained by request to Dr. Tuve's office at the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Dollars for foreign visitors can be provided at embarkation for the United States by Dr. Tuve's office.

The three-day program will include both invited and contributed papers. Subject matters to be covered include: discrete radio sources and their identifications, interstellar hydrogen line, solar radio astronomy, solar activity, the ionosphere studied by radio astronomy, et cetera. We hope that there will be discussions of the theory of thermal and non-thermal radiations from space and from the sun. In view of the many recent developments in the construction of large parabolic reflectors, we hope to have a detailed discussion of their merits, and the merits of various interferometric antenna arrays. The noise characteristics of various receivers will also be discussed. It is hoped that a valuable exchange of ideas will take place between workers in many different fields.

A later communication will include more detailed information as to the arrangements and program. Inquiries about the program should be addressed to J. L. Greenstein, 1201 East California Street, Pasadena, California.