

Glass Company of Corning, N. Y. The telescope is equipped with a single prism stellar spectrograph by Hilger. Regular observation with this instrument was commenced early in June.

The administration building contains offices, library, machine shop, laboratories and lecture room. In the south dome is mounted a 19-inch reflector constructed by Professor R. K. Young, assistant to Professor Chant. The remaining two domes are at present empty, but it is hoped eventually to have a 12-inch refractor in one and a battery of short-focus photographic telescopes in the other.

The program of the observatory will be largely spectrographic in nature and will include studies of the radial velocities and physical constitution of stars fainter than sixth magnitude. Some direct photography at the Newtonian focus is planned, however, as the 74-inch telescope can conveniently be used with either the Newtonian or Cassegrainian arrangements. It is planned to reserve Saturday evenings for the public when those interested will have a chance to look through the telescope. In addition to this the observatory buildings will probably be open for inspection on certain afternoons during the week.

Mrs. Dunlap has, through her generous gift, provided the University of Toronto with an institution eminently suited for astronomical research of the highest importance.

THE HARVARD MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM

THE Harvard Mineralogical Museum has recently acquired the major part of the collection of Dr. Hans von Karabacek, of Vienna. Much of the new material has not been represented in the Harvard collection, and it is said that the acquisition is the most notable the museum has received since the bequest under the will of Albert F. Holden, '88, who died in 1913.

The new collection includes a large suite of the finest crystallized minerals from the copper mines of Tsumeb in German Southwest Africa. That locality is noteworthy for the variety and beauty of the compounds of lead, copper and zinc and the minerals secured are probably the finest specimens saved during the mining operations which have now ceased.

Professor Charles Palache, curator of the Mineralogical Museum, says of the new collection:

Of the nine cuprites (oxide of copper), one is probably the finest specimen of this mineral ever found anywhere.

There are some fifty specimens of azurite and malachite, the carbonates of copper. The more than fifty specimens of the carbonate of lead, cerussite, and the twelve specimens of the sulphate of lead, anglesite, are not only the

finest of their kind, but no two are identical. Twelve specimens of wonderfully colored carbonate of zinc, smithsonite, are also unusual.

Next in importance to these in the collection is a magnificent suite of fluorites from the long extinct mines of Cornwall in England, which are of extraordinary beauty, form and coloring.

Other suites worthy of mention are nearly thirty crystallized hematites from European localities; twenty specimens of epidote from the most famous Alpine locality for this mineral; five emeralds, each better than any hitherto in the collection, and a beautiful suite of titanite from the Alps.

Most of the specimens were selected because of their unusual quality. There were, however, a number of minerals not uncommon and not of particularly fine quality, but representing localities, mostly European, unrepresented in our collection.

THE CORNELL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

THE summer convention of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, which was held at Cornell University from June 24 to 28, brought together more than 1,500 electrical engineers from all parts of the United States and foreign countries. This is the first time that the institute has held its convention at a university. Professor Robert Franklin Chamberlain was chairman of the convention committee.

The American Institute of Electrical Engineers has a membership of over 15,400 engineers in the United States and throughout the world. Its object is the advancement of the theory and practice of electrical engineering and of the allied arts and sciences and the maintenance of a high professional standing among its members.

Among the events were an address of welcome by Dr. A. R. Mann, provost of the university; the award of several prizes for papers; reports of progress in electrical devices which protect homes against burglars and kidnapers; an inspection of the Cornell campus, and of the largest telescope mirror in the world at the Corning Glass Works.

There was also a discussion of the rôle of the electrical engineer in a changing world, and of how he can apply his scientific knowledge to solve social and economic problems. A round table discussion was arranged on the problems of student and cadet engineers.

Professor Takai, of the University of Tokyo, gave an address on the electrochemical and electrometallurgical industries of Japan and several papers were presented discussing the Boulder Dam hydro-electric project. A brief outline of the program follows: