

## Section 15.—The Dominion Observatories.

**The Dominion Observatory, Ottawa.**—This Branch of the Department of the Interior was founded in 1902, and completed and organized in 1905. It was an outgrowth of the astronomical surveys of the Department, which began in 1884 with the survey of the Railway Belt in British Columbia, and were continued in the form of field latitude and longitude determinations for mapping purposes and in connection with the survey of international boundaries. Dr. W. F. King, made Chief Astronomer of the Department in 1890, and later also International Boundary Commissioner, was appointed as the first Director of the Observatory in 1905. Within the next few years, as one of the activities of the new institution, a trigonometrical survey was begun and organized as the Geodetic Survey of Canada. After Dr. King's death in 1916, the Geodetic Survey and the International Boundary Commission were given separate status, and Dr. Otto Klotz succeeded as Director of the Observatory. The present Director, R. Meldrum Stewart, was appointed in 1924 after the death of Dr. Klotz.

The work of the Observatory comprises astronomy of position (including time-service), solar physics, astrophysics, photographic photometry, seismology, terrestrial magnetism and gravity. Results are issued as Publications of the Dominion Observatory; Volumes 1 to 5 complete, Volumes 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 current (for list see p. 1030).

The main instrumental equipment includes a six-inch meridian circle with accessories, three astronomical field transits, wireless equipment for transmission and receipt of wireless time signals, a twenty-inch cœlostast with Littow spectrograph and accessories, a fifteen-inch equatorial with spectrograph and equipment and photo-electric photometer, a six-inch and an eight-inch photographic doublet with objective prisms, three photographic cameras with equatorial mounting, Milne-Shaw horizontal seismographs and a Wiechert vertical seismograph, magnetometers, gravity pendulums, Eötvös torsion balances. An instrument shop and a carpenter shop provide facilities for necessary repair work.

The library contains about 13,500 volumes, including books and periodicals dealing mainly with astronomy, geophysics and related subjects.

**The Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria.**—This extension of the Dominion Observatory was founded in 1915, to meet the recognized need for a larger telescope; it was completed and occupied in 1918, with Dr. J. S. Plaskett, previously astronomer at the Dominion Observatory, as Director.

The work comprises various branches of astrophysics, more particularly stellar radial velocities, spectroscopic parallaxes, spectral classification and stellar temperatures. Results are issued as Publications of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory; Volumes 1 to 3 complete, Volume 4 current (for list see p. 1030).

The equipment consists of a seventy-two-inch reflecting telescope, which can be used in either the Newtonian or Cassegrain form, with complete accessories for spectroscopic and photographic work. It is the second largest telescope in the world, and is surpassed by none in nature and quality of equipment.

The library contains about 2,500 volumes dealing with astrophysics and related sciences.