
Recently a new Upper Atmosphere Research Section has been formed in the Radio and Electrical Engineering Division. The activities of this Section will include both meteor and auroral observations as well as the study of associated ionospheric problems. Meteor research in co-operation with the Dominion Observatory will be continued during certain selected periods of meteor showers.

SMALLER OBSERVATORIES

In addition to the major research institutions whose work is described above, smaller observatories for student instruction or for the benefit of the public are maintained by universities or astronomical societies at Victoria, B.C., Edmonton, Alta., Saskatoon and Regina, Sask., London, Ont., and Quebec and Montreal, Que. There are also many private individuals and small groups who possess telescopes or small observatories and who practise astronomy as a hobby. Some of them grind and polish their own telescope mirrors, often producing instruments of excellent optical quality, capable of making observations of professional standard. Contact between amateur and professional astronomers is made possible by common membership in the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. This Society has a membership of approximately 2,000, maintains centres in most of the major cities of Canada and publishes a Journal devoted to the dissemination of astronomical knowledge.