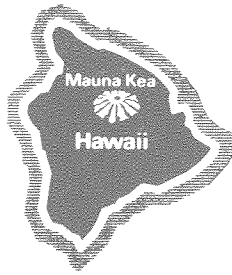


# Canada France Hawaii Telescope



## Information Bulletin

BULLETIN NUMBER 1

AUGUST, 1979

### Editorial

The Board of Directors of the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Corporation has requested that an information bulletin be published twice each year to keep the astronomical community abreast of the general evolution of the project, to give technical information necessary for the preparation of observational programs and to inform interested parties about the high points in the life of the Corporation.

We have chosen for the issuing of the first publication a significant date in the history of the pro-

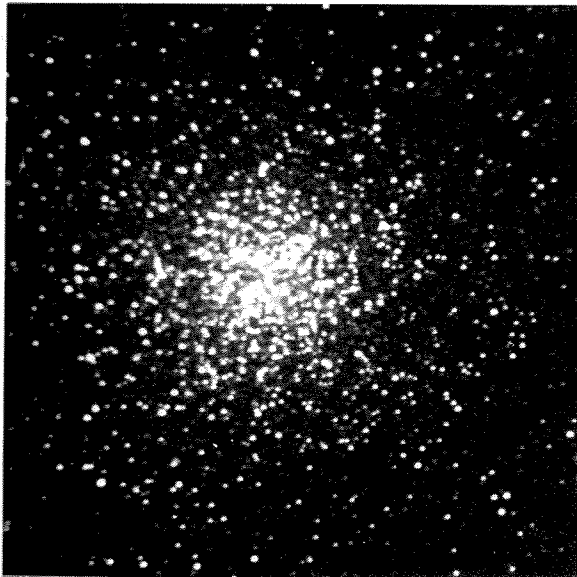
ject: that of the first light in the telescope (see the corresponding article).

Of particular interest for the astronomical community of Canada, France and Hawaii is the notice concerning the requests for observing time.

Lastly, there is useful general information and the schedule of the commissioning of the foci and instruments at each focus.

R. Cayrel

G. Odgers



### First Pictures Taken with the Telescope

A few nights after the "first light" the first pictures were taken, just before The General Assembly of the IAU at Montreal.

The first picture, on display at the Canada-France-Hawaii stand in Montreal was that of the globular cluster Messier 13, in Hercules. Another picture, of the globular cluster M15, taken the following night was projected at the meeting of Commission 9 (Instruments and Techniques) on August 15. The pictures have been taken by D. Salmon with a 35 mm camera provisionally mounted at the prime focus. The exposures were only one or two minutes because guiding was not possible due to the focus difference between the camera and the guiding probe. The seeing was satisfactory, the diameter of nonoverexposed stellar images being slightly better than one arc second. A slight triangular astigmatism was perceptible.

### First Light in the Telescope

It was during the night of the 6 to 7 August 1979 that the first image was observed at the primary focus of the CFH telescope. The mirror was installed in its cell, after having been aluminized at the beginning of July. The adjustments of the radial lever system and the dorsal fixed points were reset during the day. Early, during the evening, a cable feeding the primary cage broke which required feverish activity by the electronic technicians in order to re-establish control in the interior of the primary cage. A re-balancing of the telescope was also necessary because of the difference in the mass of the primary mirror

and that of the dummy mirror which had been used until that time.

Several persons, drawn by the solemnity of the event, had gone to the summit or left neighbouring telescopes in order to be present at the moment of the first light in the telescope.

At two o'clock in the morning (local time) the mirror cover was opened and the telescope focused on the bright star,  $\epsilon$  Pegasi, by J. C. Fouéré, who was armed with a pair of binoculars and a knife-edge tester.