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13 June, 1978

Dr. A. Vibert Douglas,
127 King Street West,
Kingston, Ontario

Dear Dr. Douglas,

Thank you very much for so kindly entertaining me last Friday. I enjoyed myself immensely - though I must say that the task ahead of you in preparing for your move is not an envious one. By the way, I do hope you will be able to let me have your new address, so that we may keep in touch. And if you wish some books to be transported to the Douglas Library, please telephone at any time (547-3030).

Thank you especially for the fascinating little facsimile reprint of Kepler's Dissertatio ... à Galilaeo, Pragae, 1610 (Hamburg, 1964). I know Mr. Covington will be most interested to see it. I trust your meeting with him, by the way, was as memorable as I feel sure it must have been!

With kindest regards, and best wishes for your Great Move!

Sincerely yours,

William F.E. Morley
Curator of Special Collections

WFEM:lh



PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

Acadia University

WOLFVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA

June 27, 1978

To the members of the Historical
Committee of the R.A.S.C.

At the recent General Assembly in Edmonton I had the honor to be appointed Chairman of the Historical Committee. I accepted this position with misgivings since all of the other members of the committee have more knowledge and experience in astronomy and historical matters than I.

Special thanks is due to our former chairman, Arthur Covington for his interest and guidance over the past four years. Also I wish to acknowledge the services of J. P. Boudreault and R. P. Broughton whose terms on the committee ended this spring.

Most of you are already aware of a conference on The Study of the History of Canadian Science and Technology to be held at Queen's University, November 3 - 5 this year. The purpose of the conference is to review the present rather sad state of the teaching and study of the history of Canadian science and technology, and to discuss ways and means by which it can be improved. Anyone interested in more information should contact:

A. W. Tickner
Senior Archival Officer
National Research Council of Canada
Ottawa K1A 0R6

A few days ago I came across an interesting article entitled: "History of Science in a National Context" by Maurice Crosland, a past president of the British Society for the History of Science (British Journal for the History of Science, 10, 95(July), 1977). This should be read by anyone planning to attend the Queen's conference.

I have been in contact with Norman Ball, Science and Engineering Archivist at the Public Archives of Canada. He has offered his help, and I quote: "If there is some way that I might be able to assist the work of your historical committee please do not hesitate to get in touch. I will be quite happy to help you convince people that historical documents should be placed in the archives of their choice".

I do not think that our committee has ever met as a group. The main difficulty, of course, is the size of our country. Arthur Covington has suggested that it is perhaps better to consider ourselves to be a "working group" rather than a committee. Except for the possibility of brief, annual meetings, most of our work must be done individually, with information, ideas and other matters being communicated by mail.

Historical Committee, R.A.S.C.
June 27, 1978
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One project that has been suggested is a list of old books concerning astronomy located in libraries in Canada. "Old" might be arbitrarily defined as pre-1900; however, there may be a better definition. I would appreciate comments on the idea. For myself, it would be nice to have an excuse to poke through the astronomical holdings of various libraries. Who knows what treasures may be gathering dust!

As our past chairman has said: "There is still much to do".
Suggestions are welcome.

Sincerely,



Roy L. Bishop
Chairman, Historical Committee

Distribution: A. E. Covington
✓ A. V. Douglas
J. D. Fernie
H. S. Hogg
R. A. Jarrell
J. R. Percy
Historical File



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Queen's University Archives,
June 28, 1978.

3226

Dr. A. Vibert Douglas,
127 King Street West,
Kingston, Ontario.

Dear Dr. Vibert Douglas:

On behalf of the Queen's University Archives, I am writing to thank you for the Order of Canada which was sent to us from the Special Collections Unit a few days ago. We will place this document with your other Papers.

Also, I understand from Mr. W.F.E. Morley, Curator, Special Collections Unit, that you are planning to move at the end of this month. Is there any way the Archives could be of any service to you regarding your personal papers?

Please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

George F. Henderson,
Assistant Archivist.