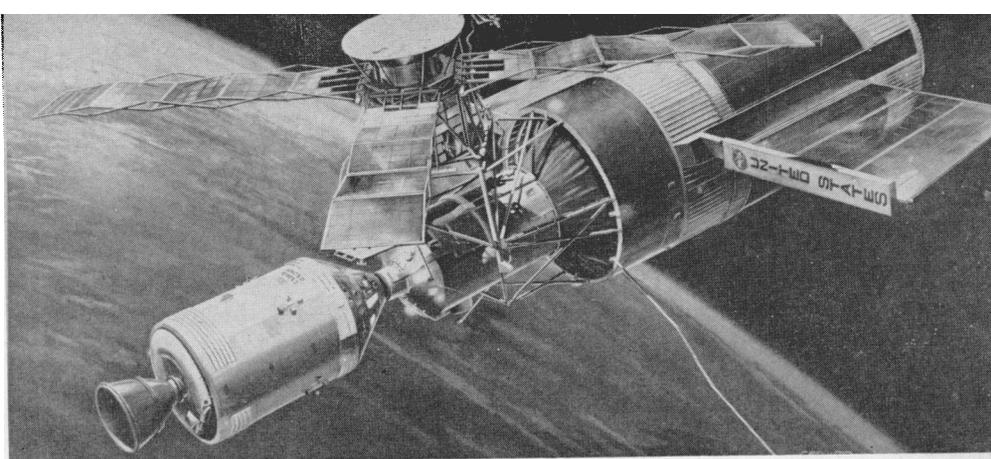


Skylab space station, including its astronomical telescope mount. [Martin Marietta Corporation]

(NASA, Goddard) will analyze the trade-off between earth-based and space-based data processing in astronomy missions.

In the afternoon, the focus will shift to stellar and galactic astronomy, which will be reviewed by George W. Preston (Hale Observatories) and Arthur D. Code (University of Wisconsin), respectively. Carl L. Kober (Martin Marietta Corporation), a scientist directly involved in *Skylab* development, will discuss future manned orbital observatory modules, and Peter Simmons (Grumman) will describe future unmanned astronomical vehicles. William F. Hoffmann (Institute for Space Studies, NASA), will examine the next generation of infrared space astronomical instruments and a number of unexpected astronomical discoveries that have been made in the infrared region, while I. Shapiro (M.I.T.) will indicate the potential of very long baseline interferometry for gaining new stellar and galactic data.

Furthering the ecumenical spirit of the symposium, Tuesday morning will feature an examination of new astronomy areas and very large space telescopes. Kenneth I. Greisen (Cornell University) will discuss the astronomy of unusual objects such as pulsars, quasars, and radio galaxies, while Laurence E. Peterson (University of California, San Diego) will describe the High Energy Astronomical Observatory



(HEAO), and Herbert Gursky (American Science and Engineering) will review x-ray astronomy, its results and its instruments. Robert Danielson (Princeton University) will describe the increased performance expected from the large astronomical space telescope, while the possibility of directly gathering cosmic ray particles on a space platform as a tool in astrophysical studies will be explored by Andrew Buffington (University of California, Berkeley).

A Tuesday afternoon session on advanced applications and new developments in space astronomical instruments will feature: "Synthetic aperture optics," R. H. Miller (University of Chicago); "Electronic imaging devices," G. Carruthers (Naval Research Laboratory); and "Automation in astronomy," E. J. Wampler (Lick Observatory). Other talks emphasizing new engineering concepts are "Active optics" by Herbert Wischnia (Perkin-Elmer Cor-

poration) and "Technology of space astronomical instruments" by Murk Bottema (Ball Brothers Research Corporation).

A panel, with diverse backgrounds, will review the symposium on Tuesday afternoon and discuss the "Strategies for space-based astronomy." Panel members include Fred Whipple (Harvard College Observatory), Karl Henize (NASA astronaut/astronomer), Arthur Code, and John Naugle (NASA associate administrator). Walter Sullivan (science editor of the *New York Times*) will critique the symposium with comments on the impact of the proposed space astronomy program on our society.

This unusual program has caused a good deal of interest among scientists in several AAAS divisions and promises to be a highlight of the meeting.

GEORGE W. MORGENTHAUER
Martin Marietta Corporation,
Denver, Colorado

27 December

400th Anniversary of Johannes Kepler's Birth

December 27, 1971, marks the 400th anniversary of Johannes Kepler's birth. He combined imaginative creativity with painstaking industry, metaphysical expectations with physical realism, astrology with astronomy, mystical geometry with numerical analysis, sincere humility with superior achievement—all as a homeless, restless pilgrim in a passionate search for the truth inherent in God's universal order.

Kepler's chief scientific achievement was undoubtedly his laws of planetary motions—just as valid today as at the time of their announcement in the early 17th century. At the same time, he contributed to mathematics and to physics. What was his relation to his contemporaries? to Copernicus? to

Tycho Brahe? to Galileo? What role did he play as a scientist at court as the son of a supposed witch?

During 1971 various groups throughout the world are considering such aspects of this man called a "Sleepwalker" by Arthur Koestler. On his birthdate a small interdisciplinary conference will be held at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia under sponsorship of the National Science Foundation. At its close there will be an open public lecture given by a distinguished historian of astronomy, Willy Hartner (University of Frankfurt).

The following day the chairman of the Advisory Committee, Peter van de Kamp (professor of astronomy at Swarthmore College), will give an ad-

dress at a meeting of Section L (History and Philosophy of Science) on "Keplerian motions." It will be followed by an address by J. O. Fleckenstein (University of Munich, Munich, Germany) on "Kepler and neoplatonism." Reports will also be made on European celebrations this past summer and on the Philadelphia symposium itself. The Advisory Committee consists of I. M. Levitt (Franklin Institute), G. M. Clemence (Yale University), O. J. Gingerich (Harvard University), C. D. Hellman (Queens College), G. Holton (History of Science Society), A. V. Landolt (Section D, AAAS), E. Rosen (City College of New York), R. J. Seeger (Section L, AAAS), and C. D. Shane (American Astronomical Society).

RAYMOND J. SEEGER
Secretary, Section L (History and
Philosophy of Science), AAAS

Science

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Raymond J. Seeger

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