

Prof. Butterfield Visions Observatory

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Realization of his dream may depend on generosity of some alumnus.

equip the observatory with another, a meridian telescope. The equatorial telescope would be used for general descriptive work in astronomy, and would be equipped with photographic apparatus for taking pictures of stars. The meridian instrument is designed especially for time and latitude work, and could be used with equipment now possessed by the civil engineering department for work in engineers' practical astronomy courses.

The equatorial telescope just acquired by the University was made a number of years ago by the celebrated telescope maker, Alvan Clark of Cambridge, Mass. The lens, Professor Butterfield says, is one of the finest of Mr. Clark's various productions. The telescope was formerly owned by Ex-Governor Gregory Smith of St. Albans. It is reported that the lens of this telescope was used in selecting the site of an observatory at Flagstaff, Ariz., by Percival Lowell.

But for the time being, the telescope and its pedestal are boxed up awaiting the building of the observatory, which in its turn will probably have to wait for a benefactor. At present engineering courses in practical astronomy are the only ones given at the University.

equipment, complete with two telescopes in their round domes at opposite ends of the observatory building; with recitation rooms, a photographic room, dark room, laboratory and director's office. With such an observatory, science students could have much more extensive work in astronomy, and there would also be a chance for students in the arts college to take courses in descriptive astronomy. Observational work could be done. Star photography could be carried on.

Plans for this observatory, to which Professor Butterfield looks forward, are already drawn and await the University's acquisition of the necessary funds to be built. In addition to the equatorial telescope, which the University has already obtained, Professor Butterfield would



If one walks across the lawn back of the Ira Allen Chapel of the University, he sees nowadays two large hollow half-domes, silver-white on the outside. Prof. A. D. Butterfield, head of the department of mathematics and geodesy in the engineering college, is the man to ask about such celestial looking mechanisms as these, because he teaches practical astronomy in the geodesy course for civil engineers.

Inquiries reveal that Professor Butterfield has great plans for these half-hemispheres and for the nine-inch equatorial telescope, together with seven-foot pedestal and dome and revolving mechanism, newly acquired by the University. He has a vision of the observatory which will one day be part of the University