

Dr. Gerhard Herzberg, Nobel Laureate and pioneer in the science of molecular spectroscopy.

Le Dr Gerhard Herzberg, lauréat d'un prix Nobel et pionnier dans le domaine de la spectroscopie moléculaire.



This 46-m radio telescope at the Algonquin Radio Observatory at Lake Traverse, Ont., will be open for public visits on May 23 and 24.

Les 23 et 24 mai prochains, le grand public est invité à visiter ce radiotélescope de 46 m de diamètre à l'Observatoire radioastronomique du CNRC au lac Traverse dans le parc Algonquin. tant, the nature of the code, the actual letters of translation used to recreate life, turn out to be universal, the same for bacteria, plants, animals, even Man. Much has been learned about how the body protects itself from invasion, the way drugs, hormones, and other molecules operate in the cell, the manner by which organisms grow, differentiate, develop. But cancer, eluding explanation back in the 1930s, still manages to escape human understanding despite an awesome assault by science.

In chemistry, the advent of synthetic techniques, particularly the production of long-chain polymers, has had effects on virtually all aspects of living; the products of chemical synthesis now go into materials used for clothing, construction, appliances, transportation, and medicine, just to name a few. As important, however, have been the effects of chemistry's instrumentation; efficient, automated, and sensitive, B these techniques are now employed far afield from their use at a chemist's bench. Routine measures of pollutants down to the parts per trillion range, the precise details of the structures of proteins and other biological molecules. the production of semiconductor materials for the electronics industry, and the nature of complex systems like the cell's outer membrane are examples of just how wide ranging the applications have been.

And what of tomorrow? For the men and women in astrophysics, biology, and chemistry who do research at Sussex Drive 50 years hence, what routine, textbook knowledge will they have that, for us, are tomorrow's breakthroughs?

Whatever it is, it will be provided in part by the research of the people who work in the building today. While they may seem casual, walking in the halls or talking over coffee in the basement cafeteria, they carry with them the shifting paradigms that give the observations of their particular science meaning. New knowledge will affirm, modify, or disprove these conceptual models, leading ultimately to leaps in understanding comparable with those of the last five decades. From Genes to Galaxies is an appropriate theme, then; after all, it exemplifies the scope of the research at Sussex Drive, from the biological microcosm, through the great middle range of Man and his environment, to the parsec measures of the Cosmos.

Wayne Campbell