



Meticulous inspections accompany the various stages of grinding and polishing.

Site construction finished

On Mauna Kea itself, construction at the telescope site is now virtually complete. No sooner had ground been broken in 1974 than work began on a thick concrete pier to act as a foundation for the massive structure above it. A surrounding metal framework and white steel cladding (in effect an outer jacket) were added in the following year. Next, work went ahead on the interior facilities such as dark rooms, laboratories, mechanical and electronic shops. Recently, the telescope's dome, which had been pre-fabricated in British Columbia, was shipped to Hawaii and installed atop the building.

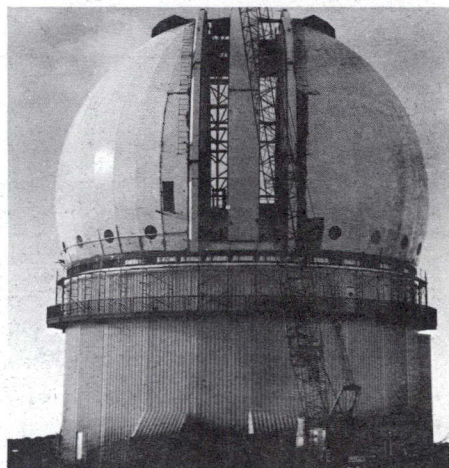
Work in France

As the main building rose in Hawaii, the heavy mounting and main driving gear for the telescope were under construction at La Rochelle in France. Eventually, this equipment will support the massive mirror and enable it to be turned or aimed at any part of the sky while tracking a star for hours at a time. This movement will be controlled by a computerized drive system built in Montreal and shipped recently to France. There it is being joined with the structural part of the telescope to allow rigid performance tests to be done on the complete mechanical and electrical system. During this procedure, a large concrete slab will be set in place to simulate the presence of the mirror.

Then, towards the end of this year, the telescope will be dismantled and shipped to Hawaii for installation in the dome. During re-assembly there, the last arrival, the mirror, will be completed and sent from Victoria. Finally, when it is installed, the world's newest observatory will come to life.

First photos next year

Astronomers will take their first photographs with the new telescope some time in 1978. In return for providing the site and mid-level facilities, the University of Hawaii will receive 15 per cent of the viewing time, while Canada and France will share the remaining time equally. Though the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope will be by



The observatory is crowned with its pre-fabricated dome.

no means the largest in the world, it may well out-perform larger instruments elsewhere. This capability will come from the most up-to-date auxiliary equipment (such as spectrometers or photometers) both developed and improved by scientists in Canada and France.

Public servants move to Hull

In line with the Federal Government's aim of achieving "a more balanced and equitable distribution of public service jobs between Ottawa and Hull" (the national capital region), some 15,000 federal employees now working in Ottawa will be relocated in Hull by 1981.

Public Works Minister Judd Buchanan, who announced the plan to the House of Commons on May 17, said another object of the move was to increase the number of facilities owned by the Government as opposed to leased space. By the end of the fiscal year 1980/81, some 4 million square feet of commercially-leased office space will be returned to the market. Since the office vacancy rate in Ottawa was traditionally lower than in any other city in Canada, it appeared likely, said Mr. Buchanan, that owners of vacated buildings would, "through aggressive application of their entrepreneurial skills" be able to rent the space released by the Federal Government.

Mr. Buchanan said officials of his Department had been co-operating with the Building Owners and Managers' Association, the Commercial and Industrial Development Corporation and the National Capital Commission to increase private sector demand for commercial and office accommodation in Ottawa.

"At present," said Mr. Buchanan, "the printing and publishing section of the Department of Supply and Services, as well as the Departments of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Labour and Environment, are located in Hull. As previously announced, we hope that by the end of the current fiscal year most of the Department of Supply and Services, Canadian International Development Agency, the Department of the Secretary of State, Canadian Radio Telecommunications Commission, and the Department of Indian and Northern