

McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL.

FACULTY OF ARTS

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

As things are our library is very imperfect in ~~many~~ ^{many} Astronomical literature, but that could be remedied.

(2). The Purely Observational Side :- This would involve the construction of a large ^{large} dome to house a good telescope, a suitable staff etc and although Mr Gill possesses the site for such an observatory on the mountain, ^{as I believe} ^{for Mr Gill} Sir William Macdonald, I do not think that it is advisable to tackle the subject from this side under present conditions, unless of course some benefactor arises who will complete the work started by Sir W. Macdonald on so magnificent a scale.

(3). The Computational Side :- This is the idea of Kapteyn of Groningen in Holland who has what he calls an Astronomical Laboratory. There is no telescope on the place, but instead very good microscopic measuring apparatus. His assistants are men of good mathematical training & space. Large masses of material are accumulated at the large observatories of the world and often remain unused, undiscussed, owing to the lack of ~~the~~ properly trained staff. This material is sent to Kapteyn and during the last 20 years or so (at least) results of fundamental importance have streamed from his laboratory, the publications of his laboratory are world famous.

- It seems to me that Mr Gill could commence the serious study of Astronomy (with ones eye all the time fixed on the question of research as being the ultimate end of such study)