

JOINT COLLOQUIA

28th April, 1955.

Observations of Rain by Radar
by G.S. Goodman

Mr. Goodman dealt with the use of radar for meteorological purposes and especially for rain observations. A description of the operation of a radar set, and of the types of displays used, was given.

The radar equation was explained and the fundamental limitations to measurement defined. Special reference was made to the limitations of equipment operating at 3 cms wavelength due to the absorption of the radio energy in heavy rain at that wavelength.

The appearance of rain echoes was described, and some slides shown on which rain echoes were recorded, including some at Laverton. The discussion included references to the possibility of quantitative rainfall measurements by radar, but it was agreed that this would be difficult with existing equipment due to calibration problems.

26th May, 1955.

A Visit to the U.S.A.
by A.M. Grant

Miss Grant described her experiences during a recent visit to the United States, where she attended the Foreign Student Summer Project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This brought 57 young scientists and engineers together from 33 different countries, to enable them to carry out research projects in their own fields.

Miss Grant described her project which concerned changes of season in the upper air flow patterns, and particularly possible relationships between the northern and southern hemisphere changes. Some impressions were also given of a visit to the United States Weather Bureau in Washington.

The talk was concluded with the showing of slides, including some taken on a sight-seeing trip through much of the U.S.A.