

## QUESTAR GETS A LUCKY RIFT IN CLOUDS

Since cloudy skies obscured the solar eclipse of October 2, 1959, in many places and hampered most photographic efforts, we are publishing this picture of it because it shows more detail in the corona than any other we have seen so far.

We can only hope the engraver has heeded our note and by extra work has been able to capture on his plate some of the many coronal streamers and lines so plainly visible in the photograph. If this fails, or if the press is not in prime adjustment as this page gets printed, you have only our word for it that there was some interesting detail in the corona. Under the large picture we show three prints, in actual size, of the same negative, which indicate the size of Questar's prime image on the 35-mm. film. Each print was exposed a different number of seconds, which may help to show coronal structure.

The gentleman below is Mr. Dumont Rush, an American working in Belgium who took his brand-new Questar to the Canary Islands (he mentions Tenerife) for this October 2nd eclipse.

Mr. Rush says ruefully, "During totality I got no other pictures because of something I must have done wrong at the camera. More than likely I turned the shutter speed dial the wrong way in the dark, so my shutter speeds were far too fast. The enclosed shot, nearly at the end of totality, was made at 1/20 second on Adox KB-17 film. The focus seems bad. I found it very difficult to get sharp focus on an edge of light without features. Clouds covered the sun before the eclipse, which prevented me from trying to focus on sunspots."

Out of focus or not, it seems to us that Mr. Rush's single photograph is better than he thinks. We are pleased to note with what simplicity Mr. Rush has made an oil drum serve as good foundation for his equatorially mounted Questar. And we are pleased to have him say that "I find the Questar a joy to use and a joy to carry. For a small-aperture telescope it is very fine indeed and I am not in the least tempted by those amateurs who advertise for a Questar in exchange for some fully equipped larger glass."

We note that Mr. Rush has put a padded counterweight on the end of his Questar's star chart to balance the considerable weight of his M-3 Leica and its reflex housing. This is the right way to use a telescope when adding heavy auxiliary devices. Balancing the load relieves all working parts of strain and insures the smoothest motion when electric drive is used.

In designing Questar we tried to take full advantage of its very short tube, which overhangs the 4-inch bronze driving wheel by only a few inches instead of several feet. To make sure it cannot be overloaded, with consequent high tooth pressures, we build in a slipping clutch. To minimize friction, the drive wheel is faced with ultraslippery teflon. This is driven by a pinion gear whose torque exceeds 1,000 inch-ounces. No wonder Questar's drive is smooth and effortless!

The superfine Questar still costs only \$995 postpaid. Each one is tested by us on the stars at night, and each comes in a beautiful velvet-lined fitted leather case made for us in Staffordshire, England. Extended payments are available and our 32-page illustrated booklet is yours upon request.



Questar

