



CATCHING THE SUN — Fr. Richard Miller, solar physicist of the Manila Observatory arranges the mirrors that focus the sun into the four-story vacuum spectro-heliograph, an instrument that scans the surface of the sun. The instrument allows the study of the explosive disturbances on the surface of the sun. (Photo by Juan Villena)

They watch the sun all day at Loyola

By BENJAMIN DEFENSOR
of the Chronicle staff

"...That lucky old sun has nothing to do but roll along heaven all day," so goes a popular song.

If you think that's bad enough, a number of people "do nothing" but watch the sun roll along all day. And they do it with some of the most expensive and precise instruments too!

This is what they do at the Manila Observatory in Loyola Heights.

Why all this bother about the sun?

Well, for one thing the

bon dioxide, which human beings give off, into oxygen which we breath in order to live.

Without the sun, there would be no photosynthesis and we would exhaust the oxygen supply of the earth and suffocate unless we freeze to death first.

In addition to being fundamental to life itself, the study of the sun is basic to the study of nuclear energy. The studies of the birth of our sun and the other stars in the universe led to a better understanding of the atom and the tremendous powers that are released by its fission

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