

Its contour is rather irregular, and it is about $6' \times 4'$ in size. Its most striking feature is the roughly circular protuberance seen at the lower right hand (southwest) corner. Here the edges are defined with almost perfect sharpness, and there is an astonishingly abrupt transition from the background of faint stars so closely packed that they seem almost a continuous sheet, to a region absolutely blank. At this point it really seems as tho one could "see" the sharp edge of the dark nebula. On its eastern edge the transition is somewhat less abrupt. The coarse cluster of bright stars to the east (left) of this striking object serves to accentuate the beauty of the region.

It is impossible to look at the original negatives of these interesting objects and not be convinced that there is something dark between us and the general background of stars; I firmly believe that these are actual "dark nebulae." Perhaps spectroscopic studies of stars involved in diffuse nebulae which show such occulting effects in their peripheral regions may some day enlighten us as to the actual nature of whatever it may be which composes the dark nebulae. That they are "holes" torn in the star fabric of the Milky Way by some rapidly rushing star-cluster is difficult to believe, when one studies carefully the sharply defined edges. If merely "holes," we must assume their age as of the order of hundreds of millions of years, in which time, as Dr. Campbell has pointed out, the random motions of the stars in the neighborhood would long since have obliterated the clear-cut edges, if not the "hole" itself.

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WIRELESS TIME SERVICE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

The progress in the time service of the Philippine Islands is made evident from the fact that since October 1, 1917, the Cavite Radio Station co-operating with the Bureau of Posts and the Manila Observatory sends out time signals of the 120th meridian East of Greenwich at 11 A. M. and 10 P. M. every day, Sundays and holidays inclusive. The establishment of a wireless time service in the Philippine Islands had been strongly urged by the undersigned in many conversations with members of the observatory staff and officers of the American Navy. Manila holds an enviable position in the Pacific and the interests of shipping companies making Manila a port of call are too prosperous to be overlooked. Accurate