

MOUNT WILSON AND PALOMAR OBSERVATORIES

CARNEGIE INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

1201 EAST CALIFORNIA STREET
PASADENA 4, CALIFORNIA

September 1, 1951

Mr. Grote Reber
Box 4868 Cleveland Park Station
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Reber:

The Council of the American Astronomical Society is much concerned about the future finances of our Society. In view of the increased cost of carrying on its current activities it was found necessary to raise the dues beginning November, 1949 to \$5.00 per year.

At the Haverford meeting we voted to abolish enrollment to new life memberships. At this meeting it was felt and expressed from the floor, that the present life members might be invited to make voluntary contributions to match at least in part, the increase in dues. The Council has directed the Executive Committee to formulate plans and make such a request.

Many of us became life members by paying our fee on the basis of \$2.00 per year, some on the basis of \$3.00 while others paid a lump fee of \$25.00. Our early records are incomplete and the process of ascertaining the actual status of each member is difficult if not impossible. For this reason it was decided to ask each life member to contribute in accordance to the enclosed table and according to his present age. This table was computed on the basis of \$2.00 per year. That is we assumed that all previous contributions to life memberships were based on \$3.00 per year.

Any sum which you may feel inclined to contribute will be appreciated as it will strengthen our Society's financial position. Contributions are on a purely voluntary basis. Checks should be made payable to the American Astronomical Society and sent to the Treasurer in the enclosed addressed envelope.

Sincerely,

Alfred H. Joy
Alfred H. Joy, President
American Astronomical Society