

# Astronomers seek life from Pembroke

TORONTO (CP) — Two Canadian radio astronomers will begin a search next month for intelligent life on other planets in the galaxy.

Paul Feldman of York University, Toronto, and Alan Bridle of Queen's University, Kingston, plan to use the 150-foot Algonquin radio telescope, about 60 miles west of Pembroke.

By monitoring selected stars, the scientists are hoping to receive signals which might indicate advanced technological civilizations on planets orbiting those stars.

Mr. Bridle, who described the project as "very exploratory," said the observations are scheduled to begin May 8 for an initial period of five days.

He said interstellar space is "transparent" to radio waves and that the best of today's radio telescopes can detect "an average run-of-the-mill television signal 100 light years away."

"The difficulty is knowing where to point the telescopes and what frequencies to look for," he added.

"Water is such an important chemical compound for life as we know it," said Mr. Bridle. "Our rationale is that if water-based life elsewhere attempted to construct beacons, one possible choice is the frequency of water itself."

*Not much sign of  
it last time I  
was there!*