

COMMONWEALTH



OF AUSTRALIA

COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

TASMANIAN REGIONAL LABORATORY

TELEPHONES: 2 2786, 2 2787

"STOWELL".

STOWELL AVENUE.  
HOBART, TAS.

10th January 1964

Mr. K. G. Knight  
I. R. E. E. Australia  
157 Gloucester St.  
Sydney, N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Knight:

Thank you for your letter of the 8th.  
In accordance therewith I am enclosing a foto and short biography.  
I hope this is the type of material you wish.

If you have occasion to visit Tasmania, I will be pleased to  
show to you the installation at Bothwell.,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

*Grote Reber*  
Grote Reber

*See Proc IEEE Australia, February 1964, p 114.*

Grote Reber

Born at Chicago, Illinois 22nd December 1911. B.E. Illinois Institute of Technology; Ph.D. University of Chicago; D.Sc. Ohio State University. Radio Engineer with various concerns 1933-1947. Pioneer radio astronomer at Wheaton, Illinois 1936-1947. Results were first radio map of the sky plus discovery of radio waves from the sun. Radio physicist at National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C. 1947-1951. Associated with Research Corporation 1951 to present. Radio interferometry from altitude of 10,020 feet atop Haleakala volcano, Maui, Hawaii 1951-4 and 1958. National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Green Bank, West Virginia 1959-60. Low frequency radio astronomy in Tasmania 1955-7 and 1961 to present. Hon. Research Fellow, Division of Radio Physics, C.S.I.R.O.

A peculiar geophysical situation is caused by the tilt of the earth's axis, the eccentricity of the earth's orbit and the skew of the earth's magnetic pole. This shields the region of Tasmania from particles falling into the earth's atmosphere from space. Consequently the electron density of the ionosphere is very low. Superb transparency is available for hectometer radio waves. Observations are being made at frequencies near two megacycles. The present radio telescope located close to Bothwell consists of an array of wires upon tall poles. The area is about one square kilometer with a circular periphery. The beam may be adjusted to any position in a North-Zenith-South plane. Sky surveying is performed by strip scans. The present minimum of solar activity is the most auspicious time to perform these observations. Considerable more data will be needed before the picture of the sky may be assembled in a suitable manner.