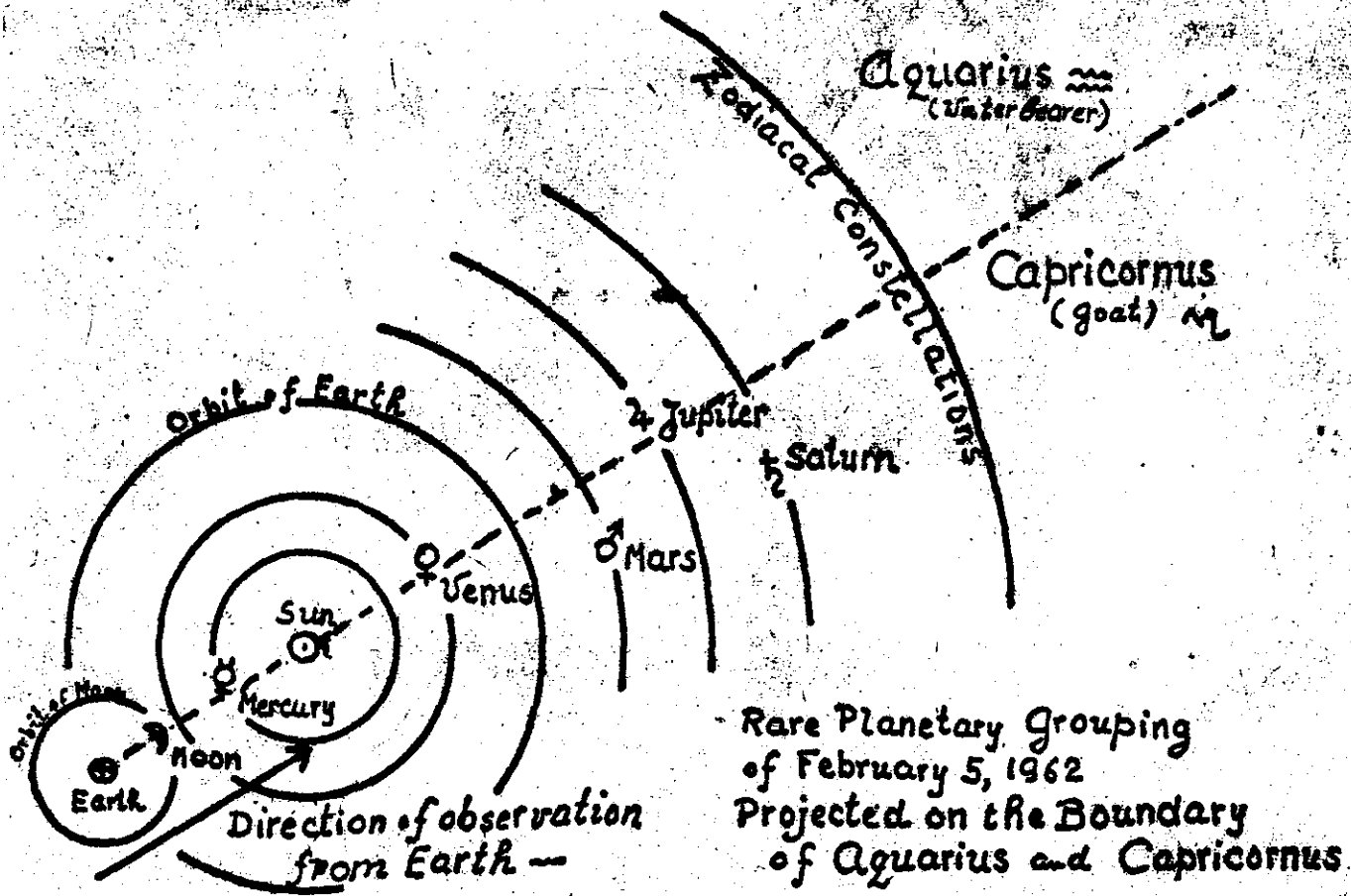


Heavenly Excitement But No Doomsday Seen In February Alignment of Stars



Rare Planetary Grouping
of February 5, 1962
Projected on the Boundary
of Aquarius and Capricornus

By DR. KAREL HÚJER

On innumerable occasions I have been questioned about the conjunction of "seven planets that is to happen next February". First, it is not quite a conjunction and secondly, only two of those "seven planets" — the Moon and Sun — will be in such a conjunction as to produce an actual total eclipse of the sun. This total eclipse will be visible on February 5, 1962, only on several islands in the southwestern Pacific. Five planets—Jupiter, Venus, Mercury, Saturn and Mars,—will all be in close proximity.

This grouping will last 71 hours, starting at midnight on Feb. 3, 1962, Chattanooga time, and lasting until 11 p.m., E.S.T., on Feb. 5. At that time, only on such South Pacific Islands as Cook, New Guinea or Palmyra, where the moon's shadow will touch the earth's surface, will it be possible to see the wondrous spectacle of this extremely rare celestial grouping.

The world is coming to an end Feb. 5—an Indian astrologer prophesied a few days ago.

But even though he disagrees with this prophet of doom, Dr. Karel Hújer, the University of Chattanooga's world-traveling astronomer, says there will occur on Feb. 5 spectacular heavenly events such as have not been witnessed since long before the birth of Jesus Christ.

On Feb. 5, less than a month from now, five planets—Jupiter, Venus, Saturn, Mercury and Mars—will be lined up, in relation to the sun and the moon—in a rare grouping, with a total eclipse of the sun occurring as the moon covers the solar disk.

But this fascinating conjunction will not be visible from Chattanooga, or indeed in any part of the world except from a few far-off islands in the South Pacific Ocean, Dr. Hújer says.

The reason for this invisibility, he says, is that the sun is a part of the conjunction of the planets, and the great solar disk obliterates visibility of the phenomenon, just as one can see the sun during the daytime but cannot see the stars.

Dr. Hújer has recently been asked so many questions regarding the extraordinary events due next month that he has prepared the following special article for The Chattanooga Times.

lar grouping exceedingly rare is that it is combined with the total

Astrology attaches great meaning to such a transition. Astrology, incidentally, is actually a survival of a mythological level of human thought.

The contrast between the pseudo-science of astrology and the beautifully accurate and useful science of astronomy is tremendous, at least in my opinion. I recall, in this connection, one clear night in July 1928, which I spent at the Mount Wilson Observatory in California, in company with the late Dr. Edwin P. Hubble, the great observational pioneer in the discovery of the expanding universe. At this time the 100-inch Hooker reflector on Mount Wilson was the world's largest telescope. The spectrographic plate after more than 20 hours of exposure time, revealed the tremely faint light of a galaxy so far away from earth that the light has millions of light-years through space. But the shown galaxy reveals observer some small p.

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