

“A Hubble Eclipse: Lemaître and Censorship”

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Abstract. One of the greatest discoveries of modern times is that of the expanding Universe, almost invariably attributed to Hubble (1929). What is not widely known is that the original treatise by Lemaître (1927) contained a rich fusion of both theory and of observation. The French paper was meticulously censored when printed in English - all discussions of radial velocities and distances (and the very first empirical determination of “H”) were omitted. Fascinating insights are gleaned from a letter recently found in the Lemaître archives. An appeal is made for a Lemaître Telescope, to honour the discoverer of the expanding universe.