

July 15, 1933

“Earth Is a Blue Planet”

IF we could see the earth from a distance out in the heavens, it would appear as a bluish planet.

So Prof. V. M. Slipher of Lowell Observatory, Arizona, declared in the George Darwin lecture before the Royal Astronomical Society in London.

Says D. H. N. Caley, Science Service correspondent, in a wire report (Washington):

The gold medal of this leading astronomical organization was presented to Professor Slipher in the presence of a distinguished scientific audience.

The blueness of the earth was determined by Professor Slipher from spectrograms made photographically of the earthshine on the moon. Light from the earth was reflected by the moon back to Professor Slipher's delicate instruments.

Pluto, the most recent of the planets to be discovered, which was found at Lowell Observatory, is a reddish planet, which is brighter to the eye than it is on a photographic plate.

