

# Aurora Borealis Seen From N.Y. to Louisiana

NEW YORK (AP)—The aurora borealis—northern lights—was seen over the eastern part of the country Sunday night, with sightings also reported from as far south as Louisiana.

The Hayden Planetarium astronomer, Dr. Kenneth Franklin, confirmed that the spectacular heavenly display was the aurora, and said such a phenomenon "has been a possibility all week," due to a period of activity on the sun.

The Weather Bureau office here received reports of sightings from Rochester, N.Y., to Lake Charles, La. The varicolored light was visible also in Buffalo and Albany, the Hudson Valley, northern New Jersey and Atlantic City.

Sightings in the New York metropolitan area described the lights as mostly reddish, but running also to yellows and greens.

Dr. Franklin said: "Whenever there is activity on the sun, such as a flare, a high-energy stream of particles is released. A day or two later they reach the earth and collide with atoms of the atmosphere hundreds of miles above the earth. Energy is transferred to the atoms of the atmosphere and the energy, in turn, is given off as light.

The display appears in the north because the light is polarized there by the earth's magnetic field, he said.