

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNION OBSERVATORY 1937

(Union Astronomer Dr. H.E. Wood)

26½-inch Grub Visual Refractor.- 3617 visual micrometrical measures of double stars were made during the year; 8 photographic plates of double stars were taken.

Occultations of Stars by the Moon. - No change was made in the regular programme of observation of occultations of stars by the Moon; 182 occultations were observed during the year.

The results of the year's observations are given below, the second column indicating the time by which the Moon has arrived too early at any longitude, and the third column the amount by which the Moon is ahead of its tabular longitude.

	s	"
1937.14	5.5	3.0
.36	6.1	3.4
.63	4.3	2.4
.82	3.8	2.2
mean for year	.52	5.0 2.8

These results are, as in former reports, deduced from disappearances at the dark limb only. In obtaining the means, each occultation is given a weight equivalent to $\cos(\chi-\rho)$, and no occultation is included for which the value of $\cos(\chi-\rho)$ is less than 0.5 .

Franklin-Adams Star Camera. - During the year 1202 plates were taken with this instrument. The distribution of the plates was as follows:-

Variable star regions	757 plates
Minor planet regions	368 "
Comet regions	77 "

Comet 1957 b (Whipple) was observed from August 29 to October 28; Comet 1937F (Finsler) from August 29 to September 23; and Comet 1937g (Hubble) from August 6 to September 10.

62 new minor planets were discovered during the year, and elliptic orbits were computed for 10 new minor planets. 600 approximate positions and 108 accurately measured positions of minor planets were forwarded to the Astronomisches Rechen-Institut.

Union Observatory Circulars. Circular No. 97 was published and distributed during the year. Circular No. 98 is in the press.

Miscellaneous.- The Transit of Mercury on May 11 was observed under fairly good conditions.

Dr. A. de Sitter of the Leiden Observatory arrived at the Observatory on April 21 to replace Dr. H. van Gent, who has returned to Leiden for a period.

The number of visitors to the Observatory during the year was 1386.