

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNION OBSERVATORY
JOHANNESBURG**

1948

(Union Astronomer, Dr. W.H. van den Bos)

With the 26½-inch refractor 494 micrometer and 12 interferometer measures of double stars were obtained. Finsen has made an interferometer, permanently attached to the micrometer. It is at present mainly used for a systematic survey of stars down to the sixth magnitude and between the equator and 60° south declination.

Plates taken with the Franklin-Adams telescope were:-

Minor planets	295
Comets	134
Variable stars	120
Miscellaneous	37
Total	586

Comet 1948j was discovered by E.L. Johnson.

With the 9-inch refractor 85 occultations have been observed. Counts of sunspots with the 3-inch refractor were made on 334 days.

During the year 902 visitors were admitted.

A quartz crystal clock installation for the modernization of the time service is on order. One quartz clock unit was constructed in our workshop and is under-going preliminary tests.

Circulars No. 105 and 106 and the Index to Volume 4 were printed and distributed.

Drs. Woolley, Brouwer, Schilt and Oort visited the Observatory. The Union Astronomer attended the I.A.U. meeting at Zurich and visited a number of scientific institutions in England and Holland.

There were no changes of staff.