

(60)

88 Lorne Ave.
St. Catharines, Ont.,
Monday, Feb. 25, 1963.

James W.A. Low,
411 Briston Ave.,
St. Lambert, P.Q.

Dear Sir, -

Your announcement of Comet Ikeya arrived here Saturday morning, but cloudy weather prevented a search that night. Sunday night (Feb. 24th) was quite clear & very windy, and after very little effort, the comet was found. It was quite bright in spite of shut lights. After it was located in 7x50 Binoculars it was seen with the unaided eye. There was some difficulty putting a comparison star image out of focus, as the cold weather thickened the grease in the focusing mechanism. (Centre focus binoculars.) There was no star close by the comet that was comparable in brightness. V. Cetera measured for this purpose although it was only half as bright as the comet. The brightness estimate was 3.0^m which seems brighter than predicted.

Notification was given to Dr. J. F. Booth, president of the Niagara Falls Centre, and he received the comet with 7x50's & 8" f5 reflector. He saw no tail.

No other reports have been received as yet.

Tonight was partly cloudy and the comet could not be compared with any stars for brightness or position. Observations were made with 7x50 binoculars & 4" f14 reflector. In the 4" it was a hazy patch with a brighter nucleus. No tail was visible. It could be seen with the unaided eye using averted vision. It seemed about 7' in diameter.

That is all for now. You should receive many reports, as Comet Ikeya is bright and easy to find.

Best of luck,

Hugh M. A. Maclean,
Niagara Falls Centre.