

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

COMET AND NOVA SECTION

Bulletin No.7

COMET IKEYA-SEKI (1965f)

Although not well placed for observation from Canada, many of our members who made the effort to get up during the early morning hours last October and November were surprised to see a spectacular comet. Other members attempted to observe this comet but encountered cloudy weather. The following is a summary of observations reported to this section:

MONTREAL CENTRE

L. Duchow 1
W. Jenkins 3 & summary
C. Jorgensen 2
D. Levy 2
J. Long 1 & summary
B. Ramsey 2

NIAGARA FALLS CENTRE

H.N.A. Maclean 6

QUEBEC CENTRE

Y. Dufour 1
P. Marmet 1
J. Matte 3

HILLCREST ASTRONOMY CLUB, OTTAWA

D. Paston 1
P. Ryback 1

SUMMARY OF MAGNITUDE ESTIMATES:

October 2	6.0	October 29	1.5
October 3	5.0	November 2	3.7
October 5	5.0	November 4	4.2
October 21	bright	November 5	4, 4.4

Members who observed this comet, but have not submitted reports to this section are asked to send a summary, together with selected drawings.

SUGGESTED READING (as explained in the last Bulletin, this is intended as a regular feature).

- Comets - Observational Astronomy for Amateurs. J.B. Sidgwick; Faber & Faber Ltd. 1965; Chapter 16.
New Handbook of the Heavens (paperback) Bernhard, Bennett, Rice; New American Library, 1954-1962. Chapter 9.
Between the Planets (paperback) Fletcher G. Watson; Doubleday & Co. 1962. Chapters 4 and 5.
Neighbours of the Earth Thornton & Lou Williams Page (Ed.); Macmillan & Co. 1965. Chapter 5.
(Items are from Sky and Telescope.)
Sky and Telescope (continued from Bulletin 6):
1. The Strange Story of Comet de Vico-Swift, Sept. 1965, p. 139.
2. A Rich Harvest of Comets, Nov. 1965, p. 284.
3. The Great Comet of 1965, Dec. 1965, p. 331.
4. Photographs of Comet Ikeya-Seki, Dec. 1965, p. 343.
5. Photographs of Comet Ikeya-Seki - II, Jan. 1966, p. 20.

NOVA HERCULIS, 1963

Mr. Hugh N.A. Maclean of the Niagara Falls Centre reports two more observations of this nova - on April 17 and May 25, 1966. He states that it appears to be staying at magnitude 14.0. Has anyone else seen this nova in the past year?

NOTES

The National Co-ordinator of this section was pleased to meet several Comet and Nova observers at the General Assembly in Winnipeg last May. He hopes to meet many more at the General Assembly in Montreal in '67.

The summary of Comet and Nova Searches made during 1965 is not ready; it is hoped this will be included in another Bulletin to be issued in a few months.

Centres not taking part in this program are invited to do so. Just send a letter to the undersigned for instruction and report forms. A special invitation is extended to the new St. John's, Newfoundland, Centre.

Good observing!

Jim Low, National Co-ordinator,
Comet and Nova Section,
Standing Committee on Observational Activities,
108 Roy Avenue, Apt. 102,
Dorval, Quebec.

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