

Perihelion	1951 Jan. 30.114 U.T.
Node to perihelion	67° 29'
Longitude to node	310 07
Inclination	87 46
Perihelion distance	0.7254 astr. units.

He also gives the following ephemeris:

1951	α h m	δ ° '	L.I.*
Feb. 13	20 59.1	+25 35	1.1
23	21 47.2	39 35	
Mar. 5	23 17.7	53 19	
15	1 45.8	+59 46	0.7

which shows that the comet will not change much in brightness for some time and will be very well placed for northern observers.

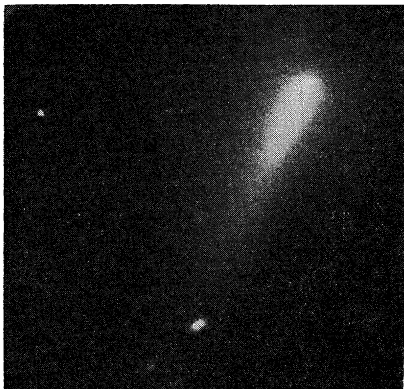


FIG. 1
COMET 1951 *a* (PAJDUSAKOVA)
FEBRUARY 10, 1951

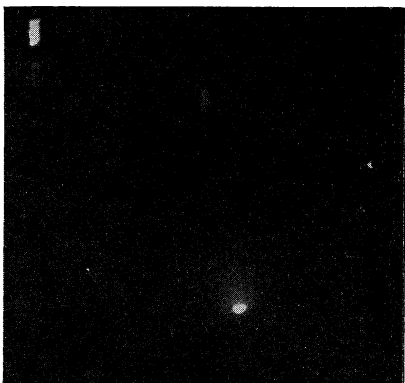


FIG. 2
COMET 1951 *b* (AREND-RIGAUX)
FEBRUARY 10, 1951

COMET 1951 *b* (AREND-RIGAUX) was telegraphically announced on February 9 but already discovered on February 5 by these two Belgian astronomers who evidently must have found it in the course of their photographic work on asteroids. The first information was:

1951 Feb. 5.08486 7^h 22^m8 +23° 39'
Daily motion +56" and +29'
Magnitude 11 Diffuse with central condensation.

Fig. 2 shows the aspect on February 10 from a 10-minute exposure with the 82-inch reflector. The plate was moved with the motion of the comet so that the stars appear as little trails. The comet shows a stellar nucleus and only a faint coma which spreads out in a short fan of some 40" in position angle 30°. Not until orbit computations have been made will it be possible to know whether this faint object is brightening up.

The expected PERIODIC COMET 1951 *c* (PONS-WINNECKE) was recognized by the writer as a minute starlike object moving along the predicted path on plates taken here February 7, 8, and 9 at the prime focus of the 82-inch reflector. By comparing the comet with the polar sequence the magnitude was estimated be-

*Light Intensity as compared with that at discovery as unity.