

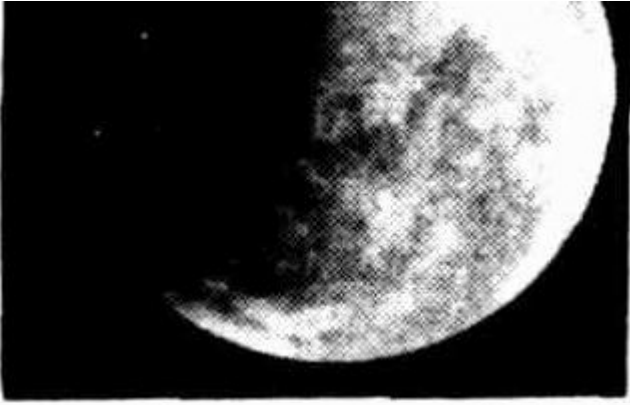
Astronomer's Report On Eclipse Of Moon

The Government Astronomer (Mr. G. F. Dodwell), referring to the eclipse of the moon on Saturday, said, "The moon rose in eclipse about half an hour before the total phase which occurred at 5.48 p.m. It was invisible, however, owing to dense cloud in the east until 6.30 p.m., when it was seen dimly through the thinner clouds. At 6.39 p.m. the end of the total phase was visible through binoculars, and a thin crescent of silvery light appeared on the southern side of the moon. Usually at this stage of a total eclipse of the moon a coppery red light is seen on the eclipsed portion, due to a small amount of sunlight refracted through the earth's atmosphere. This reddish light was noticeably absent on this occasion, owing to the red rays being absorbed by the clouds, so that the eclipsed moon appeared of a dull grey hue.

"As the moon gradually emerged from the earth's dense shadow or umbra, it presented a weird appearance, like a strange light in the sky, and must have puzzled many people unaware that an eclipse was taking place. At one stage it appeared through the cloud like a large misty star. The brighter portion gradually increased in size as the eclipse drew to an end, and the concluding phases were seen in a clear sky. The moon passed fully out of the umbra at 8.1 p.m. about half a minute later than the predicted time, and the penumbral phase ended at 9.13 p.m.

"Photographs of the eclipsed moon were taken at the Observatory, through the camera attachment of the equatorial telescope."





THE ECLIPSE nearing its final stage. This picture, taken at Adelaide University, at 7.40 p.m. on Saturday, shows the umbra passing from the moon.