

"SHOOTING MOON" OVER ESSENDON

REPORT OF LIGHTS IN SKY

MELBOURNE, May 18.—A "shooting moon" was reported over Essendon airport, Melbourne to-day by a Civil Aviation officer.

He said he saw a bright object, about the size of a full moon, travelling at terrific speed across the sky at 3 a.m. The ground was brilliantly lit for two seconds, he said.

A "meteor-like object" was also seen over bayside suburbs between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. and strange lights in the sky were reported from Bendigo, 100 miles north of Melbourne. Later this morning, in daylight, pilots and officials at Essendon said they saw a stationary small, silvery object over the aerodrome. They heard no sound.

The Civil Aviation Department says there were no aircraft in the area at the time.

PLANET VENUS.

ROCKHAMPTON, May 18.—While plotting the course of a meteorological balloon sent aloft at the Rockhampton airport about 8 a.m. to-day an official of the meteorological section observed a small but

section observed a small but bright, crescent-shaped object through a theodolite.

It was kept under observation for a time and was still visible to the naked eye to the north-west of the city in the early part of the afternoon.

No one for a period was prepared to advance any theory as to the nature of the object, but it was later identified as the planet, Venus.