

# ***The FLYING SAUCER***

## ***that WASN'T***

The picture shown here has been submitted to The Argus in response to our offer of £1000 for the first picture of a genuine flying saucer in Victoria.

But the picture does NOT win the £1000.

Exhaustive tests of negative and print have been made by our own photographic experts and an independent scientist. These prove to our satisfaction that the picture can be explained by natural causes.

The reader took the picture on April 4, 1953, while photographing a wedding at Nurmurkah. He noticed a flash from the corner of his eye, and automatically aimed his camera at the point in the sky from which the flash came.

*He writes: "I cannot describe what I saw, because it happened so quickly . . . If it is a reflection of something, why is it so proportional and a perfect geometrical figure in a dark circle . . .?"*

The answer is that the phenomena is something which is known technically as halation. Most experienced photo-

as halation. Most experienced photographers will recognise it as such.

Light from the sun has been reflected from some part of the camera forward of the lens — probably the lens mounting or lens — into the lens itself. This has caused the lower light shape.

Direct reflection of the sun on to the outer lens component is registered in the small spot of light. The "geometrical" shape above this again is caused by the light "spreading" as it passes through the outer component.

The more intense light in the wide arc and conical shape is the result of second refraction.

This is possibly an oversimplified explanation of the halation from a technician's standpoint. But technicians will agree that the cause of the "saucer" is indeed halation.





