

Theodore B. Blathwayt.

We regret to note the death of T. B. Blathwayt, which took place suddenly at Johannesburg on Friday, 1934 October 12. Our late member was well known for his cometary discoveries, 1926 *a* and 1927 *b* having been first detected by him. He was awarded a Donohoe Comet Medal for the discovery of each of these. Mr. Blathwayt was 72 years of age and unmarried. An Oxford University graduate, he lived for some years at Cape Town and latterly near Johannesburg, where he occasionally gave private tuition.

I desire to add my tribute to the memory of Mr. T. B. Blathwayt, who was one of the energetic comet observers of South Africa. While residing at Braamfontein, near Johannesburg, he discovered comet 1926 I on 1926 Jan. 16, and 1927 II on 1927 Jan. 13; both were well observed, but showed no sensible deviation from parabolic motion. He also made an independent detection on 1930 June 3 of the interesting periodic comet Schwassmann-Wachmann (3), 1930 VI, which approached the earth within five million miles; but, as he found it a month after its discovery at Bergedorf, it does not bear his name. He frequently corresponded with me, and I much regret to hear of his death.—A. C. D. CROMMELIN.