

TRANSACTIONS OF THE
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The eighth volume of *Transactions of the International Astronomical Union* contains financial reports and reports of the Union's activities from the Executive Committee for the years 1948-1951. An account is given of the Eighth General Assembly of the I.A.U. held in Rome in September 1952.

A considerable part of the volume is devoted to reports by the presidents of the thirty-nine standing commissions, each of which covers a special branch of astronomy. These reports provide valuable information on the development of astronomy in the last four years. They also give a detailed account of the meeting of these commissions during the Rome Congress.

Besides general information about the organization and officers of the Union, the *Transactions* contains the synopses of three symposia, organized for the Rome Congress. The subjects of these symposia are stellar evolution, astronomical instrumentation, and the problems of astronomy of faint stars.

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