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## Occasional Scientific Papers of the Westwood Astrophysical Observatory: Numbers 1-3 (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Frank W Very

Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Excerpt from Occasional Scientific Papers of the Westwood Astrophysical Observatory: Numbers 1-3 The word albedo (derived from the Latin albus, white) has been used by astronomers to designate the fraction of the sun's luminous rays reflected by a planet at full phase, allowance being made for the distances of the planet from sun and earth and for the dimensions of the reflecting body. If the planet were a smooth sphere with perfect specular reflection, it would be itself invisible, but would present within the diminutive limits of its disk a complete picture of the surrounding heavens, distorted by, spherical aberration, but otherwise exact; and within this image the reflection of the sun would surpass in brilliancy all other objects, shining, like a star at a point on the planet's disk distant from the center by the radius of the disk multiplied by the cosine of half the elongation of the planet from the sun. But whatever specular surfaces there may be on the planets of our solar system, they are of too limited extent to be recognized as such;...



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