

# THIS AMAZING UNIVERSE

by  
**Arthur Constance**

OF all illusions cherished by readers of printed words the most prevalent and pernicious is the idea that "the latest" are the most accurate, the most fully-informed, and the most probably true. I am afraid that students of sky phenomena are not free from the hallucination: and I am very sure that scientists and astronomers (who should surely know better) are among the students most seriously infected. It may be that numbers of u.f.o. writers and investigators have shrugged themselves free of this mental shroud, this appurtenance of the charnel-house of prejudice, but I have no statistics. I can only record my conviction that it is a shroud, a thing of corruption and spiritual death, and not the embroidered vestment that it might seem to be, as worn by the high priests of astronomical science.

## The Latest

For the idea that something printed later in time is the last word on any subject only needs stating to be seen for what it is: a dangerous and deceptive concept. It is quite evident that one must have knowledge of "the latest," to be fully informed; but being up to date does not necessarily make one qualified to speak as an authority—one must have something more than "up-to-date-ness." Nor does the fact that one is fully informed regarding "the latest" mean that one has the truth.

Science has changed her mind as often as the average woman has changed her style of dress through the ages. She may, today, be enamoured

Contributing this series of articles to "Flying Saucer Review," Arthur Constance, whose library of 16,000 books and two million news cuttings is probably in many ways unique, begins some remarkable references to sky phenomena in world literature which will undoubtedly prove provocative and excite wide attention. "The Glazier," by Arthur Constance (to be published in March), has been described by some who have read the MS. as a moving and most unusual experiment in biography, for it deals with the fantastic life of the author's father, a jack-of-all-trades, whose failures to make good led him at last to the making of leaded-glass, in which he failed even more conspicuously. But the book, with its forty home-removals, its delineation of the glazier's unusual character, and its striking symbolisms, is much more than a biography. You will need to read it to discover exactly what it is.

with the "A-line" or the "H-line" of thermo-nuclear physics, but the fashion will pass, and such colourful and fascinating phrases as "cyclotron-bombardment" and "transuranic elements" and "liquid luminophors" will become shabby and outworn. It has all happened before, again and again—this scientific obsession with ideological trappings and trinkets. I am compelled to say "scientific," but it is actually "anything but"—it is childish and illogical. And if it is true that children and fools should not play with edged tools, then surely it is childish folly to play about with forces so frighteningly formidable as nuclear fission and radio-active dust.

One would feel safer if the high priests of "the latest" were in agreement, but there are more sectarian disagreements among them than in any of the world religions.

## Neutral Sundays

John Rowland, in his masterly *Mysteries of Science*<sup>o</sup>, quotes a statement by Sir William Bragg which has vital significance: that nowadays the physicist believes in the wave-theory of light on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; in some sort of theory that light is made up of particles on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and remains neutral, as between the two theories, on Sundays. I think that is an understatement—there are more probably seven thousand than seven days in the scientific week.

Professor Eddington, in *The Nature of the*

<sup>o</sup> Werner Laurie, 1955.

*Physical World*†, rightly indicates “the lack of finality of scientific theories” and the fact that “ideas seem to zigzag in a manner most disconcerting to the onlooker.” And he is obviously right in saying that “like the systems of Euclid, of Ptolemy, of Newton, which have served their turn, so the systems of Einstein and Heisenberg may give way to some fuller réalisation of the world.” But when he says that “amid all our faulty attempts at expression the kernel of scientific truth steadily grows,” and “the more it changes, the more it remains the same,” he is certainly expressing an almost universal scientific viewpoint, but one which is none the less unsound. For immediately he defined what he meant by “the kernel of scientific truth” he would find himself at variance with other scientists: in fact, we are back again at the one sure fact, that scientific opinion changes like the wind and contradicts itself, not merely from generation to generation but within the confines of each generation.

### Newton Knocked

What is it that “remains the same”? Immediately any scientist defines it (this mysterious “result” or “accumulative deposit”) he is making an arbitrary choice and merely expressing an opinion which may or may not come within the “consensus” of scientific opinion of his generation. And even if it does, that “consensus” is certainly not identical, nor even identifiable, with the “consensus” of any previous generation.

Einstein has not patted Newton on the back—he has knocked him on the head.

Surveying past history, I find fragments of truth scattered in the unlikeliest places. Such fragments are often the orts, or food-remnants, from scientific feasting. Meetings, gatherings, conventions of scientists—whether actual or figurative, as “consensuses,” etcetera—have enjoyed glorious agreement, glutting themselves with flavoursome facts and imbibing heady ideological wines. Orts of the arts! We find them under the table, after any such feasting, or swept into some remote corner.

We find them, particularly, in forgotten passages of world literature, and it shall be my pleasure—if it is your editor’s and yours—to scramble round on my knees (for humility is, I am very sure, the one correct attitude in discover-

ing truth) searching for such orts in future articles.

I am fortunately (or if you take my good wife’s word, unfortunately) in possession of a very large library. This has probably more sweepings and swillings than carefully-laid-out delicacies and vintages. But it may be that it contains more digestible stuff than modern public libraries—which depend so much on referential refrigeration for the preservation of mental food that is often synthetic. Anyway, I promise you some savoury tit-bits that will at least stimulate your appetite.

One would need a thousand lifetimes to survey world literature with a view to extracting passages relevant to the u.f.o.s. Any attempt to give an adequate précis of such a survey in these articles would be presumptuous madness. Even if such a précis were slashed, beginning not in ancient China, Egypt or Peru, but as late as the so-called “Dark Ages” (and if *they* were dark, what shall we say of this Atomic Age when we calmly contemplate the racking and torturing of millions with poisonous dust, to say nothing of stripping the scorched flesh from hundreds of millions if our monstrous weapons are used?)—even if we began with, shall we say, Charlemagne, we should find enough material to keep us researching *there* for years to come.

### No Sorcery

For Charlemagne—we have picked a name at random from world history—was obviously much interested in u.f.o.s. My authority, to mention but one of many I might quote, is Einhard’s *Vita Karoli Magni*. I am not talking about balloons. Again and again in Einhard, and in other historians of the Charlemagne period, we find passages alluding to flying devices constructed by some monk or other in a secluded monastery, or some philosopher in a hut at the foot of the Alps, suggesting rude yet practical attempts to fly. But these accounts are themselves buried under an avalanche of passages suggesting that creatures other than earthlings were invading our atmosphere.

Of course, we “enlightened” humans dismiss it all as “sorcery.” Even le Ministre, that quaint old historian of the town of Lyons, had to fall back on that conventional explanation of things he did not understand. “Towards the end of Charlemagne’s reign,” he says in one significant passage, “certain persons who lived near Mount

† Cambridge University Press, 1929.

Pilate in Switzerland, knowing<sup>o</sup> by what means pretended sorcerers travelled through the air, resolved to try the experiment, and compelled some poor people to ascend in an aerostat. They descended in the town of Lyons, where they were immediately hurried to prison and the mob desired their death as sorcerers. The judges condemned them to be burned; but Bishop Agobard, after questioning them, although he could not believe their story of an aerial journey, gave credence to their innocence and allowed them to escape."

That was about a dozen centuries before the panic at Indianapolis when a "flying saucer" terrified the inhabitants—just one of many modern cities which have witnessed "sorcery" in our own times.

Had Adamski lived in Charlemagne's time he would have had his opportunity to recant, with the flames licking him—although I doubt if he would have confessed, for it should be quite obvious to anyone (even to astronomers with no appreciation of history) that Adamski believes in Adamski, even if others don't.

### Jonathan Swift

But why pick on Charlemagne? We might spend a few years researching through Roger Bacon's times. History, like art, is long—and life is fleeting.

If your editor, before our next issue, is not inundated with petitions to send me to the stake as a scientific heretic, I hope to give you, in my next article, some remarkable data from the writings of a late sixteenth-century author which do not merely refer to u.f.o.s, but to the very latest developments in this remarkable field for investigation. You may or may not guess who this author is. That must wait, for I simply haven't the space in this article. But I can, perhaps, give you something to think about from the writings of a more recent student of fantastic phenomena—one Jonathan Swift.

That Swift went mad at the end of his life should not be taken as impugning his sanity while at the height of his authorship. After all, many modern writers, scientific and otherwise, seem determined to remain mad all their lives, and may only have brief patches of sanity as they become senile.

Swift's life was blessed with that kind of

tension which seems necessary to genius, tearing, as it does, an author's mind apart. So an area of that suffocating blanket, superficial judgment, which rests on the minds of men, is ripped apart, and a few rays of eternal light penetrate.

Amazingly, while his mind decayed, Swift never once uttered a word of nonsense. He may have felt, subconsciously, that the camel's back of humanity might be endangered by even one last straw. Whatever the reason, there is something unspeakably heroic in Swift's last days. He wrote, "I am so stupid and confounded that I cannot express the mortification I am under both of body and mind." That was in 1740, and he lingered, going mad yet restraining himself from saying any foolish thing, until he died, with faculties paralysed rather than destroyed, in 1742. I commend his life to our idiotic psychiatrists—if they are capable of learning anything.

### No Nonsense

Swift talked no nonsense while insane—and he certainly talked none in his nonsense, which was saner than what the world calls sanity. I suggest that students of u.f.o.s. read some of Swift's main works again—we have all read them, of course. And I suggest careful reading of one of his fantasies in particular: *A Voyage to Laputa*.

What was in Swift's mind when he described the Luggnuggians, and the Struldbrugs, and the language of Balnibarbi, and all the rest of it? He has some digs at "the imbecility of human nature," of course. But there is surely much more in *A Voyage to Laputa* than meets the eye.

He says, "What wonderful discoveries we should make in astronomy by outliving and confirming our own predictions." *What did he mean?*

Were his floating and flying "islands" in this remarkable book intended by him to be no more than idle fancies? If so, we are exhibiting extraordinary credulity in our belief in coincidence.

Here we are, in 1956, planning flying and floating islands. What does it matter that we call them "basket-balls" or "satellites"?

When they go up—and providing the balloon doesn't go up in the form of a Third World War before they do go up—we shall be a step nearer to Swift's floating and flying islands of two hundred years ago.

Maybe history is not a one-way road. Perhaps it has two-way traffic, with roundabouts at intervals.

<sup>o</sup> Note this word "knowing."

# FLYING SAUCERS AND ART

by Anthony Gray

**T**HROUGHOUT the centuries man has recorded his thoughts and experiences through the medium of the arts and in particular the graphic arts. Experience, therefore, being the greatest influence in Art, thus the environment which produces the experience is in turn portrayed by the artist in his work.

On the walls of the caves in Altamira, Northern Spain, are prehistoric paintings of deer and bison painted by man more than 10,000 years ago. There have been many theories advanced as to why these drawings and paintings were originally made. The favourite one is that they were magic rites with the belief that the cave-man attempted to induce good hunting by drawing the animals he intended to hunt and kill. This appears to be quite a reasonable explanation, for it seems that man's first real experience would be hunger and, there again, it is reasonable to imagine that when hunger is present the most predominant subject in a man's mind would be food, and thus one can imagine the primitive artist in his cave drawing the lovely picture of a meal in the terms of the bison and deer, etc. This is particularly observed in children today when there is a tendency for the children to draw those things which they desire or enjoy.

## Nature

Then again, the Egyptians taking from nature, as they did, ideas for designs such as animals, birds and plants. Indeed, the whole mystery of death was a dominating force behind Egyptian life and art. The Greeks, too, with their love of the human form, their athletic activities which led them to the development of carving and modelling to a degree not previously reached. So we see examples through the ages which point to the fact that man's experience is the whole force behind art. Here you may ask "But what has all this to do with flying saucers?" A little patience, please, because after all, when you really consider, what has been man's latest experience?

Why, flying saucers, of course! Whether this has been a real experience or merely a figment of the imagination does not matter. It is something which exists in fact or in fiction in man's mind and he has come to accept it so, therefore, it is natural to assume that this very latest experience is going to influence art in the future.

## Speed Up

So now we see right through the early prehistoric times and all through the Egyptian, Greek, Roman and Renaissance periods man's experience develops, and as it is doing so is likewise reflected in his art with greater ability and facility. Until we reach, roughly, the beginning of the present century. Up until this time the momentum of life was pretty much the same as it had been for thousands of years, then we enter the twentieth century with tremendous advances in science, locomotion and communication, particularly the internal-combustion engine and the conquest of flight. And almost suddenly it seems life speeded up, and naturally together with this speed-up man's mind and thoughts likewise were caught up in the momentum. So we see experience upon experience piling up at an ever-increasing rate, and where before it took a thousand years for a change to be effected or to be seen, the same is taking place in the matter of a few years today. Designs in locomotion, for example; and what was considered a futuristic design a short while ago is now an accepted functional one and is to be seen everywhere. Would this have been conceivable, say, three thousand years ago? Of course not. It was experience which led up to the evolution and development of such a design and, of course, cannot be divorced from art. I know some people will retort "Ah! But what about Picasso, but what about this so-called modern art?" True, true, as I

have already attempted to show, the artist is only the vehicle by which man's experience is transmitted through the various media, and it is only reasonable to look at modern art with this in mind. After all, man's experiences in the last 50 years have gone through such rapid and revolutionary changes that the artist, caught up in this overwhelming speed, also reflects revolutionary changes in new forms and expressions.

So we see that art is still functioning as an expression of new experiences.

How does this link up with flying saucers? Hitherto man has been earthbound and all his experiences and efforts have been conditioned by that fact. But now, however, there looms the very real possibility of space travel. This exciting prospect opens up a future of new vistas. Planets which were seen only as a name written on paper have now become a reality and there is a great probability that in the very near future man will land on the moon. What an experience that will be! And what effect will it have on art? What different colour fusions will be revealed, what the effect of view in space? What form of life is there on other planets? How has it evolved? Are there art forms? Is experience by life on other planets expressed in terms of art, and what form does

such art take? And so on. A host of questions to be answered and only by actual experience of the answers to these questions will art reveal the effect of the impact and will prove the highly important function that art has in our lives because it is through the field of art that people on earth will be told of the new life in space, and I have no doubt that, with the future of space travel and the contact with other beings, there certainly will be a tremendous effect on art and perhaps will revive a new interest and possibly produce a new outlook with the same importance as the Renaissance did on art.

One word of warning, however. Let it be recognised at once that any visitors arriving from outer space in flying saucers must be many years ahead of us in science and presupposes, too, that their social behaviour will likewise be very advanced. It would, therefore, be a mistake to approach such visitors with only a primitive and hostile attitude and to consider such a visit in terms of attack before first ascertaining the true purpose of their visit. In any case, even if language communications were difficult—and it is pretty obvious this would be the case—we would have to resort to the earliest form of communication, and that is by drawing and diagram.

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## ***DON'T LAUGH . . . THEY'RE SERIOUS!***

**F**LYING SAUCER investigators often write to ask about the official attitude to u.f.os behind the Iron Curtain. The following article taken from the Czechoslovakian Youth Union's daily paper "*MLADA FRONTA*" is typical.

Some five or six years ago, American propaganda evolved the idea of "flying saucers". This sensation was fabricated to make people forget their worries and to divert them from fighting for their rights. The bourgeois press even wrote that the "flying saucers" were a secret weapon designed to cause public unrest in America which is the only continent where they have ever been seen.

But, as this sensation was rather short-lived, somebody conceived the idea that the "flying saucers" were in fact space-ships from Mars, and the mendacious bourgeois press is now fabricating eyewitness accounts of the "flying saucers" and their crews. It was even said that somebody had touched one of these space-ships, received a

"magnetic" shock, and had pains in the shoulders for some three months. Other people allegedly saw the men from Mars, but their views differ as to whether they were three or six ft tall. Still others found a "Dead Martian" and chased two others, who were, actually, monkeys which a barber had shaved and put into a model aircraft which he had then launched for publicity reasons. Another witness had even spoken to the Martians by sign language, from which he gathered that they were not from Mars but from Venus and that they had come to this planet because they were apprehensive about the atomic experiments being carried on here. The "Martian" took a photograph of the witness, developed the film on the spot, and threw the picture to him out of his "flying saucer".

The "flying saucers" are a typical example of the pseudo-science disseminated by the Western press in order to make people forget the struggle for peace and the ban on the atom and hydrogen bombs.

# SELECTED BOOKS

Reviewed by

The Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench

**T**WO HUNDRED MILES UP, *The conquest of the Upper Air*, by J. Gordon Vaeth. (The Ronald Press Company, New York, \$5.00)

The author is Head of the New Weapons and Systems Division, U.S. Navy Special Devices Center, Office of Naval Research. He should therefore, in common parlance, "know his onions."

He has written a superb factual story about the research being carried out by rockets, balloons and aeroplanes into the upper air. First, you learn about that done with captured German V-2s. Then later with Aerobees, Vikings, and combination V-2/WAC Corporal rockets. Technical descriptions of vehicles, equipment and techniques are included too, expressed in simple language for the layman.

A whole chapter is devoted to "The Minimum Satellite" to explain why these satellites are being launched in the coming International Geophysical Year.

But Mr Vaeth does not stop there. In a chapter called "Beyond the Earth", he looks to the future, to when Man reaches out to the Moon, the Planets, and maybe, even to the Stars. However, this chapter is no idle daydream. The author frankly faces up to the difficulties, tasks and problems that lie ahead. They are many, but he is confident that they will be overcome.

Flying saucer researchers will be especially interested in the references to flying saucers in the chapter "Project Skyhook". Mr Vaeth states that Skyhook balloons have contributed greatly to flying saucer phenomena. Their translucent polyethylene material gives them an unusual appearance in the sky, and because of their size they can be seen 20 miles or more away. He

points out that Skyhooks have been known to travel at 195 mph. at high altitudes.

Undoubtedly, Skyhooks have probably accounted for many saucer sightings, and balloon personnel placed little stock on these reports until 24th April, 1949, when they had a most remarkable sighting of their own! This was at White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico. This particular sighting represents one of the most authenticated ones to-date. The full and complete details are recorded in this book for the first time. They are too long to be given in this review, so you are recommended to obtain a copy for yourselves. It is a little expensive, but well worth the money.

There are 77 first class photographs and drawings. An engrossing book.

★ ★ ★

**T**HERE IS LIFE ON MARS, by The Earl Nelson, F.R.A.S., F.R.G.S., F.R.S.A. (Werner Laurie, London, 12s. 6d.)

On the first page I read "The Sun is one of at least a hundred thousand million stars belonging to what is known as the Galaxy, and not a very large or important one at that. . . .", and on page 2, "Within range of the 200 inch telescope at Mount Palomar in California, there are more than a hundred million similar galaxies which are spoken of as the extra galactic nebulae. . . ."

Yes, when we read words like these, we are filled with awe and wonder and humbleness at the stupendous vastness of infinite creation.

Lord Nelson considers it most unlikely that life occurs only on one planet in the Universe. He goes so far as to think that that there may be life similar to ours in other systems and galaxies. There are some interesting chapters on the Martian Canals, Inter-Planetary Travel (Earth style), and the possibility of life on Mars and Venus. He goes so far as to consider that plant life and possibly even some form of intelligent life may exist on Mars.

However, Lord Nelson writes some very strong words on the subject of alleged landings by Venusians and Martians here in flying saucers. He states we know with absolute certainty that no creatures from either Mars or Venus would be able to live and breathe in our atmosphere for

more than a few moments without the aid of elaborate breathing apparatus, nor would they be likely to bear anything but the faintest resemblance to ourselves. This is where, I am afraid, some of us will beg to differ.

Lord Nelson has, strangely enough, written on page 105: "Even with the best of modern instruments it is impossible for us to be certain what conditions are like at the surface of a planet such as Mars." In other words no one knows for certain what can live on Mars. If we do not know what can live for certain on Mars, then we do not know whether it can breathe and live here on Earth. Apart from this difference of opinion with the author, this is a most readable and interesting book and contains a great deal of food for thought.



**I**NSIDE THE SPACE SHIPS, by George Adamski. (Abelard-Schuman, Inc., New York, \$3.50. To be published in May by Messrs. Arco & Neville Spearman, Ltd, London, 16s.)

Since the memorable incidents recounted in *Flying Saucers Have Landed*, argument over Adamski's claims has been increasingly fierce, and indeed this new book will add fresh logs to the fire of controversy.

Desmond Leslie in his foreword writes: "At first, there appear to be only two ways in which you can take this amazing document. Either it is true or it is not. I cannot prove to the reader it is true any more than I can prove it is not. Each will have to decide for himself."

This is indeed a fabulous book. We are told that people from other planets are now living among us—that Adamski went for trips in both saucers and mother ships—that Venusians, Martians, Saturnians, yes the lot! travel to and from each other's planets, just like Britons, Americans and Swedes going to Paris for a week-end. Furthermore, Adamski met a highly evolved Being on a mother ship who was only 1000 years old, not to mention some very attractive spatial blondes and brunettes looking in their twenties, but who turned out to be around 200. Yes, all this is fabulous to our conventional and rather limited horizons.

There has been considerable criticism already of

Many people scorn the idea of space visitors having such large life spans and keeping their looks into the bargain. I would refer these critics to the *Bible* (*Genesis* 5.27.) where they will read that Methuselah lived to the age of 969 years. Others full of years were Adam 930 and Noah 950 respectively. May I suggest that since these early biblical times, the natives of this planet have perhaps lost the knack of remaining young for so long. Maybe living longer and looking younger is the natural thing to do out in space?

Among the 16 illustrations in the book there are four photos of a Venusian mother ship taken from a saucer in space. The saucer pilot used Adamski's Polaroid camera. These photos were taken in the early hours of 25th April, 1955. Four portholes are shown in each photo, with a Venusian at the first porthole and Adamski at the second. There is a black background of space, and the mother ship shows up as a strong white luminous cigar shape with the portholes clearly showing.

It is only fair to point out that these photos are not all that they might be in the way of clear evidence. The portholes seem to be very irregular as regards both shape and size, and the heads of both the Venusian and Adamski look very unreal. I am not implying that it should be possible to identify them at that distance, but that they just look unreal, almost as if they were cardboard figures pasted in.

However, on the other hand any distortion there may be in these photos may well be due to the force field in operation at the time; together with the difficult conditions under which the photos were obtained. The remarks made by the spaceman who took the photos confirmed these difficult circumstances. In view of his statement, it is remarkable that any results were obtained at all. All the same, I think it would have been far better if these four photos had been left out altogether.

The teachings contained in this book certainly ring true. In this age of the Hydrogen Bomb, we should surely absorb the message Adamski conveys to us from the space visitors.

Charlotte Blodget has done a magnificent job in framing George Adamski's experiences into a very readable book. She has also contributed an excellent Introduction, and a biographical sketch of Adamski to complete the volume.

# WORLD ROUNDUP

When exercising his dog on December 16 last year, Mr H. S. Deburgh of Scarborough saw what he thought was a flying saucer flashing across the clear night sky.

Describing it he said it was gold in colour and made a whirring sound. It also had a dull red glow about it that seemed to flash intermittently.

The object was travelling on a 030 degree course towards Mr Deburgh, he said, and then veered at tremendous speed and made off. He watched it for about a minute as it dwindled into a point of light over the horizon.

★ ★ ★

On the previous day, December 15, 12 year old Jaqueline Jones of Cambridge was returning from school around 5 p.m. with some friends when they saw a "huge round object spinning around and humming" in the sky. It seemed to be giving off a white light.

The object seemed to drop behind some houses, but no one reported a flash. But the story does not end there. Another member of the Jones family, 25 year old Derek Jones, reported seeing a brilliant object in the sky some miles away around the same time as the girl's sighting.

★ ★ ★

Villagers of Doueika, in Greece, reported on December 28 that a flying cigar circled overhead for several minutes and then disappeared in a cloud of smoke. The cigar is the first u.f.o. to be reported over Greece since early 1955, when there were numerous flying saucer reports.

★ ★ ★

From the *Toronto Globe* comes this report dated December 7. "Weather experts tonight blew cold winds of doubt on flying saucer activity reported here.

Last Thursday the Clark family took photographs of a noiseless, circular, black object that moved high above them in a cloudy sky. After several minutes they reported the object moved off against the wind—from south to north—which

would cancel out weather balloon classification.

Today the weather experts said winds in the Ingersoll district were travelling from south to north that day and that the Clark family must have been mistaken.

They could, said the weather experts, have been near a building—the Clark family saw the object just outside their home—and miscalculated the direction of the wind because some nearby structure deflected it.

The Clark family, comprising Mr and Mrs Huron Clark and their two teen-age sons, Floyd and George, had a film developed yesterday and the resulting photographs showed an oval shaped ring with a seemingly transparent centre."

(*Will-not-to-believers are tiresome! Ed.*)

★ ★ ★

A bright cigar-shaped object moving from north to south was seen on January 2 by Mr James Donoghue of Broadcarr Glaisdale, near Whitby, Yorkshire. It did not appear to have a head like a comet, he said, but the intensity of light was consistent along its length. After 90 seconds it faded and disappeared. Mr Donoghue said he was walking along with a friend at the time and both saw the spectacle.

★ ★ ★

A circular object, giving off a brilliant white light was seen streaking across the sky about 2,000 feet above Birkdale, near Liverpool, on December 29.

Eye witnesses declared that it did not resemble an aircraft and inclined to the flying saucer theory. The object, they said, was about 15 to 18 feet in diameter and surrounded by a brilliant light. It passed over Birkdale and when over nearby Formby turned towards Ireland. It left behind it a thin white trail.

★ ★ ★

Not far away, just across the country in Yorkshire, Mr H. J. Cooper of Chapel-Allerton who served as a navigator in the R.A.F. saw three objects in the sky while he was out hiking on the moors.

Describing them he said: "The sky was blue and bright when I saw what looked like two silvery balloons. They were at a height of about 3,000 feet and almost stationary.

"A third suddenly appeared and all three started to move" he added. "The speed increased



## WORLD ROUNDUP (continued)

to about 500 miles an hour, and as they moved they assumed an oval shape. One of them made a sudden swoop. The whole incident lasted 15 seconds."

The Air Ministry weather forecaster in the area confirmed that the objects were not balloons. But he said they could have been REFLECTIONS! (*What . . . again? Ed.*)

★ ★ ★

A cylindrical luminous object flashed across New Zealand West Coast skies with a roar on November 6, according to reports from Kumara and Greymouth. It is reported to have moved at great speed from the southwest across Kumara glowing in clear sky before disappearing behind a bank of cloud screening the Southern Alps.

Observers claimed that the object disappeared above Rotomanu where, last February, an apparently similar object went out of view following a similar course. The February visitation was accompanied by an explosion which was felt over a great area.

The November 6 object reported to have sped across the sky was accompanied by a loud roar rather like that of a jet aircraft. But its shape is reported to have been most definitely different from any aircraft ever seen, say witnesses.

Although some Greymouth residents reported sighting the object it was apparently seen best by witnesses at Kumara.

One resident was able to get a peep at it through binoculars and he said it was cylindrical in shape and left a form of vapour trail behind it. Another Kumara resident said that if the object had made its appearance at night it would have lit up the whole sky. All were impressed by the roar it made.

On the morning of the same day another object was seen over Avondale. When it was first sighted

it was making a swishing noise rather like a jet. "It appeared to be a rather long object with three or four lighted windows but these were much bigger than any I have seen on an aircraft" said Mr D. W. Paul who, with a taxi driver, saw the u.f.o.

When it passed over again it made no noise whatsoever. "Quite uncanny" said Mr Paul. Then it vanished behind a cloud bank.

★ ★ ★

Pakistan International Airlines engineering staff and night workers of the Meteorological Office of Tejgaon Airport, near Dacca, watched a fast moving object travelling across the sky in a southerly direction at about 9.30 p.m. on November 4, 1955. It was round in shape and looked about the size of a teaplate held at arm's length. It was bluish in colour.

It was watched for about seven minutes before it disappeared when another object of the same description appeared also moving in a southerly direction. It was visible for about 10 minutes and appeared to be travelling along at about 1,000 miles an hour. It was at an altitude of 1,500 feet, according to the

witnesses.

The entire airport was lit up by the brilliance of the objects.

★ ★ ★

Winner of the Flying Saucer Review Free Library Competition was Miss Harriett Richards of New York City who receives a prize of nine top ranking books on flying saucers and allied subjects. To win the prize Miss Richards recruited no less than 16 new subscribers for FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. Many readers were in the running for the prize with 12 new recruits each. But at the last moment Miss Richards turned up with an additional quartet that gave her the much coveted award.

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## WORLD ROUNDUP (continued)

A *flying saucer* of tremendous size was seen over Newcastle-upon-Tyne on January 20. It was seen by a schoolteacher who said it hovered for about fifteen seconds and then made off in a southerly direction to disappear into clouds. As it sped away it left behind it a vapour trail that hung around for about seven minutes. When the teacher first saw it, it was standing on edge and was a dark grey and black.

★ ★ ★

An *object* resembling a flying saucer caused comment in the Kilbeggan area, near Dublin, on January 8. Mr Joseph Maloney was leaving his home when he saw an object in the sky coming from the south-east. It was circular in shape and revolved at high speed. He heard a whistling sound as it passed over and carried on on a north-westerly course.

An *object similar in appearance* to a star was seen to hover over Pretoria, South Africa, on December 5 between 8.15 and 8.45 p.m. and then disappear towards the west moving too fast for a star and too slow for an aircraft, according to Mr G. C. Prinsloo, a forecaster at the local Weather Bureau, his brother and a neighbour, who live in the Voortrekker Road, Wonderboom South, Pretoria.

"When I first saw it" said Mr Prinsloo "it was over Pretoria centra and about 40 degrees above the horizon. It then moved slowly to the west, gleaming silver, and disappeared. It moved against the prevailing winds." The authorities gave the usual explanations.

★ ★ ★

*Flying saucers*—round, oval and square—have been reported daily in about a dozen places in Afghanistan, including Herat, about 50 miles from the Soviet and Persian borders, the Afghan Embassy in New Delhi announced recently.

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## SAUCERS AND SCIENCE

(Continued from page 19)

9. The production of the fibrous material known as "angel hair" associated with sudden bursts of speed from a hovering position.
10. The occasional explosion and complete disintegration associated with a sudden breakdown of the localized gravitational field.

The Air Force policy of dispatching jet planes to pursue typical flying saucers whenever these are sighted is open to question. In spite of the fact that this has been done in literally hundreds of instances, nothing appears to have been gained by so doing. In no case has a pursuing jet plane been able to catch up with the unidentified flying object except in those situations where it has apparently been permitted to do so by the intelligences controlling the manoeuvres of the U.F.O. The usual policy of the U.F.O. is to avoid contact with jet pursuers, and, as a rule the U.F.O. will rapidly disappear from the scene in a burst of tremendous speed. It has been plainly apparent for some time that jet planes or any known type of air device cannot cope with the superior manoeuvring of these objects. *Moreover there is no evidence that U.F.O.s have at any time attacked planes.* There have been a very few notable instances where tragedy has resulted as

a consequence of a plane having come too close to a U.F.O. Two of the best known of these are the Captain Mantell case of January 7, 1948 and the Kimross incident of November 23, 1953. The latter case is described and analyzed in detail in Major Keyhoe's latest book "The Flying Saucer Conspiracy."

### Unfriendliness

It would appear that this pursuit policy fails to accomplish anything positive. It would also seem that such a policy exhibits unfriendliness, where possibly none would be meant, within the area of the United States. To judge by known instances of Soviet attacks on American planes in the vicinity of communist territory, it would appear that U.F.O.s also would be subject to hostile action anywhere within the soviet-controlled territory. Thus the net world-over impression given to those controlling the scouting activities of U.F.O.s is on the whole distinctly hostile and unfriendly. Were the United States Air Force to attempt to display friendliness toward these mysterious visitors from outer space the results could be beneficial—who knows?

A curious contradiction becomes apparent when one discusses this phase of U.F.O.s. If according to the findings of the Air Force Intelligence these flying saucers do not exist, why is it

that the Air Force expends so much effort, time, and expense in pursuing them? If the Air Force has finally discovered that they have been chasing will-o-the-wisps, is it not about time that a change in policy is in order?

### Intelligentsia

Dr. Donald Menzel, professor of Astrophysics at Harvard University, author of textbooks and popular scientific articles, is well known among the intelligentsia class for his treatise on "Flying Saucers." In fact whenever some student of flying saucer phenomena casually reveals his interest in the subject to one of these intelligentsia the latter's eyebrows will rise very noticeably and his face will momentarily brighten into a condescending smile as he confidently refers to the Harvard professor's authoritative work on the subject.

Such an answer was received by Mr. Ted Bloecher, Director of Research of Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York, in answer to a letter recently sent to Mr. David Dietz, Science Editor of the Scripps-Howard newspapers. Mr. Bloecher asked for Mr. Dietz's opinion on flying saucer phenomena. Mr. Dietz's reply was terse and to the point: "I think the explanation of flying saucers is very simple and that you will find it in the book titled 'Flying Saucers' by Dr. Donald H. Menzel, director of the Harvard Observatory."

In reply to this answer Mr. Ted Bloecher advised Mr. Dietz that he was perfectly familiar with Dr. Menzel's book and that when it first came out he had studied it carefully. Among the observations of Mr. Bloecher was that of the 1157 unexplained saucer sightings listed by Dr. Menzel he attempts to apply his "mirage" theory to only 14. Mr. Bloecher also called attention to the French treatise by Michel which by detailed analysis debunks the theories of Menzel.

### Reflections

But one does not have to cross the Atlantic to get an evaluation of Dr. Menzel's work. In fact one of the highest official authorities in the United States, Captain Edward J. Ruppelt, from 1951 to 1953 in charge of Project Blue Book, the official United States Air Force investigation of U.F.O.s, makes the following statement in an article published in "True" magazine in May 1954. Referring to Dr. Menzel's "mirage" theory, Captain Ruppelt says "His explanation failed to account for the many cases where there was a simultaneous radar fix on a U.F.O. and a visual

sighting. Mirages and reflections can and do fool the naked eye, but they don't show up simultaneously on a radar scope."

On the one batch of spectacular U.F.O.s that looked as if they ought to have a meteorological explanation, the (mirage) explanation collapsed. These were the flock of green fireballs that appeared in the Southwest.

Thanks to the courage, the untiring industry, and the devotion to truth of Major Donald Keyhoe U.S. Marine Corps, retired, noted aeronautical engineer, aviator, and former Chief of Information for the Aeronautics Branch, Department of Commerce, hitherto unknown information on U.F.O.s is now being made known. In his book "The Flying Saucer Conspiracy" Major Keyhoe has not only disclosed much interesting data on recent U.F.O. activity, but also has set forth in detail facts which disclose the cover-up policies of the Air Force brass, the instances of effort at concealment of facts, and the harsh punishment threatening personnel of the Air Force who reveal U.F.O. information to the public.

### Inform the World

In this significant undertaking of Major Keyhoe's he secured the cooperation of many loyal Americans connected with the United States Air Force directly and indirectly, whose names in many instances could not be disclosed for fear of reprisal by higher-ups. The information supplied in this book will be news to government officials, senators, congressmen, newspaper editors, university professors, and many other supposedly well-informed persons. The revelations by Major Keyhoe should arouse public sentiment and stir world leaders to demand that the truth be told.

## OURANOS

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# MAIL BAG

*Wilfred Daniels of 108, Weston Road, Stafford, writes an open letter to Dr. J. G. Porter, the new Astronomer Royal.*

"You are, sir, Dr. J. G. Porter, Chief Scientific Officer, Royal Observatory, Greenwich. You spoke to secondary school children in London about artificial satellites on January 3rd. ("Daily Telegraph & Morning Post," 4.1.56). On Flying Saucers you said, "My ideas about them are not only unprintable, but are unspeakable in this audience".

If that means, Doctor, that you cannot bring yourself even to admit that there is a case to argue, that you cannot tolerate the suggestion that they could be what they seem to be, and that you fulminate whenever Flying Saucers are mentioned, so much the more the pity. Scientific officers of learned institutions might do much to bring about a sane and objective consideration of outlandish ideas that seem to offend orthodox science if only they would avoid allowing themselves to be offended!

If Science at present can find no place for Flying Saucers, then the scientific officers have got a whole new field of study and research to embrace, not to caustically scorn and reject.

Or do you mean, Doctor Porter, that you *may* not go into print, and *may* not speak, about Flying Saucers? It has been established that the British Air Ministry *could* speak out on the subject if it chose, but feels that it should not, or *dare* not. Is *that* what you mean? That would not be a reasonable scientific attitude, but it would be consistent with stated top-level policy.

The basic idea of Flying Saucers is itself a monumental mystery; but how in the world or out of it shall be justified the reluctance of many scientific and philosophical minds, and official bodies such as the Royal Observatory, to consider rationally the implications of the Flying Saucers? And how shall be justified the persistent refusal of those who ought to be best fitted to investigate, to assist in allaying the public's curiosity?

Mystery is heaped onto mystery—the greatest mystery of all being why Flying Saucers have to remain a mystery! It is not sufficient for some to glibly assert, "There's no such animal!"; at least one man was killed chasing a Flying Saucer in an aeroplane, and *he* radiol his Service base just before he crashed so weirdly that it was huge—a monster—and that it had got port-holes!

It won't do, Doctor: there never has been a time when "won't think" was to be justified, and it is more than high time the whole subject of Flying Saucers was aired-off and put into objective terms of reference."

★ ★ ★

Sir,

A good deal of surprise and resentment have been aroused by Professor Woolley's recent blasé refutation of Space travel and flying saucers.

Professor Woolley is the new Astronomer Royal, and has come to Britain from Australia. It seems strange that, coming from one of the countries where the foundations of space travel are being laid down; at Woomera; and from which have come many important reports of Flying Saucers, he should be so uncompromisingly unbelieving.

But does it matter so much? Need we bother very

much *what* Professor Woolley thinks about travel in space, or about Flying Saucers? His personal unbelief cannot invalidate either! The "Astronomers Royal", and most 'informed opinion' of a bygone age, honestly believed the World to be flat, and said that mariners; Columbus being one; would fall over the edge into the nether regions if they kept on sailing West. However, since then the World has been circumnavigated, and all is well.

Up to about 1900, virtually all the most 'informed' scientific and technical opinion held unequivocally that Man could never achieve mechanical, heavier-than-air, propelled and sustained flight. It was not feasible, and possessed inherent natural impossibilities. Even although the Wright Brothers flew many times around Kittyhawk, N. Carolina, from 1903 onwards, it was not until about 1905 that it was generally accepted in Europe that they could, and did, fly. It was 'impossible', therefore they were not doing it!

Now the doyen of astronomers says space travel is "utter bilge", and that he "does not believe in Flying Saucers"—which since 1947 have come to be widely accepted as some very mysterious form of interplanetary flying vessel most probably *not* of the Earth's manufacture.

Professor Woolley does us all a great disservice with his discouragement just at this time when all the Western world is straining itself to the uttermost to find faith in, and support for, space travel—and even, perhaps, our elusive visitor the "Flying Saucer", but in making his sour scepticism public about these things the only intelligence the Astronomer Royal insults is his own! What a pity!

W. D. A. Niels,  
Seighford.

★ ★ ★

Sir,

I was very impressed by the timely article "Flying Saucers and Religion" by Monseigneur Otto Viking, particularly so because I wrote an article and not so very long ago on much the same topic.

Without condemning his article for its albeit liberal Catholicism, I did feel that, as far as his psychological rationalisation was concerned, the Bishop's article was much like the time-honoured Curate's Egg—it could have been far more palatable.

The opening gambit, the flashback to primitive man's need for a Protector from his tribe, promised far better reading than the exposition of his seemingly exultant synopsis of chain-reaction via Totemism to a fuller God-consciousness. The fact that Mgr. Viking, from the very beginning, begged the question of God's very entity as an external Intelligence is, to me and I hope to all other readers, excusable on the grounds of habit. The fact that Mgr. Viking could have made a more intellectually honest explanation of man's need for God, and that he did not is, I feel, less excusable.

Those of us who have studied the quasi-religious theme of "Saucery", its allied mythology, its parallel in earlier purely religious histories, must have been struck by the similarity of the developing credos, dogma, and (of course) anathema. I am a little disappointed that Mgr. Viking did not touch on this point—but again it is excusable perhaps on the grounds of professional jealousy.

The fact remains, however, that man re-creates God,

each man for himself—Mgr. Viking does not deny this. But what is more important is the fact that man creates God from within his own personality, and that God does exist, as seems to be believed by so many of us, as an entity in Himself.

I cannot, in a letter of this nature, expect to discuss in full all the purely psychological ramifications of God-consciousness, but let it suffice for me to say that Parent-substitution plays a major part in man's creation in his image of this ever-desired "God". Depending on the psychological school whose exponents' works we have studied, we can more properly begin to understand this mystery in terms of manifestations of hidden parts of our own personalities. It matters but little whether we choose to use the words "Super-Ego", "Group Unconscious" or other terms indicating subconscious elements within ourselves, but it does matter a great deal that we recognize that they exist, and that we realise that much of this God idea is nothing more than the working of these occluded portions of our own minds. Without some understanding of this, it is merely a waste of time to think in terms of a God at all.

Mgr. Viking mentions those mortals who have enjoyed a greater variety of enlightenment than is the portion of the average man, I wonder what he would say to my suggestion that there never lived a Mystic who was not, although possibly in all "innocence", an Occultist? On the other hand there is very little "occult" in this everlasting need on the part of man when, in moments of insecurity and his "conscious" mind's failure to cope, he invokes what he believes to be an exterior Intelligence. Here he is merely indulging in a habit to which his race will continue to be slaves until, as must surely happen some day, there dawns the day when man has obeyed the age-old injunction "Know Thyself".

While I accept Mgr. Viking's article in the spirit of liberal Catholicism in which it is offered, I would like to summarise the present sad state of affairs both "religious" and "Saucerian" by a short quotation from my own recent article on the subject of "Saucery" and Religion" (SAUCER NEWS (U.S.A.) Aug-Sept., 1955). "It is a curious facet of man's personality that spiritually he feels ever obliged to kneel at the feet of some intangible Totem. Man has evolved in most other aspects, but still remains mentally and spiritually unweaned. Man, who has conquered Time and Distance and, to some degree, Nature herself, still requires the services of a spiritual wet-nurse."

JOHN PITT,  
Surbiton, Surrey.

★ ★ ★

Sir,

I do not like to enter into the controversies among personalities because, above all, serious "saucer" investigators should remain objective and open-minded. However, I feel that Desmond Leslie is guilty of distorting facts to fit the misplaced humor in his article "Friend or Foe" (F.S. Review. Nov-Dec. 1955).

He comments that *Orbit* is "level-headed and factual" and I suggest that he practice these virtues. It seems that Leslie is interested only in establishing himself as number-one boy among "saucer" investigators.

"The Wilkins-Keyhoe war-cry that earth is being attacked by hostile space-ships" is one of Leslie's utterances. Major Keyhoe happens to be just about the most careful, thorough, and reliable "saucer" investigator around. His evidence comes from the Air Force, C.A.A.,

pilots, and other reliable sources. If this evidence seems to indicate hostile intent on the part of "saucers", then it is worthy of serious consideration. I might also add that Keyhoe's methods are much more timely than Leslie's attempts to explain all of history in terms of u.f.o's. Len Stringfield's efforts around Cincinnati also reveal that Air Force interceptors actively pursue "saucers". I have a collection of clippings of odd plane crashes (mostly military) that need an explanation. Plenty of them! The "General Saucer Staff" may not be as inefficient as Leslie and the throttled press would have us believe.

Leslie's "more reasonable explanation" of accidents and "misplaced space-hygiene" accounting for the disasters, is indicative of wishful thinking. Have you investigated some of the U.S. jet crashes Mr. Leslie? Keyhoe has!

All I want to suggest to people like Desmond Leslie is that they be a little less positive about their beliefs. Mr. Leslie himself suggests that we have a lot to learn, and then soundly ridicules people investigating other aspects of the same situation. Len Stringfield is interpreting facts in his possession—and apparently not in Leslie's possession.

I agree with F.S. Review that the interplanetary war statement was a little too strong; however, isolated incidents of apparent aggressive action cannot be denied. In fact my reasoning parallels Leslie's, that surely these "space-men" could do more harm than has been indicated. It is only reluctantly that I have been forced to consider the possibility of "space-men" having harmful intentions. I think that my reluctance is related to Leslie's wishful thinking and some others vivid imaginations of kindly, etheric beings. (I don't claim to know that saucer-pilots are *not* kindly etheric beings—they *may* be!) Perhaps the "saucer-fleet" is like any other large group of "people": some good, and some bad, with the bad members accounting for isolated malicious deeds.

I am presently New Orleans correspondent for C.R.I.F.O. *Orbit* and I consider *Orbit* to be an excellent publication. *F.S. Review*, *Orbit* and Keyhoe's books stand out as the best printed material on "saucers".

I think Len Stringfield, Derek Dempster, Donald Keyhoe, Frank Edwards, and perhaps one or two others deserve praise as the most factual, honest, and reliable people involved in this "rat-race".

I would like to correspond with others around the world who are interested in bringing order out of chaos and learning the truth.

Richard Hall  
New Orleans 18,  
U.S.A.

## URANUS

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