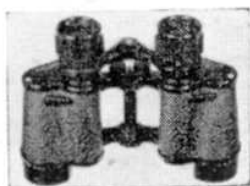


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REVIEW



JAN.- FEB. 1962

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No. 1

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INCORPORATING FLYING SAUCER NEWS

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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1962

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Conditioned reflex

IT is given to few of us to recognise the conditioning to which our minds may be subjected. Pavlov experimented with dogs, but he could as easily have proved his point with human beings and their reactions to current events. In over fifteen years of intensive study of the flying saucer mystery, while we may not have advanced deep into its heart, we can claim to have learnt something about the human mind and how it reacts to the stimulus of a new idea. What we have learnt may be of importance to the problem of the contact claims, undoubtedly the most difficult branch of our study.

In 1950 the peoples of America and Great Britain were told for the first time of the existence of alien craft in our skies and were offered the hypothesis that they came from one or other of the planets in our solar system. It was this hypothesis which split these countries—and later the whole world—into opposing camps. Henceforward there were believers and sceptics. Three years later the first of the contact claims was widely publicised and this split the believers into two.

The only way of dealing with the die-hard is to attempt to convince him, as a first step, of the reality of the saucers. Should we then ask our convert to believe in at least some of the contact claims? Or should we just mention them and laugh them off in order to impress our audience that we are sane and sensible? Before we make any attempt to resolve this problem it is necessary that we should re-trace our steps and review the history of the movement and note how and when the division of opinion occurred.

In 1950, when the saucers were first introduced to a wide public by means of books and newspaper serials, the interest was centred mainly on the now classic sightings. The evidence was so good and so strong that those who were later to prove themselves sceptics were taken by surprise. It was almost impossible to destroy the evidence: only the hypothesis that the saucers might be inter-planetary offered a target for attack. The scientists and "experts" soon recovered from their surprise and declared almost with one voice that there was no planet except Earth that could possibly support intelligent life. It was on this basis that the pundits tried to "bury" the flying saucers.

But it was not only the downright sceptic who was worried about the absence of human life in outer space. Gerald Heard, one of our pioneers, argued in his book *The Riddle of the Flying Saucers* that only Mars could support life, and then only vegetable life. To overcome his intellectual difficulty he postulated that if vegetable life existed, then there must be insects. Therefore, he concluded, the

saucers might be piloted by intelligent bees! This conclusion, by the way, also offered him a way out of the objection that nothing human could survive the violent twists and turns of the saucers when in flight. The point to note is that even Gerald Heard, who had begged us to open our minds, refused in 1950 to believe in men from Mars or Venus. The late Lord Nelson reflected, as late as 1955, the view of conventional astronomers when he wrote in *There Is Life On Mars* concerning the claims made by Adamski and Allingham: "Now, limited as is the knowledge we have regarding conditions on Mars and Venus . . . the only conclusion one can come to is that the authors were the victims of (a) a hoax or practical joke on the part of someone, or (b) that they suffered from hallucinations." These claimants were either fraudulent or deluded *not because they had been confounded by terrestrial evidence or argument, but because they were both stating something that was demonstrably false*. As for beings from other galaxies, well, they were so far away that twelve years ago everybody ignored the possibility that they could ever reach our shores.

Now, let us assume that the astronomers in 1950 were wrong. We suspected this at the time, but the evidence, it must be admitted, seemed to go against us. Certainly it was true that during the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth, human life as on the Earth was held to be unique. It was to this concept that our minds, and the minds of our fathers, had become conditioned. This was the barrier to the belief in inter-planetary saucers: this was the barrier to belief in human pilots. Today, however, we are encouraged to challenge this assumption. Noted astronomers are beginning to doubt the accuracy of the instruments which were used to probe into outer space. Our readers will recall that V. A. Firsoff, in an excellent article which we reprinted in our July-August, 1961, issue, claimed that Venus may indeed have a climate very much like our own. He would not have dared to write that in 1950.

If Firsoff is right, what follows? Well, to begin with, the careful conditioning to which human minds have been subjected will persist for some time even after it has ceased. The mouths of Pavlov's wretched dogs went on watering at the sound of a bell that was no longer followed by the customary meal. Even if it were to be authoritatively stated that all the planets had climates exactly the same as ours, the public would not for quite a time come round and re-examine the whole saucer mystery. Also, the attitude adopted by many saucer believers to the claimants would similarly persist.

What we can say today is the astronomers are allowing the possibility of intelligent life almost everywhere in the universe. The barrier to our thinking is down, but we do not yet realise that we are free. The sceptic has no case left and it is up to us to make him realise that he has lost the argument. But what of our own supporters?

If we are to demand—as we do—that the sceptics should at last open their minds, should we not—all of us—be prepared to open our own? There are many believers in saucers who reject most, if not all, of the contact claims. What was the real reason for this rejection? Was it solely because the saucer occupants were alleged to be human? If so, is this a valid objection any longer? Did we expect something so different from ourselves that we were as thrown out as the most reactionary of astronomers? If we persist in disbelieving, is it because when the claims were originally made we were conditioned against them? When Adamski's claim was first publicised, many people told us that they could have believed in it but for the human pilot. Was that reaction caused by the ideas of H. G. Wells and the cartoonist's pictures of bug-eyed monsters from Mars?

The early claimants, if they were all frauds, chose the most difficult path of deceit in the climate of opinion in the early fifties: they flatly opposed the tenets of the day. We must allow that this, in fact, is a telling point in their favour. Furthermore, if conditions on other planets, or even on one of them, were to prove exactly similar to ours, then it might be vain to demand from the claimants any evidence of a material nature that would in itself, by its dissimilarity to an earthly counterpart, prove its extra-terrestrial origin. Nor should we smile if one of the human occupants of a saucer is alleged to have behaved like a human being. Why should they not feel hunger and cook themselves a cake or ask for water when they are thirsty? Need it surprise us if they are caught in a sportive mood as on one occasion reported some years ago in Brazil? Would the claimants be better received if the visitors behaved in some other way? If so, perhaps the disbelievers might care to describe how the occupants of saucers should in future conduct themselves in order to become more credible.

Father Gill seems to be believed by the majority of our readers. It is worth remembering that the saucer described by him contained four human pilots who responded to the human approach of a waving salute. On the basis of this story alone, might we not discard the out-of-date conditioning that has plagued our thinking for a century and a half?

Chapman Pincher writes to the Editor

When is a sceptic not a sceptic?

CHAPMAN PINCHER, Science Editor of the London *Daily Express*, has written to the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW concerning our reference to him in the November-December, 1961, issue as an "ex-sceptic." We print his letter below and the Editor of the REVIEW replies.

Daily Express,
Fleet Street,
London, E.C.4.
17th November, 1961.

Dear Sir,

I must point out that I take the strongest exception to being referred to in your "Flying Saucer Review" as an "ex-sceptic" about flying saucers. This is a gross misinterpretation of what I have written on the subject.

There is no worthwhile evidence that flying saucers exist in my opinion, and the stories about sightings being suppressed by U.S. and British Air Forces is bunkum.

Yours faithfully,
Chapman Pincher.

In the *Daily Express* of June 16, 1960*, Chapman Pincher contributed an article under his own name headed "Flying saucers are becoming respectable." He gave three reasons why "this exciting possibility" existed. He admitted that life on other planets is now accepted because of the evidence that the entire universe is composed of the same types of earth atoms. As the arrangements of atoms capable of producing life are restricted, "this suggests," he wrote, "that any creatures intelligent enough to communicate with us are more likely to be near-humans than bug-eyed monsters." His third reason, in his own words, was that "the tremendous advances in space-flight have proved the feasibility of robot and even manned travel to and from other worlds." In the course of his article he asked: "What has happened to make reputable scientists admit that even the concept of the 'flying saucer' may not be 'utter bilge'?" Surely Mr. Pincher includes himself in the company of reputable scientists. If so, doesn't that admission make him an "ex-sceptic," a phrase which was carefully chosen to apply to a disbeliever whose mind had at last begun to open? Would he prefer that we

should now describe him as an "ex-believer" until he has managed to sort himself out?

To say that there is no worthwhile evidence for flying saucers is, of course, plain nonsense, but to argue with Mr. Pincher would be a waste of time as it is obvious that he cannot have studied the subject: besides, any argument would soon degenerate into a clash of definitions of what is meant by "worthwhile."

His remarks about secrecy and the Air Forces appear to have been sent to the wrong address. We have never subscribed to the "conspiracy of silence theory." When UFOs were first noted in our skies, the governments of the world undoubtedly regarded them as potential threats launched by their opposite number in the cold war. To this extent many sightings were probably classified and this was a quite understandable reaction. We also have no doubt that this attitude may, to a certain extent, have persisted to the present day. Human stupidity alone would seem to be responsible for the present silence; and fear of ridicule is quite sufficient to close the mouths of all but the bravest when faced with a new idea. John Stuart Mill remarked that "the greatest of all causes of non-observation is preconceived opinion. This it is which in all ages has made the whole race of mankind unobservant of all facts . . . which are contradictory to any first appearance, or any received tenet." Incidentally, we would not look to a government for the truth about flying saucers. To speculate about the super-normal is never a function of the state.

Was it fear of ridicule which prompted reader Pincher to write to us in disavowal of his clearly expressed views? If it was, our advice to him must be to screw up his courage. There has recently been a noticeable swing in public opinion about the UFOs. Even more significant has been the number of "reputable scientists" who, while not yet believers in the full sense of that word, have dropped their disbelief and have, in fact, admitted to being "ex-sceptics." In Chapman Pincher's own phrase: "Flying saucers are becoming respectable."

* See also FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Sept.-Oct., 1960, issue.

Does Siberia hold the proof?

by DEREK DEMPSTER

In the November-December 1961 issue of the *Flying Saucer Review* P. F. Sharp declared that the most unambiguous indication of a visit to Earth by space-travellers would be the discovery of an artifact out of its geological context. He also referred to the enigma of the Siberian 'meteorite' of 1908 nuclear-powered space ship. Derek Dempster, first editor of the *Review*, now surveys the history of this 'meteorite' and reports the latest news of the subject from Russia.

IT has always seemed to me that the allegorical tale of Snow White and the seven dwarfs has a modern parallel in the history of flying saucers. You have Snow White as the flying saucer protected by seven virtues (or truth), the jealous step-mother who puts Snow White to sleep as the irrational scientist, the dense forest as the lunatic fringe, the official attitude and ridicule, and Prince Charming as the honest seeker undeterred by obstacles.

Fortunately there are plenty of Princes Charming hacking their way through the foliage, and an increasing number of men of science penetrating the forest along tracks already cut. Snow White, it seems, may soon be found and officially pronounced real—or (and let's be prepared for it) bunk!

But bunk it is unlikely to be, for there are signs in the West and behind the Iron Curtain that the arguments are swinging in favour of the reality of visitors from other worlds.

Precisely when this swing began is extremely difficult to assess. But I would say—not forgetting that many have secretly harboured belief in extra-terrestrial intelligence for years—that the rot set in to infect the forest when the Russian astro-physicist Shklovski put forward the theory that the moons of Mars, Phobos and Deimos were artificial and that they were put into orbit by a long extinct civilisation.

He came to this conclusion after noting that the innermost of the twin satellites, Phobos, was slowing down, whereas Deimos was not; and that this slowing down could be accounted for only by assuming that it was light and hollow and

subject to the resistance of the red planet's tenuous atmosphere. As there is no such thing as a hollow heavenly body, the moons of Mars had to be artificial. Therefore, argued Shklovski, they were built by creatures endowed with intelligence and powers of reasoning.

Although they presented Shklovski's theories seriously at the 10th International Astronautics Congress in London in 1959, the Soviet delegation—among them Professor Leonid Sedov—later changed their tune; Shklovski, they told me, was not to be taken seriously.

American speculation, too

Why this sudden change in attitude? If Shklovski's theories were prepared for presentation at an International Congress, they could not have been regarded in any but a serious light at the outset. Or is it that the Russians delight in leg-pulling? I don't think so, for the curious behaviour of the Martian inner satellite has been observed by American astronomers whose speculations seem to have followed Shklovski's.

Unfortunately for the professional sceptics, Shklovski has not been forgotten. His conclusions have registered and set many on the path of speculation—speculation which has since been further excited by another Soviet citizen, Dr. Yuri Rall.

Writing in *Nedelya*, a supplement of the government newspaper *Izvestia*, last year*, Dr. Rall said: "There are about 150,000,000,000 stars in our galaxy, and astronomers believe that

* See FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Sept.-Oct., 1961.

one in a million of the stars has a planet on which conditions are suitable for the evolution of life. So there may be life on 150,000 planets.

"Biological factors, he went on to say, had persuaded him that the inhabitants of other planets did not take forms science fiction writers liked to imagine.

"An intelligent inhabitant of remote planets is sure to have a highly organised nervous system (comparable to the human brain) and a skull to protect it against accidental damage. Since there is a force of gravitation on any planet, the brain must be located in a special part of the body, free from excessive strain. Another surmise is that intelligent beings on other planets must move in space and consequently must have symmetrical limbs and organs of sense." Dr. Rall concluded by writing: "The law of unity of physiological functions and the most economical adaptation to environment must inevitably lead to a similarity in principle of higher organisms in the universe."

It can be accepted generally, therefore, that among those of us who bother to think at all, doubts about the existence of intelligent life elsewhere are no longer entertained. We are beginning to see the wood from the trees. But the undergrowth is still thick.

Having got so far, there can be no doubt that of those who accept this fact, a large proportion, strengthened by man's successes in orbit, are prepared openly or secretly to believe that beings from other worlds have succeeded in doing precisely what we are trying to do—to conquer space and explore neighbour worlds.

A clash of opinion

Officially, however, visitations from other worlds are not acceptable. But in the light of recent revelations, the official line can no longer hang together—and more and more people are realising it. They are finding it impossible to ignore the clashes of opinion on the origins of the Tungus "meteorite," the evidence presented by honest men and true like Father Gill in Papua, and the opinions of top military personalities like General Chassin, until recently General Air Defence Co-ordinator, Allied Air Forces, Central Europe (N.A.T.O.).

I find it appropriate at this juncture to quote the *New Scientist* for February 2, 1961. "Was it a comet that hit Siberia?" asks the magazine.

"More than half of our fast-moving century ago," said the paper, "on June 30, 1908, to be precise, a light, travelling at great speed across the sky, was reported from various parts of the world, and a strong earth tremor was recorded by several seismic observation stations. . . . A few

days later fine dust was observed in the higher layers of the atmosphere over Europe, as far west as Ireland and extending in latitude to the south of France, giving a continuous spectrum, and noticeably increasing the glow of the night sky. At last it looks as if the true nature of the event is going to be settled once and for all.

"The centre of the disturbance was calculated to be somewhere in an uninhabited region of Siberia. Speculation about the nature of the occurrence was rife for a considerable period, until an expedition sent to the area found a huge crater surrounded by many square miles of outward-leaning trees apparently knocked sideways in varying degrees by a shock wave. The expedition brought back some iron-containing fragments of the type found near areas of reported meteorite falls. The cause of the event was then assumed to be a meteorite, the largest reported, and was named the Tungus meteorite after its location.

"In recent years this conclusion came to be questioned, and speculation about the event was revived, because a Soviet expedition reported that there appeared to be no trace of any further meteorite fragments such as could be expected from a catastrophe capable of producing such a vast crater.

"More expeditions were sent out, and many new theories were put forward, including a fantastic supposition about a cosmic ship with nuclear propulsion from outer space exploding a few miles above the Earth and contaminating the surroundings with radioactivity.

"The theories were aired in various scientific and popular-science journals, until Professor E. L. Krinov, chairman of the Meteorite Committee of the Academy of Sciences' Astronomical Council, in *Priroda* some months ago, stated authoritatively that the so-called Tungus meteorite was actually the main portion of a comet which hit Earth. After that the expression of other theories seemed to disappear from the pages of the journals.

"Now," continued the *New Scientist*, "*Vestnik*, an official journal of the Academy of Sciences, has published a joint article by Krinov and Academician V. G. Fensekov, one of the most prominent astrophysicists and vice-chairman of the Astronomical Council, upholding the opinion that 'it can be regarded as definite' that the 1908 event was the impact of a comet. It was travelling at great speed in the direction opposite to that of the Sun, and the atmospheric dust observed over extensive regions west of the impact was the comet's disintegrating tail. In the opinion of the Soviet scientists this theory is supported not only

by the ascertained speed and direction of the intruding body, but also by the fact that no meteorite fragments had been found, only some minute magnetic and silicate balls, 30-40 microns† in diameter, such as are assumed to be produced by the melting of meteorite surfaces by atmospheric friction.

"In order to reach a definitive scientific conclusion the Presidium of the Soviet Academy of Sciences has approved the mounting of an extensive and comprehensive expedition this coming summer, under the general guidance of its Meteorite Committee. The Moscow Institute of Geodesy, Aerial Photography and Cartography is first going to make a complete aerial photographic survey of the area, and the Ministry of Geology, as well as a number of Academy Institutes, are going to participate in this research task, either directly in the expedition or by processing its findings afterwards. These are the Institutes of Geochemistry, Analytical Chemistry, Terrestrial Physics, Chemical Physics, Soil Research, Permafrost and Botany, and also the Main Botanical Garden."

Three facts

Three interesting facts emerge from this report. It refers to an enormous crater; it ignores eye-witness accounts and it makes no reference to trees felled outside the blast area.

I have examined an aerial photograph of the centre of impact and can find no sign of a crater! What the picture does show, however, is hundreds of dead trees flattened outwards from the centre, rather like the spokes of a giant wheel. The "hub" is comparatively small.

Eye-witness reports can be accepted only to a certain degree, but what the inhabitants of the remote Tungus area had to say is interesting. The object glowed alternately bright and dull as it fell. As for the trees outside the main area of devastation, many lay flat as though they had been struck from above at regular intervals on the object's approach course of several miles.

What does all this suggest? To begin with, that the absence of a crater points to an explosion above the ground. Secondly, that the bright glow,

dull glow cycle described by the locals ties in with the dead trees found at regular intervals along the approach path. I may be completely wrong, but does not this point to an intelligent attempt to avert disaster—to put on the brakes before the object blew up?

The proper analysis of the discoveries made by this year's expedition to Tungus will obviously take time, and one cannot expect a report to be published until well into the New Year. I have a strange, and perhaps unwarranted, inkling, however, that Soviet scientists may have gone home to Moscow with some startling evidence showing the Tungus meteorite to be neither meteorite nor comet.

The Russian attitude

Gordon W. Creighton has given readers an excellent assessment of the Russian attitude to extra-terrestrial life in previous issues of *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*. This is positively affirmative and since, as he pointed out in the November-December issue, there is no room in the Soviet Union for individual whimsy or the private view, the results of the Tungus expedition may have far-reaching repercussions on the world attitude to visitors from outer space. Could the recent dismissal of Professor Alla Masevich, vice-chairman of the Astronomical Council of the U.S.S.R., be a pointer? It was she who replied to a questioner: "I have never heard of flying saucers in my country. Nobody knows them."

The Papuan visitations witnessed by Father Gill and many others have been so well documented by the Rev. N. E. G. Cruttwell that there is no need to reiterate them here. Suffice it to say that these honest churchmen have driven the wedge hard into the crack in the stubborn wall of the official attitude.

General Chassin has sent the wedge even deeper. And the forest surrounding "Snow White" will all the sooner be destroyed if those who will not be blinded by orthodoxy and who, above all, want to see truth triumphant, will join the great crusade of common sense the General has suggested.

But whether the crusade gets into its stride or not, it seems to me that the reality of "Snow White" will soon be proved.

† A micron is the millionth part of a metre.

ADAMSKI'S HIEROGLYPHICS

Explorer's startling discovery

ACCORDING to Adamski, Orthon said to him: "The messages I gave to you were of a universal character," and he was apparently referring not only to the symbols in his footprints but also to the writing on the photographic plate which, it is alleged, he had asked Adamski to give him when they met in the Californian desert on November 20, 1952. The plate was returned to Adamski on December 13 when it was tossed out of the porthole of a saucer at low altitude over his home. Adamski's account, as related in *Flying Saucers Have Landed*, reads as follows: "When the finishing was done, and with witnesses present, and a print was made, there were indications of the original photo—which I had taken before the space visitor took the holder—being washed off; and this was replaced by a strange photograph and a symbolic message, which to this day has not been fully deciphered." To the best of our knowledge this photograph (see Fig. 1) has never been successfully deciphered in spite of the many attempts that have been made.

At last, after nearly nine years, we have—not a translation—but other examples of some of the characters (which look like shorthand) in the message. The French archaeologist and explorer, Professor Marcel F. Homet, has found among

many more recent inscriptions and paintings on a huge boulder known as the Pedra Pintada, in north-eastern Brazil, an oval drawing and a number of symbols which closely resemble, and in some cases appear to be identical with, those of the writings on Adamski's photographic plate.

Other Symbols

Professor Homet, while not a believer in flying saucers, has read about them. He has written to one of our colleagues: "The other symbols, surrounding this oval symbol, were found in the neighbourhood, but they were so weather-beaten and worn out by time that they would never have attracted any interest had I not read Adamski's book *Flying Saucers Have Landed* and seen his picture of the 'Venusian message' containing the same writings, though not in the same sequence."

Fig. 2. is a reproduction from Professor Homet's book and the resemblance to Adamski's hieroglyphics is striking. The illustration appears on page 277 of Homet's book *Die Sohne der Sonne*, published in German, by Verlag Otto Walter, Olten, Switzerland. The author writes in French, but an English translation is on its way and will be published under the title *The Sons of the Sun* later this year.

Professor Homet is Honorary President and

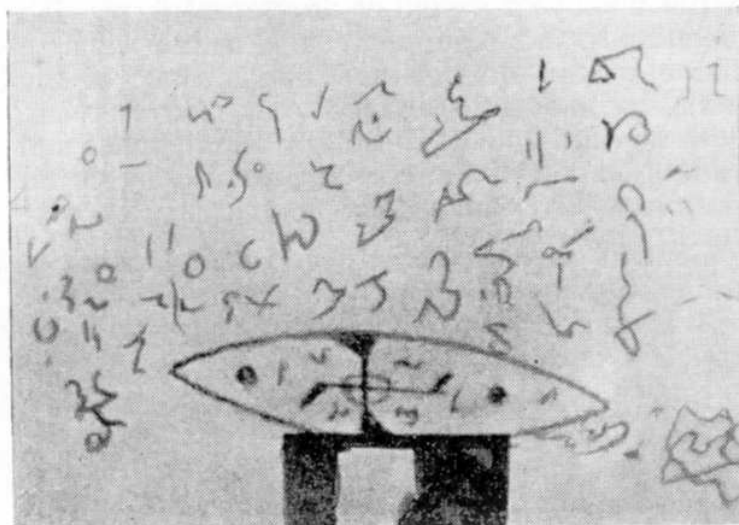


Fig. 1. "Symbolic message" from Leslie and Adamski's *Flying Saucers Have Landed*.

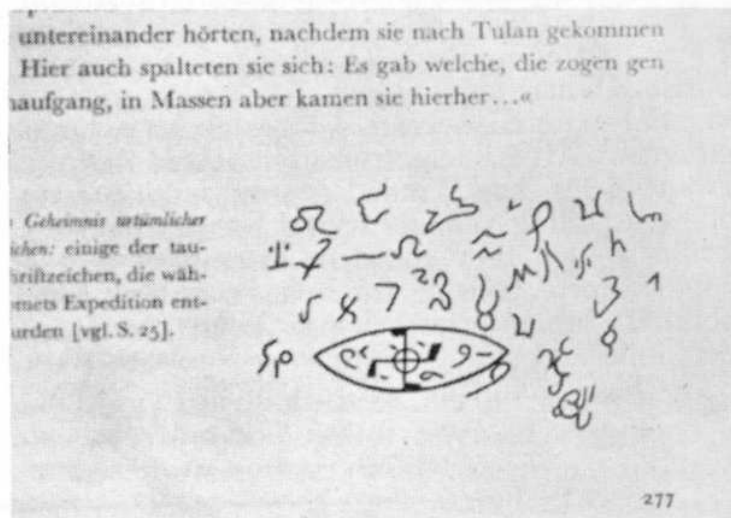


Fig. 2. Illustration from Professor Homet's *Sohne der Sonne*, p. 277.

Delegate-General of the Museum of American Man. He lives in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He is at the moment planning another expedition in search of traces of lost civilisations, one of which, he believes, may have possessed flying machines.

A Forgotten Script

Professor Homet admits that he has not studied the subject of flying saucers and does not "believe" in them, though he keeps an open mind.

Indeed, one would imagine that the evidence he claims to have found must incline him to the belief that visitors from another planet may have written a message in a script long since forgotten on this earth. We wish Professor Homet every success on his new mission and we hope that his discoveries will lead him to a solution of the mystery. In the meanwhile, it would appear that we gained yet another glimpse behind the veil that shrouds the enigma of the flying saucers.

AMERICAN PLAN FOR 1968 MOON COLONY

A PROPOSAL to establish a self-sufficient colony on the moon in 1968 has been made by General Electric to the United States' Government. According to the company, no additional major technological breakthroughs are required to soft-land 200 Saturn vehicles, with 500,000 pounds of equipment and ten lunar pioneers, on the moon within the decade.

A pre-colonization exploration programme is outlined in the proposal, including lunar orbiting spacecraft for mapping, lunar impact craft for exploration, soft landing vehicles for exploration and site preparation, and circum-lunar spacecraft for test of the capability to return and land safely on earth.

Actual colonization would begin after a site on the moon had been selected for the soft landing of men and equipment. The first vehicles would consist of lunar landing vehicles, loaded with all essential material necessary to establish a lunar settlement. After telemetry had indicated that the first vehicles had landed safely, men would follow. Landing vehicles would be of a modular design so that they could be assembled on the moon to form housing for living quarters, mess facilities, laboratories, shops, power stations, recreation and storage units.

The base would be self-sustaining for as long

as a year. The original ten colonists, who would help determine the requirements for establishing a permanent colony, would assemble earth return vehicles from building block propulsion components previously delivered to the site and consisting of earth re-entry capsules and rocket engine assemblies. The low gravity of the moon (one-sixth that of the earth's) would help make this task easier.

The programme would begin with a six-month intensive study, directed by the United States Government and accomplished by an industrial contractor, to corroborate estimates made by General Electric and to formulate comprehensive plans for implementation. Phase Two would consist of a six-year period of development, proving techniques and equipment, and training. Phase Three would include the establishment of the initial lunar colony, directed by the Government, with services for launch, supply maintenance and administration of the colony provided by an industrial systems manager.

General Electric have proposed immediate adoption of the programme. Their target is 1968 as it is described as being "technically and economically feasible in that year."

But what about the natives?

THE CASE FOR CONTACT

Part Two

BY TREVOR JAMES

In our November-December, 1961, issue, Trevor James made the suggestion that the contact claims were not being taken seriously enough and suggested reasons for the neglect. The author now concludes his controversial approach to this difficult problem. The *Flying Saucer Review*, in line with its policy of open-mindedness, invites the views of its readers.

THERE is grave need today to see the various claims for actual contact with UFO intelligences in the right light. The necessary light is to be found in the first part of this article, which reveals why mankind must assume it is on the verge of epoch-making discoveries in the field of communications. These discoveries, we may assume by powers of logic immanent in the human mind, are already in the possession and under the control of the intelligences behind the discs. If the so-called "contactees" are looked at as tools, victims or instruments of these methods, their claims assume a different form. And in examining the claims, we are ourselves armed with a new conceptual tool and a vital alteration of our perspective.

The mind is involved

First, let us look at the contactee claims without ourselves employing a working knowledge of occult science. Study each contactee claim on the basis that the human being involved has come in contact with an instrumentation system capable of getting in touch with his mind directly, without any intervening material instruments in the possession of the contactee. In all these contactee cases, is it not a fact that the mind of the individual seems to have been so involved? Where faking and fraud are not alleged, is not the only weapon of the discreditor that the "contactee" is hallucinated?

Has it not been alleged, published and pounded upon without surcease that the "contactees" are "imagining things"? Do not these allegations themselves infer abnormal or subnormal functioning of the "contactee's" mind?

And is it not again and again asserted that there has been no reliable third or fourth party observation of the physical departure of a "contactee" in a flying saucer? And this in turn has supported the claim that "it all took place in his mind." All this points to that vast unexplored realm of the human mind, in the investigation of which the best-known psychiatric and psychological methods are still exceedingly primitive.

When the "contactee" is subjected to conventional psychiatric or psychological examination, the whole thing may be stamped a "myth," as it was by the late Dr. Jung. Well it might be if these examinations are confined to psychology. But out in the fields of astronomy, photography, radar and aviation, where the psychologist is but another ignoramus, stands a vast corpus of evidence of the presence of these objects. And these objects are relating themselves to the "contactees" in a way that will for some time elude study by the scientists of today. The relationship is being established via the *mind*.

These happenings represent a direct confirmation of the reasoning that permits us to conclude that contact will be by *advanced methods*. Consider the consequences of what has gone on with the "contactees," so bitterly abused and misunderstood by so many otherwise intelligent people. They report flights in spaceships which they have never been physically observed to take, and which therefore probably involve the mind and not the body. The physical sightings of strange objects are so prolific, as is their physical recording, that we are not permitted the luxury of considering the whole thing a "myth."

The photographer, radar operator, airline pilot

and jet jockey tell of an objective phenomenon, which descends in some way to the minds of a few individuals, giving them direct experience which contains mutually correlative points. The scientists, no matter what phase of science they work in, are all forbidden to make firm statements about the UFO, not by higher authority or governmental edict, but by the rules of scientific evidence under which they labour. The scientist dealing with outer observations does not say they are ships from other planets, because the observed phenomena will not let him. The phenomena will not jib with such an assertion. The psychologist is hamstrung because the "contactee" is not talking about an illusion or an hallucination in the ordinary sense, but about a phenomenon that is real and objective when it manifests to human senses and instruments. With this phenomenon, the "contactee" claims direct experience.

A new tool

All these things point to the need for a new tool of investigation to supplement those that we already have. This tool is occult science, in the highest meaning of the term. A working knowledge of occult science, the acquisition of which requires the prolonged direction of the highest powers of a human being, is indispensable to UFO investigation. With it, the "contactee" phenomenon assumes a different proportion and an altered meaning. What, then, does occult science add to physical science in this field? Due to space limitations, we shall have to content ourselves with a few examples given in more or less dogmatic form. There is no enmity between the true occult scientist and natural science as we presently know it. In intelligent association, the two aspects give man formidable power to understand the Cosmos of which he is a part.

One of the more strident objections to most of the "contactees" is their low level of intelligence and their paucity of orthodox education. Occult science overcomes this by pointing out that the closer a human being is to the purely primitive state, the more likely he will be to have perceptions and experiences with things unseen that are denied to the highly developed intellect of civilised man. Thus, natives in remote parts of the globe speak of and deal with "evil spirits" as though they were objective realities. Modern science rejects this, but the trained occult scientist, who has equipped himself with the necessary additional organs of perception, is able to confirm that unseen beings do afflict primitive peoples.

The legends of Mexico, for example, contain

folk-tales about giant serpents in the atmosphere of the earth. An absurd notion to contemporary scientific thought. Yet the writer, with a specialised use of high-speed infra-red film, and methods stemming from occult science, recorded such a creature twice in succession in the heart of a California business district at noon. The creature was physical and objective, the photographs proved that. Yet it was quite invisible to the perception of dozens of factory workers who walked twenty feet beneath it as the photographs were made.

Thus, the occult scientist finds no grounds to objecting to contactees because they are people who live close to the soil and who are relatively uneducated. On the contrary, the occult scientist will approach the reports of such a person with some assurance that the "contactee" would be likely to have unusual experiences involving his perceptions. The occult scientist will also be careful to approach what is offered as not necessarily being the way it seemed to the "contactee."

In the works of Dr. Alexander Cannon extensive references may be found to the "astral" body of a human being. This body, made of very tenuous substance and not normally visible to human sight, leaves the physical body during the hours of sleep and "goes about its own business" according to Dr. Cannon. As the seat of consciousness, and a vehicle for consciousness, this body is able to have experiences, to travel and to undergo education while separated from the physical body during sleep. In the normal person, no memory of these activities remains upon awakening.

On the other hand, relatively uneducated people, close to the soil, without too great an intellectual development, are quite likely to bring back their experiences. And it is known to the occult scientist that certain beings in the unseen can arrange for this memory or recall, at will, if they so desire. This further reinforces the necessity for the occult scientist not to object to the uneducated or rough "contactee."

The element of sleep enters into practically every honest account of contact that we have in UFOlogy. This factor cannot be ignored by the occult scientist, and should not be ignored by the orthodox scientist. There are instances in the "contactee" cases of men sleeping on the desert and "awakening" to find ships descending, or of men dozing in various ways when the dynamics of astral experience can manifest according to occult science.

Occult observation by trained persons of the "contactees" frequently reveals a slackness or looseness of association between the physical

body and the astral body. In lay terms, a tendency to "slip out" is observed.

The Biometer

With the Biometer, used for psychological testing, a test has been devised which establishes the "threshold line" of any given person being examined. This is the capacity of the person to distinguish between an "astral experience" and one which takes place in the physical world. One "contactee," internationally famous as the author of several books, was tested in this way and was found, in the words of the distinguished doctor carrying out the test, to have "absolutely no threshold line whatever." By such things do we begin to clarify the nature of these experiences.

To the occult scientist, the purpose of the "contactee" is quite different to that which the "contactee" himself imagines. The "contactee" is one who is willing to talk of his experiences. He tells others. He repeats over and over again that there are real beings and real ships and that he has been aboard them. Hundreds of persons are given, by this instrumentality, a new concept of the Cosmos. They are introduced to things of which they previously knew nothing. In short, their consciousness is expanded. This is true no matter how humble the intelligence of the listener.

The more intelligent the listener, the more powerfully will he be driven to find out the "truth" about the whole thing. If he is a scientist, the chances are that he will react by thinking, reasoning, researching and experimenting. The more intelligent the person, the more he will be aroused to investigate. In other words, he too, in his own way, will undergo an expansion of consciousness which may well revolutionise his whole life and outlook. The humble "contactee" has started all this.

How easy it is to see, in the light of what we have brought forward here, that "contactees"

could possibly begin by talking about, say, the astral body. No-one would understand, nor would they give him the time of day. The "contactee" presents things in terms that persons in normal life today can understand. From this point the real search is triggered off in those for whom the time has come. Others who hear the "contactee" will continue to believe the experience as related, and will not undergo development of their own. Others will reject it all outright.

The occult scientist must also be wary of unseen beings whose purposes are not the education of mankind, and whose presence in the phenomena is all too evident to the occultly learned person.

In conclusion

We might say, in conclusion, that the physical, objective phenomena undoubtedly infer advanced technology and with it advanced communications method. The "contactees" confirm this, not necessarily in what they relate, but in the manner in which they acquire their experiences. Viewed as a whole, the discs and the question of contact with them point firmly to further investigation of the human mind as an instrument of communication.

This investigation, if pursued along the lines indicated by the unfolding of the UFO phenomena, leads the investigator to explore the extra-physical energies and powers possessed by every human being. From their latency, these powers are due to be aroused by methods which in their turn are indicated by the nature of the UFO phenomena. Thus in due time by the proper methods, we shall attain the capacity to communicate in a way that is but dimly realised at present. Mankind at the moment is being pushed into a special kind of an educational programme, just as mankind, in its higher, civilised development, pushes education on its own primitives. The case for contact rests.

The Open Letter to the Prime Minister

We would like to thank all our readers who wrote to their M.P.s pointing out the danger that a misinterpreted UFO might cause in these days of acute international tension. We received a prompt acknowledgment from the Prime Minister's office and we expect to hear more

about this matter in the near future. When we are in a position to do so, we shall make a full report to our readers. In the meanwhile, we suggest that it is still opportune to write to your M.P. referring to the open letter which we printed in the November-December, 1961, issue.

SAUCERS ARE NO LONGER NEWS

THE REASONS FOR THE SILENCE

by Robert Chapmam

On September 27, 1961, the subject of flying saucers made a brief appearance in the *London Evening News* when the Editor of the *Review* was interrogated by its Science Reporter, the author of this article. Robert Chapmam reaches certain conclusions and offers our readers some advice. The Editor comments on what may be the real reason behind the news blackout.

FOLLOWING a recent article I wrote on the flying saucer mystery I had a letter from a senior Army officer. He wrote to express surprise and pleasure that a national newspaper had dared concern itself with such a contentious subject but added: "Of course I knew it would not stay in all editions. There would be a certain telephone call to your editor—and out it would come!"

The letter was quite short and I did not discover whether the writer intended to imply that the call would be from 10, Downing Street or some more sinister source. The notion that there is a conspiracy of some sort to keep saucers out of the press is, I understand, quite a common one. It is also wrong.

Over the years I have written scores of stories about flying saucers. Some were prominently featured; others had to take their chance along with the smaller news items of the day. It depended on the news quality of the particular sighting and how soon one could get the facts.

But I should like to say categorically that I have never encountered any unwillingness on the part of Government departments or the Services to assist me in investigating a saucer story. Nor have I known a single occasion when an official objection has been raised to one of my stories accompanied by a demand for its withdrawal.

It would have to be a very high level objection indeed before any editor I know of would submit to outside interference. Newspapers operate in the public interest and put the public first.

So what has happened? Why are so few flying saucer stories published nowadays—especially since the number of sightings appears to be on

the increase? And why did my article vanish after two or three editions?

The real answer, I suggest, is that flying saucers have ceased to be good newspaper copy. The majority of sightings are much of a muchness. So are the comments of observers. And it would be a poor newspaper that kept on repeating the same story, however many small variations there might be. We exist to find *new* things to write about.

If a flying saucer landed in Hyde Park and remained long enough for Fleet Street reporters to interview the occupants every newspaper would be full of it. If one ever came down low enough over London for positive identification, the same would apply. Make no mistake about this.

But we just cannot go on reporting "mysterious lights" in the sky or "silvery objects travelling at great speed." And let me say at this point that we are always wary of saucer stories, or any other strange stories, from overseas, especially those from remote corners of the world. Too many have turned out to be leg-pulls and too many others have clearly been "jazzed-up" in transit.

Just one saucer story that was *different* would be enough to get this fascinating mystery right back on the front page. It's really up to all you observers. What we want are details which have not been published hundreds of times before. Better still, we want an opportunity to see a saucer for ourselves.

My article, based on an interview with Mr. Waveney Girvan, was written to arouse public interest in the large number of sightings reported both in Britain and abroad last summer.

HOW DO YOU SPOT A SAUCERMAN SPY?

CHAPMAN: I thought flying saucers were dead. What about all those that turned out to be weather balloons, meteorites, reflections of car headlights and so on?

GIRVAN: A lot more, seen by trained observers, could not be so glibly explained away.

CHAPMAN: How many reports have you had from this country during the summer?

GIRVAN: Hundreds. Many of them, of course, refer to the same saucer.

On June 19, a silvery object was seen hovering about 50,000 feet over Exeter Airport.

In July, two women at Ryde, Isle of Wight, watched an object resembling an hovercraft for 15 minutes. They said the base emitted an orange glow.

There was another good sighting at Shepperton, Middlesex, where a 16-year-old girl drew a picture of what she had seen.

'Bowler hat'

It looked rather like an elongated bowler hat with "port-holes" round the brim.

What do YOU think flying saucers are?

The only possible answer is interplanetary space craft.

It is the *only* explanation unless you are prepared to say that every man, woman and child—and there are thousands—who has reported seeing a flying saucer is a fool or a liar.

Have YOU ever seen a flying saucer?

Yes. In 1951. I was motoring in Hampshire when I saw a large, glowing, circular object low down in the sky.

Did you immediately say to yourself: "This is a flying saucer"?

The human mind doesn't work that way. It always tries to rationalise the unusual.

In this case I thought it was a secret weapon.

What changed your mind?

The fact that similar objects had been seen during the last

● More reports of "flying saucers" have been received this summer than in any other equal period since the war. Is it time for a new investigation? **ROBERT CHAPMAN**, "Evening News" Science Reporter, talks to Waveney Girvan, chartered accountant, publisher and editor of "Flying Saucer Review."

century and the beginning of this.

So if they were secret weapons Queen Victoria or the Kaiser must have been responsible for them.

Is it your opinion that flying saucers are piloted by intelligent beings?

They could hardly be *unintelligent*.

You should study the works of a brilliant French engineer, Aimé Michel.

'They waved'

In 1954, when France had a spectacular "invasion" of saucers, including a large cigar-shaped object, Michel carefully mapped out the places over which they had been seen.

Then he discovered that the sighting points could be joined together by straight lines, all radiating from the point where the cigar-shaped object had been seen. The significance of this is obvious.

Some years ago you published a book by Leslie and Adamski called "Flying Saucers Have Landed"—the inference being that men from another world had made contact with us. Do you still believe this?

There is a growing number of well-documented contact cases.

I understand there was a pretty sensational report from a clergyman in Papua, New Guinea?

Yes. A flying saucer is said to have appeared over the mission of Father Gill at Boinai on June 27, 1959.

The Rev. Norman Crutwell questioned 40 witnesses who said they had seen a large circular object with four human beings aboard who waved to them as the object hovered over the mission.

But if the visitors were so friendly what was to prevent them really getting to know the mission people?

How should I know? Perhaps

it was not part of their purpose in coming here. Or there may have been some difficulty in communication.

Such as?

Can you read smoke signals? Would a savage tribesman in the Amazon know what to do with a telephone?

But if these things are manned by intelligent beings surely they've been coming here long enough to have learned at least one popular Earth language?

Who says they haven't? How can we be sure that certain special qualified extraterrestrial visitors are not living among us as spies in every country on earth?

Wow! But don't you think it odd that flying saucers are never seen by anybody whose testimony would really count? Somebody high up in the Government for example.

How do you know they aren't? The higher up you get the more vulnerable to ridicule. Only the common people have nothing to lose in this respect.

A photograph of the interview conducted between Robert Chapman and Waveney Girvan, Editor of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*, in the *London Evening News* in the mid-day editions on September 27, 1961.

I think it succeeded in throwing fresh light on the mystery but its failing, as a piece of journalism, was that I was unable to say that I had any *personal* experience of flying saucers. I was not able to report, as a result of my own first-hand investigations, any really up-to-date sighting that was essentially different from any reported hitherto.

Thus the article was classified as one of general rather than particular interest; and in these days when copy space is at a premium it is the feature of general interest that is dropped first.

Let me assure my Army correspondent and anybody else who may share his views that neither the Prime Minister nor the Minister of Defence telephoned to have the article "killed."

I should have felt very flattered if they had.

The Editor comments—We congratulate the *Evening News* and Mr. Robert Chapman for having allowed the subject of flying saucers to appear in a mass circulation newspaper. We would have preferred the interview to have carried over into the more widely-read evening editions, but that was not to be. It is better to appear as a sort of wild outsider among the greyhounds than to be classified as a non-starter.

We do not quarrel with Robert Chapman's explanation of why the saucers are no longer regarded as news. We have never subscribed to the conspiracy of silence theory. As a matter of fact, we have a less exciting explanation: it is also a rather less flattering one, but we mean no disrespect. The article printed above represents the attitude of most newspapers and the *Evening News* has been positively enlightened when compared with its contemporaries. What we would like to do is to probe a little deeper into the attitude of the press.

It really is a question of the "will-to-believe." If the editors, as a body, were convinced of the truth behind the flying saucers, even the "mysterious lights" would make headlines. What Mr. Chapman is asking for is evidence that will satisfy those editors. We are reminded of the pioneer days of the Wright Brothers. They had to fly in public for three years before the editors of those days would print the facts. Even proof can be disregarded by those who will not see: evidence, and proof, can be smothered by an unwillingness to publish. Mr. Chapman says it is up to our observers to bring his newspapers the evidence. Why? Have they no reporters of their own? Have their editors no independent judgment? Our readers, as a matter of fact, do supply the newspapers with evidence: it is seldom that their stories are ever investigated by those who

claim pre-eminence in this skill. We can give several instances, but a few will have to suffice.

For nearly three years we have attempted to interest publishers of all sorts, including editors of a number of newspapers and magazines, in Aimé Michel's epoch-making discovery of orthoteny. Until the *Evening News* printed its interview, the British public has been kept in complete ignorance of a discovery that could revolutionise the world. In the *Evening News* interview it has broken through at last—in sixteen lines! Can it be wondered if some of us suspect that the only thing the newspapers will not publish is news? By the time the first saucer has landed in Hyde Park, the story may well be old hat and the papers will be forced back to their horses and divorces.

Trained Observers Needed

We agree that "mysterious lights" in themselves are no longer news. But when we, with our limited resources, ask an investigator to probe we often discover something much more remarkable than just a mysterious light. What we really complain of is that many newspapers *will* report a mysterious light and nothing more. The Isle of Wight sighting featured in our November-December, 1961, issue started as a "mysterious" light and was, in fact, reported in the *Evening News*. Curiosity, which the newspapers seem to lack, produced the detailed evidence which we printed. If we had a staff of trained reporters we might indeed have been able to bring to Mr. Chapman the sort of evidence which, for some reason or other, he expects to be produced by us in Hyde Park.

Last summer the newspapers reported a mysterious object over Exeter Airport. Next day they printed that it was a weather balloon, released from Bristol University. A small periodical like this was able to disprove this explanation for the cost of a three-minute telephone call, but the *Daily Mail* (a stable companion of the *Evening News*) would not print the correction.

Is it of no moment that mysterious objects are hovering over, and occasionally landing on, our soil? If the newspapers are going to adopt the attitude that it is up to somebody else to "prove" this matter to them, then they may wait too long. Could it be that what they really fear is ridicule? That is what held up the Wright Brothers story for three years. If this be the correct interpretation, we can expect nothing else but silence on the one side and a growing exasperation on the other. One day, of course, some newspaper is going to have an unparalleled scoop. But it will need courage.

ANCIENT TRADITION— AND THE ORBITAL COSMOS THEORY

by Kenneth C. Bayman

*"Canst thou bind the sweet influences of the
Pleiades?"—Job 38:31.*

IT may seem a far cry from the traditions and writings of ancient times to the highly scientific dispute between Professors Ryle and Hoyle, dealt with by Leonard G. Cramp in his fascinating article "The Cosmos—Expanding or Orbital?" (See FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, May-June, 1961.)

However, there is a connection—and it is provided by that insignificant yet well-known constellation, the Pleiades. Just why so small and faint a star-group, which is little more than a smudge of light against the velvet blackness of space, should loom so large in the folk-lore of peoples scattered all over the surface of the globe requires some explaining.

Many writers have dealt with the interesting legends associated with the "Seven Sisters," as the group is sometimes called, and it is not surprising that the attention of astronomers was drawn to this cluster of faint stars early in the history of the science. For example, the astronomer Bradley, in 1748, and more recently M. Madler, of Dorpat, and others (according to Sidney Collett in *The Scripture of Truth*¹), discovered after most elaborate calculations that Alcyone, the brightest of these seven stars, appeared to be the distant centre around which our solar system is believed to revolve. Collett points out that the original Chaldaic word translated "Pleiades" is Chimah and means "hinge, or pivot." The meaning of Alcyone is given in Appendix 12 of the Companion Bible as "the centre."

In *Legends of the Stars*, Mary Proctor, F.R.A.S., F.R.MET.S.,² commenting on the claims of Bradley and others, wrote: "The brightest star in the cluster is Alcyone, once said to be the central star of the universe, around which all the other stars revolved; but this fascinating theory is no longer accepted." The fact that this theory is no longer accepted need not deter us, for most scien-

tific theories are subject to the whims of intellectual fashion. It should be pointed out, however, that there is a big difference between claiming that the solar system revolves about Alcyone, and claiming that *all* stars revolve about that centre. It may well be that the visible Universe as we know it from Earth is part of more than one self-contained stellar system, *each* with its own local centre, and all no doubt forming part of a still larger system revolving around (to quote Leonard Cramp's closing words) "equally awe-inspiring and unknown centres."

World-wide attention

For us, as earth-dwellers, the significance of the ancient traditions concerning the Pleiades is immense, and despite the "brushing-off" of the claim that Alcyone is the centre of our particular system, Mary Proctor goes on in her very next paragraph to point out: "From time immemorial this cluster of stars has attracted world-wide attention, and legends are told of it not only in Greece but among the Malays in Borneo, the negroes of the Gold Coast, and the aborigines of Australia, who hold a New Year's corroboree in honour of the Pleiades, which they say are 'very good to the black fellows'." Considering the words addressed to Job by the Almighty (quoted at the head of this article), it is surprising, to say the least, to find a similar sentiment expressed by the aborigines of Australia—"sweet influences of the Pleiades" compared with "they are very good to the black fellows."

Mary Proctor goes on to write: "The tradition that one of the seven stars has been lost is very ancient, and the belief is almost universal. . . . The most simple explanation regarding the lost Pleiad is that the astronomers of Syria could see in their sky seven stars in the group, while the Greeks, less favourably situated, finding only six, invented the story of the missing sister. The scientific explanation may be that an examination of photographs of the Pleiades reveals the fact

Tell Your Friends About "Flying Saucer Review"

that Merope is enwrapped in a nebulous haze, recalling the lines of Tennyson:

*'Many a night I saw the Pleiads, rising thro'
the mellow shade,*

*Glitter like a swarm of fireflies tangled in a
silver braid.'*

The poet refers to a curious twinkling, characteristic of the group, as of dewdrops shimmering in the sunlight on a gossamer web."

The attempt at explanation of the Legends of the "missing Pleiad" advanced by Mary Proctor falls short, however, for it does not take into account that the legend is, as she herself writes, "very ancient and almost universal." When we couple this legend with others which have come down to the very days in which we live, we find a startling conclusion forcing itself upon us.

Dealing with further ancient traditions; Mary Proctor writes: "The Pleiades are also connected with traditions of the Flood, and the celebration in various ages of a feast or festival of the dead is linked with some great calamity to the human race in the past. This festival has been found among the religious rites of the ancient Hindus, Egyptians, Persians, Peruvians, Mexicans, and Druids, and the date assigned occurred in the month of November, and was regulated by the culmination of the Pleiades. In India November is called the month of the Pleiades, and on the seventeenth day of that month a festival of the dead is celebrated, called the Hindu Durga. It is said to have been a New Year's commemoration at the earliest time to which Indian calendars can be traced."

Quoting from *Astronomical Myths* translated from Flammarion, Mary Proctor goes on: "The Persians formerly called the month of November 'Mordad,' the Angel of Death, and the Feast of the Dead took place at the same time as in Peru, and was considered a New Year's festival. In Ceylon a combined festival of agriculture and of the dead takes place at the beginning of November." She wrote further: "The Celtic races were undoubtedly affected by what might be termed 'the religion of the Pleiades,'" and this seems to explain the origin of the superstitions of the Druids and accounts for customs remaining among us to this day. Quoting further from *Astronomical Myths*, pages 124-126, she wrote: "The 1st of November was with the Druids a night full of mystery in which they annually celebrated the reconstruction of the world. . . .

The Druidess nuns were obliged at this time to pull down and rebuild each year the roof of their temple, as a symbol of the destruction and renovation of the world. . . . Although Druidism is now extinct, the relics of it remain to this day, for in our calendar we still find November 1 marked as All Saints' Day, and in the pre-Reformation calendars the last day of October was marked All Hallows Eve, and November 2 as All Souls; indicating clearly a three-day festival of the dead. It commenced in the evening, and was originally regulated by the Pleiades—an emphatic testimony of how much astronomy has been mixed up with the rites and customs even of the English of today. In former days the relics were more numerous in the Hallowe'en torches of the Irish, the bonfires of the Scotch, the coel-coeth fires of the Welsh, and the tindle fires of Cornwall, all lighted on Hallowe'en. In France it still lingers more strongly than here, for to this very day the Parisians at this festival repair to the cemeteries and lunch at the graves of their ancestors. It is possible that the festival of lanthorns among the Japanese, which is celebrated about November, may be also connected with this same day, as it is certain that that nation does reckon days by the Pleiades.

"These instances of a similar festival at approximately the same period of the year, and regulated (until fixed to a particular day by a solar calendar) by the midnight culmination of the Pleiades, show conclusively how great an influence that constellation has had on the manners and customs of the world and throws some light on the early history of man."

Its significance

The point the present writer wishes to make is: why should so insignificant a constellation as the Pleiades be so intimately and universally bound up with the early history of man and his present customs commemorating a universal tragedy in that history? That tragedy was the Flood of Noah's day, and the "all souls" commemorated in the November 2 festival referred originally to the souls of all those who perished in the Deluge—the only time in the history of mankind when an *entire generation* perished at once, with the exception of Noah and his family.

In the Book of Job (one of the most ancient of the documents comprising the Bible), the

Almighty puts the question to Job: "Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?" Here God is evidently referring to something which He, Himself, *has* done. Note that a *binding* is contrasted with a *loosening*. What are the "sweet influences" of Pleiades? What are the "bands" of Orion? The inference that the "sweet influences" are a gravitational influence positive and beneficial to the earth is inescapable, bearing in mind the original meaning of the Chaldaic name of the constellation—a hinge, or pivot; and bearing in mind also the meaning of the bright star Alcyone, "the centre." When we look at the original Hebrew translated "bands" (*moshekoth*), we need not be surprised to find it translated in Young's *Analytical Concordance* as "drawings together." In fact, Young, in his literal translation of the Bible, himself renders it as "attractions." The Hebrew name for Orion is *Kesil*, which means "strong." There are three separate references in the Bible to Orion, and in each case this constellation is coupled with the Pleiades. Young shows that the Hebrew word for "bind" (*canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades*) means to "tie fast" (so as to restrain); the word for "loose" (*loose the bands of Orion*) means "to open" (so as to set free from restraint). Studying these various meanings, we get a clear picture: certain beneficial (i.e. beneficial to the earth and the life upon it) influences (gravitation) emanating from the Pleiades were at one time restrained; other strong attractions (gravitation) emanating from Orion were at the same time freed from restraint and let loose. Was the result that tilting of the earth upon its axis which in turn caused the deposition of vast quantities of water upon the earth, as well as earthquakes and related phenomena? In other words, was the stability of the earth adversely affected by a change in gravitational force emanating from the orbital centre of the solar system? If this were not the case, then we have to explain why there are universal legends associating the Pleiades with the Flood. They cannot be explained logically by saying that this was because the Pleiades were high in the sky at the time the Flood occurred: there were many other far brighter and more prominent constellations high in the heavens at the same time. The only intelligent explanation is that the ancients knew that "something had gone wrong" in the Pleiades group which had in turn brought the cataclysm upon the earth.

As to just what had "gone wrong," is it possible

that this is where the story of the "missing Pleiad" originated? Did one of the stars of the Pleiades group "blow up" and disappear, disrupting in the process that "sweet influence," and perhaps in turn unbalancing the Orion constellation and releasing the "strong attractions" that formerly had been "bound"?

The custom of the Druids, referred to in John F. Blake's translation from Flammarion (quoted earlier in this article) of re-roofing their temple about November 1 each year, after destroying the old roof, is particularly interesting, because there is good reason to believe that the Deluge was largely caused by the collapse of a vast canopy of ice crystals which formerly enveloped the earth at a great height. In other words the ancient "roof of the world" collapsed due to stresses and strains brought about by a change in the vast system of gravitational balance which adversely affected the earth's stability.

So there is more than a little circumstantial evidence that the "orbital cosmos" theory is the correct one and that both Professors Ryle and Hoyle are wrong in their interpretations of cosmic phenomena.

Sidney Collett describes the orbital concept in these appropriate words "As the ages roll on the heavenly bodies are ever in motion—the moon revolving round the earth; the earth with other planets revolving round the sun; the sun with all the solar system revolving round Alcyone; Alcyone with its myriad attendants revolving round some other unknown centre; all these, and countless other creations, all unknown to man, revolving in awful grandeur around the centre of all centres—the throne of the Almighty."³

¹ COLLETT, SIDNEY, *The Scripture of Truth*, London, Pickering & Inglis, 1935.

² PROCTOR, MARY, *Legends of the Stars*, London, George G. Harrap & Co., 1925.

³ *The Scripture of Truth*, page. 282.

Note: Charles O. Long (*National Message*, London, August-September, 1959, p. 232), dealing with the question of earth once having been "over-canopied" with water vapour (referred to in Genesis 1:7 as "waters above the firmament"), puts forward an interesting quotation from J. N. Lockyer, F.R.S.: "The apparent volume of Jupiter, and similarly of Saturn, is made up of a large shell of cloudy atmosphere and a kernel of planet, and there is no reason why the real Jupiter and Saturn should vary much from Earth or Mars. Moreover, a large shell of cloudy atmosphere is precisely how our own planet was most probably enveloped in one of the early stages of its history." In the same article Long refers to Proctor mentioning, in his *Saturn and his System*, the planet as having, in addition to a series of rings, a "cloudy shell."

DR. LEON DAVIDSON'S CIRCULAR LETTER

Are saucers American secret weapons?

by Waveney Girvan

Dr. Davidson has recently circulated a letter purporting to explain the flying saucers as devices employed by the U.S.A. in the cold war. The author gives his reasons for refusing to believe Dr. Davidson and takes a look at a number of other explanations of the saucer mystery which are being circulated.

ANYONE who has either written a book, or has edited a magazine, about saucers will not be lacking for something to read. The mass of printed and duplicated matter that reaches him through the post has to be experienced to be believed. To separate the wheat from the chaff is no easy task. Are we to accept that message from Upsidon or reject the good advice of Oblivon—both of whom are said to be talking to us from Outer Space? Beware the lunatic fringe, advised Gavin Gibbons in an article in an old number of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW*. That is good advice, but what is the lunatic fringe and how do you recognise it when it comes your way? We must, of course, resist the temptation to dub lunatic some theory merely because we don't happen to agree with it. Is there a test of sanity in the bewildering field of flying saucer literature?

I believe there may be such a test. The pamphlet or the book that puts me on my guard is the one that mistakes hypothesis for proof. I am one of those who favour the inter-planetary hypothesis and I think that I speak for the majority of saucer believers. However, I have no proof that the unknowns are coming from Mars, Venus or somewhere farther out. I will hold to my hypothesis until something better comes along and by better I mean either proof that I have been wrong or an even simpler hypothesis that fits the known facts more closely. I am still waiting, as it happens, but it is not for want of information. I am continually being told that the saucers are most definitely this or definitely that—and my informants do not deal with hypo-

theses. They trade in blunt assertion. It is for this reason that I regard their explanations with reserve for I do not believe that anybody really knows the full truth about this mysterious subject.

If the explanations which are so freely offered are ignored, then one is accused of being a member of the silence group. If one publicises the stories one is accused of ventilating hot air. And hot air most of it undoubtedly is and I can say this with absolute confidence for the more assertive explanations are completely at variance with each other. I will give some instances. There is the energetic gentleman who has been to great pains to prove that the UFOs are hostile. The pages of examples he provides, however, tend to prove conclusively that they are not. The most damaging evidence he has been able to collect is that one or two people have been considerably surprised when they saw a nearby saucer and a number of others have had their car engines stopped. Then there is the assiduous gentleman who says that the saucers are the secret weapons of Hitler, who escaped from Berlin after all. Another claims that the saucers come from the nether world and flip out of holes at the poles. All very interesting, but none of it supported by any convincing evidence and certainly not by anything resembling proof. Can it be wondered at if editors of responsible newspapers tend to ignore our subject when they are bombarded with such literature? Is it not likely that here we may have a rational explanation of what some of us like to call the conspiracy of silence on the part of the press? I often try to imagine what all these people would like their Government to say

about the saucers if they were to meet to prepare a draft. It would be a lively and entertaining assembly, but I feel that it would never come to a conclusion. Perhaps that is why the governments of the world prefer to keep silent.

The latest circular to reach UFO researchers comes from Dr. Leon Davidson, who wrote two articles for the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* in 1960 (January-February and March-April issues). His conclusion is that the whole saucer story was engineered by the American Central Intelligence Agency, the C.I.A. for short. In these articles he indicated that Adamski had been duped by this Agency into believing that he had talked to a Venusian and had gone on trips in spaceships. Adamski was quite honest but misguided. He was an unwitting agent in the cold war.

Saucers "exposed"

Dr. Davidson now elaborates the story in the circular letter which I have recently received. All the famous American contact stories have been brought about by the C.I.A. The saucer story is, according to Dr. Davidson, now exposed and we can all go home. The object of the C.I.A.'s exercise is not very clear, but you can take your pick of two possible motives. One was to bring about a cessation of atom bomb testing (recently resumed) and the other to scare enemy pilots. Dr. Davidson prefaces this farrago by quoting his academic qualifications and professional background. He hints at having held secret government posts, but I suggest that a more careful reading of his career is less impressive than a first glance would suggest. However, it is not what he was but what he says that matters.

The first and obvious weakness of the story is that with one exception all the incidents he quotes took place in or over America. It is a way with some American researchers that they tend to ignore the fact that flying saucers appear all over the world. The C.I.A. must have worked overtime in the last few years, for sightings and landings have been reported from Brazil, France, Spain and the Antipodes, to say nothing of Russia and Japan. Did the C.I.A. enrol Father Gill and the Rev. Lionel Browning? What was its real purpose in making a saucer with occupants float over the heads of those startled mission boys in Papua? Is America sending mysterious aeriforms over the Isle of Wight? If so, why does it continue now that Dr. Leon Davidson has blown the gaff? But it is a waste of time to devote any serious attention to this nonsense.

What I would like to do is to correct one of Dr. Davidson's false statements and, as it happens, I am the one person in the world who is in a position to do so without any fear of contradiction. Indeed, I can bring overwhelming evidence to prove what I am now going to assert. Dr. Davidson says that Adamski was "given strong backing by the C.I.A. . . . in writing and publishing his book *Flying Saucers Have Landed*." The facts are otherwise, and as I published this book I am in a better position to know the facts than Dr. Davidson. Here they are.

In the Spring of 1953 I was approached by Desmond Leslie, who had written a book which he had tentatively called *The History of the Flying Saucers*. He also showed me a shorter manuscript, as yet untitled, and some photographs which had been given to him by Adamski. Desmond Leslie subsequently told me that a number of British publishers had turned the book down and that before he had come to Werner Laurie, the publishing firm of which I was then a Director and Editor-in-Chief, he had not realised that I was probably in those days the one publisher in England who was interested in the subject. (Incidentally, the subject was then as much out of favour as it is now.) The decision to publish both these manuscripts in one volume was mine and mine alone. I consulted with nobody. No government agent, American or British, "sponsored" my decision: I thought that the book was fascinating and I hoped that many others would share my view. And that is why I published it. The C.I.A. didn't even help me when I, in my turn, tried to find an American publisher for the book. My agent in New York reported a series of refusals and finally I arranged to publish in America through the British Book Centre: the negotiations were carried out by me with their representative in London. (Desmond Leslie, of course, may be an American agent, but he must speak for himself and he is well capable of doing so.) So much for the one fact which I am able to check in Dr. Davidson's letter. I now suspect all the others. If one reads carefully, however, the "facts" in the letter are very few, for it consists mostly of dark hints and disconnected reasoning.

I am glad that Dr. Davidson has given me the opportunity of rebutting him. It will be noted that I have mentioned that the Adamski section of *Flying Saucers Have Landed* was given to Desmond Leslie. He and I refused it as a gift and we insisted that the royalties should be shared. Those who accuse Adamski of pecuniary motives might care to make a careful note of this point.

WHAT DO THE RUSSIANS KNOW?

MORE VIEWS FROM BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

We are indebted to Mr. Gordon W. Creighton for the translations in this survey of the latest Soviet views about possible life beyond the Earth.

A. J. P. TAYLOR, writing in the London *Sunday Express* on September 17, 1961, contrasted life under a Western democracy with the conditions obtaining behind the Iron Curtain. His conclusion was that while there was freedom of opinion and expression in England (which there was not in Russia and her satellites) the governments in both countries (and in the U.S.A. as well, for that matter) were becoming equally secretive and reticent when it came to dispensing information upon which a stable public opinion could be formed. What is the real truth about the Berlin crisis? What really are the pros and cons of the Common Market? How serious is our economic situation? The writer declared that we are told remarkably little about those matters that affect us most. In Russia, on the other hand, the citizens are conditioned in a slightly different way. When the newspapers, which speak with one voice, do start to discuss a new subject it is certain that the government has decided to indoctrinate rather than merely to inform. Those who are in a position to judge have decided that Russia wants its people to face the possibility that extra-terrestrial intelligent life exists and that it should be prepared to accept this fact in the not too distant future.

Further examples continue to reach us. For instance, V. Komarov, a prominent Soviet astronomer, contributed a half-page article to the *Krasnaya Zvezda* (*Red Star*) on July 8, 1961. The appearance of this article in such a paper is highly significant for it circulates widely among the officer class in the Soviet armed forces. Komarov ranges over the improved techniques which will shortly enable us to probe into outer space and solve the mysteries of our neighbour planets and the distant stars. His article concludes: "*Present-day science has reached a high level of development. And it will not be at all surprising if, in the near future, we receive most*

interesting evidence concerning other civilisations in the universe." (Our italics.)

V. Davydof, Scientific Secretary of the P. K. Shternberg State Institute of Astronomy, writing in the *Ekonomich Gazeta* (*Economic Gazette*) published in Moscow on August 7, 1961, similarly speculated about life in the universe and asks whether space travellers have already been here, declaring it to be possible even if the chance is slight. He calls for evidence of such visits in the past (flying saucers are, of course, still taboo in Russia and cannot yet be mentioned) and suggests that space-visitors might well have left a memento of themselves in the form of age-old sputniks in orbit round the Earth. He argues that this is how we propose to explore other worlds and continues: "And the idea has even been mooted that maybe it would be worthwhile to search for such a rocket from some other world, flying here in our own solar system." The possible significance of this sentence is obvious. It could well be part of the careful conditioning gradually to break the news to the Russian people that visiting sputniks are, in fact, already in orbit. Our readers are referred to Gordon W. Creighton's "Unidentified Satellites" in the January-February, 1961, issue of the *FLYING SAUCER REVIEW* and they will see that strong evidence exists to support such a conclusion.

There can be no doubt that this indoctrination is beginning to bear fruit. The London *Sunday Express* on October 22 reported the results of an interview with a 15-year-old Moscow schoolgirl, Liudmila Averina, who was questioned by a reporter on the staff of *Komsomolskaya Pravda*. Liudmila had been asked to give their views as to what life twenty years from now would be like. Among her other predictions she is quoted as saying: "I also want to fly to Mars. There must be living creatures there similar to ourselves. And I am determined to fly there." It is

hard to imagine any British child speaking on this subject with such determination and conviction. Would a schoolgirl in the western world even refer to intelligent beings on other planets?

The position in England and in most other countries of the western world is that the possibility of extra-terrestrial life is being almost totally ignored in the press and as a result the subject can hardly be said to exist. We have reason to believe that the Russian campaign of indoctrination has not even been noticed by

those whose job it is to monitor the Soviet newspapers.

A few unheeded voices have been raised to warn of the dangers that a UFO wrongly interpreted might trigger off. Even if this danger were not to materialise, another exists. It would be a tragedy if the free world were to be unprepared for one of the most important discoveries of all time while the Russian people, whom we pity for the tyranny under which they live, should be better fitted to greet the new age which so clearly is just about to dawn.

CLUES FROM A METEORITE

An unknown organism

THE TIMES of London on November 18, 1961, reported that what appeared to be fossilised remains of minute water-living organisms have been found in samples from two well-known carbonaceous meteorites by Dr. George Claus, of New York University, and Professor B. Nagy, of Fordham University, New York. Their conclusions are published in that day's issue of *Nature* with a list of some twelve experts who have been consulted at different stages of their work.

Of five types of "organised structure" which they describe—and in three cases illustrate—four are said to be similar to

known terrestrial species, but not identical. The species they resemble are small single-celled animals — Dinoflagellates or Chrysomonads — which live only in sea or lake water. The fifth is unlike any known terrestrial organism.

The meteorites from which samples were examined were the Orgueil meteorite which fell in southern France in 1864, and the Ivuna meteorite which fell in an arid region of central Africa in 1938. Both remained out of doors for only a few hours after they had fallen. Interest in carbonaceous meteorites as a possible source of evidence of life other than on the earth has increased

greatly in recent years.

The Orgueil meteorite, in particular, has already yielded carbon compounds consistent with a living origin, but not proving it. Professor J. D. Bernal, F.R.S., has pointed out that proof of organic material would seem to imply one or other of two conclusions: either that at some period between two million and 200 million years ago the body from which the meteorite was ejected was a planet capable of supporting life, or that pieces of the earth had been projected into space, and after circling round it for some millions of years had come back again. Either view presents difficulties.

TOO BIG

Tuesday, June 24, 1947, may prove to be one of the most important dates in history. It is the birthday of the oddest and indeed the biggest story that ever troubled news-editors. And troubled is the right word. For most big stories are editors'

delight. But this—this has proved a headache. For the fact is, it has been just a bit too big. . . . Why? Because if it is true it is incredible!

Gerald Heard,

The Riddle of the Flying Saucers, 1950

ANTI-GRAVITY

THE SCIENCE OF ELECTRO-GRAVITICS

by I. A. Van As

There are rumours from both America and Russia that scientists in those countries are far advanced in their studies into the nature of gravity. It has even been suggested that Pontecorvo, who defected from the West to Russia, has indeed demonstrated that the force of gravity can be harnessed to man's use. This article, reprinted from the October 1961 issue of *Practical Mechanics* by kind permission of the publishers, is not only of intrinsic interest but also serves as another indication that our subject is at long last being taken seriously by scientists.

HOW near are we to actual space travel? I doubt, personally, if we will get to Mars with the limited power of our present rockets. Aviation and astronautics, however, stand on the threshold of a wonderful new concept—Electro-Gravitics.

Electro-gravitics is a vertical lift which is not accomplished by means of rocket thrust or propulsion by airscrews and airfoil and is not dependent on any type of atmosphere, air or a vacuum as would be found in outer space. All these methods seek to overcome gravity, but we approach a new era where man no longer seeks to leave our Earth by overcoming gravity, but instead by utilising it to his own advantage.

An anti-gravity machine is not impossible and many countries including Russia are at present investigating this new approach to aviation. Canada has its "Project Magnet" which is the production of an anti-gravity machine using the electro-gravitic principle. Many American aircraft manufacturers are spending millions of dollars on the use of gravity as applied to their industry. A number of universities are also going into the problem, which, incidentally, is not a new one. An actual flying model using this principle was made in England before the war.

Before we go into how electro-gravitics work let us just consider gravitation for a few moments. The theory of gravitation as laid down by Newton in 1687 was accepted even with the discrepancies in the planetary motions which worried scientist and astronomer until this century, when Einstein proposed his new theory of equivalence and relativity. Even the new theories cannot account for gravity-defying irregularities

which are noticed within the atom. Certain electrons are able to leap from one orbit to another, which results in light being emitted. (The gravitational theory applies to all bodies irrespective of their size and to account for this irregularity a new theory by Plank has been devised, called the quantum theory.)

Also liquids do not conform, as is noticed by the flow of water against gravity in capillary tubes. Water will leap to a glass rod held just above it. Helium in liquid form acts even more strangely, as it will climb up the wall of its container and flow down the other side. These have been classed as oddities in molecular arrangement, but above all they do illustrate that gravity is not altogether a force of attraction.

Let us get back to Einstein, who informs us that the attraction between atoms, molecules, planets and even sub-atomic particles is the same as the force of electro-magnetic attraction. Any body, if it be sub-atomic or as large as the greatest star, has a magnetic field.

Einstein predicted and later proved that light when passing close to large bodies, such as our sun, is bent. The stream of electrons in a TV tube is also bent in the same fashion by a magnetic field. Here we see our first glimpse of the relation between electrified bodies and gravity.

Faraday, who found the relationship between magnetism and electricity, gave us the dynamo and electric motor. He also investigated the action of magnetism on light and his experiments proved successful. He then looked for the relationship between gravity and electro-magnetism, but failed to find it. This work was carried on by James Maxwell, who showed the mathematical

relationship between gravity and magnetism and found they obey the same laws. Einstein, in his Unified Field Theory, put forward in 1950, also attempted to unify the laws of gravity and the laws of electro-magnetism. Up to the time of his death, he was perfecting this theory.

Under electro-magnetic forces we must include radio waves, heat, light, ultra violet rays, infra-red rays, X-rays and a host of others. Furthermore, the relationship with gravity *must* hold good for all of these.

Let me now show how all this is connected with our anti-gravity machine. It is well known that if two fields of a magnet which are similar in character, that is to say two south or north poles, are brought face to face the magnets will be repelled. Similarly, two sub-nuclear particles which are the same, repel each other because they have the same electro-magnetic field.

If we can give our machine an electro-magnetic field which is similar in character to the gravitational field of our planet, we will leave this Earth at the possible speed of light. We would then travel along the lines of force of the gravitational field of our planet as well as the lines of the fields of every body in the Universe. Einstein maintains that these fields, which are ever present, have no end and spread out in all directions, intertwine with each other in the most complex fashion, but the strength decreases as the square of the distance from where they originated.

The problem is how do we switch our fields on and off? It has been found that there are sub-atomic particles being generated in the powerful nuclear accelerators which have the capacity to change the orbital motion of electrons and consequently the magnetic field (as will be explained later) of the substance they are bombarding. The exact nature of these rays is not yet fully understood, but they are easily generated; furthermore, it does not take much to change the orbital motion of electrons within the atom. It can be done in any physics laboratory.

Assuming that the reader has a knowledge of the electron theory, I would briefly like to explain how normal magnetism is brought about within the atomic structure by changes rendered in the orbital motion of the electrons.

About our positive nucleus we have the electrons spinning on different energy levels of which there are seven in number known as the K, L, M, N, O, P and Q levels. The electrons not only spin around the nucleus, but also about their own axis. Since our electron is flowing in a definite orbit, it is generating a flow of electric current which would produce a field, as current would which flowed in a wire. The electrons do not rotate in

co-planar orbits, but if they did, each atom would be a minute magnet with a definite north and south pole. It would arrange itself with the neighbouring atoms so that they would align themselves in parallel directions which would give us a magnetic substance with a powerful field around it. This is known not to happen.

There are, however, certain substances which have definite orbits of rotation, but the electrons in the same atom neutralise the magnetic fields of the others because the electron spin on the axis for one electron is in an opposite direction with respect to the spin of an electron on the same energy level.

The element iron, for example, has an atomic number of 26. The electrons in the K, L, M and N shells are 2, 8, 14 and 2 respectively. The K level orbit, which is nearest the nucleus, contains two electrons the axial spin of which is considered to be in opposite directions, hence the magnetic fields of each are neutralised. In the L shell are eight electrons, four spinning in one direction, four spinning in the opposite direction. In the M shell a difference arises. Nine electrons are thought to be spinning in one direction and five in the other. In the N shell the two electrons spin in opposing directions.

Why then does the unbalanced effect in the M shell result in the alignment of all the atoms in the substance and self magnetisation being produced, as was explained for atoms having supposed co-planar orbits? This is due to the thermal disturbances of the atoms and molecules at normal temperatures. It has been found that in ferro-magnetic substances there is a certain amount of alignment of atoms, but it does not result in magnetism because the atoms are aligned in groups within the crystal lattices of the metal and are oriented in six different directions. Each group is strongly magnetic, but is neutralised by the other groups which are oriented in five different directions. This results in the substance being entirely non-magnetic.

The piece of iron is now placed in a magnetic field, such as a current carrying coil. The orientation in one particular direction is increased, which results in a change of direction of all the groups and brings about a powerful magnet. When the current is turned off the groups rearrange themselves and the metal is no longer a magnet. In steel there is a tendency for the groups to remain oriented in one direction after the current is switched off, hence forming a permanent magnet. Heat the metal and the magnetisation is lost due to the thermal agitation of the atoms. A constant change in the external field, as that of an alter-

nating current, will also demagnetise the substance.

I have explained what happens in ferro- and para-magnetic substances; there is a further class of substances which are said to be dia-magnetic, all the non-conductors belong to this group as well as a few metals and alloys. A dia-magnetic substance is one which has a small magnetic susceptibility and is weakly magnetised by a magnetic field in such a way that it moves towards the weakest part of the field and at right angles to the lines of force.

It will now be seen that this type of substance is repelled by the field in which it is placed, hence the field set up in the dia-magnetic substance must be characteristically the same as the field in which it is placed. This type of magnetism is also due to orbital changes in axial moment of the electrons. This phenomenon occurs in all substances to some extent although the effects of ferro-magnetism are greater and so more noticeable. The most dia-magnetic substance known is bismuth.

We can perform with suitable apparatus an experiment to demonstrate dia-magnetism. This experiment is the basis on which an anti-gravity craft would operate and is also the starting point of the investigations on anti-gravity.

Our apparatus is simple. We need a powerful

electro-magnet and a circular aluminium disc. This disc is placed on the solenoid and the current is switched on. A magnetic field is set up and aluminium being strongly dia-magnetic is repelled with considerable force and speed. By shaping the disc so as to obtain an airfoil, amazing results can be obtained.

This then is the principle of our anti-gravity craft. We make our space-ship dia-magnetic and travel along the lines of force of the planets. The machines would be constructed of such metals as aluminium and bismuth. This opens a new field for research to find alloys even more dia-magnetic than bismuth.

We have seen that changes in orbital motion are easily brought about although it might be many years before we see machines utilising this principle in the sky. Perhaps the flying saucers are gravity ships manned by intelligences from space and using the gravitational fields of the universe as their trade-winds. We have yet to establish a really sound theory to relate gravity and electro-magnetism. These problems are the ones that vex the scientists and we must patiently wait for our weightless anti-gravity machines of tomorrow. In spite of the new race to conquer space by rocket power, I am convinced that the exploration of our solar system will not come until we have our anti-gravity space ships.

Sighting reports . . .

ENGLAND, THE U.S.A., SOUTHERN
RHODESIA and AUSTRALIA

. . . in this issue

ANOTHER WORD TO NEWCOMERS

Those Experts

In previous issues we have included a series of articles intended as an introduction to our subject. It has been felt that our subject has now become so complex and with such an array of evidence and opinion, that a reader new to the subject may not be aware of how the story has developed since 1947 when the phrase "flying saucer" first came to be accepted as a means of describing the mystery objects in our skies. We hope that our older readers will understand the reasons for including these explanations to newcomers, and it occurs to us that perhaps they may even help to keep our subject in its proper perspective, for it is surprising how quickly the origins of a subject can be forgotten in the face of more recent events.

NEARLY fifteen years ago, when the subject of flying saucers first broke upon a startled and incredulous world the natural, but not wholly sensible, reaction on the part of the public was to ask: "What do the experts say?" The question should, of course, have been put in its proper form of: "Who are the experts?", but people did not, apparently, have time to reflect that as the subject was as new as anything can be under the sun, there had been no time for the gathering of experts. The public called on false prophets instead of making up their own minds.

The first set of experts who were called upon to pronounce on flying saucers were the astronomers. Although 1950 does not seem very long ago, in the late forties and early fifties, one might almost be living a century back, so rapid has been man's technological advance during these last few years. In those days, the astronomers replied with almost one voice: "Impossible!" The reasons given were diverse, but two were emphasised. First, there was no possibility of any sort of life above the level of a vegetable on any of the planets in our solar system. Secondly, the distances were so great and the hazards so enormous that it was impossible for man—or for anybody else, for that matter—to bridge the gap that yawned between even the Moon and the Earth. Only a very few unrepentant people went on believing in flying saucers, which the experts had condemned to death.

The flying saucers, of course, went on and large numbers of people continued to see them. Therefore, new experts had to be called in and these people testified that human beings suffered from hallucinations. Another set of experts tried

their various hands at explaining the objects away: aeronautical experts, meteorological experts, professors of physics and practically everybody with a degree, with the exception of chartered accountants and veterinary surgeons, had a go. These subsidiary experts, it should be noted, did not get into the act immediately. They followed the astronomers who, with a shake of their skirts, had recoiled from the very suggestion that the saucers could have had anything to do with them. Had the astronomers, or even one or two prominent members of their profession, kept an open mind at the outset we might by now be much nearer the truth. But that was not to be.

Gradually, events on earth took a hand. The distances between the Earth and the nearby planets seemed to shrink. It was possible to reach them—and even to send a man to them and, what is more, to bring him back alive. Then, astronomers began to make discoveries that indicated that these planets were not, perhaps, so inhospitable as was first thought. V. A. Firsoff, for instance, in our July-August, 1961, issue, suggests that life on Venus *might* be rather pleasant and not too much unlike our own. So the second objection, once considered fatal, is beginning to look less formidable.

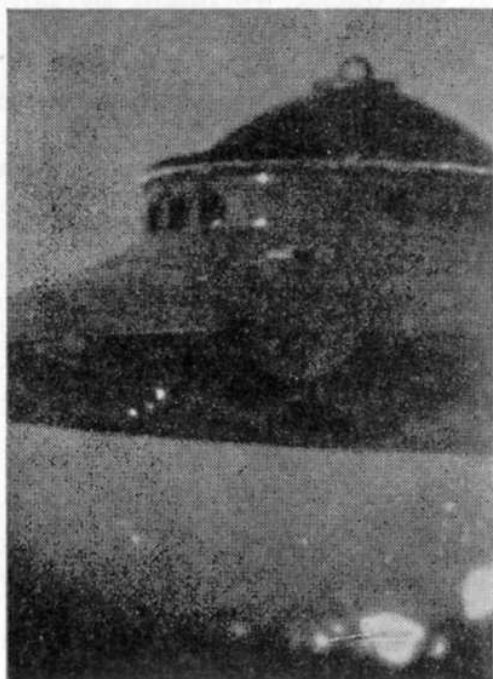
It is as well that the newcomer to the subject should bear all this in mind. The experts' original rejection of the saucers could be justified on what then appeared to many as rational grounds. The faith of the minority was sustained in those dark years by the *facts* of the saucers themselves and the powerful evidence in their favour. The astronomers, therefore, who rejected them for invalid (or no longer valid) reasons should, if they were

intellectually honest, now publicly admit that they could have been mistaken and that the evidence for flying saucers should be re-assessed. But that is not the way of an expert. Once he speaks he is imprisoned by his own pronouncement. It would take near genius to unbend and admit that he might have been wrong. Or should we say that no genius would have been so foolish as to deny a possibility of truth in the phenomenon? Geniuses are rare and it is worth noting that one genius, Einstein, when asked his opinion about the flying saucers, was much too clear-headed to reject them. He answered reporters by saying that the people were certainly seeing what they had claimed to have seen. At a later date he

said that, if they existed, they were coming from other worlds. These words were cautious, but they will never have to be eaten.

The moral is that one should, within reasonable limits, trust the expert on his subject. When a new discovery is in question, however, it is up to new experts and they are naturally hard to find. The newcomer to saucers has this advantage: there is now a whole library of books on the subject and there is no need to look to the astronomers for guidance any more. In any case, the people to ask will soon be the astronauts. Astronomy, in so far as it dealt with conditions on other planets, had never been anything more than a highly speculative study.

PHOTOGRAPHS



The following photographs are available in half-plate size at 1s. 6d. each (post free). Complete set of 10 for 15s. (post free).

1. Venusian scout ship photographed by G. Adamski, December 13, 1952.
2. Venusian scout ship rising, showing underside details. Photographed by G. Adamski, December 13, 1952.
3. Flying saucer over New York. Photographed by August Roberts on July 28, 1952.
4. Mother ship releasing scout craft. One scout has begun to leave.
5. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Two scouts have taken off.
6. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Five scouts have left the ship.
7. Mother ship releasing scout craft. Six scouts are now to be seen.
8. Giant carrier ship photographed at 7.58 a.m., May 1, 1952, by G. Adamski.
9. Submarine type space ship, photographed March 9, 1951, by G. Adamski.
10. Space ships photographed near the moon, May 16, 1951, by G. Adamski.

When ordering please give numbers of photographs. Send order with remittance to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, 1 Doughty Street, London, W.C.1, England.

World round-up

of news
and comment
about recent
sightings

ENGLAND:

Obstinate witness

A commentator in the *Staffordshire Advertiser* on October 5 wrote as follows:

"What, I wonder, was the small silvery object moving steadily across the sky over Stafford at 7.5 p.m. on Tuesday last week (September 26)?

"It was visible only for a few seconds travelling from the south in a north-westerly direction, and although there was little cloud in the immediate area, it vanished into the blue.

"With dusk something like thirty minutes away, it appeared to glint from the sun's rays.

"Immediately I drew the attention of a friend who picked it out without hesitation and confidently asserted that it was not a plane.

"I am equally certain it wasn't a flying saucer, but would accept the view that it was not an aircraft.

"Well, there you are. Are there any astronauts in the house to shed light on the matter?"

This is not in itself a remarkable sighting, but we quote it as an example of the working of indoctrination or brain-washing. Being a sensible man, the commentator knows that there are no such things as flying saucers—he has been told so by "experts" and doesn't want to be laughed at. The object, we are informed, wasn't a plane, but he was "equally certain" that it wasn't

a flying saucer. Why? No astronauts can shed light on the matter. The commentator's problem is one of inner and not outer space.

Moon race lost?

General Don Flickinger, 48, and other distinguished scientists, reports the *London Evening Standard* on October 2, 1961, consider that the Russians have as good as won the race to be the first to put a man on the Moon. American experts, said Flickinger, have been amazed by some of the advanced systems used in the Gagarin and Titov space flights which were several years ahead of anything in the West.

Flickinger concluded his remarks by advising that the American public should be told the true situation "to avoid its morale being shattered when the Russians reached the Moon first."

This pessimistic note is yet another example of the closed mind. Both Flickinger and the scientists who made this prophecy seem to have ignored the possibility that neither the Russians nor the Americans may prove to be the first on the Moon. What would happen to morale—Russian and American—if *that* news were suddenly to break upon a startled world?

Reading:

Metal ball from sky

The *Reading Mercury* on Sep-

tember reported:

"Yet another 'strange object in the sky' has turned up for Reading's boffins to puzzle over. It was reported by Mr. Arthur Frankenburg, of 3 Landrake Crescent, Reading, who saw a flash of light and heard an explosion above his house on Saturday evening. (September 2.)

"But this time it can't be dismissed as pure fancy, or hallucination. For in the roadway outside his house he discovered a piece of light metal 'larger than a football.'

"'Suddenly in the sky,' said Mr. Frankenburg, relating his story, I saw a bright light like a firework and heard a noise like a very big explosion. I ran to the front and saw this object in the road. I was afraid to touch it, so I went to a neighbour and told him about it.

"Next morning my son notified the police, who took it away to see what they could make of it.' Sixty-two-years-old Mr. Frankenburg now hopes to keep the metal as a souvenir. 'I have been told that if it is not claimed within three months, then I can keep it!'"

Look who's talking!

The *London Daily Telegraph* and a number of other papers reported on November 9, 1961, that Sir Bernard Lovell, director of the radio-astronomy experimental station at Jodrell Bank, warned that if a molecular system amenable to life on Mars and

Venus really existed "it is of the utmost importance that the experiments made and the space probes sent up should be conducted in an internationally agreed manner." It was now known, he continued, that there were trillions of planetary systems scattered throughout the cosmos. The fundamental molecules of life forms had been identified on some meteorites which came from the depths of the planetary systems.

Sir Bernard, who was speaking to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain, remarked that Russia and America had, or would have within months or a year, facilities to investigate the planetary atmospheres and surfaces, particularly Mars and Venus, to find whether any pre-biotic organisms or molecules existed. American laboratories certainly had the apparatus.

In other words, astronomers who talked with certainty about what conditions on other planets were like were as much in the dark as the rest of us. Those who base their objections to the contact stories on the absence of life on Mars and Venus may soon find this part of their argument has collapsed.

Blaze and blast

The London *Evening Standard* on November 8, 1961, reported that Hertfordshire police were probing the mystery of an explosion in the sky. At about 9 p.m. on the evening of November 7 police stations in Hertford and Hatfield received calls that a burning object was passing overhead. A second report said that it had exploded near Hertford. Police patrols searched the area without success and the mystery remains unsolved.

Life under the Moon?

The London *Times* on October 31 reported that Russian astronomers had confirmed the existence of planets outside the solar system. Quoting the Tass news agency, *The Times* stated that the confirmation had come from the discovery of a satellite, prob-

ably in the category of heavy planets, which is rotating around the double star 61 in the constellation of Cygnus. The discovery made by the Pulkovo observatory made it possible to speak of the probability of life beyond the solar system.

Professor Alexander Deutch, of the Pulkovo observatory had already suggested the probability of life existing under the Moon. The temperature, he said, was more constant in the Moon's interior, and "I believe that gases may exist there, providing a medium for the development of plants and animal organisms."

Kent visitors

On November 1, 1961, at 3.40 a.m. an object was seen hovering to the west of Tonbridge by Mr. and Mrs. Holman. It faded from view at about the time Mrs. Jenner, of Hadlow, saw something pass by in the sky, coming from the direction of Tonbridge. Two other witnesses also confirm the presence of an unusual red glow in the sky at the time. To Mr. and Mrs. Holman it appeared as a round object, twice the apparent size of the Moon, and its bright light pulsed steadily. The outline was red, the centre white and bright enough to shine through a layer of thin cloud. It was observed for between five and ten minutes. To Mrs. Jenner it appeared to be a red half-moon, followed closely by another glowing area which she described as a "reflection."

(Credit to Mr. J. A. D. Wedd.)

WALES:

Mystery object over bay

A mystery object, resembling a space-ship, was reported to have been seen over Swansea bay by the *Herald of Wales* in its issue of November 25, 1961. The object was seen by Alan Williams, of Hazel Road, Uplands, who told his headmaster. He, in turn, reported the matter to the police. The object was described as luminous and sausage-shaped, with a circular dome on top, two

glass cowls fore and aft, and flames issuing from the rear. It was said to be travelling from the direction of Mumbles towards Port Talbot.

(Credit to Mr. J. Gwynne-Evans.)

U.S.A.

Life on Mars?

The *Montreal Gazette* on October 10 carried the following report from Washington:

"A research chemist said the canals of Mars are so like a man-made rail network and so unlike ordinary geological cracks they raise the possibility the planet may be inhabited.

The chemist, Wells Alan Webb, of Berkeley, California, said that because the canals raise the possibility of a prior civilisation, any attempt to send manned expeditions to Mars should be preceded by unmanned probes that could provoke a reaction and detect any form of intelligent life that may exist."

Over Lake Utah

The *Oakland Tribune* for October 3, 1961, reported as follows:

"A veteran civilian pilot reported an unidentified flying object south of here today and seven people on the ground at an airport confirmed the sighting.

"Waldo J. Harris, of Salt Lake City, said he first spotted the disc-shaped object when he was taking off in a light plane from the Utah Central Airport.

"I first thought it was an airplane. But when I got airborne, I noticed that it was still in the same spot and had no wings or tail." Harris said it was grey in colour, like dull aluminium. "But when it turned toward the sun, it shone brilliantly with good reflective quality."

"An Air Force security officer from Hill Air Force Base took statements from Harris and seven others who watched the object from the airport. One of these, mechanic Robert G. Butler, said he watched the object for about

ten minutes through field glasses. "I know it wasn't a weather balloon because of the way it moved," he said.

"All the witnesses said the object was seen about 1 p.m. and seemed to be hovering over Utah Lake, about forty miles south of here. Harris estimated that he got within three to five miles of it. I've flown enough to be able to recognise and identify almost any aircraft from that distance. This was no airplane."

"The Federal Aviation Agency said its radar scopes did not pick up anything that could have been the object."

"Harris, an insurance man, said he definitely believed that the object was being controlled. He said when it disappeared, 'it moved straight up, off to the south and up and off to the west.' He said the object vanished within one or two seconds. He estimated that he had visual contact for five to seven minutes. Harris has been flying light planes since 1946."

"He said it moved so effortlessly with such speed 'that it couldn't have been anything powered by any engine now known.'"

(Credit to Mr. James D. Wardle.)

RUSSIA:

Anti-gravity discovered?

A number of South African newspapers, quoting London, England, sources reported that Bruno Pontecorvo, the renegade British scientist, is heading a research programme aimed at giving Russia the golden key to controlling gravity. If successful, the reports added, life as we know it would be turned upside down. Although Professor Hermann Bondi, of King's College, London, one of the leading experts on gravitational forces dismissed the possibility as being as expensive "as the idea of making gold in an atom crusher" and stated his preference for the old-fashioned rocket for inter-planetary travel, the reports added that the discovery, if true, would mark the era of the flying saucer. So they do exist, then, after all. Or isn't

that what the newspapers meant to imply?

SOUTHERN RHODESIA:

Fiery object

The following report is taken from the Bulawayo *Sunday News* of September 17, 1960 (kindly supplied by Mr. Philipp J. Human):

"Many people in the south of the Colony yesterday saw a 'fiery object' sweep across the sky in a north-easterly direction just after dawn—then disappear with a flash and a loud explosion."

"A Goetz Observatory official said later that, from the description the object appeared to have been a bolide—a lump of rock from outer space. Observers in the Bulawayo district described it as a bright object trailing a fiery tail. Mrs. R. J. Dando, of Redbank Farm on the Nyamandhlovu Road, saw it at 5.30 a.m. as she stepped outside her kitchen door on her way to the dairy. 'I thought at first that it was a huge star. But it was moving too fast,' she said. 'It looked the size of a tennis ball, and left a trail of fiery streaks—like a Guy Fawkes rocket.' She watched it for about ten seconds."

"As she walked across to the dairy it disappeared, while still almost overhead. 'Then there was an awful explosion,' she said. 'It seemed very close.' All the Africans milking the cows in the dairy saw it, too. They stopped work to watch it, and when the flash and explosion followed its disappearance, some of them shouted to the Nyasa men among them: 'There's Dr. Danda. He's coming for you!'"

"Inyati police telephoned local people, including the Native Department, for further information. From there observers said they had seen the object seemingly lose height before the flash and the explosion. Reports said that 'the very earth seemed to tremble and the noise was like that of thunder.'"

"Mr. D. J. Delport, of Gladstone Road, Bellevue, said he saw

the object as he was picking up the newspaper outside his door. 'A blue flame with lots of sparks but no solid form, it headed towards Kumalo. It made no noise, but lit up the back door. The newspaper boy saw it, too,' he said. Several other Balawayo people telephoned in to describe the object as being rocket-shaped, 40 feet long, bright orange changing to blue, seen directly over Jameson Street, and losing height in a north-easterly direction; 'cigar-shaped, vividly bright, silent; and 'certainly like a vessel from outer space.' From Plumtree came reports of a 'mysterious object' travelling a west-to-east course over Stock's Halt. The 'ball of fire burst into flames with a terrific explosion.' Among the early risers who confirmed reports of the object was the officer in charge of the Goetz Observatory, Mr. C. Archer. He did not actually see it but, while getting ready to go on duty, was startled by 'a flash—which illuminated the room—followed by a rumble.' From its description he thought the object was a meteor known as a bolide—a bit of rock from outer space—and that it must have been fairly close for the explosion to have been so loud."

AUSTRALIA:

What the corporal saw

The Melbourne *Sun* on September 9, 1961, reported that Royal Australian Air Force service policeman Corporal John W. Smith reported that he saw a flying flat disc hover for about five minutes over Radar Hill, Laverton air base at 10 p.m. the previous evening. The disc, he said, gave off a dull amber light and was spinning all the time. It went slowly straight up, taking about a minute and a half until it was out of sight."

The disc came back spinning a little more quickly and hovered in the same position for a few seconds before going straight up again. Corporal Smith gave this description of the incident: "It was the queerest sensation seeing it hovering and spinning there."

I've heard about flying objects, read about them and never believed in them. But now I do. I saw it. It was clearly distinguish-

able." The disc was also seen, he said, by Aircraftsman Malcolm Stirling. (Credit to our reader, Mr. David A. Carpmael.)

Seeing is believing, the old saying has it. Being believed is another matter, as Corporal John W. Smith will now discover.

THE "OUTSIDER" AND SCIENTIFIC RESISTANCE

THE TIMES (London) on October 13 reported, with approval, that the American sociologist, Professor B. Barber, of Columbia University, New York, had been invited to lecture to the American Association for the Advancement of Science on the "resistance by scientists to scientific discovery." The lecture has recently been published and it goes far to confirm the public's belief that authority—real or imagined—is reluctant to give a fair hearing to new ideas.

A number of instances from the past are quoted, and they took a number of forms. "Mistrust of mathematics," *The Times* remarks, "and over-insistence on mathematics have both been examples. Mendel suffered from the first; Faraday's ideas on electromagnetism from the second." Another instance quoted was the occasion when Lord Rayleigh had a paper rejected by a learned journal when his name had become detached from it and accepted immediately when the authorship was known. Other pioneers who had to suffer dis-

couragement and whose discoveries were thereby retarded included Thomas Young (the wave theory of light), and Pasteur who recognised that fermentation was a biological process while the establishment fought to maintain that it was chemical. (A modern example of a vested interest at work is Dr. Menzel with his series of rationalisations employed to destroy a profound mystery.)

The purpose of the lecture would appear to be to put the present race of scientists on their guard against obstinacy and reaction by citing the mistakes of the past. But it is easy to decry the obscurantists of an earlier age, but not so easy to point to the culprits of today. It is not so easy because in the first place it requires a degree of courage which few professors possess (had they any courage they might not have become professors). Secondly, it is difficult to recognise the new discovery before it has become acceptable not simply by proof but also by re-iteration and acceptance.

Professor Barber's lecture could have been made the more vivid had he cited some modern heresies which the pundits refuse to consider but which may grow up to be important discoveries. He would have found a rich quarry in medicine and a supreme example in flying saucers. However, perhaps he felt it safer to delve into the past and so range himself on the side of the angels instead of finding himself in raffish company.

Perhaps the strangest aspect of this article is that it should have appeared in *The Times*, a newspaper so dedicated to respectability and the accepted order of things that the researcher into the development of the discovery that we are not alone in the universe will find hardly a reference to it in that newspaper during the last twelve years. For *The Times* the subject does not exist. Dr. Menzel did at least come out and fight, but, when the wind blew cold in Printing House Square, *The Times* pulled the blanket over its head and went soundly to sleep.

THE CREDULITY OF THE SCEPTIC

Obsessed with the notion of his own omniscience, it enrages him to be confronted by phenomena that do not agree with this conviction. Finding in his limited armoury no explanation that satisfies him, he chooses to doubt anyone rather than himself, and rejects the most obvious facts in order to

avoid putting his faith to the test. The mistaken pride and anthropocentrism that supposedly went out with Copernicus and Galileo make him a peril to science, as history abundantly proves.

General L. M. Chassin.

MAIL BAG

Science and saucers

Sir,—Years ago, when space craft were within the province of science fiction, there might have been slender justification for imagining that extra-terrestrial objects and beings were remotely connected with supernatural phenomena, or with a spiritual plane of existence. Nowadays, with the immense accumulation of tangible evidence from widely scattered parts of the globe, it is manifestly absurd to associate these phenomena with notions of spiritualism. As the best writers have said, these beings must come from some other worlds in the universe; scientists tell us that life on Mars (and probably on Venus) is unlikely; moreover, the tendency of these space craft to come in batches, every so many years, leads one to the conclusion that they probably come from planets revolving around one or more *other* suns, but not very far from our own system. For these reasons, I feel constrained to express disbelief in anything but purely scientific explanations; in my humble opinion, it would enhance the value and prestige of your REVIEW if you were to limit yourself to articles of a solid scientific background which avoid touching on matters that have hitherto brought discredit to the flying saucer controversy. For one of the main accusations that are flung at those who believe in the existence of the saucers, is that we dabble in occultism and play at telepathy, and are, hence, unreliable when evaluating physical, concrete phenomena.

Whilst not wishing to discredit such writers as Adamski, Allingham, Bethurum, Gibbons and others, all of whom are entitled to their personal views, one feels that some of their writings savour too much of the imagination: one might perhaps call it wishful-

dreaming. And this *atmosphere* of unreality in their books is responsible for the antagonism of the many sceptics who will have no part of this sort of thing. It is therefore with relief that we heard of the publication of the two books by Aimé Michel, for as a scientist Michel brings the whole matter into focus as a purely scientific problem, and nothing else.

The evidence to date contains stories wherein the saucer pilots have (a) evaded humans by re-entering their craft and flying away, (b) approached humans in an inoffensive manner and then departed, (c) clung to humans in an attempt to drag them into their craft (at least twice, in Venezuela and in Sweden), (d) approached humans in a terrifying manner (cf. the nine-foot tall beings sighted at Flat Woods in West Virginia, and at Tampa in Florida). The twin facts of (1) the differing sizes of the beings (3.5 feet, 5.5 feet, and 9.5 feet tall), and (2) their differing attitudes to humans, could be pregnant with meaning. It has also been noticed that certain saucers have blinking coloured lights around their periphery, while others do not. I venture to suggest that different types of craft may contain different types of pilots, and may even originate from different planets. Speculation, to be sure; but it was by speculation that Lt. Plantier arrived at his propulsion theory.

The whole problem of flying saucers can acquire a clearer perspective if we turn it upside

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

down: supposing we had advanced to the scientific level of the saucer-people, and were visiting a planet inhabited by creatures who were no more advanced than we are today, how would we act towards them, and what form would our explorations take?—M.E., Dunedin, N.W.I., New Zealand. (Name and address supplied.)

(Our correspondent's views are representative of those of a large number of our readers, but, in fairness, it must be mentioned that there is another section which takes a more "advanced" attitude towards the mystery. Our policy has always been to give a fair hearing to both sides. The writer of this letter, however, must be challenged when he uses the phrase "play at telepathy." Not very long ago telepathy was held in some contempt but is now the subject of respectable scientific study. Nor do all scientists now tell us that Mars and Venus could not support life. Events are moving faster than our correspondent realises.—Editor.)

Space and time

Sir,—Einstein predicted in his first relativity paper (*Ann der Physic* 1905 891): "If there are two synchronised clocks at A and if one of these is moved along a closed curve with constant velocity V until it returns to A, which we suppose to take t secs., then the latter clock on arriving at A will have lost

$$\frac{1}{2}t \left(\frac{V}{V} \right)^2 \text{ sec.}$$

by comparison with the clock which has remained stationary. (V =the velocity of light)."

This experiment has been confirmed by J. J. Hay (Phys. Rev. Letter 4, 1960 165).

Similarly, if a space traveller sets out with uniform velocity V and returns at the same speed after a time $2T$ by terrestrial clocks, the time which will have elapsed for him will be

$$2T \sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{C^2}}$$

where C =velocity of light.

Again, the clock or traveller need not travel to slow down this "ageing" process. Experiments have shown that vibrating nuclei slow down the ageing process (Mossbauer Effect—B.D. Josephs—Phys. Review, Letter 4, 1960 341). Consequently, if all the nuclei of a material vibrate near the speed of light, this material will age or "dure" at a slower rate than its surroundings. Now the force of gravity acting on any body is exactly proportional to its mass (or inertia), and if two bodies of mass m and M and distance v attract each other the force of attraction will be

$$\gamma \times \frac{m \times M}{v^2}$$

(γ =constant of gravity), but it can be shown that the mass (M) of a substance is proportional to the velocity of vibration of its atoms (t).

\therefore if F_1 is the force of attraction between masses m_1 and M_1 at distance v and rate of vibration of atoms t_1 and if F_2 is the force of attraction between masses m_2 and M_2 at distance v and rate of atomic vibration t_2 , then

$$\gamma \times \frac{m_1 \times M_1}{v^2}$$

can be shown to be greater than

$$\gamma \times \frac{M_1 \times M_2}{v^2}$$

with atomic vibration t_2 and \therefore it can be shown that the gravity constant γ_a (the speed of velocity of atoms).

It therefore appears that there is a definite relationship between gravitational energy of bodies,

the rate of velocity of vibration of their atoms and their rate of ageing.

From this relationship it can be deduced that masses of equal ageing rate are attracted together, the rate of attraction being proportional to the rate of vibration of their atoms. This relationship has important practical consequences—for increasing the rate of vibration if the nuclei of a mass will change its physical constants with resulting reduction in the force of attraction by masses of normal gravitation.

There are various methods available today to vibrate the nuclei of a material.

By employing magnetic resonance methods on radioactive materials—these substances can be made to vibrate near the speed of light, thereby producing a marked slowing down of ageing with a consequent reduction in its gravitational energy.—Dr. B. E. Finch, London, N.W.

Contact key

Sir,—I have noted with considerable interest your recent attempts to revive the subject of contact claims with extra-terrestrial beings. The subject of flying saucers is quite "ordinary" amongst most of my friends and is no longer treated with ridicule—at least they remain respectable as long as they are regarded as airborne objects. As soon as discussion leads to their occupants and their attempts to land and make contact, the old attitude of ridicule returns. So many people accept the reality of saucers but reject the idea that they are intelligently manned. How can anyone accept one part of the mystery without accepting the other side? This is the point which baffles me.

Having made this comment, I would now like to refer to a particular aspect of the subject of the contact claims. In an old issue of the REVIEW (March-April, 1956) there is an article by Desmond Leslie describing how a Mexican taxi-driver met a flying saucer crew. In his account, Mr. Leslie makes special mention of what he called the "key." It is obvious that the nature of this "key"

must remain a closely guarded secret if it is to be of any value as a guarantee of the truth of a contact claim. I have never seen any other reference to it, before or since, and am wondering whether you have. It would be interesting to know how many contact claims have been verified by this means.—R.K. Proctor, 3 Iona Road, Maidstone, Kent.

Binding forces

Sir,—In an article on binding forces in the March-April, 1961, issue it was stated that through a contact claim we were informed that atomic bombs when exploded on this planet created two regions of reduced binding and it was not safe for our aircraft to fly through them. The Russians have resumed their nuclear tests, the first of which was exploded at the beginning of October, 1961. The following day there was a major air crash and there have been a great many more, some of which have also followed bomb testing. If explanations cannot be found for all these disasters, then surely here is a reason for believing the claim. When the Russians stopped their tests, the crashes also stopped, which is another point to consider. — Clive Mountford, Boverton, Llantwit Major, Glamorgan, South Wales.

Astronomers and Adamski

Sir,—Adamski has at various times argued that every planet in the solar system is inhabited. He has even elaborated his astounding thesis by claiming to have flown with people from Saturn.

Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are spoken of as the major planets, or the giant planets; it is believed that the same basic model holds true for all four of them. Two models, with modifications and compromises, are offered by astronomers to account for the observed features of the group. The more interesting model, the one proposed by Wildt, suggests that each of these worlds is a huge mass of rocky material, overlain by a giant ocean of ice, this in turn being overlain by a huge sea of hydrogen, with an outer

layer of other gases visible to our telescopes. A more recent theory, supported by Ramsey, holds that each of the giant planets is simply an enormous sphere of hydrogen, becoming metallic towards the centre because of the pressure exerted. Although nothing in astronomy is certain, spectroscopic studies leave little doubt that one of these two models is correct. Why it should be necessary to sit down and refute Adamski's unbelievable fantasy baffles me completely. —Wade Wellman, Box 744, Chapel Hill, N.C., U.S.A.

(A large number of scientists were similarly baffled when they were asked, a mere ten years ago, to sit down and refute the existence of flying saucers. Mr. Wellman might well pause and reflect that the spectroscope is no longer accepted as infallible and space-flight is already proving that many astronomers' assumptions have been incorrect. We do not believe that astronomers *know* very much about conditions on other planets and even theories about the Moon are unsettled.—Editor.)

The Moon's ghostly sister

Sir,—Whilst looking through the *New Scientist* dated September 21 I came across, in the feature "Trends and Discoveries," the following paragraph: "A second natural satellite of the Earth has been discovered by K. Kordylewski, of the Cracow Observatory, according to a recent report (*Scientific American*, Vol. 205, No. 2, page 71). It consists of two cloud-like objects in the same orbit as the Moon but

travelling 60 degrees behind it. In the 18th century, the French mathematician J. L. Lagrange calculated that there should be two positions of stable gravitational equilibrium in a system containing one massive body rotating about another. They lie 60 degrees respectively ahead of and behind the revolving body, in its orbit. That these positions actually exist was first verified in 1904 when one of the Trojan Asteriods was found in the Sun-Jupiter system. Conditions will be favourable this month for observing the second position, ahead of the Moon."

I hope this paragraph will prove of interest to your readers and I wonder whether any of them have been fortunate enough to see the Moon's ghostly sister. —H. Bunting, Grad.I.E.E., President, Direct Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena, 34 Bowerfield Avenue, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire.

The Eagle River Incident

Sir,—I notice the REVIEW is attracting more authoritative and substantial writers and, while it would certainly be a mistake for FSR to become overly technical, it is gratifying to find specific saucer problems at last subjected to well-informed, scientific attack. I deeply appreciate the hard work that has gone into achieving these results.

Eagle River, Wisconsin, is only about 200 miles from here, and the sightings there (see July-August, 1961, issue) evoked considerable local interest. A local station, KSTP, produced a tape and film report, entitled "The

Visitors" (forty minutes on radio, thirty minutes on TV), consisting mainly of interviews with those involved. As you know, the Air Force was very co-operative, and their UFO consultant, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, said there was nothing in the story of the witness, Joe Simonton, to indicate he was not telling the truth.

But, of course, *there was*. Joe Simonton said he could not describe the saucer-man's footwear as the hatchway in which the saucer-man stood did not come down quite to the floor, and his lower legs were hidden. But after Joe returned the water-vessel, he stood close enough to the hatchway to actually touch the saucer, according to his story, and could not have failed to see the saucer-man's footgear when the saucer-man moved away from the entrance into the interior to get him the pancakes. So at least the "contact" part of the story seems to be a hoax.

From the testimony of other witnesses, a saucer of the type described by Joe Simonton undoubtedly *was* operating in the area, possibly to investigate natural conditions which led to several air crashes in the vicinity. (See Wilbert B. Smith's "Binding Forces" in March-April, 1961, issue.) It is possible Joe Simonton saw this saucer—may even have witnessed a landing—and manufactured the "saucer-men" and pancakes in a mistaken attempt to lend credibility to his story. His wife was away, and he did not report until three days after the incident allegedly took place on April 18, 1961.—E. R. Lee, 3129 Oakland Avenue, Minneapolis 7, Minnesota, U.S.A.

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"Knowledge comes but wisdom lingers"

THE 1961-62 edition (the 70th) of *Pears' Cyclopaedia*, under the heading of "Flying Saucers," has the following entry about our subject in its General Information section: "The name given to certain saucer-like shapes which have on occasion been seen travelling through the atmosphere. For some time speculation was rife, especially in America, but it has now been established that when not hallucinations, meteorological or cosmic-ray balloons, they are nothing more than atmospheric phenomena like mirages or mock suns caused by unusual atmospheric conditions. Described by Dr. Menzel, astrophysics professor at Harvard: 'as real as rainbows are real'."

Established is the operative word. Established by whom? The word "saucer" was used first in 1878 to describe the phenomenon when there were no such balloons, at least. Mirages are reflections only of actual objects, often reversed. We offer no prizes for a complete list of misconceptions, misreadings and downright errors in the above entry taken from this old-established *Cyclopaedia*. But those of our readers who care to spot and list them might also like to point them out to *Pears' Cyclopaedia*. It is published by Pelham Books Ltd., of 26 Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

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