

landed instead of just swanning about?"

He bubbled his reply: "But they probably have. Many, many years ago. We ourselves may have landed from outer space."

This theory does at least fill in the inadequacies of the story of Adam and Eve.

I asked Trench what his first question would be if he met a landing party from another planet.

He said: "*Where did you come from?*" He said his second question would be: "*What are your intentions?*"

And his third question: "*Would you like a cup of tea?*"

Presuming the visitors could speak English—and a civilisation sophisticated enough to land on Earth assuredly *would*—what, I asked, would *they* say?

First: "*We are from Planet X in Galaxy Y.*"

Second: "*Don't be afraid of us.*"

Third: "*And we'd love a cup of tea.*"

I am reminded of the space visitors who landed beside a country garage, went up to the first petrol pump and said: "Pull your finger out of your ear and take us to your leader."

Trench, I ought to say, is more serious than that. His book examines in scientific and photographic detail all the hearsay about flying saucers. Well done; but I still can't think why they don't land and dispel all this gnawing doubt.

* *The Flying Saucer Story*, Neville Spearman, 25s.