



# VIRANUS

SPACE TRAVEL  
FLYING SAUCERS

EDITOR: E. BIDDLE.

Vol. 2 No. 1

July, 1955.

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THIS AND THAT ... by the Editor

My invitation to French-speaking readers to ask for a sample copy of Le Courrier Interplanétaire (the new Swiss fortnightly F.S. review) has been singularly unfruitful: not one request has been received! I am sorry of this, because the Courrier certainly offers good value for money. There is still time to get a copy but if you are interested, please note that the Agent for this country is Mr. Ian K. Ellis of 33 Hurst Grove, BEDFORD. He will, I know, be very pleased to hear from any of our readers.

.....

I have recently seen the first two issues of the bi-monthly Flying Saucer Review, published by Flying Saucer Service Ltd., 1 Doughty Street, London, W.C.1. This very attractively printed and illustrated review contains news of sightings, short paragraphs of interest and informative articles. The annual subscription of 21/- (or foreign equivalent) may seem rather high but I think those who are really interested in the subject will consider it money well spent. Incidentally, the subscription includes the use of the magazine's Research Service. If you are interested, please contact F.S. Service Ltd. direct, mentioning "Uranus".

.....

The letter from my Peruvian correspondent, Señor de la Jara, in this issue will interest readers, particularly because of what he says about Adamski's second book. It is clear now that I had a mistaken impression regarding the contents of this book, that in it Adamski does not claim to have been to other planets and that my comments made under this erroneous impression were not justified. Whatever my general views on Adamski's claims may or may not be, I would not intentionally misrepresent him (or anyone else) and I take this opportunity of expressing my sincere regret that this should have occurred.

.....

I feel confident that Mr. Arundel's long letter will prove interesting. I have written to this gentleman at some length but much as I should like to expand here on many of his thought-provoking points, I had better content myself with two observations. Firstly, it is perhaps possible that the visitors from Venus and/or Mars are not natives of those planets but human-like beings from some other solar system who have established bases on Venus, Mars and the Moon, such bases consisting maybe of closed domes containing a suitable artificial atmosphere and kept at a controlled temperature. A claim on their part to have come here from Venus or Mars would thus be true. Secondly, it seems reasonable to assume that the F.S. are "manned" by various races of beings and do not all come from the same place. The reason for the (relatively) rare attempts at contact may be that certain of the Saucerians differ widely from ourselves and that they communicate among themselves by means totally alien to us (cf. ants). Or their mental processes may be altogether different from ours. Or they may not be "material" at all in our sense... we could go on speculating for long enough (and in the end probably be nowhere near the truth!) Still, there is nothing wrong with a little healthy speculation provided it is recognised for what it is and not mistaken for fact!

.....

Suppose YOU were alone in some quiet country spot miles from anywhere and a Saucer hove in sight and landed near to you. Imagine a being - of more or less human design, though maybe smaller or larger than ourselves - emerging from it (perhaps in a space suit) and proceeding towards you. What would you do? And can you think of anything that would help to substantiate your story when you told it to an unbelieving world?

Think it over and let us have your effort in an article of from 450-750 words. A year's free subscription to URANUS goes to the writer of the best essay. I hope to persuade Messrs. Harold Chibbett and C.A.Heathcote (both well-known to our readers) to act as judges. The winning entry (and possibly others) will be published in our pages.

Closing date: end of October, which gives time for our American and other Overseas friends to take part. Please send your entries to me.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Egerton Sykes (Markham House Press) suggested something on these lines to me last Summer but I felt it might be wiser to wait a bit until the circulation of URANUS had increased. I think the time is now ripe for the experiment. I hope that from the entries some valuable suggestions may emerge, because, when all is said and done, it is a serious problem which merits careful thought. So do please help us.

### THE DISC-BEINGS AGAIN

Readers will recollect the translation of M. René Fouéré's article "F.S. or ... Disc-Beings", which we published in No. 4. This aroused so much interest that with M. Fouéré's approval, I am now publishing the foot-notes to the original French version, which were omitted from my translation.

(1) - Although published now (i.e. Summer 1954) for the first time, the article was written on 22nd November 1953 and was read at a meeting on 15th December.

(2) - After having prepared the present study, we found, in an article by M. Pierre Devaux, the following text which agrees remarkably with our own impressions when reading of certain Saucer sightings: "The 'cinematic' behaviour of the objects is a curious alternation of manoeuvres which are 'human', or at least comprehensible to observers, and of bizarre movements which recall the antics of a puppy or the aimless wanderings of an infusorian in a drop of water."

(3) - (In the article as originally written, M. Fouéré said that so far as he knew his hypothesis (of "space-animals") had not previously been published by anyone else.) In the foot-note he says:

When, in November 1953, we were preparing our article, we had never come across, either in what we had read on F.S. or in any other writings, the least mention of a hypothesis similar to that which we were in course

of presenting. Nor did this hypothesis appear any less novel to the journalists of "Le Figaro" and "Combat", who saw our manuscript, than it did to us. But hardly had we sent our original manuscript to the Editor of "Paris-Montparnasse" for publication than we were advised that in a book of anticipations ("Escalaes dans l'Infini") there was included a novel by Raymond Z. Gallun "The Beast of the Void", constructed on the same hypothesis that we had independently formulated.

We certainly could not have been inspired by that novel in its French translation, since "Escalaes de l'Infini" was printed in March 1954, whereas our article dates back to November 1953. But this novel, now translated into French, appeared under its English title back in 1936. We only learned of its existence through the French book. The coincidence is none the less curious.

It is true, as the French introducer of the novel says, that "people were not yet talking of Flying Saucers at the time Raymond Z. Gallun wrote his story. But", adds this same introducer (thereby formulating exactly and independently our hypothesis) "this would be a fine solution of the problem : Living Saucers."

Raymond Z. Gallun, as you can easily check by reading his novel, was engaged on fiction pure and simple and, unlike ourselves, was not concerned with finding an explanation at once audacious and logical (or, if you prefer it, scientific) to fit facts of a topical and controversial nature. It is all the more remarkable on this account that his reflections sometimes coincide almost word for word with ours: "Nature", he says, "has almost been ahead of Man's inventive resources... Nature made birds before men made aeroplanes. And there were fish before there were submarines. Things being thus, could not Nature have evolved a creature which could fly in interplanetary space, long preceding Man in the ambitious aim to which he is now aspiring?" And elsewhere he makes his hero say, about the Beast of the Void (which he imagines in the form of a disc!) "Or it may be that its species does not inhabit any planet but wanders in space, like interplanetary nomads." This term "Interplanetary Nomads" singularly recalls "Wanderers of Space", the term spontaneously used by us.

We might have said nothing about Gallun's novel. But, apart from the fact that we are pleased to render homage to its author's imagination, we thought that by drawing his attention to this coincidence we should incline him to think that there is something really natural in our thesis since, at an interval of 17 years, two men, unknown to each other, formulated it in almost identical terms and made use of the same essential argument.

We may ask ourselves whether what seems to be idle imagination, or the play of a mind functioning in the void, may not in reality be a sort of divination of things already in existence but still out of the reach of everyday or scientific observation. There is, we think, no precise line of demarcation between scientific and literary observation.

It is worth noting that Gallun bestows on his "Beast of the Void" the ability to put itself in a state of torpor when, once launched into Space, it reaches very high speeds. Under these conditions, during the whole time the journey lasts, it gets practically no older. Incidentally, the same idea (which one day perhaps will be applied to humans) has been presented in a more scientific form, bringing in the Relativist idea of Time Contraction, in a remarkable article by Philippe de Baleine, which appeared, if I am not mistaken, in "Match" of 14th April 1952.

One last remark: just as the moment has arrived when aeroplanes and birds, submarines and fish, co-exist on our planet, so it is possible that a time will come, if it has not already come, when there will be co-existence in Space of natural beings and industrial and artificial creations. All is possible, except the absurd.

- RENÉ FOUÉRÉ.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Biddle,  
I hope that the contents of this letter will interest you and the readers of URANUS. I am a serious student of the F.S. Moreover, I am a Reporter and Columnist of "El Comercio" at Lima, Peru, the most important, serious and

oldest newspaper of S. America. I write you only in the desire to contribute to your work and wish to make known the following:

ADAMSKI'S SECOND BOOK. I believe that in the Saucer world people are only making conjectures about Adamski's second book. I can give you precise information about the title and contents of Adamski's second book. As reporter of "El Comercio" I have recently had a written interview with George Adamski. In his letter of 12th May 1955, Adamski said to me:

"My next book, INSIDE THE SPACE SHIPS, is now being published in New York by Abelard-Schuman, Inc. In it I tell of over 200 hours during which I have had the privilege and pleasure of visiting with men and women of other planets. I have been in their ships and have been taken into outer space where I personally observed the constant activity taking place out there beyond the fringe of our own atmosphere. This has all taken place since that first meeting, told of in "Flying Saucers have Landed"... Although I have not been taken to one of their planets, I have been told that these are very much like Earth, with things growing there as they do here, and with atmospheric and climatic conditions very similar to those of Earth. They say that our theories regarding our sister planets in space are very inaccurate, as we shall learn for ourselves when we too succeed in travelling space as they are doing..."

Adamski's letter is very long but these phrases give us the exact title and contents of his second book.

DISC-BEINGS OF RENÉ FOUÉRE. Unfortunately I cannot, in the limited time at my disposal, write in detail about this original theory. But I believe that it is undesirable to mislead the opinion of people interested in the F.S. mystery by theories without the least scientific basis. I do not, of course, want to discredit M. Fouéré. But there is NO scientific possibility that any type of fauna inhabits interplanetary or interstellar space. This can be confirmed by 'Uranus' readers from any professional scientist. The theory of René Fouéré is interesting and original; but that theory CANNOT BE supported on scientific grounds.

The matter of any other inhabited planets is different. I have consulted the most important astronomical Observatories in the world about this point. In reference to the possibility that Mars or Venus are inhabited by intelligent life, the Observatories told me: "Though the physical conditions on Mars and Venus are unfavourable for the existence of intelligent life, it is possible (but not probable) that there exists intelligent life on these planets." One of the Observatories said to me: "Possibly Mars and possibly Venus could be inhabited. But whether such life would have intelligence we have no way of knowing. We also have no observations to indicate whether or not any form of life exists or is possible on these planets." To my question "Is it possible that the Earth can be the only inhabited body in the Cosmos?", the Observatories reply uniformly: "This is possible but improbable."

These replies are authorised with the signatures of the most important professional astronomers and they are saying, indirectly, that the possibility that the Saucers are spaceships from some other planets has a possible scientific basis. But none could have said it in reference to an interplanetary or interstellar fauna.

Very sincerely yours, ALEJANDRO DE LA JARA.

Lima, PERU.  
May 26th 1955.

Dear Sir,

I have found your publication of great interest.

I am no newcomer to the subject and have realised from the first that such a multiplicity of observations as have been recorded and collated, as in Wilkins' book, constitute evidence of the most complete character. I have also read Adamski's work and have treated his adventure with respect, though certain questions remained unanswered. It is curious, in this connection, that shortly before I came to know, through F.S.NEWS, that Adamski's bona fides had been called in question, I drew the attention of a correspondent to the great importance in this connection of Immanuel Velikowsky's work "Worlds in Collision" (London, 1950, post free 19/-). This is one of the most erudite and well-documented works ever published.

In it the author has shown that in the earliest star charts the planet Venus is not shown. The ancients, prior to about 1500 B.C. knew nothing of a planet Venus and had a four planetary system only - Saturn, Jupiter, Mars and Mercury. Previous to that date Venus was a comet thrown off from Jupiter's equator, and was a very large and brilliant object with horns, which greatly influenced ancient mythology and legend the world over. Before settling down into its present orbit Venus caused a change in the axis of the earth and lengthened the day. If this is true - and the author has an overwhelming case - then obviously civilised man, as known to us, could not have existed on Venus. What, then, becomes of Adamski's story?

The whole subject of the UFOs appears to be in a thoroughly chaotic state. They seem to be of all sizes and shapes, some noisy but mostly silent; some seemingly rocket-propelled, some possibly atomic-powered, some with no discernible means of propulsion. A few seem benevolent most are neutral (?), some are hostile. Some are adversely influenced by radar, others care nothing for radar. Some are visible, others are invisible.

What is further remarkable is the seeming lack of any general co-ordination amongst these various types. Some appear to be mapping the earth, and these may own a higher command. Others seem as if they were just visiting the earth for a spree, entirely on their own.

Remarkable also is their general aloofness. There seems to be little disposition to associate with the inhabitants of earth. Few, if any, messages. (Adamski's and the New York broadcast?). No gifts, no books or maps, no picture postcards of planetary scenery! - no desire to interest us. There may be a few exceptions. We may remember that Yankee mechanic's adventures with the little lady from Clarion, who spoke in English rhymed couplets. (Wilkins). Personally I consider that it was very friendly and courteous of the latter to enter, with some of her crew, a U.S. cafe to order cakes and lemonade. It would be a great pity if this story were not true! ("Say, ain't these the little guys from Clarion?"). I can quite understand that simple honest Yankee workman being thus favoured. (En passant, let me say that I have a notion that the

planet Clarion is mentioned in one of Madame Blavatsky's works).

Gravity control seems to me an unlikely source of power for F.S., etc. We must note that gravitation is a very feeble force compared with magnetism. It is only the immense size of stellar objects which raises this force to its  $n^{\text{th}}$  power. Further, it is a force of approach between objects having mass, and is subject to acceleration according to formula. Neither Newton nor Einstein can be quoted for the view that the force of gravitation can be reversed in action. The phenomena of levitation, however, show that the effect of gravitation can be counteracted. Magnetism seems to offer a better solution of the problem of motive power.

Is there not an ancient prophecy that in "the time of the end" the dead would arise and visit humanity? Materialised spirits? (Compare that queer story of the U.S. coastguards in Wilkins). Personally, I believe such visitations have been going on from the earliest times. Perhaps you have met some such yourself, Mr. Editor; but you would not expect them to be anything out of the ordinary, unless they let fall some remark showing that they knew some secret of your mind, perhaps your very thought at the moment. (You may deduce that I have had some strange experiences in my time.) Is it not a reasonable suggestion that space craft may be materialisations from a non-material world? Cf. Nostradamus, 1. 91.

"Les Dieux feront aux humains apparence,  
Ce qu'ils seront auteurs de grand conflicts  
Avant Ciel veu serein, epee et lance,  
Que vers main gauche sera plus grand afflict."  
(Main gauche, the political left)

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, may I ask whether you believe that Russians have landed on the other side of the moon? It would certainly be like them to land where they could not possibly be seen, keeping up the iron curtain tradition to the last.

Now U.S. scientists are boosting their own projects for space travel etc. Well, I remember what happened at the Tower of Babel and reserve my judgment.

Addendum: Just after preparing this, I hope not too long,

letter, I came across an article on F.S. in the "Reader's Digest" for August 1950, a condensation of a broadcast by H.J. Taylor, who there asserts that F.S. are "an important military secret", which means "good news" - also that the cigar-shaped airship (really round), which so astonished two airline officers, is also a U.S. invention. It seems probable indeed that the U.S.A.F. has been researching along these lines, maintaining great secrecy. However, Wilkins, in his historical retrospect, (a most valuable contribution), has shown that F.S. and space craft have been visiting this planet before the U.S. were born. Nor can we believe that U.S.A.F. caused the total disappearance, crews and all, of a number of their own military planes. And what of the four-foot midgets?

But on the assumption that the U.S. possess the F.S. it occurs to me to ask whether the U.S.A.F. might have inveigled Adamski into taking part in a hoax (just to put the public off the true scent!) with one of their own men taking the part of the man from Venus!

Cedric Allingham's bona fides cannot be questioned. But that Martian is a puzzle. Coming from a much smaller planet than the earth, one would have expected a midget, not a normal sized man. At the same time we should have expected his movements to have been laboured and slow, owing to the earth's much greater gravitational pull. Yet we read that he stepped nimbly into his saucer like any earth-born person. Could he have been a Yankee, too?! For all that I am much inclined to believe that Martians have visited the earth. (I may have met some!) As for the man from Venus, if he did not come from Venus and if he was not a Yankee dressed for the occasion, then I can only opine, in view of his high character, that he came from Abraham's bosom.

With best wishes for the success of your enterprise,  
Yours truly, A. ARUNDEL.

Garn Dolbenmaen,  
Caernarvonshire.  
16th June 1955.

Dear Mr. Biddle,

Many thanks for URANUS June, which I read with the

usual amount of interest - and in case anyone might misunderstand that phrase, let me say I find it of more interest than most "fanmags", and of more interest than the majority of its American "specialist" equivalents.

Needless to say, mention of me drives me to write you. Just so you know I, like the gentleman from Missouri, need to be shown. So far, I have not been. For some reason you, like many others, seem to think I am anti-F.S. I am not, but I require concrete evidence before I will state myself whole heartedly a believer; none of the evidence so far adduced, produced, etc., has been "concrete", other than it shows some as yet inexplicable phenomena. Whether that phenomenon is the result of "F.S." (i.e. spaceships or visitants from other worlds) or purely natural causes remains to be established - at least, for me it does. To be honest, you must admit that I have on occasion written pro-saucer, as in Tealby's WONDER when I expressed my opinion and some perfectly logical reasons for varying types of "saucer" being seen - one of the factors which in those days was a strong plank in the anti-F.S. platform. You will recall that I stated to the general effect that to a non-Terran observer it would be difficult to think of a bus, an army tank, and a private car as the same general form of vehicle; a comparison of an electric canoe on the Thames, and the Queen Elizabeth in mid-Ocean would hardly impress an outsider as being the same thing! Equally so, to the Terran eye, a description of two different types of F.S. by two different observers, would hardly seem the same thing, in general or in detail.

I regret that I am still of the same frame of mind. I need to be shown - not told.

In the general respect, I think the best book on the subject so far is that by Leonard G. Cramp, which was reviewed in the June issue.

I feel that here is a book which does more for the pro-F.S. field than any other. Rather than take a thousand and one "reports" which the layman can neither check nor disprove, Mr. Cramp has attacked the problem from the viewpoint of "if....how?", and produced some extremely fine theories which do to a large extent fit the evidence.

Whilst not conclusive, it is considerably more worth while than many of the re-hashes of other people's opinions and observations which continue to appear.

With best wishes for your continued efforts in the field,

Yours fantastically,

OPERATION FANTAST,  
22 Broad Street,  
SYSTON, Leics.  
26th June, 1955.

K.F.SLATER (Capt.)

(When I mentioned Capt. Slater in our No. 6, I hoped he would reply, so I was very pleased indeed to receive his letter. I used to subscribe to the very interesting little amateur magazine WONDER and was sorry when it ceased publication owing to the illness of Mr. Tealby. Unhappily, I must have given away my copies, as I cannot find them now and therefore cannot refer to what Capt. Slater said therein. To be perfectly honest, I had forgotten this when I wrote the bit in No. 6.

I agree that at this stage of the proceedings there is much in what Capt. Slater says about Mr. Cramp's book but I think the accumulation of facts (i.e. observations) was a necessary preamble. Surely, Capt. Slater, it is just that accumulation of observations (particularly by trained observers) which has put the F.S. case in a far stronger position than it was in 1952, when you and I first exchanged a few brief comments on the subject. Incidentally, you did suggest at that time (perhaps not very seriously) that the F.S. might be a form of "life" - a fact which I recalled to mind when I published M.Fouere's article "F.S. or...Disc-beings?" in URANUS No. 4. - E.B.)

"AND SO WHAT?"  
by 'Pertinax'

One aspect of the problem of the UFO which tends to be overlooked is that of finding a suitable modus vivendi between the two forms of culture: the earthly and - for the sake of clarity of language - the unearthly.

Those who are in with the esoteric workers in the Flying Saucer investigations, are well aware of the steady stream of threats, promises, blandishments, etc., which is reported to have been received from the non-earthly tourists, mainly concerning the use and development of the products of atomic fission.

While one can to some extent appreciate the anxiety which may be felt by these cosmic explorers as to our future plans, I fail to see the slightest reason why we should take them into serious consideration. After all, if report is true, we have been having these visitations for thousands of years. During this period of time there is not a single recorded case of the earth or its inhabitants having received the slightest benefit, material or spiritual, from them.

Now when the moment has arrived that thanks to our own efforts, and again I stress the words "OUR OWN", we are on the threshold of the conquest of space, what happens? Instead of the extraplanetary forces helping us and giving us every encouragement, all we get is this barrage of moans from their side, stressing the unpleasant things that will happen to them - not us - if we go ahead with our plans and ideas.

Well, the only answer to this is : "And so what!" As in the whole course of history these beings have never done anything for us, I feel that our relationship should be on a basis of strict reciprocity, and that until they actually give material proof of their good intentions we should just let them stew in their own juice.

After all, we may just as well face up to the facts. Within a year or so, certainly under ten and more likely five, somebody from earth is going to land on the moon in spite of anything the etheric beings can do or say. Therefore they will just have to adapt themselves to the inevitable and put a good face on it instead of squealing when the fruits of their years of contemptuous neglect of the Tellurians come to be harvested.

In conclusion I may say that I do not feel that the journeys said to have been taken by M. Adamski and others in space ships are, in themselves, adequate reasons for modifying to any extent the ideas expressed above.

(Editor's Note: The above ought to provoke some of our readers into action and I hope to receive some replies for publication. I could say quite a lot myself but I will leave it to others!)

SAUCER SIGHTING AT BEDFORD  
by IAN K. ELLIS

At the request of Mr. Biddle, I am writing this account of my sighting of a flying saucer. On the afternoon of 30th May this year I sat reading a book of Edgar Wallace's in the garden of my home at Bedford. Having finished a chapter and noting that it was near tea time, I settled back in my deck chair and casually glanced at the sky and to my utter amazement I was seeing a flickering red light at a great height. I was sitting with my back to the sun so it was not a matter of partial blindness and mirage. It was exactly 15.45 G.M.T. when I first perceived the object. I followed its course from South-East to North-West, a considerable distance in a fantastically short period of time, approximately 5 to 7 seconds. That Saturday was an extremely sunny day and I doubt if any transparent object would have been noticed, but this was quite definitely spherical with, as previously mentioned, a red light. I can call it no other, glowing first in the bows, then the stern, then as if it were a vapour trail and repeating this cycle as it moved. The main direction of the object was towards the sun but this was not achieved in a straight path; it flew right, left, up and down, shall we say a zig-zag formation?

In my opinion it was at an exceedingly high altitude, perhaps 17,000 feet, but every movement, every change, was clearly discernible. It must, therefore, have been an extremely large object. I should like to point out, furthermore, two facts which are, to say the least, supporters of the existence of a machine such as the type I myself saw. Referring to the accounts made in

Le Courrier Interplanétaire of 11th June 1955, I see that two similar accounts have been made regarding the colour changes and zig-zag flight. A complete resemblance to the craft has been seen in Switzerland by Mr. and Mrs. Vivot in Neuchatel and Mr. F. Zaegger of Zurich. One question remains unanswered and unanswerable : "Was this the same craft?" Who knows?!!

"FORBIDDEN PLANET" ASSIGNMENT  
FOR WALTER PIDGEON

Marking the most unusual assignment of his distinguished film career, Walter Pidgeon has been selected to portray the scientist, Morbius, in M-G-M's FORBIDDEN PLANET.

In the futuristic adventure-drama, set on a remote planet in 2200 A.D., Pidgeon will be seen as the omniscient fugitive from Earth who has absorbed all the scientific knowledge of the ages. The knowledge thus acquired turns against him, and in the film's terrifying climax threatens to destroy all around him.

Already cast in the film's only feminine role is Ann Francis, who will portray Pidgeon's daughter.

Nickolas Nayfack is producing FORBIDDEN PLANET in CinemaScope and colour with Perspecta Stereophonic Sound. Fred Wilcox is the director.

BOOKS

COMMANDOS DE L'ESPACE, par Jimmy GUIEU. Editions  
"Fleuve Noir", Paris, 1955. pp. 187. Prix 240 frs.

Our readers may remember the account (in September 1954) of the landing on a railway line at Quarouble (France) of a small F.S., from which emerged two humanoid figures, some four feet in height, encased in what appeared to be space suits. They were seen by M. Marius Dewilde (whose garden adjoined the railway) when he went out to see why his dog was barking furiously. When M. Dewilde advanced towards the two strange beings, a "green ray" shot out from the F.S. which temporarily paralysed him, which time the two "Martians" scrambled back into their Saucer and made off. Once the ray was shut off, M. Dewilde recovered the use of his limbs and was none the worse for the experience. All this happened after dark and next morning marks were found on the railway sleepers where the F.S. had landed. It is an interesting story and at the time M. Guieu sent me some French newspaper cuttings with photos and diagrams. It seems that the efforts of the authorities to discredit M. Dewilde's story failed dismally.

In this his latest book, Jimmy Guieu starts off with this incident but from the angle of the two saucerians who landed and made the brief contact (they are not Martians, by the way). His account of their reactions to the conduct of the dog and its master is extremely interesting - more than interesting, in fact, because of its penetrating insight and high degree of plausibility.

Certain other French landings of the same period come in for similar treatment. The idea of the Saucerians is to familiarise the human race with the fact that the F.S. and their occupants really exist and to achieve this aim, they decide to make a number of these

brief landings. In addition to trying to convince us of their existence, from these landings they glean useful information as to our reactions to their activities.

The general story, which is a continuation of "L'Homme de l'Espace" (see URANUS, No. 4) concerns the struggle between two rival groups of Saucerians, one friendly towards us and the other hostile, and is interesting enough. But to me at least, the main interest of the book lies in the ideas in it. They show a daring imaginativeness but nowhere approach the impossible. While I would say that this is true, to some extent at least, of all M. Guieu's novels, I do not wish to imply by this remark anything in any way derogatory to their value as exciting science-fiction romances. It is just that having read so much science-fiction in my time, I am more interested nowadays in unusual and thought-provoking ideas than I am in exciting adventure, however well told.

- E.B.

CANDIDE AU TEMPS DES SOUCOUPES VOLANTES, by Robert Guy.  
Paris 1955. Post Free 9/6d. or \$1.50.

An extremely amusing satire with Candide and Pangloss, the heroes of Voltaire's book, projected into the immediate future with a melange of saucerians and general strikes, and their endeavours to cure the ills of mankind by a succession of halfbaked remedies which all work in the opposite direction to that intended. For those who read French this is really worth while.

- E.S.

BEHIND THE F.S. by Frank Scully.  
London 1955. Post Free 14/-d.

This work, long since unobtainable, has just been reissued in London. All that can be said about it has

already reached the ears of most. If you need it to complete your library here it is.

Just arrived from Paris

"MARS ALLER-RETOUR"

by F.L.NEHER

Bound Edition Post Free 18/- or \$2.85

The Author had access to all Wernher von Braun's notes. To be reviewed in next issue.

URANUS is published every second month. The subscription is 10/- at home, 10/6 abroad, and \$1.50 in North America. All payments should be made to the publishers: MARKHAM HOUSE PRESS LTD., 31 KINGS ROAD, LONDON S.W.3.

All communications regarding editorial questions should be sent direct to Mr. E. Biddle, 1513 High Road, Whetstone, London, N.20.

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