

# Space Review

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## ARE WE LIVING ON BORROWED TIME?

Many people wonder just how secure we are on this planet known as Earth. Writers through the years have expressed their opinions in this matter and many of their theories are discussed here.

The idea of a hydrogen bomb war in our present day, is foremost in the ways in which the Earth could be destroyed. Man could very likely bring about the destruction of Earth. The destruction and havoc from hydrogen bombs would be vast, but the contamination of the atmosphere may be even greater. Yet man is still contemplating an even more powerful weapon than the hydrogen bomb, when they discuss the dreaded cobalt bomb. This could lead to the annihilation of all mankind. If the first cobalt bomb is dropped it may very likely be the last cobalt bomb.

The possibility of the sun exploding would destroy not only the Earth but the entire solar system.

The sun might burn itself out, and Earth and other planets will become balls of frozen matter.

The planets of the solar system keep their positions by a mutual pull of all for each other. If by chance this attraction was increased or decreased, some planets, if not all, could go hurtling out into space or fall into the sun.

What would happen if the Earth suddenly stopped rotating on its axis? It would be either day or night on one side of the planet. The side facing the sun would boil beneath its rays and the opposite side would find temperatures below zero. It would be another ice age.

A comet or meteor could suddenly strike the Earth and not only cause tremendous destruction, but may also throw the planet out of its orbit and send it into space.

If our nearest planet, the moon, should lose its attraction it might very well fall to the Earth by the gravitational pull of our planet.

Some of the people of today do not know that the ice caps of the Earth in the polar regions are increasing in size and may suddenly capsize the Earth. The Earth is becoming top heavy and when it gets too heavy it will tip to balance itself.

Another possibility would be the sudden cessation of rain or moisture in our atmosphere. This would eventually result in a vast desert and everyone would die.

In summing up all of the above, we might add that some of the above may not happen for billions of years, some may not happen for millions of years, and others may happen THIS YEAR.

THE PITTED WINDSHIELDS AND EYEGLASSES

Recently in Seattle, Washington and other western cities the populace reported that the windshields of their automobiles and also eyeglasses, were pitted by a strange black substance that alighted on same. Scientists poo-pooed the idea that it was caused by the recent hydrogen bomb tests. They made tests of the chemical and found that it did not contain any radioactive material. However, more recently than that, a scientist claims that some of the material removed from the convertible top of an auto had radioactive ingredients. So, it appears that the H-Bomb must have been responsible for this strange occurrence. It is time that we woke up to the fact that the H-Bomb and the A-Bomb are not toys and should be abandoned as a destructive weapon. Man will learn too late of the power he has harnessed and then what can we do about it.

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EXCERPT FROM RECENT LETTER TO "SPACE REVIEW" IN REGARDS TO ARTICLE IN FEBRUARY ISSUE.

"And I was not surprised to see a mention of the "atmosphere of the moon". It is not possible for the moon to have an atmosphere of any extent, and probably has none at all (unless you would call a few ions of Argon an atmosphere). Instead of an advantage, that may make it impossible to have a sizeable observatory on the moon. This is because there would be nothing to prevent the meteoric dust from hitting the surface at high velocity, and thus pitting the telescopic lense or mirror. The seriousness of this depends upon the concentration of the high-velocity dust.

The question concerning a super-solar system has been answered by astronomers for years. The galactic system is composed of individual stars, star systems, clusters, etc. that revolve around the galactic center. And above these are the supergalactic systems, composed of groups of galaxies. The next highest unit that we know of is the universe itself, which is expanding from a central point, wherever it is."

(Thanks to the contributor)

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THE MYSTERY PLANET---VENUS

Venus is the second planet in order of distance from the sun. More closely like Earth than any other body in the solar system, its mean distance from the sun is 67,200,000 miles. It completes one complete revolution about the sun in 224.7 days. The planet is completely covered by a blanket of vaporous clouds and makes observation almost impossible. At times through the telescope they have noted shaded areas and white areas. Of course they are not certain if this is the surface or just clouds they have seen. Venus has no moons and therefore must have a very dark night. Some think that the planet Mercury might have at one time been the moon of Venus, but was swept away by the sun. It is believed that Venus has large snow caps similar to our Earth. There is no reason why intelligent life could not exist on the planet Venus, because to deny this is not commonsense, but merely a manifestation.

(Last line from---OUR NEIGHBOUR WORLDS)

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"WE ARE NOW LIVING IN THE AGE OF UNCERTAINTY. ONE NEVER KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE NEXT SECOND".

OUR NEAREST NEIGHBOR

Our satellite, the moon, is one of the most interesting bodies in the universe. It has been a subject for discussion for thousands of years. Since it is our nearest neighbor we should know much more about it than we do at the present time. It is not surrounded by clouds which makes it easier to observe than other planets.

The features of the moon can be observed by the naked eye which is not possible with other planets. The craters, the most obvious features, are still a subject of controversy. The majority of the astronomers claim that these craters were caused by meteors hitting at terrific speed. A few have claimed that the moon might have been inhabited at one time by a race superior to that of Earth. This race of people, these scientists contend, destroyed themselves in a great war. They supposedly used weapons much more powerful than our atom or hydrogen bombs, and it was these weapons that caused the craters.

If we were to take a trip to our neighbor the moon, at the mere rate of 200 miles per hour, it would take a little more than a month and a half. However, life on the moon would be quite a problem since there is no atmosphere and not a drop of water.

If there were water on the moon, the Earth would affect their tides, just as the moon effects ours. It is suspected that if this were the case it has acted as a brake and has slowed down the rotation of the moon. This could also be taking place with the Earth, and in time, with the days lengthening, our day may become as long as a month. If this should happen, the Earth may someday always have one side facing the moon.

One of the most mysterious things about the moon in recent years, has been the observation of strange glowing lights seen shining on the surface of the satellite.

A few years ago, contact was made with the moon by use of radar. The signal bounced back to the senders.

It is believed that the moon is a rich source of valuable minerals, and the nation reaching this heavenly body first, will come into possession of all these resources. The problem then, would be, how to remove them to Earth, or if the process of refining could be accomplished on the moon itself.

It is suspected that gold may be the most common ore found there, and if this is true, gold would be as valuable as water is on Earth.

The people on Earth only see one side of the moon, since the other side is always facing away from the Earth.

It is almost foolish to contemplate trips to Mars and Venus before the moon has been reached, or has it been reached already????

There will be a great many revelations coming forth in the near future that will astound everyone.

The moon is no longer as mysterious as we are led to believe! It bears watching.

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"THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE WILL SOMEDAY BE THE UNDOING OF ALL MANKIND"

"MANKIND WILL SOMEDAY FIND THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COPE WITH THEM"

"SPACE REVIEW REVIEWS RECENT SCIENCE BOOKS"

YOUR TRIP INTO SPACE

-----Lynn Poole, Producer, John Hopkins TV Science Review, Whittlesey House, McGraw Hill Book Co. Inc., 330 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y. Price---\$2.75 Illustrated by Clifford Geary.



VERY GOOD

Fascinating, accurate information about what space travel actually will mean to every one of us. How soon can we reasonably expect to travel into space? What kind of accommodations will take us there? What are the dangers we will have to face? What do scientists say we will find when we break through into outer space? And, perhaps most important----what will be the effect of this trip on everyone on Earth? These and many more important questions are answered with authority in this book.

The illustrations though simply drawn are very expressive in giving the required detail necessary.

"A Fascinating Science Course in Itself".

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THE COMPLETE BOOK OF OUTER SPACE

-----Published by Maco Magazine Corporation, 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, New York. Price \$.75 (Magazine Type). Illustrated profusely.



VERY GOOD

A magazine composed of outstanding articles by equally outstanding authors. Some of these authors are: Willy Ley; Dr. Werner Von Braun; Dr. Heinz Haber; Hugo Gersback and every other top expert.

We recommend especially the article by Dr. Heinz Haber, Dept. of Space Medicine, Randolph Field, which is titled "Space Medicine". "This Little Magazine is Well Worth the "Space" it Takes Up".

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THE CONQUEST OF SPACE

-----Text by Willy Ley; Paintings by Chesley Bonestell Published by Viking Press, 18 E. 48th St., New York 17, N. Y. Price--\$3.95.



EXCELLENT

In the Conquest of Space the collaborators portray in text and pictures the universe our children may someday visit. To mention just a few of the places on the itinerary we visit the mts. of the moon, Venus and other planets. We see Jupiter from its large moon, the landscapes of Mars, and a planet of the double star Mira.

"The Viking Press has in printing the above book, printed a record of space information that will remain a collector's item".

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OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE OUT SOMETIME IN THE MONTH OF JULY OR THEREABOUTS---PLEASE SEND US YOUR COMMENTS.