

Saucers have been visiting us for centuries!

PAINSTAKING RESEARCH BY SCIENCE STUDENT REVEALS . . .

If the solution of the mystery of the flying saucers is that the inhabitants of another world—the planet Mars—are watching us, the question naturally arises, why do they come now?

But can we be sure that they have not been paying us periodic visits for many years to look us over? There is evidence that they have been doing just that. For years a student of science worked painstakingly through the special papers of the various learned societies.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

THIS student, Charles Fort by name, finally had collected enough material to fill four large volumes.

Part of his great study deals with strange "air-ships" viewed before man had any.

There are references going back to the eighteenth century.

During the nineteenth they continue and become more numerous.

By the last quarter of the last century they have

the last century they have come to be not infrequent.

Twice in 1870—the year, incidentally, of the Franco-Prussian war—sky ships were seen.

ON August 1 above the Riviera very high up, and seeming to move slowly, there passed a globular body that must have been of great size. The September before, on the 26th of the month, something was seen high up at night, an elliptical body that, for half a minute, was watched crossing the moon's face.

It seemed to have some kind of fan at its stern, or a rudder. This reminds us of the object seen high up by the watchers at Idyllwild, U.S.A., on March 22, 1950.

"Nature" reported in 1880 the bright luminous globes moving high up in the sky—that go on till now. The latest report I have seen is on August 2, 1950, from San Rafael all the way south along the Pacific coast down to the San Francisco peninsula.

The Bermuda "Royal Gazette" in 1885 saw an unidentifiable "thing" high in the skies over the islands.

islands.

Then the same year Adrianople, in European Turkey, was visited or looked down upon by a "disc."

The observers gauged its size from that of the moon. Though the object was sailing high it looked several times larger than the disc of the moon.



A comparison of sizes: On the left is Mars, in the centre Earth, and on the right the Moon.

NEW ZEALAND had a fast-moving oval to report from its sky in '88.

In the early nineties the Dutch East Indies were inspected—in this case, by what seems to have been cones—a pattern that may now have been discarded, though one or two present-day references seem to show

day references seem to show that a triangular shape of craft has been sighted over America during the present visits.

On they go, like the slow drip of a tap. Every couple of years or so they are sighted.

A disc with a rudder or fan was reported by a British battleship in 1894 and in '95 triangular high-sky objects were seen by many in England and Scotland and, of course, dismissed as

illusion by officials and experts—who hadn't seen them.

Then was the turn of the United States to begin to get more than its share of the high-sky limelight.

The year of the Victoria Diamond Jubilee gave a number of the United States a sky show.

BEGINNING in the second week in April, the "ship" made a tour of the Middle West. And it was watched through telescopes by astronomy students.

From their accounts—cigar-shaped with short

IS ANOTHER WORLD

IS ANOTHER WORLD WATCHING US?

wings at the side—it may have been the 'tube' model in one of its earlier forms, the tube model that has given such remarkable demonstrations of its performance to air pilots.

The tube, too, as we know from those today, emitted strange lights. In this case they flickered much and ranged in colour—as have some of the lights we now witness (but in these late cases they seem not to be attached to any craft we can see).

In this 1897 case the coloured beams wove such patterns and ranged from red to white and on to green that it was thought the ship was signalling.

Of course, no one succeeded in making a contact.

So the ship moved to the Atlantic States, and the Virginia town of Sisterville was roused to see that it was being scanned by searchlights that wandered over the countryside—seeking what?

ing what?

THE red and green lights showed along the sides of the ship which seemed 200 feet long and had small flukes also at its sides.

This cigar model in the summer of 1907 sailed over Vermont, and after it was gone an explosion took place in the sky.

But when a year after Massachusetts was visited by the same or a similar craft, it played only with its searchlights, as it had when visiting the Middle West and Virginia.

In 1910, as it was a January morning, the cigar appeared silver. It cruised about over the State of Alabama.

Two years after, "Popular Astronomy" carried a careful report of a black object crossing the face of the moon. There were not many reports after that.

West Virginia got one visit in 1919 but thinking, of course, that it was a dirigible from some home base, they felt no disquietude.

And when it was later re-

And when it was later reported that no home or earth foreign dirigible was

then aloft there, by that time people naturally begun to think of something else.

There is evidence, however, that when World War II started there were uninvited visitors looking on.

Certainly after the war most of us saw notices copied from the Swedish newspapers of strange fiery vehicles that swept across the Swedish sky.

But knowing Sweden's position and proximity most people were certain this could have only one explanation.

STILL, these references didn't all come from Sweden—they spread, until most months, or even weeks, you could pick up a

reference to some sighting through Europe and even North Africa.

And then America came into her own. 1947 was a great year, perhaps the great year.

So we see one thing:

So we see one thing: these visitors have been seen before.

We may add another—that they first paid more attention to Europe and then increasing attention to the United States.

We may close with an obvious deduction: that they were first interested in Europe because it was, a generation ago, still leading industrially: they are now more interested in the U.S. because it has taken world leadership in industrial production.

We may perhaps add a rider: they may be coming

at certain times (as well as hovering over certain places or countries) because they fear what our industrialisation seems to lead to, intensive wars that drive us finally to the air, to rockets, to atom power, to the capacity not only to destroy ourselves but to make into a kind of cosmic bomb "the great globe itself, yea, all it doth inherit."

WE see then that the visitors have been coming before—how long before

ing before—how long before
no one can say.

We may add that, as they

are adapted to their climate
and, being very able, may
be very content, and do
understand how wonderful
it is to fit well into your
place, they may have been
quite unwilling to change
places and have not the
slightest intention of inter-
fering with us—provided we
do not interfere with them,
either by invading them or
by upsetting the solar sys-
tem apple-cart from which
they draw as much as we.

And we have seen,
thirdly, that they have very
good reason for looking far
more often and far more
carefully than they have
been used to doing before,
now that we are up to really
big mischief.

Why are they coming in
such numbers now, no
longer "as single spies but
in battalions"?

Because we are a peril to
them seems the only sen-
sible answer.

But are we, can we be a
peril to them?

It won't be generations
before we get to beginning
to think really in schedule

to think really in schedule terms of even going to the moon.

They will have warning enough and time enough when they see us launch our first synthetic satellite.

BUT the danger might be much nearer and much more emphatic than that.

Seriously then we must ask are we a peril to them?

We are all, on our planets, like men on small craft in a big ocean. We ride the tide but we have to be "sea-shape" to do so. -

The precise balance and poise of a planet as it rides its orbit and spins on its axis and rocks on its poles—so giving years and seasons and days and nights—which things in properly mixed amounts are necessary to life.

We find it hard to believe that. But it is true.

There is some evidence that the pole of our earth shifts fairly easily.

We know that the Magnetic Pole is always rocking and that the "third motion of the earth" is its waltz on its axis

ON ITS AXIS

COULD we tip the earth off its axis by firing an atomic bomb?

We must remember it is a risk. For when the deep-

sea firing of an atom bomb was suggested as part of the Bikini bomb tests, a Yale professor emeritus of chemistry wrote begging that this should not be done.

He felt that it was clear to all geophysicists that if an atom bomb were exploded in the depths of the Pacific Ocean close to the Equator this would give a maximum provocation to the earth to make a "heel-over."

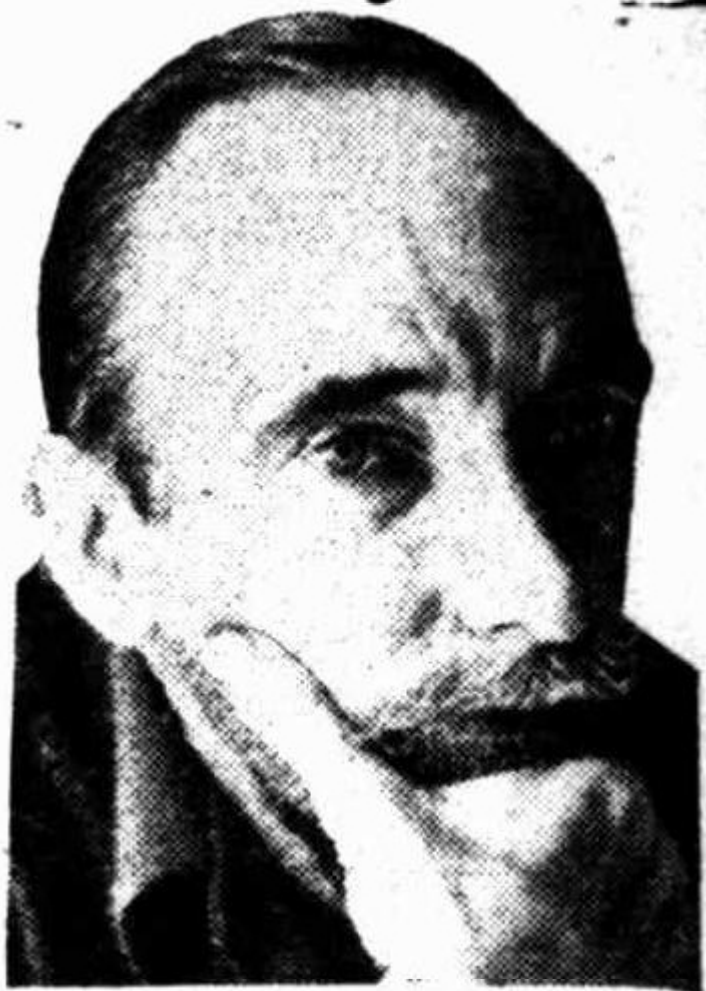
For the weight of water that lies in the great troughs of the Pacific, the greatest oceanic depths in the world, is so great that if it were suddenly raised or partly lifted, the ocean floor, already (or at the same time) having been given a tremendous blow, might buckle.

The solid earth is not at all so solid. And long before we start vapourising it we have to warn ourselves that

have to warn ourselves that the firm earth is not at all firm—it spins.

SO if the bomb at Bikini had been made a depth bomb and had lifted that mass of water (as well as it might, turning vast volumes straight from water to steam) then up the floor

By



GERALD HEARD

of the ocean might have come (let alone the super-

come (let alone the super-hot "magma" from under the "lithosphere"—the rind of rock that insulates us from the infernal heats).

Then this sudden bulge on our belt—this rotational rupture—could have sent us on to another spin, another slant.

Whether this scientific adviser was right or not we may never know for sure.

But that his advice was sufficiently weighty we may judge. For though the surface blast was proceeded with, the depth atom bomb was never fired.

The project was abandoned.