

CROCKERY IN FLIGHT

The opening of the "flying saucer season" is reported from the United States, where, by a fitting coincidence, Major Donald Keyhoe has just published a book, in which he has included a statement that British officials are convinced that the Comet crash which occurred near Calcutta last year was due to a collision with "an unidentified flying object."

The British Civil Aviation Ministry retorts, without much civility, but doubtless with a high degree of accuracy, that Major Keyhoe has given currency to a piece of "utter balderdash." In America, officialdom grows equally sceptical about flying saucers and other miscellaneous articles from "outer space"; and the public is certainly less disposed than it was two years ago to see strange things shooting across the sky.

It is pointed out on behalf of the United States Air Force that the flying saucer season coincides with the season of meteor showers. This theory may explain a great deal, but it is not original. Writing to "The Advertiser" in January last, the Australian Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Casey) was able to show a "noticeable relationship" in this country between the supposed appearance of flying saucers and the times of "maximum meteoric activity."

It seems probable that we must soon sweep up the last fragments of flying crockery in general.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY.—The world is a stage, but the play is badly cast. —Oscar Wilde.