

Have you seen any U.F.O.'s lately?

Do flying saucers piloted by little green men in silver suits actually exist? Or do we take our Buck Rogers comics too seriously? From the increasing number of reports of U.F.O.'s — unidentified flying objects — we might be forgiven for thinking that perhaps they might.

Some weeks ago in Taradale New Zealand, two terrified youths leapt from their car only seconds before it crashed through a fruit shop window. Still trembling with fear they later told two startled policemen of how they were being chased by a flying saucer which repeatedly dived at their car. On a previous night, they said they had heard an explosion near a rubbish dump and saw an enormous flashing object rise from the ground. Other Taradale residents confirmed having seen 'saucers' and flashing lights in the night sky and hearing ominous rumblings in

hearing ominous rumblings in the surrounding hills.

It is understood that the insurance company handling the crash damage claim has accepted the flying saucer story. A senior executive of the company said he never thought he would see the day when flying saucers would add to road hazards. "However," he added, 'we hear plenty of fairy stories in relation to claims so we might as well accept this one too.'

Probably H. G. Wells' book 'War of the Worlds' first started people wondering about the existence of flying saucers and weird men from other galaxies. Published in 1898, the novel described the sudden and awful invasion of Earth by huge spaceships containing monstrous creatures from another planet. Shortly after the book's publication, the leading newspapers of the day were flooded with dramatic accounts from people who had witnessed seeing 'giant silver robots hovering in moon-machines.'

In October, 1938, the famous actor Orson Welles shocked America with a nation-wide radio broadcast. Pretending that his programme was a news bulletin, he broke into an on-the-spot broadcast with the

the roof and sometimes right through the roof. Damaged furniture is another result of the earthquake but in one instance furniture came out unscathed, this was when an internal timber frame protected the furniture near it while the rest of the brick and stone home collapsed ruining other furniture.

A common sight to see is timber framed verandahs being pulled down because the building to which they were attached was brick or masonry and had collapsed.

The Minister for Housing, Mr D. O'Neil, in Parliament recently pointed out that a timber framed country home was 22% cheaper to build than a brick house of similar design.

TRICK HOUSE OF SIMILAR DESIGN.
There was a difference of only \$10 in maintenance cost – the timber frame being the dearer – but with 22% savings in the original costs the question of maintenance on timber frame homes is negligible. The initial savings by building in timber frame are sufficient to provide insulation, maintenance, air conditioning and run the air conditioner for 50 years and still be in pocket.

news that America was being invaded by scores of spaceships and hoards of horrible men from Mars. Wild scenes of public chaos and panic followed almost immediately, as people fled from city buildings and whole towns prepared to evacuate. It was almost two days before the gigantic hoax was finally revealed and things got back to normal. Needless to say, Mr. Welles was unavailable for comment for some

able for comment for some weeks.

Another man who caused a flying saucer sensation was Mr. George Adamski, an American outer space enthusiast. He catapulted himself into the headlines in 1952, when he published photographs of flying saucers which claimed, landed near his property. He later told how he was invited to take a ride in one by some midget spacemen from Venus. Shortly after his photographs and writings were handed over to the American State Administration in 1954, three U.S. Navy planes reported that they were pursued by massive flying saucers for over a distance of 200 miles.

And what about Australia? Do we have spacemen visiting us too? Sixteen boys at a Melbourne school recently watched

in amazement as a flying saucer "as big as a house" landed then took off from a paddock adjoining their school. Separated for questioning after they

ted for questioning after they had reported the incident, each gave the same account of the sighting and sixteen identical drawings were submitted as additional evidence.

On closer and more friendly terms with our visitors from outer space is a woman who live in Newtown, N.S.W. She claims she has actually received letters from "space beings" who now reside permanently in Australia. The letters, written on parchment, contain a mass of gold symbols and drawings which, as she explained to a skeptic television audience in Sydney, reveal amazing predictions for Australia's future. She didn't say what these predictions were. Meanwhile, her next door neighbour is worried that the "space beings" might deliver the letters personally one night and crash their flying saucer into her house. Seeking her advice from her insurance company, she was considerably calmed to learn that under her Householder's and Howseowners' Policy she was covered a-

**ers' Policy she was covered a-
gainst damage caused by "aer-
ial devices, or articles dropped
therefrom."**