

What's new in space travel?

MANY members are, we know, interested in space travel, and we therefore draw attention to two recent publications in this category put out by our associates, Sidgwick & Jackson.

Martin Caidin's book *Worlds in Space* (17s. 6d.) tells briefly in its first chapter the history of rocket development till now, and the rest of the book reveals the steps by which men will eventually travel to other planets. Beginning with the establishment of a robot space station, it details the innumerable problems that must be solved before a human being can leave the earth's atmosphere. The book contains forty-eight drawings in black and white by Fred L. Wolff, which are as fascinating and as competently drawn as those of Chesley Bonestell for *The Conquest of Space*, etc., though not in any way imitative of that master.

Another book is *The Moon Puzzle* (16s.) written by the Swedish engineer N. O. Bergquist, who advances a sensational theory based upon studies extending over many years and founded upon such good arguments that it is very difficult to reject it. Mr. Bergquist's theory is both entertaining and plausible. He tells of an enormous planetoid, which many millions of years ago grazed the surface of the earth and skidded off into the void. The tremendous cataclysm that resulted caused among other things the ejecting into space of a large mass of land, leaving a gigantic 'scar' which is now filled with water and called the Pacific. The mass that was thrown out originally had an irregular shape, but during its revolution round the mother planet gradually assumed the form we now see—in other words, became the Moon. The geological consequences of this catastrophe seem to go beyond the range of the imagination, and here again we are face to face with the old tag of truth being stranger than fiction.



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