

The Wath Magazine



JULY 1928.

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The Math Magazine

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Editorial.

At the end of this term the School will have completed its fifth year of existence ; and it is only fitting that we should look back to see what progress has been made.

The School has certainly increased fast enough in numbers, as our original 76 have now grown to over 400. Our standard of work has probably improved a little, and certainly we are doing much more advanced work than in the early stages. The House system, and many School societies have been established, and as we have grown older, the senior boys and girls have taken a larger part in managing the affairs of the School. We are still weaker than we should be at games : but for that we can lay the blame upon the lack of a permanent field.

What we need to develop most is a spirit of loyalty to the School. We need to remember that we are actually building up the reputation and the traditions of the School, and that traditions last longer than bricks and mortar. It is important that our new buildings should be well constructed, it is far more important that our traditions should be good. Every one of us can do our part to develop a tradition of hard work, keen play, and good conduct ; every one of us can try to give something to the School in return for what we get out of it.

School Notes.

Early in the term we held our second Speech Day, when we had the pleasure of hearing Sir Percy Jackson. A large number of parents and friends of the School were present ; but the Headmaster has so far heard nothing in reply to his appeal for a Scholarship Fund.

Towards the end of June, the School was inspected by the Board of Education. The report has yet to come ; but we have certainly been helped by the advice that His Majesty's Inspectors have given us.

July has been a month of examinations, fifty-five boys and girls have taken School Certificate, and eight were entered for Higher School Certificate. We hope to be able to publish some good results in our next number.

The Magazine Committee consists of : The Headmaster, Miss Deeks, W. Wetherell, P. Dobson, A. E. Singleton, D. Haigh, M. Barrett, I. Wright, A. Tennyson, W. Rawlinson, J. Gill, V. Carroll and C. Howse.

The Games Committee consists of : The Headmaster, Miss Deeks, Miss Spraggon, Miss Holt, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Gear, H. Booth, F. Prendergast, P. Dobson, T. Hinds, A. Sayles, W. Clayton, M. Knibbs, C. Elliott, I. Wright, M. M. Randerson and W. Young.

House Notes.

ATHENS.

This term, owing to the fact that no ground has been available, cricket matches have not taken place between the Houses. This is unfortunate for Athens, for the team is quite the strongest in the School. As it is, there are going to be tennis matches and swimming ; in the former the girls are very weak, but in swimming Athens has quite a strong team, but the chances of their winning the cup are very remote.

Many members from Athens are entering for the School Certificate, and the Higher School Certificate Examinations, and Athens hope that in the next Magazine there will be good results to chronicle.

CARTHAGE.

Up to the time of writing there have been no inter-house games, except a few of tennis, so there is not much about which to write notes. As it is the summer term, when the weather is supposed to be fine, there have been no indoor activities.

Carthage have lost to Thebes at Tennis.

On the 19th of July some swimming sports will take place. There are not many strong swimmers in Carthage, and so we do not expect to carry off the cup. However, we shall do our best.

As regards detentions, this term has been a record one. Carthage has had more detentions than in any term before. We therefore do not expect to obtain any cups this term.

ROME.

Rome was successful last term in winning a cup, the Sports Cup, on Sports Day. Almost all the time Rome led the other Houses by a large margin. It is the tradition that Rome carries off the trophy on Sports Day, and last time the Romans upheld the tradition by gaining the cup for the second time out of three attempts.

The cup was presented last term, on which occasion all the Romans enthusiastically cheered, and also on Speech Day, and the Romans felt justly proud as the House Captain stepped forward to receive the cup from Sir Percy Jackson.

Rome also ran close for the Work Cup, and the number of detentions had decreased considerably, which was a very welcome improvement. This term, too, a marked decrease in the number of detentions has been noticed, so the Romans have a good chance for the Work Cup, if they continue to improve.

The Roman girls have been playing inter-House Tennis matches this term, and the Seniors drew with Troy, and the Juniors won against Sparta.

All the Romans have been busily preparing for examinations. Some of the Romans have been taking the School Certificate Examination, and we wish them the best of success, and hope that they will bring honour to the House. The rest of the Romans have been taking School examinations which they all regarded as seriously as if the examinations were public ones. We heartily wish them the best of success, too, and hope that the results are much more pleasing than some of them, to judge by the length of their faces, seem to expect !

May the Romans have an opportunity of cheering as frantically this term on receiving both cups, as they did last term, for the plaudits were thunderous, even though we only won one cup.

SPARTA.

Although there have not been many House activities this term, both the girls and boys have done well in tennis and cricket. We have not been able to have any House picnics this year, owing to the deplorable weather.

We shall be sorry to lose at the end of this term, our House Captain, Muriel Knibbs, who has been a very good leader both in games and work, and Muriel Steer, the House Secretary, both appointed at the foundation of the House. Both these members having been successful in gaining admission to the Bingley College, we wish them every success and happiness in their new college career. We wish also, the greatest happiness and success in the future to all the other members who leave us at the end of the term.

Many members of the House have entered for the School Certificate, and Higher School Certificate Examinations this year, and we hope that all will gain satisfactory and pleasing results, and bring honour and glory to Sparta, the House famous for its repeated success in gaining the House Cup for work.

THEBES.

Activities in Thebes, as in many other Houses, have been dormant the greater part of this term. As no House games (for boys) of any kind have taken place, it is not possible to tabulate any results. The swimming sports took place on Wednesday, 19th July. A few tennis matches have been played ; the results are as follows : Wins over Carthage, Troy and Rome.

As was forecasted in the last magazine, Thebes obtained most detentions ; a decided improvement has been registered this term.

A few members of Thebes have entered for the School and Higher School Certificate examinations ; we wish them every success.

TROY.

We seem to have had very few outdoor activities this term ; examinations have taken the lead in everything.

We were not successful in the sports last term, but we are patiently waiting for the small members of the House to add to the length of their legs in order to win easily for us next time.

We have not had many detentions this term, and we trust that the number will decrease still more. Everyone is, of course, doing his or her best to gain a good Form position, for we are looking forward to receiving the Work Cup this term.

We wish the best of luck to all those who have taken the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate examinations.

School Societies.

ART CLUB.

The attendance at Art Club meetings this term has been, on the whole, fairly satisfactory. Again, however, as was the case last term, it is to be regretted that the main interest is shown by members from the lower Forms.

Considerable interest has been shown in such "Art Craft" work as Lino-cutting and the decoration of derelict materials, cigar boxes, etc: the latter kind of work, given a small knowledge of "all over," border, and interlacing patterns, is extremely fascinating, and at the same time well within the capabilities of any member of the Club or student in the School.

We hope to hold an Exhibition, if possible, before the end of term, of work done in the Art Club, and a small quantity of work selected from the work done in class. As only the very best work available will be put on the walls, those students who are responsible for it, will have the satisfaction of knowing that such work is of quite a high standard of excellence.

SCOUTS.

As is usual during the summer months, we have held our meetings at School. Our numbers are continually increasing, and now we are a moderately large troop, there being almost fifty Scouts in all.

Although the weather has not been very suitable for camping, we have held two week-end camps at Bolton, and, in addition to these, we have had Saturday afternoon outings. Some of the Troop went to Doncaster on the 17th of June, when the Chief Scout held a "Scouts Own" there.

The summer holidays are rapidly approaching, and nearly all the Scouts are looking forward to the Camp, which is going to be held at Grindleford, in Derbyshire. About thirty of us are hoping to take part in the camp, which will last for twelve days; we hope that we shall experience the same glorious weather that we did at our last annual camp.

During the last term our troop has passed fifty proficiency badges, and hopes to pass still more. Another tent has almost reached completion, and when it is completed we shall have five tents at our disposal.

Last term the second Spartan Patrol, the Owls, won the Spartan Shield.

THE LITERARY SOCIAL.

The Literary social was held on April 3rd, and was the first of its kind. The first part of the evening was given up to progressive games, twenty-two tables being employed for these. The Sixth Form took charge of the separate competitions, including the baby photograph competition, the weight guessing competition, the smelling competition, the missing word competition, and the advertisement competition.

The Concert commenced at 7.30 p.m., and was organised by Miss Deeks. It was opened with an Hungarian Rhapsody: C. Cutler playing the first violin, F. W. Buckley second violin, and Miss Deeks playing the piano.

The play given was "Prunella, or Love in a Dutch Garden," a fantasy with musical accompaniment. It was acted by the girls of the Literary Sixth, assisted by the girls of the Fifth forms.

The theme of the play is as follows:—Prunella, a maiden brought up in quietude and tranquility, is wooed by a passing Pierrot, and runs away with him and his band of mummers. Pierrot seeks fresh pleasures and loses her. Pierrot, in the midst of new pleasures, cannot forget Prunella, "a Treasure, a Trinket, which I once lost," he only re-

members her, however, by the name he gave her, "Pierrette." Memory which belongs only to those who have a soul stirs within him, and Love, a statue, reveals to him his selfishness. He returns to her old home, where Prunella has already returned as a waif. She forgives him, and her one desire is to comfort him. Pierrot learns that to love truly is to be ready to give up life itself.

The play is of course a Fantasy, and the atmosphere was rendered admirably by Muriel Steer and Muriel Knibbs jointly in the parts of Pierrot and Prunella. The air of fantasy was deepened by the singing of Dorothy Rowlinson, off stage. The other characters in order of appearance were: Quaint, Phyllis Dobson; Gardeners, Ivy Wright and Joan Smith; Aunt Prim, Dorothy Haigh; Aunt Privacy, Ivy Sturman; Aunt Prude, Marion Copley; Scaramel, Edith Hincsliffe; Mummers, Ida Midwood, May Cameron, Joan Smith, W. Charlesworth, W. Rawlinson and Sheila Scott. The Statue of Love, Agnes Sayles, was on throughout.

The play was followed by a Shakespeare competition for those who, in the earlier part of the evening, had taken charge of the tables. The evening was generally considered a success, and was admirably organised throughout by Miss Deeks.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

This term the Photographic Society has been revived under Mr. Pratt and Mr. Taylor. There have been four meetings on Tuesday afternoons after school, to which almost all the members came. At the first a secretary was elected, George, and it was decided to hold a competition; a prize to be given for the best photograph of a building. A second competition is now in progress, the subject being any view.

At the last meeting it was decided to have a day's outing for the purpose of taking photographs. Two suggestions were offered, Hathersage and Sprotboro', the latter being eventually chosen and the outing will take place on July 21st.

During the term there has been quite a lot of developing and enlarging done in the Society's dark room, which the Science Sixth rigged-up all the chemicals being prepared by them. There have been, however, few entries to the competition, as the weather on the whole has been unsuitable for photography, and in addition to this everyone seems to have been preparing for examinations.

CYCLING CLUB.

In spite of a succession of fairly fine Saturdays the absentees from the runs have slowly increased in number ; this is greatly to be deplored. Should this continue the results may be disastrous. Members who are unable to attend should, if possible, give notice beforehand.

A run to Owston Ferry on the 5th May opened the season, and was followed the next week by one to the Dukeries. Rain spoiled the intended run to Langsett on May 19th, but a run to Monk Fryston on June 2nd was conducted in perfect weather. The run to Strines on June 16th attracted only three members in spite of the good condition of the weather.

SPORTS DAY.

Sports Day this year was held on Monday, March 26th. The weather, considering our climate, was quite good. There was a rather cool breeze, but the sun shone most of the afternoon ; the field was rather moist and sticky.

The Sports opened at 2 p.m. with the Girls' House hundred yards, and closed at 4.35 with the Senior Boys' mile. The events were all very hotly contested, and much keenness was shown. Most of the Houses sent in the correct number of entrants, with the exception of Sparta, which did not possess any junior girls.

It is, of course, impossible, in the short space available, to mention each individual event. Two performances stand out as worthy of mention—that of R. Kirkby, who broke the high jump record for the School with four feet nine inches, and that of L. George, who was easily winner of the Boys' mile, and who finished looking almost as fresh as when he started.

The stand was crowded with spectators, both parents and members of the School. The applause throughout was deafening.

After the first half-hour it was evident that the issue lay between Rome, Thebes and Sparta. The final result was : Rome first, with ninety-one points ; Thebes second, with ninety points ; Sparta third, with eighty-seven points ; Athens seventy points ; Troy fifty-three points ; and Carthage forty-three points.

SPEECH DAY.

Speech Day was held on Thursday May 17th, at the Majestic Cinema. In spite of the unfavourable weather conditions, the attendance was fairly good. The ceremony was opened by the scholars singing "Forty Years On." The Chairman, Mr. F. W. Illsley, then gave a few opening remarks, followed by the Headmaster, who gave his report outlining the School year, and a short address in which he likened us to the Children of Israel awaiting the promised land. The School sang "Gaudeamus," which, although probably not understood by many, was sung with gusto and vigour.

Sir Percy Jackson then gave his address, and amidst deafening applause presented the School Certificates to the successful candidates, and, both the Talbot Cup for Games and the Parents' Cup for work, to the representatives of Sparta. The Staff Cup went to the victors of the Sports Day—Rome.

When the excitement had subsided the School sang "Heroes," after which followed the usual vote of thanks by Mr. O. A. Hollingworth, seconded by Mrs. Poiner. Everybody then sang the National Anthem, ending another successful and interesting Speech Day.

CRICKET.

Owing to the fact that the School has no cricket field at present, the team has only had three away fixtures this term, and one of these, that against Thornes House, has been rained off. Judging on the two displays this term the batting has been on the weak side, but the team has had very little practice compared with other schools.

On June 23rd the School played Doncaster Technical School and won by 13 runs. The School batted first and, on a good wicket, knocked up a score of 45 runs, Wetherell and Prendergast, with 8 each, and Brittain and Brookes, with 7 each, being the best scorers. When Doncaster went in it appeared as if they would easily overtake our score, for with two partnerships of 16 and 13 runs each, they had 29 runs on the board for 3 wickets. The remaining eight batsmen, however, made a very poor show, and the School dismissed them for the addition of only 3 runs. Young, bowling very well, took 4 wickets for 4 runs, while Wetherell bowled all through the innings for an average of 5 wickets for 14 runs.

On June 30th the School played Goole and lost by 45 runs. Goole batted first and the School started well by taking one of Goole's best wickets with the score at 3. The next two batsmen, however, participated in a long second wicket stand, and, by steady batting, took the score from 3 to 40. The innings closed with a total of 65 runs. Birks, with 5 wickets for 20 runs and Young, with 3 for 10, were the best bowlers. In reply to this score the School batted poorly, and were all out for 22 runs. The chief cause of this small score was the Goole left-arm bowler, whom the School found very difficult to play, and who thus met with a large measure of success.

TENNIS.

WATH v. ROTHERHAM—July 7th, 1928.

Owing to the School Certificate Architecture Examination the team had to be changed slightly, and was as follows : 1st couple, E. Hincsliffe, M. Steer ; 2nd couple, K. Dickenson, M. Abson ; 3rd couple, P. Soar, I. Midwood.

The match was played at Rotherham and commenced at 10.30. We played the best of 15 games, Rotherham being more superior throughout the match, due to more practice on their own courts. We lost by 6—3. Final results :— 1st couple, won 2, lost 1 ; 2nd couple, won 1, lost 2 ; 3rd couple, won 0, lost 3.

Rotherham were fast servers, good at volleying ; all were hard contested games. It was a great struggle for all ; the result hardly showing the keenness of the competition, for there were many deuce games.

The Spirit of Adventure.

The spirit of adventure is the desire of all persons to do something new or to undergo a new experience. All through the ages men have set out to seek unknown lands and unknown things. There has always been and always will be a search for the unknown. We are all inquisitive by nature ; adventure is in our blood.

We are never content for any length of time with anything familiar and customary ; we like changes. It was this spirit which caused the Vikings to set out from their own land to find things no man had found before. The same

desire sent Columbus across unknown seas to America and has moved many explorers to probe into the heart of unexplored continents.

In our own time, when practically the whole of the world has been explored, adventure has had to take another course. This course is a search for improvements, and has led to many important scientific inventions and discoveries. Just lately flying has become an adventure. Long distance flights and trans-Atlantic flights have become quite frequent. Although the odds are that these flights will end in disaster, the airmen are not deterred. The call of adventure is too strong and overcomes their fear.

Who would not like to travel all over the world and see all the wonders of other lands? Everyone would jump at the chance; we should all give a great deal to have new and strange experiences.

In this passion for the new and the inexperienced, there is something far deeper than a desire only for physical experiences. There is a search for truth and a steady aiming towards perfection. We become tired of the old methods of doing things, and want to improve them and again improve them. We are never satisfied for long; we always strive towards something better. In adventure is the hidden force of progress and improvement, the power which makes the world go round and without which civilization would not advance.

J. SCHOLEY (Va.)

The Science Sixth.

Removed from the midst of civilised folk
In the sciences to dab,
Live a band to whom life is one long joke,
Inside the chemistry lab.

There's one whose face, though young and round,
Yet tells a tale of works profound,
Where he alone has footing found;
And one whose face is rather grim,
A clever youth, and learned, him.
There's one who's long and thin and tall,
Whose locks will on his forehead fall.
There's one who walks with springy tread,
His hair, I fear, alas! is red;

His friend whose hair at least is brown
 Can quickly laugh and quickly frown ;
 There's one who walks at a good pace,
 Long are his legs, so is his face ;
 Yet when he smiles, he smiles with grace.
 He and his friend, a studious youth,
 Think themselves old, yet in good sooth,
 I know not if they think the truth.
 If anyone should take offence
 At this my verse,
 I only say in its defence
 ' They might be worse ! '

PHYLLIS DOBSON,
 Literary Sixth.

An Imaginary Dialogue between my Great Grandfather and Myself.

Mother : " Hello ! so here is Josephine coming from school.
 There is the 'bus in which they travel to and fro."

Great-Grandfather : " So this is my great grand-daughter ? "

Myself : " Yes ; I am just coming home from school."

G. : " When I was young there was no school for poor
 people."

M. : " No School ! How did you learn to read and write ? "

G. : " I can do very little of either, but what little I learned
 I learned at Sunday School."

M. : " You had Sunday Schools, then ? "

G. : " Yes. I remember well we had to walk the rough hilly
 roads."

M. : " Why, where did you live ? "

G. : " In a remote village on the Pennine Range in West
 Yorkshire."

M. : " And had you always to walk ? "

G. : " Yes ; there were no 'buses in those days and very few
 trains on Sundays."

M. : " There is my Uncle Charles, he was a soldier in the Great
 War. Were there any wars when you were a young
 man ? "

G. : " Aye, to be sure, child, there were."

M. : " Do please tell me about them as I like history."

- G. : " I will try and relate to you a few things which happened during the Crimean War. The war was supposed to have been to prevent the Russians obtaining possession of Constantinople. During this war a wrong command was given, and six hundred British soldiers charged the whole Russian Army, with the result that only one hundred and ninety-three returned alive. It was during this war that Florence Nightingale came into prominence. She, with a band of noble nurses attended to the sick and wounded in such a manner that made her famous the world over."
- M. : " Was there much fever on the battlefield those days ? "
- G. : " Yes ! Not only on the battlefields but also in towns whose population was rapidly growing."
- M. : " What was the reason for the rapid spreading of these diseases ? "
- G. : " Because of the bad sanitary arrangements."
- M. : " Why was the population of these towns growing so rapidly ? "
- G. : " Owing to the development of machinery ; our hand looms were being displaced by power driven machines, and people were flocking to the towns where new mills were being built."
- M. : " Did they weave as good a material with the new machines as with the hand loom ? "
- G. : " Well, it is difficult for me to answer that, but they could produce it much cheaper, and gradually drove hand woven goods out of the market."
- M. : " Did they weave the variety of materials that are made nowadays ? "
- G. : " No ; they produced chiefly woollen goods."
- M. : " Oh, so there would not be the same variety of dress for ladies ? "
- G. : " No ; dresses were quite different in those days, both in material and in style, for instance, they were much longer."

J. ELLIS (IId.)

Forest Aisles.

I walked amidst green forest glades,
 A hint of June was in the air,
 And verdant foliage spread their shades,
 Enveloping many a hidden lair.

The stately oak and spreading beech
 Reared high their heads in pride this morn,
 As if they would of me beseech,
 Come join them e'er old age did dawn.

I felt as free as mountain winds,
 And breathed the embalm'd scent with joy,
 I long to break the bond that binds
 Me to this life which oft doth cloy.

The golden sunshine slanted down,
 Threw oblong bars across my path,
 The trees infused with red and brown
 Made many a pleasant aftermath.

A gentle breeze reigned happily o'er all
 An azure sky smiled o'er a sunlit earth,
 My spirits leapt, this scene did me enthrall
 And brought to me a kind of holy mirth.

Oh come, ye fairy folk
 To me reveal
 Your hidden lore,
 And I'll pursue with such unconquerable zeal
 The secrets of your art
 For evermore.

T. LYONS (Vc.)

Nothing.

We talk about "Nothing." We can't talk about something which hasn't anything about it to talk about. We cannot describe, or admit the existence of something which is known to be total absence of anything. There is no total absence of anything, and "nothing" doesn't exist, which means that "nothing" is something which isn't. Now if "nothing" is something which isn't, "nothing" is something, even though it is something which isn't. Again, anything which is something must be somewhere, otherwise it wouldn't be anything, which means that "nothing" is something but it isn't something, it is nothing.

"Ho!" you say; "nothing is absolute space." There is no absolute space. Ether exists everywhere, in which electric and magnetic oscillations occur. Now electric or magnetic oscillations can occur everywhere, for they are the ultimate cause of all light which reaches us from the sun and the stars. This means that ether is everywhere.

Now ether only exists so far as Infinity. The Universe is only infinite, it is not more than infinite, for we cannot conceive that there is anything beyond infinity. No matter how far we get, there is still so much further to go, and still we are out of reach of Infinity.

“Nothing,” therefore, cannot exist. There is no such thing as “nothing.” This means that when we speak about “nothing” we must be speaking about something, which means that “nothing” is something. But “nothing” obviously cannot be anything, otherwise it wouldn’t be “nothing.” There looks to be more in “nothing” than we at first imagined.

Do not worry and bring yourselves down with grey hairs to the grave, even when expenditure is equal to income ; you have got something, even if you have got “nothing.”

L. GEORGE (VI. Sc.)

On Seeing the Walls of the New School Buildings.

Men are here to-day and gone to-morrow,
And thou shalt see how death and human sorrow
Encroach upon the lives of mortal men.

But thou who dost arise from scattered piles
Of man-made shapes, of bricks, of stones and tiles
Shall stand and see new faces and new men,
And thou shalt see that life is not all human sorrow,
Shall hear the laughter ring among thy rooms to-morrow
And tremble 'neath the vibrant morning hymn.

What men and women shall from thee proceed,
Soldiers or Statesmen, men to guide or lead ?
But whether 'neath thy unborn roof shall toil
Mortals of fame and praised o'er England's soil,
Or those unknown, they shall prove true,
Shall make thee home of truth and peace,
Until thou crumble, fall to dust and cease ;
And then thy name shall still live on
When generations yet to come have gone.

L. GEORGE, (VI.Sc.)

Whither ?

In the darkness of the small, though well-equipped, observatory, the gaunt shape of a powerful telescope slowly moved. Then, breaking the deathly silence came a man's voice, exultant and triumphant :

" At last I've found it, Arthur ! " it said. Then a black shape moved over and gazed through the telescope. After several minutes he withdrew his face and, with the scientists longing for experiment began :

" Yes, it's true ! But why not put the spectroscope on the lens ? "

" We will, " boomed, or rather seemed to boom in the quiet solitude—the other, " just hand it over will you ? "

A slight sound as of a box being opened, a rubbing as though something was being withdrawn and a muttered imprecation as fingers met a sharp corner.

Half an hour later two figures emerged from the round, glass-topped, building, each bearing a triumphant and beaming smile.

" Fancy, Arthur, " remarked the Lord James Burleigh—or, to me, Jimmy. " Just fancy discovering a new star which has never before been heard of ! "

" Now, Jimmy " I replied, " there's not much to wonder at when you know that one of Britain's cleverest scientists—no don't blush, for it's you—has been calculating for weeks the position of that star, and, as per usual, his calculations are correct. Then, you try and make out it's luck ! "

" Well, alright ; we'll say it's not luck. Bye-the-bye, what shall we call this new element we have discovered ? It's one unknown on earth. Now then, a difficult and frightful sounding word, please ! "

" Well, how about ' Heenuthe ' ? "

" Fine ! That'll be just right ! "

A few days later, on calling upon my old friend, I enquired if anything further had been learnt of " Heenuthe. "

" Well, I've not learnt much, " replied Lord James, " but I've managed to find its density, its boiling point, and one or two other physical properties like that. Moreover, by employing some of the latest scientific devices, I've managed to also find that it exhibits remarkable magnetic properties. It is rather peculiar in that it will not attract

iron or steel, but it will attract a special alloy of copper, bismuth, selium, and one or two others of the metals, very strongly."

At this, I gasped, and managed to blurt out, "And you haven't learnt much!"

"Ah! But you haven't seen the best thing yet." He turned to a steel safe in the wall and took out a small steel box.

"Now, watch carefully," he went on. "Nothing up my sleeve, ladies and gents. Now watch when I say, 'hey-presto!'" It was just like Jimmy to fool about. Even when in the midst of the most serious experiment he could always joke.

He continued: "Now just let us weigh this box. Ah! About one kilogram. Now we carefully place the box on the window-sill and release the catch. You observe a small cube rise quickly and, almost at once, disappear from our sight. Now we re-weigh the box. It is now a hundred grams, or, the weight of the cube is about nine hundred grams. Now, oh kind assistant, please observe the small volume of the box. You do! Good! Then kindly tell me if you perchance know of any gas that would lift nine hundred grams when only such a small amount was used. You do not? Good! Then perhaps you will believe me when I tell you that the cube is now on its way to the new star we discovered owing to the attractive powers of "Heenuthe."

Somewhat staggered by the upward flight of the cube, I had faintly murmured "Yes," to my friend's questionings, but, now calmed down, I gave things a closer inspection and saw that everything was correct and that Jimmy was right.

"What use shall you make of it?" I asked.

"Well, I'm thinking of making a machine containing some of the special attracted compound and, by shielding it with steel—which neutralizes the attraction—to so control the speed as to reach Mars!"

Naturally, I expostulated with him, but all to no effect. Jimmy had said he was going to Mars, and I knew that wild horses would not stop him!"

It was three weeks before I was able to go round to Jimmy's once more. On arriving there, I found him with a large sphere—his infernal machine as I called it—and he seemed very pleased to see me.

“Hello! Arthur,” he began, and, seeing my glance at the machine, he began enthusiastically, “Here’s my machine. I’ve just finished it and am going to see if it works.” He jumped in through a door when, suddenly, a large bang sounded. I jumped.

“What’s that?” I demanded. A head came through the doorway. “’S alright; it’s only someone shooting crows in the next field. Now watch carefully!”

The door closed with a bang, and the machine commenced to ascend. Slowly it went, then less slowly, fast, and faster it went until it appeared as a minute speck in the sky.

A hand dropped on my shoulder and a voice came in my ear: “’Scuse me, mister, but ’as yer seen a crow anywhere around? A shot one down in ’ere, a’m shure!”

I knew now what had happened. The crow had fallen on some part of the machine—possibly had prevented the closing of the steel shields, and Jimmy could not stop his machine. He may arrive at Mars—or—he may not.

“Good luck, Jimmy!”

