



*Rockets
through
space*

P. E. Cleator

*the dawn of
interplanetary travel*

Our Scientific Advisor writes:—

“This is the most exciting piece of popular scientific writing I have come across since Professor Haldane wrote Daedalus”

For hundreds of years men have dreamed of journeying through space to the moon and the planets. But until the beginning of the present century, such aspirations were universally deemed beyond all hope of fulfilment, and thus unworthy of serious consideration.

During the last thirty years, however, and especially during the last decade, there has appeared an ever-growing body of opinion which holds otherwise. To-day, few people appear to realize how intense have become the co-operative, world-wide efforts to bring about the realization of the epoch-making achievement of a journey to another world.

Interplanetary travel! Can it be accomplished? And if so, how? And when? And by whom? It is these far-reaching questions with which the book is concerned, and the answers are set forth clearly, carefully—and convincingly.



Mr. H. G. Wells keeps the public constantly in mind of the romance and thrilling possibilities of interplanetary travel, and the last scene in his famous film “Things to Come” shows a ‘space ship’ setting forth to the moon. But **ROCKETS THROUGH SPACE** gives

actual facts and figures and weighs up the very definite possibilities of travelling by rocket to other unknown worlds. And Mr. P. E. Cleator, the author, has the gift of being able to set out hard scientific facts and statistics in an eminently palatable form, and he holds the reader's breathless attention from the first moment he describes the scientific basis necessary for constructing the 'space ship', to the last chapters where he speculates on the possible forms of life that may be found on other planets by these rocket-borne explorers. With the end of the book the spell is broken and the reader returns from a voyage in the stratosphere to this common earth, but returns with a very clear knowledge of the facts of the case and of the exciting potentialities of the dawn of the Rocket era.



Mr. Cleator is the Director of Research of the Scientific Research Syndicate, and a member of many scientific associations, British and foreign. His interest in astronautics (the science of space travel) began more than a decade ago, and eventually led to his founding the British Interplanetary Society in October 1933—an organization he still serves as President.

Thanks in great part to his subsequent efforts, the Society progressed—and continues to progress—steadily, and its *Journal*, which he edits, has readers in nearly every country in the world. Since the Society's formation, he has made no less than four visits to the German experimenters on its behalf. Undoubtedly with his many writings and public lectures on interplanetary travel and its possibilities, he has done much to create an intelligent interest in the subject in England. This book is his latest endeavour to that end.

Extracts from Professor Low's Preface to the book:

"It seems best to prepare ourselves for the delightful thought that interplanetary communication, or even travel, is not wildly impossible, but merely, at the moment, rather beyond our knowledge. . . .

"I consider it the duty of everyone to familiarize himself with the extraordinary opportunities that may belong to this world within the next few centuries. . . .

"If anyone still believes the use of rockets or the facts of space travel to be foolish, let him remember that to neglect those possibilities, however vague, would be even greater folly."

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