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WAY TO SIGNAL MARS

Professor David Todd Will Use
a Balloon.

TO TRY TO RECEIVE MESSAGES

Amherst Man Will Ascend Higher
Than Ever Before When Planet Is
Nearest to the Earth—How Professor
Doolittle Would Signal Mars.

Professor David Todd of Amherst
college does not believe it absurd to
plan for communication with other
worlds and in an attempt to get sig-
nals from Mars will ascend in a bal-
loon to a height greater than usually
reached, says a Boston dispatch. He
will be accompanied by Leo Stevens,
the aeronaut. This plan to surmount
natural difficulties will be tried not
later than September, when the planet
Mars is nearest the earth.

Professor Todd, speaking of the
novel test he has planned, said in part:
"If life really exists on Mars they
have been trying for years to get into
conversation with us and perhaps won-
der what manner of stupid things we
are not to respond. Following this as-
sumption, I have thought that we
might feel their presence if we could
get high enough up, away from the
noises and the ether waves that sur-
round us, up in the rarefied regions of
our atmosphere with nothing to dis-
turb the communication.

"In mounting high up in the balloon
to attempt to intercept any ether
waves that may be radiating from the
planets I shall be shut into a metal
box made of aluminium for lightness
and fitted with apparatus to drive out
the carbonic acid gas and supply oxy-
gen and with air pressure to prevent
sickness. In that way I can ascend
much higher than balloons have heret-
ofore gone. We shall take along the
wireless receiving instrument and try
to intercept messages from Mars, Ve-
nus or any other of the planets.

"The planet Venus defies the tele-
scope. All we get from Venus is a
reflection from the planet's atmosphere
or gaseous envelope. This very at-
mosphere of Venus is a sign of proba-
ble life on the planet.

"We cannot presume to send mes-
sages to Mars on this coming trip, but
will only try to receive. The question
has been raised of how we should get
our grand connection necessary for
telegraphy.

"There are several answers. We
will use what is practicable. If, in the
meantime, it is established that a thou-
sand foot wire hanging from the car
with surrounding atmosphere forms a
'grounding,' we will use that."

When asked about the practicability
of recent plans for establishing com-
munication with Mars, Professor Eric
Doolittle of the Flower astronomical
observatory, University of Pennsyl-
vania, said:

"The idea of signalling to Mars with
the object of determining whether or
not the planet is inhabited is practical
and might be easily carried out by the
construction of large geometrical re-
flectors in the plains of Siberia. The
triangle, the square and the circular
plane could be used. Were we now on
Mars with our telescopes, such a set
of figures would be distinctly discern-
ible. If Mars is inhabited by intelli-
gent men, and if among them there
are astronomers watching this earth,
those men would see these geometrical
figures, and they would communicate
by constructing similar devices."

Professor Doolittle thought that the
expenditure of the proposed \$10,000,000
for establishing communication with
Mars would be impracticable until it
was definitely determined that Mars
was inhabited.

CLUB TO LIVE ON FRUIT.

Society Called the Golden Age Is
Formed in London.

A new society club formed in Lon-
don, called the Golden Age, has been
established to advocate a fruitarian
system of living for philanthropic, hu-
mane and hygienic reasons. The club
is for men and women who are inter-
ested in the suffrage movement.

It will be purely social, and bridge
and other games will furnish diver-
sions. A medical leader in the move-
ment affirms a man should reach the
age of 128 under the proposed diet.

Chance For Aeronauts.

King Leopold of Belgium has offered
a \$5,000 prize for the best treatise on
aeronautics to be brought out this
year.

The Umpire.

Who is it, reckless of his fame
And deaf to yells of praise or blame,
Unmoved by glory or by shame,
Hands down decisions on the game?
His Ump.

Who calmly stands where spinning
spheres,
Projected by the hand that steers
The low or high, curved, straight or
queers,
Whiz past his body, face and ears
And calls them balls or strikes, while
cheers
From grand stand throngs or bleachers'
jeers
Do not affect his hopes or fears?
His Ump.

Who faces thousands every day
Ranged round the grounds in fierce array,
All with a hot desire to slay
When he decides a quick, close play
Not in accordance with their way,
No matter what they want and say?
His Ump.

Who wears the diamond like a king?
Who has the players on the string?
Who carries pennants in a sling?
Who simply runs the whole darn thing?
His Ump.

—W. J. Lampton in New York Times.

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