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THE BOOKSHELF

THE CONQUEST OF SPACE

By DAVID LASSER

Although newspapers and magazines have been filled with sensational material dealing with rocket experiments and what they promise for the future, there has been as yet no book in English to explain their revolutionary significance.

This present volume does just that and covers the history of the rocket, its development to date, and the tremendous effect it is expected to exert upon our civilization.

Mr. Lasser is president of the American Interplanetary Society. He is, in the words of Dr. H. H. Sheldon who wrote the introduction, "a pioneer in this field and perhaps in a better position than most anyone else in this country to speak with authority concerning experiments in every corner of the world." "The publishing of this book," continues Dr. Sheldon, "will undoubtedly prove a milestone in the progress of rocket study in this country."

Mr. Lasser first traces the history and development of the rocket, and the history of the idea of interplanetary travel. He then explains how the rocket may be harnessed, not only as a means of transportation, but also as a terrible engine of warfare and a means to peaceful conquest of the moon and the planets.

The second section of this thrilling narrative is written with scientific verisimilitude of the building of a gigantic space ship, and a trip to the moon. The third section deals with the barriers to the space flight, the prospects of life upon other planets and what men may find there to justify this unparalleled adventure into the unknown. The book closes with a "Glimpse of the Future" in which the picture of an immense rocket port in New York is described and a round-the-world flight in which the rocket flyers actually beat the sun.

This volume is recommended for all who want an intimate glimpse into the vast possibilities and significance of the rocket and how it may transform our lives and bring the planets within reach.

It is published by the Penguin Press, Inc. of New York City, and sells for three dollars.

—L. D. W.

October, 1931