

GODDARD ROCKETS TO TAKE PICTURES

**Scientist Believes Photographs
Could Be Obtained Above the
Earth's Atmosphere.**

MUST FIRST EXPLORE AIR

**He Suggests a Fund to Enable
the Smithsonian Institution to
Carry On Experiment.**

WORCESTER, Mass., Jan. 18.—The possibility of photographing in space above the earth atmosphere is suggested in a statement made for The Associated Press today by Dr. Robert H. Goddard, Associate Professor of Physics at Clark College, who is perfecting a rocket which it is expected will carry recording apparatus to extreme altitudes.

Dr. Goddard does not prophesy, however, and says too much attention has been given to the chance that his rocket with a flash powder attachment may hit and illuminate the dark quarter of the moon. For the present the exploration of the atmosphere is the thing to be aimed at. In a signed statement Dr. Goddard says:

"Too much attention has been concentrated on the proposed flash power experiment, and too little on the exploration of the atmosphere. My reason for saying this is not because I believe the former is entirely unrealizable. In fact, if I were to speculate boldly instead of timidly, I would say that based upon equally sound physical principles is the possibility of obtaining photographs, in space, by an apparatus guided by photo sensitive cells (to guide it toward or near a luminous body, a method already proposed for directing high altitude apparatus), precautions being taken to insure a sufficiently safe and conspicuous landing on the return. To continue a speculation, however, on matters concerning which there is little experimental data would, of course, be unwise.

"The point is this: Whatever interesting possibilities there may be of the method that has been proposed, other than the purpose for which it was intended, no one of them could be undertaken without first exploring the atmosphere. Any rocket apparatus for great elevations must first be tested at various moderate altitudes. Also, a knowledge of densities at high levels is essential. Hence, from any point of view, an investigation of the atmosphere is the work that lies ahead.

"Inasmuch as no definite action is ever obtained without a definite proposition, I would like to propose, if the work is of sufficient interest, the raising of from \$50,000 to \$100,000 by pop-

ular subscription, to be used by the Smithsonian Institution in preparing for, and undertaking, a preliminary exploration of the atmosphere by the method in question, the work to be begun either now or at such a time as the Institution shall present such experimental results as will be satisfactory to those who are subscribing."