What Is Air?

BEFORE 1894 every chemist thought he knew what air is. "A mechanical mixture of moisture, nitrogen and oxygen, with traces of hydrogen and carbon dioxide," he would explain. There was so much oxygen and nitrogen in a given sample that he simply determined the amount of oxygen present and assumed the rest to be nitrogen.

One great English chemist, Lord Rayleigh, found that the nitrogen obtained from the air was never so pure as that obtained from some compound like ammonia. What was the "impurity"? In co-operation with another prominent chemist, Sir William Ramsay, it was discovered in an entirely new gas—"argon." Later came the discovery of other rare gases in the atmosphere. The air we breathe contains about a dozen gases and gaseous compounds.

This study of the air is an example of research in pure science. Rayleigh and Ramsay had no practical end in view—merely the discovery of new facts.

A few years ago the Research Laboratories of the General Electric Company began to study the destruction of filaments in exhausted lamps in order to ascertain how this happened. It was a purely scientific undertaking. It was found that the filament evaporated—boiled away, like so much water.

Pressure will check boiling or evaporation. If the pressure within a boiler is very high, it will take more heat than ordinarily to boil the water. Would a gas under pressure prevent filaments from boiling away? If so, what gas? It must be a gas that will not combine chemically with the filament. The filament would burn in oxygen; hydrogen would conduct the heat away too rapidly. Nitrogen is a useful gas in this case. It does form a few compounds, however. Better still is argon. It forms no compounds.

Thus the modern, efficient, gas-filled lamp appeared, and so argon, which seemed the most useless gas in the world, found a practical application.

Discover new facts, and their practical application will take care of itself.

And the discovery of new facts is the primary purpose of the Research Laboratories of the General Electric Company.

Sometimes years must elapse before the practical application of a discovery becomes apparent, as in the case of argon; sometimes a practical application follows from the mere answering of a 'theoretical' question, as in the case of a gas-filled lamp. But no substential progress can be made unless research is conducted for the purpose of discovering new facts.

General Electric Company
Schenectady, N.Y.
to us from Franklin and Marshall College, where he has been for the last two years. He was graduated from Harvard in 1911 after
transfering from Dartmouth, where he stayed for two years. In 1912 he took his M. Sc. from Harvard University. For two years he
was doing work at the Bussey Institute at Harvard, where he also taught Genetics and Entomology to graduate students. He took
his Ph. D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1916, after which he did research work for two years. His Ph. D. thesis was entitled
"Chromosomoi of the Mosquito." He was put in charge of the Biology Department at Franklin and Marshall College in 1918.

From time to time since his graduation Dr. Whiting has published papers in "Genetics, etc.," his specialty being in cats, rats, moths,
and parasitic wasps. He is here doing research work as well as taking charge of the Biology Department, and is greatly assisted by Mrs.
Whiting, who is a graduate from Smith, 1916, and has been doing work at Columbia and Yale. Mrs. Whiting taught for two years at
New Haven High School.

Major Percy S. Prince, who is coach of the football team and Athletic Director, is Assistant Professor of Science and has charge
effectively of the Chemistry Department. Major Prince was graduated from Tufts in 1906 and was for eight years engaged in athletic
work at Louisiana Industrial Institute. During the war he was Athletic Director of the 39th Division.

Member of Board of Trustees Resigns

Mr. Robertson Not in Sympathy With Board's Actions.

William C. Robertson has resigned as member of the Board of Trustees, expressing the opinion that he is out of sympathy with
the rest of the board. Mr. Robertson deemed it unwise to build the gymnasium at this time, thus incurring an additional financial burden.
His resignation was accepted with regret and the trustees are carefully considering who may best be elected in his place.

The term of Mr. Henry Young, Trustee from New York-New Jersey, expired in November of this year. At the Synod Mr. Young was
elected to succeed himself.

At the annual meeting in October the following officers were elected:
Chairman—Bishop Burch. Vice-Chairman—President B. I. Bell. Secretary—Mr. William Harrison. Treasurer—Mr. Philip S. Dean.
Lawrence Cole. Chairman Auditing Committee—Mr. Henry Young.

(Dragon Club Notes)

On the evening of October 20th, the Rev. Dr. William Harman Van Allen, of Boston, gave a lecture on modern spiritualism under
the auspices of the Dragon Club. Dr. Van Allen's lecture was timely and instructive. He has for a number of years been active in
psychic research, and has become very well known in this branch of study. After the regular lecture Dr. Van Allen very kindly gave
an informal talk in the library on kindred subjects.

Captain Hugh S. Martin, formerly of the United States Army, and for several years attached to the Embassy at Petrograd, lectured
on Bolshevism on November 30. Captain Martin came excellently recommended, especially by Ambassador D. R. Francis, and since his
study of radicalism has been so thorough, we cannot but feel that his opinions and observations are authoritative. He revealed the gross
economic fallacies in Bolshevism, and its moral and ethical menace. We were very glad to have this side of the question put to us at this
time. We needed something to show us the real danger which confronts the future of our own country, and that of the civilized world.

The Dragon Club has an excellent list of lecturers on its programme for the year, and intends to offer its patrons the opportunity of hearing the best speakers in as wide a field as possible.

Convocation

A meeting of Convocation was held on Tuesday, September 22nd, 1920. The main purpose of this meeting was to organize the stu-
dent body and to introduce the new men into official college activities.

On October 13th, there was a special meeting, at which it was decided to have a masquerade party on Halloween.

Another regular meeting of Convocation was held on November 19th in Preston Hall, at which it was proposed to present Professor
McDonald with a wedding gift, in appreciation for what he has done for the students of St. Stephen's College.

The Glee Club

The first assembly of the Glee Club was held just before the Thanksgiving recess, and more than twenty cadetates were taken on
the "squad." These, added to the dozen or so from last year's club, will afford material enough for a carefully selected team to go on
tour in the late Winter.

The Glee Club, like the football team, is virtually a new organization this year. For the first time since the war, there is sufficient ma-
terial to make selection possible, and to equip adequately the various parts.

In the making of this new club too high praise cannot be given to the men who in the last two or three years have held loyally on
maintaining regular rehearsals and devoted interest in spite of the discouragement of small numbers and scarcity of voices. These men
have shown conclusively and decisively that St. Stephen's wants a good glee club, and can count on every man to do his best in getting
it.

During the long indoor season between Thanksgiving and the Spring vacation, the Glee Club provides an opportunity for fellow-
ship which is of special value at a time when the tendency is to fall into little groups which make for friction and discord; it affords plenty
of scope for the exercise of a whole-hearted college spirit; it offers through the prospect of trips, a pleasant break in the monotony and
routine of college work. Besides all this, the Club gives a stimulus to general singing among the students; in the plans for the officers for the
season are included occasional "sings" when the whole college will have the opportunity of learning to sing enthusiastically the songs of
the campus.

Thereupon, fellow-collegians, if you have any talent, use it for the College through the Club; and if you can't sing, help the cause along by
giving a hand to those who sing your college's praises for you.

On Thanksgiving Day, the Rev. M. S. McDonal, Professor of Philosophy, was married to Miss Louise Schwarr, at Rock Hill, South
Carolina.
Frosh-Soph Activities

THE subject of this article might well be, "It is a long worm that has no turn." Well do we remember the triumphant attitude of 1923 last year when she with great might overtake the then sophomores in every battle. But pride goeth before a fall, and all that sort of thing, as 1923 can now testify.

The Sunday evening stillness was broken on September 24th by a raucous mixture of sounds which we took to be the new yell of 1924. The frosh were loudly "raspberries" by the sophs, and the college settled down again to study, but not for long. Within a short time the bell and cry was raised that there was a fight going on in old "Battle Alley." Hastening to the scene, we found the first floor of Apthill with humanity, tugging, straining, yelling. The frosh were decidedly getting the best of it, several sophs were already secured tied, and others were quickly overpowered. There was much good fighting on both sides. The frosh managed to be commended for their maiden battle, and the sophs for their sportsmanlike, although useless resistance. A few were temporarily put out, but came around again and the party broke up in good spirits.

Some sophs claimed that they were not given a fair chance, but we hope that they will have the opportunity to show their ability on a fair field in the near future.

A few sophomores who have inherited the second lieutenant's bars are to be congratulated on enforcing the freshman rules, and it is to be hoped that the others will wake up to a sense of responsibility. Now that the football season is over, we hope to see more evidences of inter-class spirit, and are looking forward anxiously to the flag scrap.

NOTICE!

Owing to unforeseen circumstances the Editors of The Messenger have found it impossible to publish an issue of The Messenger this year before this date, but with this number The Messenger will begin to be published monthly.

The Flag Scrap

Frosh Are Easy Victors Over Sophs.

If we printed an account of the annual Sophomore and Freshman flag scrap, and gave an overwhelming victory to the Class of 1923 we should be printing something almost unprecedented in St. Stephen's, as well as giving the then alumni the idea that even the freshmen did not always win the flag scrap, as they did in "the good old days". No, not even in this advanced day were we able to see the freshmen tied in rope borrowed for the occasion, and laid off in heaps somewhere while the triumphant sophs lithely and nimbly climbed the tree and with the Frosh battle flag safely tucked away for the season, proclaim themselves victors of the fray.

The rush which took place on the afternoon of November 30 was, of course, quite one-sided. The freshmen outnumbered the sophomores about two to one and the location which was on the bank of the northwest of Ludlow Hall was very advantageous to the defenders. When the whistle blew at 3:15 p.m., there was a grand scramble around the tree and very soon the fighting was on the grass at the foot of the bank. Whenever a sophomore who after great struggle had liberated himself, made a dash for the tree on which the sheet was tied, he was pushed back again into the fray by no gentle touches from those guarding the tree.

Otto Simmons, '23, starred in this spectacular charging towards the tree, and Kauster and Howell also kept the Frosh quite worried for a while.

The superior number of the freshmen soon told upon the sophs and Hoeting '23, and Libby '23, who had fought gallantly for about seven minutes, were knocked out.

When the whistle blew at 3:30 p.m., the Freshmen flag still floated (or rather was suspended) over the battle field, and amid cheers and bright remarks, it was removed by the freshmen.

As this issue goes to press we learn that the sophs have successfully taken the Frosh battle flag and laid it in some spot as yet unknown to the bereaved Frosh. Well, it was ever thus!

Fraternity Notes

SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON.

On October 11th, the following men were pledged to Sigma Alpha Epsilon: Coffin, Allen, Willmarth, Lowen, Bontje, Barry, Sar- geant, F. White, H. Simmonds and Stewart.

The following Sig-Alph Alumni have visited the campus this Fall: Treder '91, Probst '88, Simmonds '10, Spear '11, McGuiness, Bull, Stretch and Fraser '89, Hoffman '20, and Pfaffo '20.

Edwin W. Ely '14, is at present with the Standard Oil Co. in India. George S. Gresham '20, is teaching at St. John's University, Shanghai, China.

KAPPA GAMMA CHI.

Palmer '10, and Alonzo Wood '17, Morse '16, Whitcomb '16, Glasser '14, were among those who visited campus this Fall.

The "Kaps" have the "DuBois House," northeast of the college, as a fraternity house this year. The opening of which was marked by a reception on Saturday, October 9th.

On Friday evening, October 8th, Alban Richey '23, and Augustus McCormick '23, were "Kapped."

EULEXIAN.

The following Eulexian alumni have visited the campus this year: Bleeker '76, Steel '18, Hunt '20, Albion '18, Burton '11, G. S. Sil- man, Knapp, and A. J. M. Wilson '14.

Albion College and Mrs. Albion were guests on the campus the latter part of September.

A. J. M. Wilson, '14, has recently returned from abroad, where he spent a week in visiting his mother in Belfast. While there he was able to obtain first-hand information upon the Irish question and subsequently has delivered several lectures concerning it both in Poughkeepsie and Newburgh.

Kable Dean, '99, is at present very sick in bed, suffering from heart trouble resulting from a cold.

On Friday, October 8th, the Eulexian Fraternity celebrated its sixtieth birthday anniversary.

On October 11th, the following men were pledged to Eulexian: Andrews, Everett, Franklin, Gifford, Jones, Lewis, Libaire, Smith, and Bradford White.

On Thursday evening, November 18th, Philip Birds Brooks Franklin was initiated. Bleeker '76, was present to assist and was joined by another alumnus, Wilson '14, at the Hoffman Inn, Red Hook, where an enjoyable banquet was provided.

Alumni Notes

ANOTHER BISHOP AMONG THE ALUMNI.

The Reverend Robert H. Mize, of St. Paul's Church, Kansas City, Kansas, has been elected to the Bishopric of Salina. He is a member of the Eulexian Fraternity and was graduated from St. Stephen's with the Class of 1894. From the alumni of St. Stephen's there have been five Bishops elected.

The Rev. Johnson A. Sprinthorst has resigned as rector of Christ Church, Sherburne, N. Y., and accepted a call to the rectorship of St. Luke's Memorial Church, Utica, N. Y., to take effect September 1st, 1920.

The Rev. Frank Goosfry, formally assistant at the Church of the Mediator, Philadelphia, accepted the call to the rectorship of the Free Church of St. John, Kensington, Philadelphia, and took charge November 7th.

The Rev. William Edward Berger may be permanently addressed at 208 Washington Street, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

The Rev. Stephen Gardner, of Washington, D. C., has accepted a call to become the rector of St. Peter's Church, Washington, D. C.

The Rev. Gerald H. Lewis, priest in charge of St. Andrew's Church, New Palmy, N. Y., has accepted a call to become rector of St. Andrew's Church, Beacon, and St. Mark's Church, Chelsea, N. Y., and assumed charge on October 1st.
Editorial

"WHAT is the spirit of St. Stephen's?" Perhaps there is no question so widely asked among our new men as this; undoubtedly there is none so difficult to answer. On all sides, in every gathering, "in care-free group and festive throng," we hear allusions to this virtue in glowing terms; it is vividly impressed upon the mind of any thinking observer that such a spirit does truly exist and that it is a vital, dominant thing, but the minds of many of us remain exceedingly hazy as to its true nature. It is to the new-comer that these few, necessarily sketchy paragraphs are addressed with the hope that from them some glean of the true St. Stephen spirit may be gained.

One may begin by saying what this spirit is not. It is distinctly not a spirit of modernism as we have come to understand the meaning of that word—that spirit which has all too sadly come to mean an utter contempt for the past, a feverish desire to enter enthusiastically into everything new, an impatience with everything that smacks of the conventional. The essence of the true St. Stephen's spirit is something definitely and uncompromisingly opposed to any such ideas as these.

Sixty years ago this college of ours was founded by men and women who felt keenly the need of bringing the "old-fashioned" idea of education into direct contact with the problems of their day—the idea of education which has linked Religion and Culture by an indissoluble bond. Those founders gave of their wealth, their labor and their prayers that the newly-founded college might in some way exemplify this ideal. When their work was done, they passed on their dreams to men who, through those long years, kept the noble ideals and high purposes of the founders ever before their eyes. The same devotion to and labor for the good of the college characterized them as it did their predecessors. They were men who were animated by a spirit of veneration for all the high and noble things of the past. Although each generation had its vision of the future, visions which had as their all-engrossing theme the gradual evolution of St. Stephen's into a state which should at least approximate perfection—yet "those grand old men" never for a moment were forgetful of the rich inheritance they had received and the strong foundation on which they were to build.

This veneration and love for the past gradually became woven into the life here until it has come to be the most vital characteristic of the true St. Stephen's spirit. It has colored our lives with a beauty not often given. It has made life bearable at times when hosts of little things seemed to combine against us and threaten to drown us in disappointment and despair. When, in the dark days of war, destruction seemed to threaten our Alma Mater like a deadly blight, it was our veneration for the past that kept spurring us on; we were filled with memories of what the College had done and had stood for in the past, and we determined that, by God's help, she should in the future do the same noble deeds and stand for the same high ideals as she had in the golden past.

In these days when the insidious doctrines of modernism have penetrated into every phase of life, it is not strange that we should be tainted with them here at St. Stephen's. There are those of our own group, tradition-smashers and scoffers at the past, who would have us disregard and count as nothing all that has been done in the past, and set up something new, shining and glittering; and yet if one were to tell these same people to tear out the foundations of their houses and build again without foundations, they would consider him either a plain fool or a dangerous imbecile. These college modernists along with their elder brothers in the fields of religion and politics, would have us believe that as long as we continue our so-called salish devotion to the past we will have stagnation,—that true progress will never be attained here at St. Stephen's until we wholeheartedly and unreservedly embrace the new. They apparently forget that the word progress itself means development, and that, in turn, development means addition and not subtraction. In other words, we cannot have progress by taking away.

Along with "progress," some of us are continually speaking of those vague things, "the new day," "the new generation," and "the young men of today"—terms which have come, through continual use and misuse, to mean very little more to us than common-place abstractions. Newspapers, periodicals, novels and poetry are filled with them, and alas! we hear very little else from the pulpit. To anyone with the trend of progress, these things have come to be sickening and disgusting. We are wearied of continually hearing of them, and our only salvation lies in a willingness to look occasionally behind us to days gone by.

So the spirit of St. Stephen's is what may appear to the "young men of today" as a paradox, a blending of the sense of veneration for the past with a sense of development; very little discernment, however, is necessary to see that this idea is not paradoxical but perfectly consistent. We have seen the fruits of this idea many times. St. Stephen's men are scattered all over this country and in foreign lands, and they are quietly but effectively ex-
four, and scored a total of 186 points to 176 for its opponents.

With each remarkable showing for an entirely new team, we can look for great success in the coming years of the College's football history. As only two members of the 'Varsity squad will be graduated this year, there is left nearly an entire eleven upon which to build a record-breaking machine for the fall of 1921.

The campus this college year, seems lack in that there is an absence of some one who was almost a landmark of St. Stephen's. There is some one who helped to give this little community a certain scholastic atmosphere which foretold dignity and purpose. This person is John C. Robertson. It is with great reluctance that we realize the fact that the trustees received last spring the resignation of the Hoffman Professor of Greek, who for twenty-eight years was ever ready to afford assistance to any student who might call upon him.

We of this present and younger generation have not been able to appreciate Dr. Robertson to the extent as have our alumni. We feel sure that every alumni who learned his Greek under Dr. Robertson will always say a good word for "Robbie's" exactness and thoroughness,—thus making graduates of St. Stephen's not only on a par, but sometimes far better versed in the Greek language and literature than graduates from other institutions and universities.

Dr. Robertson came to St. Stephen's in September, 1892, and was a graduate of the University of Virginia, with a Ph. D. from Johns Hopkins. Ever in his stay at Annadale has he stood for a loyal observance of the regulations of the College, and for honest purpose in the welfare of the Institution. He was a steadfast supporter of The Messenger and all College activities. He graciously upheld the athletics of the institution, himself being a very fine tennis player.

The Chair of Greek which Dr. Robertson leaves to take up work in New York City, is filled by Dr. Lucius R. Sherbo. Dr. Sherbo, who is a Ph. D. from the University of Wisconsin, was a Rhodes Scholar for three years at New College, Oxford, from which college he received a B. A. Degree. He spent his College course at Haverford, where he received his B. A. Degree.

Athletics

Football Review

The 1920 season of football at Saint Stephen's is finished. The Red and White waved triumphantly over four contests, and sturdily waved its defiance to the end, although outweighed and outclassed in three others.

With but seventy students from which to pick a team, and but thirty of those answering the call for candidates; with no veterans of preceding seasons, and no men who had ever played in intercollegiate contests; with a new coaching system to master; the prospects on September 26th looked far from encouraging, but the little squad settled down to the hard grind that loomed up ahead of them with a determined spirit.

The season opened on October second at Canton, New York, with St. Lawrence University as opponents, and after a pretty struggle against a heavier and more experienced eleven, the Red and White held the losing end of a 35 to 0 score.

On October 13th, after an all-day and all-night ride, Alfred University was met at Alfred, New York, as a result of the long trip were well tired, and were defeated by the heavier and more experienced Alfred team by a score of 39 to 0.

Eastman College, on October 23rd came up from Poultney eager to duplicate their feat of 1919, 49 to 0 victory over St. Stephen's but were turned back and defeated after a hard, close game by a score of 7 to 6.

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The 'Varsity team was captained by George Land- don, '22, who proved to be an able leader, and who has been re-elected to head the 1921 team.

E. B. Wood, '21, gave his best efforts as manager, and made a most successful record in handling the trips.

The team was coached by Major Percy S. Prince, Tufts, '06, who handled the athletic work of the Louisiana Industrial Institute for eight years, and who was athletic director of the 39th Division during the World War.

Mr. Armstrong, of Red Hook, and Otto Simmons, '23, handled the second team, and much of the credit of the season goes to these, and their plucky, fighting scrubs.

The make-up of the 'Varsity during the sea-

Hallowe'en Party

A masquerade party was held in Preston Hall on Hallowe'en. It was marked with a fine display of originality on the part of costumes, and the committee in charge is to be commended for the very enjoyable evening spent by all. The refreshments consisted of cider, doughnuts and ice cream. Professor McDonald completed the entertainment of the evening with one of his famous ghost stories.

Thanksgiving

The Thanksgiving holidays which lasted from Wednesday noon, November 25th, until the following Monday morning, were enjoyed immensely by those who remained on the campus. Mrs. Whiting and Mrs. Franklin kindly entertained on Wednesday evening and a very happy evening was spent. A very fine dinner was served in Preston Hall, and on the whole, vacation was marked with a lively and enjoyable atmosphere.
Bark from the Lyre Tree

In Those Balmy Days.
If you love me, say so,
If you don't love me, say no;
If you love me, tweeze my hand,
But don't keep me sitting on these friggin' steps.
All night long. I'll freeze to deff, Dammit.
—Virginia Reel.

Moore—"Why do they have clocks on socks?"
Barry—"So they can see how fast the seams run."—Hamilton Life.

Natural History.
"Heavenly, no, Horace, all the flies that fly around the dairy are not butterflies..."
—Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.

The End of the Race.
They sat alone in the moonlight,
And she smiled his troubled brow.
"Darkest, I know my life's been fast,
But I'm on my last lap now."
—Princeton Tiger.

Second Thought.
I see her on the beach,
Her beauty my eyesight dims.
She surely is a peach—
She has such pretty—arms!
—Cornell Widow.

Sad, But True.
Buddie—Have you stopped smoking?
Ferdie—Yep; sworn off.
Buddie—Why?
Ferdie—It's getting to be so damned effeminate.—Pitt Panther.

Well Done on the Gridiron.
"What's your favorite wild game?"
"Football."—Boston Transcript.

Changing the Call.
"They say Edison is working on a machine
that will enable us to talk with the departed."
"I suppose the proper call will be Heaven-
but instead of Hell-o."—Boston Transcript.

Chance—"I need to shave something awful."
Danny—"Your face, perhaps?"—Hamilton Life.

I love the girls who do,
I like the girls who don't,
But the very best of all
(And I'm sure you'll think I'm right)
Is the girl who says she won't,
And then says she might?
—Cornell Widow.

Football.
I like football—tis so gentle,
So soft and sentimental,
To watch it from the grandstand it is tame.
There our rough-neck maiden aunts
Watch us rip our neighbors' pants;
Oh! Football's such a gentle little game.

I like to take my girl
From the throbbing social whirl
To a football game—a quiet place to court.
Where young men in padded jeans
Try to smash each other's beards,
Ah, Football's such a soothing, girlish sport.
—Tattle.

McClay—"Molly sat on the stove."
Pope—"How did it feel?"
McClay—"Hot t'Molly."—Hamilton Life.