

the

alchemists

March 1974 . Volume 3

THE CASE OF THE MISSING JOULES

Inspector Sherlock Ohms of Standard International Yard was driving across the Wheatstone Bridge in his '09 Maxwell. He was trying to remember Ava Gadro's number so he could call and data for the Policeman's Ball. Suddenly he blew a tire. "OH, Nernst," said Sherlock. "I don't have a tire ion with me, but luckily ammonia short distance from the Ideal Gas Station." (This business was handled by Saul Vent who, at that moment, happened to be Freon bail).

Just as the Inspector emerged from the station, a rubber policeman whizzed by on his Carnot cycle. Ohms knew he was deuteride by, but he wondered watt made him rush so. He shouted atom, but the policeman was gone. Ohms' reaction was instantaneous. By radioactivity, he learned that Micro Farad, Recipro City's top ranking rookie, was most enthusiastically chasing a joule thief.

Ohms chased Micro down Elect Road, around the Elastic Modulus, back over Salt Bridge, and up into Farren Heights. He turned left at Old Ball Mill, went past the Mono Clinic, the Palladium, and all the way to the liquid junction at Endothermic Street. They were almost across the city line when Sherlock's car swerved and crashed into a Van der Waal. The impact splintered the Plancks and punched a hole in the hydrolysis system. "I node that was going to happen," said Sherlock, "but I'd beta catch up to him,

Quickly he woltec out of his rectilinear and took up the chase on foot.

He soon came across Micro, standing in a magnetic field, holding Ann Hydrate and Al Doll at bay. "Watts the meaning of this?" queried the Inspector, and the copper was quick to explain. "Well, Sir, I stopped at the Invar Bar, a local dyne and dance spot, for a couple of quatz of Lambert Beer when I noticed Ann Hydrate sitting alone at a two-place log table. I knew some joule thieves had made a radon Ethyl Benzene's country estate, and I spotted one of the Benzene rings on her, along with a para Ethyl's earrings, and a gold pin.

"Anode the explanation of this, but before I could torque to her, she was in her rust coat out the door. Being true to the Koppe Rule, I was quick to follow; but when she got into her Monochromatic-8, I knew I was infra rough chase. Fortunately, her engine started Fehling just beyond the city limits and I caught her as she was entering their hideout.

She had led me to the missing joules and also to her accomplice, Al Doll, who was about to barium in a hollow common log, under the sqare roots of this deserted magnetic field. While we were waiting for you, their other partner, Cal Orie, tried to run me down with his Mercury. Did that make my blood Boyle! I dodged and hit him with a bag of Boltz...mann, did that change his molar concentration!

But really, Inspector, there wasn't

any trig in catching these joule thieves. I just Van't Hoff a normal lead- don't you zinc that explains it?"

Inspector Ohms beamed, "Son, you'll go on nights for this!" (note: In Recipro City, nitrates are much mohr than those faraday, man!)

POETRY
CORNER

A chemistry prof named Annino,
Developed a pill quite obsceno.
When taken internally,
It acted infernally,
To rearrange the acids amino.

(submitted anonymously by someone
whose initials are F.J.D.)



L. GAREL

"Naturally it smells like
chicken soup ... It's my lunch."

A.C.S. SPORTS SHORTS

On Feb. 9, the Canisius College A.C.S. challenged the U.B. A.C.S. to a basketball game in Koessler. U.B. won the game unfortunately, 85-83, or 58-38, or something-- no one here really remembers. There was more involved here than just a friendly

basketball game, though. The secretary of the Canisius A.C.S. had wagered a case of Bud on the game, only to have the bid raised to a half keg by the U.B. secretary. Action was immediately taken to buy the keg through the Canisius College Food Services. After the game, everyone had a pretty good time in S-300 for a couple of hours. The keg remained for a week in S-300 after the party was over, we're proud to say. (After all, we wanted to make sure we got our deposit back!) Canisius College chemistry students were sure feeling happy the week following that game. Yes, U.B. won the basketball game, but Canisius bounced right back by trouncing them in the drinking contest.

P.H.

Ques: What's a non-classical
carbonium ion?

Ans: One that listens to rock music.

The P. Chem. Test
(Tune; Battle Hymn of the Republic)

Free energy and entropy were whirling
in his brain,
With partial differentials and Greek
letters in their train;
For delta, sigma, gamma, theta, epsilon
and pi
Were driving him distracted as they
danced before his eye.

Chorus:
Glory, Glory, dear old thermo,
Glory, Glory, dear old thermo,
Glory, Glory, dear old thermo,
I'll get you by and by.

Heat content and fugacity revolved with-
in his mind,
Like molecules and atoms that you never
have to wind,
With logarithmic functions doing cake
walks in his dreams
And partial molal quantities devouring

chocolate creams.

Chorus:

They asked him on the test if a mole
of any gas

In a vessel with a membrane through
which hydrogen could pass

Were compressed to half its volume,
what the entropy would be,

If two-thirds delta sigma equalled
half of delta p.

Chorus:

He said he guessed the entropy have to
equal four,

Unless the second law would bring it
up a couple more.

But then it might be seven, if the
thermostat were good,

Or it might be almost zero if once
rightly understood.

Chorus:

Dr. Stanton read his paper with a
corrugated brow,

For he knew he'd have to grade it,
but he didn't know quite how,

Till a sudden inspiration on his
cerebellum smote,

And he seized his trusty ballpoint
pen and this is what he wrote:

Chorus:

"Just as you guessed the entropy, I'll
have to guess your grade,

But the second law won't raise it to
the mark you might have made;

for it might have been a hundred if
your guesses had been good,

But I think it must be zero till they
are rightly understood."

What do you call a marine parasite?

Acetic, of course.

PSALM 39

R.S.V.

(Revised Student Version)

1. Oh, Dr. D., thou hast tested me
and flunked me.

2. thou knowest my downsitting and
mine laziness, thou knowest my
thoughts are afar off (of organic)

3. Thou perceiveth my goings out of
lab, thou art acquainted with all
my excuses.

4. Markownikoff's rules are not in my
head, and lo, thou knowest it.

5. Thou hast set me behind with thine
assignments, and thy final is upon
me.

6. Such syntheses are too great for me;
they are overwhelming. I cannot
attain unto them.

7. Whither shall I flee from thy know-
ing eyes.

8. If I ascend to the lab thou art
there. If I hide in the stockroom,
behold, thou art there also.

9. If I bury my head in the Chem
Abstracts, or dwell in the outer-
most parts of S-300.

10. Even there shall I find thee. And
thy molecules they haunt me.

11. And if I say surely sleep shall
release; even Carly Simon or Jim
Croce shall take hold of my thoughts.

12. Yea, the Friedel-Crafts hideth from
me, the Grignard reagents escape me,
the Michael additions confounded my
being.

13. For thou hast lectured to me; thou
hast patiently eased my ignorance.

14. I will praise thee for thy ever-
lasting tolerance of mine stupidity
for I am fearfully and hopelessly
synthesized.

15. Mine fudge factors were known unto
thee, when I thought I was in secret.

16. Thine eyes did perceive my table-
top recrystallizations. And in thy
black book are recorded my grades,
which in continuance presented my
imperfect efforts.

17. How precious are thy answers to me,
O Dr. D., How many are the ways of
using Aluminum Isopropoxide.

18. If I should count the reactions,
they are more than Avagadro's num-
ber. When I try to sleep they are
still with me in muddled array.

19. Surely thou wilt increase my
product yields, O Reactions!! Depart
from me, therefore, ye organic
contaminants.

20. For they call forth the use of
Norit, of filters, or Buchners, of
ether evaporations, of separatory
funnels, and of column chromatog-
raphy.

- 21. Do not I hate them, O Dr. D., that consume my time and am I not grieved with those molecules that disturb my sleep.
- 22. I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.
- 23. Quiz me, O Dr, D., and know my hours of studying; Deiver me from wrong catalyts and syntheses.
- 24. And see if there be any hope for me; lead me in the way of PASSING ORGANIC!!!!!!

(the Unknown Organic Student)

to remember pi to 15 places, memorize the following lines, then count the number of letters in each word.

3. 1 4 1 5 9 2
Yes, I need a drink, alcoholic of

6 5 3 5 8
course, after the heavy sessions

9 7 9
involving quantum mechanics.

MEHC MAXE

Mehc Maxe spells chem exam backwards and is a quiz designed to test one's ability to recognize and correlate the ridiculous. Some of these are pretty bad, so don't say we didn't warn you. The object is to decode trick definitions using the names of chemical elements or other names pertaining to chemistry. For example: blackbird's spouse? Answer: a chromate. So go to it.

- 1. An essential note
- 2. A 36-inch smile
- 3. To kill the bottom part of a window frame
- 4. One German beer mug
- 5. What a king with indigestion has
- 6. What the Italian said when he discovered his boat wasn't moving.
- 7. A noble stuck in the mud
- 8. A tavern where all sorts of wicked things go on
- 9. A short food supply
- 10. A lovers quarrel

- 11. A tube with a college degree
- 12. The greatest donkey
(The answers to be found somewhere in this edition)

THE WOES AND JOYS OF R. GON

Mr. R(Robert) Gon had a very serious problem-he was past 30 and he wasn't married. This problem was ignored by his friends, who said that the right girl just hadn't come along yet. This explanation did little to compensate for the loneliness inside of Robert. He wanted to have a nice house and to hear the pitter-patter of little electrons when he awakened in the morning.

What plagued Robert so was that he could not find a reason why he wasn't married. He had his own successful business; he had even saved enough money to purchase a huge neon sign with the words "R.Gon-Wholesale Dealer of Gas." He almost never lost his temper(due to his low boiling point), and all of his friends laughed at his jokes and said he was a gas at parties. He had always heard that girls go crazy over royalty, so he paid to have his family tree researched and found that he had noble blood in him. He informed the girls at the office of his background, but none of them seemed much impressed.

As the days went on, Robert got more and more depressed. He couldn't eat, sleep or run his business. Finally, in a fit of depression, he sought the help of Dr. Sigmund Freon, world-renowned scientist and psychiatrist. Dr. Freon listened attentively to R. Gon and finally, after an hour of deliberation, he came up with an answer. R. Gon was prisoner of predestination; that is, he was not meant to get hitched. He was meant to be a swinging bachelor, free and unbonded to anything or anyone. He could go where he wanted, when he wanted, and not be worried about trivial matters. Robert had never looked at his problem in such a light, and now he was overjoyed. So Mr. R. Gon was a "swinging single"for the rest of his life and was never lonely again!!! (Jesus!)

BASIC PRECEPTS OF SCIENCE

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1. Murph's Law - If anything can go wrong...it will.
- 2. Patrick's Theorem - If the equipment works, you must be using the wrong equipment.
- 3. Skinner's Constant - (Also known as Finnegan's Finagling Factor) That quantity which, when multiplied by, divided by, added to, or subtracted from, your answer... gives you the answer you should have gotten.
- 4. Horner's Five Thumb Postulate - Experience varies directly with equipment ruined.
- 5. Flagle's Law of the Perversity of Inanimate Objects - Any inanimate object, regardless of its composition or configuration, may be expected to perform... at any time...in a totally unexpected manner for reasons that are entirely obscure or else completely mysterious.
- 6. Allen's Axiom -When all else fails, read the directions.
- 7. The Spare Parts Principle - The accessibility, during recovery of small parts which fall from the lab bench, varies directly with the size of the part... and inversely with its importance to the completion of the work already underway.
- 8. The Compensation Corollary - The experiments may be considered a success if no more than 50% of the observed measurements must be discarded to correspond with the theory.
- 9. Gumperson's Law - The probability of a given event occurring is inversely proportional to its desirability.
- 10. The Ordering Principle - Those supplies necessary for yesterday's experiment must be ordered no later than tomorrow noon.
 - 1. The Ultimate Principle - By definition, when you are investigating the unknown...you don't know what you will find.
 - 2. The Futility Factor - No experiment is ever a complete failure...it can always serve as a bad example.

- Monday, March 25*****7:30 PM
C.C. Tower
Seminar - "Inside Story of Color Photography"
Speaker - John R. Thirtle,
Research Lab
Eastman-Kodak
- Monday, April 1*****8:00 PM
C.C. Tower
Seminar - "Silicon Life Forms"
Speaker - Robin Daskin
Chemistry student
SUNYAB
- Friday, April 5*****3:00 PM
Molson's Brewery
640 Fleet Street
Toronto, Ontario*
Tour-- MOLSON'S BREWERY
- Monday, April 29*****8:00 PM
C.C. Tower
Seminar - "Computer Applications In Chemistry"
Speakers - Dr. Leone, Dr. Annino
Prof. of Chemistry
Canisius College
- *Directions and transportation will be available.
REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN S-300(A.C.S. LOUNGE) AFTER EACH SEMINAR

- CANISIUS COLLEGE ACS STREAKERS VS.
THE U.B. STREAKERS
- IN A MARATHON RELAY STREAK!
- RULES:
1) There must be at least 2 girls on each team at all times.
2) Faculty advisors must actively participate.
- First prize - 1 keg of beer/ team member
Second prize - a personally guided tour of Buffalo's finest correctional facilities

