

# Celephais

#100112

IN THE SPRING...

Well, at least it is spring - at least the last couple of days have been a reasonable facsimile of a cool spring, although most of April has been rather stinking. But, the heading is not to imply the usual. The truth is that I'm finding myself busier and busier at the office, cranking out pages of material and tables - and pages of technical writing doesn't write as easily as a letter or even as a FAPA magazine. I've found it takes as much as two weeks of hard mental work, with a lot of educated guessing and alternate-trying, to get one page of text. Then, there the bugs to get out of the machine programs, one of which I believe is something new in the field - and which will step on a number of toes when I get it working. Plus, the office moves next week, to bigger and less attractive quarters, I have another new staff-member coming in tomorrow - and no desk for him. Anyway, what odds and ends of fan time I've had have gone into cleaning up the Discon affairs - or at least working on them. Plus keeping the FAPA books up.

This will have to be a four-page issue of Celephais; when I started I found I had only four stencils, and no time to get more before the deadline. So, I'm going to go along until I run out of space and then stop. Mostly mailing comments, and for once in no order; omission of yours means I didn't get down to it in the pile, nothing more.

Godot [Deckinger] I've been interested in the reactions of fandom to Heinlein's "Glory Road"; it seems to be stirring up almost as much controversy as "Starship Trooper/Soldier" did, but for different reasons. I enjoyed the story, in spite of a couple of places where I had thought the blue pencil had been used, although later word is different - and the book is the same. This isn't the first time Heinlein has gone in for fantasy, of course - Magic, Inc., and The Unpleasant Profession... come to mind - and I feel he just decided to see if he could do the heroic sword and sorcery type, throwing in some interludes of sex as an added feature. [And providing a wonderful serial break. I don't know of anything quite like this since THE END was left off one of Doc Smith's, "Galactic Patrol", I believe.] And, of course, it provided another opportunity to display his philosophy, or at least certain facets of it. As for the person-I touch, this is something Heinlein has been using frequently of late. He's one of the few who can carry it off, too.

Heien's Fantasia [Wesson] And I'm certainly glad we didn't have to use that petition; this is much nicer. I hope you've got a lot of those Japanese covers printed ahead - I think they're some of the best to appear in FAPA. And thanks for the kind words - their appreciated, even though not really deserved. I'm just sorry you couldn't make the Discon - and there's no Disclave this year - but in a way I'm glad; I was too busy to have much chance for talk with anyone, and I'm sure I'd have missed you, to my sorrow. So, I now have something to look forward to. Like more Fantasias with more of those delightful memories of Japan.

Kteic Magazine [Rotsler] Another of my favorite items in the mailing. Not that I can comment too much on it, but just because it's such a rich feeling of living that permeates the thing - it makes me feel good. I just wish you had a few more spare weekends to put these out more often, Bill. I appreciate it muchly.

\*\*\*\*\*  
CHELLEPHAIS published by Bill Evans, Box 86, Mt Rainier, Md, 20822, for the May 1964 mailing of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. Vol 10, No 3. Whole No 39

Damballa [Hansen] With a little more time and a few more con reports under my mental belt, I can see that apparently we succeeded in pulling the wool over most of our goofs - in spite of our miscues, things got done pretty well..... It just goes to show that being on the inside certainly changes your ideas about things. Let's see, it was going to be Denver in 66??? One addenda I might make here, because I don't remember now where I caught the remark. Someone remarked about how the hotels were filled, had several things going, etc. Our case was unusual, in that two of the events were pushed back in the week because of the Freedom March. And most of the extra security in the hotel was caused by the high school frat, which had the hotel worried. They really caused the cancellation of the bar at the costume ball - the hotel was more afraid of them than of some of our kids in costume getting a drink. Normally, DC is dead over Labor Day; with the new hotels dotting the area, it will be even easier to get space that time in the future.

Catch Trap [Bradley] Maybe Chambers is not too well known today because he wrote only two or three books that are fantasy, with the rest historical romances, and hence the average looker for second hand books soon gets disgusted. The King in Yellow is certainly worth reading, both for The and the Demoiselle d'Ys. The Maker of Moons isn't as good. His style is certainly not modern, but flows vividly, with a wide choice of words.

Could be that your appreciation of HPB's New England descriptions is built upon a familiarity with the area, and thus has a strong sense of nostalgia reinforcing. Perhaps if I were as familiar, from childhood, with the area, I would react stronger. [The movement of the Beethoven Op 125 is on, and provides strong competition to FA PA.] Sure you can move further west than California - and still stay in the USA. Like Hawaii or Alaska - and parts of Oregon and Washington are west of LA.

Day\*Star [Bradley]. As a non-singer - you should not-hear me non-sing - I enjoyed the inside of the choir. The a nalysis and comparison of FAPA and APEX was interesting, even to one who is familiar with one side only. I think I can pick out most of the FAPA examples. A few addenda, perhaps. The one split membership was apparently fouled up by one partner not forwarding the necessary letters to the various officers and to the other partner. The partner thought things had been taken care of; the officers that the partner was no longer interested. There was one additional attempt to use the blackball; a certain wl was accused of misappropriating fan funds, and a drive was started, perhaps too large. Nothing came of it; membership was denied later on a lack of credentials. In the case of W---M---, it was not football tickets (serial numbering is allowed in the constitution) but lack of new material - reprint material - that was the cause of his being dropped. Objected to, incidentally, by one of the vociferoussupporters of Martin, dropped for the same reason. [And he has neverdenied the charge.] And, of course if 64 - or 33 - members don't like a member, and say so, formally and at the same time, he is out.

Vandy [Coulsons] Did you ever try to tell the difference between grated apple and grated onion by taste with blindfold and deadened nose? Assuming that the thio-cyanates and other lacrymators had been removed, you couldn't tell them apart, would be my guess. Unless the onion was a little saltier. BT [Tucker] Now I'll know what to do when I got out to Las Vegas this year. Buck - want the rest of the synopses for Tam?

The Rambling Fap [Calkins] No, Gregg, the displaced locos weren't usually melted up at once. They were used on branch lines and lighter service - after all, locomotives were in great demand in the 1890s and 1900s for the expanding railroads, with all the branch lines and suburban service. Or they were sold to small lines, logging roads, or foreign lines. In fact, the only major types that were torched when displaced were the bigger ones, which weren't in demand for branch line service - too big - or overseas - too big, or they were putting in diesels. A lot of the smaller Pacifics and 10-wheelers and Consolidations were real boomers, ending up on maybe as many as a dozen different roads. Hope to see you in Berkeley this fall.

Horizons [Warnor]. I wouldn't drop anyone from the w1 if he changed his address, and the po failed to deliver his FA - or hadn't changed his address and the PO failed to deliver the FA. But, if he moves and doesn't let me know....

But you've missed one point on the "Cold Equations" that makes your reaction invalid. This is not a case like the shipwreck situation. Here, there is no chance to improvise a solution. The facts are given; there is no possibility of rigging a spare sail, or of carrying an extra person. If things are so calculated that there is no margin for error, no leeway for more than the absolute minimum of unavoidable error, you just don't improvise. So much fuel can do s o much. If the mass is increased by a certain amount, then the amount of fuel must be increased by a definite amount. And there is nothing that can be tossed out - everything is figured so that only the essential items are there. It comes squarely down to the question is one person's life to be placed above that of a world. It isn't a case where you can go on smaller rations for a period; the engines need a certain amount of fuel for a given mass of load, or they will not be able to land the ship. It's the difference between exact equations and the biological equations several magnitudes less exact. It simply means the + in the first case is too small to be of help, while in the second case the + may be a very large factor.

Don't you mean the Wilder play, not the Wilde one - "Our Town"?

O yes, Harry was the one I was thinking of above, when talking to Chuck. The hotel had at least two of those events pushed back by the Big March - one may have been the kids. They were normally empty on this time. Normally, those smaller rooms are almost all taken every noon and evening. We had our pick of what we wanted. The point is, if you have it over Labor Day, the hotel will be more anxious to help you, and give you more of what you want, than some other time of the year. I believe Christmas is another dead time - not the days before, with office parties, but the 25 and 26. After all, how many banquet managers would not demand a guarantee or a firm commitment on two days before, but would let you sell tickets until they actually started serving? His only remark was not to go over the capacity of the hall as set up - and we were within of that, I believe. Ask Buz.

As usual, the Warnor "diary" is fine reading.

Rats in my Room

[Clarke/Raeburn] Great fun - but I wasn't there.

White Stencil [Silverberg] Page 4 was really white, too. Those books are certainly something. The Greek sculpture and bolder paintings come through better; the Roman murals require more study, to appreciate them. But they are certainly worth having.

Kim Chi [Ellington]. What was the reaction to the MacArthur funeral on TV? I saw a snatch of the final day, but that was all. Anyway, come again. And I hope I'll see you in the fall.

Phantasy  
Press [McPhail] Skimpy, but even so, welcome back. And I hope to much bigger future issues.

Salud [EBusby] so that's what you were knitting when I was there. I wondered about that thin yarn. Perhaps people should retire to flat towns, with lots of big trees and green lawns and a quiet stream to loaf by. It certainly wouldn't make you get-up-and-go, but would be restful.

CAC [Metcalf] So that's the story of the North West Passage.

Synapse [Speer] (106) Well, here's one committee that did most of the work itself. One man could put on a com but it would cost a lot more - he'd have to hire a lot of the dirty work done. We did most of it ourselves, by splitting it up - and by having a printing press available. ### It depends upon what you're having at the time. I used that construction to indicate I wanted to, but couldn't through other reasons. Prestige hound? I'd have liked to have talked to them - I wanted to, but couldn't. I meant it would have given me pleasure to have had an opportunity to conduct a conversation with them. ### Keep those hecktos out of the sun....

Spinnaker Beach [Chauvenet] I enjoyed your rather unusual con report, Russ, and I sort of wish I could have been on that kind of con. I know there are typos in Celephais; I could say that I leave them in for Speer, but the real fact is that I just don't have the time to proof-read and then spend an evening in correcting the errors. Most of the mistakes I pick up as soon as I read the text; the errors in syntax usually hit me even harder. But reading foreign languages has played hell with my spelling; I'm always getting confused between English and German, for example. However, I regard Celephais more as a conversation substitute than a formal publication. And, I do assure you that the roughest part of that ocean trip - at least the part that gave me the only sensation of roughness - was right after pulling out of dock in New York. The ocean was really calm, with only the long swells that gently raised the bow and just as gently lowered it. Almost no roll, even on the top deck. The Channel was quiet, too. Maybe the last night, coming into port, might have been rough, but I was asleep and noticed nothing. If you are right about the typical American game with its full series of pauses, then cricket should be really popular.

Murmurings [Perdue] This almost didn't get credited to you, Almer; there is no record of 520 07 0328 on the FAPA records. The bit on page two was especially well handled, I thought. But all of it was enjoyed - the annual feast of Ghod-given tidbits.

Ankus [Pelz] And congratulations, Franco. And to Dian, ~~ppppp~~ the very best wishes.

Sercon's Bane [FMBusby] Maybe one of these days I'll dig up the cash and time to put in a page or two of loco pics. And maybe a few streetcars.... I'm looking forward to Discon II, too - from the sidelines. It was fun, but. Maybe after the Seacon II.... You aren't the only one who doesn't know that Grosteque was not a reprint. To date, no one has proved anything, either way; and the one who should know best, Martin, has never said. The only thing on the drunken driver vs the one with poor eyes - like me, maybe - is that the latter knows of his problem and makes allowance for them, if he has any brains. Someone whose reflexes are slowed by C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH may not realize it and hence not compensate, or not give a damn about it.

Proxy-Boo [White] Or, rather, Proxyboo. The compound that is stirring such interest at present, Walter, is XeF<sub>4</sub>, which according to classical bond theory can't exist. So, when it was first prepared, everyone got into the act, with IR, UV, NMR, X-ray, electron diffraction, and matrix isolation spectra, heats of reaction, vapor pressure, kinetic studies, etc. This compound in about 2 years has been as thoroughly - or more so - studied than many compounds known for a hundred years, and of commercial importance. Everyone jumped on the bandwagon. Apparently He is too small for the bonding orbitals to interact with those of the f (but there is a He<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> molecule ion) while Ne may form a difluoride that is pretty unstable. Argon does better, but Xe and Kr have enough orbitals that can bond so they form rather stable compounds. But things like XeOF<sub>2</sub> are rather explosive. If I had space, I was planning to print the curare formula - no stencil room, tho, so everyone is safe. (And the synthesis, complete with references.) Chaliapin? I've all of his electric, and all but about 6 of his earlier ones, except for the first series of G&T's, which are really rare; the \$100 class, I'd guess. But, the oooold recording of "Das Lied" by B. Walter had Kirsten Thorborg singing - and doing a wonderful job. The recording is old, but the performance is as good as Walter's second version. Thorborg also recorded, from the same performance, "Ich Bin das Welt Abhanden ..." which is full of the Weltschmerz. But why didn't EMI clean up the sound on the first set of Debussy songs with Maggie Teyte and Cortot? They've done more with worse material before. And did you note that the COLO issue of Lotte Lehmann is alloff pitch? A friend and I checked against both the pitch pipe and the 78 recordings; the 78s were in pitch, while all the lp is down, uniformly. (And not his turntable; we checked this before and after) The English pressings are also bad.

And that finds me approaching the bottom of the last stencil, with several items still to go. Like Descant, which I chortled over.