MORE WELL-ENDOWED CHAIRS

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In the February 1976 issue of Word Ways, Philip Cohen presented a collection of aptly-endowed college chairs. We invite him to attend the spring convocation of Ourtown Vocational Junior College to learn of some truly remarkable affinities between the donors and the chairs that they have endowed:

The Cameron Tripod Chair of Advanced Photography
The Beth Theller Chair of Advanced Writing
The Hart Throbs Chair of Advice to the Lovelorn
The Kitty Hawk Chair of Aeronautics
The Robbie Hives Chair of Apiology

The Doug Deeper Chair of Archaeology
The Bowen Arra Chair of Archery
The Harman Eyezin Chair of Barbershop Singing
The Phillip McGlass Chair of Bartending
The Nestor Obbins Chair of Birdwatching

The Gordon Nabelly Chair of Bullfighting
The Folder Tentz Chair of Camping
The Easley Taiken Chair of Card-Sharpening
The Thor Thumb Chair of Carpentry
The Carrie Cature Chair of Cartooning

The Danielle R. Hedoff Chair of Cheerleading
The Pete E. Attrition Chair of Child Care
The Tanya Hyde Chair of Child Correction
The Forrest Preserve Chair of Conservation
The Sennet Back Chair of Consumerism

The Darryl B. Eltapay Chair of Criminal Investigation
The Myra Specks Chair of Culture
The Audrey De Paper Chair of Current Events
The Walt Snayminor Chair of the Dance
The Rector Hardtop Chair of Defensive Driving

The Akin Molar Chair of Dentistry
The Seena Mroj Chair of Desertology
The Red Carpet Chair of Diplomacy
The Neal Tapray Chair of Divinity
The Wagner Tales Chair of Dog Obedience
The Sydney Balcony Chair of Drama Criticism
The Ima Kleverwon Chair of Ego-Boosting
The Kenya Solvitt Chair of Enigmatology
The Perry Mathrust Chair of Fencing
The Paula Smoke Chair of Firefighting

The Freda Maspeech Chair of First Amendment Rights
The Grover Beenas Chair of Floriculture
The Nona Brodd Chair of Foreign Studies
The Jule Bachs Chair of Gemology
The Duncan Donuts Chair of Gourmet Cooking

The Carver Byrd Chair of Gourmet Dining
The Taylor McClose Chair of Haberdashery
The Borden Roomz Chair of Hostelry
The Fess Toonery Chair of Interior Decorating
The Augusta Windd Chair of Internal Medicine

The Markham Downe Chair of Inventory Control
The Bertha De Blooz Chair of Jazz Music
The Roxanne Rills Chair of Keeping America Beautiful
The Barron Wastes Chair of Land Reclamation
The Rita Gudbuk Chair of Library Science

The Wanda B. Shure Chair of Marriage Counseling
The Virginia Ham Chair of Meat Curing
The Warren Berrings Chair of Mechanical Engineering
The Windsor Calm Chair of Meteorology
The Laurie Standerdz Chair of Modern Curricula

The Crystal Klere Chair of Nixonology
The Chico Tann Chair of Outdoor Living
The Ray Farrarside Chair of Patriotism
The Theda Birdie Chair of Photography
The Duane Pype Chair of Plumbing

The Lyon Ferline Chair of Poetry
The Mosley Bull Chair of Political Science
The Lil Jakorner Chair of Primary Education
The Bruno Beer Chair of Prohibition Studies
The Vic Treelane Chair of Race Driving

The Wheelan Deel Chair of Real Estate
The Putnam Downe Chair of Repartee
The Kane Rocker Chair of Retirement Living
The Bertha Vanation Chair of Revolutionary History
The Liston Tamee Chair of Rhetoric

The Thelma Wares Chair of Salesmanship
The Ryden Dasmute Chair of Self Defense
The Ethyl Gass Chair of Service Station Technique
The Creighton Cargo Chair of Shipping
The Zelda B. Poor Chair of Sociology
The Kiki Shinns Chair of Sportsmanship  
The Lohmar Ginn Chair of Stockbrokering  
The Bach Stopps Chair of Sweepstakes Technique  
The Barry Lee Gittinbye Chair of Survival Technique  
The Fermi Anmygal Chair of Togetherness  
The Lil Greenmen Chair of Ufology  
The Richford De Skye Chair of Upward Mobility  
The Bea Flatt Chair of Vocal Music  
The Teresa Krowd Chair of Zero Population Growth

AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CRYPTOGRAPHY

This is the title of a new book on cryptography, written by David Shulman and published by Garland Publishing Company in the spring of 1976 for $35. This meticulously-researched 390-page work lists more than three thousand books, pamphlets and papers in the field of cryptography, from Johannes Trithemens' Polygraphia (the first book on the subject, in 1518) to items published as recently as 1975. (He even includes code and cipher related material from fields such as espionage, computing and interplanetary communication.) Each entry contains a thumbnail description and evaluation, based on Shulman's personal examination of the contents of 9 out of 10 items. For the rarer works, he tells the reader the libraries (or private collections) where they can be found, a very valuable aid to the serious researcher.

The compiler of a bibliography on cryptography labors under a handicap far more severe than does his counterpart in other fields -- the most recent research is highly classified and unavailable, locked in the archives of the NSA and similar governmental organizations of other countries. Hence, the material that one can read on cryptography is in large measure historical, representing methods that were once used by the professionals but now largely superseded.

It seems fair to say that this book is not for the casual solver of monoalphabetic substitution ciphers in the daily paper. On the other hand, one need not be a professional cryptanalyst (the author's former occupation) to appreciate its riches. If you read and enjoyed David Kahn's The Codebreakers (Macmillan, 1967), you should certainly consider adding this book to your library despite its rather high price.