

THE L-5 SOCIETY

Robert A. Heinlein

JBitsoup.org

If science fiction is simply fun to you, skip this. But if you believe as I do that our race can and will and *must* spread out into space, stick around.

The L-5 Society's sole purpose is to place a colony at Lagrange Point #5, the one railing the Moon at 60 degrees.

Sounds silly? It does to us, too, on gloomy days. We are about as far along as Willy Ley and von Braun and Goddard were in the '30s. . . but one generation later Neil Armstrong stepped downpn Luna.

And things move faster today. Technology doubles every seven years. We could build that city in space today. .but we'll be able to build it faster, easier, more economically in the '90s. Or (I'm an optimist!) in the '80s. I have already lived from horse and buggy to spaceshuttle.; I cannot believe that human progress will come to a sudden stop. Space will be colonized.

Space *will* be colonized—although possibly not by us. If we lose our nerve, there are plenty of other people on this planet. The construction crews may speak Chinese or Russian—Swahili or Portugese . It does not take "good old American know— how" to build a city in space. The laws of physics work just as well for others as they do for us.

I don't think we've lost our nerve. We can put a

construction crew of our own up there. . . and space is big enough fur everyone—all races, all languages. We need never be crowded again.

L-5 Society dues are \$20/year (\$15 fur students) and include the monthly magazine L-5 News with all the latest space news, data not in newspapers and which must be dug out from technical journals and specialized sources—our editors do it fur you. The Society supplies other services too, but I'm not going to list them, as the L-5 Society was not organized to serve or to amuse its members.

ITS SOLE PURPOSE IS TO FOUND THE FIRST COLONY IN SPACE.

How's your nerve? Are your eyes on the stars? Send in your dues and join us.

Welcome aboard!

Robert A Heinlein (Member, L-5 Board of Directors)

For the Membership Committee

L-5 Society

1620 N. Park

Tucson, Arizona 85719