

anthropists, Lord Nuffield, and Korenchevsky probably encouraged Lord Nuffield to advise his Foundation to enter this field. Exactly how this friendship and teamwork started I do not know, but I have observed the two men together in conference, and I have taken a small part in the discussions. I think that it was for Lord Nuffield that Korenchevsky compiled and had printed the first world list of gerontological societies and their members. His was the organizing drive behind the First International Gerontological Congress in 1950. On the invitation of L. Brull, this was held in Liège, and Brull served as first president. Members of the congress were the gerontological societies mobilized by Korenchevsky, together with some additional ones. All those present at the congress unanimously voted Korenchevsky the most important posts they could think of, which were life member of the governing body and founder of the International Association of Gerontology. He became in truth "the father of gerontology," not simply in Britain but in the whole world.

Korenchevsky retired from active work in his laboratory in 1952 and thereafter devoted himself entirely to the promotion of gerontological research everywhere and to the writing of his book. This advancement of gerontological research involved three trips to the United States and much traveling and correspondence in Europe. He attended the second congress, in St. Louis, in 1951 and the third congress, in London, in 1954. He was unable, much to the disappointment of his followers, to participate in the fourth congress, in Merano, Italy, in 1957.

His book, entitled *Physiological and Pathological Aging*, is really a summarization of his whole life's work in this field. It reveals the great gap between physiological, or normal, aging under the best possible conditions and the terrible state of pathological aging under very adverse conditions which attracted his notice back in 1906. Like his close associate Anton J. Carlson, he believed that there is no other domain of human knowledge in which application to human welfare lags so

far behind discovery. The book has been completed and it awaits publication.

Korenchevsky's married life was a very happy one and endured for 52 years. Rose-growing was his hobby. He used to say that each flower was like a patient needing special attention. In his meditations he could have had the satisfaction of feeling that he had fathered developing gerontology through its graduation as a science. He left to others the task of assisting the young science to gain stature and recognition so that, before long, it will be included in its own right by universities among their scientific departments.

In his later days Korenchevsky was troubled by angina pectoris; the attacks became more frequent and severe, and he finally died, suddenly, painlessly, and mercifully, on 9 July 1959. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

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Science in the News

House Committee on Un-American Activities Continues to Investigate Education

The House Committee on Un-American Activities is showing a continuing concern for American education. Recent action in two major cases is receiving the attention of the academic community. The Supreme Court refused a rehearing for Lloyd Barenblatt, former psychology instructor at Vassar College who was convicted of contempt of Congress because he would not discuss with congressional investigators an accusation that he had once been a Communist.

One hundred and ten California school teachers were subpoenaed by the House Committee for questioning about their possible Communist affiliations.

The Barenblatt Case

Lloyd Barenblatt was teaching psychology at Vassar College when he received a summons to appear before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in May 1954. A month later his 4-year contract at Vassar expired and was not renewed. At the committee hearings, an acknowledged former Communist reported that Barenblatt had been a member of the Communist Party

while he was a graduate student at the University of Michigan. Barenblatt, on First Amendment grounds, refused to discuss the witness's testimony, arguing that however he answered questions relating to membership in the Communist Party, his position in society and his ability to earn a living would be seriously jeopardized. He pointed out, further, that this would occur even if he did no more than invoke the protection of the Bill of Rights.

He was convicted of contempt of Congress, which led to a \$250 fine and a 6-month prison sentence. Last June the Supreme Court upheld the conviction in a 5-4 decision, and on 12 October a petition for rehearing was rejected. Barenblatt surrendered to District of Columbia authorities on 10 November and is now in the D.C. jail.

The American Civil Liberties Union conducted Barenblatt's case, as it has a number of similar ones, in an effort to test the constitutionality of the House Committee's activities.

Balancing Doctrine Questioned

In the decision last June, the Supreme Court ruled that legislative investiga-

tions into communism were proper because the nation's interest in defending itself against communism was greater than the individual's interest in not disclosing his political associations. The Civil Liberties Union's recent rehearing petition held that this judicial balancing doctrine needs further examination and pointed out that, prior to the Barenblatt decision, "it had been settled constitutional doctrine that freedom of speech and association, expressly protected . . . against any governmental infringement, has a special constitutional status not subject to being outweighed except by a proved most compelling interest." In his dissent Justice Hugo Black said of the balancing test: "I do not agree that laws directly abridging First Amendment freedoms can be justified by a congressional or judicial balancing process."

Another part of the minority opinion held that the committee itself, as well as its activities, is unconstitutional. After emphasizing that the court's ruling gave sanction to the use of the contempt power to enforce questioning by congressional committees in the realm of speech and association, Black outlined the constitutional violations in the case as follows:

"(1) Rule XI creating the Committee authorizes such a sweeping, unlimited, all-inclusive and indiscriminating compulsory examination of witnesses in the field of speech, press, petition and assembly that it violates the procedural requirements of the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. (2) Compelling an answer to the questions asked Barenblatt abridges freedom of speech and association in contravention of the First Amendment. (3) The Committee proceedings were part of a legislative program to stigmatize and punish by public identification and exposure all witnesses considered by the Committee to be guilty of Communist affiliations, as well as all witnesses who refused to answer Committee questions on constitutional grounds; the Committee was thus improperly seeking to try, convict, and punish suspects, a task which the Constitution expressly denies to Congress and grants exclusively to the courts, to be exercised by them only after indictment and in full compliance with all the safeguards provided by the Bill of Rights."

California Teachers Subpoenaed

Many observers interpreted the Barenblatt decision as an endorsement of

the work of the House Un-American Activities Committee, which has continued its investigation of education. Last February the committee announced plans to study the extent of Communist influence among faculty members of public and private schools in California. Hearings were scheduled for the end of the month, and 30 subpoenas were issued, including five to Los Angeles teachers. An injunction suit that challenged the validity of the subpoenas was filed in federal court, and several organizations in the state opposed the committee's activities from the start as a "needless harassment." Nevertheless, the hearings were held; on the second day, however, Committee Chairman Francis Walter cancelled the teacher subpoenas, saying that the committee did not want to go about the investigation in education on a "piecemeal" basis and that "at least three dozen teachers . . . a barn full . . . will be called when we come back to Los Angeles."

On 5 June the committee served 110 subpoenas on California school teachers—70 in southern California and 40 in northern California—for hearings on 12 June in San Francisco and 24 June in Los Angeles. (The names of those served in northern California were released to the press.) A week later the committee postponed the hearings until September, stating, "The ramifications of the Communist operation in California are so extensive and malignant that additional investigative work must be done before the actual hearings can be held."

During August the hearings were first postponed again until October and then were cancelled. At that time the committee reported that the names of the subpoenaed teachers and any data about them that could be disclosed without jeopardizing sources or security procedures would be turned over to California school officials.

The American Civil Liberties Union immediately appealed to the federal court to prevent this, saying that much of the committee's material is "unsworn, unevaluated data from unidentified informants concerning political and social beliefs, opinions and associations that would be used to punish the plaintiff teachers in the attempt to cause them loss of employment and to harass them." Before any restraining order could be issued, a House Committee investigator delivered the files on 93 of the teachers to the state superintendent of public instruction. Subsequently, the material was sent to the state attorney general,

and it is reported that he in turn has distributed the records to various county district attorneys and boards of education.

Public Protest

Meanwhile, the public opposition grew, and on 22 September chairman Walter threatened to have his committee return to California and reopen the hearings "if responsible authorities in California 'pigeonhole' or in any other manner attempt to suppress committee findings on Communist activities." California district attorneys and school officials are apparently following the advice of the state attorney general, issued on 18 September, to the effect that "no legal or administrative bodies in any of the Counties [should] take any irrevocable action regarding teachers while court cases are pending" in order that they should not "permit themselves to be placed in a position of technically evading federal or state court decisions or of being used to render pending court cases moot." A number of lawsuits have been filed by the subpoenaed teachers. Four of these suits are now pending before the federal and superior courts in California.

Public protests against the House Committee hearings have come from churches, labor groups, newspapers, political organizations, professional teacher societies, and civil liberties and community groups. While responsibility for the cancellation of the hearings was widely distributed, the primary opposition stemmed from the leadership of the subpoenaed teachers themselves through their Northern and Southern California Teacher Defense Committees.

The Barenblatt decision seemed to some observers to give the House Committee on Un-American Activities *carte blanche*, especially in dealing with teachers. This effect has been at least partly offset by the cancellation of the California hearings.

Darwin Centennial Celebration Being Held at University of Chicago

An international Darwin Centennial Celebration will be held next week at the University of Chicago, through the cooperation of the National Science Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, and