

## NEWS IN BRIEF

● **KREBIOZEN:** Despite continuing efforts by Krebiozen's sponsors, the Food and Drug Administration is holding firm in its determination to have nothing more to do with the controversial drug. Pressure for the government to test Krebiozen for anticancer action abated somewhat late in 1964 when the FDA made good a long-standing threat to take the drug's promoters into court. Interest was resurrected last winter when a Chicago jury cleared the defendants (Andrew Ivy, Stevan and Marko Durovic, and William Phillips) of government charges of conspiracy and fraud. (*Science*, 4 March 1966). Following their acquittal, Krebiozen forces appealed to FDA Commissioner James Goddard to work with them in designing a suitable test. Goddard refused to go along with a test, but did agree to meet with Ivy, lawyers for Krebiozen, and two scientific witnesses who testified for the defense at the trial. The meeting, held during the summer, met the pro forma requirements of food and drug law, but failed to change Goddard's mind. In a letter to Marko Durovic, Goddard said that neither of the scientific witnesses "was able to describe Krebiozen as a substance of any established identity, or to provide the data needed to satisfy the other requirements for the interstate distribution of investigational new drugs. No clinical trials may be undertaken until these requirements are met." Unless something remarkable happens, that may well be the end of it.

● **FRICK VS. STEVENS:** Efforts to obtain federal intervention in a lawsuit brought by Helen Clay Frick against historian Sylvester K. Stevens were set back last week when a federal district judge refused to dismiss the case. Miss Frick's efforts to ban distribution of a work by Stevens which she feels maligns her father, industrialist Henry Clay Frick, produced considerable alarm among the nation's historians last summer after a trial in a Pennsylvania court in which Stevens appeared to be getting the worst of it (*Science*, 5 August). The historians appealed for federal intervention on the grounds that the occurrence of such a case in a lower court constituted unconstitutional interference with scholars' rights to

publish. The judge did not rule on the substantive issue, but argued that, for procedural reasons, federal court intervention in a state court action would be inappropriate. His decision may itself be appealed—and probably will be—and the forthcoming Pennsylvania decision is subject to the usual appeal opportunities.

● **STUDENT ENROLLMENT UP:** The U. S. Office of Education estimates that college enrollment will total 6 million this year, an increase of 9.1 percent over last year's 5.5 million. College students will be among 56 million of all ages returning to school this fall, an increase of 2.6 percent over last year's 54.5 million. High school enrollment is up too, showing a 2.3 percent increase—or 13.3 million students—from 13 million last year. It was also estimated that college and university faculties are expected to number 466,000, an increase of 8.6 percent over last year's total of 429,000. Total expenditures of higher education in 1966-67 are expected to reach \$16.8 billion, up from \$15.2 billion last year. The total would represent \$10 billion at public and \$6.8 billion at private institutions. Included in these figures are capital outlay estimates of \$2.4 billion at public and \$1.2 billion at private institutions.

● **CUT BACK FOR FISH FLOUR:** Fish protein concentrate (FPC), known also as fish flour, has received another setback in its 4-year quest for government support. A subcommittee of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee drastically cut the Senate-passed bill to promote production of FPC, favorable action hinging on approval of the product by the Food and Drug Administration. The measure passed by the Senate (*Science*, 15 July) provides for \$5 million for five FPC plants; the House approved the bill, but cut funding down to \$1 million for one plant, plus \$285,000 for its operation and maintenance, and \$835,000 for a 5-year research program. The concentrate still awaits approval from FDA, where an Interior Department product has been under investigation since March. Present hesitation of FDA with Interior's product is based on concern that fluorides in it might mottle teeth if the flour is eaten in large quantities.

● **BRITISH SCIENCE PRESS:** With the important exception of *Nature* (Macmillan), the principal commercially published periodicals covering science and the social sciences in Britain are now owned by companies belonging to Britain's biggest publishing empire. The science monthly, *Discovery*, which first appeared in 1920, ceased publication with its September issue after having been bought by Associated Iliffe's Press. *Discovery* has been absorbed by Iliffe's *Science Journal* which was launched in 1965. The weeklies, *New Scientist* and *New Society*, owned by Harrison, Raison and Company, were recently purchased by Odhams Press and are to be continued in their present form. Both Iliffe and Odhams are part of the international publishing operations presided over by Cecil H. King whose major holding, the morning tabloid *Mirror*, has a daily circulation of about 5 million. Among British journalists, King has a reputation for giving considerable autonomy and good support to his enterprises. Bigger editorial budgets are expected as a result of the takeover of the weeklies.

● **HUAC:** Energetic academic lobbying failed to keep the House of Representatives from agreeing to the request of the House Un-American Activities Committee to cite Chicago heart specialist Jeremiah Stamler for contempt of Congress in walking out of committee hearings to which he had been subpoenaed in May 1965 (*Science*, 23 July 1965 and 13 May 1966). The citation of Stamler came in an end-of-the-session vote of 219 to 69 on 19 October. A day earlier, the House cited two other Chicagoans, Yolanda Hall, Stamler's research assistant, and Milton Cohen, a social worker, in voice votes. The citations now go to the Justice Department for criminal prosecution; since 1950 federal courts have upheld only 10 of 135 contempt citations approved by Congress. Maximum penalty is 1 year imprisonment and a \$1000 fine. Oral argument in Stamler's case challenging the constitutionality of HUAC was heard in the Court of Appeals last month, and a ruling is expected shortly. It thus seems likely that Stamler and his associates will be doing battle simultaneously in civil and criminal courts.