

Plagued by circulatory problems during his last days, John maintained his crusty cheerfulness until the end and was eager to talk about what was going on in the world of books. Among the things on the table beside his bed when he died was volume three of Katherine Pantzer's edition of the STC with its extensive indexes. John was one of those people who enjoyed reading bibliographies. He was a complete bookman until the very end.

Thomas R. Adams

### KARL JOHN RICHARD ARNDT

Karl John Richard Arndt (1903-91) began a correspondence with the American Antiquarian Society in 1942 over matters of mutual interest and became a member in 1962. In a letter to AAS Director Clifford K. Shipton at that time, he wrote, 'I am, of course, quite thrilled to be a member. There is only one thrill that will come up to it in the future, I hope, and that will be when St. Peter opens the gates and says "Welcome! A.A.S. members go to the Library on the right."' That, of course, is where he must be now, continuing his research.

Professor Arndt died in his sleep on October 25, 1991. The night he died, he asked Hedi, his wife of forty-one years, to look up some information connected with the project on which he was working, and to read it to him. He urged her to read more rapidly, as if he knew that time was running out for him and that he had much yet to do. That work, and so many other scholarly efforts for which he had already prepared background material, may now never see the light of day unless taken up by other hands. But no one, as he may have realized, would bring the dedication, the knowledge of the subject, or the enormous energy to them that he would have. Karl Arndt worked hard, and fast, and devotedly, and well. But eighty-eight years were simply not enough for him to

accomplish all he saw that needed to be done. He was a scholar in the very best traditions of academe.

It was my privilege to meet Karl Arndt shortly after I came to Clark University in 1974 after a Fulbright year in Germany. My wife, Mariann, and I became friends with Karl and Hedi Arndt and remained so even after we left Clark in 1984. When Karl was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit by the president of the Federal Republic of Germany in 1986, he and Hedi were kind enough to invite us to the presentation ceremony at Clark and to be their house guests afterwards. I remember inspired conversation late into the night, with Karl, my senior in age, being equally my senior in energy and enthusiasm as the evening went on and he described new findings in his ongoing Harmony studies.

Clark University, from its founding in 1887, has had a 'reputational endowment' based on the research and teaching of a distinguished faculty. Karl Arndt was in that tradition. He served Clark and its students from 1950 to 1969 as professor and chair of its German Department and, as professor emeritus, directed independent study students until 1974. When the technicality of age forced his retirement from teaching, he nevertheless continued his very productive research program until death itself forced his final retirement. Concluding their introduction to a *Festschrift* in honor of Dr. Arndt (*The German Contribution to the Building of the Americas*. Clark University Press, 1977), editors Gerhard Friesen and Walter Schatzberg write: 'At Clark he has inspired generations of students with the ideals of the German cultural heritage and with a love of learning. For his colleagues he has been and continues to be the very embodiment of the teacher-scholar in the best sense of the German university tradition, a tradition which has guided Clark University from its inception.'

The sixteen original essays in the *Festschrift* by scholars from Europe and North and South America give testimony to Dr. Arndt's then already outstanding historical research career, one that continued with distinction for another fourteen years.

Karl John Richard Arndt was born in 1903 in St. Paul, Minnesota. From 1913 through 1919 he lived in China, where his father was the founder of and first missionary for the Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod) in China. (In evidence of his later scholarly abilities, the young Karl mastered the Mandarin language, translating English into Mandarin, with his father correcting his texts. I am told that he never lost interest in this language, always later in his life engaging any Chinese he met in conversation in Mandarin whenever he could.)

Having attended St. John's College in Winfield, Kansas, and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, for four years, it amused him to relate later that he never received a bachelor's degree. He nevertheless went on to become an instructor in German and Greek at Concordia College in Edmonton, Canada, in 1925-26, in German at the University of Missouri at Columbia in 1929-31, and at Goucher College and Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore from 1931 to 1933, while earning an M.A. degree from Washington University in St. Louis in 1928 (where his interest in Charles Sealsfield was developed under Otto Heller's influence), and his Ph.D. in Germanistics and rigorous philological training under William Kerlmeyer at Johns Hopkins University in 1933, where he also was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

But this seemingly orderly academic progression does not take account of such adventurous experiences as when he charted maps for the U.S. Mississippi River Survey Service and served as purser on a Mississippi steamboat, operating from the mouth of the Missouri River to the Gulf of Mexico in 1924-25.

Professor Arndt's postdoctoral teaching career started at Hartwick College in Oneonta, New York, where he taught German and Greek (1933-35) and began his lifelong research on Germans in America. In 1935 he moved to Louisiana State University, where he taught for ten years and where his Harmony community studies were started.

From 1945 to 1950, Professor Arndt undertook an unusual mission for the United States Army, serving in postwar Germany as

the officer responsible for church-state relations in Occupied Germany. Stationed in Berlin, Frankfurt, and Stuttgart, he traveled widely in France, Switzerland, Italy, the Scandinavian countries, and throughout Germany. He was, for a time, University professor at the University of Heidelberg where, as military governor, he was, in essence, de facto president of the University. During his time in Occupied Germany, he searched for and retrieved valuable manuscripts on church-state relations, but was unable to obtain the military government's permission to publish them. He resigned his commission in 1950 to join the Clark faculty, where he remained ever since.

During his military posting, Professor Arndt held the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army. However, on his office door he used the prefix *Dr.*, a title he *earned*, he pointed out, rather than the title colonel which, he explained, was only given to him.

Karl Arndt was a prodigious scholar. He wrote or edited well over thirty books and several hundred articles, most on the mutual influences of German and American life and letters. As early as 1934 he was comparing Poe's *Politian* and Goethe's *Mignon*, writing about some new John Fenimore Cooper letters (1937), on the German poet Lenau and the effect of America on Lenau's life and work, on the influence of German authors on Americans (e.g., Longfellow), and American literature and life on Germany.

Ceaseless in his productivity and his pursuit of knowledge, Dr. Arndt's work was supported, though never generously (as is the fate of most scholars in the humanities), by *both* German and American sources, including the Stiftung Volkswagenwerk, Germany, the Guggenheim Foundation (he was a Guggenheim Research Fellow), die Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft in Bonn, the Pabst Foundation of Wisconsin, the Max Kade Foundation of Washington, D.C., the Lilly Endowment, the American Philosophical Society, the Social Science Research Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and the National Archives and Records Service (which supported him for his last eight years).

And, as noted earlier, he was honored by President Richard von Weizsacker of Germany in 1986 with das Grosse Verdienstkreuz des Verdienstordens der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, recognizing 'his lifelong dedication to describing German influence in American literature, politics, and life.'

Dr. Arndt's three major areas of scholarship were his extensive and insightful work on the Pennsylvania and Indiana Harmony Societies and their demise and on contemporaneous types of Utopian communities (he published thirteen volumes on the Harmony project, and had more in the planning stage — he received an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History for his exhaustive scholarship in this area), on the German-American author Charles Sealsfield (the Austrian monk Karl Postl, considered in the 1840s to be 'the greatest American author' and later to be an intellectual predecessor of Alexis de Tocqueville), and on the German-language press in America (including a three-volume work on German newspapers and periodicals in North and South America).

Other books and articles included 'Teutonic Visions of Social Perfection for Emerson' (1988) and earlier work on the genesis of Germantown, Louisiana, on Harmony founder George Rapp's petition to Thomas Jefferson, on Schliemann's excavation of Troy and why the Smithsonian lost his collection to Berlin (1981), as well as popular pieces on Huey Long (1959), Lincoln and voting in Massachusetts (1980), and many others. Two of his articles were published in the AAS *Proceedings*: 'Charles Sealsfield, "The Greatest American Author"' (October 1964) and 'The Indiana Decade of George Rapp's Harmony Society: 1814-1824' (October 1970).

He left his wife, Blanca Hedi (Renner) Arndt; a son by a former marriage, Karl Siegfried Norman Arndt, a Germanist; and a daughter, Carola Anne Sylvia Arndt, a cancer specialist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

How does one characterize the life and work of a man of Karl Arndt's extraordinary scope and insight? He saw himself as a teacher and valued that role, as he felt he learned much from his

students. He is to be saluted as a lifetime student and scholar—and thanked for the rich legacy he was left, from which we and others will be able to continue to learn.

Mortimer Herbert Appley

### CLIFTON WALLER BARRETT

Clifton Waller Barrett, shipping magnate, author, bibliophile, and creator of the Barrett Library of American Literature at the University of Virginia, died at his home near Charlottesville on November 6, 1991. He is survived by a daughter, five sons, and several grandchildren. His wife of sixty-five years, Cornelia Hughes, widely and affectionately known as 'Cornie,' died in 1989.

Born on June 1, 1901, in Alexandria, Virginia, Waller, as he was always known, was a scion of an old Potomac River family, but the forebear in whom he took most pride was his grandmother Kate Waller, Virginia's first female physician. Close by his boyhood home was the high school (formally the Episcopal High School) where the sons of the old colonial families have traditionally prepared for William and Mary or for the university (officially the University of Virginia) at Charlottesville.

Young Waller hero-worshipped the older boys of the high school. His wish to become one of them came to naught because of the democratic views of his mother, a writer, and his father, a diplomat and liberal newspaper editor (*The Alexandria Gazette*, one of the nation's oldest). He was sent instead through the Alexandria public schools.

His subsequent academic career at Charlottesville was a brief one in two parts, interrupted by World War I. For a young man of Waller's quiet but deep sense of national obligation, unshakable liberalism, and love of democracy, 1917 could mean only one thing, military service: the Student Army Training Corps (the ROTC of that day) followed by Plattsburg. His return to the university at

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