Alice Holdship Ware, New York:

Spivak Faces Extradition to Kansas Court

ACLU Attorneys Fight Move with Habeas Corpus Request

Following the action of Gov. Arthur H. James of Pennsylvania in granting extradition of John L. Spivak, writer, to Wichita, Kansas, the American Civil Liberties Union yesterday requested its attorneys in Harrisburg to proceed with habeas corpus proceedings.

Spivak is sought in Wichita for oriminal libel on charges filed by Prof. Kurt Sepmeier of the University of Wichita. Sepmeier alleged that Spivak referred to him as a "Nazi spy" in a recent book.

Commenting on the extradition proceedings, Roger N. Baldwin, A.C. L.U. director, said.

"The extraordinary criminal libel charge brought against John L. Spivak in Kansas is obviously a dishonest proceeding. It now appears that it was brought in order to bring it under the jurisdiction of the Kansas courts for the purpose of serving him in a civil suit for damages by Prof. Kurt Sepmeier of the University of Wichita, who alleges he was libeled by Spivak's book 'Secret Armies' exposing Nazi propaganda.

"Sepmeier has been suspended from the University until the matter is settled. While the American Civil Liberties Union has no interest in a civil suit, it is vigorously opposed to the use of the criminal libel law for any such ulterior purposes."