

BROWDER, 65, SAYS HE IS UNCHANGED

But Communist Party Has Become 'Contemptible Sect,' Former Leader Asserts

Special to The New York Times.

YONKERS, May 19—Earl Browder, once the leader and idol of 100,000 American Communists, but who now has nothing but contempt for his former followers, will celebrate his sixty-fifth birthday tomorrow.

He will be joined by a few friends and by his three sons, Felix, Andrew and William Browder. The sons, he admitted today, have no interest in his Marxist political views. All are mathematicians.

Mr. Browder said they seemed to take to mathematics naturally. He credited his wife, the former Raissa Berkman, who died in January, 1955, with arousing or stimulating their interest in the science. He, however, was an accountant with an interest in mathematics.

Mr. Browder's wife was a law school graduate whom he met in Moscow when he was a member of the International Control Commission of the Communist International. He still lives in the apartment they occupied for twenty years.

Former Pamphleteer

He no longer attempts to influence American or foreign Communists, as he had done when he produced pamphlets signed "Americus." His only political interest now, he said, is as a "student of history."

"I have practically no interest in what goes on among the Communists, not being a student of microbiology," Mr. Browder explained. "The Communist party of the United States today is a contemptible sect with no roots in American life."

"I don't call myself a Communist any more. I haven't changed. But the Communists have."

Mr. Browder follows baseball and chess avidly. He supports himself by occasional college lectures and by working as a researcher for historians preparing a history of the Communist party and a study of its influence. He helps them to locate needed documents. However, he has always refused to cooperate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other Government investigators.

Mr. Browder was born in Wichita, Kan. At 20 he joined the Socialist party. In 1919 he

was editor of The Workers World. He opposed America's entrance into World War I and was convicted of conspiracy. He spent fifteen months in Leavenworth Federal penitentiary.

Paroled two months before the expiration of his sentence, he joined the newly formed Communist party. He became a member of the national committee in 1921 and worked abroad out of Moscow from 1925 to 1929.

Mr. Browder returned to the United States in 1929 and—after Joseph Stalin ousted the American leadership—became secretary in 1930 and general secretary in 1934. He served part of a second term in Federal prison for passport evasion. He was ousted as chairman of the Communist Political Association in 1945 and was expelled by the reconstituted party in February, 1946.