Who defines rationality? (Continued from page 1)

the intellectual life," by dis-
counting new ways of knowing, undervaluing other bodies of knowledge, and on the whole, turning away from the "cultiva-
tion of sensibility and judge-
ment."

Kaledin emphatically stated that "greater, more intense, more skilled attention to the development of practical judgement has to come." It is a question of what else you would like the skilled technicians who are developing genetic engineer-
ing to know. We expressed a feeling of despair because the dominant social, political, and economic trends are to value knowledge of nature and people, and that adds up to power, which has immediate visible and mea-
surable results.

In reply, Aiken stated two principles. First, every principle, or moral truth, such as "keep your promises," carries with it an "all other things being equal" clause, and the problem is that no one knows in advance how this must be filled in. Second, all people have their limitations, and one can't suppose that principles of rationality, expla-
nation of phenomena, are appli-
cable to areas out of experience, but of justification of actions directed toward goals or ends.

When questioned about the training of technicians, Aiken told of three paths. A rational individual can either fight the system, for example on the ques-
tion of genetic engineering, and become a dissident; he can insist that genetic engineering be used to further the goals of the na-
tion, according to its laws and administrative; or he can ask the question of how genetic engin-
ering can be used for the good of all people. Genetic engineer-
ing is not inherently bad; it can be good, which has immediate visible and mea-
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