

STUDENT REVIEW

Strengthen the Student Front

JAMES WECHSLER

We Tell the Congressmen

JAMES C. JACKSON

American Writers' Congress

JACK CONROY

Socialized Education

LAWRENCE HILL

Mellon's Cathedral

LESTER PEARL

Price 5c

UNITY GATHERS STRENGTH

We have been asked time and time again why it is that despite refusals on the part of the Student League for Industrial Democracy, the National Student League continues to press for organizational unity, for amalgamation. The answer to this question is now being furnished by many members and chapters of the S.L.I.D. which are initiating a movement for unity within the S.L.I.D. itself. Of course the fact that this movement has gained impetus within the past few weeks is not accidental. It is a direct consequence of almost two years of united front activity. It comes as an immediate aftermath to the April 12th Strike.

S.L.I.D.ers for Amalgamation

When we talk of amalgamation now, we are not talking abstractly; we speak in terms of a movement which seems about to envelop the entire S.L.I.D. We will quote liberally from a letter written to the N.S.L. by Carl Campbell, leader of the S.L.I.D. chapter of the University of Denver (Denver, Colorado):

May 13, 1935

"... I am writing in the interests of some left-wing L.I.D. members here in the west who are interested in the proposed amalgamation of the L.I.D. and the N.S.L. I am the corresponding secretary of the University of Denver chapter. I have just returned from the Pacific Coast Congress against War and Fascism, which was a great success.

"... While at Frisco, I determined to launch an L.I.D. amalgamation move, starting mainly in the West. I have talked to Waldo McNutt, who is favorable and anxious to see it go through. Also talked to Criley, L.I.D. leader at Berkeley, and Grossman, N.S.L. leader there, who are all for the move. Criley has probably already written to you. Or perhaps Grossman has. The Boulder, Colorado L.I.D., the Utah chapter at Salt Lake, the chapter in Washington, and probably the other Coast chapters have pledged support, or at least their leaders have. ...

"I understand that the N.S.L. is definitely pledged to amalgamation. I am convinced that your stand is right. It is now two years since we started our L.I.D.-N.S.L. united front, which on the whole has been very successful. On the Coast, the menace of fascism has forced the two groups together. At Berkeley and many other colleges the L.I.D. and the N.S.L. hold meetings together almost all the time. It is becoming ridiculous as well as dangerous to maintain two national organizations in the student field.

"I think the movement for amalgamation has been held back by Old Guard Y.P.S.L.'s in New York and by some of our L.I.D. officials who do not want to sacrifice their office and prestige. However, I do not think this has been a one-sided fault. Certain unfortunate tactics of N.S.L. members have been partly responsible. I think it is about a fifty-fifty proposition. It will require sacrifices on both sides, and both sides will stand to gain.

"What I want now is your plan for amalgamation. I do not think that anything final can be drawn up without a joint national convention. But we must have something concrete to work with.

"... I plan to get the endorsement of Western L.I.D. leaders and chapters and then to set up an Amalgamation Committee within the L.I.D. I have informed my national office of this move.

Yours for a N.S.L.I.D. or some other unified movement."

CARL CAMPBELL, L.I.D.

What Mr. Campbell has to say speaks for itself. We have additional information concerning sentiment for amalgamation among S.L.I.D. members. It is hardly accidental that the strongest movement exists on the West Coast where the fascist forces are strong.

The L.I.D. organizer at U.C.L.A. has definitely committed herself for amalgamation. Mr. Campbell has already told us about the L.I.D. chapter at Berkeley where Criley, the chapter leader, is an active worker for unity.

Nancy Bedford Jones, of Pomona College, Claremont, California is lining up the L.I.D. there. Lee Beach and his former S.L.I.D. chapter at San Diego, unwilling to wait further for S.L.I.D. acceptance of amalgamation have renounced their former affiliation and have joined the N.S.L. Just recently in Washington D. C. a joint meeting of all N.S.L.-L.I.D. members in the city considered the question. Although a vote was not taken it was clear that the sentiment of most L.I.D. members was definitely for unification. S.L.I.D. members at Harvard, Bennington, M.I.T., Vassar, N.Y.U. Heights have declared themselves for the N.S.L. proposal.

We Will Succeed

The movement for unity within the S.L.I.D. is unmistakable. Previously scattered and not clearly defined it is now taking organized form as a result of the persistent efforts of the N.S.L. We consider this a most encouraging development. However, the movement already begun must consider and act upon specific steps which can lead to unity. Carl Campbell's proposal "to set up an Amalgamation Committee within the S.L.I.D." should be acted upon first. Such a committee should immediately contact as many S.L.I.D. chapters as possible and encourage them to send resolutions endorsing amalgamation to the national offices of both organizations. The committee should consider the suggestion for a joint meeting of the national executive committees of the two organizations which would make plans for a joint national convention next winter. Also an appropriate measure at this time would be the conduct of a referendum on this question within the S.L.I.D. We believe the matters of program, name and other problems relating to the amalgamated organization can adequately be settled by the above proposed joint meetings.

We greet the efforts of Carl Campbell and his fellow S.L.I.D.ers. We shall do everything to aid them. We have always been convinced of the necessity of one student movement. Now we are convinced it will be achieved.

STRENGTHEN THE STUDENT FRONT

By JAMES A. WECHSLER
An Editorial

*James Wechsler is the former editor
of the "Columbia Spectator"*

Perhaps the most eloquent testimony to the power, scope and militancy of April 12th is the onrush of reaction which has ensued. The impact of that day descended ominously upon the war-makers and their allies. If last year they could remain sceptical, secure, now they must have some awareness of the peril which confronts their plans. Two weeks after the strike, The Chicago Tribune openly condoned and encouraged violence to stem the student upsurge. Its declaration only echoed the panic of the privileged. For just as each passing hour reveals that a decadent, corrupt order must inevitably resort to war, so the opposition which this realization has provoked breeds fear in the camp of Wall Street. The enemy has the jitters. All the intimidation, all the reprisals, all the subtle or overt cracking-down which followed in the wake of the strike only enhances its significance. So long as students confined their anti-war sentiment to parlor discussions, open fora and weekly teas, they were on "safe" ground. Now that they speak the strategy of organized action, let them beware.

Background of the Strike

The panorama of April 12th is no cause for unrestrained jubilation. It only foreshadowed the solemn character of the struggle, the immense tasks which lie ahead, the swift emergence of contending forces. What was most impressive, however, was the spontaneity and determination of the strike. Certainly, while there have been organizational strides in the past twelve months, these alone do not account for the five-fold increase in the strike total since 1934; if last year did provide renewed momentum along these paths, that alone could not explain the extent and unanimity of

the walkout. Its roots were in the world disaster which capitalism has wrought, in the palpable insecurity which faces us on every side, in the rapid advance towards a Second World War which even our professors can no longer minimize. Five years ago these might have been dismissed as left-wing shibboleths; five years ago our warnings might have been laughed out of court by a Nicholas Murray Butler. But the facts of contemporary life, so unmistakable in the daily routine of anyone's existence, have borne out our prophesy. The imminence of catastrophe can no longer be ignored.

Growth of Anti-War Action

In this setting it is not astonishing that 150,000 students answered the strike call. Nor is it to be wondered that every form of repression, of threats, of vested savagery was defied. Perhaps our Trustees cannot fathom the courage and initiative of their wards; perhaps they are bewildered by the futility of ancient repressive techniques. Let them look around. The stakes are high these days. When we have literally nothing to lose but our lives, we cannot be stopped by the pompous verbiage of a Butler or the rapid-fire suspensions of a Colligan. And just so long as the social system offers us nothing but a future of war, unemployment and darkness, our ranks will swell, our purpose crystallize, our achievements multiply.

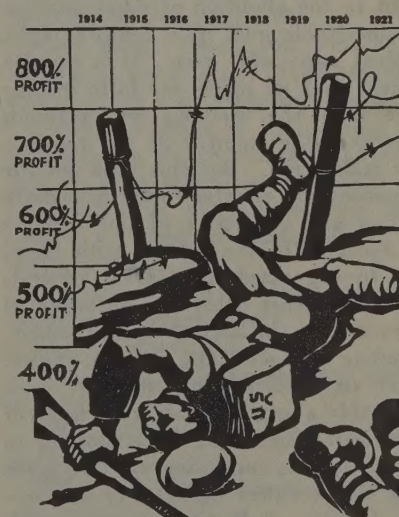
Precisely these objective elements sped word of the strike from coast-to-coast, routed the complacency of our ivory-towerites, mobilized so impressive a front against war and fascism. This is not to underestimate the role of the N.S.L. and its participating allies; they gave form and direction and clarity to the movement; in those places where they were most firmly rooted, the strike

gained maximum support and effectiveness. Without them the word strike, with the real implications it bore, would have been abandoned at the urgings of solicitous University presidents; without them, as occurred in far too many instances, the strike was diluted, swerved into ineffectual channels; without them, in fact, the whole sweep and unity of April 12th would have been replaced by isolated, timid imitations.

What Next?

Now, when the question—what next?—is uppermost in the minds of American students, these are the factors we must acknowledge. We have scant time or reason to pat ourselves on the back. We have gains to record and also defeats. We have seen only an intimation of the real job, the far-flung possibilities and the bitter struggle still before us.

April 12th is past. Where do we go from here? Will the movement against war be dispelled in the aftermath of reprisals? Will it be emasculated by the



**Fight Against
Imperialist War
Demonstrate May 30**

persuasive "scholarliness" of frightened educators? Will it be hurled back by the Administration-sponsored "Vigilante" bands which learned their tactics from Hitlerism? Or will it go forward on the realistic roads mapped out?

The answer rests with us. If we allow ourselves to be shut off from the main segments of the student body, if the frantic "Red Scare" being raised on every side is not repulsed, if we permit a barrier to be set up between our interests and aims and those of the rank-and-file of the strike movement, then all the efforts of these arduous years have been wasted. Now "united front" has ceased to be a wistful dream; it is a reality. Ours is the task to strengthen and perpetuate it. We will do so only if we continue to win the trust, the respect and cooperation of every political and social element; we will fail if any dichotomy between the organized student movement and the unorganized followers of April 12th is tolerated.

N.S.L. Program

It is true—and we should not be afraid to say so—that we believe the ultimate roots of war lie in our declining profit economy. It is plain that we point to the abolition of capitalism as the inevitable goal of a realistic fight against imperialist war. It is equally evident that we place our faith in alliance with the working and farming masses of the country as the road to this realization. But this does not for a moment run counter to the immediate tactics and objectives of our cohorts of April 12th. We believe, with them, that by organized and fearless protest, we can at least delay the outbreak of war; we are in accord in our understanding that students, as such, cannot exert any decisive influence but must inevitably align with the great body of American people who have nothing to gain from this impending war; we agree that the so-called agencies of peace—the League of Nations—cannot ultimately prove more than a ground for alliance-forming by rival imperialist powers; we recognize, whatever our latent differences, that the strategy of the

hour calls, not for weekly teas, but for the methods of social action—strikes, demonstrations, picketing, parallel with extensive education and agitation; we acknowledge the immediate need for a machinery of cooperative effort among the foes of imperialist war—a permanent, broad, dynamic united front.

The United Front

Without hesitancy or reserve, we have joined hands with any group and individuals genuinely devoted to this immediate struggle against a war which may break out at any hour. And the sharp rebuffs which the "Red Scare" received on countless Campuses testifies to the eagerness with which our offer has been accepted.

But this is the beginning. We are familiar with the dangers already cited—that the dramatic show of strength on April 12 will be dissipated in ensuing days. We have already experienced some measure of the reaction which awaits us. Is not the one guarantee that these perils will be overcome the building of a conscious, aware, mass student movement of which the N.S.L. and the L.I.D. are only the first outlines? Is it not tragic that these two bodies—the spearheads of April 12th, the dynamic forces of the day—must remain organizationally apart? Let us not deceive ourselves. The anti-war movement will grow and extend only so long as we continue to fulfill that role—not because we are "better" than the rest of the Campus, but because our program penetrates closest to the heart of the problem; not because we are "superior" but because we are most experienced in the struggle, most alert to the moves of the foe. Now, at a time when the N.S.L. and the L.I.D., their joint achievements unmistakable, their programs so closely correlated, have this greatest battle on their hands, is it not unforgivable that they remain single entities—appearing to work against each other?

April 12th was signal reply to those who have placed obstacles in the path of amalgamation. We don't believe sweetness and light will follow. There will be disagreements and differences,

just as there are within both organizations at present. But these cannot blunt the need and the possibility of fusion.

Our Perspectives

Today, tomorrow, our most significant mission is to be carried out. It is the consolidation and growth of this upsurge of April 12th. A nationwide Congress against war to be held next Fall, must be prepared. The once apathetic elements which joined us last month must be rallied to the Congress where the drama and spectacle of the strike will be transformed into organized units of day-to-day action. There we will strengthen the bonds already so vividly evident. There we will set up machinery for the most crucial phase of the movement. Meanwhile, through the American Youth Congress and its second national meeting in Detroit this July fourth, we will make unity of students and workers more than a slogan or a hope—a fighting, concerted reality.

These are only hints of the future. If April 12th smashed the complacency of our Boards of Trustees, let them gird themselves for new shocks. For those 150,000 who marched on April 12th are only the nucleus; just as they risked their sacred parchments for the right to live, so thousands more are beginning to understand the imminence of the issues. The movement against war and fascism springs from the roots of a corrupt, futile social system; while that system prevails, while it offers only promises and poverty, while its "economics of scarcity" dominates our lives, it can hope for no toleration from the millions it oppresses.

That was the warning sounded on April 12th. Hundreds of thousands will throng the streets on National Youth Day—May 30th—to echo the message. In the schools, in the factories, on the farms, there is a momentous stirring. Before war—and, if we fail, after it breaks out—this restlessness and discontent will gain force and clarity.

It took the American Campus several years to react to crisis. Now that its forces have been unleashed, we can suspect the dynamite it contains.

WE TELL THE CONGRESSMEN

By JAMES C. JACKSON

We print below the complete stenogram of the testimony of James Jackson presented for the National Executive Committee of the N.S.L. to the Labor Committee of the House of Representatives of the U. S. on the Workers' (Lundeen) Unemployment and Social Insurance Bill.

* * *

"Mr. Dunn: Give the reporter your name and the name of the organization you represent.

"Mr. Jackson: James C. Jackson, the National Student League, executive committee, New York City.

"The National Student League is a national organization of students with chapters in more than 150 colleges and high schools throughout the United States. All of our chapters have gone on record as supporting the workers' unemployment, old-age, and social-insurance bill, H. R. 2827, also known as the 'Lundeen Bill.'

"The program of the National Student League calls for an organized struggle, first, in support of working-class demands; second, for adequate social insurance; third, against retrenchment in education and for free city colleges in all cities of a population of 100,000 and over; fourth, against racial and political discrimination, both in the schools and outside of school, and specifically for equal rights for Negroes; fifth, for academic freedom for students and teachers; sixth, against the militarization of high-school and college students through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps and other military and semimilitary organizations, such as the citizens' military training camps and the Civilian Conservation Corps; against war and fascism.

"In keeping with this program, we are in favor of this bill both in our capacity as students, that is as sons and daughters of workers, and in our capacity as potential workers, that is as young men and young women who, within a short time, will be out there competing against our jobless elders.



JAMES C. JACKSON
Student at Howard University and member of the National Executive Committee of the National Student League.

"As a member of the national executive committee of the National Student League, I submit to you the following statement as the reasons in support of the workers' unemployment - insurance bill, H. R. 2827.

"We were unable to find reliable data on the cost of elementary or high-school education, but, according to the Office of Education of the United States Department of Interior, the minimum cost of one year in a State-controlled college is \$475. Even if the average worker were employed full time it would be practically impossible for him to provide his children with a higher education. But we know of course that very few workers have full-time, steady jobs. For instance, according to the December Monthly Labor Review of the United States Department of Labor, the average annual earnings of leather workers in Ohio was less than \$1,100 even in the good years of 1928 and 1929. According to the United States Census of Manufactures these figures are typical of workers in manufacturing industries in the whole country. During 1932 these earnings dropped to as little as \$690 due to unemployment and wage

cuts. It is almost unbelievable that with this income anyone can maintain a family on even a subsistence level and send children to elementary school, let alone high school and college.

"It was not until the fifth year of the depression that Federal funds became available to destitute college students who had somehow found their way into the colleges. This aid is so small that it can hardly be said to constitute relief. According to the monthly reports of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, 96,000 college students, or less than 10 percent of the total, are now being permitted to earn less than \$13 a month on jobs financed by Federal funds.

"Mr. Dunn: Did you say 10 percent?

"Mr. Jackson: Yes; something less than 10 percent.

"Mr. Dunn: I should like the total figures you gave in that last statement.

"Mr. Jackson: According to the monthly reports of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, 96,000 college students, or less than 10 percent of the total are now being permitted to earn less than \$13 a month on jobs financed by Federal funds.

"Mr. Dunn: Thank you. Proceed.

"Mr. Jackson: Many of these students work for less than 20 cents an hour.

"While students in the colleges and high schools, we are receiving an excellent training course in starvation and low wages in preparation for what awaits us when we leave school and attempt to find jobs

"Mr. Dunn: Did you say an excellent training in 'starvation'?

"Mr. Jackson: Yes.

"Mr. Dunn: Thank you. I just wanted to get that statement.

"Mr. Jackson: I can clarify that by a statement.

"Mr. Dunn: Do you have to be trained to starve?

"Mr. Jackson: I can clarify that by a statement that I said just before, working at as little as 20 cents an hour, and some students are in college at

great sacrifice to health and even to efficient work.

"We have rapidly been made aware of the fact that there are no jobs for us. The American Federation of Labor says there are more than 11 million unemployed; other estimates run as high as 15 million and 16 million. According to an official unemployment census of the State of Massachusetts, taken in January 1934, as shown in the December Monthly Labor Review of the United States Department of Labor, almost half, or 47.6 percent, of all the employable persons under 20 years of age were unemployed. Of the students in Massachusetts who left school during 1932 and 1933, more than 30,000 had no jobs. In this State alone there were 17,000 vocationally trained persons who had never even had a chance to work in the occupation for which they trained. Of these 17,000, almost 14,000 were clerical and professional people. If the Massachusetts data are typical of the country as a whole, there are in the United States approximately one-half million trained clerical and professional people who have never had a chance to use their training.

"The same census shows that more than 35 percent of all the employable people are either wholly or partially unemployed. Of those wholly unemployed about 25 percent had had no job at all for 3 years or more. All of these conditions although acute among white workers are even more so among Negro workers. Even in Massachusetts, where discrimination against Negroes is less vicious than in the South, fully one-half of all employable Negroes were unemployed as compared with only one-third of the whites.

"Because of the limitation of time and because other speakers have already adequately covered other phases of the unemployment problem, we are not presenting any data to this committee bearing on the problems of old age, sickness, maternity, and other phases covered by the Lundeen bill.

"In conclusion, the National Student League wishes me to impress this committee with the necessity of reporting the workers' bill favorably to the floor

In answer to a telegram sent by the Executive Secretary of the National Student League to Director Hopkins of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, a letter from Hopkins' secretary stated that it was not yet definitely known what appropriations would be made for student relief. However, said the secretary's letter, there was no definite indication that this relief would be cut off. The letter was dated April 13.

of the Congress both because of the facts presented to the committee and because the Lundeen bill or workers' unemployment, old-age, and social insurance bill is the only bill before this Congress which, first, covers all of the unemployed without discrimination because of race, color, or political opinion or affiliation; second, provides for full compensations for all wages lost because of unemployment, sickness, old age, maternity, industrial injury, or any other disability; third, because it is the only bill which includes the domestic workers, migratory workers, and agricultural workers. Inasmuch as most of the Negro workers are to be found in these categories, the workers' bill is the only bill which provides social insurance for them. Fourth, because the workers' bill is the only bill which provides us students with a measure of security, both because it affords security for our parents, and holds forth the hope of security when we enter the labor market.

"Mr. Dunn: Do you desire to interrogate the gentleman?

"Mr. Lundeen: No; I have no questions, Mr. Chairman.

"Mr. Dunn: I want to ask you one question, Mr. Jackson. Do you know how many colored students there are in the United States today?

"Mr. Jackson: How many college students?

"Mr. Dunn: Colored boys and girls in the United States in colleges?

"Mr. Jackson: No; I do not have that available. I do not know that, Mr. Chairman.

"Mr. Dunn: I wish to thank you for your excellent address."

The testimony of James Jackson to

the Senate Committee Hearings on unemployment insurance revealed only in part the universal need of college and high school students for relief. The statement of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration is a vague and unsatisfactory indication of the possibilities for continuing and extending this student aid.

The National Student League, recognizing that a government which has sufficient funds to appropriate \$4,000,000 for the R.O.T.C. and \$2,000,000,000 for war preparations can appropriate an adequate sum for federal relief to needy students, calls for the continuation of the FERA, calls in addition, for increased appropriations to include every needy student. The relief we demand must be adequate to meet the needs of students. A minimum of work must be 30 hours a month at 50 cents an hour.

We can win our demand for relief only if needy students band together and exert unified pressure. In schools where broad united fronts have been organized the demands have already been won.

Now, when we are threatened with a cessation of all federal relief, we must flood the federal offices with telegrams and letters demanding the continuation and extension of the student aid, demanding an exact answer to our question: What funds have been appropriated for relief?

BOOK UNION—Students will be interested in the formation of **BOOK UNION**, a new organization interested in the distribution of revolutionary literature on a wide and intelligent scale. The recent development of interest in left-wing novels, belle lettres and non-fiction works will be further extended as a definite, assured market supports the work of revolutionary writers. Here is the **BOOK UNION** idea:

"**BOOK UNION** will select and distribute to its members one book of Marxist, left-wing fiction or non-fiction each month. The first selection will be issued in September. Among the editors of **BOOK UNION** are Malcolm Cowley, Granville Hicks, Corliss Lamont, and Mary van Kleeck. **BOOK UNION** is at 381-4th Avenue, New York City.

"I WAS A LIBERAL —"

By HELEN GELLER

I was a liberal and this is my testament. It will be no frantic confessional; neither will it be a profound enunciation of principles. Some things I feel deeply; if it be emotionalism to record them—my friends of the middle will make the charge—then I say it is time we translated such responses. Philosophic calm, I suspect, is often the excuse of insensitivity or inertia. Neither envy nor admire those who are unmoved by contemporary life and the revolting symptoms of it we encounter.

I was graduated from Smith College in 1933. My four years there were tranquil, undisturbed and artificial. I had achieved detachment. When, in 1932, I extended a patronizing support to a Socialist candidate, it was a smugly daring venture. Roosevelt's election kindled my enthusiasm; I was caught up in the feeling that liberalism would at least be tried. Meanwhile, my interests were primarily concerned with Chaucer and Shakespeare, the college weekly and the Campus fancies of the moment. I was an ardent and isolated pacifist. This I was eminently convinced of and I could get mad about it. In my senior year—the year of Hitler's rise to power—I experienced intermittent outbursts of indignation.

These are fragments. They are not unique. My college life was characteristic, in the spirit of the times. It reflected the thoughts, habits, aspirations, prejudices of my school-mates. It was the aloofness, the reserve and the half-knowledge of a liberal.

In 1933 I returned to New York. I was armed with theory. I was full of the abstract idealism, the loftiness and the certainty of my creed. Nor do I know at precisely what point I abandoned it. I think that perhaps the change from a remote college community to the blunt life of a city symbolized the transformation. More than that. I saw all the objectives and values which I cherished as a liberal in their realistic setting—and I saw what was happening to them.

Helen Geller, graduate of Smith College and Editor-in-Chief of the 1933 Smith College weekly has written for Student Review an honest account of her experience, which is similar to the experience of thousands of other "ex-liberals."

Turn the Other Cheek

I hate violence. So did my fellow-liberals. We were quite righteous in this conviction. We carried the torch for slow enlightenment, education, understanding. We were appalled by the phrase "mass action." It represented frenzy, unthoughtfulness, hysteria. We were frightfully concerned with all "points of view." We possessed a sympathy for every argument—and consequently could not uphold one with any vigor.

I haven't changed in this regard. Abstractly these tenets are an excellent blue-print for society. What I began to see was the inevitability and intensification of violence in this social order—because its roots are there. I read of concentration camps in Germany—and in Georgia; of lynchings in the United States; of militia firing at strikers. I see liberals herded into jail with radicals for expressing their protest. These are every-day facts of life. I hate violence. But if my very hatred for it will bring down the condemnation of a privileged clique, if my pleading for "peace" runs counter to the will of my rulers—then perhaps I must discipline myself. Perhaps I must control my hatred. Or I will nurture it in a concentration camp. For each day brings new evidence that Hearst and his cohorts, that the handful who dominate our society, will not shudder at violence to preserve their stature. It is they who preach and practice it—and urge us to turn the other cheek.

Belief in Arbitration

I once believed that labor conflicts should be settled "reasonably." I en-

visaged generous conferences between employer and worker. A man is starving—millions are. They ask for the right to live, for a decent wage. They ask for clothing for their children. These are "reasonable requests." But they have been asking for many years. And they have received no response. Where is "benevolent capitalism?" Where are our "enlightened employers?" A man fights for his bread. I can't hate that. I can't be aloof about it. All that I believe is decent and fair is involved in that struggle. All that "liberalism" presumably stood for is at stake. I can't be impartial, detached.

Four years ago at Smith, Norman Thomas spoke on "Expectation of Violence." I was bored. I didn't listen closely. I had no sense that the problem was immediate or acute. He was a man from another world—and I wasn't interested.

And You, Mr. Liberal

Somehow that is imminent now. People cannot endure suffering forever. An oppressed people does not remain quies-

Fascist Attacks at Wisconsin

National Student League

31 East 27 Street NYK

May 15, 1935.

ATHLETE LED GANG RAIDED SLID MEETING WEDNESDAY NIGHT STOP SWEETLAND (SLID ORGANIZER) SPEAKING STOP MANHANDLED CHAIRMAN STOP SWEETLAND THROWN IN LAKE STOP NSLERS MEETING IN ANOTHER BUILDING LEFT TO PROTECT SLID STOP FACULTY MEMBER ATTENDING NSL MEETING DUCKED FOR TRYING TO HELP SWEETLAND STOP HOODLUMS NEXT WENT TO RAID NSL MEETING NOT KNOWING WE WERE IN CROWD STOP FINALLY THREW TWO MORE IN STOP POLICE DID NOTHING BUT GIVE US ESCORT THROUGH CROWD STOP TWO ATHLETES ARRESTED STOP SEND TELEGRAM DEMANDING DISCIPLINARY ACTION TO DEAN GOODNIGHT STOP BRINGING UP AMALGAMATION AT PROTEST MEETING TONIGHT

WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY NSL

cent too long. A "race riot" in Harlem means that the breaking-point is not distant; it means that our overlords had better beware.

Once I was patronizing about these things. I would help the "working-people." I was a humanitarian—above them but ready to extend my sympathetic hand. Now this is no gesture; everything which I esteemed rests on the success of their struggles. The hope and possibility of realizing "peace, fraternalism, welfare" is contingent upon the emergence of a socialist society. There is no contradiction in my opposing imperialist war yet being prepared to aid in a civil war for the erection of that kind of order. I would prefer it the other way. I would prefer enlightenment, education. I would like to vote us into a sane system. I will not enjoy the strife. But I begin to realize that capitalism will turn to every conceivable device of violence and torture. The process is already under way. It won't be long now.

What, Mister liberal, will you do about it? Will you murmur of Chaucer at Leavenworth? Will you wave the dove of peace in the face of a Hitler—and expect him to be moved? Will you "wish" that millions of starving Americans were fed? Will you "hope" for a way out of the crisis?

THE WAR-MAKERS STRIKE BACK

Scarcely a campus in the country escaped some aspect of the wide-spread drive of suppression against the April 12 Strike. Suspensions, expulsions, arrests, physical torture, organized counter-demonstrations, all testify to the bitter struggles which surrounded the victorious anti-war demonstration. Several thick volumes could not contain all the details of this battle. High school after high school, college after college could be listed, where administrations, local police, American Legion Branches, Hearst newspapers, and campus vigilante bands united for a drive against the student anti-war movement unre-

AMERICAN WRITERS' CONGRESS

By JACK CONROY

Author of "The Disinherited"

To those who have been present at the pale pink teas given by bourgeois literati, the first American Writers' Congress must have been a thrilling affair. Some of the delegates hitch-hiked, others came by freight train without bothering to buy a ticket. Of course, a majority of the delegates could not afford a ticket, and automobilists are getting cagey about picking up thumbers. It was not uncommon to see a delegate coming in with beard bristling and eyes full of cinders, clothing dirty and torn. And throughout the city, delegates who had arrived safely were inquiring anxiously about the fate of comrades from home, who had started earlier and who might be "vagged" by some railroad bull or ground into sausage meat beneath railroad car wheel flanges. But eventually and as best he could, each delegate managed to arrive and to take an active part in the proceedings of the Congress, mingling with those authors who have been a bit more fortunate in getting books published but who can see how capitalism is strangling the arts.

The delegates came to the realization that there is a living and growing proletarian literary movement in America. The young writers isolated in the hinterlands, where kindred minds are not often found and fighting alone is a tough battle, must have gone home with a sense of solidarity not known before and also with a determination to work hard and with a pride in the position they have taken, the only position left for those who wish to affirm life and not death, who wish to record progress and hope rather than decay and despair.

I doubt if your Boards of Trustees would have enjoyed the spectacle. This was not goose-step culture we were examining. It does not have the solemnity of an academic ivory-tower. The students who worked with us at the Congress, who were absorbed by the possibilities and tasks it represented, are of a generation new to American education. They will combine culture with action. Their voices will be heard above the din of pandering, of defeatism and detachment which is bellowed forth in the classroom.

By JEAN HORIE

cedented in open violence and brutality. If we examine a few of the major cases of terror against the strike, we soon see that there are certain similarities in all the attacks.

California

In California, weeks before the strike, school administrations were lining up student vigilante bands, who patrolled the campuses of the University of California and the Los Angeles Junior College watching for strike leaflets to confiscate. Students distributing leaflets were called in by the administrations. The colleges and high schools were sur-

rounded by plainclothesmen and Hearst reporters. The Hearst press headlines ridiculed the strike and warned citizens of subversion in the schools. As strike preparations continued to spread, the attacks sharpened. 18 Berkeley students were arrested for distributing anti-war literature. In Pasadena, two girls were picked up for hanging anti-war posters. Margot Lamb of Los Angeles Junior College was arrested for distributing leaflets. Bernice Gallaher of John Marshall High and Harold Breger of Fairfax High were suspended from school until they would promise to stop anti-war activity. Strike preparations gained

momentum with each new attack. A thousand students at the University of California in Los Angeles poured out of their classes on April 12 and conducted an orderly strike meeting on the campus. At Pasadena, the school band stood by to protect the successful strike of 500 students. It was in the high schools of Los Angeles that the day of April 12 was marked by most violent suppression. All schools were surrounded by cordons of police. The strike leader at John Marshall High was physically removed from the campus. Class schedules were changed at Fairfax High to keep students in the rooms. Two hundred police at Roosevelt High seized strike leaders and penned hundreds of striking students in the building. The principal of Belmont High hastily called a Peace Assembly. Two thousand students of Los Angeles Junior College, crowding the campus for their strike meeting, heard popular tunes played by a huge amplifier that had been shunted toward the meeting. At the same time, Director Ingalls of the college administration appeared on the scene tooting a whistle to marshal the vigilantes into action. Still the strike meeting continued uninterrupted. Squads of police flooded the campus. Students were pushed, knocked down, kicked, beaten into unconsciousness with blackjacks. The shout, "police off the campus" gained momentum as students charged the cops and drove them from the meeting. The strike demonstration continued successfully. Later in the day, Ingalls ordered four suspensions, Hans Hoffman, Margot Lamb, Kenneth Jam-poul, and Eugene Droginsky.

Chicago

Chicago strikers were attacked with a violence in many cases equaling the brutality of Hitler's methods. Students who distributed strike leaflets at Crane High school were called to the office of the administration. When they refused to answer questions as to which students participated in strike activities, they were suspended from school. One of the students, Lester Schlossberg, was turned over to a "flying squad" of student government police after he refused

to answer to the administration's grilling. The vigilante student group, with the knowledge and sanction of the administration, took Schlossberg to the engine room of the school and applied torture to force answers to the administration's questions. They put pins under his fingernails, punched him in the face and body, beat him with a heavy rope and tied a noose around his neck in a threat to lynch him. Next day another strike leaflet was issued. Again the students who distributed it were dragged to the engine room and beaten by the "flying squad." A third strike leaflet was issued. This time, with the sanction of the administration, the strike leaders were taken out of school and beaten. Later that afternoon, as Schlossberg was leaving school, he was again attacked and then suspended. Abe Held, President of the Open Forum Club of Medill Junior College, was suspended for refusing to turn over his leaflets to the administration. Two students of Wright Junior College were arrested for distributing strike leaflets. One of them, Art Rodriguez was suspended from school and two other students were placed on probation. Suspensions and expulsions were threatened at Tuley High School. Police surrounded all the Chicago schools on the day of the strike. Exits were barricaded. Five students were arrested at Wright Junior College and at a branch of Tuley High school over 40 students who walked out were suspended.

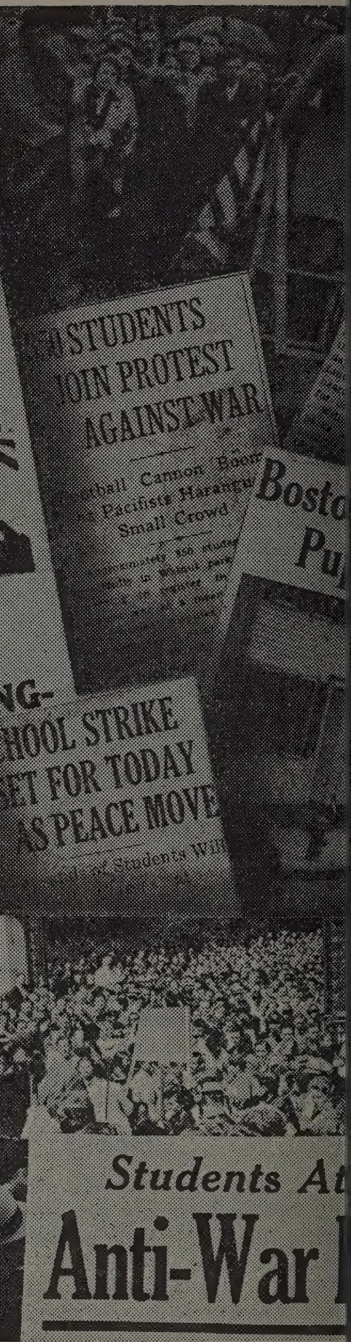
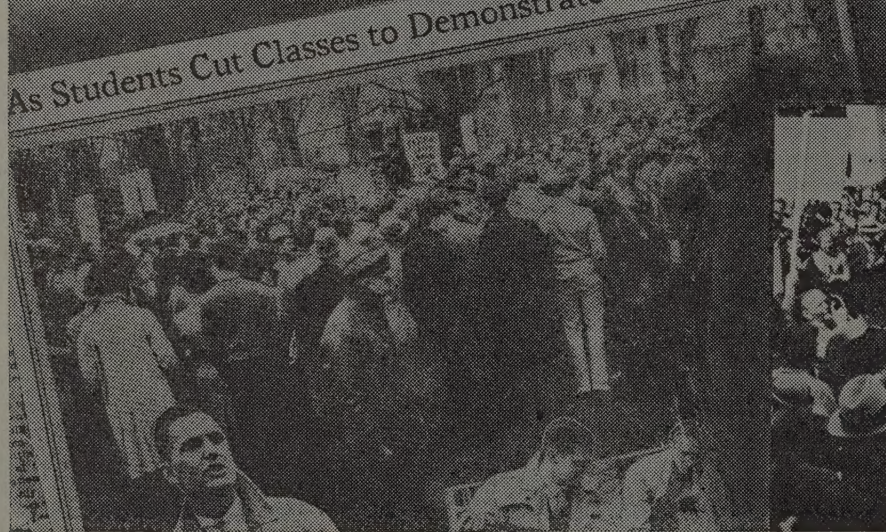
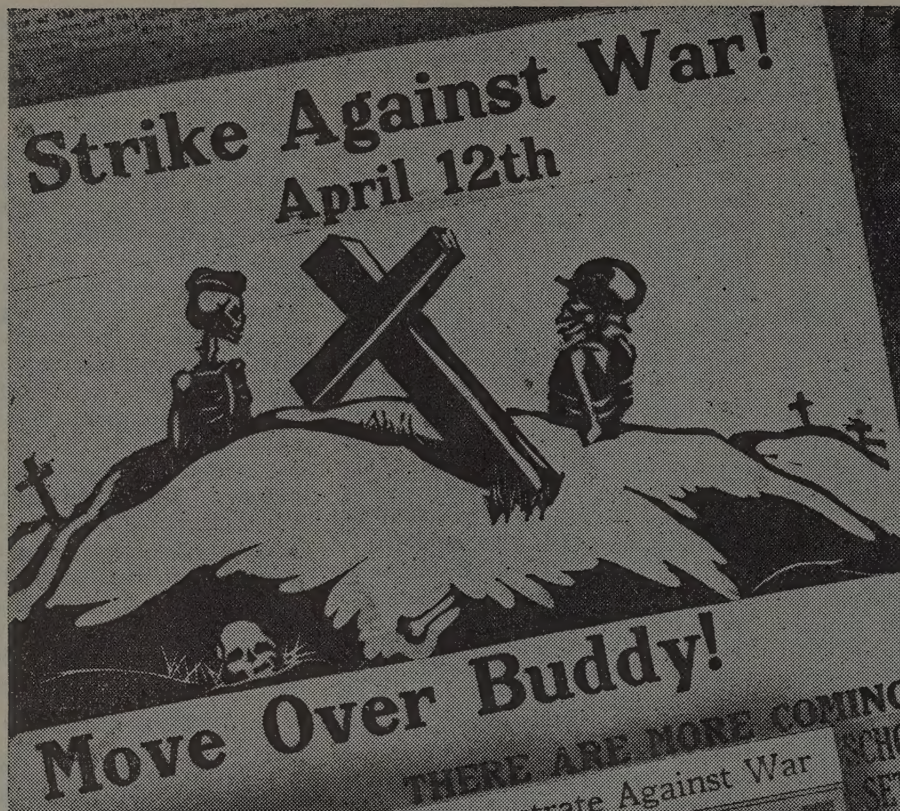
New England

Attacks on the strike in New England developed most sharply at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where, a week before April 12, Robert Landay, one of the strike leaders, was kidnapped by a group of R.O.T.C. men. They shaved his head and beat him. Then they entered the dormitory rooms of strike leaders and destroyed their books and papers. A few days before the strike, they kidnapped and beat several other strike leaders. President Compton, who had promised to speak at the strike meeting, withdrew his support and endorsed the R.O.T.C. vigilantes by refusing to take action against them and announcing that if any further violence

took place on the campus he would expel all members of the strike committee. On the night before the strike, the vigilantes hauled the fascist swastika to the top of school flagpoles. The strike meeting next day was attacked and disrupted by R.O.T.C. men in uniform. Eight students were arrested for distributing strike leaflets to Cambridge High school students on the day before the strike. At Harvard, a threat to kidnap the strike leader was defeated by an all-night watch of several students who moved into his room. Next day 3600 students gathered for a strike which continued successfully in spite of a counter-demonstration, directing fascist salutes and angry shouts at the strikers. Boston Superintendent of Schools Campbell called a joint meeting of school officials and police to meet the emergency of the student strike. The city "red squad" was put on special duty. Campbell threatened with severe penalties any student who left school on April 12.

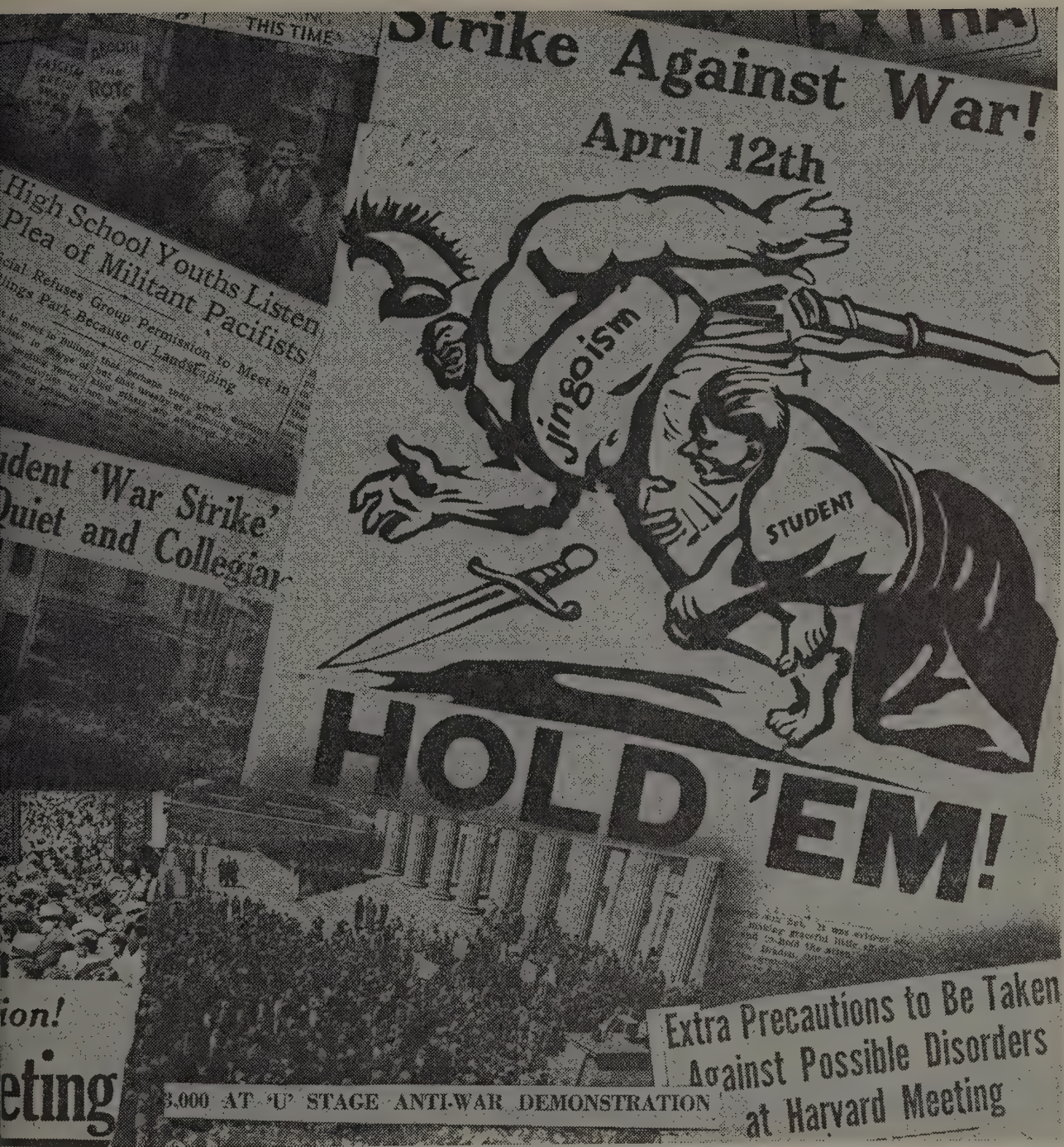
New York City

Over 40,000 New York City students participated in the largest strike in any one area. It was here that the terror in high schools was most widespread. Attempts at suppression began long before the strike, when exams were scheduled for April 12 in most of the schools. Strike preparations continued. Police surrounded the high schools on April 12. Several hundred striking students at James Madison High were locked in by police and monitors. A delegation of speakers and parents was arrested. Newtown High students, fighting the police, managed to hold a strike meeting. One student was expelled and five suspended. Monroe, Morris, Washington Irving, and Stuyvesant High schools held meetings after battles with the police. Students were kept in the buildings by force at Eastern District and Bryant Park. Fire engines were ready to turn their hose on Erasmus Hall students, who were, in addition, locked in the school. Eight hundred Lincoln High strikers were refused readmission to the school after their demonstration. Even delegations of parents were shut out. In all



American Students Strike Against F

1934 - - - - 25,000



icism and Imperialist War—April 12th

1935 - - - - - 150,000

parts of the city, the number of arrests and suspensions of high school strikers reaches a staggering total. At Hunter College, where a strike of 2200 students was led by 17 campus organizations, including all the publications and the Junior and Senior classes, the administration banned the campus Peace Council before the strike and suspended two of its officers, Millie Futterman and Theresa Levin. On the day before the strike, President Colligan issued to every student a statement condemning the strike. Following the tremendous walk-out, Lillian Dropkin, Chairman of the Strike Committee, Margaret Wechsler, President of the Upper Junior Class, and Jean Horie, Editor of the Year Book were suspended, bringing the total number of suspensions to six, including the freshman anti-war leader, Beatrice Shapiro, debarred several weeks before the strike.

Why These Attacks?

What was identical in all the attacks on the strike was the array of forces. School administrations in all parts of the country worked hand in hand with police and small bands of student vigilantes, often recruited from the R.O.T.C., to terrorize and disrupt the demonstrations. In the light of this suppression, the tremendous total of striking students gains added significance. The campus walk-outs represented concrete victories over the active opposition of these exponents of war and fascism in the schools. The strikes gave us a taste of what the student anti-war movement will have to face in time of war.

We saw that our administrations interests are so inexorably linked with the war-makers on our Boards of Trustees that they were driven to stop our anti-war activity at any cost. They did not hesitate to disregard our alleged rights to free speech and press. Theirs were the methods of outright fascism. We could not quietly argue with them about constitutional rights. Our only effective weapon was a firm, well-organized student body united on a clear program.

The attacks we met reflect the whole

wave of reaction in America, initiated by the representatives of Capitalism, striving for the preservation of profits in the face of an ever-deepening economic crisis, fighting for existence in the midst of wide-spread unemployment and misery, seeking to suppress all who oppose the imperialist war they are rapidly preparing. Heralded by Hearst, the drive toward fascism found concrete expression in the brutal attempts to smash our April 12 strike.

Where strikes were solidly organized, where the terror was prepared for and faced firmly, the actions were tremendously successful. Disrupters were iso-

lated. Administrations were forced to cease disciplinary measures. Police were driven off the campuses. With the lesson clear in their minds that a solid organization can defeat terror, strike meetings all over the country endorsed permanent anti-war committees in each school and an anti-war congress in the Fall to consolidate the whole student front against the increasing attacks in our anti-war activity. Our response to the terror on April 12 was a strike over five times the size of last year's. Our answer to threats of future opposition will be the broadening and strengthening of all our forces for the fight that faces us.

MELLON'S CATHEDRAL

By LESTER PEARL

The Pennsylvania legislature has elected to probe into the facts concerning the innumerable expulsions of faculty members at the University of Pittsburgh, and as usual in such cases, the mess that they are uncovering is a good deal dirtier than they expected. But only the students at the University themselves, and members of the long suffering faculty, who live with the axe at their necks, can appreciate the true value of the legislative evidence, and their University.

Three things must be borne in mind when you consider the case of the University of Pittsburgh. First of all, it is located right among the pickle-works, and munitions plants of the fair city that gives the University its name. A place of learning is almost an anomaly there. Pittsburgh has produced more millionaires this century than any city in the United States. Pittsburgh University has the lowest endowment of any school its size in the country. Our equipment is miserable. We are supported mainly through State tax money. Pitt has little claim to the purses of her millionaire neighbors, but it seems that she looks to them for leadership.

The second factor, growing of course directly out of the first, is the administration, headed by Chancellor Bowman,

idealist and author of "Happy all the Day Through," a little book of children's poems. The board of trustees includes, Ernest T. Weir of Weirton Steel, George Clapp of Mellon's Aluminum Company of America, Mellon himself, and all his available bank officers. Our library and laboratories are a dingy jest, but some seven years ago Chancellor Bowman launched a campaign to build a big beautiful fifty-story Cathedral. The Pittsburgh coal strike of 1929 broke out. The cops were unusually brutal. Two of the Pittsburgh faculty, Woltman and Warne, initiated some earnest attempts to support the striking workers, and secure some mass condemnation of the privately maintained coal and iron police. Woltman and Warne were dismissed from the University. Pitt's first student movement came to its feet then. Some students organized the Liberal Club. They invited Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes, hardly a bomb-throwing bolshevik, to speak to them. He was thrown off the campus, and had to address his audience from the running board of a car. The obvious meddling of these Pittsburgh coal barons in the matter of faculty tenure brought about the first of a series of investigations into the affairs of Pittsburgh University. The Ameri-

can Association of University Professors after inquiring into the situation said:

"We are unable to draw any conclusion that the authorities intended to gain the supported advantages of repression without overtly repressive measures."

Faculty and students began to think. Pittsburgh, so called workshop of the world, suddenly found itself in the thick of a world depression. The connection between the University's board of Trustees, and all they represent, and the collapsing economic order became more and more apparent. Some faculty men began to talk about social legislation, and even dared to avow support of Gifford Pinchot, when he ran for Governor, on a platform which made some friendly gestures toward the Pennsylvania labor movement. It seemed as if a student movement was actually about to grow in the college.

Meanwhile the Cathedral dwindled from fifty to thirty-five stories. All work stopped. The first seven floors were left in naked steel. Pitt still had to cater to her board of trustees, in the hope that someday they might pay for some seven stories of sadly needed plaster, and granite. Roosevelt's C.W.A. managed the granite, but the kindness of the national administration did not extend to the plastering.

Turner "Resigns"

In June 1934 one of the most competent historians in the United States, a man termed by the Chancellor himself "one of the best ten teachers we have," Dr. Ralph E. Turner, was forced to leave the University. The University administration bought his contract from him with a year's pay. Dr. Turner had been assigned to teach one of those freshman orientation courses, rather definitely against his wishes. In the course of study he made some of the usual remarks about Darwinism. He was fired, as Chancellor Bowman explained with regret, because, in spite of all good advice he maintained a "sneering attitude toward religion." The worthy Chancellor said nothing about

the fact that Professor Turner had been forced to resign just shortly before, from the Pennsylvania Security League because that organization had several things to say about social legislation. He said nothing about the fact that the administration considered people like Norman Thomas, and even Senator La Follette persona non grata for student assemblies. Above all he forgot about the fact that *he had dropped eighty-five instructors* in a period of about five years; that every one of the twenty faculty men who had signed the petition for the long dead liberal club, has disappeared from the campus.

N.S.L. Is Born

Immediately after the school reconvened in September, the National Student League came into being. It crystallized a great deal of the unorganized student opinion, which had been aroused by the summary dismissal of Dr. Turner. But the administration was ready at hand, as it had been heretofore. The N.S.L. held a meeting to organize diffuse sentiment and bring the liberal students into the battle, and into that meeting came one of our nicest trustees, Leon Falk. He is a war-profits millionaire, and Pittsburgh's leading Jewish philanthropist. Perhaps it was the philanthropic bent in his nature which prompted him to gather all the Jews into a private caucus, and warn them, that if Jews in the college persisted in participating in liberal activities, a Jewish quota would most certainly be established. The movement for the reinstatement of Ralph E. Turner languished.

In November, the Democratic party which hadn't seen the inside of an office for fifty years, swept in on the back of a landslide. Dr. Turner, and the Pennsylvania Security League had been ardent supporters of the New Deal, and the New Deal decided to shuffle the cards at Pittsburgh University. After all Andrew Mellon was a Republican, and he had to be put in his place. And so with true crusading zeal the newly constituted legislature decided to look into the affairs at the University of Pittsburgh. After all, the state was spend-

ing a million and a half every year on the school, and it had a right to know what was going on there.

Investigation Goes On

The investigation is going on right now. We have been treated to a most odoriferous array of dirty linen. All the facts in the coal strike of 1929 are out. Mr. Woltman was fired then not only for supporting the miners, but also for cooperation with the American Civil Liberties Union, and the American Mercury. Professor Whiting 'secured his "release" because he lectured sanely on the subject of genetics, on which he was an expert. Dr. Hovde had to leave the University because he was interested in relief for the unemployed. The two lengthy reports of the American Association of University Professors were submitted as evidence. They condemned the administration on every conceivable score. But the worst story deals with the Union Trust Company, Mellon's gigantic bank. The directors of the bank took a personal interest, it would seem, in Dr. Turner's off-campus speeches, and finally decided to put him out of the way.

The investigation is obviously being carried on for political reasons, another shining example of the liberality of the New Deal. But it is fairly clear, that if the investigation proceeds along the lines it has outlined for itself, it will get nowhere. Those sincere liberals who are conducting the investigation, are afraid to introduce student testimony which the N.S.L. has to offer. They are afraid of the red herring. Their attitude is stifling rather than encouraging the student movement for which, presumably they are fighting. But the fight isn't over yet, and there are many choice bits of evidence to be elicited. The efforts of Leon Falk to bring additional discrimination and repression to Pitt must be opened to the sunlight. Continued refusal of official status as a campus society to the N.S.L. chapter should be brought to the fore as another demonstration of the denial of freedom of expression at Pitt. The N.S.L. of Pittsburgh has not yet come to bat.

SOCIALIZED EDUCATION — A visit to a Soviet School

By LAWRENCE HILL

The students from the Moscow Chemical Institute had arrived at our hotel, where we were staying as the guests of the Moscow Proletarian Students' Organization, to take us to see their school.

The park in front of the building, the broad stairs, and the big hallway inside were crowded with students who had just returned from their summer vacations. There was nothing in their dress to distinguish them from the average person on the streets of Moscow, no plus fours or polo coats. Fully half of them were girls. We noticed some students in the native costumes of the national minorities of the Soviet Union.

The building itself was not replete with the luxury of some of the American universities from which we come, but the halls and stairways were broad and airy. We were ushered into the office of the director, a comfortably but simply furnished room with a long red covered table in the center around which we were invited to sit. Behind the seat of the director were pictures of Lenin and Stalin. As many students as could fit into the room, including the leaders of the Communist Party, Young Communist League and trade union organizations, were present to greet us and to find out something about American students. The director, a man of about thirty-five with a firm, intelligent face, said a few words of greeting and then proceeded to give us a brief, clear explanation of the organization and aims of the institute.

All Graduates Get Jobs

The Institute was organized shortly after the revolution and has been improving its curriculum and equipment ever since. It is under the control of the Commissariat for Light Industry, from which it receives its yearly subsidy and directives. This year there are two thousand two hundred students at the Institute. Every one of the four hundred and fifty graduates last year, except for ten of the leading students who are doing aspirant or research work, are

now working as engineers in the chemical and allied industries.

The director told us with pride of the varied racial and social composition of the student body. "Only sixty nine per cent of the students are Russian," he said. "We have nearly every nationality in the Soviet Union represented, and ninety eight of our students come from the so-called backward nationalities. Our only regret is that as yet we have no Negro students." Seventeen per cent of the students are Jewish. As for social composition, sixty-five per cent of the students are workers or the children of workers (somewhat below the average for the country), three and one half per cent come from collective and state farms, and most of the rest are recruited from the ranks of office and professional workers.

Study and Practice

Every student at the Institute after his first year must spend a certain number of weeks working in the chemical industry, where he is given an opportunity to make practical application of what he has learned in his class room and laboratory. The director pointed out that this was of great benefit not only to the students who receive this training but also to the industry itself, where extra labor is always in demand.

In answer to our questions about student life, the director referred us to the secretary of the student trade union organization. He began by telling us that all the students in the Institute were members of the student trade union affiliated with the industry for which the school supplies engineers. The purpose of the organization is to deal with all problems connected with student life; to make sure, for example, that the student's stipend or salary is sufficient, to make sure that he receives proper material in his cooperative stores and good food in his dining halls, to procure dormitory rooms for students who need them, to decide which students need and deserve to go to the Crimean rest home

of the school (which was attended by six hundred students last summer), to organize dances and entertainments at the Institute or student clubs, to obtain a certain number of reduced rate theatre tickets (during our stay in Moscow as the guests of the Russian students we always sat in excellent seats which were marked as permanently reserved for students), and to present the problems of the students and make suggestions to the administration. "We are, of course, in complete charge of all trade union committees and ourselves responsible for their effectiveness," the secretary explained.

Stipends for Students

About half the students live in dormitories—all those who do not have rooms or homes elsewhere. Here they receive breakfast and supper at a nominal fee (the students all receive their dinner at the Institute dining hall). Seventy per cent of the students receive stipends or salaries ranging from 82 roubles to two hundred and fifty. All students who do not have sufficient outside means of support receive stipends. The amount depends on three factors. The first is the number of years the student has been studying; the second is the quality of the work he does (bonuses are given for high marks); and the third and most important is the number of dependents the student has. This makes it possible for students to get married and have children, especially since most of the dormitories have creches for children and suites for married couples.

What about extra-curricular activities, some one asked? The student secretary told us first of their "university of culture," where optional courses are given in such subjects as literature, art, current events, and history. About seventy-five per cent of the students participate. "But our most important outside activity is what we call 'social work,'" he said, "and it is our job, the leaders of the Party, Y.C.L., and trade union organizations, to involve every

student in one phase or another of this work, in contributing to the daily and wall newspapers, leading discussion groups among workers and collective farmers, assisting students at the Worker's Faculty School, which is training workers from the factories to enter the Institute, leading physical culture groups of children and fellow students and so on."

Finally after we had been shown nearly every one of the endless laboratories, class rooms, and libraries in the huge Institute, we were conducted to the student's dining room and served with a delicious supper. Now it was the turn of the Russian students to ask us questions. They wanted to know what our "speciality" was, how large a stipend we received, about our periods of practical training, and what we would do after graduation. They had all learned in their political economy classes something of what capitalism means to workers and students, but, despite this fact, they could hardly believe our answers—so different was their future from ours.

After we had finished our supper, the students placed before us pencil and paper and asked us to record criticisms of their Institute for publication in their student newspaper. The director, after he had read our remarks, expressed the disappointment of all the Russian students and teachers present. "You have said nothing constructive," he said,—"nothing but praise. For us there is no such thing as good enough. We are always aiming to make the our school better and better. We know we have faults and we want to find out from you who have had experience in America, what some of them are." We tried to explain to these students and teachers that we were not merely trying to be polite, that the reason we could find no sensible criticism to make was that we had no standards of comparison. We had seen a new type of school and student, unknown in America—a school which was really a part of the industry and life for which it was preparing experts, students who knew exactly what they were going to do after graduating, whose education came not only from

books but also from first hand participation in the building of the huge industrial enterprises which they were to enter as leaders after graduation. We told them that in America the student considers himself lucky if he can obtain a job after graduation, and lives for the most part in an ivory tower of bourgeois intellectualism, far removed from the realities of society which has no real use for his services. We could have told our Russian friends that in America some of us—who paid for it—lived in finer buildings and ate fancier food, that there were laboratories, libraries, and gymnasiums, in some of the millionaire-endowed American universities, more elaborate and better equipped than those in their Institute; but we had seen enough of the heroic efforts being made to supply every possible need of the

Russian students and workers to realize that any such criticism would have been the equivalent of blaming a child for not growing fast enough.

* * *

EDITORS NOTE: *American students will have another opportunity to visit Soviet schools and see for themselves the thrilling construction of education under a new social order. In the face of Hearst's lies about the Soviet Union, the delegation of American students which is being organized by the National Student League, gains even greater significance than last year's successful tour. Students interested in visiting the Soviet Union and studying in Soviet Summer school should write to the National Student League at 31 East 27 Street, New York City.*

"AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION"

Connecticut's Gag Laws

By ROBERT DAWSON

Few college towns in the United States have been as isolated from the stormy currents of the day as the quiet little New England village where Connecticut State College is situated. But this isolation is by no means complete. It is certainly not complete enough to satisfy the president, the alumni, the trustees, and many of the faculty who would like to see the college preserve its monastic seclusion inviolate.

With the nation-wide arousing of student thought which has been evident throughout America, stimulated by the immediate dangers of war and of fascism in this country, it could scarcely be hoped that Connecticut State would remain immune. The alumni of the school, as well as the Connecticut legislature, seem to have been well aware of the possibility of such a disturbance. One law-maker at Hartford introduced a bill which provided for the appointment of the State Adjutant General to the Board of Trustees of the College. This bill, as the "Connecticut Alumnus"

unofficially explained with disarming candor, was a precautionary measure designed to forestall the "public controversy (regarding military training) which has been the lot of more than one American college in recent times."

This elaborate "precaution," however, turned out to be a dangerous boomerang. Instead of avoiding the "public controversy," it virtually began it. For more than two hundred students at State College signed a petition which lent substantial support to the opposition forces in the legislature who ultimately defeated the bill.

Connecticut State College has always been and remains to this day a conservative stronghold. But the undergraduate body is somewhat concerned over the problem of war and peace. Although no strike was called on April 12 when college students throughout the nation left their classes to demonstrate their hatred for war and fascism, one hundred and fifty students of the college did attend a meeting that evening addressed

by a member of the Committee on Militarism in Education and by several undergraduate speakers.

The legislative petition and the respectable anti-war meeting were virtually the only demonstrations of student interest in outside affairs which State College had revealed in recent times. But this was evidently too much for the president and the trustees of the institution.

Trustees Act

As a bolt from the blue the following announcement was issued from the president's office on April 18:

To Members of the Staff:

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the College, Wednesday, April 17th, the following action was taken and I am transmitting it to you in accordance with their instructions: "That military training is declared to be a part of the college instruction. That any formal public agitations or formal public discussions on the campus promoted by individuals on the college staff or individual students, which reflect upon the college military instruction or training, will subject such individuals to cause for removal.

"That the president is directed to advise the college staff of the action taken by the Board."

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES C. MCCrackEN, *President*

The faculty, as ultra-conservative a group as can be found within our institutions of higher learning, were stunned at this sudden executive pronouncement. They were even more aroused when they discovered that the Board of Trustees had quietly and unceremoniously abrogated the faculty's recent decision to except transfer students from military training. This latter resolution was not even announced to members of the staff. They learned of it from the local press.

But the ire of the faculty soon cooled. Although they were momentarily incensed at the ruthless suppression of academic freedom which the president and the trustees had instituted in their sudden burst of militaristic fervor,

they were immediately subdued by glib assurances from the president's office that the resolutions had been "railroaded through" the Board of Trustees, that they were passed as a sort of oversight without the Board fully realizing what it had done and that anyway academic freedom of speech was by no means impaired since teachers could still say what they wished in their classrooms and meetings could still be held with impunity in the Storrs Church and the Community House. The latter are neighboring buildings which are not on state property and which the Trustees, it was said, did not intend to include in their interpretation of the word Campus.

The President's Stand

These explanations were circulated by word of mouth among the faculty and were passed on to the student body. Officially the President merely wrote:

"This action of the Board is not intended to prevent academic freedom of speech. It is intended specifically to deny the use of college buildings for formal public meetings which reflect upon military instruction or training.

"Need for further interpretation will arise from time to time as occasions present themselves."

How the president's interpretation worked in practice was immediately revealed by his handling of a symposium on "World Peace and Ways to Maintain It." The discussion had been arranged under the auspices of the Student Relations Committee of the Storrs Church. It was one of a series of Sunday evening programs, pathetically innocuous, which the Church has sponsored, and three members of the faculty (two Christian-pacifists and an army reserve officer) were to participate. It was to be held at the Community House, which, according to the widespread oral assurances, did not come under the Trustees' ruling.

The meeting was cancelled at the suggestion of President McCracken.

Some weeks ago the Social Problems Club scheduled an open meeting to be addressed by James A. Wechsler, editor

of the Columbia Spectator, who was to talk on "Fascism in the Colleges." Although a discussion of the R.O.T.C. was not on the program, college officers also suggested that this meeting be cancelled or postponed and intimated that if it were held at this time, it would be regarded as a direct defiance of the Board of Trustees.

"Fascism in the Colleges" would have been a subject too close to home.

Despite the blatantly obvious suppression of free speech on the campus, those members of the faculty, for the most part self-styled liberals, who belong to the American Association of University Professors, have not yet reported these infringements of academic freedom and the threats of immediate expulsion which the college has witnessed. Pressure of outside liberal opinion developing from the publicity of the case may force the hand of these A.A.U.P. members.

Undergraduate feeling in the matter may best be gauged by quotations from the "Connecticut Campus," the undergraduate newspaper with a pro-R.O.T.C. bias.

The Campus Speaks

"With this precedent and beginning," states one editorial, "we can see no limit to the conceivable encroachments on academic liberty and freedom of speech which may be instituted in the future."

The paper asked the Trustees a number of pertinent questions:

"Is not reaction against war a product of world unrest?

"Do the advocates of these measures mean that they favor war?

"Are the Trustees aware that the students and faculty of the College are taxpayers and hence have as much right as anyone to express their opinions?"

These editorials, cautious though they may be, and several letters which have appeared in the paper indicate an awakening student opinion which the state and college authorities have gone to great lengths to avoid.

On Monday, May 13 a caravan of twenty autos filled with students from every important New England school arrived at Connecticut State to protest the trustee decree. At a mass meeting held in the college chapel attended by 200 Conn. State Students in addition to the 150 students from other schools, James Wechsler, speaking for the N.S.L., showed that what happened at Conn. was the concern of all students and that in order to withstand and overcome the growing reaction it was necessary for students to unite with all anti-fascist minded groups, especially the working class. As we go to press we learn that the Trustees at their meeting on May 15, refused to rescind their edict. Action becomes more necessary than ever.

Angelo Herndon, young Negro leader who was sentenced under an old slave insurrection law to the Georgia chain gang for leading the Atlanta unemployed movement, and released on \$15,000 bail after incarceration for two years in Fulton Tower prison, has recently completed a speaking tour of New England colleges, under the auspices of the N.S.L.

Speaking in seven colleges to more than 1500 students he raised \$120 for the Scottsboro-Herndon Defense Fund. Rallies were held for him at: Bennington, Smith, Harvard, Dartmouth, Cornell, Syracuse, and Vassar.

This should be inspiration to student efforts to work for the final freedom of Herndon and the Scottsboro Boys.

United Youth Day, May 30th

The National Student Strike Committee at its last meeting established itself as a permanent National Student Committee Against War and Fascism. At this meeting it was announced that the National Student Federation of America was an official member of the Committee.

One of the first acts of the Committee was to endorse, on the motion of Joseph Lash of the S.L.I.D., the United Youth Day demonstrations Against War and Fascism which will take place throughout the country on May 30th under American Youth Congress auspices.

CAMPUS NOTES

HARVARD—Harvard N.S.L. members took the lead in answering the appeal of the Cuban student refugee, Pablo De La Torriente-Brau printed in the April STUDENT REVIEW. Together with several Boston workers they picketed the Cuban Consulate in protest against the brutal suppression of student and teacher organizations by the Mendieta-Batista government.

The student-and-worker picket group were arrested, ostensibly, for 'displaying placards without a permit' even though the city authorities have consistently refused to grant such permits. Each of the pickets was sentenced to a ten dollar fine, which they elected to serve in part at fifty cents a day in the County jailhouse.

Picket actions such as the one at Harvard were instrumental in forcing the Mendieta mercenaries to reverse the court-martial death sentence which had been pronounced on Manuel Fonseca, a Cuban school-teacher active in the opposition movement which organized the recent general strike. This should give further impetus to American students to force a halt to the Mendieta campaign of court-martial, and assassinations while "trying to escape."

VASSAR—The Social Problems Club, with more than fifty members, voted on May 6 to affiliate with the N.S.L. The "Miscellany," commenting editorially, states:

"... As a chapter of the N.S.L. the Social Problems Club gains a degree of strength and stability not possible to any isolated group. A nation-wide organization, headed by a central committee in New York, the N.S.L. has in three years established chapters in hundreds of colleges and high schools. Everywhere its policies are the same; war on fascism, militarism, and race discrimination; strong support for workers and students in the fight against injustice and oppression."

The Poughkeepsie girls have been active in other fields too. Petitions have been delivered to the managers of the

local theatres protesting the showing of Hearst newsreels. Similar actions at Princeton and Amherst last week forced the withdrawal of these fascist features.

* * *

HUNTER COLLEGE—Climaxing a term-long reign of terror, the Administration has suspended five student leaders of the anti-war movement, as a direct outgrowth of the preparations and the conduct of the April 12 strike. At publication date (May 20), all five are still barred from classes. They are Jean Horie, editor of the yearbook, "Wistarion," and editor-elect of the weekly "Bulletin," Margaret Wechsler, president of the Upper Junior Class! Theresa Levin and Lillian Dropkin, Peace Council and Strike Committee chairmen; and Beatrice Shapiro, freshman leader. All are members of the N.S.L.

Despite vigorous protests from Peace Council, which has been declared "illegal," and many clubs, and resolutions from Student Councils in all the greater New York colleges, the President has remained adamant in demanding that the students renounce their activities as a condition for readmission.

However, Student Council has finally passed a resolution urging the "unconditional reinstatement of the five suspended students," and President Colligan, who has termed it "the duly accredited representative of the student body," and has spoken in glowing terms of its achievements must now give reply.

Peace Council meetings have been forcibly disbanded by detectives brought in at request of Dean Egan. She has proposed a faculty advisor to censor "Wistarion." Student elections participated in by less than eighty per cent of the student body are in danger of being nullified. All these restrictions have been imposed on the basis of a Faculty Report on Student Activities, which has been rejected by every campus group. Immediately, organizations in every school must wire protests to President Colligan to demand the reinstatement of all suspended students.

HONOLULU—From far-off Hawaii comes evidence of the spontaneous sentiment which the April 12th strike has generated. We feel that the following collective letter will be of interest to American students:

National Student League

Dear Sirs:

We are a group of young people of college age here in Honolulu who are very interested in your fight against Fascism and War.

At present, we do not know of any organization here that corresponds to the Student League chapters that are found on the mainland, and we firmly believe that there ought to be one here.

To date, a couple of us have read a copy of the Student Review, and this copy has acted as a stimulant for much discussion and thought by us. Will you please send us sample copies so that our entire group can see what it is like?

* * *

S. S.

WEST ALLIS HIGH SCHOOL
“... the principal tried to persuade us that this (the strike) should be a meeting in the auditorium, but we refused each time explaining that there would be no significance to the movement. After receiving permission from the School Board to meet on the football field, we were called to a special meeting to discuss the idea. Present were four members of the School Board and a well-known Legionaire who tried his best to break our strike. We were so sore that we started to tell them that we were the ones that would be slaughtered in the next war for the profits of the munition makers and imperialists, and told of the Legion's policy favoring larger war appropriations.

“... before the meeting was over the School Board was arguing with us against the Legionaire and they said they were very proud that the students were going out on strike and they agreed that we should have our meeting on the football field, disregarding the Legionaire altogether.”

More than five hundred students assembled on the field and conducted a successful strike meeting.

SYRACUSE—The united front committee which conducted the April 12th strike has decided to establish itself as a permanent committee against war.

It is intended that this permanent organization embrace both city and campus affiliations.

The Youth League for Peace and Democracy should be an effective means of organizing sentiment for the National Student Congress Against War and Fascism which the National Student League proposes to be convened next Fall.

* * *

DE PAUW—The N.S.L. chapter here, in a letter sent by chairman, Martz Lewis, has filed strong protest with the “Socialist Call” for an article in its April 12th issue, headed: “N.S.L. Sellout Fails to Stop Foes of War,” purporting to be an account of N.S.L. betrayal in the April 12th strike. Joseph Lash, national secretary of the Student L.I.D. has also protested the article in a letter to the editor (Bruno Fisher 21 E. 17 St., New York, N. Y.). Martz' letter of May 12 reads in part:

“We profoundly resent all attempts to disrupt the united front established among student groups to fight these issues all along the line. If we may be allowed a truism, it is only by the achievement of unified action on the part of student organizations that the student can achieve the goals necessary to his well-being. De Pauw University is situated in a small Indiana town, and as a result, we are not the heirs—perhaps we should say victims—to the inter-party strife which evidently plays so prominent a part in the radical student groups located in metropolitan areas. But the De Pauw N.S.L.—which is composed entirely of Socialists—can see no excuse for such inter-party strife within the student movement. The N.S.L. is, as you know, doing all it can to break down just such cleavages through its amalgamation proposal to the S.L.I.D. It is attacks of the kind published in the “Call” which makes the achievement of such a desirable amalgamation more difficult.”

THE PROPHYLACTIC UNCLE OF AN ANTI-SEPTIC NIECE

(To commemorate the withdrawal of Druggist Walgreen's niece from the University of Chicago)

The prophylactic uncle
Of an antiseptic niece
Pronounced it insurrectionary
To demonstrate for peace.
He said, “We must investigate
This threatened Red uprising,
And incidentally give my stores
Some nice free advertising.
“What are the wild profs saying,
Oh niece, what did you hear?”
She tiptoed up to uncle
And she whispered in his ear.
“So that's it, is it, niecy?
A most horrendous state!
I'll snatch you out of college
Before it is too late.
“We'll study each subversive word
We'll underline and mark it.
No wonder Patriotism is
A drug upon the market.”
He took his vorpal pen in hand
And signed a nasty letter
Addressed to Prexy Hutchins
And said, “I feel much better.”
He rubbed his hands and paced the floor,
He laughed in fiendish glee,
And said, “I will eradicate
This Red activity.”
“For Lydia Pinkham, Baker, Hearst,
The K.K.K. and me—
We'll expel this Almer Marter
From the University.

J. B.



WHO DOTH SUBVERSION SHUN?

Who lives to lie with me
Under the Wall-green tree
And sing the sour note
Of what Hearst doth misquote,
Come hither, come hither, come hither.
Here shall he see
No remedy
For stormy political weather.

STUDENT REVIEW

Published by the
National Student League
31 East 27th Street, New York City

Vol. IV No. 5 June, 1935

CONTENTS

Strengthen the Student Front.....	3
An editorial by James A. Wechsler	
We Tell the Congressmen.....	5
James C. Jackson	
"I Was a Liberal—".....	7
Helen Geller	
American Writers' Congress.....	8
Jack Conroy	
The War-Makers Strike Back.....	8
Jean Horie	
Mellon's Cathedral	12
Lester Pearl	
Socialized Education	14
Lawrence Hill	
"An Ounce of Prevention".....	15
Robert Dawson	
Campus Notes	17

GENERAL SUPPLY CO.

OFFICE AND Mimeo SUPPLIES
Special Prices to Organizations

1 UNION SQUARE ROOM 405

Group Theatre presents

Waiting for Lefty and Till the Day I Die

by CLIFFORD ODETS

Longacre Theatre, W. 48th St. Eves. 8:30

Evs. \$1.65 to 40c Matinees \$1.10 to 40c
Wed.-Sat.

For Theatre Party Benefits, Call Helen Thompson,
PEnn 6-7284, or write The Group Theatre,
246 W. 44th St.

Study and Travel

with the
National Student League
at the
Summer Session

10 Weeks Study and Travel

Complete round trip, including full maintenance and travel in the U.S.S.R. (40 days in the Soviet Union), stopovers England, Denmark, Finland, Germany, and France

**\$369
TO
\$379**

June 29th—S.S. Britannic

July 5th—S.S. Champlain

«O»

Courses:

Art and Literature ↔ Institutional Changes
and Social Backgrounds of the Soviet Society
↔ Education and Science ↔ History,
Economics, Philosophy ↔ Philosophy of
Dialectical Materialism ↔ Languages

Other Tours as Low as \$202.75

«O»

Auspices:

NATIONAL STUDENT LEAGUE
31 East 27th Street, New York City

«O»

Trip arranged in cooperation with

WORLD TOURISTS
175 Fifth Avenue, New York City
Telephones: ALgonquin 4-6656-6657-6658

Group Theatre presents

Awake and Sing!

By CLIFFORD ODETS

Author of "Waiting for Lefty"

"WELL WORTH SEEING"

—Clarence Hathaway

Belasco THEATRE, 44th St. E. of
Broadway BR. 9-5100
Mats. Thursday & Saturday, 50c to \$2

THEATRE UNION'S
New Dramatic Hit —

BLACK PIT

"A vivid portrayal of proletarian life in the mining hells of America. A superb production. Don't miss it!" —SENDER GARLIN, Daily Worker

CIVIC REPERTORY THEATRE

14th Street and 6th Avenue. Watkins 9-7450
Eves. 8:45. 80c to \$1.50. Matinees Wed. & Sat.
80c to \$1.50. Reduced Rates for Benefit Parties

**LIVE . . . and
LEARN**

MOSCOW
Summer School

Combine your summer study with
a thrilling tour of the Soviet Union
. . . travel and live as you learn.

Summer session at Moscow University July 16 to Aug. 25 includes a month and a half of study under Soviet professors lecturing in English . . . travel field work throughout the U. S. S. R. Registration now open. University credit possible. American advisory organization: Institute of International Education. Write for booklet ST-5 to

**EDUCATIONAL DEPT.
INTOURIST, Inc.**

545 Fifth Ave., New York

Enroll in the Student Front Against War and Fascism

Join the

NATIONAL STUDENT LEAGUE

☐ I wish to become a member of the National Student League.

(Registration fee is ten cents for high school students and twenty-five cents for college students).

☐ I wish to subscribe to Student Review.

(1 year's subscription, 8 issues for 35 cents).

☐ I wish to contribute to the Student Review sustaining fund.

Name

Address

School

Send this to the
National Office of the

NATIONAL STUDENT LEAGUE

31 East 27th Street, New York City

STUDENTS FIGHT WAR!

A History of the American
Student Anti-War Movement

PRICE FIVE CENTS

First Edition of 8,000 SOLD OUT!

Second Printing of 10,000 off the press May 20.

Building a Militant Student Movement

The Program of the N.S.L.

PRICE THREE CENTS

Bundle of Orders at Reduced Rates

Published by the National Committee of the

NATIONAL STUDENT LEAGUE

31 East 27th Street, New York City