

# Eleven CCNY Teachers Suspended in College Red Hunt

## Rapp-Coudert Committee Continues Investigation Into Communism Today

By NED ARMSTRONG

The Rapp-Coudert committee meets today at 8 Reade St. to continue its investigation into alleged Communist activities by instructors and administrative officials in the College of the City of New York.

Eleven members of the CCNY personnel, six instructors and five administrative clerks, were suspended yesterday charged with membership in the CCNY unit of the Communist Party, of editing the *Teacher-Worker*, and of giving false testimony while sworn witnesses before the Rapp-Coudert Committee March 24.

All the suspension notices were signed by Dr. Harry N. Wright, president of CCNY. They were issued at the close of a five-hour meeting of the Board of Higher Education.

### Can Answer Charges

The suspended faculty members have ten days to file answers to the charges. Represented by counsel, all plan to fight their suspensions, flatly denying the charges.

The suspended instructors and clerks will be tried by special committees appointed by the Board of Higher Education consisting entirely of board members.

A peace rally of CCNY students scheduled for today may turn into a protest against the suspensions of CCNY instructors. The rally, opening at the Lewisohn Stadium in the morning, will end with a mass show of students outside the Rapp-Coudert hearing back of City Hall later in the day.

One suspended teacher taught for two hours before discovering he was dropped. Another, feeling that the substitute was unable to cope with the class, taught for two hours in the face of suspension. A third classful of students marched out on strike when they learned their professor had been sacked.

All eleven were dropped on charges so similar that the phraseology of one covered them all.

### Accused as Reds

They were accused of being members of a cell or unit of the Communist Party made up entirely of faculty and administrative workers at both the uptown and downtown colleges.

They were accused of attending meetings of the unit, of formulating plans and of being under the domination of Communism—"a society or group which taught, advocated and advised that the government of the U. S. be overthrown by force." That they so acted without "revealing their identity, under assumed names, and by secret and underground methods . . . and to add to the membership of the Communist Party and win members to their unit from instructional and administrative positions."

It is alleged that they failed in their duty and responsibility to the college by sacrificing their "independence to form opinions about national affairs." As a result of their membership in the party, the charges continue, they of necessity came to "inculcate doctrines and principles of the Communist Party in the minds of students taught by them during regular class periods and while giving instruction to such students in academic courses."

### Conduct Committee Signed

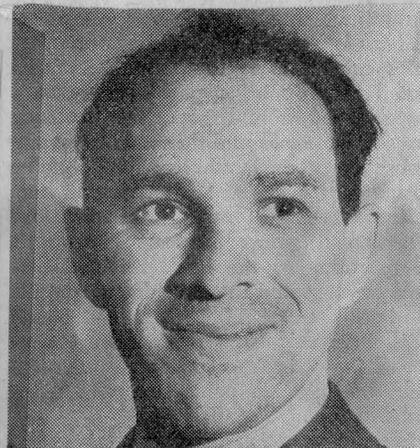
The charges state that they attempted to obstruct the investigation and withheld information.

All eleven charges were signed by the

Committee of Conduct of the Board of Higher Education, Lauson H. Stone, Ruth S. Shoup and Ira A. Hirschman.

Immediately after the indorsement of the suspensions by the Board, Dr. Wright sent copies of the charges and notices of suspension to the homes of the eleven. Many of the instructors were awakened during the small hours of the morning by Postal Telegraph boys bearing the bad news.

Pearl Bernstein, spokeswoman for the Board of Higher Education emphasized to PM that the suspensions had been approved entirely on ground of false testimony given under oath before the Rapp-Coudert hearings. The board, she said, had not felt the truth was being told when those suspended disclaimed Communist affiliations.



Morris U. Cohen, Brooklyn, three degrees, instructor in chemistry.

Photos by Morris Gordon, PM Staff



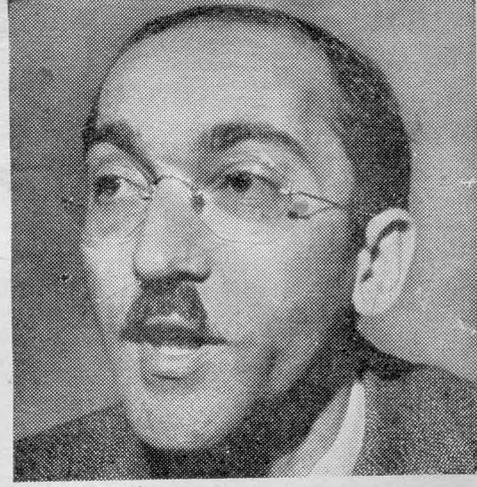
Lewis Belemuth, Manhattan, two degrees, instructor in physics. Alleged Communist party name "Weston."



Jesse Mintus, Manhattan, clerk in office of registrar. Editor of Irish publication *Fag-An Ballach*—Clear the Way!



Walter Scott Neff, Manhattan, three degrees, psychology instructor at City College.



Samuel Margolis, Bronx, three degrees, library assistant. Alleged editor "Teacher-Worker."



Sidney Eisenberger, Manhattan, three degrees, instructor in chemistry. Party name alleged to be "Hall."



David Cohen, Bronx, three degrees, library assistant. Accused of belonging to secret "C-3 Committee."



Louis Lerman, Manhattan, clerk. Alleged to have been chairman of the "shop paper committee."



Saul Bernstein, Jackson Heights, three degrees, biology instructor. Accused of selling the *Daily Worker*.



Jack D. Foner, Brooklyn, two degrees, instructor in history. Party name said to be "Friswold."



Jetta Alpert, Manhattan, clerk. Accused of being controller for Communist Party unit.