

# College

# NEWSLETTER

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NEW YORK, November 21, 1941

This is your official notice of the

## NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, NOV. 27

8:00 P. M.

THE CITY COLLEGE  
23rd Street and  
Lexington Avenue

↑  
**Note**

### Agenda:

1. The Union moves to put its program into action on all fronts: Reports of Educational Policies, Civil Service, National Defense, Legislative and Committees.  
Speaker: ROSE WECHSLER, Trade Union Committee Against the Rising Cost in Living: "THE COLLEGE TEACHER AND RISING PRICES."
2. The State Federation of Teachers Unions Convention: Report.
3. Program of the Civil Service Section.

The time for ACTION is here. HELP put this program into action by attending the MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

## Educators, Labor, Authors Swell Support for Schappes

Support of Morris U. Schappes, in the form of contributions to the appeal fund, and sponsorship of Defense Committee by prominent educational, artistic, and labor-union figures, continued to grow during the last weeks, and gave omen of a successful outcome of the case of the suspended City College teacher who is appealing an eighteen-month to two-year sentence on a charge of "perjury."

President Robert K. Speer of the New York College Teachers Union and Charles Hendley of the Teachers Union of New York have mailed letters to 5,000 college teachers and 10,000 elementary and high school teachers, appealing for funds and enclosing copies of Mr. Schappes, address to the court-upon his conviction, and a 12-page factual folder describing the background of the case. Printing the trial record alone will cost over \$2,000.

Professor John Bridge, of the City College, secretary of the Defense Committee, announced that support for Schappes' appeal continues to grow. Joining the list of sponsors last week were:

Professor W. A. Oldfather, of the University of Illinois, past

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## Unions Urge Greenfield For Pension Board

After careful consideration of candidates and programs involved in the pension campaign, Locals 5 and 537 of the New York Teachers Union have decided to support Samuel C. Greenfield of Local 5, whose alternate is Erling Tholfsen, as candidate for teacher member of the Retirement Board. The decision to enter Mr. Greenfield results from the attitudes of the three other candidates, who represent a philosophy of education inimical to the best interests of the educational system. Mr. Ollendorff and Dr. Alonzo O. Briscoe, who has the support of F. Z. Lewis, retiring, are members of the Teachers Alliance; Dr. David J. Swartz has the backing of Milo F. Macdonald of the *Signpost* group, which recently called for the abolition of the City Colleges.

Mr. Greenfield and Mr. Tholfsen both have had a progressive pension policy in the past. Last year Mr. Greenfield helped bring about the reversal of the Retirement Board's policy of transferring to the city the profits from the sale of high interest bonds. One of his present important aims is to bring about the diversification of investments to include State and Federal Bonds. He has expressed his intention of exerting all his efforts to promote teacher security, which is inseparable from teacher pensions.

## Union Forum on 'Colleges and Defense of Democracy' Dec. 13

How America can preserve and develop educational values while facing a national emergency will be the theme of the annual CTU Educational Policies Forum on December 13 at the Hotel Diplomat. Under the general heading of "The College in Defense of Democracy Today," a general meeting and three more specific conferences are being arranged.

The first panel, on "The rights and responsibilities of the teacher as a citizen," will discuss such problems as the right of a teacher to engage in political activities; his responsibility to the community for his teaching and outside activities; the definition of academic freedom in connection with the selection of teachers.

The second conference, on "Educational policies in the national emergency," will treat of the extent a teacher ought to curtail professional activities to engage in defense work; the need of handling defense needs without jeopardizing the permanent contributions of higher education to society; possible desirable changes in curriculum; emphasis on the values of a liberal education.

The third conference will concern itself with the vital problem of the education of our armed forces in defense of democracy. Proposed topics include the sort of educational and recreational program now being carried on in army camps; the need for non-military

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## Butter AND Guns: Conference To Halt the Runaway C. of L.

Local 537 is sending two delegates to the New York State Conference of Action to stop inflation and the rising cost of living. The Conference will be held under the auspices of the Trade Union Committee on the Rising Cost of Living. The Conference is scheduled for December 6 at the Hotel Roosevelt and will involve trade unions, churches, civic, consumer and fraternal groups in the planning of a practical program for building civilian morale by stopping the present rise in prices.

## December 5 Open Meeting

on the

*Proposed Changes*

in the

*Democracy By-Law*

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## Dismissal of Foner, Bernstein Condemned

The Board of Higher Education was urged last Monday night to uphold America's democratic traditions of freedom of speech, press and assembly by retaining on the faculty of City College Dr. Saul Bernstein and Dr. Philip Foner, whose dismissal as "alleged Communists" was recommended by Board Trial Committees.

S. J. Woolf, Board member and member of the Trial Committee which heard charges against Dr. Foner, issued a minority report in which he said that "Delving into what men think and believe outside their classrooms is a wedge which opens up frightening vistas. It becomes a direct threat to personal liberty irrespective of the supposed purpose for which it is undertaken." Unfortunately, Mr. Woolf did not draw the only possible conclusion from his own analysis and concurred in the majority report.

Excerpts from reviews of "Business and Slavery: The New York Merchants and the Irrepressible Conflict," by Dr. Foner, published in March 1941 by the University of North Carolina Press, attest to his brilliant scholarship. The July 20th issue of the *Chattanooga Times*, one of numerous papers lauding the book, stated in part "This is one of the most important

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# Read the Union's Program

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