

College

NEWSLETTER

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Citizens Protest Coudert Attack

CDPE Rally in Brooklyn, Dec. 8

A tremendous mass meeting in the borough of Brooklyn, home of the *Brooklyn Tablet*, and of the American Education Association, which publishes the *Educational Signpost*, advocating the complete abolition of public colleges, has been called by the CDPE for Sunday, December 8, in the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Speakers who have so far accepted invitations are Garibaldi M. Lapolla, Principal of P. S. 174 in Brooklyn, and Mr. I. Kaufman, Chairman of the Brooklyn Eagle Unit of the Newspaper Guild. More than 1000 Brooklyn organizations are being asked to sponsor the meeting.

Coudert Subpoenas More Active Unionists

Hard upon the heels of the summoning of Brothers Selsam, Morris and Schappes before the Coudert Investigating Committee, subpoenas were issued to four more active members of the Union, Professor Frederic Ewen, Professor Harry Slochower, Mr. Elton Gustafson, and Mr. Murray Young, all members of the Brooklyn Chapter. Each signed a waiver of immunity, as required by the City Charter, but confronted with a one-man investigating committee, Senator Coudert, buttressed by his staff of high-priced lawyers, and encountering the now familiar Coudert procedure of refusal to allow the presence of counsel and denial of a stenographic record of the interview, each refused to testify.

Professor Ewen has been one of the most active members of the Brooklyn College Chapter of the Union, and has been a member of the Grievance Committee of Local 537 for several years. On the campus, he has been in great demand as a speaker at peace meetings, at meetings of the English Club and of the American Student Union.

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AFT Condemns Dangerous Precedent

Statement of Executive Council of the A. F. of T.
Regarding Membership List of Local 5.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Teachers is vigorously opposed to the action of the Joint Committee of the New York Legislature in demanding the membership lists of Local 5. In opposing this action, the Council offers to Local 5 the resources of the national body.

The Council takes this step, not because it has the slightest sympathy with the teaching of undemocratic doctrines in the public school nor because it desires to protect any totalitarian political faction in the Teachers Union of New York City. Its position on this question is clear and unequivocal. It believes strongly that the public school should meet the threat of dictatorship in the world today by a vigorous and sustained teaching of loyalty to basic democratic values, ideas, and processes. Also it is unalterably opposed to the penetration into any branch of the American Federation of Teachers of a Communist, Nazi, Fascist, or other political faction. On this platform the present Council was elected at the August Convention in Buffalo.

The Council opposes the opening of the membership lists of Local 5 for the following reasons:

1. The opening of the membership lists can serve no useful purpose. It certainly will not disclose the names of Communist, Fascist, and Nazi teachers in the public schools.

2. The opening of the membership lists will embarrass, intimidate, and penalize many teachers who are thoroughly competent in their fields of specialization and completely devoted to American ideals. This will inevitably impair their effectiveness as teachers of democracy.

4. The opening of the membership lists will establish a dangerous precedent which may be used to weaken and eventually

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Many Groups Condemn Moves for School Cuts

The trial of Charles J. Hendley, President of Local 5, who has been cited for contempt of court because he refused to surrender the membership list of his Union to the Coudert Committee, takes place on Friday, November 22, as this issue of *Newsletter* goes to press. The wave of mass support for Local 5 and for Br. Hendley in which the State AFL and CIO have been joined by the Civil Liberties Union, the Lawyers Guild and many AFL and CIO trade unions has culminated in a resolution passed by the Executive Council of the AFT, which states that the "opening of membership lists will establish a dangerous precedent which may be used to weaken and eventually destroy the free trade union movement in America" . . . and " . . . will introduce into America the very totalitarian methods and spirit which the committee proposes to eradicate."

The Rochester Central Trade and Labor Council has also passed a resolution supporting Local 5 in its fight against giving up its lists. Telegrams have been sent by

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CTU's Edel Plea Rejected by BHE Democracy By-Laws Seen Imperiled by Decision

A large and impressive Union delegation, representing nearly all the colleges in the city, and a student delegation bearing Student Council-sponsored petitions from Brooklyn College, waited outside the Board of Higher Education meeting on November 18, at which the Board upheld the appointment of Dr. James Gaul to the post for which her Department Appointments Committee had recommended Dr. May Edel. The Board heard the majority of the Department Appointments Committee, and a Union delegation which consisted

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29 8 P. M. CCNY, 23rd Street—Room 4-S

AGENDA:

1. THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF CONSCRIPTS—Report by the Legislative and Academic Freedom Committees.
2. WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT ON THE CITY COLLEGES of reports by President Mead and Gideonson? A report by the Committee on General Direction.
3. WHAT SHOULD BE THE ATTITUDE OF THE AFT TOWARD dual unions? Arguments for the referendum by the Howard University Local, original sponsor of a proposed amendment to the AFT constitution, and arguments against by the National Council of the AFT.
4. THE COUDERT COMMITTEE AND DEFENSE OF EDUCATION and academic freedom. Report by the Committee for the Defense of Public Education.
5. HOW CAN WE DETERMINE STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE in the public and private colleges? Report by the Educational Policies Committee.

Don't Fail to Vote in Dual-Union Referendum