

THE BULLETIN

of THE ANTI-FASCIST ASSOCIATION
An Association of the staffs of the City College

Vol. 1 No. 1

January, 1935

PREAMBLE

"We, the founders of this association, find it necessary to organize into such fellowship as will furnish material assistance in studying the manifestations of Fascism and in facing the problems which it presents.

"We recognize that Fascism can result only in the degradation of art, science and culture; intense nationalism; racial discrimination; enforced labor; the suppression of civil rights, including academic freedom; militarization; lowering the standard of living; and denial of equality to women.

"We recognise that Fascism manifests itself chiefly in the attempts to degrade human thought in every branch of human learning and to disssolve the political and economic organizations of the industrial and agricultural workers and professionals.

"We, therefore, pledge ourselves actively to assist the forces fighting against Fascism and to aid in expanding the anti-Fascist front."

* * *

The foregoing preamble of the constitution of the Anti-Fascist Association sufficiently explains the nature and purpose of our organization. The idea of forming such an organization was the result of a discussion of current events over the luncheon table. But contrary to the general run of similiar lunch room decisions, something has come of it. Briefly, the table talkers were concerned over the appearance in this country of a number of organizations with principles strongly analagous to those now current in Italy and Germany. Out of the suggestions for a more careful study of the problem, the notion of forming the group was born.

Even a casual survey of the opinions of our colleagues convinced us that there were many who would be interested in opposing the spread of these tendencies and very few who would be hostile to such an undertaking. An informal meeting of a much enlarged group so justified our original optimism that we determined to proceed as soon as possible to the formation of an association open to all members of the college staffs. The first purpose of this bulletin is to announce the Association and to outline its procedure.

At a meeting held in December a constitution was adopted and officers elected. Mr. Thirlwall, of the English Department was elected president; Mr. Sass, of the Romance Language Department, vice-president; and Mr. Ackley, our registrar, secretary-treasurer.

Pursuing the policy set forth in its constitution, of encouraging active participation by members, the Association proceeded to establish a number of committees through which the membership could function. The chairmen of these committees are elected by the entire membership and form an executive council. Thus, the Education Committee has as its chief function the arrangement of programs for the monthly meetings of the Association. A second committee edits the Association Bulletin. A Committee on Educational Institutions keeps an eye on possible developments in American colleges; the Publicity Committee handles releases for the press; and last, but perhaps most important, a general Research Committee has been authorized. Members of the Association participate actively in the work of the committees.