



"If by autocracy or dictatorship is meant government without prior discussion and debate, either by public opinion or in private session, the government of the U.S.S.R. is in that sense actually less of an autocracy or a dictatorship than many a parliamentary cabinet."—Sidney and Beatrice Webb, in "Soviet Communism."

"Communists maintain that the religious beliefs of a person are his private concern in relation to the State and governmental policies. The State should not dictate religious beliefs. We Communists are completely opposed on principle to State coercion in regard to religious beliefs."—Earl Browder, in "What Is Communism?"

ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY UNIT OF THE CITY COLLEGE

Volume 2, No. 5

MAY 13, 1936

PRICE 3c

## ISA United Slate Answer to Prexy's Attacks on Staff

Tomorrow, May 14, the Instructional Staff Association holds its annual election of officers. It is important at this time for all members of the ISA to examine carefully the past few months' achievements of the ISA, accomplished through the vigorous action of a united membership. The unity established on certain basic issues (cooperation with other organizations, particularly the Teachers Union, the reply to the Robinson questionnaire, the functioning of the Grievance Committee etc.) must be continued by electing a united slate pledged to work along the lines which have already proved effective.

### Robinson's Attacks Sharpened of Late

These past few months especially have demonstrated that the administration of the college is engaged in an attempt to crush the program and organization of the ISA. The fact that no less than twenty-four members of the staff have been compelled to lay their grievances before the Teachers Union and ISA Grievance Committees is enough to establish the point. Particularly Prof. Horne's Robinson-inspired attack on Mr. Schappes serves as a warning that the administration is trying to "plow under" teachers' organizations. The intimidation of leading members of teachers' organizations, as well as of the rank and file of the memberships, is Robinson's principal object. While before the whole staff he mouths pretty phrases about his great devotion to the interests of all the members of the staff, and attempts to divide the staff by crying out about "skunks", in private he is making every effort to vilify and threaten individuals and destroy the united action of their organizations.

### Unity in ISA Can Ward Off Attacks

With the force of these facts made clear, the ISA must, above everything else, stand together in action. Without this unity, the ISA is threatened with extinction. With a progressive program of action in cooperation with other teachers' organizations, and with the election of a

(Continued over)

### Robinson Draws Support from Nazis, Liberty Leaguers

It is noteworthy that in addition to the Liberty League Herald Tribune, support of Robinson in the Schappes case has come from the Nazi sheet "The White Man's Viewpoint". The CCNY Union Teacher in its publication of May 7 gave the College a sampling of the rot.

Equally significant is the fact that Dirty Willie Hearst has not yet been heard from on the Schappes case, in New York City. On the Pacific Coast, however, Hearst has been pouring forth his venom against Schappes and against all "red agitators" in American schools and colleges.

Can it be that Robinson is restraining his vicious friend for fear of hurting his own case in the eyes of New Yorkers?

## Listless Charter Day Shows Opposition to Robinson

The student body, in contrast with their enthusiastic Peace Strike on April 22nd, gathered apathetically in the Great Hall again on Charter Day to celebrate, or rather to watch their faculty and president celebrate for them, the 89th anniversary of the founding of the College. Even with a large number of the seats taken by members of the staff, the main floor was only partially filled.

As in the case of so many of the official functions of the College within the last few years, the Charter Day exercises were marred by the recent actions of the president. Even though Robinson did no more than introduce the speakers, the entire audience was resentful of his recent steps in encouraging Professor Horne not to reappoint Mr. Schappes and apprehensive of what he might do or say. Their fears proved justified. He again demonstrated his lack of those qualities essential in an administrator by refusing to sign the Student Council Insignia of Rob-

(Continued over)

## Trustees' Concession Must Not Act as Damper

As we go to press, there is a rumor whose authenticity there is reason to believe, that the City College Administrative Committee, at its May 7th meeting adopted a resolution to the effect that people of all ranks who have been at the College for three years or more have tenure. It is further understood that the Committee has ruled that no one in this category may be removed from the College rolls without a hearing on specific charges based on teaching ability or other College work. The Committee has ordered that this resolution be printed in this week's Faculty Bulletin.

This action of the Trustees indicates a decided success for those active in the defense of Mr. Schappes and other members of the staff threatened with non-reappointment. Clearly it has been the activity of organized groups which has brought about this favorable decision on the part of the Committee, which might otherwise have heard of these cases only through the deceptive reports of Pres. Robinson.

### Victory Must Teach Wariness

Gratifying as this victory is, it may have dangerous consequences. The administration has been forced to retreat but it still hopes to weaken the campaign and split its united opponents. Unless the organizations concerned realize that this success is by no means final, unless there is no abatement of the pressure now being brought to bear, Robinson and Horne may

(Continued over)

### T&W Acknowledges and Solicits Contributions

T&W is gratified by the excellent response to its appeal for funds to carry on publication. However, this being the fourth special issue in three weeks our deficit is still large. Those who have not as yet contributed are urged to do so at once. Send funds to Teacher & Worker, 5th floor, 50 E. 13th St., N. Y. C.