

May 1, 1937

Teacher

City College



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Worker



ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY UNIT OF CITY COLLEGE

May Day! A day when labor reviews its victories, marshals its forces and prepares to make the future. A day created in America in 1886 by American workers in order to demonstrate to their employers their determination to win an 8-hour day by united trade union effort. May 1, 1937 is a day when we should join with more than half a million other workers and by our united demonstration let President Robinson and the Board of Higher Education know that we are determined in our fight for better salaries, academic freedom, abolition of the rotation policy, and the institution of departmental democracy. City College students this May Day must mark a new beginning in their fight for free text books, decent conditions in the lunchroom, abolition of fees, abolition of the R.O.T.C., the ousting of Robinson.

At the College every step in the direction of progress finds the counter-action of the Administration. It is assuming curious forms with the frantic effort of President Robinson - still the chief enemy of the staff! - to distribute the blame among his docile scapegoats. He is still the champion of the cheap labor policy of rotation; he is still the Italian-decorated college president who unfeelingly compares City College teachers with sacks of coal. But the freshman Science Survey idol - Professor Corcoran - in the "spontaneous" 10th anniversary festival obligingly places the blame on wicked department chairmen; the liberal Professor Schulz in the Kraus case unblushingly assumes the role of spokesman for rotation. And Moore, Skene, Turner, etc. continue to do the President's dirty deeds. Union publications are full of injustices and grievances - Dr. Conterno, the College Hygiene Department, the deplorable situation of clerks, librarians and laboratory assistants.

Still in the face of a reactionary administration City College is moving forward. The past year has seen real gains, gains that have shown an ever-increasing strength through united action. Our victory in preventing the dismissal of Schappes and his 12 fellow-teachers... the growth of a union whose voice commands respect... April 22 - thousands of students strike against war... fruitful mass tenure meetings of the staffs of the City Colleges... formation of inter-collegiate student and faculty committees for aid

to Spain... the teachers of New York, by their mass pressure, helped significantly in winning our salary restorations and in squashing the McNaboe investigation.

The College is reflecting the upsurge of American labor in its fight to preserve American democracy and to defeat reaction. The crushing defeat of Landon, the splendid series of victories of the C.I.O. in the basic industries, the strongholds of finance capital, are indications of this upsurge, sweeping aside racial religious and political differences to unite all into the closing ranks of labor. So, as the Communist International predicted at the 7th World Congress, reaction, wearing the mask of "Americanism", is being thwarted by a broadening unity of American labor.

In line with the decisions of this Congress, the American Communist Party, precisely when the American public was elated over the smashing blow dealt to Landon, issued a warning to labor that in this country the reactionaries of Wall Street and the Liberty League would plunge themselves into a vicious attack upon the people under the new guise of liberal Americanism. Isn't this analysis borne out by the onslaught on the Supreme Court plan, by the attempt to pervert the Wagner Act into an anti-labor instrument, by the judicial outlawing of sit-down strikes embodied in the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital decision, by the sweeping injunction against the Maine shoe workers, by the outrageous Berg bills in Albany destroying the possibility of independent political action? Everywhere the militancy of labor is calling forth the ruthless answer of reaction.

But with the growing unity of the working and middle classes, this fascistic drive must falter. Still searching for a mass base, reaction will retreat in the face of the united and determined forces of democracy just as Dean Turner and the Board of Higher Education was obliged to permit the Oxford Oath in the recent Peace Demonstration when faced with a united student body. Reaction with us at the College for

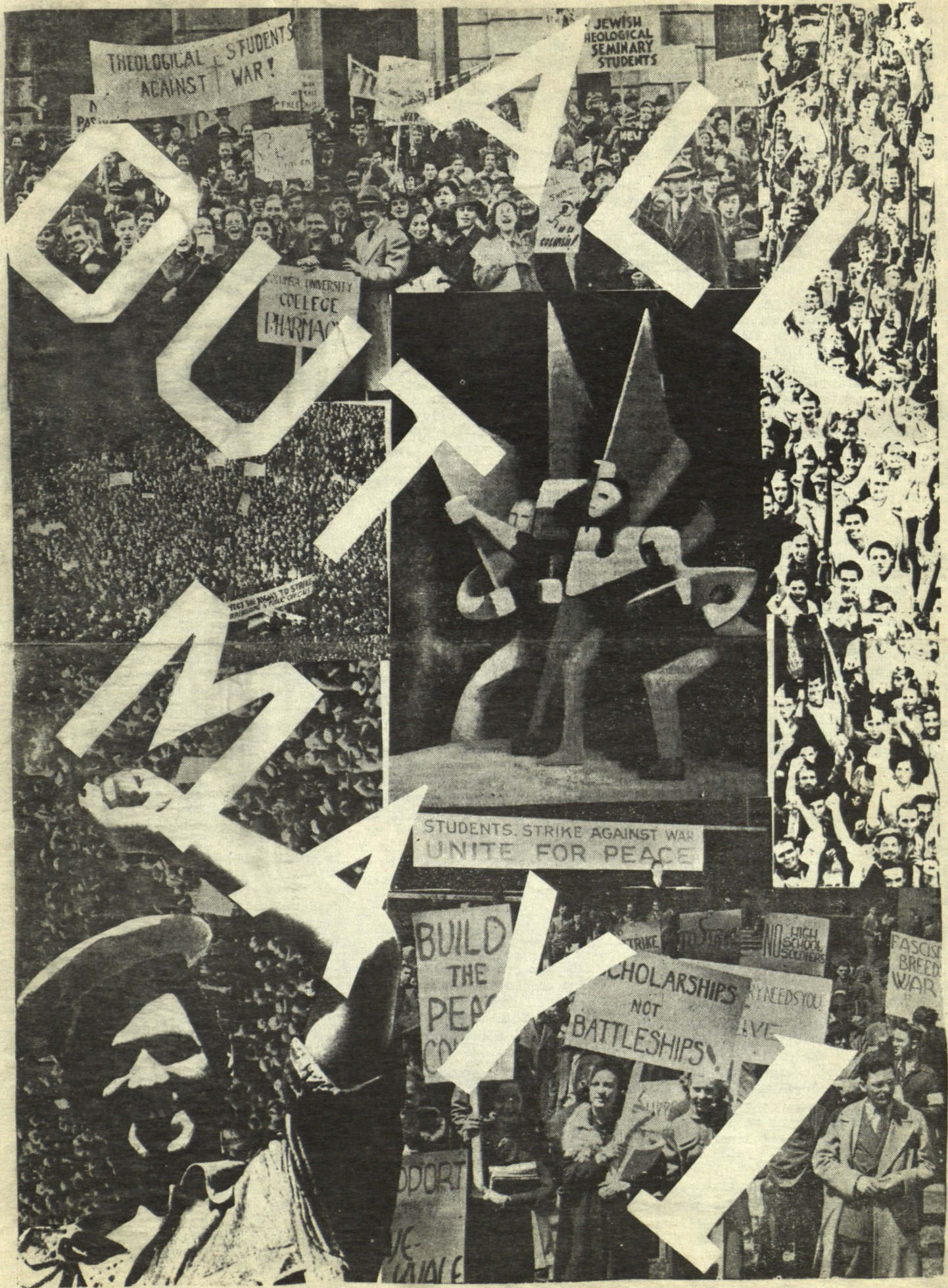
the moment stands partially frustrated. But it never ceases its activities. Defeated on the campus, it turns to the mobilization of forces outside of the College for a new attack. Colonel Robinson and Majors Schwinn and Smith start work with Gerald K. (Ruey Long) Smith. The progressive forces at the College must also turn to their allies outside. They must see the effect that the massed disciplined militancy of this May Day will have on their own campuses within the College. Each student and staff member who joins in this Saturday's march is striking a concrete blow for those immediate needs for which he has been contending. By marching on May Day he makes the visible base of fascism just that much smaller. He dashes the hopes of the President Robinsons and Liberty Leaguers in finding in New York support for a reactionary policy at the College.

This May Day we turn our eyes from the darkness of the capitalist world to the beacon light of human progress, of freedom and plenty. In the Soviet Union we see a guarantee that misery and exploitation can be overthrown, that we can begin the march to freedom. We see the Soviet Union standing, in its 20th year, as the most powerful single force for peace in the world.

Other forces for peace and for democracy are consolidating all over the world. In Spain, in Germany, in France, in the industrial strongholds of America the voice of THE PEOPLE is making itself heard. Here in America that voice must speak through the trade unions, as it is already doing, but it must also penetrate the ballot box. Independent political action is a crying need for us. In New York the American Labor Party offers great possibilities for such action on the part of organized labor and its allies among the middle classes. Make that possibility a reality! Join the American Labor Party!

ON MAY 1, 1937 THE COMMUNIST PARTY UNIT OF CITY COLLEGE CALLS ON YOU TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT FOR ECONOMIC DEMANDS BEGUN AT THE COLLEGE, TO STRENGTHEN THAT STRUGGLE BY JOINING WITH OTHER AMERICANS IN AN HONEST FIGHT FOR PEACE AND PROGRESS ON THE POLITICAL AS WELL AS THE ECONOMIC FIELD, TO DEMONSTRATE YOUR STRENGTH AND YOUR SOLIDARITY WITH PROGRESSIVE AMERICA BY MARCHING ON MAY DAY!

SPECIAL ISSUE
MAY 1, 1937



THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS AGAINST WAR!

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY STUDENTS

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE PHARMACY

STUDENTS. STRIKE AGAINST WAR UNITE FOR PEACE

BUILD THE PEACE COMMISSION

SCHOLARSHIPS NOT BATTLESHIPS

NO HIGH SCHOOL SCOUTERS

FASCISM BREEDS WAR

NEEDS YOU

SUPPORT THE WIALE

WORLD COLLEGE