

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE "CAMPUS"

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4/10/38

To the Editor:

May we question your right to insert editorial bias into your news columns. Coloration of news becomes extremely dangerous when applied to a policy about which your readers differ sharply - the method of fighting war effectively. Let us cite one instance to the point.

On March 24, 1938 Rep. Jerry J. O'Connell spoke concretely about the need to "protect our foreign trade". He then called upon "the flower of American manhood" to be prepared "to make the supreme sacrifice".

Did you "overlook" these extremely pertinent facts in the O'Connell speech? Were you afraid to disclose the fact that collective security means not "democracy" but "foreign trade" - not "peace" but "the supreme sacrifice"?

A revealing example of this trend to war is the Roosevelt navy budget. Your columns have been unusually silent about this. For in your attempt to influence the Roosevelt government to wage a holy crusade against Fascist nations, it is "embarrassing" to note that the Roosevelt government arms for an "offensive" war.

You disregard the involved but vital question of the real danger of fascism in this country in the event of another war of conflicting imperialisms.

A similar case is your presentation of the issue facing us as being collective security versus isolation. You also accuse the CCNY opponents of Collective Security of being isolationists. But we have continuously declared that we are not isolationists.

We are, therefore, requesting you to throw your columns open to allow the opponents of Collective Security to state their position themselves. They are, after all, the best people for the task. We further request a genuine student poll which poses the questions of war policy fairly, without begging the question.

The reputation of the Campus depends upon the fairness and rapidity of your reply.

Sincerely,

Student Anti-War Committee