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STUDENTS DIVIDED ON WAY TO PEACE

At Campus Rallies Throughout
Nation They Unite in Opposing
War, but Split on Methods

MAJORITY CHANGES STAND

Renounce Oxford Pledge and
Declare for Security—Rival
Group for Pacifism

Divided into two camps, students in colleges and universities in various sections of the country demonstrated their desire for world peace yesterday at campus rallies, convocations and chapel exercises.

The United Student Peace Committee issued the national call for the annual April peace movement. It was estimated that 10,000 undergraduates met on the local campuses, and in the neighborhood of 100,000 elsewhere.

Student leaders said yesterday's demonstrations were among the mildest on record. They were quiet and orderly throughout, with no serious disturbances reported. Even where the rival groups met on the same campus, no untoward incidents occurred. Both sides stressed the need for peace; the only question raised was the best way to assure it.

The issues of neutrality and collective security, however, split the students. Unable to follow the security "line" laid down by the peace committee, the Youth Committee Against War, held rival "strike" meetings, proclaiming the virtues of neutrality and taking the Oxford Pledge.

Renouncing the Oxford Pledge that would bind the students not to participate in any war, the American Student Union avoided the word "strike" in its call to the students. Rather, the union stressed the need for supporting President Roosevelt's policies and of stopping the aggressor nations.

The Youth Committee Against War called upon its adherents to resist any war, and to force this country to maintain a neutral stand. By a queer turn in the political cycle, it had now become the "radical" group, and accused the American Student Union of "selling out" to the administration and the reactionary groups.

At all the local colleges the Committee Against War had the smallest attendance. In some cases they were heckled by "collective security" adherents.

At the end of the day the American Student Union, through its secretary, Joseph P. Lash, issued a statement saying it was "highly pleased" with the various peace meetings. Over and above all differences of opinion that might exist on the campuses, he said, one factor stood out sharp and clear: "American youth does not want war with anybody."

Large crowds gathered on the local campuses to hear the peace messages, as the meetings got under way at 11 A. M. Many profes-

sors and deans permitted students to "cut" to attend the rallies.

Columbia University's demonstration on South Field gave a hearing to both sides in the controversy, but a viva voce vote indicated that most of the 1,500 present were for collective security. The youth committee distributed leaflets announcing that a "genuine anti-war strike" would be held today at noon on the campus.

Dean Herbert E. Hawkes, principal speaker, told the students it was well to discuss all approaches to the peace problem, but reminded them that any program must be based on "mutual understanding, scrupulous rectitude, tolerance and goodwill." McAllister Coleman, Socialist, appealed for the Ludlow amendment, saying: "Let's count noses before we crack heads."

While 750 students met at the City College School of Business at Twenty-third Street and Lexington Avenue, 400 Hunter College girls and "neutrality" adherents of City College joined in a rival outdoor meeting in Madison Square Park. Student orators exhorted their "classmates not to be misled by the 'collective security' slogans.

"You'll be told you are fighting for peace, for democracy," one speaker shouted. "It's all a lot of baloney. You'll be fighting for England and imperialism."

At this several hundred took up

the chant: "Down with imperialist war!" From an unimpressed member of the group came the laconic answer: "Down with Trotskyism!"

At City College, participating students divided into two groups and conducted separate meetings in the Great Hall of the Main Building and Lewisohn Stadium. About 300 students took the Oxford pledge.

Thirteen hundred Hunter College students attended simultaneous peace rallies at the Bronx division of the college and at the Adams Memorial Church.

At Brooklyn College, 3,000 undergraduates held rival meetings on the college athletic field.

Fifteen hundred students participated in the demonstration at the New York University downtown center.