



Free City Colleges to Bar Aliens Under Ruling Based on 1926 Law

Alien residents of New York City, including refugees from European countries, will not be permitted to matriculate as free students in any city colleges, under a ruling of the Board of Higher Education, which became public yesterday.

Dr. Frederick B. Robinson, president of City College, indicated that the ruling changes somewhat the procedure that has been in effect in his institution.

Sorry to Turn Away Students
"The board has interpreted the statute," he said, "and I suppose must obey."

From another source, however, it was said that the various city institutions had been making conflicting rulings in connection with the provision relating to aliens, and that the board found it necessary to make a uniform ruling. City College, it was explained, had been making a liberal interpretation of the law.

The Board of Higher Education has decreed that young people who have committed the crime of not being born within the United States are to be deprived of free higher education.

Where is that famous American reputation for hospitality to all peoples? Where is the talk about the "land of opportunity"? Why are child aliens, born abroad, compelled to attend public school, permitted to attend high school, but told to "go back where they came from" when it is a question of Higher education?

An attack on the rights of aliens has always been the prelude to an attack on all democratic rights! One of the early precedents that the Board of Higher Education can point to are the Alien and Sedition Laws of early American history. Another they can point to is the anti-alien hysteria and purge during the World War, when this was used as a cover for the prosecution of all anti-war elements.

It is no accident that the Board finds the present moment opportune to make this ruling. This action comes at a time when the war aims of the government are most clearly revealed. The drive against aliens is one of the first steps in the preparation of a war psychology, and we must not wait until it takes

more acute and direct forms.

It is significant that it is a La Guardia-Liberal-Fusion Board of Higher Education that has taken this reactionary step. Where are the liberal pretensions of the Board? Where are those members of the Board who are supposed to be liberals--Mumford and Flynn--in this situation? Why have they kept silent?

It is the duty of all school organizations--clubs, Student Councils, newspapers, ASU, and political organizations--to smash the drive at its inception!

- (1) Help circulate the petitions demanding the revocation of the ruling of the Board.
- (2) Hold united front mass meetings on the campus.
- (3) Send letters and resolutions of protest to the Board.
- (4) Elect delegates and participate in the city-wide conference to be called to take action along the following lines: a) Arrange for a city-wide mass meeting. b) Set up a picket line at the next Board meeting. c) Send delegations to the meetings to put our demands before the Board.

There can be no delay or hesitation---We must be bold and aggressive in our actions. If you are serious about the fight for democratic rights, you will fight against the anti-alien drive!

The Young People's Socialist League (Fourth Internationalists) will give its wholehearted support to this campaign, just as we have always been in the forefront of the fight for students' rights and democratic rights.

**SIGN THE PETITIONS! EVERY ORGANIZATION MUST JOIN THE CAMPAIGN!
FOR A MILITANT FIGHT UNTIL THE RULING IS REVERSED!
THE BOARD MUST BE FORCED TO BACK DOWN!**