



Oct. 9, 1934

Today the CCNY administration greets a delegation of Italian fascist students. The CCNY administration greets representatives of barbarism in culture, retrenchment in education, absolute censorship, starvation wages!

The National Student League and the Student League for Industrial Democracy have called for demonstrations in every New York college where the Italian fascists appear today.

THE STUDENT COUNCIL CALLS UPON THE ENTIRE STUDENT BODY TO TURN OUT FOR OUR MASS ANTI FASCIST PICKET LINE ON CONVENT AVENUE IN FRONT OF THE GREAT HALL AT NOON!

The Student Council wishes to greet these students too - with ANTI FASCIST greetings - with a plea from the American student body to the enslaved, tricked Italian students to throw off their fascist chains.

The Student Council has asked President Robinson to call off the reception to the fascists but President Robinson and Dean Gottschall chose to fly in the face of the student body and receive the fascists.

*You must come to the
Mass Picket Line
12 NOON
Convent Avenue
in front of the
Great Hall*

PROTEST
ITALIAN FASCISM!
NIP AMERICAN
FASCISM IN THE
BUD!

THE STUDENT COUNCIL

At noon, October 9, 1934, a formidable crowd assembled before the main bldg. A few words were spoken denouncing the inviting of the Fascist students. Suddenly, a cry arose calling the mass of students to go into the Great Hall where the Chapel was in session, in which the Italians were to be greeted.

There, succeeding speakers were met with a rebellious audience. Pres. Robinson's speech was interrupted with long series of applause and hissing. Aggravated, Robinson denounced the students' behaviour, addressing them as "gutter-snipes", a word which was later taken up and hoisted derisively as a byword of Fascist reaction. The audience was noticeably restless. One of the Fascist students spoke in Italian, at the conclusion of which came a chorus of hissing and booing.

Thereupon Edwin Alexander ascended the dais with the purpose of addressing the Italian guests in the word of the Student Council. A representative of this body had been asked to greet the students. At first, those of the administration on the platform were reluctant to let him stand talk. This was met with waves of loud calls for Alexander to speak. Finally, permission was given, on the condition that Alexander would say nothing derogatory to the guests. Whereupon, Alexander began, stating that he had nothing to say to the students personally which might be derogatory, — but that he would say something for the oppressed masses of Italian workers and students under the despotic reign of Mussolini — . . . Suddenly, someone began to drag Alexander from the microphone. He resisted, and without warning, was struck a blow by someone (believed not faultlessly by one of the Italian students). Immediately the Great Hall was in a chaos! Alexander's fellows & comrades went to his aid, and fists flew thick and fast on the dais and the front rows. Attendants and R.O.T.C. men joined the melee, amid the shouting of "Down with Fascism"! "Down with War"! etc. This continued for a while, until a Student Council representative called for a meeting in Fenwick Stadium. This was followed by a number of resolutions and plans were drawn for a course of action.