

Mar 24, 1934

NATIONAL STUDENT LEAGUE

VS.

Fascism

WHY WE DEMONSTRATED:

To have greeted the Italian fascist students only in the administrative manner would have been to condone cultural recitation, retrenchment in education, \$4.80 a week average wages, outlawing of progressive organizations. In order to contribute to the overthrowing of Mussolini, to meet American fascism at each step of its advance with every ounce of mental and physical strength at our disposal WE HAD to demonstrate against Fascism. WE HAD to demonstrate in order to safeguard every cultural advantage, every economic advantage, immediate or future which we students have.

The faculty's claim of a goodwill tour is unfortunately inaccurate. Booklets carried by each student declare that they are envoys of Mussolini. Elaborate magazines with stories on the corporate state and messages from Mussolini to the American student body are left at every point of their trip.

When President Robinson heeded the request of "prominent citizens" in defiance of the Student Council's request to call off the visit, an effective anti-fascist demonstration was the only remaining action. When Dean Gottschall refused permission for a flagpole meeting, action at the Great Hall was forced upon us. When the administration and its student allies forcibly prevented the invited Student Council representative from speaking, general disorder was the inevitable, if unfortunate, result.

In short, every "discourteous" action was provoked by the administration.

WHO IS TO BE OUSTED AND CENSURED:

And now because our anti-fascist activity was forced into "discourteous" channels by the administration, we are

being severely disciplined. Justice reverses the position. We merit honor because we fought against bestial fascism. The administration merits censure for inviting fascists, for forcing anti-fascists into "discourtesy" and then disciplining them for this latter subterfuge. We are to be ousted. But Frederick B. Robinson is the logical choice for such treatment. He defied the Student Council. He has introduced fascists and their methods into the College. He has caused riots on the campus. The time has come for his removal.

WE WANT TO STAY IN SCHOOL:

We are students who desperately want education. And because we want it, we fight fascism. Not to oppose fascism is subversive of your own interests. Because fascism is the last stand of a dying class, it destroys free colleges to maintain profits, brainstorms culture into witchcraft to hide the truth of capitalism's end; and murders students in imperialist war to redivide capitalist markets. To guarantee our education, we fought fascism with the means we had. Our suspensions themselves were evidence of fascism's terror against progressivism. WE WANT TO GET BACK TO SCHOOL so that we can study there and also because fascist measures in the school must be defeated.

WHO IS TO REINSTATE US:

Profound social forces make the interests of the student body and the administration antithetical. The administration is historically bound to suppress students, unless we force it not to do so. At the City College the faculty, for the most part, takes the side of the administration because of city politics. We cannot then hope for

leniency from the faculty. Only an open hearing at which we can testify and cross-examine our accusers, when we are backed by mass support, will insure our reinstatement in school. That is why all of us have refused to give testimony to the Dean unless we can appear before the faculty when it decides on discipline. Such a position is not fantastic or unjustified. It merely requests the ordinary civil liberties provided by the Constitution. The stand of the faculty, for star-chamber proceedings is a fantastic and unjustified position.

THE STUDENT BODY VERSUS FASCISM:

We are only fifteen; but the fact that our struggle is against fascism makes it the struggle of you 6,000. You 6,000 will die in a war provoked by Fascism. You will be forced out of school; you will lose your right to express and organize your opinions. By mass action you must, for your own interests, force an open hearing before the faculty, the reinstatement of the Student Council, and the ousting of President Robinson.

So that MASS ACTION would be more effective, we have been carrying on this campaign jointly with the Student League for Industrial Democracy. Our two organizations differ in program, but can certainly agree on the three slogans presented above. Yet leaders of the League for Industrial Democracy have forced fantastic conditions for united action on their members at City College. They want, in essence, to deny the National Student League the right to explain its programmatic stand on the City College case, to deny its members the right to express the views of their political parties on the subject - in short, to dissolve each group temporarily. We have time and time again asked for national amalgamation. Our offer was always refused. Until we amalgamate, and we now repeat our call, we want to maintain our independence, to recruit members to the National Student League, so that the organization which really wants student unity can grow.

We call upon the S.L.I.D. at City College, and upon every other single, individual group to act jointly with us for:

1. THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL.

2. AN OPEN HEARING.
3. THE OUSTING OF PRESIDENT ROBINSON.

COME TO AN OPEN AIR MEETING AT NOON AT CONVENT AVENUE AND 141 Street.

COME TO MEETINGS OF THE CCNY CHAPTER ON THE NATIONAL STUDENT LEAGUE TODAY

AT LENOX AVENUE, CORNER 131 STREET, 4 P.M.

JOIN THE NATIONAL STUDENT LEAGUE !

APPLICATION BLANK.

NAME SCHOOL

HOME ADDRESS

SCHOOL ADDRESS

If you desire to join the National Student League, fill out this blank and send it to the N. S.L. , 114 West 14 Street, New York City.

City College Chapter of the
National Student League.

Suspended NSL Members.