"The New Masses", a radical publication having no position in the College, beyond that of uninvited commentator and agitator, recently invaded the school grounds to post viciously sensational handbills. One wonders whether they were intended as stimulus to circulation, or as even more illegal bald propaganda of insolence.

The immediate concern of the student body, however, is not "The New Masses" latest escarpade. The important fact is that on the back of this handbill of an outside, agitating medium, there appeared an appeal signed by the National Student League. THE N.S.L. IS NOT A STUDENT ORGANIZATION. Its literature is directed, printed, distributed by well organized, non-academic, radical organizations.

WHO IS THE PROPAGANDIST?  To decent, creditable STUDENT organization depends for the dissemination of its views upon the facilities and machinations of outside organs.

WHO IS THE AGITATOR? STUDENT opinion is not expressed in the revolutionary press of commercially organized factions.

WHO IS PRESSURING? The STUDENT who expresses himself, or the outside machines that claim to express him?

WHO IS THE TOOL OF VICEOUS INTERESTS? The STUDENT who fights the rowdy, or the rowdy who fights the student, with the ink and the paper, and the presses of non-student organizations.

THE N.S.L. IS NOT A STUDENT LEAGUE. IT IS AN ANTI-STUDENT PROPAGANDIST MACHINE!!!!

It seeks to mask its source by a protecting cloak, but students shall not be duped any longer.

WE DO NOT TOLERATE INTOLERANCE AND HYPOCRISY. WHY SHOULD WE TOLERATE THE ADVOCATE OF SUCH TACTICS?

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Speakers in behalf of Dr. Oakley Johnson "stressed the fact that Dr. Johnson's dismissal is merely an attempt to stifle free expression in the college". The quotation is from the "Campus" of Oct. 21, 1932.

Upper classmen will recall the sequence of disturbances following the dismissal of Dr. Johnson from the faculty of the College. At that time, the N.S.L. indulged in its usual violence and misrepresentation, climaxing in a series of mass meetings and courtroom tirades. It was at one of these meetings that the above quoted attack was made on the Administration.

Today the same N.S.L. indulges in an abortive attempt to stifle free speech in the College. Today that stilted preacher of tolerance justifies its runaways at the reception to the Italian students, justifies its brood of the peace because on this occasion the free speech was not of the same brand as the Union Square product.

The N.S.L. and its ramifications are about as tolerant as their parent organization in the land of the Soviets. They like to hear themselves talk; they insist upon that right; they press it beyond its natural bounds so that they employ it to shout louder than the opposition.

Free speech is, and should always be guaranteed to every citizen of a democracy. The N.S.L. is entitled to as much speechmaking and oratorical ramshackle as any organization or citizen of the United States; and this, despite the fact that there is more than an inkling of suspicion as to its motives. But no organization, not even the N.S.L., privileged though it regards itself, has any right to shout down, to curb the freedom of speech of another group. If American stands for anything, it stands for an honest expression of principles; any organization that seeks to suppress that expression on the part of its opponents, is anti-American.

The N.S.L. should be reminded that freedom works two ways.
The impression that orators and pickets who pressed their cause outside the residence of the President of the College, have finally and definitely indicated their peculiar status in the school. Students come to be taught; no student would obstruct the process of education.

The agitator calls for tolerance while exhibiting intolerance toward every different point of view. He violates ordinances, common decency, and the natural rights of man on the excuse of a higher truth. He holds out an ideal as the basis of lawlessness and obstruction.

The person who comes to college as a doctrinaire, the person who comes not to accept learning but to dispute it and jeopardize the opportunities of others to enjoy its advantages, the person who enjoys liberty and chooses it by denying it to others - is not a student. Radical views are only defined by the destructive tactics of so many of their advocates.

City College cannot afford the presence of unscrupulous adventurers or errorists, no matter what the banner they hide under and disguise. The student has too much at stake to forfeit his claim to self-respect and the respect of others.

A PLACE IN THE HALL OF FAME for the student who wrote the letter quoted below. The school benefits by his interest. Here's hoping more fellows in the school adopt his attitude. It's not enough to just think that the public knows the facts. Let them know that rowdiness is not a City College activity, and remember, even when you're right, IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE.

"IN DEFENSE OF DR. ROBINSON"

"To the Editor of the New York Post:
"Sir: - You ought to read the World-Telegram for an answer to your editorial about President Robinson of City College.
"I am a student at the College, too. I am no conservative; I try to be liberal and open-minded. My professors have taught me to be so.
"But there are a few men - a mere handful, when compared with the thirty or forty thousand students who receive instruction at City College yearly - who don't bother to listen to anybody.
"Placing their loyalty to radicals above all else, they practice the same tactics that they accuse the Fascists of resorting to.
"In short, they are the most repulsive individuals I have had the displeasure of being forced to associate with. It's not their ideas I dislike; it's the Reds themselves.
"The issue involved is not one of agreement or disagreement with theories. It's simply the gross discourtesy shown to a group of Italian visitors, representatives of universities from another country.
"As for President Robinson, you have a totally distorted and erroneous impression of him. He had nothing to do with the Felix Cohen affair. Dr. Robinson became President late in '23. Cohen was graduated in '26. Dr. Robinson may be blamed for some rash deeds, but he's only human after all.

"A STUDENT"