

# Strikers Convicted; Plan to Appeal

By Beverly Rubin

Sixteen College students, arrested during the anti-bias strike last April, were found guilty of "disorderly conduct" Friday in Magistrate's Court, and received suspended sentences. In a two-day trial marked by Judge William Ringel's refusal to accept evidence of violations of Constitutional guarantees and police mis-treatment, the students were convicted, despite the fact that the two arrest-

ing officers introduced no corroboration of their claims that the students had blocked College entrances and had created a disturbance.

The case will be appealed, it was announced. By-passing defense argument and testimony on the arbitrary action of the police in limiting the picket line, City College graduate Ringel throughout the trial insisted on interpreting the defendants' action as "flouting" of the cops' authority.

## Attorney Protests

The students' attorney, Murray Gordon, of the firm of Rogge, Goldman, Fabricant and Gordon, told Observation Post after the verdict was handed down that:

"Under this decision, a student can be arrested, man-handled and convicted for doing nothing more than exercising his Constitutional right to picket peacefully. I was . . . surprised to find the magistrate acting, not only as judge and jury, but also as prosecutor."

The students had been arrested on Monday, April 11, the first day of last semester's student strike. Acting to force the trial of Prof. William E. Knickerbocker and the dismissal of William C. Davis, accused of anti-Semitism and jim crow, respectively, the students, led by Student Council, walked out of classes for a total of five school days.

## Deans Appear

Evidence introduced by the defendants and their witnesses revealed that they were all arrested while in or near the picket line at the Lincoln Corridor entrance to the Main Building. The police claimed all were disobeying an order to limit that line to four pickets; ten defendants said—under oath—that they hadn't even been on that line. Only four testified that they heard the police order.

Deans Morton Gottschall (Liberal Arts) and James Peace (Student Life) appeared in court without being subpoenaed. Gottschall, with the approval of Pres. Harry N. Wright, testified Friday that the students' demonstration had not affected the routine of the College, and that no complaints about noise or blocked entrances had been received.

Peace, speaking on Thursday as an individual, at the request of several student groups, declared that he, too, had received no complaints of that nature.

Both said College authorities didn't summon the police.

## Judge's Targets

Chief targets of the prosecutor's attack and the Judge's ire were former SC vice president Ed Sporer and defendant Sid Rubenstein. Sporer, a Staff Committee Member, told the court he had overruled the police order to limit the picket line because, he said, the order was arbitrary and in violation of First Amendment guarantees of free speech and assembly. Rubenstein was accused of be-

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# OBSERVATION POST

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AN UNDERGRADUATE NEWSPAPER OF CCNY

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## Beavers Rout Crusaders 59-0 in Season Opener

By Morty Levine

The tornado that was carefully nurtured at Shrub Oak, N. Y., exploded all over the rock and dried earth of Lewisohn Stadium last Saturday afternoon as the College football team thrashed Susquehanna, 59-0.

A surprising good Rosh Hashana turn-out of 2,200 watched in unconcealed delight as Coach Frank Tubridy's Beavers making their first appearance of the 1949 season, rolled at will over the team that last year defeated them, 19-7.

So wide was the disparity between the two elevens that Susquehanna, for all the wisdom of the Stagg family, could pick up only 2 yards rushing, while the Lavender amassed over 300.

### Lasak Stars

Six different men took a hand in scoring the nine Beaver touchdowns as the Tubridy "T" clicked with amazing efficiency. Johnny Lasak, whose untimely death yesterday morning shocked the College, paced the Lavender attack, crossing the Crusader goal line three times. Early in the second

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## Geduld, APO Gratified By UBE Returns

With the seasonal rush for textbooks over, the Used Book Exchange closed up shop in the Army Hall Lounge last Friday afternoon. This concluded a most successful operation where over \$7,000 changed hands, a total of 3,643 books being sold. There are 767 books that were not sold. This is due to sudden changes by either departments or instructors in assigned books.

All persons who are to receive money or books will be notified by post card when to appear. Books will be available for pick up in the Lost & Found headquarters, Room 205. Money will be distributed by the Central Treasurer in Room 120.

The exchange was manned by volunteers from the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity and Day Session Student Council. Albert Geduld, manager of the exchange, expressed gratitude to the volunteers for their hard work and cooperation. However, he stated that due to the lack of volunteers from Evening Session Student

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## Teachers Union Asks Stay On Feinberg Law

The Teachers Union, CIO, last Thursday asked the Brooklyn Supreme Court for a temporary injunction restraining the Board of Education from carrying out the provisions of the Feinberg Law recently passed by the State Legislature. The motion was supported by an affidavit submitted by Mrs. Rose Russell, legislative representative of the Union.

Mrs. Russell charged that the Feinberg Law is unconstitutional, as it violates the freedoms of speech, assembly, thought and association, and that it is in conflict with constitutional prohibitions against bills of attainder and ex post facto laws.

### Cites Statement

To support her claim, Mrs. Russell cited Board of Education member Charles Bensley's statement at an open meeting of the Board Sept. 15. Mr. Bensley stated that the legislators who passed the Feinberg Law had "by their hasty and ill-conceived action undermined the basic American principles of free speech and free thought."

### Hits Loyalty Circular

Board President William Jansen's proposed circular on procedure also underwent attack in Mrs. Russell's affidavit. The Jansen order would require secret reports by supervisors on the "loyalty" of teachers under their jurisdiction. Mrs. Russell forecast that, if released, the circular would "lead to the creation of an atmosphere of fear, suspicion, and intimidation."

## Help Wanted

Observation Post still has openings for reporters, photographers, artists, and subeditors and administrative assistants. Any Main, Day Session student may apply. See Sy Richman in the OP office, 16 A.



Three of the College students—convicted Friday of "disorderly conduct"—as they were being shoved into the patrol wagon after their arrest April 11. Police treatment of the arrested strikers, visible in this picture, was ruled out as "inadmissible evidence" by Judge Ringel.

## John Lasak. '51

Johnny Lasak, star right halfback of the College football team, died yesterday morning at Army Hall. He was 21 years old. The cause of death was undetermined as Observation Post went to press but police indicated that Lasak, who only last Saturday performed brilliantly against Susquehanna, had succumbed to a heart attack.

Memorial services were held in the Great Hall yesterday afternoon at 3.

Lasak, who lived at 35-02 46 Street, Long Island City, but who was rooming at Army Hall this semester, was found by teammate Bernie Lipky at 7:55 yesterday morning. Johnny apparently died while studying, since a textbook, pen and open notebook lay on his desk. Lipky reported the matter to College physician Dr. A. Stern, who pronounced Lasak dead at 8:10 a.m. A priest, hurriedly summoned from the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, administered the last rites.

A 6-foot, 185-pound blond, Lasak was in his junior year at College, majoring in accounting at the Commerce Center. This would have been his third year as a member of the football varsity.

Last season Johnny was second only to Leo Wagner as the Beavers' running kingpin, averaging 5.9 yards on 48 cracks at the line and playing approximately 47 minutes a game.

When the Lavender opened its 1949 football season last Saturday, Lasak started at right halfback, and before the first half had closed, brought the crowd to its feet with a goal line-to-goal line 102-yard sprint. Later he added two touchdowns on a 79-yard run and a 29-yard forward pass reception.

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# OBSERVATION POST

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## A Travesty . . .

**F**OR MANY REASONS, the conviction last Friday of sixteen College students, arrested during the recent strike for disorderly conduct was unfounded and unjust.

To begin with, there was no reason in the world for police being on the campus during the strike. As Deans Gottschall and Peace testified during the trial, the charges against the seventeen students were unfounded. Since there were no other "disturbances" during the strike we can conclude that the College strikers conducted themselves in an orderly fashion. The presence of police led only to false arrests of innocent students and a black eye for the College in the "smear-hungry" metropolitan press.

When the students did come to trial, they were brought before a judge who oft-times acted in the additional capacity of prosecutor. The transcript of the trial reveals numerous places where Judge Ringel displayed his prejudice against the defendants, abetting the prosecution and thwarting the defense.

In light of this experience it was disheartening to find "minions" of the law on campus again last Thursday during a Young Progressives rally in support of the student defendants.

We hope the administration will see in the future that police on campus are a slight on the dignity of every student at the College. It presupposes the inability of College students to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion.

It is playing into the hands of those who have always sought to discredit free public higher education in America.

Students at the College must not allow the suspended sentence given the student defendants last week to divert them from the real issue. If the appeal of the defendants is granted, students of the College must fill the courtroom where they are retried to make sure that last week's travesty is not repeated.

The name of the College and the effectiveness of free public education is at stake.

## A Pleasure . . .

**W**E'RE STILL GASPING for breath after Saturday's terrific 59-0 win over Susquehanna. The fact that we don't meet Notre Dame and Army this season probably adds to their peace-of-mind.

The great job our gridders did last week certainly merits a real turnout at the Colby game this Saturday. We've all got our tickets. Have you?

Let's pack Lewisohn Stadium Saturday!

Short-spaced but . . .  
First meeting of Ed Soc. on Thursday, Sept. 29, at 12:30, Rm. 312. Goal to help you in preparation of teaching.

First meeting of Camera Club on Thursday, Sept. 29, Rm. 310 at 12:15. Topic "Fictorialism versus the Documentary Approach."

First meeting of Eco. Society on Thursday, Sept. 29, Rm. 265 at 2:15. Paul Vihard will speak.

### CULTURAL GATHERING CENTER

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# Loyalty and Devotion: Life Story of Cohen

By Stephen A. Weinberg

In September of 1895 a poor immigrant, bespectacled, sickly, and retiring, walked through the portals of City College; his only chance to receive a higher education.

Morris Raphael Cohen's life of poverty on the East Side, had impressed upon him the struggle for life. It was under these conditions that he studied at the College and finally received his degree.

On returning to his alma mater his career was not yet established. Still poverty stricken, a teacher

of elementary mathematics, his hopes and aspirations seemed defeated on all sides. His dreams of becoming a teacher of philosophy appeared shattered, and he felt a keen sense of disappointment and frustration.

After continual agitation, and many futile attempts, he was finally appointed Assistant Professor of Philosophy.

As a philosophy teacher, he consistently aroused the interest of his students; it was shown by unprecedented attendance and the eager response of the students. He spoke of the opening of the human mind to new possibilities rather than the grasping for new doctrines and dogmas.

During his later years, his attention was divided between his teaching responsibilities and the problem of student grievances.

Meanwhile, the cares of teaching, the distraction of student difficulties, and the decline of physical strength wore heavily on Cohen.

In the official records of the College a notation was made:

"Professor Morris Raphael Cohen resigned after 86 years of service, February 1, 1938 . . ."

This decision was not an easy one for him to take. He literally had to tear himself from the roots of his being. City College which had offered him so much as an

immigrant boy; City College which had provided him with a livelihood and a constant source of inspiration; was now a chapter in his past. He was tied to City College by his devotion to the ideal of free higher education, and bound by personal affection for the student body. The responsiveness of his students, the enthusiastic appreciation which his students had afforded him, was one of his greatest supports in life.

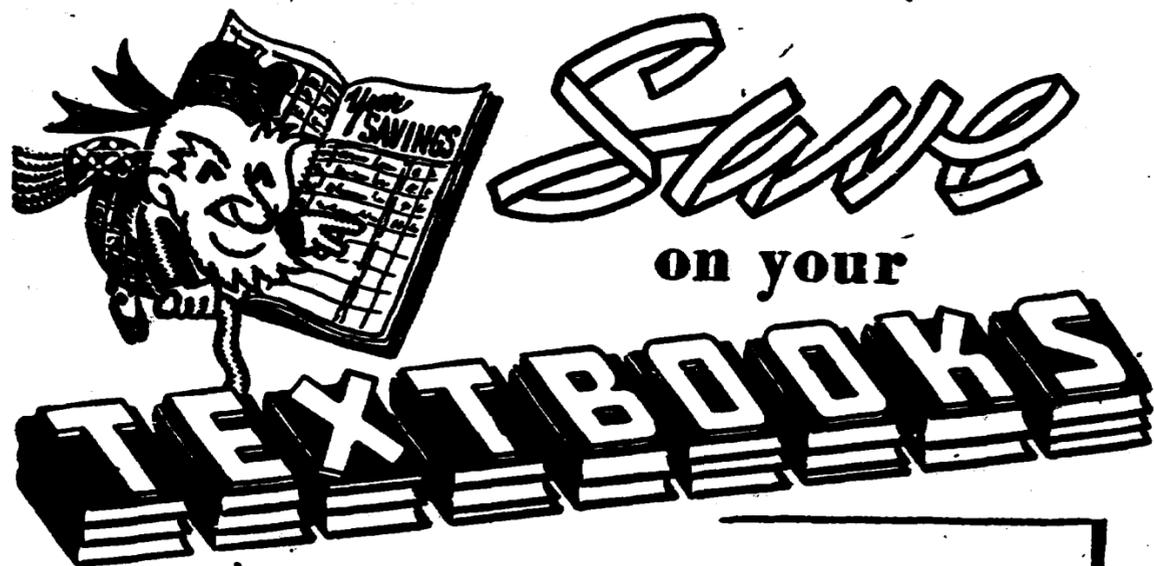
Morris Raphael Cohen '00 immigrant, student, instructor, philosopher, and humanitarian, died on January 25, 1947, his life an inspiration to all. This is the story of a man's life, his ideals, his standards; a story of a man who devoted himself unselfishly to the task of teaching; a man whose loyalty to City College knew no bounds.

### Reporter Takes Wife; Gets Apartment Too

The latest OP writer to tread the primrose path of marriage is Phil Goldstein. Sports writer Phil was happily married to Miss Miriam Huppert of Hunter College on September 3. The couple now reside at Riverside Campus, North Brother Island. The best of luck Phil and Miriam.

### We Wuz XX'ed

The crossword puzzle in our previous issue probably led many readers to consider courses in calculus as relatively simple. Even its author, Seymour Richman, who originated the idea of a collegiate crossword puzzle had difficulty in wading through the printer's errors. As soon as space permits we shall present another crossword puzzle in which the errors of the first experimental piece will be corrected.



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# New SC Charter Will Mean Dropping of Almost 40 Reps

The loss of approximately forty of its members will be the main feature of the "new" Student Council, inspection of its completely rewritten charter reveals. This drop in membership—and consequently talking-power—is essentially the result of consolidation of the club votes.

The new Council has a working membership of only 33, with three extra, non-voting members

from *Observation Post*, *Compass* and the College's NSA delegation. This is the way it breaks down:

Eleven are elected by the various clubs and organizations at the school.

Eighteen are directly elected by the student body each semester.

The remaining four are the Council's top officers, President,

Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

An elaborate system of Club Boards—made up of organizations with similar activities or interests—will be charged with the responsibility of electing nine of the eleven club reps to Council. The other two will be chosen by the TIC.

## Students Convicted

(Continued from Page 1)

ing a strike leader who called for students to over-power the police during the arrests, of resisting ar-

rest and kicking an officer in the shin. He denied the charges, and most of the students testified that they had seen him nowhere near at the time. Julian Chasin, one of the witnesses, on the contrary, said he saw Rubenstein kicked in the groin by a cop and he himself was slapped by another.

In his decision, Judge Ringel referred to the 16 defendants as "cat's paws" for Sparer who, he added, "bores investigation as to his connection with this thing." He stated that the student leader had "run this thing and you the defendants just went along."

## NAACP Meets

Meyer O'Dwyer will be the featured speaker at the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which is scheduled to be held this Friday evening, Sept. 30, in the Great Hall. Sponsored by the New York NAACP the rally will be a tribute to the organization's four-decade campaign for civil rights. Admission is free.

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DAN CURRIN, independent warehouse operator of Oxford, N. C., has smoked Luckies for 20 years. He says: "To me, Luckies taste better. I've seen the makers of Luckies buy fine, prime tobacco, you know!" Here's more evidence that Luckies are a finer cigarette!



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# Lavender Pounds Susquehanna 59-0

(Continued from Page 1)

period Lasak intercepted a pass by Susquehanna's Bob O'Gara and reeled off a 102-yard touchdown gallop. It was the longest run ever made by a College griddler. Johnny also contributed a 70-yard scoring run and grabbed a 20-yard heave from Leo Wagner for his third t.d.

The other Beaver touchdowns were recorded by Marv Zentler (2), Leo Wagner, Monroe Morris, Pete Pizzarelli and Ed Semlitz.

The College gridders were not to be denied, and marched down the field time and again on superlative line play and long break-



Leo Wagner, sparking quarterback on the Beaver Eleven.

away. Coach Tubridy cleared his bench as the Beavers ran up their highest score since 1927.

### Wagner Runs Team

While he only accounted for one touchdown, that on a 45-yard return of a pass interception, Leo Wagner turned in an excellent job at quarterback. Leo put the Lavender attack into high gear and kept it there with his shrewd selection of plays and adroit ball handling.

Still another bright spot was the place-kicking of Ed Semlitz, who booted five points after touchdown and sent his kick-offs booming into the Susquehanna end-zone. Put in a hole from the outset, and unable to move, either along the ground or through the air, the Crusaders managed only one scoring threat, advancing to the Beaver four-yard line. On fourth down, though, O'Gara passed it into the end-zone, Lasak intercepted, and traveled the length of the field for an electrifying touchdown.

## Book Exchange

(Continued from Page 1)

Council it may be necessary to discontinue this service during the evenings during future semesters."

The book mart was in operation from September 8th through 15th and from the 18th through the 23rd. This year's quarters were much larger and better service was available than during last year's operation in the Knickerbocker Lounge.

## The Sports Mill

by KANE

Beaver athletic authorities wanted to re-schedule last Saturday's football opener with Susquehanna because it conflicted with the Jewish high holy day of Rosh Hashana, but were unable to do so.

Dr. Sam Winograd, Faculty Manager of Athletics, was the man on the spot. He had to decide whether the College would fulfill its obligation to Susquehanna or cancel the game. Dr. Winograd contacted Susquehanna football moguls, trying to switch the date of the game, but as luck would have it, when the Crusaders were free to play, we were tied up and vice versa. Making the best of an unhappy situation, he decided to go through with the contest . . .

The Allagarooters, Main Center version of the '45 Club, will make their first trip of the season Oct. 8, accompanying the football team to New Haven, Conn., for a game with the New Haven State Teachers. Round trip bus fare is \$2.50 and should be delivered to Mr. Larry Weiner in 223 Main any day from 9 to 5 . . .

Bob O'Gara, Susquehanna's passing threat, was a high school teammate of Frank Tripecka of Notre Dame and the Philly Eagles. Despite Tripecka's bigger college rep, O'Gara did the heavy-duty work in high school . . .

Norm Glick, whose 19 points for Loyola (L. A.) sank the Beavers, 57-56, last year, has joined the Minneapolis Lakers of the BAA. He's a high school buddy of Irwin Dambrot . . .

Cross-country co-captain Bill Omeltchenko can time himself in four languages. Chuck is strenuously studying Spanish, Latin, French and Portuguese here at the College and last year received the Ward Latin Medal. All he did was get four consecutive A's in the course.

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## Spaulding Grants BHE More Time

State Commissioner of Education Francis T. Spaulding has given the Board of Higher Education until October 1 to reach a decision in the Knickerbocker case. Replying to an application by the Corporation Counsel, legal representative of the BHE, for more time to prepare their brief on the case, Spaulding declared that the BHE must either settle the Knickerbocker case by the end of the month, or submit a brief to the Council.

## Colby Looms As Strong Foe

When Coach Frank Tubridy's Beaver gridders meet the Blue and Gray of Colby College in Lewiston Stadium this Saturday at 2:30, it will mark the first meeting of the two schools since 1941, when the College defeated the Waterville, Maine side, 20-16.

In 1940, the Mules, en route to a Maine championship, halted the Beavers, 14-0. Last season they could muster but one win and a tie in eight outings. The victory was gained at the expense of American International, 14-0, and the tie was a scoreless affair with Northwestern.

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