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The Case Against Robinson

By BERNARD S. ROTHENBERG
(This is the third in a series of articles)

"Talk about conscience is piffle," declared Frederick B. Robinson, and another classic went down in the annals of immortality.

It all started with Felix S. Cohen '26, brilliant son of Emeritus Professor Morris R. Cohen, and in 1925 editor-in-chief of *The Campus*.

An outgrowth of the Student Army Training Corps introduced at the College during the Great War, the compulsory Reserve Officers Training Corps for years had been the butt of sporadic attack by anti-militarist and anti-imperialist students. In 1925, the revolts, which had not even denied the fortified viceroy of the War Department, crystallized to such an extent that the entire country heard of the campaign of *The Campus*.

On Armistice Day, in connection with this campaign, Felix Cohen ran editorial columns which were blank except for several excerpts from the *Manual of Military Training* then in use by the ROTC. Quoted verbatim were such portions as "This inherent desire to fight and kill must be carefully watched for and encouraged by the instructor" and "To finish an opponent who hangs on or attempts to pull you to the ground, always try to break his hold by driving the knee or foot to his crotch and gouging his eyes with your thumbs."

The Furies Descend Upon Cohen

Immediately the reactionary wrath of the War Department, the Ku Klux Klan, the American Legion and similar organizations launched bitter attacks upon Cohen and the student body. But that issue of *The Campus* became nationally famous as an expose of the War Department's brutalizing educative measures.

The Social Problems Club called a huge mass meeting to support the fight against compulsory military training. A Student Council referendum showed the tremendous total of 2092 opposed to compulsory ROTC and 345 in favor. Two days later, President Mezes (Dr. Robinson was then Dean of the School of Business and a close adviser of President Mezes) ordered *The Campus* to refrain from any further mention of the course. On November 25, therefore, the paper appeared with three blank columns draped in black, with the legend, "The Campus may make no further reference in its columns to a certain course at the College." And every issue for a while thereafter contained this laconic note.

The crowning touch came when the President sent a letter to *The Campus* on December 15, explaining why he had imposed the censorship. The editors replied that they could not publish the communication since it contained the forbidden words, ROTC. The ban was lifted ten days later.

Early that month, Professor Morris R. Cohen sponsored a motion at a Faculty meeting to allow conscientious objectors to substitute another course for ROTC. This motion was amended by Dr. Robinson (then Dean) to allow the same privilege to conscientious objectors "to any course in the curriculum." But the whole was tabled. Then Chemistry Professor Breithut's motion to make Military Science elective caused heated debate.

It was at this time that Dean Robinson averred that "all this talk about conscience is piffle." Professor Cohen immediately stated that he "had no words with which to express his abhorrence of such a sentiment." At this meeting the motion was lost, but, as Major Herbert Holton said at the time, "This is only the first skirmish."

Next September, Civilian Drill was introduced as an alternative option to the ROTC course. Shortly thereafter, the civilian drill was abandoned and one year of extra hygiene was allowed as a substitute. In 1928 the wording of the regulation was changed to require six terms of hygiene of every student, but to allow all ROTC men exemption from Hygiene courses 5 and 6. In 1935 ROTC was placed on an almost purely elective basis, as a result of the Faculty's declaring Hygiene 5 and 6 electives.

The history of Military Science at the College was not, of course, as prosaic or smooth as that. The intermediary battles are material for future articles.

Nor did this end the story of Felix Cohen. For Cohen wrote, as his last editorial in January 1926, "Is This A System?" ridiculing the idea of "branch" colleges in the different boroughs and urging instead the establishment of several independent colleges. "This editorial upset Dr. Robinson very much, as he was then Acting President and looking forward to becoming head of an interborough college system." Cohen testified last week to *The Campus*. Dr. Robinson summoned him to the office and not receiving any satisfaction, conferred with certain members of the then conservative Campus Association, according to Cohen.

A few weeks later Felix Cohen was refused reelection by a close vote. He charges that Dr. Robinson exacted a promise from Edward W. Stitt '13, president of the Campus Association, that there would be no further opposition to the proposed Brooklyn Branch.

The New Editor Also Stands Up

Somebody slipped up, however, for the new *Campus* editor, Harry Heller '27, refused to accept this censorship and announced his opposition to the Branch idea. Heller opposed the ROTC. Heller attempted to criticize the administration for barring a student eye-witness speaker on the current Passaic strike. Robinson telephoned the Campus Association, according to Cohen, and the material in *The Campus* was suppressed.

Heller editorially urged that a student representative be allowed to sit in at Faculty meetings. A Faculty member was quoted as saying about this request, "The faculty is entitled to privacy at its meetings. Its announcements should have an oracular mysticism."

The Campus replied, "Oracular mysticism, then, is the only guard against appearing ridiculous that some professors possess."

On that day, Dean Robinson told the student editor, "That article you wrote today was impudent and insolent. . . I will take no action, however."

Then, according to members of Dr. Robinson's Economics 1 lecture class, he suggested to President Mezes that they phone the Campus Association.

In all fairness to Dr. Robinson it should be said that, according to members of his Economics class, Dr. Robinson stated on April 23, "We did not ask that Heller be thrown out. We merely directed the attention of the Campus Association to his editorial." (*City College Student*, April 29, 1926.) On April 12, Heller was ousted from the editorship.

The Student Council supported Heller, and soon an "outlaw" paper, the *City College Student*, was out on the streets.

But, back to the story of Felix Cohen: According to these same Economics 1 students, Dr. Robinson said of Cohen, "I saved his neck. He would have been thrown out of the place had I not interceded in his behalf." It is also recorded that Dr. Robinson announced that he was going to recommend Cohen for Phi Beta Kappa.

But for two years, Felix Cohen was kept out of the honorary society, despite his undeniably superb scholarship. The solicitude of Dr. Robinson, brother in Phi Beta Kappa and chairman of its committee on admissions, for Felix Cohen was such that he and his committee withheld the nomination of Cohen "in order to prevent his being blackballed and to improve his chances at some future time."

A considerable number of members, however, doubted the purity of Dr. Robinson's motives in refusing to recommend Cohen. Thus, for a long time, a bitter struggle ensued, with the chapter refusing all nominations until Felix was elected. The conflict was amicably adjusted by a revision of the regulations concerning admissions. So the fires died down until 1932, when Dr. Robinson was elected president of the Chapter.

(Continued on page 4, col. 4)

The Campus

THE COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Official Undergraduate Newspaper of The City College

Vol. 62.—No. 10.

NEW YORK, N. Y., TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1938.

PRICE TWO CENTS

HUNTERITES PLAN VISIT TO HARRIS '40

News Item: Members of the Hunter College House Plan will be the guests of Harris '40 at a co-ed meeting this afternoon.

The House Plan located in its rugged structure at 292 Convent Ave., formerly the last resort of the die-hard males, is slowly being undermined by the influx of the feminine species.

Old die-hard members of the Plan admitted that the purpose of the House was to have socials, "but not with women."

First there was Miss Levine in the House office, then Miss Gladys Lovinger became a member and now the Hunter incident!

Board Rejects Tenure Bill

Unanimously Pledges To Enact By-Law Before May

The Board of Higher Education voted unanimously not to approve a draft bill on tenure intended to amend the state education law of 1909, submitted by teacher groups and organizations of the city colleges, at a special meeting held yesterday afternoon at the Commerce Center building. The Board held that its members did not have enough time to consider the bill thoroughly.

The bill, which was based on opinions presented at a hearing before the Committee of Five and the Committee on Curriculum and By-Laws, was to grant tenure of office to "all members of the permanent staffs of the colleges under the jurisdiction of the Board of Higher Education," as well as "preparatory, high and model schools connected with such colleges."

Since the board is friendly toward such action, it unanimously voted assurance to the teacher groups that it would pass a by-law granting tenure, as stated in the draft bill, before May, John T. Flynn, member of the board, stated. Such action has already been contemplated by the Committee of Five, Mr. Flynn continued, and the committee is in complete agreement with the bill.

According to the bill, "the permanent staff" is to consist of instructors, all grades of professors, bursar, curator, auditor, secretary of the college, registrar and assistant, recorder and deputy, and the various grades of librarians. Dean, director, president, secretary to the president or head of department are not to be entitled to tenure.

Hall, 66, Is Oldest Grad

Dr. Charles Lemon Hall '66, architect, preacher, and missionary, is at ninety years of age the College's oldest living graduate. He was born of American parents in Winchester, England on September 18, 1847.

Dr. Hall, who is as old as the College itself, graduated in 1866 with a Bachelor of Science degree and fifth honors in his class. A year later, when the Gamma chapter was established, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Three years after his graduation he received his M.S. at the College.

After he left the College he worked for some time with an architect in New York. Before long, however, he realized that he was best fitted for work of a sociological nature. In 1870 he left his job with the architect and entered Andover Theological Seminary where, two years later, he received the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. For the next four years he served as pastor in

Roosevelt Endorses Program Of American Youth Congress

Board Dismisses Wardlaw, Instructor Now In Spain

Ralph W. Wardlaw, an instructor in the Public Speaking department, has been dropped from the College teaching staff by the Board of Higher Education, it was revealed yesterday by Arthur Braunlich, of the Teachers Union Grievance Committee.

The committee, which has consented to fight the decision of the board for Wardlaw, declared that he had left for Spain, before the beginning of the semester, in order to serve the Loyalist Government and to do further graduate research work in Spain. Two weeks before the term began, his wife received a letter from him, postmarked Paris, in which he explained that he had left to do graduate work. He requested her to apply to Prof. Gustaf Schultz, Public Speaking department executive, for a leave of absence for one term. This she did on February 9, nine days before the opening of school. Prof. Schultz granted the request, without knowing the specific reason for the leave.

Prof. Schultz then discussed the matter with President Robinson, in order to get the president to recommend the leave of absence to the board, which has the sole power to grant all leaves. President Robinson suggested that Wardlaw be given a temporary two week sick leave, which the president has the power to grant. Mrs. Wardlaw, knowing that her husband was not sick, and that he would be gone for more than two weeks, told the president that it was a one term leave, and not a sick leave that her husband wanted. Nevertheless, the president only granted Wardlaw a two week sick leave, and did not recommend a leave of absence of one term to the board.

Declare Position Vacant

At the expiration of the two weeks, having received no request for a leave of absence, the board declared Mr. Wardlaw's position vacant.

The statement by the TU further added that Mr. Wardlaw, who had always been sympathetic to the cause of Spanish democracy, left for Spain when he learned from a friend that such a chance was available. According to the statement, the reason that he did not tell his wife his destination was that he did not wish to increase the already numerous difficulties which he would meet getting into Spain.

The Union further pointed out that Alfred Chaiken, a Hygiene instructor at the Commerce Center, had been granted leave last fall to pursue Physiotherapy work in the hospital units of the Loyalist Government.

Members of the Union expressed the hope that the board did not take this action in the Wardlaw case because of a lack of sympathy with the cause of Spanish democracy.

661 Students On NYA Roll

The following story was written previous to Dr. Malkan's death.—Editor's Note.

The number of student NYA workers has jumped from 496 last term to 661 this term, according to Dr. Arnold Malkan, director of the project at the College. The total money grant from the government for wage payments on the project remains unchanged at \$10,600 a month for nine months of each year.

Dr. Malkan declared that of the students employed last term on NYA 475 were undergraduates and 21 graduates, while on this term's quota of 661, there are 630 undergraduates and 31 graduates. Last term the NYA employees worked for five work-periods which continued through the school recess; this term there will be only four months of work, the first of which began on February 17. A wider distribution of the allotment is thus made possible although individual earnings will necessarily be reduced due to the large increase in the staff, according to Dr. Malkan.

ASU Initiates Week-long Drive To Aid Loyalists

The American Student Union's week-long Aid-Spain drive to gather funds for travelling libraries will reach a climax Thursday in an anti-Fascist demonstration on the campus, Bernard Wolf '40, chairman of the ASU Peace Committee, announced yesterday.

Hitler, Mussolini, and Franco will be burned in effigy during the Thursday demonstration at noon, he said.

Directly afterwards, a meeting will be held. The documentary "Heart of Spain" will be shown and Capt. Carl Bradley of the Abraham Lincoln Battalion and George Pershing, nephew of the AEF commander, will speak on Spain.

Collection boxes will be circulated in the Main and in Townsend Harris Hall throughout the week, Wolf declared. Booths may be set up during the week, he said.

Restaurants Enlisted

The support of three restaurants—Frank's, Louis' and Rothschild's—has been enlisted in the campaign, Wolf reported. Ten percent of student receipts for the week will be turned over to the Peace Committee. Students were urged to put their checks in special boxes provided at these establishments. Otherwise, Wolf said, the checks will not be considered as part of student receipts. The '41 class has also pledged a ten percent share of the '41 Frolics' profits.

At the same time, Wolf urged students to turn over their Thursday's lunch money to the travelling library fund.

Holds Conference On Jobs, Education

WASHINGTON, D. C. March 13.—President Franklin Roosevelt endorsed the American Youth Congress's program for securing jobs and education, at a conference with AYC leaders, William W. Hinckley, national chairman, told over three thousand youths assembled in the Labor Department Auditorium here last night.

Commending the AYC for its service to youth and approving the American Youth Act in principle, the president advised young people to work locally for social reform by publicly discussing Congressmen's legislative records.

The delegates, who represented organizations in more than thirty-five states, paraded through the streets of this city yesterday morning. Starting from the street bordering the White House, they marched for several hours, disbanding when they reached the Congressional buildings.

Attend Hearings

Earlier in the week the delegates interviewed their legislative representatives and attended Senatorial subcommittee hearings on the American Youth Act.

Testifying at the Friday hearing, Aubrey Williams, director of the National Youth Administration, urged the passage of the act "to extend the period of youth" and to "conserve our human resources."

Referring to the AYC as a Communist organization, Senator Josh Lee (Dem., Oklahoma), who presided at the hearing, asked the NYA director whether the United States government should finance education for socialism, when the students express allegiance to "the red flag of Russia."

Desirable Group

"Youth organizations such as the American Youth Congress constitute a healthy and desirable group in American life," Mr. Williams replied.

Admitting that "the youth situation is acute," the Reverend Vincent Mooney, Director of the Catholic Youth Bureau, asserted that it is "only a phase of the larger problem." He claimed that the American Youth Act is "impractical" and that it would "control" the youth of the nation. "The bill lays a foundation for regimentation," he said.

Urging the Senate to pass the AYA to keep the United States at peace, Philip Dobbs, representing the United Student Peace Committee, said that "democracy and peace go together."

Isaacs, Burqum, Quill Speak at TU Dinner

"I regard the organization of college and university teachers as an absolutely essential bulwark against prejudice and discrimination," Stanley Isaacs, Borough President of Manhattan, told six hundred teachers Saturday at a luncheon in the Hotel Astor sponsored by the New York College Teachers Union. He also said that unions of civil service workers may take over the functions formerly performed by reform groups.

Prof. Edwin Berry Burqum of New York University, president of the union, reported that the union now has 854 members and is the largest college local of the American Federation of Teachers. NYU has accepted the principle of collective bargaining and recognized the union as agent of the university's clerical staff, he said.

Other speeches were delivered by Michael Quill, city councilman and president of the Transport Workers Union, and Jerome Davis, president of the AFT.

The Campus

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A Question of Taste

OF ALL THE COMMENTS WE HAVE received on our series, "The Case Against Robinson," only one or two have been adverse.

These criticisms are based, not upon the issues involved, but upon the nebulous concept, "bad taste." It has been stated, from the outset, that the articles on the President would be in good taste, gentlemanly and dispassionate. Even the most "loyal" adherents of the administration have admitted that we are keeping our promise.

They state that simply to discuss such material is "taboo," is "in bad taste," is "giving the College a bad name." They do not discuss the issues. They do not deny the facts.

Those who wish to gloss over, ignore or hide the deficiencies of our College have no monopoly on passionate devotion to Alma Mater. A sore spot, not agitation for removal of a sore spot, gives the College "a bad name."

We love our College.

Let's discuss the issues!

Dr. Arnold Malkan

THE SUDDEN DEATH OF DR. Arnold Malkan, uptown NYA administrator, comes as a shock to those who were privileged to know him. Students or teachers at the College, unfamiliar with the administration of the pitiful student relief here, had seldom heard about the arduous job he was doing so well. For Dr. Malkan was one of those modest, self-effacing individuals who leave their mark by what they do rather than by what they say.

Dr. Malkan was a brilliant student, an inspiring teacher and an efficient, warm-hearted administrator. He greatly improved the organization of his office, and ran it quietly and efficiently despite a lack of appropriation from the government. He often spent thirty hours of his own time in his office, never complaining and seldom asking for help.

A rigorous College organization which permitted only a slight cut in his teaching load, and an almost backward Congress which provides only useless application blanks and no money for NYA administration at the colleges added to his burden. He died in his early thirties at the start of a brilliant career. The students bereft of his unselfish and humane service in their behalf can best perpetuate his memory by doing their share to increase the pitiful NYA allotment which he administrated so sympathetically.

The Dipsy-Doodle

THE DIPSY-DOODLE HAS WANDERED away. The dipsy-doodle has come this way. In fact, it seems to have taken root in the offices of the deans of the various city colleges.

We thought, rather optimistically, it seems now, that the passage of the Mc-

Goldrick Resolution by the Board of Higher Education in January meant legalization for the American Student Union. That certainly was its intent, according to members of the board.

But the deans would rather fiddle than say yes. Here at the College, Dean Turner, obeying a resolution of the Faculty, has asked the ASU for a complete membership roll. At the Commerce Center, Dean Moore halted an ASU meeting because the organization is not chartered. This despite the fact that the Faculty Committee has ruled that no organization, except teams and publications, need be chartered.

At Hunter it's even more confusing. Dean Hannah Egan one day bans an outside speaker at an ASU meeting because the union is not chartered. The next day she reverses herself, yielding to mass student pressure, and allows the speech.

Dr. Linchan, director of the Main Evening session, sees the administration as neutral in extra-curricular activities. Brooklyn College authorities have invited student participation in formulating rules for student activity. Only Professor Green, director of the Commerce Center evening session, has acknowledged the lead of the board in legalizing the ASU.

It is much to be regretted that the deans cannot realize that the way to amicable faculty-student relations lies on the lines outlined by the McGoldrick Resolution. That means freedom for student affairs, and not obstructionism.

A Natural

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ABOUT the kind of a professor who organizes a league to play soft-ball with his Contemporary Civilization classes? What would you say to having that sort of professor in a position which vitally affects the student body?

You'd say swell. And that's just the kind of a man Dr. Harry J. Carman, Mayor LaGuardia's latest appointment to the Board of Higher Education, is.

No narrow-minded scholastic in the medieval manner is Dr. Carman. But softball isn't everything. Years teaching in grade school, high school and two colleges have given him a wealth of experience in student problems and in educational questions.

Last spring, Dr. Carman presided at a joint meeting of the Teachers Union and the ASU, at which Andre Malraux, the noted author, spoke. He was a member of the Faculty Committee to Aid Spain, an organization which grew into the Federation for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

These are reasons why students respect Dr. Carman. Head of Columbia's Department of History he was voted most popular professor by the graduating class in 1935, and again in 1936.

These are reasons why progressive students and instructors alike thank Mayor LaGuardia.

Recommended

Movies—You can't tell what they'll be inventin' next. *We Are From Kronstadt* (not all of us) is at the Pauline Edwards Theater this Saturday eve. Quarter of a hundred pennies;—and *The Sex Life of a Polyp* and Walt Disney are thrown in for good measure.

Family—The Bach Circle, consisting of Johann Sebastian and his whole family, all of whom composed a few little pieces, pounds its way into the old Town Hall on Saturday evening at 8:30 p. m.

Klass—The Kay Kayser College of Musical Knowledge studies popular dance rhythms and band problems. It is called to order every Tuesday at eight, and the klass lasts for ten minutes more than ours. On WOR.

Drama—In book form. Five plays by five of the greatest—O'Neill, Rice, Sherwood, Barry and Anderson. It's the second volume in a series of *American Plays* and costs ten bits, which you can figure out for yourself in American money. Scribner's did the playing.

GARGOYLES

How to Win Friends & Correct Low T, S, P, D, Q, X, Y, Z With P. S. I

Do you want to be an acrobat? Do you want to influence people with your contortions? Do you want to make brave men grow pale and women scream?—Then just tear off the top of your 1937-1938 College bulletin, or a reasonably accurate facsimile thereof, and take Public Speaking 1.

I too was once a 97-lb. weakling; I used to float about like a feather in the breeze—but since I took PS 1, I am no longer a scrawny tyke; I am a somewhat muscle-bound Charles Atlas.

In Public Speaking 1 you are given exercises to correct your deficiencies, and if you don't come out of the course all muscle, you just haven't thrown your heart (as well as a few pots and pans) into your work—you're a slacker! So reach up PS 1—be a brute and chill the frills!

You're not so hot . . .

When you first come into the class, you think you're just about perfect, but the starch (and almost the whole shirt) is soon taken out of you. It leaves you limp and not a bit ROT-ish.

Have you indescribable foreignisms? Have you? Do you have ng click; low m (as in Minsk), p (as in Pinsk), o (as in Omsk), t (as in Tomsk) or i (as in Irkutsk); whistling s (this is very low—in fact, so low it has to reach up to touch the soles of the feet); pink tooth brush or acid mouth? Then,

Screen

This department does not really wish to be marked as a foreign-film agency. I think it should be clear that the efforts of the continental cinema receive prominent recognition here less because this department gets to more of them, than because it is our sincere conviction that for the student-filmgoer they constitute a source of greater enrichment, emotionally, intellectually, esthetically, and in that vague respect conventionally referred to as "entertainment" or "enjoyment". It will, I know, always be with a certain amount of trepidation that the filmgoer will visit a "little cinema" and view for the first time a foreign film. But I can think of no recent season when that first venture would be more rewarding—for there is an extraordinary number of fine continental (and independent) productions being exhibited on "the minor circuit" this year.

At the moment there is another Woodard essay in naturalism at the 55th St. Playhouse marked by a quality of loveliness which, for my own part, quite escapes phrasing. Beauty, according to the Socratic wisdom, is a soft and smooth and gentle thing which easily slips in and enchants our souls. Something of that beauty has slipped into *The Adventures of Chico*, and has made of it a charming and gentle experience in the cinema. The Woodards have brought to their task a genuine feeling for nature and a child of nature in "big, quiet, and veree beautiful" Mexico. Reinforcing that with a feeling for striking camera and dramatic values, they have made an extraordinary motion-picture.

Gentle seems to be the word, too, for *Generals Without Buttons* (at the Filmarte): and gentle, in the face of fitful satiric thrusts at the matter of war. For I think it is clearly more a study in child psychology, a kindly piece about "just kids", than a film of social comment. The tale of battling brats is smoothly and easily told and with a sensitivity that have made the French masters in the psychological cinema.

On *Merlusse* and *Un Carnet de Bal*, two new French dramas, and the Soviet *Ski Battalion*. I reserve comment for another time. A last word: Walk a mile for *Mayerling* or *The River*.

MELVIN J. LASKY

Screen Snap-Shorts

The Music Hall is through with *Bringing Up Baby* and is bringing in *Jezebel*, starring Bette Davis and Henry Fonda. . . *Ski Battalion* will follow *The River* and *Cossack Golota* at the Cameo; and *The Dybbuk* will give way to *Merlusse* at the Continental. *A Slight Case of Murder* is still the Strand hit.

The World Theater is reviving that very fine documentary, *Tsar to Lenin*; it is coupled with Danielle Darrieux's *Club de Femmes*.

M. J. L.

AYC Pilgrims Take Capital

The College delegation in the American Youth Act pilgrimage, ultimately one of the largest in Washington, took several days to arrive.

Traveling by chartered bus, by dilapidated auto and by disjointed thumb, they started the trek Wednesday, some arriving as late as Friday evening.

One group, which set out blithely in a usually dependable car, found several irreparable ruptures in the buggy's irrestines. Starting hopefully to hitch hike to Washington from Jersey City, the lads found themselves marching into the arms of one of Mayor Hague's deputy I-am-the-lawyers.

The copper, who questioned and searched them without warrant, had his worst suspicions confirmed when he discovered their City College credentials. A suit of red underwear left no doubt that he was dealing with rabid Communists, and it was only after much wrangling and alibiing that they escaped incarceration.

In all of Washington, capital and legislative center of the nation, where the great, progressive minds meet to decide national issues, the cafeteria in the Department of Labor is the only eatery where food is served without discrimination against Negroes.

Other restaurants, including the printing office of the government whose basic tenet is democracy and equality, segregate the Negroes from the whites. Similar distinctions are made in lodging house.

And on Friday and Saturday there was a veritable sound of revelry by night.

eldee

The Disc

It is five years since we have last had a recording of *Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 in C Major* and high time that something was done about it. This is it that the new Victor version (M-409) with Eugene Ormandy conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra in a brilliant performance, comes as a welcome and much desired contribution to the library of recorded music. Here we find the young Beethoven still under the influence of Johann Stamiz and the Mannheim School, Haydn, and Mozart, but already beginning to emerge. This emergence is visible in the third movement, marked conventionally "Minuet," but actually far from the minuet of the day and the archetype of all his *scherzos*. Ormandy's treatment of the score is traditional and straightforward, but there is little brio in his first movement and his finale moves too stodgily. The reproduction is done with exemplary fidelity and definition and fine dynamic breadth, and is complete with repeats in both first and last movements.

Mozart's rarely heard *Concerto in D Minor* (K-466) for piano and orchestra has received a thoroughgoing interpretation by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra with Bruno Walter as soloist and conductor. Exceedingly important in the development of the concerto form, this is one of the first concertos in which the piano stands forth definitely as protagonist against the orchestra, the antagonist. Victor has attempted to lend authenticity to this interpretation by having Mr. Walter act as both soloist and conductor, as was the practice in Mozart's day. But to take this position is to ignore the fact that 18th century audiences were much more interested in structural form than in emotional content. With interest chiefly in, and emphasis on, line and form, it was natural that the quality of the interpretation and rendition be slighted. It is only with the rise of the virtuoso conductor of modern times that the quality of the rendition became an important consideration. Thus it is that to revert to this 18th century custom is to ignore the passage of two centuries. The relationship between orchestra and soloist is well taken, but pitched on a low plane. The interpretation is thoroughgoing and authentic (M-420).

Arthur Fiedler and the Boston "Pops" Orchestra in their rendition of the *Carnaval Overture* have recorded some of Dvorak's merriest and heartiest music. It is done with verve and gusto in typical "Pop" style (12159).

EL

Queries on records, needles, machines, etc. are welcomed.



When the varsity t into you drives a strings o his bat ir by the n player lil towel ur Clark G get an ic is watch The shapes a only a p largest engaged teams rous orga go to M for such who "se something the ears is troubl ing too same tir Th a collec need fr library a fello his he closed since t a well is an of divi athleti "Th patin i varsity t cannot a Still oth for all t court or enjoy g win, not the vict T of the tent i pionsl and n promi mural instar line-u intran at the ing tl tion t year. Any

Bobby large in ket for small s Sam W no long team, e to be i pression . . . it you win has a g around his var field . junior of Flug out for football of the ball an was a ed the by eati ice-crea lacrosse mental of Per men, f . . . M

The Campus Sports

NEW YORK, N. Y., TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1938.

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Sport Sparks



**"Play's the Thing,"
Says Mr. Peace:
And 1500 Prove It**

By Philip Minoff

When Mr. Jimmy Peace, faculty director of intramurals at the College, inveighs against "prima-donna" athletes on varsity teams, a number of pictures may immediately flash into your mind. You may think of the tennis player who drives a ball into the net and then looks critically at the strings of his racket. You may think of the batter who flings his bat into center field when the third strike is called on him, by the nasty old umpire. Or you may think of a basketball player like Irwin Witty who comes on the court with a white towel under his sweat jacket, knotted around his neck in Clark Gable fashion, which simply wows the ladies. But to get an idea of what a "prima-donna" is not, all one has to do is watch the goings-on at the gym any Thursday at noon.

There one can see athletes and pseudo-athletes of all shapes and proportions going through their paces in what is only a part of the vast intramural program here, one of the largest in the country. Approximately 1500 students are engaged in at least one of the sports on the program, with 65 teams registered in basketball alone. It is really a tremendous organization and most of the credit for its success should go to Mr. Peace himself, who, three years ago saw the need for such competition at the College, and unlike most people who "see the need" for something or other, proceeded to do something about it. Today his brainchild is quite dry behind the ears and has grown to such dimensions that Mr. Peace is troubled by the thought that perhaps the program is drawing too many students away from clubs which meet at the same time every Thursday.

The entire scheme has grown from his philosophy of what a college educator should do, and one of its main precepts is the need for "balance". There is not balance when a student sits in a library from morning to night all week. A few days ago I asked a fellow in the reference room if it was raining outside. He turned his head slowly from the book, looked at me with a pair of half-closed eyes and said, "I wouldn't know, Bud. I haven't been out since the Fall semester." No intelligent educator would call that a well rounded education. Especially at the College, where there is an emphasis on the academic, is there a demand for some form of diverting activity, and for Mr. Peace the answer is intramural athletics.

"There are any number of students," he holds, "who enjoy participating in sports, but who, for various reasons, do not go out for varsity teams. Some, of course, haven't the necessary ability. Others cannot afford to take away so many hours each day from their studies. Still others have jobs after school. Intramurals are made to order for all these people. It gives them a chance to get out on a basketball court or baseball field during the school week, run around a bit, and enjoy getting some exercise. Naturally, they play their damndest to win, not only for the sake of winning but for the awards that go to the victors in each sport."

Thus a place is created for the man who is below the calibre of the "prima-donna" athlete but who has it all over him like a tent in spirit. Moreover intramurals gives the men on the championship squads an opportunity to visit other colleges in New York and mingle with certain students from the other schools who are prominent in sports other than the one they are playing intramurally. When the basketball champs met Fordham last year, for instance, Leo Paquin, the great Fordham end, was in the opposing line-up. Preparations are now under way for the formation of an intramural league composed of all the New York Colleges. But at the same time Mr. Peace is aware of the danger of over-glorifying the winning teams, so that now a resolution is under consideration to refuse to let men play together on a team for more than one year. The Campus basketball sharpshooters are heartily in favor. Any other combination would be a distinct improvement.

Sport Slants

Bobby Sand, who recently tossed a large inflated ball at a bottomless basket for Nat Holman is now tossing a small solid ball at a rubber plate for Sam Winograd. . . . With Jerry Horne no longer able to pitch for the College team, extraordinary measures will have to be taken to again create the impression that baseball is only a game. . . . it really doesn't matter whether you win or not as long as everybody has a good time. . . . Jackie Stein, all-around jayvee man, is all set to make his varsity debut in the St. Nick out-field. . . . Football, baseball, basketball junior varsities all enjoyed the services of Slugger Stein. . . .

Fourteen men constituted the turnout for Coach Benny Friedman's Spring football practice last Friday. . . . Several of the varsity men are out for the baseball and lacrosse teams. . . . Roy Ilowit was a spectator. . . . Jess Aber celebrated the beginning of the Spring training by eating a large portion of chocolate ice-cream. . . . As evidence that playing lacrosse does not result in permanent mental disorders there is the selection of Perry Kent, ex-captain of the stickmen, for honors in the science division. . . . Mark Cohen, who ranks with the

greatest boxers to attend the College although he never was on the boxing team, is taking graduate courses leading to Master of Ed. . . . Cohen swept through the Golden Gloves two years ago to win the lightweight crown as well as an award for being the tournament's most effective puncher. . . . There's a new champion at the College. . . . Irving "Swish" Weisman can, without the aid of chewing tobacco, etc., spit across Convent Avenue with the ease that other men walk from one sidewalk to the other. . . . The champ's managers have issued a challenge to all comers. . . . In an exclusive interview with a Campus reporter Swish said, "In my own small way, I hope to bring glory to Alma as Intercollegiate Expecting Champion". . . . To keep abreast of the times one should read regularly the press clippings bulletin board outside of the lunchroom. . . . At present the feature is NYU beats City College.

The lack of a training table certainly was apparent in the Temple wrestling match. . . . most of the College boys appeared more filled out than the Templars, and Chuck Wilford even sported a small spare tire. . . .

Tom Mong

Boxers, Grapplers Vanquish Two Tough Temple Teams; Hirschtritt Scores Only Pin

**Wrestlers Garner 22-6
Victory; Ringmen
Triumph 5-3**

Ralph Hirschtritt scored the only fall of the evening, as the College wrestling team topped the Temple Owls, 22 to 6, Saturday night at the Commerce Center in a meet that was closer than the score indicates. At the same time the Beaver boxers nosed out the Owls more decisively, 5 to 3.

In the fastest and most exciting bout of the evening, Johnny Nemeth scored a technical kayo over Ed Mulhearn, the Templars acting captain. Sid Emmer was awarded a technical over Al Nichols, Owl heavyweight, when Nichols was unable to leave his corner to start the third round.

The boxing match was close. After co-captain Joe Lubansky, 118 lbs., earned a draw, Murray Sanders got a decision to put the St. Nicks ahead. Dan Falco evened it up for the Owls, and a draw by co-captain Am Rae kept the situation unchanged.

Beavers Ahead

After a decision was awarded to Herm Grojenski, Johnny Nemeth got a technical kayo, to put the Beavers ahead. They lost the 175 lb. match, but Emmer's technical clinched the meet for the Beavers.

The Temple wrestlers put on a "Spirit of '76" tableau, six of the eight competitors wrestling with their heads swathed in bandages. Jack Holmsman, Owl Captain, came out, his head and chin plastered, and wearing a head-guard, but he wrestled "Doc" Krilowitz to a draw in the closest contest of the night.

Coach Joe Sabora has tentatively decided to send Stan Wittenberg, Kal Sklar, and Stan Graze to the Intercollegiate championships. No one has been chosen from the boxing team to represent the Beavers at the boxing Intercollegiate yet.

Beavers Conquer MIT Swordsmen

The College fencing team completely overwhelmed the MIT swordsmen Saturday at the latter's home strips, winning by 19½-7½, the largest margin of victory for the College team this season. The Lavenders showed great strength in the foil and saber, dropping only one match in each. In the epee, MIT had the upper hand scoring by 5½-3½.

Capt. Dan Bukantz and Max Goldstein won their three bouts in the foils without much difficulty. Dave Altman met with a little more difficulty, winning two matches, but dropping the third, 5-4. Then Bukantz garnered two more points in the epee and Berwin Cohen added a point and a half. Al Ehrenberg took high honors in the saber, winning his three matches by lopsided scores. Co-captain Bernie Mark fenced in two bouts only, but won both with only one touch scored against him. John Sieck won two matches and lost a third, giving the Engineers their lone tally in the saber. Elliot Badanes took his only bout, 5-3.

The strength shown by the team increases their chances of beating NYU this Saturday. If the College men can maintain the pace they have been setting in the foils, they may upset the Violets.

MEN WANTED

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Six Gridmen Join Baseball Squad

Just when Sam Winograd, varsity baseball coach, was bowed down with grief at the appalling loss of the best diamond material the College had had for a long, long time, the clouds lifted and the sun or suns, shown through again in the persons of six stalwart varsity football regulars who cheerfully volunteered their services to the badly depleted baseball forces.

With the grid veterans, Jim Clancy, Artie Jacobs, Harry Stein, Joe Margis, Jerry Stein, and Mike Weisbrod now wearing leather on their hands instead of jumping on it, it would take a discerning eye to tell that Friedman and not Winograd is the football coach.

This good fortune has even made Winograd forget that Bernie Fliegel was lost to College athletics forever when he tallied ten points for Kate Smith's Celtics last Sunday night at the Hippodrome.

NATATORS SCORE IN COLLEGIATES

Sunday's *Herald Tribune* came out with the following sub-head on its Eastern Collegiate Swimming meet story: "Pitt Takes Eastern Collegiate; City College in the Ruck." In the article, the College's one point was just behind Carnegie Tech's two points and NYU's three. This is a gross misrepresentation of the actual fact. The College garnered fully twice the number stated, equalling Carnegie Tech's two points for last place.

Gridders Turn Out For Spring Practice

Having dug its paraphernalia out of the mothballs, the College football team has trotted into Lewisohn Stadium and has already started spring practice. The squad, one of the largest ever to turn out to spring practice at the College, will work out daily in the Stadium, but in case of bad weather will move into the gym to practice on Wednesdays and Fridays.

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Dr. A. Malkan Dead At 33

Head of NYA Felled By Heart Attack

Dr. Arnold J. Malkan, tutor in the Public Speaking department and administrator of NYA here, was buried Sunday afternoon. He died suddenly Friday evening of a heart attack. His colleagues at the College yesterday expressed deep regret over his untimely death.

President Robinson said, "I was shocked to hear of his sudden death. I valued him not only as a promising member of the Public Speaking department, but also as a teacher who concerned himself with the welfare of his students. This was evidenced in the devotion with which he carried out the relief measures of the NYA."

Summa Cum Laude

Dr. Malkan was thirty-three years old. He was graduated from the College in 1924 Summa Cum Laude. He began teaching as a fellow and then as a tutor in the Classical Language department while studying for his M. A. and D. J. degrees. He then left the College to practice law. Coincident with his return in September, 1934, as a tutor in Public Speaking, he began to help administer NYA funds, until in February, 1937, he became the administrator of the fund in the Main Center.

Professor Schult, head of the Public Speaking department, said, "He was not only a brilliant student but a very able and conscientious teacher who earned the respect and affection of his colleagues."

His mother, two sisters and two brothers survive Dr. Malkan.

Parents Association To Meet Thursday

The College Parents Association will hold its first business meeting of the semester at 1420, Commerce Center, this Thursday, March 17 at 8:30 p. m. The main business of the meeting, according to Mr. Albert W. Clurman, president of the Parents Association, will be discussion and election of functioning committees for the semester. These committees, according to Mr. Clurman, will decide the success of the Parents Association. He urged all members to attend the meeting.

News Briefs

Table seating arrangements for the CCNY Frolics sponsored by the '41 Class, will be made Thursday at 12:15 in the class alcove. . . . The Hunter College and City College Avukah Associations will hold a joint Purim Jamboree this Saturday at the Temple Bnai Israel at 602 West 149 Street. Admission tickets, at 15 cents each, are on sale at the Avukah alcove, 2, Mezzanine, Main. . . . "The Literary Workshop," the English society of the College, will meet on Thursday, 12:30, in room 220, Main. . . . The Astronomy Society meets on the same day at the same time in room 102, Main.

Prof. J. Salwyn Shapiro of the History Department will speak to the History Society Thursday at 12:30 p. m. in 126, Main. He will discuss "Contradictions in the English Foreign Policy."

Late news: Dr. Joseph Hertz '91, the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Empire marked his twenty-fifth anniversary in office last Tuesday, March 8. . . . On the evening of the same day, the Social Research Seminar held a joint tea and dance with the Hunter College Social Service Committee at the House Plan.

LAILLER TO SPEAK

"The Growth of Industrial Concentration" will be the topic of an address to be delivered by Harry Lailier, ex-director of the League for Industrial Democracy, before the Economics Society on Thursday at 12:30 p. m. in 126, Main.

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Eye, Ear Doctors To Lecture Here

Specialists in ophthalmology and otolaryngology will speak at the College and moving pictures will be shown at the Conference on Conservation of Sight and Hearing which will begin here today at noon and will end March 18. Programs for the entire conference may be obtained at the Evening Session office in 100, Main.

The conference, which is sponsored by the College Medical Staff and the Pre-Medical Society of the Evening Session, is the last number of the "Frederick B. Robinson Series of Scientific Lectures" for this semester. Administrative officers and workers of national and local organizations for the Conservation of Sight and Hearing are co-operating with the conference.

The Case Against Robinson

(Continued from page 1, col. 1)

During his incumbency, in February, 1933, a motion was introduced to urge official College recognition of *The Student*. In the course of the discussion, Dr. Robinson made the statement that as College head he had never once interfered in the student press. He was immediately rebuked and contradicted from the floor by Felix Cohen. When the motion was put to a vote, the President declared it lost. Challenged to a recount, it was seen to be carried by a large majority. After heated discussion, Dr. Robinson, terming the motion "outrageous," quit the chair and the room, as he declared, "There are no longer any gentlemen in Phi Beta Kappa. . . . A man of my character, as I conceive it, can no longer remain in this organization." And Frederick B. Robinson is said never to have attended a Phi Beta Kappa meeting again.

On December 19, 1934, after careful study and debate, Phi Beta Kappa, by a vote of 120 to 40, resolved to request of the Board of Higher Education "the removal of President Robinson as unfit to be the head of a liberal institution of learning." But that is still another story, for another day.

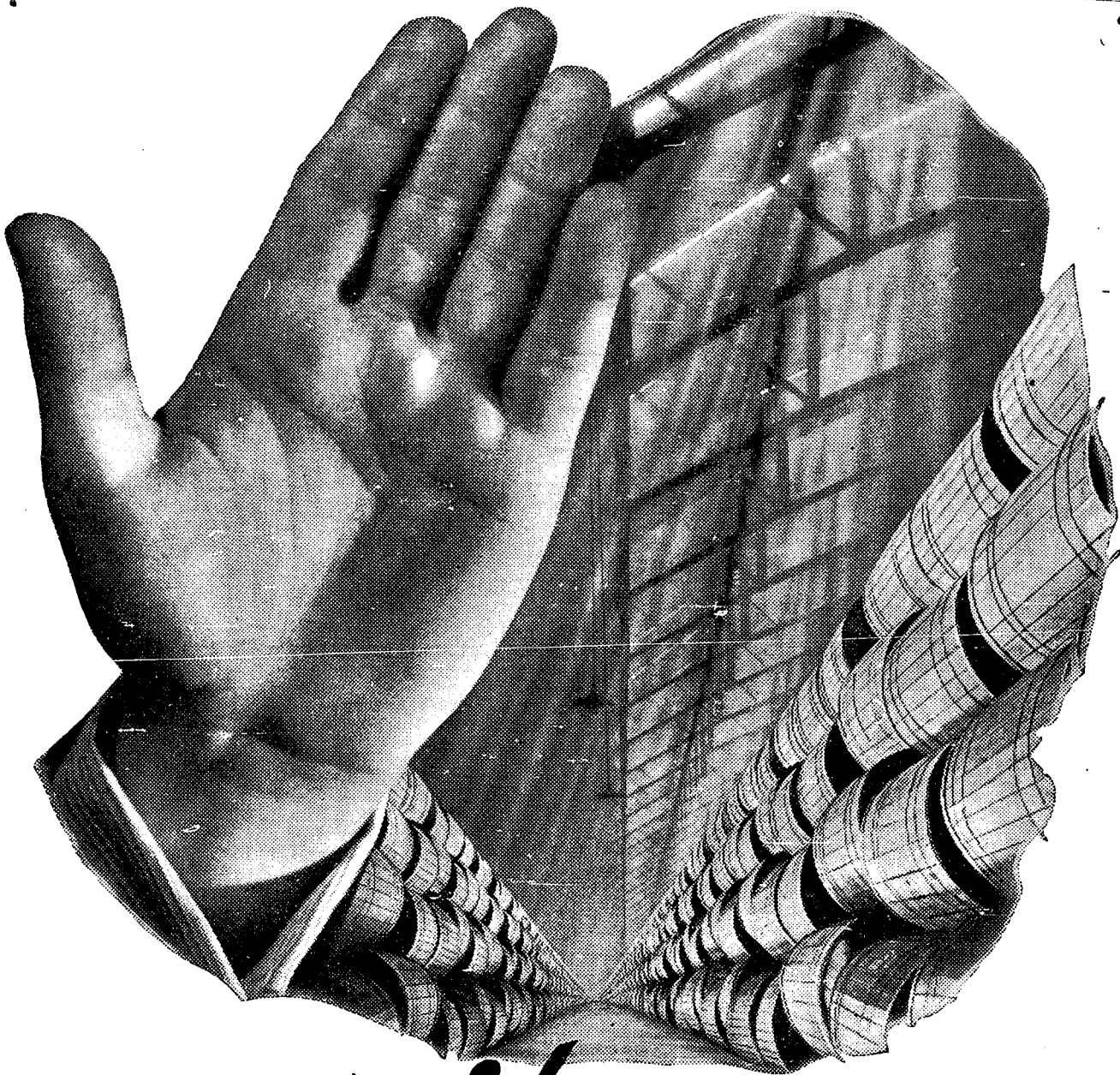
(The next article, the fourth in the series, to appear next issue, will cover the expulsion of Simon W. Gerson '29, now Confidential Inspector to Borough President Isaacs, the Social Problems Club incident, Joseph P. Lath '31, now national executive secretary of the American Student Union and the Oakley Johnson case.)

SSL Presents Film On Soviet Revolution

The Society for Student Liberties will present the Soviet film *We Are From Kronstadt* at the Pauline Edwards Theatre this Saturday. Admission is twenty-five cents. The program will also include a Robert Benchley short and a cartoon.

Produced by Mosfilm and presented in May, 1936, *We Are From Kronstadt* describes the defense of the road to Petrograd by Soviet seamen during the Russian Revolution.

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