

NATION'S STUDENTS 'STRIKE' FOR PEACE; DISORDERS ARE FEW

Thousands at Universities in
City Join Protest Against
War and Fascism.

HARVARD FACTIONS CLASH

Disturbances Are Reported in
Chicago and the West—

60,000 Quit Classes.

Anti-war feeling in colleges and schools throughout the country took thousands of students from their classes yesterday to participate in mass demonstrations which were generally free from disorder and violence.

In the New York metropolitan area about 10,000 undergraduates went on strike at 11 o'clock in the morning to attend rallies at which speakers condemned not only war but fascism, imperialism, invasion of civil rights, loyalty oaths, the Roosevelt administration, Senator Long and Father Coughlin.

The strike among students in the city's high schools was nearly a complete fiasco. Reports from school principals showed that less than 1 per cent of the pupils took any part in the strike. One principal cooled the ardor of his charges by issuing passes and opening the doors to any pupil who chose to demonstrate.

Report 60,000 Answered Call.

The National Student Strike Committee, representing the Student League for Industrial Democracy, the National Council of Methodist Youth, the Youth Section of the American League Against War and Fascism, the National Student League, the American Youth Congress and the Interseminary Movement, issued a statement last night proclaiming the strike a success with 60,000 students participating in the nation up to 4 P. M. The committee on Thursday said that 150,000 would strike. Incomplete and later reports, it was said last night by the committee, would raise the total to 125,000.

The strike in some quarters was met with counter-demonstrations by student groups, who believed the rallies to be insincere and ineffective means of preventing war. Some of the few disorders occurred on Chicago campuses where sticks, stones, eggs and stench bombs were hurled, producing black eyes and lacerated scalps.

A much more dignified peace meeting marked Princeton University's participation in the movement. There in Alexander Hall, Norman Thomas, Socialist leader and an alumnus of Princeton, told 700 students that the immediate danger to American peace was in the Far East.

Professor Albert Einstein in an article published yesterday in The Daily Princetonian approved the interest shown by American students in world peace. He declared that "the creation of the deeply felt good-will is the first important step to attain that goal."

Elsewhere banners were paraded, resolutions adopted and pledges taken not to support the country in war. A cemetery model studded with white crosses was displayed at the University of Louisville; two harmless gun shots were heard at Haverford College in Pennsylvania and a one-pound gun boomed at Syracuse University.

Harvard's Hasty Pudding Club members appeared with wooden swords and helmets; a swastika was burned at Colorado University; the dismal Spring rain was a blessing to a Bronx woman speaker whose umbrella shielded her from

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a flying egg; a Nazi swastika was hoisted to replace a Columbia University flag by student jesters at the meeting there.

Three Large Rallies Here.

The demonstration at Columbia was the largest in the city, with City College, Hunter College and New York University rallies next in point of numbers. About 3,000 Columbia students gathered in the gymnasium; about 2,000 turned out at City College, 2,000 at Hunter College and 1,200 at New York University. Fordham University reported no demonstration at all, the strike being ignored by both students and faculty.

Roger Baldwin, director of the Civil Liberties Union, led the mass meeting at Columbia. Mr. Baldwin's declaration that communism was necessary in the world was greeted with both cheers and hisses. Some of the students took the Oxford pledge not to bear arms.

Referring to Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, although not mentioning his name, Mr. Baldwin spoke of a "fake pacifist, the presiding genius of this university, who believes in all things to stop war that do not work." John Stafford Cripps, son of the leader of the Socialist League of the British Labor Party, called on the students to fight against war and fascism. Some of the students left the rally declaring they were against war, but not fascism.

Other speakers at the Columbia meeting included James A. Wechsler, editor of *The Spectator*; Maurice Becker, a "conscientious objector" during the World War; Professor Reinhold Niebuhr of the Union Theological Seminary, and Carl Voss of the seminary, who declared that ministers would not act as chaplains in the next war and would not support war from their pulpits. One resolution directed President Roosevelt to increase the relief budget, further educational activities and reduce army and navy appropriations. A bugler sounding taps in memory of Columbia men killed in the World War ended the meeting.

Students at City College jammed the Great Hall for an hour and a half to protest against war and fascism and to adopt thirteen resolutions. Following the indoor meeting about 1,000 paraded outside with banners denouncing war, demanding the reinstatement of forty-two expelled students and expressing other grievances. Other placards read: "Down With Hearst!" "Oust President Robinson!" "Abolish the R. O. T. C.!" and "Build Schools—Not Battleships!"

Students at New York University in Washington Square left their classes and met at Judson Memorial Church. An overflow meeting was held in the drizzle in the square. Only student speakers addressed the gathering, according to an agreement between several groups to bar faculty speakers.

2,000 Attend Hunter Rally.

The Hunter College girls staged what was said to be the largest anti-war strike in the history of the college. At the Bronx building, Bedford Park Boulevard and Navy Avenue, 1,000 students stood in the rain to hear denunciations of war, while at the main building, Lexington Avenue and Sixty-eighth Street, another thousand poured out to hold their meeting in the Central Opera House in East Sixty-seventh Street. There was no disorder.

The high school meetings here were scattered and unorganized. Official reports of principals to the office of the Board of Education showed that out of 223,302 students in twenty-seven of the forty-three high schools, only 829 students had left their classes, or about .003 per cent. The strike, so far as high school students were concerned, was characterized as a humiliating failure for the strike leaders.

Few Absences Reported.

The schools reporting absentees during the hour before noon were James Monroe, 150 out of 10,300; Morris, 60 out of 4,800; Walton, 7 out of 6,403; Abraham Lincoln, 100 out of 7,145; Erasmus Hall, 1 out of 7,686; Franklin Knight Lane, 50 out of 3,000; James Madison, 1 out of 7,461; New Utrecht, 150 out of 5,200; Samuel J. Tilden, 10 out of 7,156; Thomas Jefferson, 300 out of 5,300. Others among the twenty-seven reported no absentees.

Dr. Harold G. Campbell, Superintendent of Schools, had announced early in the week that principals would deal individually with the problem in their own schools and penalize offending students in accordance with their own judgment.



Times Wide World Photo.

STUDENTS AT COLUMBIA IN A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST WAR.

Miss Else Davees, head of the student council at Barnard College, addressing the mass meeting in the Columbia gymnasium yesterday. Similar rallies were held at various institutions of learning throughout the nation.

Any action taken for absences would be the usual penalty for cutting classes.

The principal peace demonstration in Newark was in Military Park, where about 300 students of Dana College and the University of Newark listened to speakers denounce war and fascism. While meetings were being held, accompanied by disturbances in some high schools, the police were called to East Side High School to restore order when a firecracker was exploded and several windows were broken as a prank. A false fire alarm also was turned in from one school.

Attempts at the Plainfield High School to stage a demonstration found little support and the students returned to their classes. Small meetings were held in other towns but generally high schools throughout the suburban district ignored the strike call.