

Columbia Split on Strike As Buildings Are Blocked

5-8-70
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By CRAIG R. WHITNEY

The Columbia University campus was filled yesterday with hundreds of students blocking doorways and chanting, "On strike! Shut it down!" but there were hundreds of others, both teachers and students, who held classes anyway.

George Collins, professor of art history, gathered 11 of his graduate students under a flowering thornbush on the plaza in front of Uris Hall to give them instructions for their final examination.

The bright sun was reflected on the students' notebooks, and pages flipped wildly in the strong breeze.

The students in that group said that they were not protesting the strike but that they just needed credit for their course in 19th-century architecture.

Many classes at the university were suspended Tuesday and Wednesday after a resolution by the University Senate to support such action to protest the Cambodian offensive.

2 L. I. Colleges Sued

In other developments, the presidents of Nassau Community College and Adelphi University were named as defendants in State Supreme Court suits demanding the reopening of their schools.

Both college heads had announced a suspension of classes on Wednesday for the remainder of the week because of campus tensions. Both cases will be argued today before Justice Theodore Delsor.

The suit against Nassau Community College was brought by a freshman, Frank Cunningham of Freeport, L. I. The suit against Adelphi was filed by Raymond O'Connor, an instructor of data processing there.

In another action, David Keene, chairman of Young Americans for Freedom, a conservative student organization, said the current wave of demonstrations was directed by "cynical leaders" who were exploiting "idealistic" students. Mr. Keene, appearing on the National Broadcasting Company's "Today" show on television said, in a reference to the Kent State University shootings that none of the Weathermen had been shot because "they know enough to get out." The Weathermen are a militant faction of the Students for a Democratic Society.

Dr. Andrew W. Cordier, president of Columbia, expected classes to resume yesterday, but the students began

barricading classroom buildings and turning away professors and students alike.

One teacher who tried to get in was Dr. Isador I. Rabi, a Nobel Prize winner who retired three years ago as a University Professor. Yesterday he walked to the front entrance of the Pupin Physics Laboratories and was blocked by a group of young men with arms linked across the door.

Dr. Rabi tried to argue with them unsuccessfully. Exasperated, tears in his eyes, he tapped his cane on the granite step and said: "What you are doing is wrong, and you are crazy. You are blocking my way. Do you want to fight with me? Would you fight with me?"

He took hold of a long-haired boy's arm and pulled him towards the sidewalk, where a group of 20 other students, who looked amused, were watching.

The youth declined to fight, and a moment later, he stepped aside to let a workman enter the building. Dr. Rabi sneaked in too, although those at the door tried to push him back out for a moment.

Outside Schermerhorn and Fayerweather halls, which were blocked, a small biology seminar met on the grass, near a bed of tulips.

Not Usual Business

Their teacher, Eric Holtzman, an assistant professor, said, "The students decided they would like to meet, but they didn't want to violate the spirit of the strike—they didn't feel it could be 'business as usual.'"

One of the students in the course looked disgruntled. Questioned, he replied: "I'm one of those anomalies around here who has reservations about this whole thing. I was in the Army."

The greatest worry of those students who were not active participants in the strike seemed to be their grades, and what would happen to their credits if there were no final examinations.

Alexander Alland Jr., an assistant professor, told his undergraduate anthropology students, meeting under a maple tree outside the physics laboratories, "It's silly for us to be here arguing about niceties like grades when there is work for peace to be done."

He said he thought he would be able to issue 'pass-fail' grades.

George Frankel, Dean of the Graduate Faculty, said that "many classes were scheduled, but most students just didn't come."