

SCHOOLS
AND
THE FIGHT
FOR
PEACE AND FREEDOM

13 annual educational conference

OF THE TEACHERS UNION • LOCAL 555 • UPW • CIO

SATURDAY • APRIL 2, 1949

HOTEL COMMODORE • LEXINGTON AVE. AT 42 ST.

FOREWORD

The teachers who planned this Conference looked for a theme around which the whole session might revolve. So many problems presented themselves; so many issues seemed important.

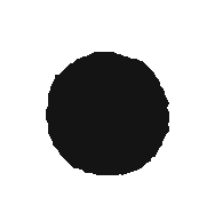
One of the planners looked at last year's program—Schools and the Fight for Peace and Freedom.

"That's it," he said, "only more of it."

More peace and more freedom. These are the goals that this Conference must seek, for these are the goals of all people.

The passage of a year has only defined them more clearly. So, once again, the Educational Conference of the Teachers Union looks at what has gone by and charts a path for the future.

Educational Conference Committee



This Conference is the product of the cooperative efforts of many Union members. The following Teachers Union Committees and their representatives were especially active in Conference preparations:

Academic Freedom Committee.....	Cyril Graze
Educational Policies Committee.....	{ Emma Schweppe Edith Helman
Parent-Teachers Committee	Morris Lipschitz
Arrangements Committee.....	{ Marjorie Greenberger Ella Ratner
Political Action Committee.....	Mark Friedlander
Educational Exhibits	Marion Kendel

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

FORUMS: 10:00 A.M.-12:00 M.

EXHIBIT: Educational Materials — The Teachers Union in Action

LUNCHEON: 1:00 P.M.—Grand Ballroom

Chairman

MR. ABRAHAM LEDERMAN

President, Teachers Union, Local 555, UPW, CIO



*The Teachers Union Award
for Outstanding Service
in the Cause of
Freedom in Education
to*

THE TEACHERS WHO FIGHT BACK

"... for their understanding of the forces that would silence them; for their knowledge of the light that must be shed in the cause of peace and freedom; for the vision they bring to their leadership."

Presentation by:

MRS. ROSE RUSSELL

Legislative Representative, Teachers Union,
Local 555, UPW, CIO

Acceptance and Address:

PROFESSOR JOHN J. DE BOER,

University of Illinois

Address by:

LOUIS GOLDING

Author—"Magnolia Street", "The Miracle Boys,"
"Five Silver Daughters" and others
(Subject to granting of visa by U. S. State Dep't.)

NEW YORK'S SCHOOLS: PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE

"The best school today is . . . a place where a youngster will rarely miss his chance; where he receives a series of significant experiences which will develop a people with the variety of competence needed to deal with modern problems of the community, state, nation and world."

Paul R. Mort-William S. Vincent
"A Look at our Schools"

Problems for Discussion

- How well are New York's children learning?
- What are the schools doing to develop the potentialities of all the children?
- What remediable factors hinder effective classroom teaching?
- What assistance does the teacher need in order to teach effectively?
- Under present conditions, what can the classroom teacher do to meet the needs of the children?

Speakers

MRS. JOAN ASCH
assistant principal, Public School 233, Brooklyn

TO BE ANNOUNCED
Junior High School

MR. MAC PETERS
first assistant, Mathematics, Long Island City High School

MRS. LILLIE BELLIN POPE
teacher, East New York Vocational High School

Chairman

MR. HAROLD G. KING
Educational Policies Committee, Teachers Union
Teacher, Straubenmuller Textile High School

WORLD CRISIS—THE CHALLENGE TO TEACHERS

"What constitutes the bulwark of our own liberty and independence? It is not our frowning battlements, our bristling sea-coasts, our army and our navy . . . Our defense is in the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men. Destroy the spirit and you have planted the seeds of despotism at your own doors."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
Edwardsville, Ill., 1858

Problems for Discussion

- By what means can world cooperation and domestic freedom and security be achieved?
- What is the impact of our present foreign and domestic policies upon education?
- How shall controversial issues and materials be handled in the classroom?

Speakers

MR. ARTHUR GAETH
News Commentator, Mutual Broadcasting Company

MR. TERRY ROSENBAUM
Social Studies Teacher, Eastern District High School

Chairman

DR. VERA SHLAKMAN
Department of Economics, Queens College

THE CHILDREN'S SCHOOLS: A PARENT-TEACHER RESPONSIBILITY

"What we need is more not less cooperation between parents and teachers to work for new and better schools, decent lunch-rooms and smaller classes. We should not permit attacks on the very teachers who work with us to get these things."

"Newsletter"—Harlem Council on Education

Problems for Discussion

Why is parent-teacher cooperation more imperative than ever in order

- to eliminate retardation, antiquated schools, and other shortcomings in the school system;
- to cope successfully with the conditions in underprivileged areas like Harlem, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Red Hook, East Side and Southeast Bronx;
- to fight the effects of thought control on the children.

Speakers

MRS. ADA B. JACKSON

Community Leader

MR. ARTHUR NEWMAN

Teacher, Samuel Gompers High School,
Co-chairman, Better Schools Committee
for the Southeast Bronx

Chairman

DR. RANDOLPH SMITH

Director, Little Red School House

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

"Freedom to teach is an important aspect of freedom of speech. To forbid a man to teach unless he complies with some burdensome condition is to restrict his freedom to speak in the way which is most precious to him."

Professor Zechariah Chafee, Jr.

(From a brief opposing the Barnes Bill, which would have imposed political tests on the teachers of Massachusetts)

Problems for Discussion

- What is academic freedom? What dangers are inherent in efforts to restrict the civil and political rights of teachers?
- What is the stake of every teacher in the academic freedom of all teachers?
- What forces in the country are behind the current onslaught on academic freedom? Why have teachers as a group been singled out for attack?
- How can teachers best meet the threat to their personal freedom and their professional integrity? How can parents and other groups in the community support the teachers' fight?

Speakers

MR. ABRAHAM L. POMERANTZ

Lawyer, Deputy Chief Counsel for the
Nuremberg Industrial Trial

MR. CYRIL GRAZE

Chairman, Academic Freedom Committee, Teachers Union

Guests

PROFESSORS BUTTERWORTH, GUNDLACH and PHILLIPS,

formerly of the University of Washington

Chairman

MISS LUCILLE SPENCE

Academic Freedom Committee, Teachers Union
Teacher, Franklin K. Lane High School

13 ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

For the thirteenth successive year the Teachers Union brings together at its Annual Educational Conference thousands of classroom teachers and leaders of parents', labor and civic organizations. They will meet to exchange ideas and experiences so that they may evolve policies and programs for the schools in a world in which the primary issue is the Fight for Peace and Freedom.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Robert M. Phillips, Chairman

The Teachers Union carries on a year-round program of discussion and action on matters of professional concern as well as on the broader issues that affect teachers and the schools. The program is carried on through forums, meetings, conferences, petitions, public campaigns, and publications. The Union is proud of its 33-year old tradition of activity on behalf of the children, the teachers and the schools. We invite you to join the Teachers Union — to become an active participant in the fight for free, democratic schools.

Teachers Union Publications

Teacher News—A Weekly Newspaper

Your Salary—An Analysis of the Feinberg Law

Pension Primer

What Kind of School for Your Child

Meet the Teachers Union

Copies available on request at Teachers Union office

Membership in the Teachers Union is open to all educational employees in the City of New York from nursery school through college, public and private. The present membership numbers almost 6,000. Applications may be obtained at the Conference or at the Union office.

ABRAHAM LEDERMAN,
President

TEACHERS UNION, CIO

Local 555, United Public Workers of America

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