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DAGGETT WON'T ANSWER, WYMAN PRESSES CONTEMPT PROCEEDINGS

Renewed Faith

Mr. Daggett is the kind of teacher we want and need. He has understanding and intelligent sympathy toward the problems of students. He holds ideals that he refuses to compromise, in an age when compromise replaces moral and intellectual responsibility. Above all, he possesses the capability to teach, and teach well.

In taking his stand in this investigation, Mr. Daggett reaffirms faith in the democratic principle of academic freedom. Academic freedom and its corollaries, civil and intellectual liberty, exist indispensibly in our democracy. Professor Daggett believed that the questions asked him concerning Paul Sweezy's lecture violated this principle; therefore he refused to answer them. This, we believe, was Mr. Daggett's sole reason for not answering. We doubt that it was to conceal any information contained in this lecture on socialism. For, obviously, Mr. Wyman could get all this material from the lecture notes of a hundred students.

Although investigation in New Hampshire is dedicated to the hunt of subversion, it has, we feel, in Mr. Daggett's case strayed from this aim. The investigators have questioned him, not only about his own political views, but on topics that infringe on academic freedom.

Mr. Daggett has proved that he is a morally responsible individual. He has answered questions pertaining to himself, has refused to inform on other persons, and has continually defended his belief in academic freedom.

When Seymour Sargent, a senior English literature major, was questioned by investigator Connors in secret session, Feb. 12, Connors said to him, "If you'd told us Daggett was a Communist Party member, we wouldn't have believed another word you said," inferring that he already possessed sufficient evidence that Mr. Daggett was not a Communist. And yet this professor was still questioned and asked to violate his ethical code by informing.

Mr. Daggett has set the example. Now it is our duty to express our renewed faith in intellectual liberty by supporting him.

Jim Merritt
Priscilla Hudson
Jack Paul

Daggett's Views, Background

By Priscilla Hudson

Editor's Note: The following is a partial reprint from the March 22, 1951 issue of *The New Hampshire*. It was one of a series of articles on University professors.

Well-known and respected on campus for his spirited teaching and leadership, Dr. G. Harris Daggett has a genuine love of working for young people. As associate professor of English, he teaches several sections of advanced English courses as well as one freshman English and one humanities course; as faculty advisor to the senior class and freshman advisor, he has aided many students in their problems.

Teaching Theories

Professor Daggett's ideas on the teaching profession are well brought out in his following statement: "I like teaching because I like young people. The teacher is paid to learn, and I love to learn. But I don't like to regard the teacher as separate from the community, as so many people do. He has the same privileges and responsibilities as other people do. He must, in fact, set an example of citizenship to

others. If he is to do this, he must be given complete political and intellectual freedom."

Previous Positions

Before he came to Durham to teach in the English department in 1942, Dr. Daggett attended Cornell University and taught at schools in New York and at a branch of the City College of New York. He went to the University of North Carolina in 1936 to teach and compile research for a doctoral thesis on Walt Whitman, receiving his Ph.D. degree in 1941. He also taught English at the University of Florida for one year.

Popular Lecturer

The Daggetts now live in Durham, on Madbury Road. Their two daughters are both at UNH. Besides advising student organizations, Dr. Daggett is on several University committees, and for the past two years he has been chairman of the Friends of the Library in Durham. He is a popular lecturer and gives many talks on campus on literary and philosophical subjects, and has had a number of articles on English printed in literary journals.

Impressions On Sweezy's Talk

By Jack Paul

Presented below are the reactions of four UNH students who attended Mr. Paul Sweezy's lecture on "Socialism", given as a part of the Humanities II course, last March 22.

Caroline Zaltman

"I didn't feel that Dr. Sweezy's lecture on Socialism infringed in any way upon what I have learned and believed in our system of government. He wasn't trying to indoctrinate us to his way of thinking. He was merely pointing out what he as a socialist and as socialists in general believe. He labeled his opinions very clearly, and encouraged questions and criticism. It afforded us an opportunity to look at Socialism, and compare and criticize it. I feel it was a valuable lecture."

Nancy Harper

"I don't feel that Mr. Sweezy tried to sway us in any way. I feel that he had his opinions and stated them; but I don't believe he tried to convince us that they were correct. Afterwards, he gave us time to ask questions that we wanted. He was the only lecturer that did that this year."

Gerald Shapiro

"I disagreed vehemently with Mr. Sweezy. But he presented his material in a fair and objective manner. After his lecture he allowed ample time for questions. I think it would be quite discouraging if he weren't permitted to speak again next year."

Chuck Phillips

"As far as I am concerned, there was absolutely nothing 'off base' in the lecture given by Mr. Sweezy on March 22, 1954. He presented his beliefs on the inevitability of socialism and explained why he feels this particular way. I do not agree with his hypothesis that the whole world is going socialistic and nothing short of destruction will stop it, but part of the educational process is to hear all sides of a topic, from which each individual forms his own opinions. Although Mr. Sweezy had definite convictions that socialism is coming, I do not feel that he tried to make people believe in his beliefs in his lecture."

Eddy Says Pre-Judging Of Cases Endangers Beliefs

"The sanctity of the court is still higher than the judgement of the market place", Edward D. Eddy, Jr., said recently.

"The increasing tendency to slant news and pre-judge a case", said Mr. Eddy, "is endangering our American belief in the ultimate justice of the courts. The average man is called upon to make his mind through a glance at a news column, an editorial, or a swing of a TV camera.

"We must not allow our firm faith in the innocence of an individual until he is judged guilty by a court to be destroyed. Let us always remember the American tradition that a man is innocent until he is proven guilty. Condemnation before judicial conclusion is distinctly un-American."

Students Sign Petitions Requesting Exoneration

Student reaction ran high to the announcement that Prof. G. Harris Daggett of the English department has been accused by Atty. Gen. Louis C. Wyman of refusing to cooperate with the state investigation of subversive activities. Petitions have been passed around affirming their faith. Contempt action has been taken against Dr. Daggett for refusing to answer questions relevant to a lecture given by Paul M. Sweezy in Humanities 2. Prof. Daggett has already affirmed, under oath, that he is not a member of the Communist party.



Prof. G. H. Daggett

Supreme Court

Atty. Gen. Wyman has asked the Merrimack county supreme court to ask the questions which Prof. Daggett refused to answer in the private sessions with him. The privilege against self-incrimination was not invoked by Prof. Daggett when he refused to answer the questions.

Eddy's Statement

Assistant to the president, Edward D. Eddy, Jr., stated, "The University will, of course, take no action at this time. The decision rests with the Supreme Court. Pending the decision of the court, Prof. Daggett's status does not change in any way. The judgement of the court will determine whether or not any action by the University is advisable or necessary. At such time as action may be desirable or necessary, the matter will probably be referred to University committees for recommendation to the President and the Trustees. The Board of Trustees is the final authority on all matters pertaining to University personnel."

Gregg's Statement

Gov. Hugh Gregg stated that he would ask for Prof. Daggett's resignation if the court orders him to testify and if he refuses to do so, claiming the privilege against self-incrimination. "It's up to the court to determine whether or not he must answer," continued the governor.

Humanities Lecture

The course in question is Humanities 2 at which Paul M. Sweezy spoke as guest lecturer at the invitation of the department. The court petition said that Prof. Daggett refused to answer if Sweezy had lectured on "socialism, Marxism or something else."

Pending Hearing Principals Include University Alumni

Of the principal involved in the pending hearings of Prof. G. Harris Daggett, there are at least three who are alumni of the University.

State attorney-general Louis C. Wyman is a graduate of the University in the class of 1939. Judge Robert F. Griffith who will be in charge of the hearings is a graduate in the class of 1933, and Court Clerk, Henry F. Callahan is a graduate in the class of 1923.

President Chandler's Academic Freedom

President Robert F. Chandler, Jr. recently made a statement on academic freedom from which the following points are highlights.

"Academic freedom is simply the freedom to teach, to study, to learn—whatever the subject matter—as long as it is taught factually and in good taste. No good teacher tries to indoctrinate, but rather place the evidence and the facts before the student in order that he may examine them and test them as he chooses.

"Too many people have confused academic freedom with subversive activity. There is no necessary connection between the two.

"Actually, a large percentage of our population does not understand what Communism it. They fear it, condemn it, and attack it, but they do not know its inner tenets and philosophy. The colleges and universities are the centers of thought and a place where all political questions can be analyzed, studied, and discussed without particular feeling."

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JUNE 9 — THE FOUR ACES

Teacher's Oath By Prof. Daggett Tells What He Considers Duties

Asked by the University administration to be guest speaker at the annual Honors Dinner recently, Dr. G. Harris Daggett spoke on "The College Teacher: His Duty and Privilege." President Robert F. Chandler, Jr., in his introduction to Dr. Daggett's talk, spoke of the professor as the kind of teacher the University is proud to have on its staff.

As a conclusion to his speech, which surveyed the role of the college teacher, Dr. Daggett gave a teacher's oath, which he wrote several years ago. In this he states, "As a college teacher I pledge myself to those principles which will best serve my university, my profession, my students, and my fellow man. Believing that it is possible to do this with harmony and integrity only in a reasonably free and enlightened society, I pledge my humble powers to help create such a society."

As An Employee

"As an employee I will do my best to fulfill my contract with the University, to perform all academic duties that fall to me, and to give of my talents and experience to the university community as a whole.

"As a professional man I will try to speak with authority on my subject, I promise never to rest in what I know or what is known; to study and grow in knowledge and understanding.

"As a teacher I will try to keep the air of the classroom free of meanness, fear, and cynicism: — to permit any subject to be raised, and to be investigated or discussed in a spirit of fairness, good taste, and honest inquiry; to present ideas, facts and opinions in such a way as to enlighten rather than inflame, to open the mind rather than to close it; to encourage the student to be an individual rather than a conformist. To act on the faith that every student contains the possibilities for growth into a fulfilled individual and into a citizen useful to society.

As A Citizen

"As a citizen I promise to remember that I have obligations to the community, the state, the nation, and the world as well as to my employer. I recognize that my contribution as a citizen increase the vigor, conviction, and resourcefulness of my teaching. I promise to defend the principle that the teacher, like any other citizen, is or should be many things besides a bread-earner; that he is owned by no person, by no institution; that he is not the property of his profession, his students, or his university, though he serves them all. I take for granted that, as long as he lives according to basic codes of decency, and as long as he devotes sufficient time, energy, and interest to his profession, the teacher is free to participate in any political or social activity that suits him.

A Free Man

"I therefore promise never to avoid civic responsibilities because my views or activities are frowned upon by the powerful or the ignorant. I believe that if education is to help fashion men, teachers must be men, and not sycophants who are afraid to identify themselves with the causes they believe in. I believe that part of teaching is setting an example — not

Phi Mu Delta Champs

Phi Mu Delta won the intermural baseball championship Friday, May 21, in a game with Kappa Sigma by a score of 11-10.

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WHY THIS ISSUE?

This special issue of The New Hampshire is being published as a result of the action taken by Atty. Gen. Wyman against Prof. Daggett. Students wishing to support Prof. Daggett are urged to write to President Chandler.

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merely the negative example of obeying the law and always being caught clothed and sober, but also the positive example of having convictions and living by them, in practising the individualism and democracy we praise so loudly.

"I make this pledge in the name of the one great goal upon which we are all agreed: the building of a noble society of free men."

In a further explanation of his teaching philosophy, Dr. Daggett states that "teaching is not telling students what to think, but showing students how to think, giving them something to think about, and setting an example; doing a little thinking ourselves."

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