CONCERNING DR. REIS' ANNOUNCEMENT

April 9, 1949

The following announcement appeared on page 1 of The Bardian for the academic year 1949-50:

"Since the students of the College have expressed to me so many times my future plans, I wish to announce that I have accepted a leave of absence from Bard College for the year 1949-50." (signed) Lincoln Reis.

Let us first of all accept for what it is, the fact that Dr. Reis has resigned his position at Bard College for the year 1949-50. Let us next ask, 'Why?' and 'What?' and 'What effect will Dr. Reis' resignation have on the College?'

We are entitled to ask, 'Why?' because both Dr. Reis and the Administration are legally and morally bound to give us an answer to the nature of a contract. For example, suppose Dr. Reis said to the President, 'I have two choices, to stay or go. If you want me to stay, then I must be assured that I will receive the salary and other benefits that I expect.' If the President said, 'I have no guarantee that I will receive the salary and other benefits that I expect.' Then Dr. Reis and the Administration have no contract to resign. We are entitled to ask, 'Why?' because both Dr. Reis and the Administration are legally and morally bound to give us an answer to the nature of the question. For example, suppose Dr. Reis said to the President, 'I have two choices, to stay or go. If you want me to stay, then I must be assured that I will receive the salary and other benefits that I expect.' If the President said, 'I have no guarantee that I will receive the salary and other benefits that I expect.' Then Dr. Reis and the Administration have no contract to resign.

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