



## THE OLD AND NEW SCHOOLBOY SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Students of Bryant High School in Queens demonstrating the change of posture as the Pledge of Allegiance is given. The lad at the left is showing the old salute, while in the center is shown the proper way of standing, with the right hand over the heart, as most of the pledge is recited. At the right is the new salute with the palm of the right hand up as the words "to the flag" are spoken.

## SCHOOLS HERE TRY NAZI-TYPE SALUTE

W Raised Over New Pledge  
Flag With Extended Arm  
—Principals Assail Idea

CHANGE NOT YET GENERAL

Many Teachers Still Using Old Plan—Graves Emphasizes He Did Not Order It

A new type of flag salute, recommended by the State Department of Education and submitted to the principals through a circular issued by Harold G. Campbell, Superintendent of Schools, has brought confusion and uncertainty as to the proper method of pledging allegiance to the American flag, it was noted yesterday.

The reason for this change remained clouded, the only explanation being that the order originated in Frank Graves, State Commissioner of Education, without any comment. The bulletin issued by Graves, in the section devoted to methods of flag salutes, said that it is recommended that schools use the revised pledge to the flag. "The revised pledge calls for a military salute by the placing of the right hand over the heart and then extending the hand straight forward, with palm upward. In the traditional military salute the hand is raised to the head, at the proper time raised straight and then dropped briskly to the side.

In giving the pledge to the flag," the new regulations read, "the usual procedure is to stand with the right hand over the heart. At the words 'to the flag' the right hand is extended, palm upward, toward the flag, and this position is held to the end, when the hand, after the words 'justice for all,' drops to the side."

**Not an Order, Says Graves**

Dr. Graves explained that the new regulations were taken from the National Flag Association's recommendations for a new type of salute.

"We simply followed the national regulations," he said. "We have not done anything on our own account."

Dr. Graves said that he held no brief for the changed salute and that the schools of New York City could do as they pleased about it.

"There is nothing sensational to warrant all this controversy," he said. "Some people have construed the National Flag Association as following the newer Fascist salute in Europe. Nobody had that in mind."

"If the principals want the old form of salute, by all means let them prescribe it. It does not make a bit of difference as long as the flag is saluted."

Henry C. Turner, president of the Board of Education, expressed surprise that any of the schools had been using the non-traditional salute.

"We still have the traditional salute in the New York City schools," he said. "No order has ever gone out of Fifty-ninth Street to the contrary."

How many schools in New York City have adopted the suggestions of the Education Department could not be learned yesterday. A difference of opinion existed among members of the Board of Education, while school officials estimated the number to be anywhere from a majority to none at all. In fact, several confessed that they had not heard that any flag change had been recommended.

The Bryant High School in Queens has used the new salute since the opening of the present Spring term, James P. Warren, principal of the school, declared. He expressed surprise that its use should occasion any interest, as he thought all the other schools were carrying out the suggestions in this connection.

No opposition has arisen because of its introduction, he said, holding that he felt it to be a "more modern, up-to-date salute."

**"No Cause of Alarm"**

"I like any salute to the American flag," Mr. Warren added. "I can see no cause of alarm—this salute does not try to copy Hitler's in any way. But if we find that there is any reason for its discontinuance, we will go back to the traditional form. Our boys and girls are the normal, wholesome kind of American citizens and they are accepting this salute in the right spirit."

Frank D. Whalen, principal of Public School 2, in the Bronx, and president of the Principals Association of New York City, disclosed, however, that soon after the new regulations were received last Fall a wave of protests followed, with teachers and principals objecting to the change. He appointed a committee to investigate the situation.

Almost unanimously, he declared, teachers, principals and school superintendents voiced their opposition to the new salute. Some of the principals reported that they had tried it in their schools, only to find the resultant confusion and uncertainty so great that they returned to the traditional method.

The greatest objection, according to Mr. Whalen, rested in the close similarity of this salute to the Nazi one. Many of the students, he said, especially those of Italian or German parentage, associated the new salute with the Hitler and Mussolini brand. The difference between an upturned palm and a downward one could not be readily distinguished by the children, he pointed out.

The committee, of which Dr. Abraham J. Korey, principal of P. S. 9, Brooklyn, was chairman, has urged the Board of Superintendents to restore the traditional procedure. Thus far no reply has been received from the superintendents, Mr. Whalen said, but he added that inasmuch as his committee had been appointed at the suggestion of Dr. Campbell, he expected close cooperation between the two groups in bringing about the final solution.

Mr. Whalen termed the new salute "un-American," and indicated that this "new-fangled" idea would prove more of a nuisance than an advantage.