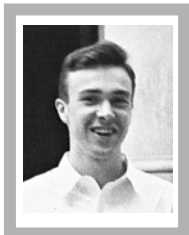


A GENERATION THAT BELIEVED IN AMERICA AND A VISION OF THE FUTURE

American Students Organize tells the story of how student leaders after World War II sought to realize their vision of a just society and a world at peace. They formed an organization that was founded on their pre-war and war-time experiences, their belief in American ideals of liberty and justice, and their enthusiasm for “big ideas” and “practical programs” to achieve their goals.



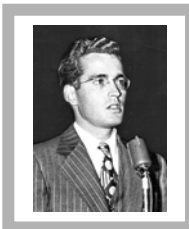
The Fruits of Democracy: a fair chance to be heard

“There is a system in the world by which each man is given a fair chance to be heard, where each man can work for his own ideas without being scoffed at.”

William B. Welsh, *Berea College, Kentucky*

NSA President, 1947-48

Letter to Jeanne Justice, September, 1947 (p.173)



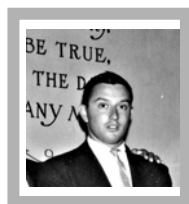
Student Rights: you have it in your power

“You have it in your power to establish a pattern of effective student opposition to coercive tactics by those who refuse to recognize student rights.”

Jim Smith, *University of Texas*

President, National Continuations Committee, 1946-47

Message to Michigan Delegates, February, 1947 (p.120)



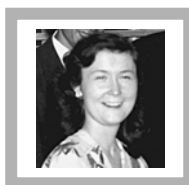
Civil Society: to improve society, we must protect it

“A generation born into uncertain and confusing times . . . We will not have time to improve this society unless we protect it.”

Allard K. Lowenstein, *University of North Carolina*

NSA President, 1950-51

President's Message and Report, September, 1950 (p. 286)



Student Engagement: the betterment of the student world

“Students all over the United States are stirring . . . collegians of our country can make a contribution to the betterment of the student world.”

Helen Jean Rogers, *Mundelein College, Illinois*

NSA Secretary Treasurer, 1948-49

Mundelein College Review, November, 1947 (p.601)



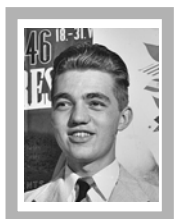
Equal Opportunity: a great vision of the future

“I saw a great vision of the future, when all citizens, male and female, black and white, shall sit down together and deliberate the laws of the land.”

Charles Proctor, *Fisk University, Tennessee*

President, Conference of Southern Students, 1946

The Fisk Herald, April, 1945, quoting the North Carolina Tar Heel (p.969)



The Cold War: keep your faith

“Today as we move toward the terrible scourge of war, I ask you to keep your faith. . . . The only limitation to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today.”

Robert L. West, *Yale University*

NSA Vice President, International Affairs, 1948-49

Address in behalf of NSA to 1950 World Student Congress, Prague (p.558)