

AAUP Group Here To Conduct Probe In McClellan Case

A three-man investigating team, appointed by the national office of the American Association of University Professors in Washington, D.C., has arrived in Marquette to begin a formal investigation of the controversy over the dismissal of a Northern Michigan University instructor.

The ad hoc committee scheduled meetings today and Wednesday with members of the NMU faculty, administration and board of control to discuss academic freedom and tenure, according to Jordan E. Kurland, Washington, associate secretary of the AAUP.

It also is scheduled to meet with John P. McCoff, chairman of the board of control, in Lansing Wednesday evening, he said.

Academic Freedom Issue

The controversy, which was primarily concerned with academic freedom, arose after Dr. Robert F. McClellan, assistant professor of history at NMU, was notified last July by Dr. Edgar L. Harden, then president of the university, that his

contract would not be renewed after the current academic year.

Disclosure of McClellan's dismissal touched off a series of protest actions by NMU faculty members and students in October and November.

The AAUP began its inquiry into the situation last October at the request of McClellan and the NMU chapter of the AAUP.

Committee Members

Chairman of the investigating committee is Prof. Ralph Loomis, University of Michigan Department of English. Other members are Prof. Ralph C. Brown, geography department, Wisconsin State University at Superior, and Prof. Robert S. Huston, history department, Ball State University, Muncie, Ind.

The committee was appointed by the AAUP general secretary in Washington, according to Kurland, "to look into the problems of academic freedom and tenure at Northern . . . with specific reference to the McClellan case."

The committee, he said, "will