

\$6,500 In Pledges

AAUP Well On Way Toward Raising Dr. McClellan's Salary

by Lowell Easley
NEWS Managing Editor

The Northern Michigan University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors has raised as of this week \$6,500 in pledges in an attempt to raise enough money to provide Dr. R. McClellan, if necessary, his salary for next year.

The AAUP has set as its goal \$8,000 to \$10,000.

"Dr. McClellan has said that he will stay in Marquette and keep himself available for reinstatement if a minimum of \$8,000 is pledged," said Assistant Professor of Commerce and Industry Michael Shapiro, president of Northern's chapter of the AAUP.

Shapiro said that if Dr. McClellan accepts another job "and is therefore not available for reinstatement, his case becomes moot and in effect collapses."

Lawyers for Dr. McClellan will be attempting to get a temporary court injunction next Tuesday requiring the University to pay Dr. McClellan his salary during litigation. If this action is successful or if "the suit is resolved in favor of the complainants before the money is needed," Shapiro said, "the pledges need not be paid; if later, contributions will be refunded."

"We hope the court case will be successful so it will not be necessary to provide Dr. McClellan funds next September," Shapiro said. He said

that a date has not yet been set for the case to appear in court but expected it to be sometime late this summer or early next fall.

Ninety per cent of the pledges given thus far have come from Northern faculty members said Shapiro. Most of the other pledges have come from sources in the community and other campuses, he said.

A few students have pledged money, Shapiro added, but as of yet there has not been any attempt to get student support.

"A legal determination of the issue is desirable from every point of view--from the point of view of those who have devoted so much of their time, energy, and intellectual and moral resources to the case; from the standpoint of those faculty members who are still in the process of deciding whether Northern has a future that they will wish to share; (and) from the standpoint of those who are committed to staying and recognize that a court settlement--barring a change of position of the Board of Control--will be more helpful than any other settlement in removing the bitterness and distrust that now divides the University community," said a statement by the local chapter of the AAUP.

The AAUP statement went on to say that a legal determination of the issue is desirable "from the standpoint of the Board of Control, which

will then have its authority and responsibility more clearly defined and from the standpoint of all those who are concerned with strengthening the concept of academic freedom and the professional integrity of college and university teachers."

Litigation of the suit has been delayed due to the fact that Judge George Kent, who was to originally preside over the case, disqualified himself because he felt he would be unable to give an impartial verdict. Judge Thomas Thorton has been appointed in his place and the litigation will take place in Detroit, according to Shapiro.

Dr. McClellan's suit was formally filed on March 22. The Student Government Association and 136 members of NMU's faculty are co-plaintives in the suit against President emeritus Dr. Edgar L. Harden, interim President Ogden E. Johnson, and the members of the Board of Control as individuals.

The suit asks for a preliminary court order directing the University to reinstate Dr. McClellan without loss of financial benefits, pending a hearing of the case on its merits, "which it is hoped by the complainants will result in a permanent court order," Shapiro said.

A symposium was held last Wednesday night at 8 p.m. in Kaye Auditorium on "What Ever Happened to Dr. McClellan?" Dr. McClellan presented his reflections on the situation.