

# EISNER RAPS COUNCIL IN COLLEGE SITE ROW

A threat by the Community Council of New York to tie up Brooklyn's proposed \$1,600,000 college site in a taxpayer's suit was pictured yesterday as a blank cartridge attack by Mark Eisner, chairman of the Board of Higher Education.

Eisner called "unsound and unfounded" the Council's complaint to Public Works Administrator Ickes that purchase of private land would cost the city more than use of its own land in Brooklyn for the college center.

Mayor LaGuardia, in Washington with the Federal Allotment Board of which he is a member, was reported ready, meanwhile, with an important announcement on the college today.

"The site question," said Eisner, "has been thoroughly canvassed from all angles.

"The reservoir on Eastern Parkway, proposed by the Council, this Board will never approve. It is too small for expansion—there are only eight acres. And the ground is also very valuable.

"New York City is getting a



Administrator  
Ickes

very low price on the 42-acre Wood-Harmon tract in Flatbush. The location is good. By not using the reservoir site, that land is left available for something else more suitable.

"In that way, it cannot be said that purchase of the college site is extravagant, or that it is costing a great deal.

"The city will, on the contrary, save \$60,000 to \$100,000 a year cash—counting all the cost of the college center—by building in Flatbush. The saving is on rent. The city pays \$294,000 a year rent.

"As for any taxpayers' suit, a plaintiff must have a cause of action—illegality, waste of funds or corruption. A suit on the college site might be turned down from the bench."

The option for the tract recently was extended to Sept. 1. Controller Frank J. Taylor yesterday was reported exploring means of borrowing money for the 55 per cent. of the center to be financed by New York and for the site.

PWA's grant of \$2,475,000 for 45 per cent. costs is limited strictly to the buildings.