Experts claim food shortages

By Greg Saltzman

“The present worldwide food shortage is not a temporary problem. It’s something much more serious than that,” said Dr. Lester Brown of the Overseas Development Council. In the US, he noted, this problem is manifested by rising food prices in West Africa, by famines.

Brown, Associate Professor of Management, Glen Urban, and Professor Nevitt Scrimshaw, head of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science, addressed the problem of “Policy Responses to World Food Crises” at Dartmouth College last spring’s first hard cover symposium.

Although the world food supply generally has been increasing, demand is increasing also.

Environmental Engineer may save $1 million/yr

By Bert Haliead

MIT administrators believe choosing the first person to fill the newly created Environmental Engineer position. Thomas E. Shepherd, MIT superintendent of utilities, defined to set a target date for the appointment to be announced, but stated that “we’re coming down to the wire.”

The search for an environmental engineer to work at the Institute started in earnest last August. Applications were slow coming in, despite an intensive publicity campaign. As late as last month, inquiries were still being received in response to an advertisement in The New York Times, The Christian Science Monitor, and The Boston Globe, among others, and letters to many universities and professional societies, including the Society of Environmental Engineers (part of MIT’s Affirmative Action Plan). Altogether, there are now 30 applicants for the job, a number with which Mr. Michael Parr, the personnel officer is change of the matter, feels he can work. Although the applicants come from diverse backgrounds, none of them are women.

By Howard D. Sitzer

Administrators at MIT are continually considering the adoption of a year-round academic calendar patterned after operation at Dartmouth College. Discussions commenced in 1972 on offering courses and innovative educational activities during the summer months. There are numerous benefits to such a program which are comparable to those of the academic and social costs. A major calendar change might facilitate major course revisions in such areas as curricular reform and degree requirements. As an increasing number of students are graduating in less than four full academic years, the program might enhance the development of a three-year bachelor’s degree.

The full-year calendar might also enable students to receive more than the usual number of credits and summer experiences than the ones they now have. “Some faculty feel that the time spent away from the Institute by many undergraduates is not as rewarding in the total educational sense as it could be if they continued at MIT,” according to a report by Kenneth R. Wadhle.

Financially, students could potentially increase their life income by entering graduate schools and the job market one year earlier. The Year-round operation would simulate the

real-life employment situation, and increase the maturation rate in undergraduates.

There would be efforts to coordinate the twelve-month session with undergraduate coop- erative programs and the exten- sion of UROP opportunities on and off campus. Exchanges with other universities would be encouraged, as well as the development of admissions process for freshmen.

Officials examine ‘Dartmouth plan’

“Continuous News Service”

The Tech - (Please turn to page 3)

Draper to move activities to new Tech Square HQ

by MIT eight months ago, has announced plans to relocate its research facilities into a new headquarters building in Technology Square.

Construction will start this spring on a complex of low-rise buildings and landscaped plazas which will serve as the head- quarters for the Laboratory. Occupancy of the Tech Square complex is expected late in 1975.

the announcement was made jointly Tuesday by MIT Vice President for Research Albert G. Hill, who is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of Draper Laboratory, and President Gerald W. Blakey of Cabot, and Forbes, the original developers of the Tech Square project. Cabot, Cabot and Forbes will be constructing the new Draper complex.

The new headquarters will, according to Hill, help the Laboratories overcome serious operational problems caused by their current location in twelve different buildings scattered throughout Cambridge. Another factor behind the move, MIT officials noted, was that many of these buildings, some of which are owned by MIT, are “pretty grim” — overcrowded and structurally unsound.

MIT officials indicated that the relocation of Draper had been considered for some time, but that the particular solution chosen — the move to Tech Square — had only been discus- sed in the last few months. They stressed that the move was the result of a decision by the Board of Directors and did not involve substantial expansion of the Laboratory facilities.

“Smart money” stays

Reaction from Cambridge officials has generally been favorable. City Manager John H. Concoran, addressing a press conference shortly after the announcement Tuesday, noted that “It has

Dr. Lester Brown of the Overseas Development Council.

This car is not sexless.
RCA has created a new chemical compound called the U.S. It is being developed for use in information processing systems. Bubble memories made with bismuth thulium garnet can be read out with two types of light, and this optical readout system will increase data retrieval and increased efficiency in information storage over previous systems. The bubble memory is an integrated circuit-like device of magnetic domains, the smallest magnetic cylinders or "bubbles." It should replace the magnetic disk and drum presently used. Until now, high-powered light sources such as gas lasers were required for optical readout, but non-optical approaches were utilized. These techniques are not only slow but also reduce the inherent data storage capacity by up to 25%. But the new compound permits the employment of light sources as low-powered as light-emitting diodes. This is possible because the reaction occurs ten times more readily than with present magnetic tapes.

A bubble device consists of a thin film of magnetic garnet typically grown on a non-magnetic garnet substrate. When surrounded by properly magnetic fields, the garnet film sustains stable, extremely small areas of reversed magnetization, these domains appear as bubbles. When a small unidirectional light, they actually are cylinders that can be moved electronically at a rate of 100 times the speed of present magnetic devices. Bismuth thulium based garnet was found to have a large Faraday rotation and a requirement that ties up much of the memory area with sensing. RCA engineers have utilized Faraday rotation (an effect which converts linear to a variable pattern under polarization light to detect the presence of a bubble. Bismuth thulium based garnet was found to have a fast readout and very good characteristics permitted the growth of thin films, in which the bubbles can be detected by low-power, IC compatible diodes. Higher detector density will also permit faster readout.

HEWLETT-PACKARD has announced the production of the HP-65 billed as the first pocket-sized calculator to provide full programming capability for electrical engineers, laboratory technicians, and university and industrial researchers. The HP-65, which can perform essentially all of the functions of the HP-45, makes it easy for users to write and edit their own programs and to use prerecorded programs developed by HP. The programs, which are stored on magnetic cards, can be edited piece-by-piece and can be erased when no longer needed. The user enters the program using the calculator's keyboard, and one program containing up to 100 steps (several programs totaling 100 steps) can be recorded on one card. Branching, logic comparisons, and conditional skips can be used. HP will be developing a library of prerecorded programs for purchase by HP-65 owners. The calculator will cost $79.5.

A report by economists Jeroen Lyle and Jane Ross has found that industrial firms with the largest number of employees and the highest levels of white practice less educational discrimination toward women than do smaller, financially weaker firms. In the book on Women in Industry: Employment Patterns of Women in Corporate America, Ross and Lyle reveal that one problem that inhibits the entry of more women into management positions is employee resistance to female supervision. The study recommends that both change of attitudes and policy are in order: "We must rewrite the way in which we look at women, and the occupations we encourage them to enter."
The political situation in the Middle East has taken a turn since October's Yom Kippur war. However, a State Department official said earlier this week that "we now have the best opportunity for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East since 1948."

Speaking at a political science seminar recently, former U.S. Ambassador William Wright elaborated on his optimistic outlook, pointing out that there are a number of differences between the present situation and previous postwar periods.

"The differences focus primarily on Israel's demand," Wright began, citing several perennial demands which no longer live up to the unattainable obstacles to peacemaking. In particular, he mentioned that the issue of Arab recognition of Israel has become less important now that Israel’s forces are withdrawn.

Further, Israel’s demand for a non-aggression treaty may, in Wright’s view, be unattainable until progress along other lines is made. "I am not against a treaty in fact and in words," Wright proposed.

Also in the context of recent events, he said that Israel’s past demands for defensible borders and a "right of intercal," "only good neighbors make defensible boundaries," Wright commented.

On the Arab side, Wright noted the presence of a "confident" and "dignity mining" following the wars of 1948, 1967 and 1973. "The world of peace seems to be much more important to the people in the Middle East than it might be," he explained. "Both sides are victims of the same psychological problems."

Recycling efforts failing due to sponsorship lack

By Charlie Shouseman

Recycling of paper and other materials at the Institute, long advocated by groups ranging from student ecologists to administrators, has suffered another setback with the failure of a plan for separation and reuse of paper established over a year ago.

The plan, based on a study done by MIT students and implemented in November of that year, is physical plant staffs and department heads of office workers of recyclable and non-recyclable materials. A special waste bin was placed in many administrative and academic departments, so that materials that were recyclable could be processed without costly separation.

Turnover in secretarial positions and lack of a central group to work on the plan are the primary causes for its failure, according to Manager of Building Services Ted Dean, Jr., of Physical Plant. "Salesmen come in and aren’t aware of the differences between the two waste baskets they see," Dean said. "The recyclable materials get contaminated."

Another problem, Doan said, is that one of the students who did the original work developing the recycling plan, Fred Gross '73, has graduated, and no other students have taken over the operation or improvement of the plan. Lack of a group taking interest in the plan has led to ignorance of its existence and misuse of the facilities provided for it.

The recycling plan drawn up by Gross and Donald Whalen, a former Physical Plant supervisor since retired, was designed to get around many of the problems associated with previous programs. Source separation by the secretary or office worker would eliminate later separation of contaminated garbage; separate dumpsters were to be used for the recyclable and non-recyclable materials, and Physical Plant employees would make pick-up on alternate nights.

However, the dumpsters that were designated for recyclable materials often have trash thrown in by people who do not realize what their intended use is. Fire laws also regulate the collection of the paper and other recyclable materials in public places, such as the Building 7 lobby, due to the safety hazards involved.

Physical Plant hopes to resuscitate the plan both for economical and ecological reasons, according to Doan. "It is honest," he added, "in the future businesses will not like MIT will have to recycle, so I see nothing the matter with getting started now."
Impeachment: slow but steady

BY STORM KAUFFMAN

A one axiom that has become increasingly prevalent during the reign of the Nixon administration is that science must justly continue funded with immediately applicable or foreseeable results. Pure research is frequently criticized by those from this government—land, in general, popular desire for concrete results.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the medical area, where the public thinks he has the most to gain. The decision to support such work against this serious health problem is to be praised. However, whenever the expense of equally important—but less obvious conclusions—suffers as a result, a scream of protest from those of less obvious payoffs suffered just as much will follow. But the public probably does not share a rational appreciation for research. How, then, can we expect the public to support it or provide the basis for continued work.

In the past, scientific achievement in any field, whether related or unrelated, and possibly unusable, data from science, education, and industry, must have been considered an expense of equal importance. The public has a right to be reminded of the value of research. However, if the public lacks an appreciation of the value of research, then private industry, government, and universities are to blame. Either speed is of the utmost importance to the public, or the public has to be educated more avidly in the past, it would not now be able to produce a more satisfying answer in less time. If speed is of the utmost importance to the public, it is the basic determination of the House of Representatives to impeach Nixon.

Members of the Committee believe their investigation cannot be crippled by an investigation of the House White House, Richard M. Nixon, D-D., said prior to the meeting on subpoena authority that the committee wanted broad powers to "avoid court action" in defining its precise subpoena power, have endorsed the view that the investigation be conducted as a partisan one. The House will negotiate with committee counsel over the subpoena, we'll hold him in contempt.
NOTES

Year-round calendar considered

(Continued from page 1)

Finally, undergraduates will be able to enter the employment market during the fall, winter and spring seasons when better jobs might be available.

Walthall states in the report that "it is conceivable that the style and format of additional time spent at the institute each calendar year could be quite different than the "regular term."

Costs May Be High

An increase in the faculty, facilitated by the extended program, could also result in an increase in undergraduate admissions. With the decline in applicant numbers over recent years, a large admissions load may reduce the quality of the student body.

An accelerated three-year program has disadvantages in that it would quash any opportunity for student psychological and physical release from institute pressures. This may serve as an exasperating student identity crisis by further insulating the student from the outside world during his tenure at MIT. In addition, it would restructure MIT's think-tank-factory image through the publicizing of three-year degrees.

Administrative problems are likely for the feasibility of course offerings. It would be costly to offer specialized, small enrollment subjects more than once each year. Student scheduling would be limited to specific semesters, which would not necessarily coincide with the student's academic program. In subjects in which enrollment is large, the faculty would have little time for evaluation and revision. Many students might resent the year-round schedule as an employment on their summer vacation time. The summer term could prevent them from pursuing high school friendships with students attending other schools as well as spending time with their families.

The Institute may not be physically equipped to offer such programs. Many facilities and older academic buildings are particularly uncommodious. Under the present energy constraints, it may be financially prohibitive to install an air conditioning system. While efforts are being made to disseminate information on the twelve-month calendar to faculty members and students from the MIT community, the administration is investigating various aspects of the school's present summer operations. Although there are few regular subject offerings, about 60% of the students are offered for the summer term. Most faculty also devote a large portion of their summer work to Institute-related matters.

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Medical industry discussed

By Stephen Blatt
Large government expendi-
tures and an emphasis on devel-
oping technology led to what is
now referred to as the "military
industrial complex."

However, Washington Univer-
sity's Jerome R. Cox, Jr., '47, and
Wednesday that the same
thing has not happened to the
medical industry.

"The United States does not
have a medical-industrial com-
plex," said Cox, who is director
of the Biomedical Computer
Laboratory at the St. Louis
school.

Cox, noting that the medical
and military professions have the
same goal, "to stamp out death
by natural causes," listed several
reasons for the absence of a
medical-industrial complex par-
sisting the military-industrial
complex. He claimed that dis-
couragement by the US Depart-
ment of Health, Education and
Welfare of industry involvement,
decentralization in the Federal
government, and mutual suspi-
cion between industry and medi-
cine have stifled the growth of a
medical-industrial complex.

The individualized nature of
medicine has also hindered the
development of such a complex,
according to Cox. He explained
that military decisions are
"made in the halls of Congress,
medical decisions are generally
made on a much smaller scale,
by physicians and patients all
over the country, and indepen-
dent of one another."

However, Cox suggests that
these obstacles could be over-
come by a medical-industrial
complex worth its salt and a few
big dollars.

Cox received his BS, MS, and
ScD from MIT in electrical en-
engineering, and soon combined
medicine and EE. In 1964, he
was appointed Director of the
newly formed Biomedical Com-
puter Laboratory at Washington
University. His current work is
the design and applications of
small computer systems for use
in clinical medicine.

"Twenty years ago, it was a
rare and foreign experience for
an engineer like myself to be
involved in medicine," Cox said.
"But the present size of the
medical-industrial complex makes
one wonder what would have
happened if physics and engineering
had been turned with equal vigor to medical
problems over the past thirty
years."

"A gap exists between expec-
tations and performance in bio-
medical engineering, according
to Cox, Technology will not sat-
isfy either of two major goals: to
cut deaths and to cut costs. For
example, Cox's project has been
computer analysis of elec-
trocardiograms (ECGs) to find
vestigative fibrillations and other
problems requiring quick
attentive. Trained nurses and
doctors can easily detect these
problems, with however the haz-
ard of boredom and sloppy per-
formances attend upon
watching an oscilloscope lor
long periods of time. Computer
analyses, however, are less than
40% accurate. Monitoring of
ECGs by first computers and
then cardiologists have doubted
the number of ECGs the cardiac-
ologist can read, without a mes-
surable difference in mortality,
but with an increase in cost.

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Food to join shortage items?

(Continued from page 1)

“Even as late as the 1930's or early 1940's, there was no popula-
tion explosion in the developing countries. It was the impor-
tance of technology to reduce the death rate that caused the explo-
sive growth,” Urban noted. It now looks like massive transfers of food to the US is called upon to make improvements in the manage-
ment of efforts to limit popula-
tion growth.

Another problem, Brown noted, was the recent deep in the catch of fish from the oceans. “Overfishing has been a ma-
terial cause of the collapse of the anchovy fishing off the coast of South America,” Brown re-
marked. Fish catch from the anchovy catch had been one of the main sources of animal food. There are also problems with another main animal food, soy-
beans. “We have not been able to increase the yield per acre very much,” said Brown.

Scrimshaw noted that “the consequences of a food shortage are more serious than those of an energy shortage.” In addi-
tion to the problem of outright starvation, there are the secondary impacts of malnutrition.

Poor nutrition, said Scrimshaw, “means a poor start to life. Malnutrition among young children now means the mental and physical impairment of the generation upon whom the developing nations must depend in the 1990's. ‘When 80% of the income of people in developing countries is spent on food, what does that mean when the price of food doubles?’ Scrimshaw asked.

Scrimshaw commented that there is a cyclical drought in North America every 20 years. There was a drought in the 1930's and the “dust bowl” drought in the 1930's. “With much of the world dependent upon North America for food,” Scrimshaw continued, “what is going to happen when that drought recurs?”

Brown noted that the world’s main “cushion” against a disas-
ster in food was the US grain stockpiles and the idle US cropl-
land. “The US has virtually no stockpile left,” he said, “and most of the US reserves of idle cropland were put into use ei-
ther on another or by you.”

Before 1950, most of the increase in food production came from the use of new land, according to Brown. “Now, however, most good land is al-
ready in production, and in-
creases in food output must come from more intensive use of the existing cropland.”

Brown said that much of the land in other countries may soon be rendered useless for agricul-
tural purposes. In Africa, “the Sahara is spreading southward, causing massive hunger.” In Asia, “the pervasive defor-
estation of the Indian subcontinent will lead to serious problems in food control.” Brown said that more needed to be done to “develop the unrealized poten-
tial of cropland in developing countries.”

The energy crisis has also aggravated the food problem. In addi-
tion to the problem of fuel shortages, said Brown, “fertilizer production has been significant-
tly reduced, and the developing countries can’t get the fertilizer they need. Because of this, their crop harvest this year will prob-
bly be less than it was last year, regardless of the weather.” Natu-
ral gas is a main raw material used in the production of nitro-
gens fertilizers.

Another problem, Brown noted, was the recent deep in the catch of fish from the oceans. “Overfishing has been a ma-
terial cause of the collapse of the anchovy fishing off the coast of South America,” Brown re-
marked. Fish catch from the anchovy catch had been one of the main sources of animal food. There are also problems with another main animal food, soy-
beans. “We have not been able to increase the yield per acre very much,” said Brown.

Scrimshaw suggested that advances in this area could be made if the US which has advanced agricultural technology, and China, which has a great variety of soybean strains, pooled their resources.

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casion. From Grunt records and tapes.
MIT's varsity fencing team saw its unbeaten string of eight come to an end last Tuesday night, collapsing in the first two rounds of fencing, Harvard up by one after nine bouts, with MIT evening the score after the second round at 9-9.

At this point, the roof gave in as Harvard swept the last nine bouts, three in each weapon, to even a 15-12 MIT win earlier in the season.

Standouts for MIT were John Ackerman '77 and Rich Riemer '77 who each contributed two victories in double competition. Cong Park '75 and Robert Liu '77 picked up single wins for the sabre team as did Chip Farley '75, Jim Cook '75, and Christopher Castle '76.

The meet was particularly disappointing for freshman sensation Ackerman and sabre standout Park, victimized by numerous bad calls, both of whom suffered their first personal losses of the season.

In contrast, the MIT junior varsity showed a marked improvement over its earlier contest with Harvard, losing this time by only a single bout, 14-13. Especially encouraging were the fine performances of Bob Liu '76, Barry Williams '75, and Craig Johnston '77 in sabre and David Dreyfus '76 in foil.

Tech's final home fencing match will be next Wednesday against WP.

### Ski team fift at Lyndon; Championships are next

This past weekend, the MIT ski team finished seventh out of nine schools at the Lyndon State Carnival. After being moved around northern New England in search of snow, the alpine events were finally held on Friday at Mt. Watatic and the nordic events were held on Saturday at Lyndonville, Vermont.

In slalom, three sisters, John Nolte, '74, Deb Nolte '76, and Gary Raff '77, scored for the team, finishing among the top fifteen. Drew Jaglom '74 and Marshall Fryer '77 also put in strong runs. Plagued by several falls, the skiers were unable to score in the giant slalom event.

Saturday's nordic events were more successful despite the fact that the team competed without its number one cross-country skier, Scott Wergle '74, also a strong jumper, Bob Collier '74 finished fifth in ski jumping with distances of 96 and 98 feet, Evan Schwartz '75 finished 10th with jumps of 86 and 90 feet. High scorer in the game was Steve Ryan '77, who poured in 21 points for the Engineers, while Warner, who poured in 21 points for the Engineers, was extremely close through the second round at 9-9.

The second half was mainly one of frustration for the Engineers as most of their passes and shots failed to click. With Maine's lead at 30 and growing, Coach O'Brien sent in the MIT bench to try and stem the tide, a maneuver that worked temporarily, but eventually even they were engulfed by Maine's excellent shooting and rebounding.

The final few minutes of the game were very disorganized as the Engineers, obviously outclassed, tried everything to make the score respectable, and failed.

High scorer in the game was Maine's 6-6 star forward, Bob Warner, who poured in 21 points, mostly on layups and inside jumps. Warner added 14 rebounds, remaining second among New England players in that department.

Can Lange '76 pumped in 14 points for the Engineers, while Peter Jackson '76 was high rebounder with nine.

MIT will attempt to shake off Tuesday's crushing defeat Saturday afternoon against Middlebury. The 4-16 Engineers will then return home to face Suff- folk at the Cage Wednesday night at 8:15.

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