Boulding: change is decay

By Ralph Nauman

Change was equated with decay by Dr. Kenneth E. Boulding, who spoke at MIT last week.

Boulding, Director of the Program of Research on General Social and Economic Dynamics for the Institute of Behavioral Sciences at the University of Colorado, took part in a seminar jointly sponsored by the Technology and Culture Seminar and the Karl Taylor Compton Lecture Committee. The topic which attracted his remarks was "Defense Against Unwanted Change."

"Defense Against Unwanted Change" was the Karl Taylor Compton Lecture Series at MIT, presented by Boulding. Asimov, the latter are "extreme																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													\n
More liberal arts needed, Asimov tells

By Stephen Blatt

Exercising your mind in a way peculiar to yourself is the great game of the universe. It is the greatest form of individualism in the world," according to Dr. Isaac Asimov.

Asimov, author of 150 books and professor of Biochemistry at the Boston University School of Medicine, represented the physical sciences in the third of a series of four programs of discussion "Why the Liberal Arts?" on February 28 at BU's Law Auditorium. Asimov said that the increased leisure time now available should be utilized to exercise the mind lest mass man eat it in, and that a liberal arts education makes available the knowledge to educate the mind. "To offer students the liberal arts is to offer them a chance to be human."

Leisure Time

Calling the liberal arts "what ever a person doesn't do for a living" - to a scientist literature is the true liberal art, and to a writer, the sciences represent the liberal arts. Asimov spoke of the origins of the liberal arts in ancient Greece as leisure time activities. "The liberal arts are the arts for the free man," and in Greece, he said, the free men did not have to work for a living, but rather had all his work done for him by slaves.

"We all have leisure time now, and we have to find things to do with this leisure time. If we know what our career will be and specialize in it, then what do we do with the rest of our time? There are some things you can do, like nothing. Unfortunately this doesn't work. I have never heard of someone who did nothing forever. You can steal hubcaps, or watch TV, but you can't do nothing."

Reading

According to Asimov, while almost everyone in the United States can read, very few enjoy reading. "The number of people in the US who read one book a year is far less than the number of people who don't read any books at all. Reading is a hard thing. Reading is a rewarding thing, too." Noting that people watching TV "are passive recipients, empty receptacles into which are poured whatever the networks want," he added that "this may be the most efficient (Please turn to page 5)"
Everything gets worse,' Compton speaker says

(Continued from page 1)

economicills.

Gray suggested the central problem was "how to keep the systems you've got, going." He said the key factors for stability were "our impact on the biosphere," "and our impact on each other in the 'ethosphere' (social world). . . . There really are great limits to how much we can do to the biosphere and get away with it. We're going to have to contend with how we put constraints on each other so we don't do the biosphere in."

Building was asked why he thought more technology would remedy the ills of present technology, "It's like the hair of the dog that bit you," he said, adding that it was the hope of the future.

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Biochemist boosts liberal arts

(Continued from page 1)

"The role of the liberal arts—a fact which is always taken for granted," he said. "This is because in further societies reading and education were synonymous: "You couldn't get an education without being able to read, and if you couldn't read, then it was nothing to do with it but get an education.

Azimov noted that we have several ways to fill our leisure time. "We can be spectators; we can eat, drink, and be merry. But none of this exercises the mind. That mind must be exercised—else we suffer boredom, and boredom is the most painful disease ever invented." He described the liberal arts for the ancients as "a form of play restricted to those who had time." Now, however, "we are all fortunate enough to play the game if we can. It is the most relevant thing of all—one thing you will never exhaust and that you will always enjoy." He claimed that there is no such thing as a "completed education." "A completed education is a rapidly forgotten education," College, rather than completing a person's education, merely begins it. "Everything you learn in college is an excuse to allow you to continue your education in other ways. It is an opportunity to gain an interest in something which will not be a source of income, but rather will be leading your brain to exercise, and filling your leisure time by amusing you in its own way."

In response to questions after the lecture, which was part of the BU College of Liberal Arts Centennial Celebration, Azimov explained why he started writing stories. "There was never anything to read except magazines, which my father wouldn't let me touch. One day, I realized that if I wrote the stuff myself, I could read it."

"We've got maybe 30 years before our technology and society fall apart," Azimov said in response to a question on his view of the future. "The American standard of living is already beginning to fall. We must learn that we can hate our neighbor all we want, just so long as we cooperate with him. Even with a restricted life in a physical sense, there remains one resource which is infinite—the human mind. We can develop a civilization which can grow intensively, instead of extensively. Perhaps we are now faced with a Toynbeean challenge, and our response will determine the future of civilization."

Research lack slows Dial-a-bus

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INTERVIEWS with INTERDATA

Wednesday, March 6

COMPANY SCIENCES

Candidates for bachelor's and master's degrees, and those interested in demanding but fulfilling technical careers, may schedule an interview with the Interdata software development manager by contacting Mrs. Jackson, Assistant to the Director of the Career Planning, and Placement Office. 10, x-3473.

Interdata, a major force in the mini-computer business, offers a whole family of mini-computers. Interdata, growing at 50% annually, offers qualified graduates opportunities to participate in this dynamic growth.
Sports

B-ball upsets Wiley in finale

By Glenn Brownstein

It took twenty-four games to do it, but the MIT varsity basket-
ball team finally knocked off their individual talents perfectly
Thursday night, solidly outplay-
ing and defeating Wiley at the
Cage, 81-72. It was the final
game of the season for the Engi-
neers, who completed a general-
disappointing season by beat-
ing a Worcester team that had
basted sectionally ranked Bran-
ders earlier in the year and was
very highly rated.

The key to the ball game for
MIT was rebounding, as the En-
gineer front line of Peter
Jackson ’76, Cam Lange ’76, and
Bill Courtright ’76 combined for
twelve rebounds, a team record for game

Bill Courtright ’76, who led the
Mark Abkowitz ’74, chases the puck amidst numerous Ashdown
defenders. LCA captain Mark Abkowitz ’74 chases the puck amidst numerous Ashdown defenses. LCA wins the A-League championship with a 6-1 win last Wednesday.

MIT center Bill Courtright ’76 battles for a rebound in
Thursday night’s upset win over Wiley while Engineer forwards Peter
Jackson ’76 and Cam Lange ’76 look on.

MARCH 8

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