LENENCY FOR "PHOS"

Seldorn has there been such gratifyingly speedy action from the Institute Committee as this body has shown in handling the recent issue of "Voo Doo." As a result of a vote taken at the regular meeting of the Institute Committee last Thursday evening, C. Brigham Allen '29, president of the group, was given power to appoint a committee which shall make a thorough investigation of the affair, and report when next the Institute Committee convenes.

The idea behind this action is essentially good. Realizing that what is wrong must be righted, rather than from without, the Institute Committee has acted wisely. There will be, without a doubt, much comment on the "Back Bay Number" from alumni and others who are interested in Technology; that the student government has anticipated this criticism is praiseworthy.

There are three possible courses open to the committee—first, they might deny the managing board of "Voo Doo" further privilege of using the name of Hugh's pastime— the Back Bay Number; second, they might require that the magazine be submitted to rigid censorship before it is printed; third, they might adopt a more conservative course, namely, to regard the recent unfortunate experience as a powerful lesson for the managing board of the comic and street-dweller magazine. The third course is the most logical, inasmuch as it would bring the number of student and faculty interest which has been taken in this affair, it would show that the last course was the best. It is a certainty that the powers of "Voo Doo" must realize the seriousness of their transgression. In fact, at a board meeting recent it was voted to record a motion to the effect that no further issues should be published an issue corresponding in its subject matter to the "Back Bay Number."

We feel that to subject an activity to a censorship is to defeat the very purpose of extra-curricular work. This outside activity should provide an outlet for originality and initiative to its participants. Conceiving these efforts would set a new standard of psychology on their. Inferior results would follow low inevitably. There is still the feeling, in spite of what has happened, that at we the Institute are capable of managing our own affairs satisfactorily. If the staff of "Voo Doo" can be made to see the great aspect of their responsibility, this worrying should be sufficient.

This has a considerable limitation to this publication; recent history at the Institute points to that fact. When a managing board fails to act on any suggestion, no matter how necessary it may be, that they are merely accepting a trusteeship rather than an obligation to conduct an enterprise which has been built up by hard work on the part of their predecessors, during their term of office they are required to manage offices for which they have no training. If men desires or needs must be completely suppressed; their policies must be dictated by one or two persons, and their actions inflict damage on their successors. It is in their interest, therefore, to regard this issue of "Voo Doo" as a lesson learned. We feel that they have thoroughly understood the principles of the "Back Bay Number" have committed their offense. We fully believe that they have realized that a desire to excuse an offense is a reasonable basis for their policy. We would then counsel leniency in the disposal of the case.

There are to be several sides to this matter. Perhaps no single thing has caused so much stir at the Institute. That these events have stirred the public conscience to such an extent is evidenced by the long list of comments and suggestions on the subject. Reflecting as it does on Technology as a whole, it is a subject which, although perhaps not of the gravest importance, is of the gravest interest. As such, the Institute Committee has shown itself to be wise in the action they have taken.