BROWNBAGGERS: TO ARMS!!

City newspapers are ever on the alert for war and sensible events around the Institute. A dorm riot or some fraternity "Hell Week" stunt often rate larger headlines than some scientific discovery or innovation. It is in the lighter side of news that boosts the circulation and keeps the average reader happy.

The recent invasion of the Institute was made Sunday by the Boston advertiser with their story on Technology's most widely publicized event - a week long. A whole page was devoted to the life story of our co-ed, with or without her consent, and the claim she was to her social class. We do not wish to challenge that fact, because any girl attending the Institute with its technical training and overpowering masculinity muscle, must have courage in her convictions.

However, we do wish to become indifferent about one part of the "Green Mirror's" feature story. We are not "Brownbaggers". We never were and we never will be "Brownbaggers". One of our most sacred traditions, the "Browbagger", has been smirched. The Institute has been given the reputation of being tough by our alumni and those who have flunked out. The browbagger is the typical representation of these people to the outside world and we can not let them down. After all, those of us who do graduate may want to ride on that reputation some day. Therefore we wish our "Browbagger" to remain unaltered; consequently we raise our voice in loud protest at this outraged degradation of our honor.

IT IS IN THE AIR

Two New York city reporters recently asked Washington military officials what could be done to abolish the inconsistencies and inequalities in the operation of the local draft boards of the selective service program. They were told that the only way to eliminate these inconsistencies lies in drafting the selective service act itself.

What substitute program could be adopted?

The army officials suggested a new law requiring young men reaching a certain age, say 18 or 21, to register for a year's military training. These would be the only men affected by the law.

Such a program is like the solution to the 21-to-36 dilemma currently facing American men.

The main argument which may be advanced for the suggested draft reform is its general benefit to the nation as a whole, since it would induct young men who have not the ties, obligations, and responsibilities of a man of 19 to 31. The year of military training might be regarded as a postgraduate year of high school or college.

A second advantage to the proposed plan lies in the fact that the youth of 18 or 21 is in better physical shape than older men. This advantage would manifest itself in the establishment of a stronger, more formidable army.

In addition, the numerical strength of the army could be maintained by a constant supply of new men. The confusion of present mass registration days could be eliminated by a simple registration whenever a man reached the stipulated age.

The present law, attempting to set up standards of fitness for men between 21 and 36, naturally has conflicting judgments by the local boards. A man who is rejected by one board, if living in a different community, might be inducted. Often the board's decision is purely arbitrary.

The proposal, arranged to guarantee national equality state might try for the advanced grade which would increase the skill of the organization in general.

Should administrative problems be encountered, the drafting could be restricted to odd years and holidays when the pressure of studies could not be so great. Therefore a larger number of participants would make the additional effort worth while.

In any event, we feel that moonlight sailing offers a splendid possibility to Institute recreational life and that its practicality should be thoroughly investigated. If the student opinion is in favor of such a move to the extent of actually doing something about it, there should be no doubt as to the overcoming of all the obstacles that stand in the way of this and any new adventure.

-Brown Daily Orange