A GOOD PRECEDENT

Earlier this week The Tech received from the Chairman of the Finance Committee a copy of the financial statement for the recent formal dance at the Hotel Statler. This statement included a complete itemization of all expenses.

In submitting this statement, the Dance Chairman expressed a hope that his action would set a precedent for other school dance committees. In the future, we agree that these in the past dance funds have been mishandled to a greater or lesser extent, often benefiting dance committees, and that some unbiased accounting of all dance funds would be in order.

Since the students pay for the dances, it is certainly their right to know that these funds are not being misused, especially in dances when money may be made up from the under-graduate budget.

The following Dance Chairman’s lead, as a representative of the student body, we submit the services of The Tech as an accounting agent on the assumption that the threat of an impartial report would be subjected to a cold, impartial examination and perhaps published, we submit that he would be more satisfactory.

The statement shows how the money has been spent in the past, the Treasurer, who is himself a member of the Dance Committee, caught up by the idealism of the young, as to how the money has been spent must contact the Treasurer.

Under such supervision, misuse of funds would not be difficult. On the other hand, every dance chairman knew that his report would be subjected to a critical examination and perhaps published, we submit that he would be more satisfactory.

A WORD TO THE WISE

Yesterday the student branch of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers presented the last of a series of three lectures. Over three hundred persons attended each one of these lectures. Some persons had been turned away from the first two lectures held in Harvard Hall, and the others who attended the last lecture in Huntington Hall.

Interest has been so high that the A.S.M.E. is planning to publish a transcript of the lectures.

The A.S.M.E., to which they have been subscribed by the members of the Institute shows how popular lectures of this kind are. It offers an idea which many of the other professional societies and minor activities must take up. There have been some excellent miscellaneous lectures at their meetings, but these have been for the most part of limited appeal, and only occasionally have been presented which drew much more than the membership of the organization.

We congratulate the A.S.M.E. on arranging this interesting and informative series; we hope to see many other such series in the future.