Letters to the Editor

Editor, The Tech
Walker Memorial, M.I.T.

Dear Sir:

I have been viewing with utter disgust and indignation the past few days one of the dreadful placards of propaganda I ever had the misfortune to run across. The exhibit was put up by the British Government in colonial India to underline the importance of India, on India to the main entrance of the Institute, put up by the British Government, can stand up as one of the Goebbels propaganda machines ever produced.

Those responsible for the installation of the exhibit at the Institute should have considered a little more carefully whether an educational institution is the proper place for an exhibit produced by an imperial government engaged in colonial exploitation, on its most important colony. They should have considered the objectiveness of the content and the reliability of the information contained in it. But since when is Aillon objective when it comes to India, "the bright jewel of the British Crown?" Wasn't it dear old Winston who said the Atlantic Charter did not apply to India?

The exhibit devotes quite a bit of space to freedom of religion, but not a word is said about the other three freedoms, which were part of our war aims, and for which so many Americans have fought and died. It certainly wasn't for the preservation of the British or Dutch empire!

Could it be that freedom of speech is non-existent in India, as in other parts of the British colonial empire? Or is freedom from fear perhaps unknown to the citizens of the British colonies? Those of us who have been in British-ruled colonies know the C. I. D. and its methods of dealing with those who dare demand freedom.

If anyone is naive enough to believe that India is engaging in a "dignified" way from want, he ought to ask one of the students who served in the C. B. I. theatre. I have been viewing with utter disgust and indignation what is presented.

The mere presence of this exhibition is an insult to every veteran who believed the Atlantic Charter. It is an insult to all of us who have any remaining hope for the future of the British Empire.

The Editor, The Tech
Walker Memorial, M.I.T.

The author's name is withheld at his request.

The exhibit is a black spot on the image of the Institute which our visitors are necessarily arranged in the form of a column or section of one of the publications, devoted to pertinent material of the mind-broadening type.

An excellent idea, applauded by almost all. There is one hitch, however. None of the four publications on the campus are really completely adequate for the undertaking, if their present functions have to be maintained. There is an answer to this problem that is simple to talk about. Establish a fifth publication.

Make this addition to the journalistic circle a combined publication, allowing the student to say it well, including the humorous, excluding the technical. In general the ability to say it well, and elsewhere in this issue. Read them before signing six nomination blanks or voting twice. It helps.

ELECTIONS

The nomination procedures preceding the last class elections in October were about the closest that student activities have come to a scandal since the Vos Doz investigation in 1941.

The thing was scandalous because of the shifty way in which the candidates handled their nominations and the complete ignorance some of them showed as to the election rules. Another election is coming up on February 6. The rules to be followed are easily obtained. They are printed in the T.C.A. Handbook and elsewhere in this issue. Read them before signing six nomination blanks or voting twice. It helps.

CONSTRUCTION, PLEASE

From time to time in the past voices have been heard insisting that engineering students lead narrow lives, taking no notice of the large, real, vital, etc., issues of human relations, government, world affairs, and the arts, fine and otherwise. A scientific education and training men to think, not only in terms of the absolute, but the absolute, in a world where values are constantly changing and where most of an individual's problems are social. The Institute is progressing along these lines with the expanded humanities program which gently but firmly feeds the student culture. Still, cry some, this is not enough. What is needed is a focal point for these activities in the form of a column or section of one of the publications, devoted to pertinent material of the mind-broadening type.

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