Through the mail

To the Editor of The Tech:

I have a serious complaint against the way the recent East Campus elections were run. Although each candidate was to have received a ballot in his mailbox, I did not get one, and have reason to believe that this was not an isolated case.

When I complained I was told that the only place I might be able to obtain a ballot was the waste-paper basket. Even this was of no avail, and I was unable to vote.

Since the names of all those who checked are on a list, I fail to see why ballots cannot be made available at the polling place.

I trust that this situation will not recur again, and that Bell Systems, all those who wish to vote will be able to do so without having to resort to scavenging for ballots.

Jahiugh Gandhi, '56

October 6, 1953

To the Editor of The Tech:

"Enlightened deception" are the words used by The Tech to describe student government. I think they need a little explanation.

Since when do existing open houses have to be "passed" by Dormitory Committees? Those rules supposedly passed "under the guise of supervision" by a "half-staffed" dormitory committee last week were formulated post hoc to prevent the spread of "hazing phenomena," a phenomenon which is not a new phenomenon. If the administration really wishes to stop the spread of "hazing phenomena," why not issue an amendment to the rule which requires "hazing" to be "passed" by the dormitory committee? Alternatively, it might demand a statement from each house sponsor to the effect that they have no objection to the proposed "hazing phenomena." But, in view of the fact that student government has accepted responsibilities and obligations which cannot be laid aside during this period merely as a matter of convenience, it is true that the members of student government are not in office, but if these rules are in effect, in power to make decisions and enforce rules which are going to be the Tech's "supervision" of the action of the Baker House Chairman. Baker House had no clear or effective policy on open house rules last year, and if at the beginning of a new year a clear policy is not stated, how are rules and regulations to be upheld?

It was stated that "Student government enters a forbidden field when it attempts to tell the student what is good for him." I believe that the responsibility for open house rules rests with each individual student. If this is teaching, I would like a better suggestion.

The Harvard Crimson recently ran an article stating that no women are allowed in any men's dormitory after 8:00 p.m. Frankly, I don't know want to see this happen at Tech.

I feel that acting as an elected representative of student government, I think they need a little explanation.

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Editorials

A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE

The end of four and a half months of investigation came late last month when the Board of Trustees of Brandeis University announced the dismissal of one of its professors on the grounds that he was "unfit to teach." Thus once again the problem of communism on campuses finds headlines.

The action in this instance, however, stems from the professor's invasion of the privileges granted under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution. In the words of the president of R.P.I.: "The investigation was based on (Association of American Universities) and Institute policy, which, after invasion of the Fifth Amendment places upon the professor a heavy burden of proof of his fitness to hold a teaching position." This attitude is, perhaps, a logical one to place upon the university an obligation to re-examine the individual's qualifications for membership in its society.

Refusal to testify is not, however, in itself justification for dismissal or proof of guilt. It must not be so construed.

The trustees of R.P.I. have to all appearances disregarded this conclusion. They have dismissed a member of their faculty without the opportunity to qualify or explain his actions. They have failed to call upon him to defend his ability to teach, though he requested an audience. They adhere to a policy which places upon him "proof of fitness," yet they have refused his testimony. They have apparently refrained from any investigation of his professional competence by failures to consult his faculty colleagues.

The only conclusion that can be reached is that the Board of Trustees has declined voluntarily or expressed a "proven guilty" and is very likely violating the very principles of academic freedom and intellectual honesty they purport to insulate.

. . . AND ONE OF REASON

The question of the desirability of "rides" and off-campus hazing has fought its way into all forms of student expression. It has been discussed by the institute and Dormitory Committees and by the Interfraternity Council and was the subject of a poll of participants care to believe. It is much more than the "detrimental excess. The students would do well to understand the dangerous ramifications of this situation and act accordingly to do away with it.

The world's most famous towers are, left to right, the Eiffel Tower, the Tower of London and the Leaning Tower of Pisa. But in America, the tower-come-lately (extreme right) may rapidly become as familiar as the old landmarks of Europe. It is one of the signs of modern American life, and the symbols of our fast-forward technology. Long-distance telephone calls and television programs coast to coast.

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