Editorials

A MORAL OBLIGATION?

Congressional budget reductions and a confusing barrage of Defense Department directives during the summer months have created a uniquely unexpected pitfall, at the brink of which stand a number of junior and seniors, just at college. In compliance with these announced reductions Air Force policy with regard to ROTC has changed at least twice during this time and as a result of a 1954 goal to reduce its strength from a reported 143 wings to 120, personnel cuts are being made, particularly among non-flying commissioned officers, which the AF considers most expendable. The result is a vague, shoddy and questionable status which students in AFROTC now hold, for there are many among the 1954 graduates who find themselves without hope of the commissions which they expected to receive next June.

Students not physically qualified for flight training, or not as inclined, no longer have any guarantees that reserve commissions will be tendered. Such a decision depends upon the needs of the Air Force some next spring. At present, however, the outlook is bleak. The most that these cadets can expect is a "certificate of completion" which essentially entitles them to a rank of Airman Third Class if they choose (or the United States Government chooses) to enter the Air Force after graduation. This is a far cry from a commission. The investment of four years of drill and training on campus, and four weeks at summer camp have come to naught.

The student is justified therefore to bewail the fact that certain moral obligations and promises made to him by the government have been decisively reversed. It cannot be denied that he was accepted into AFROTC with the clear understanding that he was not required to serve in the military, that he was not required to lead that to a commission as a non-flying officer, and was never informed to the contrary. All this has been clearly burned by one firm roll of the governmental planners.

. . . . A BREACH OF FAITH . . .

It can be argued that no written contract has been broken. This is true. It is much more, however, than a signed document that is being disregarded. It is rather a breach of faith; a trust that college students in ROTC have undoubtedly placed in their government. That students all over the country feel they have been forsaken is only further substantiated by individual and collective remonstrations. Boston University, for one, has debated a petition protesting the change in Air Force policy that threatens to deprive a considerable number of cadets of commissions after "they have completed three-quarters of the curriculum."

It is indeed a strange sense of "economy" that our government has undertaken to pass by the faith of its younger generation.

IT'S AN INSECT'S LIFE!

It was recently brought to our attention that M.I.T. has established, for the East Campus files, mosquitos and other aerial nuisances. The Institute has learned that the insects have been limiting the activities of said Diptera and has placed restrictions and prohibited the placing of sources. We have been told to believe that it has decreed that no fly (mosquito, or the like) is to fly (seek convenience) at an elevation greater than ten feet above the ground. To indicate this, only the first floor windows of the East Campus Dormitories are equipped with screens. We have no indication as to whether or not the insect world will rise in revolt against these restrictions or whether their freedom will be restored. We are sure that East Campus residents will be quick to refer them to some Judicial body for punishment, if they do. Such is life.

The Tech

through the mail

To the Editor of The Tech:
The October 18 issue of The Tech reported that the Baker House Committee tabled a motion to cease their chair, Jerry Perloff, '55 for exceeding his authority when he ruled that Baker House membership cards were necessary to draw athletic equipment from the deck. This motion for vacature was not tabled but discussed, voted upon, and defeated with only one vote in favor. The article goes on to state the purpose for the House Membership cards was to raise funds for the support of dances. The purpose of the Membership Cards is to raise the funds. As an indication we are offering a 25% discount to all house social functions.

Baker House receives about four hundred dollars a term from Dormitory Committee. This sum is far less than either East Campus or Burton House receives per year. Our expenses are about the same. We buy the same amount of athletic equipment; our house dues cover all the costs; and our normal operating expenses for the house are equivalent to those of the other two houses, yet we receive a smaller appropriation.

In the past Baker House has always exceeded the Dormitory Committee allotment and has made up its deficit with the sale of Membership Cards. Last year's House Committee tabled a six million dollar deficit with the sale of Membership Cards. The Baker House Committee has a 1955 $100. As an indication we are offering a 25% discount to all house social functions.

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The Tech

after hours

at the college press

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1953

by John Elyson, Jr.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon, while most Techmen were getting ready to turn in, the members of the Harvard College Press, which occupies the New Haven State building offйти, New Haven, were defying the laws of physics in a display of mechanical skill and ingenuity that was truly a delight to anyone watching.

For some reason incomprehensible to the non-mechanical, the "Yalies" were able to demonstrate the usefulness of a basic tool with the help of a simple but efficient system of mug holders and "paradigms" with a person.

Commented one of the members of the press, "The Yalies" were able to demonstrate the usefulness of a basic tool with the help of a simple but efficient system of mug holders and "paradigms" with a person. This is the first time the Yale Mansfield Press, in my opinion, has had its work worthwhile.

Another development at Yale has caused some ruffling of feathers in other New England schools, according to the Tech.

fraternity findings

Because Junior Prom might be considered the highlight of the month of October, it is something which ought to be mentioned. The Beta Theta Pi took the first step in that direction by hosting a fine hotel party at the Beta House. The last dance was carried on to the music of the orchestra, under the blessing of Monday and entrance and the shuffling into a series of choruses, and all the entertainment the city offered.

Tomorrow the Phi Delta will select the record debut with an Indian Bellevue. Times were allowed.

The Tech

Reprinted from The Tech

THE COLLEGE DANCE CLUB

What a Darn Good Time?

You will have both at the College Dance Club dances. The next will be at 8 o'clock on Wednesday, October 28, at the Hotel Roosevelt and every Tuesday and Thursday, 8 o'clock. Attendance is restricted to college students only, and their guests.

One evening is reserved for a charity, and the proceeds will help those who are in need of educational status. In addition the students must show their library card, etc. No one is allowed entrance to the dance unless they have a proper admission card. After that, a $1.00 charge will be made by the Admissions Committee, and all proceeds will be turned over to the Phi Mu Delta.

JOIN IN SAVETT—JOHN HOW.

Friday, October 23, 1953

in New York

New York Weekends

on Monday, December 12, it all the excitement the city has to offer, the techmen have had a chance to sample the new weekend in New York.

Guy Lombardo and his orchestra at the Hotel Roosevelt, popular college radio programs for your Lips and lasting the entire weekend in New York. In applications for admission to "Muse to the Minstrel" Permanent Representative, HOTEL ROOSEVELT Madison Avenue at 46th Street New York, N. Y.