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 SENIOR RINGS—HOW TO MISHANDLE $20,000

 Each year a Ring Committee is given the difficult task of arranging senior rings at a cost of some $10,000 to $20,000. In this important task they are aided by no regulations or recommendations of their class or of Institute Committee. There is no consistency in standards or methods of selection from year to year, no records of past transactions are on file.

 In an effort to succeed in what has long been known as a cutthroat business, the major competitors annually wine and dine the members of the rings committees at the Ritz-Car- ton and the Red Coach Grill. The manufacturers furnish free rings to the chairman and this—year to the rest of the six-man committee. Expense-paid trips to the city plants, whether in Attleboro or Indianapolis, furnish fall diversions for the chairman.

 The total cost of these generous treatments amounts to at least $400 at the estimate of the present Ring Chairman, Richard A. Jacobs '56. The price of our rings is, you may be sure, composed of these items as well as the cost of gold and labor.

 Opportunities for dishonesty are enormous when, for example, bids are open, for no one will arrive in a manner which permits anyone to report the offer of one company to a competitor for personal benefit.

 We do not know what has occurred in the past. We shudder at the possible worst, and hope for the best. But an Institute Committee which wishes to create a record of accomplishment must attempt to establish correct policies. Selected on the basis of artistic design and quality of workmanship, this year's ring costs $700, a sum which will serve to either justify or prevent selection of the most expensive manufacturer and thus establish standards for the University, prohibition of trips, gifts, and dinners, compilation of complete public records, and a revised bidding system will serve to clarify this messily situation—messily for those who must choose a contractor, but messily yet for those who must pay.

 BAD FAITH ON COMMONS—THE GREAT TREK

 It was a long, hard pull, but after months of negotiation, the Commons Committee managed to extract the promise of the Dining Service that they would try to eliminate the shifting of Gradu ate House Commons to Walpole Memorial. Burton House rejoiced. A great victory had been won, a crushing defeat delivered to the shoe leather industry and orthodox associations, the only groups who could benefit from these preposterous maneuvers.

 Result a few short months later: one transfer completed already, and another Great Trek scheduled for next week. We now assume that Burton has been cuckolded. If this is not so, perhaps the Dining Service will publish a list of "previous commitments" to prepare the unhappy marchers and obviate any other recurrences of this unfortunate situation.

 TAKING THE ROLL

 Members of student government often have cause to decry the apathy of their constituents toward student government affairs. From time to time, one can find apparenly intent upon proving that their attitudes are just as apathy as anyone else's. The two representatives from the Class of 1958 are perhaps the most flagrant recent violators.

 Institute Committee is presently entertaining motions to enforce attendance at its meetings, with failure to attend resulting in loss of all standing. If this is achieved, one can but wonder how members are apperently intent upon proving that their attitudes are just as apathy as anyone else's. The two representatives from the Class of 1958 are perhaps the most flagrant recent violators.

 Dear Sir:

 This is a previous commitment, Commons house will be moved to Walpole Memorial on Thursday evening, Feb. 10 from 5 to 7 p.m.

 Again seven times during the last term, the residents of Burton House were requested to accept this complete length of the M.I.T. campus to receive their evening common meal. Under ordinary conditions, those who live in Burton have considerably further to go to receive common meals than those living in other dormitories. I do not believe these fellows mind too much the "ordinary conditions", but I do strongly object to the discussions and unsettlement as forced upon them periodically. It would seem that these shuffling such "commitments" would feel some obligation to those taking Graduate House common meals. This is certainly poor statesman- ship policy. It is little wonder that commons are as unpopular with the Burton group.

 These weeks ago, the Burton House Committee unanimously passed a resolution condemning this periodic change of dining halls and requesting that the house a fair and discriminatory to those taking Graduate House common meals. This is certainly poor statesmanship policy. It is little wonder that commons are as unpopular with, the Burton group.

 Harvard Law School Forum To Discuss "Ethics In Politics"

 "Ethics in Politics" is the subject of the Harvard Law School Forum, which will be held on February 18. The Forum will be broadcast by WHDH and other Boston stations.

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 ASCE Elections Held Last Monday

 This past Monday the ASCE Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers elected its officers for 1955. The following positions will be filled:

 President: Roy C. M. Lantman, 3rd
director: Peter S. Gravelin, 3rd
treasurer: John W. DeSapio, 1st

 At the ASCE Fall Forum on February 11, the program will begin at 8 p.m. at Symphony Theatre (Memorial Hall) and will end at 9 p.m.

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 A Campus-to-Career Case History

 "I've got to know about each of these jobs that my men do. My training with the telephone company took me through the installation, repair and testing of various types of telephone equipment and service for which I am responsible. I even had a chance to do a little experi- mental work involving new procedures in the automatic switching equipment. I under- stand that's being written up for me throughout the Bell System.

 But I like about telephone work. Even two city blocks are full of opportunity."