

The Tech



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about the town

Scollay Square

They say you haven't seen Boston until you have seen Scollay Square.

Right off and up to the right a little ways from the base of Longfellow Bridge is one of Boston's numerous old squares. This one, perhaps not quite in keeping with the Boston tradition and maybe a little more picturesque, is Scollay. Scollay isn't unique among cities: every major city has something to compare with it; but Scollay Square is still unique in Boston. Like the honky-tonk districts of such towns as Marseilles and Honolulu it is known to sailors all over the world.

In the last several years the spirit of Scollay has been somewhat dampened, but the smoke is still there even if the fire isn't apparent, as a casual stroll Scollayway will reveal. The old Howard, the biggest and evidently the most daring of the burlesque houses has been closed down for two years, but one of the lesser establishments still operates. The Watch and Ward Society, as the observer can establish by taking the initiative or by inquiring of one of his enlightened friends, has restricted the burlesque activities to a degree.

The winter isn't the best time for an acquaintance stroll through Scollay. A walk past in the heat of a summer night will reveal more. Peering into the dark doorways at such a time you might be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of some tassel dancer, a little past her prime, elevated up on some bar. But about this time of the year, when the doors have all closed against the cold winter air you might walk right by the place without suspecting. The slot machines in the penny arcades are of course apparent, but their atmosphere is also changed during the daytime. Scollay sleeps in the daytime and only really comes to wake at night.

A point of interest when you are over that way, in the day time is the Custom House. Its tower dominates the water's edge and everything in that vicinity. In times gone by the bowsprits on the sailing ships almost reached its steps, but the water has been pushed back by an expanding city. Towering 498 feet above the street, the Custom House rises from a base that once knew the presence of Nathaniel Hawthorne. From the very top of the tower a person can get one of the best views of greater Boston possible. From the top it is possible to see the impressive forms of MIT off in the distance on the banks of the Charles. There's no charge to go up, but you have to get there before five in the afternoon.

—Don Wigert

reviews

Wednesday, December 5, 1956, Kresge Auditorium, Boston Symphony Orchestra. Symphony K297 "Paris"—Mozart; "Card Game"—ballet in three acts—Stravinsky; Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral"—Beethoven.

Last Wednesday in Kresge Auditorium, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Charles Munch, presented a program including the works of Mozart, Stravinsky, and Beethoven. Playing to a capacity audience, Dr. Munch demonstrated his ability to "cope with Kresge" in a magnificent manner. Dr. Munch has learned from past experience, evidently, that one must be very careful in the placing of certain instrument groups on the Kresge stage—namely, the tympani and drums and this was the first Boston Symphony Orchestra concert in Kresge Auditorium in which the tympani stood out and was well defined. Also, the strings played together, and I don't mean this facetiously but one must exercise certain extra precautions in a hall, so lacking in reverberation.

The only thing marring the performance was the fact that there were entirely too many late comers—not just the five minute variety, but rather the twenty and thirty minute ones. Perhaps these Cambridge pseudo-sophisticates think that the degree of fashionability goes up as the elapsed time from the start of the performance increases. This practice is extremely annoying anywhere but it is especially obnoxious in Kresge Auditorium where the theatre is so intimate. All in all the concert was well received and an enjoyable time was had by all.

—Alan Langford

calendar of events

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Organ Recital. Mr. David C. Johnson, MIT organist, assisted by Mr. Arthur Loeb, recorder.

CHAPEL, 12:10-12:40 p.m.

Freshman Swimming Team. Meet with Dean Academy.

ALUMNI POOL, 2:30 p.m.

Operations Research. Seminar: "Waiting Lines—Part II: Servicing and Arrival Distributions." Dr. Herbert P. Galliher, of the Operations Research Project.

ROOM 2-239, 3:00 p.m.

Electrical Engineering Department. Colloquium: "Some Engineering Problems in Inertial Navigation." Mr. Walter R. Evans, of North American Aviation, Inc. Refreshments will be served in Room 10-280 at 4:30 p.m.

ROOM 10-275, 3:30 p.m.

Metallurgy Department. The Robert S. Williams Lectures—II: "Thermodynamics in Ferrous Metallurgy: Phenomena Related to Thermodynamics." Dr. Lawrence S. Darken, United States Steel Corporation.

ROOM 6-120, 4:00 p.m.

Technology Catholic Club. Open meeting. Talk, illustrated by slides, on "Operation Deepfreeze." Rev. Daniel Linehan, S.J., seismologist on Arctic and Antarctic explorations.

ROOM 2-190, 5:00 p.m.

Technology Community Association. Skeptics' Seminar: "Ethical Problems in Business." Professor W. Van Alan Clark, Jr., of the School of Industrial Management.

ROOM 10-250, 5:00 p.m.

Freshman Basketball Team. Game with Huntington High School.

ROCKWELL CAGE, 6:15 p.m.

Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Talk on "Practical Methods of Bible Study." Mr. Waylon Moore, former member of Billy Graham team.

ROOM 3-070, 7:00 p.m.

Varsity Swimming Team. Meet with Wesleyan University.

ALUMNI POOL, 7:00 p.m.

Order of DeMolay—MIT Chapter. Business meeting.

HAYDEN LIBRARY LOUNGE, 7:30 p.m.

Varsity Hockey Team. Game with University of New Hampshire.

SKATING RINK, 7:30 p.m.

Varsity Basketball Team. Game with University of New Hampshire.

ROCKWELL CAGE, 8:15 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

American Society of Civil Engineers—MIT Chapter. Lecture with slides: "The Engineer in Railroad-ing." Mr. John H. Burdakin, Assistant District Engineer, Pennsylvania Railroad. Refreshments will be served in Room 1-236 at 5:00 p.m.

ROOM 1-390, 4:00 p.m.

Physics Department. Colloquium: "Infrared Cyclotron Resonance and Magnetoband Effects in Semiconductors." Dr. Benjamin Lax, Lincoln Laboratory.

ROOM 6-120, 4:00 p.m.

Mathematics Department. Harvard-MIT Joint Mathematics Colloquium: "Regularity Properties of Solutions of Partial Differential Equations." Dr. Lars Hormander, Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University. Tea will be served at 4:00 p.m.

ROOM 18, 2 DIVINITY AVE., HARVARD, 4:30 p.m.

A.I.E.E.—I.R.E.—Student Branch. Lecture: "A Short Tour through a Digital Computer." Mr. J. L. Hill, of Remington Rand Univac.

ROOM 4-270, 5 p.m.

Biology Department-Biochemistry Division. Harvard-MIT Biochemistry Colloquium: "The Interconversion of Purine Nucleotides in the Biosynthesis of Guanine, Adenine, and Histidine." Dr. Boris Magasanik, Harvard Medical School. Coffee will be served at 4:30 p.m.

MALLINCKRODT MB-29, HARVARD, 5:00 p.m.

Lecture Series Committee. Film: "The Yearling." Admission: 30 cents.

KRESGE AUDITORIUM, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:45 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

Association of Women Students. Annual Christmas Open House.

ROOM 3-306, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Chemistry Department. Lecture: "Analytical Radiochemistry." Dr. Harmon L. Finston, of Brookhaven National Laboratory.

ROOM 4-231, 4:00 p.m.

Freshman Hockey Team. Game with Browne and Nichols School.

SKATING RINK, 4:30 p.m.

Junior Varsity Basketball Team. Game with Newton Junior College.

ROCKWELL CAGE, 7:30 p.m.

Varsity Wrestling Team. Meet with University of Connecticut.

ROCKWELL CAGE, 7:45 p.m.

MIT Concert Band. Concert, with John Corley conducting. Program: Symphonic Overture for Band by Gordon Jacob; Royce Hall Suite by Healy Willan; "The Power of Rome and the Christian Heart" by Percy Grainger; Mexican Symphony ("La Fiesta Mexicana") by Owen Reed; Adeste Fideles, arranged for band by Morton Gould. Admission is free.

KRESGE AUDITORIUM, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

Freshman Hockey Team. Game with St. Sebastian's Country Day School.

SKATING RINK, 2:00 p.m.

Freshman Wrestling Team. Meet with Scituate High School.

ROCKWELL CAGE, 2:00 p.m.

Varsity Swimming Team. Meet with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

ALUMNI POOL, 2:00 p.m.

Freshman Basketball Team. Game with Phillips Exeter Academy.

ROCKWELL CAGE, 6:15 p.m.

Varsity Basketball Team. Game with Springfield College.

ROCKWELL CAGE, 8:15 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Since many of the Institute's activities are suspended during the Christmas vacation, the Calendar of Events for the weeks of December 19 and 26 will not be published. Material for the Calendar of January 2-9, 1957, is due in the editor's office, Room 3-339, not later than noon on Wednesday, Dec. 26.

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SOME MORE LITTLE STORIES WITH BIG MORALS

First Little Story

Once upon a time there was an Indian brave named Running Bear who had a squaw named Giggling Water. Giggling Water was sort of a mess, but she sure could make beaded moccasins. Every day she whipped up a brand-new pair of beaded moccasins for Running Bear which were so gorgeous that all the Indian maids on the reservation gawped with admiration.

Well sir, Giggling Water got livid about all the girls making goo-goo eyes at Running Bear, and one night she told him so. Then he got livid too, and they had a terrible rumble, and he slapped her on the wrist, and she started crying like crazy and moved out of the wigwam and went home to her mother and never came back.

"Good riddance!" said Running Bear, but he soon found out how wrong he was, for the Indian maids were not really interested in him, only in his moccasins, and when he stopped showing up with a new pair every day, they quickly gave him the yo-heave-ho, and today he is a broken man, sitting all alone in his tepee and muttering ancient Ute curses.

MORAL: Don't fight the hand that beads you.



the students did not take that lying down

Second Little Story

Once upon a time there was a sweet old gentleman named Nathan who ran a tobacco counter at a large American university. All of the students loved him dearly, and they used to come over whenever they could to buy Philip Morris Cigarettes and chat with Nathan, both of which were highly satisfactory pursuits. The Philip Morrises were highly satisfactory because they are full of natural goodness that is friendly and humane and soothing and no small consolation in this strife-ridden world of ours. Nathan, like Philip Morris, was also full of natural goodness that was friendly and humane and all like that.

Well sir, the students smoked Philip Morris and yoked with Nathan, and everything was lovely. Then one day the university decided to fire Nathan and put in a cigarette vending machine instead.

Well sir, the students did not take that lying down, you may be sure! They organized a monster rally and went over to prexy's house and made fiery speeches about good old Nathan and how they loved him.

Well sir, prexy was no fool, and when he saw how heartbroken the students would be if Nathan went, he decided that the wisest course was to keep Nathan and cancel the cigarette vending machine. This he did, and they all lived happily ever after.

MORAL: Better Nate than lever.

Third Little Story

Once there was a lion, which was a very quiet lion. In fact, the only time it ever made a sound was when it had a toothache.

MORAL: When it pains, it roars.

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Philip Morris, sponsor of this column, would like to point a moral too: Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Try a pack of Philip Morris, and win yourself a heap of pleasure!