**THE TECH**

**Issue:** Cambridge Massachusetts, Friday September 20, 1957

**Gratis**

**MIT Welcomes 900 - Strong Class Of '61**

**Institute Holds Class Size Down**

An alert Admissions Office has financially limited the size of the freshman class to a manageable 900, thereby minimizing the perennial student housing problem.

Actual figures released by the Admissions Office late Wednesday indicated that the Class of '61 includes 847 entrants from secondary schools in the United States and abroad, and about 50 transfer and minority students.

But, despite the unusually small size of the freshman class, the number of students up for Rush Week totalled 900 on hand, of which less than half, or 454, have selected. The number of pledges represents a ten percentage increase over the 1953 turnout by over 200.

**The Tech Provides Opportunity For All, 16-Year Tradition**

Independent of administration control and student government superintendence, The Tech is the oldest and currently the only newspaper on the Institute campus. Established in 1881, The Tech has served as a forum for student expression for seventy-six years. Unsubscripted, The Tech, which is the official student newspaper, is the third most influential publication on the Institute campus, with both the old and new rushing programs in handling their business.

**Busy Week-end Round Slated For Class Of '61**

**Record Number Here For Rush Week; Quotas Filled**

Over 900 freshmen attended the 1857 fraternity Rush Week. This was the greatest number ever to participate in the hectic five days in which the 27 fraternities select their pledges for the next year. The rush week, scheduled for September 16, was held this year for the third time in a week by registering the 1953 turnout by well over 200.

For now, we are not to mention me either, who thought that I would have a disappointing effect on the quantity of registrations.

The number of pledges reported also showed a slight increase over past years, with 294 pledged as of yesterday, with a few more reports yet to come.

**Fires Ever**

Most houses filled their quota, and several reports that this was the final rush they would have, judging by the general quality of the prospective fraternity men whom they saw. Dean Fassett pointed out more interest than before in college transfers and in foreign students. The Dean of Residence explained that all undergraduates would be housed in the dormitories, and that the transfers who are usually forced to search elsewhere for living accommodations.

The Inter-Fraternity Conference Rushing Committee reported "Most houses cooperated extremely well with both the old and new rating rules. This resulted in less hard feelings during this period of pressure on the chapters." The new rule this year limited the time a freshman could be out of the chapter house for four hours and limited the time he could be away from a telephone for three hours. The IFC has received no official complaints yet, although it is rumored that several violations did occur.

As Rush Week officially closed on Wednesday, the number of pledges in each house varied from four to eighteen, with the average near eleven. Delta Kappa Epsilon, who last year had the largest pledge class on campus, reported only four pledges this year. House officials explained that "with our large class last year, this year pretty well fills up the house." High-chance junior pledges, pledging was Tau Epilepsi Phi, Tech's newest fraternity which is in the process of building itself up. Two other chapters, Beta Theta Pi and Theta Xi, had only five pledges as Rush Week ended.

**The IFC Clearing House at the Height of Rush Week**

**Checking In**

Chris Nash '58 (right), an upperclassman, signs up a freshman from the movie colony.

**The greatest emphasis, appropriately enough, as signified by its predominance, is upon acquainting the freshman with the academic side of college life.**

**Building Seven Fire Burns Arch. Offices**

A fire on the fourth floor of building Seven Tuesday morning caused extensive damage to office equipment, records, and two models belonging to the Department of Architecture.

**THE TRADITIONAL PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION:** Sunday, in the President's House, honorary class of 1913 alumni. Here is a view of last year's reception. Dr. Killian is at the center with head bowed.

**FIRE IN BUILDING SEVEN:** A hook-and-ladder crew from the Cambridge Fire Department battles the fire which spread through Architecture Department offices in the fourth floor of building seven Wednesday morning.

According to Deputy Chief Galvin of the Cambridge Fire Department, four engine companies, including two hook-and-ladder, were called to the scene.

Galvin said that the blaze was "caused by the spontaneous ignition of bitumen-cellulose films in an office cabinet."