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Lester Lanin Is New JP Orchestra; Goodman Out On Booker Foul-Up

Lawyers Consulted

Institute lawyers have been contacted by the Junior Prom committee to determine the possibility of bringing charges against a New York booking firm, Willard Alexander, Inc., who had handled their business with the Benny Goodman Orchestra.

The firm had the Goodman contract signed by the committee, and upon its return for Goodman's signature held it, claiming it was in the business office—"presumably waiting to see if a better booking area could be found for the date of the Junior Prom. When such an area was found, in Texas, the firm told us the band was no longer available," a committee member commented.

Since no contract was signed by both parties the lawyer consulted was dubious as to the strength of a damage suit on the grounds of verbal evidence. A similar case of unethical practices by such a booker had come up at Harvard several years ago, and was lost in court.

The committee could hope to gain, however, the money lost in publicity for Goodman, and if an inferior band had been contracted the money lost in reduced ticket sales. With Lanin, though, who has as good a name, or a better one, than Goodman this part of the suit would be very weak.

Willard Alexander has intimated that it will give the committee adequate recompense for the advertising losses; so to bring the case to court would probably be relatively fruitless as far as financial matters are concerned.



Junior Prom Weekend Entertainers. Left, Lester Lanin, who will play at the Friday night Formal. Right, Kai Winding, who will appear with his trombone septet at the Saturday night affair.

Lester Lanin and his orchestra, one of the East's leading society and dance groups, will provide the music for the Friday night formal of JP weekend. He replaces the Goodman Orchestra which was formerly scheduled for the event.

Early this week, the Prom committee received word from their New York booker that Goodman was no longer available, even though the committee had been assured that he would play. His contract had been signed early in the term by the committee and returned to New York to receive Goodman's signature. Upon repeated requests for a return of the contract, the booker, Willard Alexander, Inc., claimed that the date was certain and that "the contract is still in the business office."

Committee Acts

Then the new of his unavailability came in. The committee went into action immediately, making contacts for another band "of equal or higher calibre than Goodman."

Late Tuesday evening Lanin was signed; and the contract came in Thursday afternoon. Committee chairman Sampson commented: "We are fortunate in getting Lanin, by far the most up-and-coming band of today for the dance. Every report on him is favorable, and we think he will be one of the best dance orchestras which we could have gotten."

Recording Orchestra

The group which will play for the formal is composed of fifteen pieces, with Lanin in the lead. It is the recording orchestra which has recently made several very popular records, the latest of which is to be released late this month.

Lanin achieved fame over 20 years ago as a society orchestra; a field in which he is now regarded as the top. He now has bookings until 1963, and verbal engagements until 1968. *Time* magazine said of Lanin, "The mammas book him for their infant daughters' debuts in the same way that the papas book their infant sons for Yale."

Grace Kelly's Wedding

Lanin first became known as a prom orchestra when a recording cut at Grace Kelly's wedding reception was distributed. His style, often termed "refreshing and different" caught on, and he received many contracts for such dance engagements.

One of Lanin's greatest assets is his versatility; for society dances he can play much lively music, for college affairs "his music is slower, dreamier, smoother."

At the Statler formal, Lanin will distribute the famous Lanin hats, as he does at all of his appearances.

Lanin is now booked for the Totem Pole for the weekend of October 19. This weekend he is playing at the Rhodes Ballroom in Providence.

Saturday of the Weekend

Saturday morning and afternoon of JP Weekend will feature the Field

(Continued on page 3)

Insufficient Data For 704 Moon Orbit Search Keeps On

by Joseph Harrington, III

Man's first artificial satellite of Earth, after commanding the world's exclusive attention for several days, has retreated slightly from its previous prominent position in the news to a secondary one, superseded slightly by the now complete World Series, and perhaps in a few days, even by the Little Rock situation. An air of watchful waiting, however, prevailed throughout the labs and offices of those here at MIT for whom there is still only one objective—find the orbit of the satellite. The problem is basically one of getting three accurate plots of the position of the satellite, within a reasonable time interval. This data can then be fed into the IBM 704 computer in the Compton Laboratories, which, given the proper "programming" by Dr. Gianpiero Rossoni, should give the orbit of the "moon".

Those at the Smithsonian Observatory and the Computation Center are currently waiting only for such data. One attempt to get a "fix" was made the night of October 9, when the satellite was predicted to be due south of MIT and about 135 miles away. The altitude of the satellite is said by American scientists to vary between 200 miles and 460 miles in its elliptical orbit. Using one of the weather radar sets on the sixth floor of Building 24 to scan the possible area, which the satellite could occupy under these conditions, MIT scientists and students saw nothing. This is far from conclusive, however,

since the apparatus was operating at the limit of its powers, and the data is far from accurate.

Perhaps the most disappointing recent development to those throughout the world who have "seen the satellite" was the Russian announcement that the third stage of the rocket had not yet left the orbit, but was trailing the "moon" (which is, by the way, instrumentated, at last report) at a distance roughly estimated to be on the order of 50 to 100 miles. It is undoubtedly this much larger "third stage" that has been seen at twilight by various lucky people throughout the world who were looking skyward at the right time.

Edgerly Dies

Stuart Edgerly, Assistant Professor of English and History, died suddenly Wednesday while teaching one of his classes.

Professor Edgerly had been at MIT since 1942. In 1946 he was made Assistant Professor. Edgerly received an A.B. from Dartmouth and an A.M. from Harvard. Before coming to MIT he had taught at Syracuse, Suffolk, and Northeastern.

Professor Edgerly was 53 years old. His two sons are both alumni of MIT.

It was reported that Professor Edgerly died of a heart attack, though he had not been sick.

Trio Of New Frosh Coaches

Mentors Doyle, Emerson and Strzelecki

The appointment of three new coaches was announced recently by Richard L. Balch, director of athletics at MIT. Robert E. Doyle '29, was named freshman crew coach. Christy P. Emerson '26, was chosen frosh baseball coach. Richard S. Strzelecki '27, will coach the first-year hockey players.

Doyle Follows Dubois

Doyle succeeds his ex-teammate, Frank S. Dubois, who is now coaching the varsity crew. They rowed on the 1951 Pennsylvania lightweight crew which won the E.A.R.C. Sprints, the Thames Challenge Cup at Henley and the Hamburg Regatta in Germany.

Bob started his rowing under Ken Burns at Shrewsbury High School. In addition to his rowing he played 150-pound football at Penn. Since his graduation in 1952 he has worked as a salesman for the Owens-Corning Fibreglas Corp. He and his wife live in Beverly.

Emerson Diamond Star

Emerson, a native of Greenwich, Connecticut, takes over the reins of the frosh baseballers from Ed Krinsky, who has completed his graduate work at the Harvard School of Education and is now teaching in New Jersey.

Christy pitched for the Hotchkiss School and Yale. He captained the 1950 Yale freshman team and later won three varsity letters for his exploits on the diamond. He has also played several seasons of summer ball in Maine's Down-east League and in the Anchorage, Alaska circuit.

Since his graduation from Yale, he has served three years in the Navy on submarine duty. Emerson is now completing his final year of graduate work in City Planning at Tech. While in the Navy, he organized a team from the USS Orien and pitched for Sublant in the Fleet Tournament.

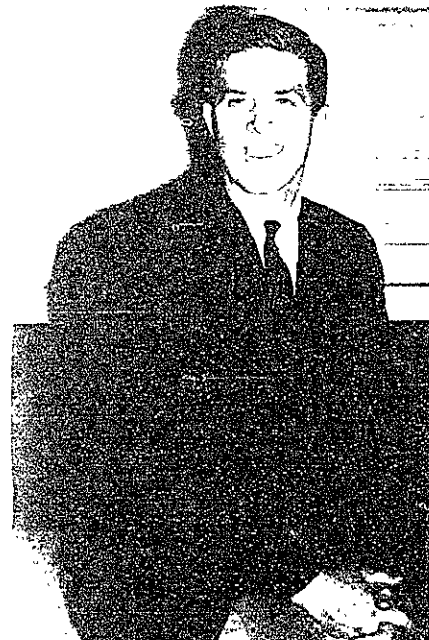
MIT Ice Veteran

Strzelecki replaces onetime N.H.L. star Paul Ronty, who has given up coaching to concentrate on business.

A native of Detroit, Dick tended goal for Tech under coach Ben Martin from 1949 to 1953. He also served as captain of MIT's hockey team.

He has received B.S. and M.S. degrees from MIT where he is now working towards a doctor's degree in nuclear engineering.

While serving in the Army Engineers last winter Dick coached a sextet in the V.F.W. League in Washington, D.C., and compiled a 6-0-1 record.



Pictured above are Christy Emerson, new frosh baseball coach, and Richard Strzelecki, first-year ice mentor.



Robert E. Doyle, MIT's new freshman crew coach

Asian Flu Is Here; Outbreak Very Mild; Volunteers Help Out

Authorities have stated unequivocally there is no probability of school's closing on account of Asian

Five Days In Bed

According to Dr. Harriet L. Hardy, Assistant Director of the Medical Department who was in charge of cases until recently, there are only about thirty cases of flu in the infirmary. She estimated the number of people who have flu, but have not reported to the infirmary to range from about twenty to fifty. She strongly urged all those sick to come to the infirmary as "there is plenty of space, equipment, and facilities." According to Dr. Hardy, the first large group of patients entered the infirmary on the 29th of September. The case then entered numbered about twenty-five; the peak number of patients since, has been 35. Most stay in the infirmary between one and five days but it takes about more days to recuperate completely. No member of the faculty has been affected by the flu. The epidemic is expected to last about six weeks.

Outbreak Not Serious

The Medical Department had made preparation for a much larger number of cases. According to Dr. Hardy, "the situation is not very different from the one we have at this time nearly every year." Plans have been made for a more serious outbreak and Dr. Hardy said that

(Continued on page 4)