More Emphasis On Vitality Needed To Educate Man For Confused Civilization

The new order of civilization is founded in science, and those who hope to be influential in society must have a sound scientific background. By Julius A. Stratton, Acting President of MIT. In an informal speech before a Baker House dinner last Thursday night, Dr. Stratton stated this philosophy, and made the following points:
1) MIT is vital in self-defense and in keeping strong scientific backgrounds.
2) Engineering courses must be backed up with a fuller, indispensable foundation of basic science.
3) A four-year undergraduate education can no longer be sufficient.

New Nuclear Engineering Dept. To Be Headed By Manson Benedict

The new MIT reactor is not designed for commercial exploitation, but for a "cool" one intended for research. Professor Benedict is in charge of the project. However, students receiving degrees in nuclear engineering will be prepared for professional work in design and operating power reactors.

Radiation shielding study will be necessary in any reactor to be protected by atomic energy, since air-borne, positive and negative radia- tive or co-ordinate shields. Nuclear chemical technology courses will cover processes used to refine uranium, separate isotopes, and isolate nuclear fuels from the radioactive material produced in reactors.

In addition to classes in engineering, science courses will be available to undergraduates but the department will give degrees only for gradu- ate work. Establishment of the de- partment will be effective July 1.

The first course in nuclear engineering was offered in 1912 to the President of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and then others have been developed up to this time. This new department, headed by Dr. Walter G. White, will be organized.

The modern liberal education must draw from the scientific context. The Baker House dining hall was filled with listeners as Dr. Stratton spoke. He began by saying that in his two months as president, he was struck by the peculiarity of occupant's attitude toward belonging and participation. He then went on to state the basic prin- ciples and philosophies of the insti- tution.

"This is the most extraordinary period of human history," Dr. Stratton said, "so presents the best opportunity for the change. MIT must now prepare its students for what lies ahead in the future. You, the students, will play a great part in the development of science. It is essential that you must remember that simply eliminat- ing the 'Russian threat' will not solve our problems."

Significant of the changes in science and technology, Dr. Stratton stated that they have caused a strong recon- sideration of the MIT's liberal education, in order to take part. The different engineering courses overlap into other de- partments, and share each others techniques and courses. He also stated this problem, and to give MIT students a broader preparation for future work, "there is an increasing feeling among a large part of the faculty that engineering must have a stronger basis in chemistry, physics, and math- ematics. But this must not be too far, else MIT would be a 'school of applied science' like Cal Tech or Har- vard."

Science and engineering are two different ways of looking at the same continued. Science seeks to advance the foundations of knowledge, while en- gineering seeks to harness the feelings to our ends. We must increase the science background of engineering, but we must not sacrifice our special disciplines."

Dr. Stratton also said that a few four-year undergraduate engineering courses cannot completely prepare a professional man. He described the function of MIT as providing a "liberal education that are professional people for preparation for professional work.

Baker House is Changing

Baker House is changing. The change was announced early in the year by the Baker House Committee. These changes are: a new dining room, a pleasant community..., and its environs are a bleak place.