more comment on tech show

The Tech

In response to last issue's "comment on Tech Show" we have received several letters discussing the matter. The first is from Prof. William C. Greene, family advisor of the show; the second from Mr. Michael Intriligator, General Manager of the 1958 production, and Mr. Louis Kehoe, who wielded the same position this year. Each feeling has been expressed that the author of our comment had not written the article in a completely objective light. If this is true we apologize to anyone whose comment unjustly criticized. Ed.

letters

To the Editor of The Tech:

Perhaps I should say a few words about Tech Shows. The present series of them were begun in 1947 by Bob Hildebrand and Jack Kiefer for the sake of fun by undergraduates. The present show is the thirteenth of this series. During this time writing, composing, directing, performing, and managing have been almost entirely in the hands of undergraduates.

Breaking with earlier Techers which had ended in May, the present series decided to use girls in female roles, disliking the inevitable falsities and vulgarity of boys pretending to be girls. For some years the female parts were largely taken by co-eds and wives of students; that supply seemed to run out and lately girls have come from nearby colleges. The male parts have been filled mostly by graduates for undergraduates. The present show is the thirteenth of this series. During these thirteen years I have often, when they say a thing is right that he thinks wrong, he has most of the time found he can; he has learned that a producer of the Joshua Logan type was engaged; he cost ten thousand dollars and there was no Tech Show the next year for the intentions and capacities of Tech Show cannot be professional, even were George Abbott to direct them.

In this enterprise the faculty advisor can be, I suppose, dominant and dogmatic. If the purpose of Tech Show be to make a profit for MIT, then the Institute should hire the best director, composer, choreographer, and performers for the singing leads available. Indeed some of them have tried to find the long path, and Agnes de Mille is the right sort. This sum was significantly less than the expenses of a road trip. This sum was significantly less than the expenses of a road trip. This sum was significantly less than the expenses of a road trip. This sum was significantly less than the expenses of a road trip. This sum was significantly less than the expenses of a road trip. This sum was significantly less than the expenses of a road trip.

To the Editor:

In its last issue, The Tech published an unfair and fallacious article concerning TECH SHOW. In particular, this "comment" betrayed ignorance of the purpose of TECH SHOW, the position of the show's faculty advisor, and the show's finances.

Far from being an "MIT public relations affair," TECH SHOW is an organization whose purpose is to afford MIT undergraduates the opportunity to utilize their skills and talents in the preparation and production of an annual musical comedy. It is the policy of the organization to function exclusively on the basis of undergraduates although girls from nearby schools and others of the MIT community do participate in many phases of the production. These people do the best job they can—not for better MIT public relations, not merely for THE TECH, but rather from the satisfaction of using their talents toward the realization of a complete presentation. But one need not apologize for TECH SHOW from constituting a "crime" or even a detriment to MIT public relations, TECH SHOW in recent years has been enthusiastically received in Cambridge, Northampton and Poughkeepsie.

TECH SHOW is very fortunate to have Professor Greene as its faculty advisor. In Professor Greene are combined the assets of many years of theatrical experience; a long and concerned tradition of the parent organization. Professors Gurnitz and Kiefer for the sake of fun by undergraduates.

The conclusion of the Tech Show's finances. The finances of TECH SHOW should be cited. The reviewer has mentioned a ten or fifteen thousand dollar "crime" (or such a figure as "thrown away"). The TECH SHOW has had to pay its share of the expenses of a road trip. This was significantly less than the figure cited. This year the TECH SHOW expects to make a profit of about one thousand dollars.

We hope that this statement will help clarify the position and policy of the TECH SHOW for all those interested and concerned.

Michael D. Intriligator '59

Lucy Howowich '59

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