Presidents and Principles

President Straton has met, and men well, one of the critics he set for the university president in his inaugural address: "He must himself be prepared to take positions on matters of educational import."

The legality oath provision in the National Education Defense Act is an item of such import. And Dr. Straton has spoken wisely regarding it, as have other influential members of the MIT board.

To a vast majority of the people in this country the oath looks innocuous enough, so many it must seem like a very fine, and perhaps appropriate safeguard for the future scientists, educators and leaders of our country. But the freethinkers at stake in the oath provision is one of far greater importance than mere academicism. Each of the past four years Gerry Litton has delighted a Kenge Audicience audience with his performance of a piano concerto with the MIT Symphony Orchestra. Last year it was the Tchaikovsky First Piano Concert, last Saturday he gave a memorable performance of Gershwin's Concerto in F.

The orchestra, under the direction of John Corley, was excellent in its support of Litton. After a slightly shaky beginning, which was reminiscent of their somewhat less polished edition of the La Zaga Lada Overture of Rossini and of Pohlotoff's Lieutenant Kije Suite, the under-rated string section managed to achieve a sustained tone quality, and thereafter the entire ensemble demonstrated fine precision of attack and a balanced tone. Mr. Litton captivated the whole pulsing life of the Charlestone rhythms of the first movement, though in one or two instances he seemed slightly out of path. A fast and touch sensitive dynamic control characterized his interpretation of the slower middle movement. The wind and string sections did an especially nice job in this movement, and fine solos were heard from violin, flute and trumpet. The tempo seemed a little too slow, but the blues matrix was treated with feeling by soloists and orchestra.

Mr. Litton's flawless finger technique was very apparent in the violent final movement. Close cooperation between piano and conductor made this movement the most exciting part of the concert, and provided a sparkling climax to a high quality performance. The nearly full house was fed in its applause of Litton and the orchestra, and with good reason.

- Noel S. Bartlett, '50

college work

If you consider your existence inefficient, submerged in a bureaucratic morass, take heart from this story of one University of California freshman. Finding ROTC mandatory at Cal, this individualist began a seven day hunger strike on the steps of a university building to protest his induction into the military. Although he quit his starvation program after 50 hours (when his father, an Air Force inducement into the military. Although he quit his starva-

ion Vienna aftermath

The Vienna Youth Festival, the seventh Communist directed gathering of students from all parts of the world, ended on August 4th.

Since, newspapers and pamphlets throughout the world have been filled with the repercussions of the festival. Yet it is abundantly clear that the issue that was at stake was not exactly what went on in that little gathering.

The press reports are literally worlds apart; the worlds are as usual, the East and the West.

In most of a Berlin daily called the participation figure (which means truth) decried the hypocritical efforts (one else evidently did), largely because they thought it natural to talk about the Sig Ep blast of the previous night. What they did object to was an exercise in group singing of "There's a rich, fulfilling, "all's well" feeling.

The only vice reported in the event was the fun without getting drunk?" asked the other. "I guess it's a bureaucratic morass, take heart from this story of one University of California freshman. Finding ROTC mandatory at Cal, this individualist began a seven day hunger strike on the steps of a university building to protest his induction into the military. Although he quit his starvation program after 50 hours (when his father, an Air Force

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