Where’s SCEP?

An ad sub-committee of Inscomm has been formed to investigate the possibilities of an Honor System at MIT. The mere mention of the idea brings to mind a whole host of problems connected with the inception of such a system. At present the group is polling faculty and student opinion on the subject, and hopes to report with an incisive list of pros and cons in the weeks following vacation. We look forward to their report, but before the work progresses any farther, we must retain the caution of waiting with SCEP from any part of it. What is the purpose of maintaining a Student Committee on Educational Policy if not for just such investigations as this? SCEP is often accused of inaction and lack of real purpose. The proposal of an Honor System for MIT is a golden opportunity for this group to prove that it is worthwhile. We are surprised at the Institute Committee for not making the group to prove that it is worthwhile. We are surprised at the mere mention of the idea brings to mind a whole host of problems connected with the inception of such a system. At present the group is polling faculty and student opinion on the subject, and hopes to report with an incisive list of pros and cons in the weeks following vacation. We look forward to their report, but before the work progresses any farther, we must retain the caution of waiting with SCEP from any part of it. What is the purpose of maintaining a Student Committee on Educational Policy if not for just such investigations as this? SCEP is often accused of inaction and lack of real purpose. The proposal of an Honor System for MIT is a golden opportunity for this group to prove that it is worthwhile. We are surprised at the Institute Committee for not making the group to prove that it is worthwhile. We are surprised at

Dear Sirs:

I am writing this letter to express my concern regarding the proposed Honor System at MIT. I believe that such a system would have a negative impact on our campus community and I am writing to urge you to reconsider.

Firstly, I am worried about the potential for enforcement and bias. A system that relies on accusations and punishments can lead to a culture of fear and suspicion, which I believe harmful to our academic environment.

Secondly, I am concerned about the impact on academic freedom. The Honor System could potentially discourage open and honest discussion, which is essential for the pursuit of knowledge.

Finally, I am worried about the precedent it could set. Once this system is in place, it could be difficult to remove or modify it in the future.

I urge you to consider the implications of implementing such a system and to seek alternatives that promote a culture of integrity without sacrificing our values.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

The Tech

VOL. LXXX March 22, 1960

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letters to the editor

Campus Board on EPIC

To the Editor

The Tech

The past few weeks, a new attempt of southern Negroes to break the barriers of segregation has brought about a strong feeling against unfair discrimination in this country. In my area, I was just joined to this group. I decided, however, that it would be better to wait a while to take any part in the struggle. I have not yet decided to speak to those opposing EPIC before making a decision. I regard that I am unable to attend any of the EPIC meetings, but I have spoken at lengths to the people of the Woolworth picketers, and have consulted doctors of people on both sides of the issue.

Therefore, I feel that I may be able to bring some light to the situation. I will present some observations, then put in my personal conclusion, it will fit with the conclusion already reached by the campus board on EPIC, which is coincident with the following observations:

1. The vast majority of those whose first reaction was to be against EPIC, acknowledged that they had not even had the consideration to speak up, and the EPIC members and get their views.

2. Most of the EPIC members I spoke to have been long been fratricidal. The fact that the United States, which has fought many bloody wars, preserves democracy, is still greatly lacking internally in this era. This has been very much heralded that the southern Negro act at last, taking some initiative in ending their own plight, and I feel an obligation to stand up and show, by letter writing and picking, their support for this action.

3. The feeling is so strong in some cases that the EPIC members are, lowering their school work to slip, and are even considering taking extra term or so to allow time for their cause. Thus they are prophetic that they are right. In every case, they will get to them (label) for a case they think is just.

4. However, a small fraction of their supporters are, finally, the "still remainder." They are not at all sophisticated, but only hide issues under action in a "means to justify ends" framework.

5. The picketers at Harvard Square Woolworth's were completely voluntary. There was no one at Harvard Square who did not step away from the store, but simply carried up and passed out leaflets and petitions.

6. Those who want all general classifications:
   a. Those who still believe in segregation, white supremacy, and other forms of racial discrimination.
   b. Those who are against EPIC, but feel that they should be done about it.
   c. Those who want to do something about it, but are opposed after all.

My conclusions and opinions. Note again that these numbers to be counted in the above observations:

1. It seems to me that it is the first responsibility of anyone who is about to speak on something, especially if he is attacking a group, it has the duty to inform himself by the exact aims and that of group.

2. I must admit that along with the EPIC members, I am prejudiced against the use of such an action, but I cannot conceive of present prejudice as such, and that this is not the case. I believe the following:

3. It seems very unfair for people who have no cause to blame, blindly attack a group which is really making a great personal scurf both of personal desires for success at Tech, and of social welfare of MIT society which seems (as evidenced by their political learnings) to like people who do not stand for anything.

4. There does not seem to be an organization, I have for following reasons decided not to join EPIC yet:
   a. I do not wish to be associated with the few moronic who do not think.
   b. I feel that picketing specifically against a single store in North would probably hurt the innocent employees of that more than the picketers themselves, and also any other stores in the same town.
   c. I feel that picketing is a very bad idea, and that it does not serve any purpose for publicity for creating a greater body of public opinion.
   d. Finally, I must agree with The Tech that their actions with proper permission and their soiree at Incomen (which it is, not only a fairly sizeable party, but not keeping with the law and order they want to uphold.

5. Regarding demonstrations and picketing in general, President E. W. Johnson of Harvard said this week that such things as "demonstrations of mass protest and other forms of racial discrimination." The Tech quotes him as saying that this is a "neutral" territory. This might be if they are going to take place, in a "neutral" territory. This is not truly a neutral territory, elected by the students in a democratic way. It is not truly a neutral territory, elected by the students in a democratic way.

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