Road Creates Furor

Stratton Denies Inner Belt Quote; Toomey Stands Firm On Remarks

A dispute has arisen between President Julian A. Stratton of MIT and State Representative John J. Toomey, Democratic of Cambridge, over remarks allegedly made by Stratton at a meeting in 1959. The meeting, according to Toomey, concerned the proposed Inner Belt road through Cambridge and the various possible routes. The Inner Belt has recently come into the news with announcement by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority that it had raised the necessary funds and was gaining ahead with construction of a toll road from the present Memorial Bridge to downtown Boston. Traffic engineers have long felt that the infill utilization of the new link could not occur without a means of shunting off outbound traffic before it reached the exits in mid-Boston.

leveland Creek Railroad Track Proposed

At a recent committee hearing of the General Assembly (the state legislature) last year, Toomey claimed that at a meeting held in the MIT Faculty Club, with President Nathan Pusey of Harvard in attendance, Dr. Stratton had said that the Inner Belt could not be built along the Boston & Albany Railroad track in head of MIT because “we have enough issues to step it.” The remark apparently caused an uproar at the hearing. The railroad track route is one of a least three that have been proposed for the road. Of the other two, one would send the road down Memorial Drive, accessing a minimum number of families, and the other would have the road cross the river at the Boston University Bridge and go down East St., dislocating a large population.

Stratton Denies

To a statement subsequent to the General Court hearing, Dr. Stratton denied Toomey’s charge. The MIT position held in a statement to several Boston newspapers that “I think that even Mr. Toomey will have to agree that it would be difficult to find any situation that has shown up as much concern for the larger Boston community — not only Cambridge and staff — than the Inner Belt.” We did sit down and talk about the general development of Cambridge and MIT and we did not have any disagreement. (Please turn to Page 12)

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Increased Use Of Computer Speeds Registration

Johnston To Support Mississippi Race Stand In Civil Rights Debate

By Thomas T. Arnold '64

Freshman registration was smoothly Monday due to an increased use of the IBM 7000 in MIT’s Computation Center. The computer prepared programs for all but a handful of freshmen, including those with special interests and those who had advanced standing in freshmen subjects. Less than a dozen freshmen had programs so unusual that they had to be made out by hand.

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