Foreign students

The rapid spread of technological advances throughout the world has caused an increasing demand for trained scientists and engineers from the new emerging nations and the established industrial countries.

Recognizing the need for such training, MIT actively fosters the growth of new technical centers in several nations. However, until all qualified students can get a competent technical education in a well-staffed and well-equipped local school, many foreigners must turn to American schools for this education.

A foreign student living in America will necessarily form impressions of American life that will affect his own life and possibly that of his homeland. As Senator Fulbright, the principal proponent of Federal scholarship programs for foreign students, has noted, there are "no illusions that all of them will get a good impression of the U.S. What really counts is that they experience our culture."

Exposure to American home life is one aspect of our culture that most foreign students would ordinarily miss. MIT's Host Family Program, described in an article on the facing page, provides visiting students with the Institute with both a broader exposure to American life and a source of counsel and orientation during their first few days in this country.

The need for such personal counsel at MIT for the student's smooth adaptation is clear. At Harvard, a successful program similar to the Host Family Program is already in operation.

The families and the directors of the Host Family Program provide both the visiting students and MIT with a valuable service. We hope the fine work Mrs. Paddelford and her volunteer host families are doing will continue and receive wider support from more interested volunteers.

Spills, threats, and tests of skill

Ah, MIT in the Spring. Clear limpid pools of glistening snow water. The soft ground coming out of winter's icy grip. It is a lovely sight.

And the question we ask is, "Why do we have to walk through all that muck?"

Consider the pictures taken near Burton and Baker Houses. After a day of classes, students must stroll through Charles River slime to get home. Likewise, that black lagoon near the tennis courts should not be there.

As the top pictures—all taken in 1963—show, we had the same problems last spring. After a Tech editorial about the situation, drains were installed in the Great Court. It was for these reasons that the administration of the Student Center decided to increase the number of the great court drains. But would it remain the same, or nearly so, this year?

Appointment

The Board of Director of The Tech has accepted with regret the resignation of Bill Plice '66 as Advertising Manager, and is pleased to announce the appointment of Mike Wiederhold '66, of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Scottsdale, Arizona, to fill this position.

The Crystal Ball

20. The present psychology section of Course 14 will become an independent department in the NEAFI future. The plans would need final Corporation approval.

21. The economics section of Course 14 will become an independent department within the NEAFI. (The faculty is so now known, I think, to the 70 students to whom the administration will announce their resignation in a short time.)

22. When that happens, as I believe it will, the General Institute requirements will be amended to require at least one of their courses.

23. The political science section of Course 14 will become an independent department in the next three academic years.

Decision time

The CLOSED faculty meeting today will discuss the GRE Re- port on Undergraduate Housing. The Corporation will not take its final action until its June meeting.

Progress report: To date, there has been no factual error in this column. As for the opinion, NO prediction has proven correct.

In Footnotes 14, I predicted two changes in the Employee's Union by the time of the Spring meeting; yet, neither has occurred. Hence, I have replaced the numbers 14 and 21 with zeroes, respectively.

In Footnote 4, I predicted two changes in the future of the Host Student Program. The first has occurred: the student body has been informed that the Student Program will not be continued beyond this year. As for the Host Student Program, that will not continue beyond this year.

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