And speaking of libraries...

During the year the Student Center Library is oftentimes crowded; during reading period it can get impossible. There are, however, when MIT students need to be turned away, and often this is because there are girls in the library who just do not belong there.

When a book is requested by a student, a search is made for it. If it cannot be found, then the student may return within a few minutes, then look elsewhere. If the book is already cleared, then the student has to be turned away, and if there is no other girl in the library, then the student may turn over the book and wait for someone else to get it.

SCEP is attacking this as part of the overall library problem, but the needed steps are obvious. No girls should be allowed to "pick-up dates" downtown or in the library, and in fact, should be made available to someone for at least two months before the 8 sets of cards are recorded and the book is finally ready for the shelf. If, on the other hand, there is no Library of Congress card (as occurs in 40% of the cases) a 3 month wait can occur while the library sends for one. Only after that time, if none has arrived, will the library do its own classification.

In these days when books, especially technical ones, are so out of date, we should expect books made available in less than half a year. If the proper staff is employed such delays can be eliminated, yet some have voiced some skepticism as to whether the much needed publication will be granted.

It is a travesty to turn down the needed staff, and we wonder if 9 is enough?

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