Equality and the 'elites'

By Steve Carhart

Recently the Selective Service Act, which near the heart of all college students, was significantly revised by Congress. Almost all deferments were retained, and eligibility for deferral is to be determined only in disciplines related to the "national health and safety." It has not been specified whether this phrase includes such disciplines as physics, management, history and law.

The debate which led to this compromise demonstrates how lightly we take a very difficult national problem which results from a conflict between our ideals of equality and the requirements for highly trained manpower in our modern economy.

Equality today

Our problem, to paraphrase Governor Nelson Rockefeller, is not that Negroes are equal, but some are more equal than others. Looking at the facts of our survival in today's world, it is immediately apparent that to build a system depending on our economic and military strength which, in turn, depends on the state of our technology and industrial management.

China has a large army, but that army would be useless without a trained and efficient government to direct it, with, for example, tactical nuclear weapons (assuming for the moment that these were politically permissible to use them). A cold-blooded view of the national situation is that we will have to dictate our own "elites" to the Chinese and that no less valuable people be sent to the N. H. S.

Union vs. army

In the final analysis, the student at the Institute is probably doing the country more good by being in the military, of course, deferments raise cries of "injustice"; let us therefore examine our definition of equality. One notion of equality is that everyone should receive the same thing; the other is that everyone should have equal opportunity to earn whatever he desires.

A moral need

However, in this country we have a need to keep the army and occasionally draft in Viet N. M., he must (or at least this reporter does not ask himself what to do) end up with an IQ of 112 to be in Company "A." Of course, the Institute isn't exactly as a whole, but some of us in N. C. I. V. M. have their share of tension too.

One can shoot down here being, for instance, at Westminister in an 11.21.22. quiz, but the results are not quite the same.

The Ivory Tower

L

Although undergraduate deferments were chosen to leave their scientists alone so that they will be able to produce their bombs. In addition, through all schools are supposedly closed in order to make Red Guards available, reports have filtered out that China's technical schools are operating as a moral need.

By Michael Warren

footnotes*

79. The blackout which hit the Institute on Friday afternoon raised several questions about priorities at MIT. Although the Public Relations office and all of the hallways were immediately switched to auxiliary power, the office of Provost Jerome Welsch remained in total darkness. Perhaps before the next darkening, steps will be taken to change this situation, unless of course, our Provost prefers to work in soft lighting.

We now the lights dimmed as the Coop, the police shut the doors, barring the call of both customers and soldiers. The "hot" merchandise. One student was seen fistfully and frantically bashing on the doors, yelling: "Let me out! I have a class!"

80. The ad page of Tech Talk has had a rash of ads for parking stickers. There were two offers to exchange West Garage stickers for Albany Street stickers, and one offer to go the reverse route. (If you haven't got your West Garage sticker, yellow, 14X48, call up Mrs. J. Klass, 76-2203, or Jean 34X65; or Tom, 72X26.)

81. At least once during his undergraduate career every MIT student is confronted with a situation that may challenge his existence or his existence will be challenged by a moral question. Perhaps before the next darkening, steps will be taken to change this situation, unless of course, our Provost prefers to work in soft lighting.

82. The last two issues of The Tech have illustrated a basic controversy on the editorial board: Who will win the World Series? The three board members from Missouri maintained their stake in a boost for the Cardi.

83. If anyone happened to hear unusual noises emanating from the general direction of Burton House on Thursday night, their ears were not playing tricks on them. Rather it was a group of communication theory oriented Bertolucci that were trying to get across a wired message in an un-Mac. Mass type way. They hit connected a huge speaker to an amplification system, and were quickly enough to hear the gurgle of water running up to the roof. This message could be heard as far as Mass. Ave., and was finally quelled when the power to that section of the dormitory was cut off.

84. Two of the candidates for Secretary-Treasurer of the Class of '71 came to the Tech on Monday. Nick Carroll, Rumor had it, that if either of the election, they would take notes at meetings, and the other would balance the books.

85. The following was handed to The Tech so that it could be put in as a small notice. (It was a letter to the Tech for any appropriate papers. We have asked, but have not received any graduate student member of Tau Beta Pi interested in receiving information about meetings, or the organization.

86. As for Mr. Ehrmann's reading, a careful study of the negative removal of the editor's suggestions on the editorial would be helpful to him.

(please turn to page 5)