When MIT was 'Boston Tech'

Original faculty has only six members

(Portion of the following material are reprinted with the permission of the MIT Press from the book When MIT was 'Boston Tech,' by Samuel C. Prescott. Copies of this work are still available from the publisher.)

By Don Minning

The opening day of the preliminary session of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was February 20, 1861. On that day, President Rogers entered the following statement in his diary:

"Boston Tech,"

organized the school.

"Close to a century ago,"

wrote President Rogers and of the Institute."

Was a staunch supporter of William Rogers and of the Institute.

William Watson, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, came to the Institute from a lecturing position at Harvard. He was himself a Harvard graduate of 1857, and distinguished himself by being first in America to introduce the modeling of structures in plaster for experimental purposes. Professors Sherer and Blocher achieved distinction through the production of outstanding tests in chemistry and French respectively.

(Special thanks to Page 4)

TCA Charities Drive seeks student donations

The TCA-sponsored Student Charities Drive will be held this year from April 15 to Tuesday through Friday, April 18, with contributions accepted by living group representatives as well as at the book building. Three times will be offered for the charity of the donor's choice. Otherwise, TCA will distribute the undesignated funds among this year's three recommended charities: the Greater Boston United Fund, Care, Inc. and the World University Service. The World University Services is a charity that is relatively unknown to MIT students. Its purpose is to aid college students living and working in poverty, ill health, and with a lack of facilities. These conditions are sometimes so extreme that they are completely alien to the American conception of university life.

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