It can't happen here

Upon examination of the various reports on activities at Columbia, one fundamental difference in attitude toward the students of Brownstone Heights campus and MIT can be noted. At Columbia, the faculty was in a position to mediate the dispute between students and administration. At MIT, generally, the administration is the middle ground between the two other power groups on campus.

This has all sorts of implications. For the sake of speculation, imagine that every annual meeting of the two groups occurred at Columbia to happen at Tech this fall. Suppose, further, that the administration was the target of such activity. Speculation of this sort lends quickly to the question of who would mediate the dispute? Certainly not the faculty. In their dealings with students, and particularly with faculty meetings, the professional administrators are generally so much more used to moulding their own advice. In a situation such as this, who would act as mediator?

Roughly a year ago, Clark Kerr was removed from his post as president of the university for reasons which could only be called political. At that time, there was a motion before the faculty which would have剥离 anyone in the university from certain positions and actions. The two following examples will suffice to demonstrate this point.

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It is, unfortunate that American colleges have been unable to come to terms with American students with whom they would seem to be of far greater pedagogical value to the student to be given responsibility for discovering what is best. MIT finds, for example, that giving students responsibility induces them to act as agents of social reform. The administrations of Columbia and other universities may have had the same realization that is being faced by American college students. However, people only inspect that which they feel they have a stake in. Students at Berkeley, for example, are an inordinately large proportion of those who have a stake in the formulation of educational policy.

Letters to the Tech

Complaint

As incoming freshmen, we were quite disturbed to discover that we were being asked to pay the prerequisite for the Basic year of any student at Tech in the year 1968-69. The fee was $250, or two tickets at the price of $125 each, for the privilege of being allowed to register, or at least have the privilege of registering, for the fall term. We all understand that the fee is needed to cover the cost of the program, but we feel that it is unreasonable to charge such a fee unless it is necessary for the continuation of the program.

Also, the admissions office was not very helpful in answering our questions. We were told that the program was necessary for the continuation of the program, but we feel that it is unreasonable to charge such a fee unless it is necessary for the continuation of the program.

We were also told that there would be a work-study program for students who could not afford the fee. However, we were not able to find out more information about the program, and we feel that it is important to know about all the options available to us.

We, therefore, request that alternate courses be offered to freshmen who are unable to meet the prerequisite for the Basic year of any student at Tech in the year 1968-69.