More statements

Controversy increases as March 4 approaches

(Ed. note: The first statement has been excerpted from an article by Dean of Inscomm, Daniel Stouffer, and Prof. Warren Kohnhoven. The second statement has been excerpted by a student governor candidate by Richard Kline.)

The undersigned members of the faculty, administration and staff of Technology have watched with increasing dismay the plans of a small group of colleagues for a work stoppage on March 4, 1969. We are opposed to such a work stoppage and are distressed by the unfavorable light in which the MIT faculty as a whole has been cast by the action of a few of its members.

We share with all thoughtful citizens the belief that the benefits of science and technology must increasingly be focused on the mounting social and environmental problems of our time. We believe that the time has arrived to devote all our efforts to these ends. During recent years, the interest and support of society in such activities as urban systems, medical care, artificial intelligence, and urban transportation systems, transportation, education, world food supplies and control of pollution is a clear indication of our community's devotion to the solution to the problems of being society. A significant part of this important work now underway would, in our view, be far more meaningfully and responsibly undertaken as a work stoppage.

Members of the MIT faculty, including those planning the March 4 work stoppage, propose and undertake a discussion of options available to themselves. A clear and unclouded examination of a fundamental basis for justifiable community support. Certainly the most important results of such research can be employed either for the betterment or the detriment of society. But, we do not believe this justifies our giving up such research or stopping it for even a day in protest against the usages which society may later make responsible.

MIT dedicates its uniqueness from a long tradition of seminal effectiveness of integrating science and technology to social needs. Sponsored research, including that supported by the Department of Defense, in conjunction with the educational process, has been at the heart of these activities. It may be a popular misconception that government support of research has been detrimental to the universities. The facts overwhelmingly refute this misapprehension. In the past two decades, this support has strengthened the educational environment of the universities by giving faculty members new freedom to initiate research of their own choosing and by providing ever increasing numbers of graduate students the financial opportunity to do graduate work. It is our sincere conviction that as long as the defense and security of our nation is a compelling social need, the resources of great universities should be devoted to it as well as other social needs.

Finally, we assert that thoughtful implementation of ways in which better balance and improved effectiveness can be achieved in the application of science and technology to the solution of mankind's problems, is welcomed by every sign of this statement. But, we would insist that they be done in an atmosphere of quiet and thoughtful examination, divorced from the atmosphere of public publicity and confusion which is the hallmark of a work stoppage for the March 4th meeting.

(Vol. 89, No. 6 Cambridge, Massachusetts, February 28, 1969 FIVE CENTS)

Commons remains compulsory; ‘Club system’ will be started

By Joe Kashi

Dean Weddington's appearance at Baker House Wednesday night confirmed the existence of a very wide gap between what we have to eat and what is responsible for the management of the Commons Dining Hall.

Speaking at a "Buttery" on the various factors affecting both economic factors and the social factors of commons, Dean Weddington said that it is inevitable that we will have to eat at a carte meal system. However, those students who feel that they cannot tolerate the meal being served in our house (Burton, Baker, or McMur- 

City housing crisis worsens

By Robert Dennis

The housing crisis in Cambridge has definitely worsened in recent months, according to data compiled by Institute Real Estate Officer Antony Herrey.

The situation is basically one in which a much larger number of apartment-seekers are competing for a decreasing amount of available units. Mr. Herrey relates that his office recently listed 340 apartments in November, 1969, but had only 253 by January 1969.

The rent spiral, which has been going on for several months, is certainly the belief that the benefits of this support has strengthened the educational environment of the universities by giving faculty members new freedom to initiate research of their own choosing and by providing ever increasing numbers of graduate students the financial opportunity to do graduate work. It is our sincere conviction that as long as the defense and security of our nation is a compelling social need, the resources of great universities should be devoted to it as well as other social needs.

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