Letters to The Tech

No answers

To the Editor:

I am not writing to offer any advice about the problems with which MIT is now grappling. You have all heard the expressions we have had led me to believe that there are relatively few problems which will remain unsolved by a little study, solution, or even easy definition.

As a new graduate taking my first job, I was startled that I would be expected to have the capacity to use my knowledge in a meaningful manner. Today, I am overwhelmed by the magnitude and complexity of the problems we must face. I am filled with a feeling of sadness and I felt helpless to do anything significant to solve those problems. Gradually, I learned to look for small, distinct areas of a problem that I could possibly be able to contribute to, and I was satisfied with working on those areas.

From my discussions with others in many different fields, I feel that my first work experience, where I met people, was not the usual thing that happens when an idealistic but inexperienced young person sets out to deal with real problems, even in a field in which he has had special training.

I am now much involved in the current problem of the recent events at MIT, after becoming aware of the atmosphere of all persuasions, as well as newspaper accounts of the more dramatic aspects of the past week. I am not even sure that I know what the real underlining questions are. The only firm belief that I have in relation to current turbulence is that if significant action of any kind is taken in response to the pressure of students, who cannot possibly have a thorough understanding of the complex problems at issue, the students will have grave repercussions on MIT as an institution and on the university.

I regret that I must withdraw my name for personal reasons.

Bruce Schwartz

SCHIZE.D

The history of German universities in the 1930's does indeed contain a lesson. They represent an extreme example of politicized universities. Perhaps when we go down this road we will be fortunate and may achieve the fun, games, and total decriminalization of Latin American universities where everyone is both political and university policy is dictated at the whim of the political forces in power.

When universities become politicized they shortly become the servants of political forces from outside the campus. The reason is obvious. As agents of political power, the universities

They knew how to riot...