Education at MIT?

By Bruce Peets

Last Thursday more than half the people on Commons gave up their meals to help fill the coffers of the Pakistan relief fund. The ad hoc committee of Dorm Comm that cooked it did so with the best intentions of obtaining money from the students. It netted $1,090.80. It wasted $860.38.

Each student on Commons pays three dollars a day for meals. Only $1.66 of this normally used for food and thus available to the fund. The rest is primarily salaries for the workers, which must be paid whether the students show up for Commons or not.

Further, the Dining Service, as a part of their obligation to the students, had to keep excess food on hand in case those signed up for the "fast" elected to buy meals for an additional $3.00. Consequently, the scene in Commons last Tuesday consisted of racks of food that would be eaten another day rebaked. The workers, having nothing else to do, played cards.

For one thing, there was some question among students if this was really supposed to be a fast. Many misinterpreted the flyvers, thinking that Baker would be the only West Campus dining hall open, and that every other would be closed. It was being less expensive to operate one dining hall than many. As a result, the students who had backed out of the program at MacGregor lost out.

Many other students merely bought food to eat elsewhere. Those who went out simply paid $1.66 for the day, leaving both the students and the lab techs on the short end. Buying any two meals back from Commons that day could cost them $6.00 and so does eating out elsewhere.

In its initial stages, the program was a kind of glamour. It appealed to the liberal spirit and humanitarianism. It produced guilt feelings by setting up boohs at the entrance to the dining hall.

There were, and still are, ways of contributing cash to the Pakistan relief fund. Last week UNOC was devoted to it. APO had a collection box for the relief fund. Any of the 657 students who bought food in Commons last Tuesday could have better served the Pakistanis by contributing cash instead of good will.

Money wasted on fast for Pakistan

Humanities

(Continued from page 4)

The Tech welcomes its readers to submit letters to the editor on any subject of general interest to the MIT community. Letters will be printed subject to space limitations.

All letters should be typewritten and triple spaced; all letters must be addressed and signed. Letters should be sent through Institute mail to W20-483 or by the U.S. postal service to Box 29, MIT branch, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139.

Human sexuality in human relationships

(Continued from page 4)

A person needs to develop his sexuality.

For instance, MIT's environment—sterile, problem oriented and highly aggressive—is not conducive to the development of individual sexuality either. The MIT student lives in a highly type environment, where people are not placed in competitive situations, but rather in a environment of general trust and understanding. The ideal of coeducation should help a young man to approach a young woman with the understanding that she is not there for his sexual gratification, but for her own purposes. The ideal of coeducation would aid this student in making a transition into society.

People do not like to be told what is expected of them; they like to be told what is not expected. Yet this is what MIT students are being told. MIT students are told that they are supposed to be good students, and that they must do well in their studies. They are also told that they must be good citizens, and that they must be good citizens to society. They are also told that they must be good citizens to themselves, and that they must be good citizens to their fellow students.

The Tech Tuesday, December 8, 1970 PAGE 5