MIT officials read "Poetry of Unrest"

By Paul Schindler

In an event some observers called "unprecedented," reliable sources report that three MIT students and maybe more showed up at both the 24 Hour Coffeehouse and the office of The Tech, in response to a student prank.

Last Monday's parody issue of Tech Talk (The Tech, Tuesday, February 6) contained an announcement and a story which contained that Vice President Constantine Simonides and John Wynne, and Wynne's assistant James Culliton, would read the "Poetry of Unrest." The article went on to quote fictitious verse which the trio might have read to students during last spring's demonstrations.

The Tech offices received an anonymous phone call which asked. We must warn you. I must warn you. Your actions are disruptive and must not continue! So get off your asses and be out of here in five minutes or all your privileges will be denied. You will be subject to prosecution and 30 days incarceration and members of the MIT community will face the Discipline Committee.

The Tech, Tuesday, February 13, 1973

Poem One

I must warn you
Your actions are disruptive and must not continue!
So get off your asses
and be out of here in five minutes
or all your privileges will be denied.
You will be subject to prosecution
and 30 days incarceration
and members of the MIT community
will face the Discipline Committee.

Poem Two

What a pity they did not stay
the whole 24 hours,
when they had a chance.
I'm not the only one who feels
unhappy and moody after a night
or two of reading this stuff.
For pity's sake, what does it
mean to you?

Poem Three

The Advance of Chastisement
from Plato's dialogue Gorgias (113 a)

Those who derive advantage,
you or anyone, from the sufferings
of gods and men, are such as have
been guilty of offenses that can
be cured; yet it is through pain
and torment that advantage is
desired both here and in Hades; for
injection cannot be got rid of
in any other way.

Poem Four

(This was addressed to The Tech)

The road is long.
Red, Violets are blue.
Here is a sample of poetry
from us to you!

By Oscar Wilde

Staged by Joseph Everingham

Serves - William D. Roberts
Counsel - Linda Martin

Lighting - Edward Darna

Fri., Sat., Sun. Feb. 15-17, 1973 at 8:30 PM
Little Theatre, Kresge Auditorium, MIT
Tickets $2.25 Reserve: 253-4720

MIT Musical Theatre Guild
announces
AUDITIONS for
Gilbert and Sullivan's

Rudolfoire

Monday - Thursday
Feb. 12-15
Kresge Rehearsal Room B
7:30-10:30

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Transaction 1

Buy a CARNIVAL ON VALENTINE'S DAY
Wednesday, February 14
Bidg. 10 Lobby

25c

THANK YOU FOR NOT SMOKING!

We keep being told that there's much less public smoking than there used to be. We want to thank those who have considered the effects on others.

We'd like to think that over very-low-key campaign at M.I.T. had something to do with the reduction of smoking in meetings and classrooms, but we have to recognize that there has been a growing awareness nationwide of the harmful effects of tobacco smoke on nonsmokers.

An administration committee has encouraged A.S.H. to undertake an education campaign at M.I.T. on the effects of smoke on nonsmokers so that the increasing self-restraint of smokers may be bolstered. This notice is part of that campaign.

The 1972 report of the surgeon general on the health consequences of smoking included a chapter on 'public exposure to air pollution from tobacco smoke.' More and more studies are showing that nonsmokers can inhale more harmful constituents of tobacco smoke than smokers themselves because of the filtering effect of the unburnt tobacco in the cigarette. Carbon monoxide levels of 80 ppm have been measured in smoky offices. Tests have shown that exposure to only 50 ppm for 27 to 90 minutes after auditory discrimination, visual acuity and the ability to distinguish relative brightness. Measurements of 3,4-benpyrene levans in, for instance, smoky restaurants have shown concentrations ten to fifty times those in the outside atmosphere.

We're not sure exactly what effects there are, and the other 27 compounds in cigarette smoke judged or suspected to be probable contributors to the health hazards of smoking actually have on nonsmokers. But an awful lot of people don't like the effects. A government survey showed, for instance, that the majority of adults in the U.S. don't smoke. Of this majority, 75% objected to the presence of smoke in the air it had to breathe. Eye irritation was experienced by 69% of nonallergic individuals; headache by 31.6%; nausea by 26.2%; and dizziness by 6.4%.

Even those nonsmokers may experience unpleasant symptoms from being in a smoky atmosphere, they are usually very reluctant to ask smokers to hold off for a while. But when nonsmokers write to A.S.H., they make their feelings known. Here are some extracts from recent letters, quoted with permission.

"I find cigarette and cigar smoke extremely offensive. Cigarette smoke irritates my sinuses, giving me a headache. Cigar smoke is altogether intolerable, resulting in a headache and nausea . . ." (from a student.)

"When I am in a room with someone who is smoking, I experience sinus congestion that makes normal breathing very difficult." (staff)

"I get a general headache within a few minutes of being in the presence of cigarette or pipe smoke . . . the headache persists . . . for as long as an hour . . ." (graduate student).

"Those of us who wear the standard type of hard contact lenses are actually physically affected by the presence of smoke. It causes tearing, lens fogging and drying up of the eyes after the initial tears . . ." (secretary).

"I escaped headaches, though my eyes hurt and I found it difficult to concentrate . . ." (conference member).

"I frequently experience burning and painful feelings in the eyes . . . The unpleasant smell gets to all pervasive . . . from dirty ashtrays and even from clothes and furniture . . . I have to wash the windows . . . twice as often . . . not to mention the butts everywhere . . ." (graduate student).

Others write of sore throats and hoarseness, of disorientation and forgetfulness, of the fire danger in offices.

Obviously we receive letters from people who are more affected than the average of the population. But when 69% of a random sample report eye irritation, our letter writers can't be dismissed as belonging to a lunatic fringe.

So we ask those of you who smoke: please think of that 69% of the people around you when you feel that desire to light up, and try to hold off until you can be outside and alone.

And to the nonsmokers, remember that self-restraint is easy to preach, but awfully tough to practice. So when you see a smoker not smoking when he's near others, give him (or, of course, her) some appreciation and encouragement. Say:""THANK YOU FOR NOT SMOKING!"