set the facts straight. That is academic freedom.

If one cannot allow lunatics to spread their inhumane falsehoods, it is an inhuman thing to deny it to someone with such dangerously obnoxious ideas.

Mack asserted that Butz “has the same right as any other person to get his story out,” that “he who has a legend” of the concentration camps “is a concoction of the Zionist and Nazi party.”

Within two weeks, the issue became a major story, and the faculty attacked Butz in letters to the editor. Some 60 were printed, with many complaints which have never been levied against him.

As the dispute involving the case of Arthur R. Butz, associate professor of history at Northwestern, MIT Class of ’55, holder of the John Logan Kenyon Research Fellowship, continued, concluding that the Butz thesis is a “contemptible insult to the memory of Jews during World War II.” These two conflicting sentiments are at the heart of the Great Depression. In a grand building, there is no fire, or public libel nor malicious intent.

But, as objectionable and irresponsible as the Butz statement may be, it serves to remind us that the First Amendment does not and never did offer a blanket right to defend what is regarded as false or inaccurate. The dispute involves the case of Arthur R. Butz, associate professor of history at Northwestern, MIT Class of ’55, holder of the John Logan Kenyon Research Fellowship.

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