**Frat hazing is not an issue**

(continued from page 1)

MIT as at other places is that "MIT people learn to know when to draw a line."

Even today, hazing is the touchstone of initiation. When asked about hazing in fraternities Sherwood said that it is "alive and well in the South and New Hampshire."

How about at MIT, however? This is a question which is difficult to answer for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is the near impossibility of drawing the line between hazing activities and pledge pranks of a non-hazing nature. To further confuse the issue, standards vary from place to place. Sherwood mentioned the case of one MIT fraternity whose National has such severe standards that the house was placed on probation by the National for a hazing violation, even though they had abided by the MIT IFCl's rules.

Despite this nervousness, hazing is not the political issue at MIT today that it was 10 or 15 years ago or that it is today at other schools. Institute Vice-President Keneseth Wadleigh, former Dean for Student Affairs, said that hazing is no longer a severe problem because "MIT students are much more mature-minded (than students at other schools). It's been a long time getting rid of this sort of thing and it didn't disappear overnight. I suspect there is still some." Hill, Bye, Sherwood, and Wadleigh all agree that the single most important factor which has molded MIT fraternities into a thriving system is the clear line of communication between students, administration, and alumni at MIT. Wadleigh cited a group called OSIRS which existed for a time and which held weekly off-campus meetings between students, alumni, and faculty. He said that "there thus existed a forum where people could discuss without fear of reprisal. These kinds of exchange could exist in those days. This has never been a stuffy place like Harvard and Williams."

Sherwood said that "MIT didn't dissociate themselves but gave fraternities a lot of responsibility. I cannot imagine the Dartmouth situation happening here. There are too many alumni working with fraternity. The facts are given almost total autonomy but they have people they can fall back on."

Sherwood added that a lot of these differences from other schools come out of the students themselves. "Students around here can't horse around all the time. People can't get smashed here. They can't push their friends around. Here they can't fall back on student officers. Students around here can't fall back on all the week-end. They'll flunk out if they push their friends around.

Beer has always been an important part of fraternity life. Here, a fraternity member of fifteen years ago showed himself. (Photo courtesy of MIT Historical Collections)

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**news roundup**

**World**

SALT treaty completed — The Carter administration announced yesterday the completion of a new strategic arms treaty with the Soviet Union. The agreement, to be signed in Europe next month, sets limits on the long-range missiles of both the US and Russia to some 4,000 missiles and bombers. In announcing the arms accord at the White House, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said, "With this treaty we take a step toward a safer America and a safer world." But despite Mr. Vance's optimism, the treaty is expected to face tough opposition in the Senate.

**Nation**

Senate presses gas rationing — The Senate this week approved legislation empowering the president to ration gasoline in the event of a national crisis. The measure, which went to the House yesterday, is expected to pass by a small margin.

**Campus**

McFeeley wins Big Screw — The Big Screw contest raised $392.24 this spring. The totals for official candidates are as follows:

- **Prof. F. Reed McFeeley** (winner) $57.99
- **Prof. Ralph Staley** $50.16
- **Dean Robert Sherwood** $37.45
- **Prof. Thomas Greystak** $18.65
- **Prof. Alvin Drake** $10.59
- **Ed. Dalbiedt** $8.46
- **Prof. Albert Gurney** $3.90

The most money donated was given in the name one Dorothy Conners, the Baker House Desk Captain, who received $175.98.

— By Aaron Rapoport

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**The Tech**

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Faculty members are still needed to serve as freshmen advisors for next year. Please contact the Office of Freshman Advising, 7-103, x-6771, if interested.

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