$3.50 gas tax realistic

(Continued from page 1) through the '80s to achieve energy independence in the '90s. In the short run, consumption should be brought down by either rationing or large price increases, he said. The French gasoline tax of $3.50 per gallon is far more realistic in Thurow's view than the proposed $10 tax which didn't even make it through Congress two years ago. This tax could be substituted for other taxes so as not to increase the consumer price index, he said. The international competitiveness of American industry is vital for economic survival, Thurow believes. To promote this, he advocates abolishing the antitrust laws and establishing a Federal Investment Corporation to invest in obvious growth areas. "We must play the international ball game," he said, pointing to the Japanese decision to invest $5 to $10 billion in semiconductors with only insignificant returns on investment in that area so far. Thurow considers Research and Development (R&D) to have only a long-range effect on productivity growth. The spin-off from military research is really very small, he said, pointing out that R&D would be much more economically valuable if it focused on process and manufacturing technology. "The best American engineers build missiles," he asserted, "while the best Japanese engineers are developing processes to build cars and toasters." Thurow teaches economics and management at the Sloan School. His book, The Zero-Sum Society, came off the press last summer, and his article "The Productivity Problem" appears in the month's Technology Review.

Notes

The next lecture in the "Women and Health" series of lectures and discussions, sponsored by the Dean's office, will be held Thursday, November 13, 1980. The topic will be Politics of Women's Health, a discussion on influencing Congress and the courts on women's health issues, by Judy Narayan and Norma Swenson. Co-authors among others of Our Bodies, Ourselves. Discussion will be held in the Cheney Room, 3-310 from 4-5:30pm. All are welcome.

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Victimless crime is the subject that William L. Proctor, W. Arthur Barnett and Harold Benson will discuss at the Cambridge Forum on Wednesday, November 12, 8pm, 3 Church Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. Free and open to the public.

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Economic Democracy. Derek Scargie, author of Economic Democracy and member of the National Consumer Coop Board, will speak on new political and economic directions for the 1980's on Monday, November 17, at 8pm at the Paulist Center, 5 Park Street, Boston. Also speaking will be David Sullivan and Tom Galagher. $2 donation. Sponsored by the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee. Call 426-4056.

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Applications for Summer 1981 positions with the National Park Service will be available through January 15 at Lowell National Historical Park headquarters, 171 Merrimack St., Lowell. A booklet specifically describing summer employment opportunities and the qualifications they require is available on request. Further information is available from Lowell National Historical Park's personnel office at 498-1000.

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