Absorbing not easy

(Continued from page 2)

and for no other reason, I gather that the incident of discrimination is one of those uniquely black problems that black students face. But if Dickens believes that he has been discriminated against, he should take his case to the Dean’s office or the Committee on Discipline. If not, then he has no right to slander O’Rourke.

Dickens ended his guest column with a plea for black students to become involved with at least one “predominantly black group or social activity.” Such a statement makes the reader ask what has prompted Dickens to write such bigoted and racist column, and what he hoped to accomplish by having it published. Does Dickens advance the social segregation of blacks and whites? Should we have separate black and white dorms? Separate stud- ent activities? Separate bathroom? Sadly, it seems that Dick- ens is saying reasonably yes.

MIT must divest its South African connections

The Tech is a copy of the following letter from the MIT Coalition Against Apartheid addressed to President Paul E. Gray ’74.

Dear President Gray,

We are writing this letter to concern us with MIT’s investments in corporations that do business in South Africa. This issue was raised both at our Apr. 24 rally, and at the unplanned meeting outside your office on the same day.

We want to thank you for taking the time that Wednesday to express your view — especially because it is often difficult discussion in which tempers run high.

We now take this opportunity to express our views.

Since that meeting was a large- ly spontaneous gathering of con- cerned individuals, the MIT Co- allition Against Apartheid cannot speak for everyone who was present. We do, however, fully sup- port the Coalition’s recently expressed common-subject demand that this issue be addressed.

It was the demand we ex- pressed at our rally, and it is a de- mand that we here strongly re- form: that MIT must divest all of its holdings in corporations that continue to do business in South Africa. MIT’s student community supports the demand in its continued financial support following the white South African government’s refusal to respond to our personal appeal.

On that Wednesday outside your office you objected to the demand, and defended MIT’s holdings. What follows is a recapitulation of your arguments, and why we find them unpersuasive:

- Divestment will only have a negative impact, for two main reasons. One: corporations that pull out of South Africa will lose the ability to influence the govern- ment in a positive way. Two: it will cost the blacks themselves who will suffer if corporations that follow MIT are forced to cut their investments.

- MIT must divest its South African connections

interest in apartheid will invest in corporations which have been helpful in apartheid and which have invested in corporations which have been harmful to the black population. MIT has a significant interest in this matter, and MIT must divest from corporations which have been helpful in apartheid and which have invested in corporations which have been harmful to the black population.

The conclusion seems inescapable that attacks peaceful protesters and shoots children in the street.

In a practical vein, in order for a coupon to be laid on a lab in the right spirit, it would seem that anyone in the lab holding dissenting views would do well to keep them to himself. Otherwise he might suddenly fall victim to mysterious rashes, warts and other symptoms. Does Dick- ens advocate the social segregation of blacks and whites? Should we have separate black and white dorms? Separate student activities? Separate bathroom? Sadly, it seems that Dick- ens is saying reasonably yes.

MIT students ought to be concerned about MIT’s profit, because they pay half of its tuition. The implication of this argument is (Please turn to page 9)

feedback

Proposes curricula

To the Editor:

Aside from regular communal musical gatherings, MIT under the full moon, there are few opportunities for Satinists at MIT to express their fears. I propose that Satinists be allowed to carry out a service of caring for laboratories and facilities. Far from being a problem of Thanksgiving or a pe- riod of guidance, this service would be an “ordinarily magic and supernatural.”

PAGE 8 The Tech TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1985

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