We Believe . . .

The administration of Illinois Institute of Technology has seen fit to forbid all political organization on the campus. Any student organization that would possibly reflect the opinions, or act as pressure groups, of political bodies in the nation is outlawed.

We think that this regulation has been reached only after careful and prolonged thought. But is it wise?

It would seem that the function of the administration—regarding collegiate activities outside the classroom—is that of advising students, not enjoining them. We believe that students are adults entitled to reach their own decisions, however stupid these decisions may be. The only broad exception to this principle is that the administration should, of course, restrain students from immoral, illegal and subversive activities.

This principle seems self-evident. It is only another way of stating the inherent right of all Americans to free assembly.

We have, indeed, heard and considered one rejoinder to our principle; namely, that students have the right to free assembly but not as students. The college is a privately operated, authoritative institution, dispensing its own rules. This definition of a college is, we suppose, correct — from a legal, business point It establishes the technical right of the administration to pass any regulations it sees fit.

We prefer, however, to define college more liberally, as an aggregation of administrators, professors and students working co-operatively toward two basic ends. 1) The education and development of its students and 2) Service to the community. By this definition the college is obliged to observe the rights of its students. There are, of course, schools which are—and frankly so—private business: in the narrow sense. For example, there are business colleges, trade schools, and the like. We prefer, however, to believe that Illinois Tech regards itself as an educational center, an institution devoted—among other things— to protecting, not infringing on basic human rights.

These are views we would like the administration to examine. We are still firm in the conviction that the administration will alter this, and any other of its regulations, which, upon reconsideration, it may regard as unwise.

Drumsticks And Slipsticks

It's time for the annual Thanksgiving editorial, replete with sumptuous phrases and solemn reasons why we should be thankful. We are not going to indulge in this traditional pastime again. It has all been said before, many times—in every possible way.

However, adjusting our focus to a much lower level of abstraction, we find ourselves overwhelmed with a pair of prospects unique to Techawks—an unlimited opportunity to sleep and/or catch up on neglected homework.

Thank Heavens the Pilgrims have landed!

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

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Thanksgiving -- A Holiday

Letters To The Editor

Key To Subversive Activities: Halve Wages, Return 13 Hour Day!

Editor:

Upon careful consideration of Mr. Castiglia letter regarding the Congressional Investigation of Subversive persons within the Union, I have decided that the Thomas Committee would be thankful for the following suggestions:

1. That all Union members with a working knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order be investigated by the Committee.

2. That, since only subversive characters take the time to study parliamentary procedure, all books of this nature be burned.

3. That, since union members are so unintelligent as to be influenced by this type of individual, they surely must be so unconscious as to be oblivious to the worst kind of labor conditions. So then I suggest we return to the 13 hour day, seven day week: in fact, let's cut wages 50 percent.

4. That's in conclusion, let us be thankful for Robert's Rules of Order so we can distinguish between "good" and "bad" Americans.

Hyla Siegel

Too Much Loose Talk—

Editor:

In the last issue of *Technology News*, a letter was printed implying that subversive activities are aided by a lack of knowledge of "Robert's Rules of Order." The remedy offered was a course in parliamentary procedure which would be about as effective as the no-smoking signs around IIT.

There is too much loose talk going around about subversive activities. Accusations are leveled against individuals and organizations without their having opportunities for defense. Ignored is the American tradition of a man being innocent until proven guilty. The poison-pen artists are at work smearing everyone in sight. Some of those who protest most for freedom of speech for themselves refuse it for others.

Quoting Bishop Oxnam of New York: "It is easier to summon us to a holy war than to solve the problems involved in establishing economic justice and world order . . . An idealogy cannot be suffocated by poison gas nor demolished by atom bombs. Ideas are conquered by better ideas whose truth has been revealed in practices that enrich personality."

In America, in times of unprecedented prosperity, the lower income groups are priced out of the market, housing is a national disgrace, public health and education are neglected and discrimination in different fields is tolerated. As Dr. Hutchinson, editor of the Christian Century said, "Something morally precious has gone out of American life—something the ancients called magnanimity of soul."

Louis L. Fisher

(Editor's Note: *Technology News* will award a carton of Chesterfield cigarettes to each of the two best letters submitted to the Letter Box for any one issue. Letters should not exceed 250 words and must be signed although names will be withheld on request. To be eligible for any one issue, letters must be submitted by noon of the Thursday preceding publication. The editor reserves the right to shorten letters.)

Slipstick

A number of erudite remarks have come to our attention lately. Foremost among these is the one concerning the more aesthetic arts, namely, a girl isn't an artist just because she paints and chisels.

IIT

The inquiring reporter of the "De Paulia" of De Paul University asked the question, "What is your favorite way of relaxing?" Of all the answers, long and short, the one most succinct and to the point was that given by one Vern Lipps: "I'm a newlywed."

IIT

When he was introduced to a Mrs. Hummock, a man tried to fix her name in his mind by rhyming it with "stummick." The next day he met her again and greeted her, smiling, "How do you do, Mrs. Kelly."

IIT

(This one is a gift for the bachelors).

"Pop," asked Junior, "how do they catch crazy men?"

"It's easy," said Pop sourly, "With a little rouge and lipstick, a new dress and some perfume."

IIT

She: There's one thing I want to tell you before you go any further.

He: What's that?

She: Don't!

IIT

Said the woman customer to the banker, "I would like to arrange a loan."

Banker: "You'll have to see the loan arranger."

Woman customer: "Who?"

Banker: "The loan arranger! The loan arranger!"

Said the woman customer: "Oh, you mean the one who says, 'Hi-Ho Silver'?"

IIT

"He goes to IIT? Is he a nice boy?"

"No dear. You'll like him."

IIT

We close with this rather profound observation. A wolf is a fellow who knows all the ankles.

The weatherman was called into court on a speeding charge.

"I'll let you off with a fine this time," said the judge, "but another day I'll send you to jail."

"That's exactly what I expected."

"What do you mean?"

"Fine today, cooler tomorrow."

ME: "Do you know that girl over there?"

EE: "Sure, she's Helen Carrs."

ME: "How is she on a park bench?"

Information For Free

Clearly, Then

By "Wild" Bill Furlong

That insatiable itch to cash a huge royalty check, a characteristic of embryo textbook authors, probably causes as much woe to struggling students as professors whose command of the alphabet begins and ends with "E."

Under continual pressure for some pocket money and an occasional desire to feed the kids, conscientiousness fades in the most well-intentioned textbook author. When a choice between giving an adequate explanation and cashing in the check a few hours earlier looms, he invariably picks the latter.

Daydreaming of those lush checks is the most potent pitfall facing an embryo textbook author. The initial surge of energy carries him through the first five chapters before his enthusiasm for the work lags. Then one night he comes home from an exhausting day at the blackboard, beats his wife for precisely 76 minutes, and sets furiously to work.

Thus far, he has been extremely conscientious using "obviously" or "it follows that" only once or twice a page. He was taking the student's viewpoint—he said.

Then he came upon that old derivation that had been mentally shelved for many years. There he paused to daydream. . .

"Now let's see" he mused. "Fifteen percent on a sale price of three dollars is around 45 cents. Now if we sell 5,000 copies I'll get about $2,250. Hm-m-m, not bad." He decided to see what Defrocked had to say about that derivation. Defrocked cagily skirted the subject. The embryo author turns to Grunter, then Pentser, then . . . a feeling of panic clutches his stomach . . . everybody dodged the derivation. Does that daunt our embryo author? Yes!

Somewhat guiltily he turns to "obviously" in the thesaurus. Carefully, he probes the list for a new and different way to say it . . . "plainly, evidently, clearly, . . ." A sudden resolve overwhelms him.

"I'll show these bums. My book will be better than all of their's put together." Again he pauses. "But . . . since my book is going to be that good I might as well ask for 20 percent . . . and maybe raise the price to $3.50.

He scurries industriously about, hoping to find his undergraduate notes and in them, the derivation. Abstractedly he comtemplates the list of colleges on which he might inflict his book. "I think ol' Darkfoot is head of the department at Epsilon Tech, and Cattell is in the driver's seat at Uranium U. And maybe with a little luck I can squeeze it into Chartreuse Polytech and Bewildered State U.

"Tulip bells and cockleshells; If my book is going to be that much in demand maybe we ought to raise the price to four dollars. Now let's see, 25 percent of four dollars for 10,000 copies . . ."

After counting his chickens before the eggs are hatched for a few minutes, the prof flips through his undergraduate notes to the obstinate derivation. Suddenly he blanches, grasps the table for support. The derivation is three pages long!

The embryo author glances at the clock. He makes a mental note to revise the book in a few years, sits with renewed determination at the typewriter and pecks: "Obviously, it follows that . . ."

Collegiate World

U. Of Alaska Cagers Dribble Over Opponents

By Don Goldsmith

Those who complain that IIT's basketball schedule doesn't include enough big names should see the schedule of the University of Alaska. The Northmen have carded games with Fairbanks High School, the Elks Club, Eagles Club, Civilian Welfare, Dreamland Bar, and the Sky Lounge. The game with the Elks Club might be interesting, because in Alaska they probably use real elks.

The last two games have possibilities; these games with the Sky Lounge and the Dreamland Bar might set a precedent for games between colleges and night spots. Perhaps in a few years, sports headlines will scream: "IIT Cagers Crush Empire Room," or "TECHAWKS STAGGER TO VICTORY OVER THREE DEUCES." The Alaska University athletic department is now conducting a house to house (or igloo to igloo) survey to find more basketball players.