

**Guest Editorial** 

## Campus political action viewed

From time to time the question of student, on-campus, political associations has been raised at Illinois Tech. Since non-partisan groups organized to discuss political affairs are not prohibited, the question concerns the advisability of allowing campus chapters or units of off-campus political asso-ciations. Such campus organizations are not officially allowed at Illinois Tech. The issue, which occasionally has been discussed, is simply this: would it be good or bad to allow such affiliated groups to organize on the campus?

This issue can be analyzed into three questions:

- 1. Would allowing such affiliated groups result in the appearance of socially unpopular or even subversive group organizations on the campus?
- If so, would this result harm Illinois Tech's public relations and hence its ability to survive and prosper?

Is it a good thing for Illinois Tech

to survive and prosper?
For those who identify with Illinois Tech, the answer to No. 3 is obviously, "yes; it is a good thing for Illinois Tech to survive and prosper." The question can not even be discussed. It is a "given." We can assume all people here want Illinois Tech to survive and prosper. This is not an issue. Therefore, the issue must concern ques-

tion No. 1, or No. 2, or both.

Whether local campus affiliates of subversive organizations will appear or not (question No. 1) is a matter of Tt. cannot be determined by lengthy discussions on the level of "it will-it won't". Evidence of what has happened elsewhere would help answer this question. Also helpful would be some analysis of the kinds of situations to which subversive organizations are drawn. (Since the technical staff of a nation is becoming increasingly strategic, growing interest in it by subversive groups may be in the picture.) In the final analysis, a completely cer-

In the final analysis, a completely certain answer to this question could only be obtained by trying it out.

Whether the appearance of local campus affiliates of subversive political organizations would harm Illinois Tech's public relations (question No. 2) may be easier to predict. Much evidence indicates that it results given in the control of th dence indicates that it would, espe-cially in the present climate of opin-Nevertheless, the evidence is conclusive, and only an actual trial would finally settle the question.

Some people may feel that the solu-tion to the dilemma, if such it is would be to allow campus affiliates of exter-nal political associations but to outlaw certain ones. This proposal is a separate one, not now under discussion, but the difficulties of defining the groups to be outlawed and the certain internal as well as external criticism of any such definition come immediately to mind.

In the final analysis, the issue re-

solves itself into a question of risk. Those with more at stake, with greater responsibility-those who will blame first and keenest-are likely to cautious. Those with little personally at stake, on the other hand, those with greater mobility, are likely to advocate plunging.
Victor A. Thompson, chairman
department of Political and Social Science

#### While fiddling off second bass

While rehearsing with the Illinois Tech orchestra the other Tuesday, it dawned on me that there has always been a question of whether a man who plays a bull fiddle is a musician or a toreador.

I looked up the subject of bass-flddles and now I present this definition, free of rancor or bias: "A bass-fiddle is a violin with laryngitis."

I, myself, tried to learn how to play the big fiddle and was doing fine when

I fell out of an upper branch and broke both legs. Since then, I've found out that the bass-fiddler in an orchestra wears trousers with built-in stepladders.

The way to play it is simple. You muzzle it with the left hand and guzzle it with the right hand. The rules allow you to slug with one hand free.

The whole works is about six feet tall from stem to stern and weighs 250 pounds. It has but one note; like a

grounded crow.

If you are walking along the street carrying your bass-fiddle and a policeman follows you, don't worry. He is only making certain you won't park it by a fire hydrant.

There is but one perfect way to play a bass-fiddle. Throw away the bow and

#### as I SEE

"SIGHTED SUB-SANK SAME" is a famous example of a remark that la-conically reports the success of a mission. Likewise, one might read of the report on the Junior Week Prom made ITSA Social Committee chariman Dick Wardell unmindful of the success that the five dollars net profit really represents.

When the contract was made early When the contract was made early last fall, the signers were highly optimistic, expecting a large attendance of couples in formal dress. You remember what happened after that, a wave of misfortunes that hit our social affairs and the formation of the ITSA Social Committee to help correct the situation. This appropriates the lower track over situation. This committee took over the Junior Week Prom arrangements in the assumption of its duties. It re-vised the dress to semi-formal in order that financial success would be attainable with reasonable attendance.

Wardell himself managed ticket sales and promotion, working hard to push the event. He was so

determined that he risked low test grades and missed homework assignments in order to get enough bids sold.

Five dollars profit does not sound sensational, compared to a terrific loss; perhaps

there are some who would rather have heard of a loss, so they could shake their heads knowingly at the "inade-quacy" of students in running their quacy" own affairs. I'm glad you disappointed them, Dick; here are my compliments. JUNIOR WEEK events and exhibits functioned to the satisfaction of the

central committee. I am pleased that the electrical engineering department won the open house exhibit award (since I am an EE). I am also pleased that members of other departments feel that their exhibits were equal to or better than the EE show, indicating the widespread enthusiasm and pride of students in their work.

The central committee liked our fourpage special. Articles were written with a light touch to evoke spectator curiosity and interest in the exhibits and events. Our Junior Week staff chose this in preference to a mere nondescript listing, even while they re-alized the extra effort involved to "build

up" the numerous promising items.
Unfortunately, we offended the Institute of Design in this manner of writ-

# Open House **Applauded**

To the Editor:

In the last few weeks an enormous amount of hard work was done by stu-dents of Illinois Tech preparing for Open House. The results proved to be

why was this Open House such a success? There is only one answer—student participation. Never has enthusiasm by the student been so great. Actually too much credit can never be given to the different guys and gals for a job well done.

would especially like to thank the students for such tireless cooperation and the faculty and the central com-mittee for their assistance and guid-ance. I also wish to say thanks to my assistants, Robert Bonin, Frank Lynn and Bernard Baranski for all their time and efforts.

I wish to express my appreciation for the opportunity given me to work with such a fine group.

George Aravosis Open House Chairman

ing. We regret this, since it was not our intention to offend anyone.
On a lone tour of the Institute of De-

sign, Wednesday, I was much impressed with the enthusiasm and activity I witnessed in the students. Their approach to creative design work is subjective, but not without direction or purpose: they are sensitized to receive visual impressions that puzzle the untrained among us. I found it very interesting when I began to see what they were

They can contribute much to our understanding of the principles of creative design; it will be worth a student's efforts to examine their work.

### TECHNOLOGY NEWS

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\* \* \* Editor-in-Chief.................ED MICHELIC Editor-in-Chief: ED MICRIENCE SERVICE ....JOE BASS

# Slipstick

Chemical Analysis of Women

Symbol: Wo. Atomic Weight: 120.

Occurrence: Found everywhere and

Physical Properties: Boils at nothing;

reverse at any minute; melts when properly treated; bitter if not well used.
Chemical Properties: Great affinity for gold, silver, platinum, and precious stones; violent action if left alone; absorbs great amounts of food matter;

turns green easily.
Uses: Highly ornamental; tonic for acceleration of low spirits; equalizer for the distribution of wealth; most effective income reducing agent known. Caution: Highly explosive in inexpe-

rienced hands. Girls who give up all their time To write a stuffy thesis

May have to give up love and joy And be content with nieces. "I'll bet you wouldn't marry me," he

She called his bet and raised him five.

ME: "How did you get your tongue so black?"

CE: I dropped my bottle on a freshly tarred road."

Dean: "I have a report here that says coke, soda and whisky were found in your locker. What do you make of that?"

Student: "Highballs, sir."

Kid Brother: "Give me a nickel or I'll tell Dad that you held hands with

my sister."

Techawk: "Here you are."

K.B.: "Give me a quarter or I'll

tell him you kissed her."
Techawk: "Here, pest."
K.B.: "Now give me five dollars."

Zeke returned home after eighteen months overseas duty, and found that his wife had just given birth to twins. Delighted, he bragged to all his friends. "There must be something wrong, Zeke," they said, "Those kids can't be yours. You've been away eighteen months, and it only takes nine months

months, and it only takes nine months for a baby to be born.

Worried, Zeke consulted the doctor in the case. "That's right, Zeke," the wise M.D. pointed out. "But you've got nothing to worry about. You're quite correct about the nine months, but in this case it happens to be twins, and twice nine is eighteen, right?"

For Carbeits Gussie

By Carbolic Gussie