

NO FIDDLING, HERE

"Can I go home now, teacher?" said Deputy Fire Chief Philip Brownrigg to Prof. Edward Schwarz (Safety Council Chairman) as he trudged, red-eyed, from the architecture model room on the fourth floor of Building 7. The fire, which flared up last Wednesday when no one was in the windowless room, turned into one of the smokiest on M.I.T. record.

Prompt action by three early alarm-ringers saved a lot of equipment. Expert use of minimum-damage "spray nozzles" by the Cambridge Fire Department salvaged even more. And fine cooperation between busy B & P crews, M.I.T. police, safety officers, professors, and other volunteers kept hubbub at a minimum, communications smooth, and debris cleared. But the blaze and the intense heat it generated still took an inestimable toll: either completely destroyed -- or scorched, melted, and buckled beyond repair -- were uncounted original models and drawings submitted by architecture students, over the years, for thesis projects; also, with a new crop of students in the immediate offing, many valuable architectural materials.

The fire started about 11:00 in the morning. By noon it was under control. By mid-afternoon the last vestiges of smoke were spirited out of the great dome by a powerful jet blower perched on its rim. By 11:00 that night, M.I.T. clean-up crews and glaziers had replaced all broken windows, made fire-axed skylights watertight in case of rain, and gotten the last sooty smudges off the floors.

"No one will ever know exactly how it started," said Safety Engineer Mark Dondero. George Winchman and John Craig, guardians of the shop, trace the start of the blaze to a cabinet loaded with tracings, plastics, and drawings. "I am sick thinking about it," said George. Then he added, "Even the stuff that didn't burn has probably aged a hundred years." Commented Scotsman and Royal Navy veteran Craig: "If therrrrre arrrrre two things I hate, it's firrrre and waterrrrr."

The fire had its freakish aspects. Somewhere near noon, Mr. Dondero emerged from the fiery fog with a paper bag in hand. "Sit down and have some lunch, George," he said, handing to Winchman a bag of sandwiches and one cold thermos which he had picked up, intact, from a bench beside the blackened hulk of a huge filing cabinet.



Up, up, and away

REAR WINDOW

If any honorary nominations are in the offing, the boys in the Chem Department and the Spectroscopy Lab have a candidate. Number one on their list for "kindest of the kind, most amiable of the friendly, and most cheerful of the courteous" is Mrs. Agnes Driscoll of Laboratory and Office Supplies.

The question might seem odd to the uninitiated, but when someone asks Mrs. Driscoll for "one large rubber policeman," she scuttles knowingly off to the supply shelves, comes back with a rubber knob which polices the top of what is known in lab lingo as a "stirring rod." Mrs. D, as she is called by her many student friends, arrived in her present quarters (4-164) in 1919, is still getting acquainted with the latest additions to a devastating array of paraphernalia. The 5000-odd items, both laboratory and office, under her command range from hand cream and putty knives to obscurities like enamelware pudding pans, prospecting picks, ivory-tipped forceps, plastic spaghetti tubing, rubber squeegees, "tissue grinders," and spoons (basting, dessert, tea, and bone). But no matter what is called for, Mrs. D. knows where to find it, and her researches in the myriad corners of her supply domain are inevitably patient and productive.

In addition to her charges on the shelves, Mrs. D. keeps a special eye on a back window facing on the Great Court. Through it, especially in the early hours of the morning before things get too noisy, a varied assortment of squirrels and birds hops in to pay their respects -- and collect their supplies. This to a point where, as one admiring graduate student put it, "the amount of lunch she brings for the animals must exceed her own portion by about a factor of 10." But as Mrs. D. says, "Even the squirrels sometimes play hookey" -- a phenomenon which photographer Bob Lyon, who finally caught picture at right, is the first to admit.



Mrs. D. holds court

WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE

Thanks to constant discoveries being made in the study of thermodynamics and air waves, flying enthusiasts these days have found that "soaring" isn't strictly for the birds. Properly designed sail planes (streamlined versions of earlier gliders) can also take advantage of rising air currents, both "thermal" and "slope," to circle upwards -- minus fuel -- to altitudes of more than 40,000 feet. It's a relatively new art, appropriately tagged "aerobatics" in many countries

To explore the potential of New England soaring and to design improved planes for future use

is the aim of the newly-revived M.I.T. Glider Club. The club, which had lean years after the departure of enthusiastic veterans from the M.I.T. scene, is making a fresh start, will hold its first meeting tomorrow at 5 p.m. The club's five officers, all well versed in different aspects of soaring, plan weekly sessions on relevant flight subjects, followed by weekend excursions on the M.I.T.-owned "utility plane" (see left) housed at Hiller Field in Barre. They encourage ALL M.I.T. personnel who are interested in the project and know a little about flying (but not necessarily about aeronautics) to join, and to attend initial meeting in 33-319.

Two of the club officers are experts in



Altitudes of 40,000 feet . . .

other climes. Ivan Jaszlics finds the New England atmosphere "rather mild" after more dramatic wheelings over the mountain-ringed city of Budapest. Having learned to fly at the age of 15, Ivan did some soaring as a student at the University of Miskolc in Hungary, later was a member of a flying club which designed such successful sail planes that an order for two was recently received by the club from former King Farouk of Egypt.

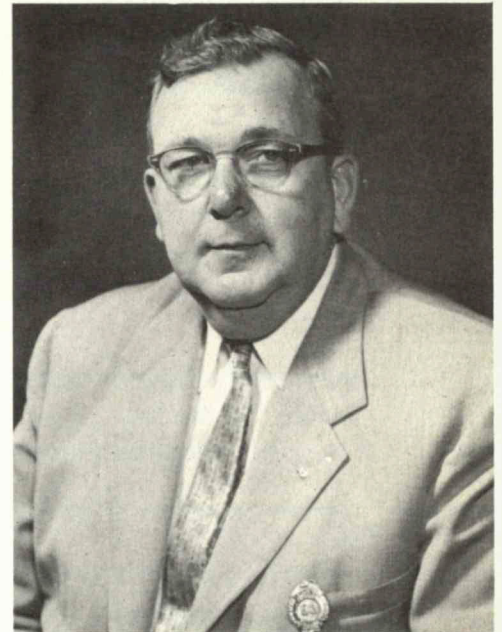
Jean Duvivier, a Belgian raised in Brazil, hasn't toyed with the Andes yet, but he did fly some 220 hours as a regular pilot in Brazil, and also had glider experience there. Jean reports that South America offers an easy method of locating proper "soaring currents." All you have to do is to follow the big turkey buzzards which populate the Brazilian scene, climb to enormous heights with their own built-in soaring equipment.

JOLLY, TOO

"Your name," said the boys who supported Arthur L. Goodfellow (Security Force, Lincoln Lab) for mayor of Somerville, "should clinch it." Arthur was already known around the city for his role in civic affairs. He didn't win the election, but he had such a good time being a candidate that he tried it three times. "Enjoyed every minute of it," he says in retrospect. And, explaining his defeats, "I happen to be a Republican. . . . We're really the last of the Mohicans in Somerville."

In addition to his political ventures, Arthur has been a long-time worker for the Somerville Red Cross. Recently reappointed chairman of the Disaster Service there, he is also serving his sixth term as vice chairman of all Red Cross operations in the city. Disasters include, in addition to less frequent crises like exploding water mains (Aug. '57) and hurricanes, all two-alarm fires. Arthur recalls that he was "christened" on the big Cott Beverage Company fire of 1953, went further afield last spring when he spent the night in Plymouth coordinating all Red Cross operations in the forest fire area.

A past president (five years) of the Somerville Auxiliary Police Association, Arthur has a rating of lieutenant in that organization, is active in civil defense work. At Lincoln he is vice president of the Guard Union, and last June was elected secretary of the national I.U.P.P.E. (Independent Union of Plant Protection Employees). His qualifications for the latter are not all administrative. In the big tournament held by the New England Police Revolver League last spring, second place in the individual contests went to Guard Goodfellow.



A lasting Mohican

WELL PLACED

Maintaining liaison with the working world and helping M.I.T.'s popular graduating class to answer the trumpeting of eager employers is the new job of Thomas W. Harrington, Jr., placement officer. Mr. Harrington, a graduate of Harvard, was formerly assistant to the director of D. S. R., before that worked in the Flight Control Lab. Joe Jefferson, whom he replaces, has already embarked on his first term as assistant provost at Columbia University.

READER'S CHOICE

For those who may not have seen it, September's Reader's Digest has fine, lengthy article on Prof. Charles "Doc" Draper and inertial guidance. Story is written by Don Murray, Pulitzer Prize winner for editorial writing in 1954.



MAINE-STAY

In 1914 Prof. Emeritus Charles Spofford, then head of M.I.T.'s Civil Engineering Department, was visited by a "ruddy, hearty, young man" who volunteered that he would like to marry and settle down as caretaker of the Department's Engineering Camp on Gardner Lake in Maine. Horace Ford, who had arrived at M.I.T. a few months before, was called upon in his capacity of Bursar to approve the appointment. Being quite a young man and himself new at the job, Mr. Ford had some misgivings about hiring personnel without somebody else's approval. But in this case he liked the applicant so much that, as he says, "I put on my most official look, scanned the young man pleasantly, and agreed that he would make an ideal selection."

Mr. Ford proved right. The young man married, and he settled down as Camp caretaker for just short of forty-four years. This fall Ernest Dennison -- ruddier, even, than before -- will retire. His ever-reliable service and excellent company will be much missed by all who know him at M.I.T.

RECOMMENDED

While they last! Season tickets to this year's Humanities Series. Events and personalities: Boston Symphony Orchestra, Pauk Quartet of Budapest, pianist Ernst Levy, Juilliard Quartet, Chamber Ensemble (Facade plus 1st performance of Prof. Gregory Tucker's Chamber Concerto).

FOR SALE, ETC.

'50 Plymouth convertible. \$250. Patrick del Marmol, Ext. 530.

'50 Ford V-8, 9-passenger beach wagon. R&H. 48,000 miles. \$300. D. B. Gleicher, Ext. 2663 or UN4-7349.

'54 8-cyl., 2-door Ford. \$800. C. J. Haberstroh, EL4-1953.

'55 Mercury Montclair convert., white with red trim. Mercomatic drive. Excellent cond. 25,000 miles. \$1,650. Chris Rembetsy, Ext. 2609, or JA 4-7992.

'51 green Olds 4-door sedan. Super 88. \$350. Ext. 3119.

'47 Chevy 4-door sedan. R&H. Recent motor job. Excellent tires. Best offer. EL4-7355.

Must sell -- getting married. '54 Plymouth Savoy, 2-door. Excellent cond. \$925. Cliff Herman, Ext. 2174.

'51 2-door Ford, Custom. 8,600 mi. per year. R&H. Overdrive. Good mechanically. Orig. owner. \$379. MI3-3263 (evgs).

Wanted: car pool riders from vicinity of Newtonville Sq. Arrive at MIT before 9 a.m. Leave at 5 p.m. John Blair, Ext. 630 or BI4-0763 (evgs).

For Sale: Hi-fi set. Radio Craftsman. AM--FM tuner, amplifier. Garrard changer. 2 separate Pickering cartridges. Altec 604B speaker. 2 furniture finish, factory-cut Cabinart cabinets. \$550 (will discuss). A.H.Sharrow, Rm. 26-356. CH3-4953R (evgs).

Elec. refrig. Past bloom of youth, but in good running order. \$35. Nell Shirk, Ext. 7193(Lincoln) or MI3-5731 (evgs).

Movie-Mite, 16mm sound projector (can also be used for silent films). \$50. Perfect for home-movie enthusiasts. ALSO: 1 Webcor Tape Recorder. \$75. Miss Mellor, Ext. 765, Photo Service Office -- 3-017.

Bassinet. Almost new. Lt. green, plastic-covered, padding included. Collapsible legs. Can be used as a car bed. \$8. ALSO: One half-crib with waterproof mattress. Excellent cond. \$10. Call Ext. 5366 (Lincoln).

Siamese-Seal Point male kitten (3 mos. old) and Blue Point male cat (1 year old). Registered CFA. Innoculated. Betty Reid, Ext. 2427, or LA3-6890.

Giving away: 3 Short-Haired American Domestic (alley-type) kittens. One 6 mos.(grey). Two 9 weeks (tigers). House-broken, used to dog. Good home wanted. Nancy Dave, Ext. 3117.

HI-FI Fans! I have a few Klipsch, Baronet, Aristocrat and Karlson Speaker Enclosures for sale. Roger Neal, Ext. 2513.

For Sale: 3BR ranch with laundry room. Small sun porch. 15,000 ft. lot. Lg.front and back lawn. Gas heat. One block from new elementary school. Ideal for children--very little traffic. \$12,300. Montrose 3-3529. Billerica.

House to rent. Winchester. 5BR, LR with fp. Oil heat. Furn. Near trans, schools, shopping. Garage. Yard. Screened porch. Year's lease. Avail. Oct. 1, \$190/month. Evelyn Jenings, Ext. 144, or WI6-1175R (evgs).

For Sale: Beauty shop business and equipment. Forest Hills terminal. Good buy. Reason for selling: other business interests. George Kane, Ext. 2470 or WO3-6242.