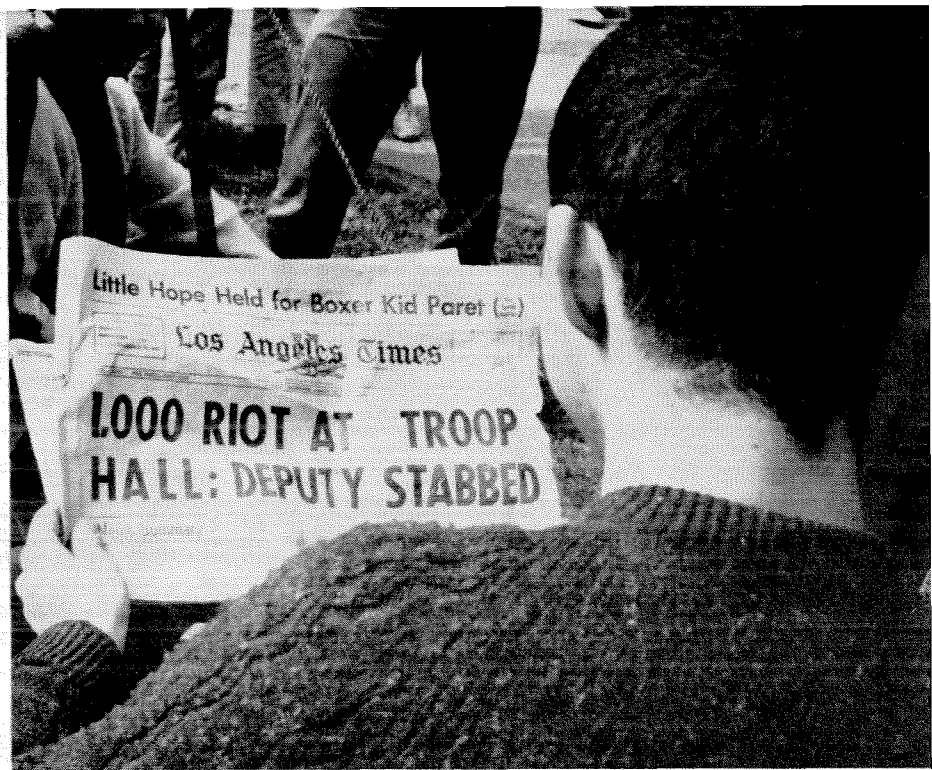


Student Life

Special edition of the Los Angeles Times (one copy – privately printed) carries advance (and inaccurate) report of the campus riot.



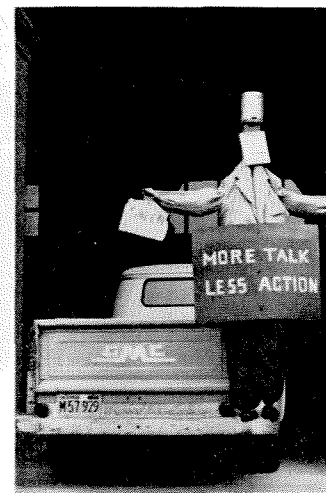
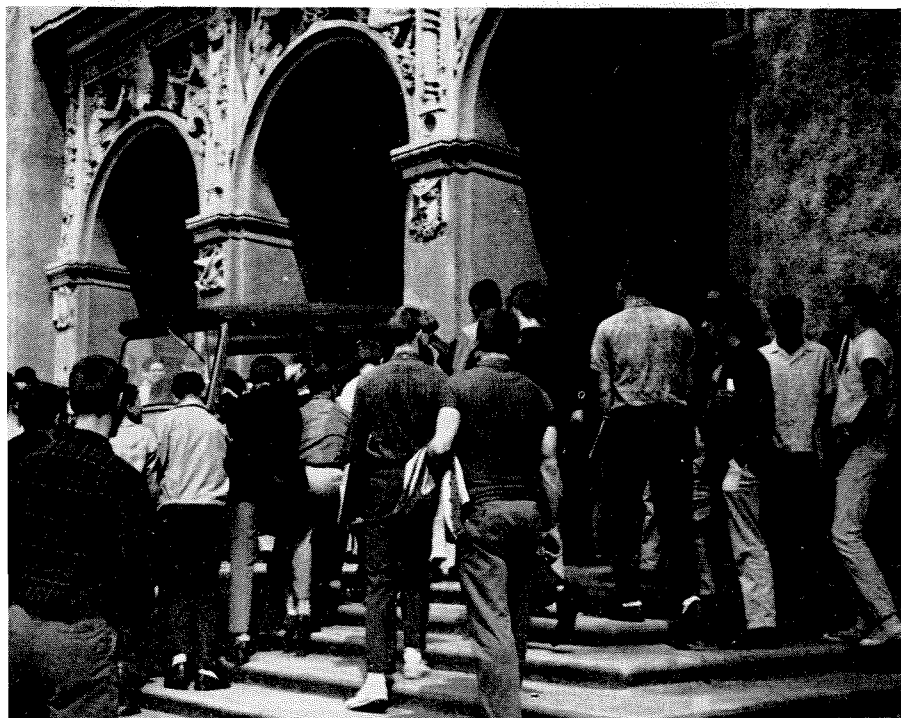
MORE TALK LESS ACTION

While the Institute's Board of Trustees held its second national meeting on the campus on April 2, just a few short yards away the student body (and a goodly part of the faculty) attended a combination protest rally and riot against parking problems in particular and administrative injustice in general.

The seeds of the demonstration were sown in the early hours that morning by a small band of graduate students calling themselves the S.P.C.A. ("Society

for the Prevention of Cruelty to Arnold"). They wished to protest the allegedly unjust expulsion of Physics Grad Student Arnold Lesikar from the graduate houses for violation of campus parking regulations. Their handiwork was seen by those arriving for work and classes early in the morning in the form of a lean-to tent complete with cot, desk, and beach umbrella, purporting to be Mr. Lesikar's new home.

continued on page 18





Pasadena police officer and the student body president exchange greetings.

Sleepy remnants of the same group distributed copies of an original "song of protest" entitled "Arnold's Looking-for-a-Home, Worried, Blues." The song, together with a sign emblazoned across the front of Throop, exhorted one and all to come to the parking protest rally at 1 p.m.

An undergraduate, studying the song, was overheard to remark, "I think we're being manipulated by the grad students," a statement typifying the quickness of insight and the intelligence of the Caltech student body. However, serious doubts as to who was manipulating whom arose almost immediately when a small Fiat drove up. Its occupants, a considerable fraction of the Blacker House residents, emerged and carried the vehicle up the steps of Throop. It disappeared into the building amid screams from startled secretaries, only to emerge moments later, thwarted by the thoughtless failure of the administration to provide student parking inside.

In a desperate attempt to proceed according to plan, the S.P.C.A. led the crowd in song, followed by a vegetable riot (consisting of everyone shouting the name of a randomly-selected vegetable). The resulting noise was gratifyingly consistent with the S.P.C.A. credo displayed on a large sign: "MORE TALK LESS ACTION."

After this incident, events diverged rapidly. A crowd of students careened through the upper halls of Throop yelling and pounding on doors. A large

B. & G. pickup truck was carried up the steps; being too large to pass through the doors, it was left stranded between the pillars. George Green, the Institute's vice president in charge of business affairs, who seemed to be the focal point of the students' ire, was crucified in effigy, and one of the Institute's electric mail trucks was parked across his office door. Another such vehicle barely escaped the howling mob of students pursuing it across the campus when it inadvertently blundered into the proceedings.

After almost an hour of confusion, the members of the organizing group, overawed by the monster they had created, were breathing sighs of relief that peace and quiet were being restored when a Pasadena policeman arrived. Misinterpreting the basic good will of the onrushing crowd that greeted him he beat a hasty retreat, returning minutes later with a sizable part of the force. These gentlemen, after finally eliciting the story of the disturbance, kindly offered the use of their loudspeaker to continue the rally, but no one seemed to have anything further to say.

Shortly after 2:30, as the last disturbances dwindled away, an S.P.C.A. organizer was located in the bowels of Bridge Lab. "Just typing my application to MIT," he explained.

— David Bowman '61
 Frank Snively MS '61
 John Rogers PhD '61

