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Dr. Bush-Brown Reaffirms Stand

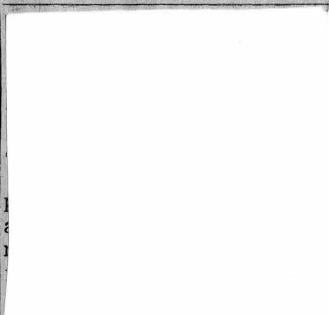
Bulletin 6/15/66

Dr. Albert Bush-Brown, president of the Rhode Island School of Design, said today student activities at the school auditorium would not be curtailed in event the proposed repertory theater is located there.

He made the remark in response to criticism leveled at the proposed use of the auditorium as a repertory theater by Albert Cohn, director of dramatics at RISD.

Mr. Cohn said the use of the auditorium for a repertory theater would seriously limit student use of the auditorium.

He criticized the "deplorable secrecy" surrounding the school's decision to rent the auditorium to the proposed repertory company.



Dr. Bush-Brown said all the student activities are in the schedule. He said each year students use the auditorium for two dramatic plays, a fashion show and a revue. "There will be no curtailment of those programs," he said today.

The school president refused to comment on other criticisms made by Mr. Cohn.

The dramatics director charged that editors of the student paper, "Blockprint," were "dissuaded" from commenting on this matter or printing student letters concerning it.

Further, he said, no one in the liberal arts division was

consulted on the advisability of renting the auditorium.

Although he said he was raising the point "with the utmost reluctance," Mr. Cohn nonetheless said he "respectfully disagreed" with Dr. Bush-Brown's statement that most student groups prefer to use the smaller Memorial Hall for productions, instead of the 1,000-seat auditorium.

Additional concern over the effect of the repertory company has been raised by RISD students who fear special programs of cultural interest, usually held in the auditorium, will no longer be brought to the school, Mr. Cohn said.