RUMOR SCOTCHED

Thompson Won’t Quit; Muses On ‘April Fool’

By DOUG HARLAN

Rumors have a magic way of flourishing on campus, but the latest rumor has just been snuffed out—at the source. Howard Thompson, director of the Development Office, stated that he definitely does not intend to resign at the end of the year to take a job elsewhere.

WHEN QUESTIONED about his rumored exit, Mr. Thompson laughed. “The only thing I’ve heard about it was in the April Fool edition of The Thresher.”

He went on to say that he had already received his appointment for next year—in the same capacity—just as have other administration officials.

He said that he had not received another job offer recently, but he added that he is “offered other jobs frequently” just as many Rice officials are.

The April Fool edition of the paper may have been the source of the rumor. Mr. Thompson said it was “well done” and that he

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got a “great big laugh out of it.” He said that the first April Fool paper he saw at Rice was in 1950—and that in those days the edition had “limited circulation.” He said that he is glad to see that the special edition is not limited today and added that he enjoys reading weekly editions of the Thresher, although he is “a little timid” as he picks it up.

“THE ADMINISTRATION now uses the Thresher to make announcements more often than before,” he said. News releases are being timed so as to have co-ordinated release through the Thresher and the downtown newspapers. He added that “this is practical,” and “our job is to be practical people.”

In closing, he emphasized that in regard to his leaving, “That rumor is strictly a rumor.”