Rice Hymnal Completed

By DICK VIEBIG
Thresher Religion Editor

A new Rice Hymnal has recently appeared in the Rice Chapel. The book is a result of much research and effort by Dr. Arthur E. Hall, Assistant Professor of Music at Rice.

The new hymnal was suggested while the chapel was being built, and work was begun in 1957. The hymns used were selected from more than a dozen other hymnals, the criteria for selection being a good tune, a text with meaning that fits the tune, and some degree of familiarity.

Spans Centuries

The hymns that appeared in the final work range from early plainsong of the time of Gregory the great to hymns written by 20th century Americans. Authors cover a time span from St. Clement in the third century to Charles Wesley.

The book is primarily a Christian hymnal, including favorites from every major Christian denomination, but it covers the theology of both the Old and New Testaments, one hymn being a translation of the Jewish doxology.

Hall Makes Arrangements

The outstanding contribution of Dr. Hall to this hymnal is the male chorus arrangements that appear with the original mixed chorus arrangements for almost every hymn. These are among the best male chorus arrangements ever written for these hymns and

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represent much time and talent.
Written For Use At Rice
This book, which was written especially to meet the desire for a special hymnal for use in the Rice Chapel, may be made available for sale to Rice students if there is sufficient interest.

Whether interested in buying the book or not, anyone who appreciates good musical work in this field would enjoy a careful look at this new hymnal.