COFFEE AND CONDOLENCES?

Masters' Wives Have Problems Too

By HARRIET HOKANSON

From amidst the realm of books and study on the Rice campus, you need take only a few steps and can be in an entirely different world — a world of hula hoops, tricycles, and roller skates.

As you enter the brick-enclosed yard and approach the front door of a master's home, you are in a different place. In this new world of colleges, the master plays a very important role, and it must be remembered that the master's wife shares this lead.

Dinner Parties

Giving dinner parties, open houses, and receptions are all included in the normal schedule of a master's wife. But, entertaining is not the only aspect to be considered. At Baker College, Mrs. Carl Wischmeyer says that it is her place to help her husband as much as possible, but it is always a pleasure and joy to get to know the boys.

She also says that this year should be even better than last year as far as association with the boys, because both the students and the masters' families are used to the idea of colleges.

The Unexpected

Besides being housewife and mother, the master's wife always has to be prepared for the unexpected.

For example, what would you do if you were giving a dinner party and could not finish cooking the meal because an electrical storm blew out the transformer? Well, Mrs. Wm. H. Masterson solved this problem last spring when she was entertaining several members of the Southern Historical Association. She merely located a friend of a friend who had a gas range and then finished cooking dinner at the friend's house. Dinner was served at 10.

When Doorbells Ring

Another master's wife says that this type of life is very interesting, especially when the doorbell rings. One day she answered the door and two admirals were standing on the front steps. (It seemed that one of the students' fathers is an admiral who had stopped by the campus for a visit. The other admiral just happened to be the commander of the Eighth Fleet.)

Another time, Dr. Houston and Dr. Neils Bohr, the famed physicist, came by for a brief visit. "One certainly has to be prepared."

Entertaining the students, meeting new students whom they hope will become future friends, and giving the student much of their time is a large task. The master's wife certainly does have an important role in regards to the success of every college.