Rayzor Discusses Budget, Humanities At Autry House

By FRYAR CALHOUN

J. Newton Rayzor, Rice trustee, told a small Autry House crowd last Wednesday night that "any talk about downgrading the liberal arts at Rice in favor of science is nonsense."

Referring to an editorial in the September 19 Thresher, Rayzor said, "I'd like to speak with some finality on this. I have heard and read so much foolishness about the possibility of downgrading the liberal arts—I think I can speak for the Board of Trustees in our intention to upgrade the liberal arts. The Board and the President are determined to make this university as strong in the liberal arts as possible."

RAYZOR, local attorney and philanthropist, was the first speaker in a three-month series on "The University and Its Work." The series will include ten high-ranking Rice administrators and professors and is sponsored by Autry House, a service institution operated by the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. Tonight's speaker is Dr. James Street Fulton, Master of Will Rice College.

Much of Rayzor's speech was concerned with the organization and function of the Rice trustees, governors, and administrators. Of the self-perpetuating Board of Trustees he said, "Trustees can do great good and great harm."

HE CONTINUED that the choices Board members make for their successors are extremely important for the university.

A Rice graduate in 1917 and the first Rice alumnus to be named to the Board of Trustees, Rayzor fielded questions from the floor concerning various university problems. On the subject of integration, he said that the Board is making a careful study of the situation and will definitely act on the matter in the future. Stressing the importance of cooperation among the university community, alumni, and the city, he remarked, "We don't want an 'Ole Miss' on the Rice campus."

In his speech Rayzor related (Continued on Page 4)
TRUSTEE INTERVIEW

(Continued from Page 1)

the possibility of tuition in the future to Rice's stringent financial problems. He noted that the education of each student costs the university $2400 per year and said that "a free ride is a very expensive ride."

ELABORATING ON the problem to The Thresher, Rayzor disclosed the fact that this year's budget foresees a $700,000 loss, the first unbalanced budget in Rice history. He pointed out, however, that with some luck and donations, a loss of this size could be avoided; but this forecast shows how severely the university is cramped in its expansion plans.

In reference to his problem, Rayzor remarked that the university's bill for utilities and maintenance in 1961-62 was greater than the entire budget for 1938-39.

As chairman of the Trustee Committee on Faculty, Student, and Alumni Activities, Rayzor testified that "the competitive situation with respect to (hiring) faculty is getting rough." He praised Rice's "remarkable record in increasing professors' salaries." The university shows a 7 per cent average annual increase in these salaries.

RAYZOR EXPRESSED high hopes for Rice to the Autry House crowd, both as a liberal and as a technical school. He said that, largely due to President Pitzer's stature as a chemist and to the petro-chemical industries of the Gulf Coast, Rice "has a definite opportunity of establishing as fine a Department of Chemistry as there is in this country."

He continued, "I have heard a great deal about how great this university is that I don't believe. We can make it outstanding—but I hope we never become so complacent as to think we've arrived. Let's just call it good and let it go at that."

RAYZOR OUTLINED the function of trustees as the laying down of general policies which the administration then applies specifically. He said that trustees must be alert to university problems and be careful to stay "in their realm" and to "guard zealously the administration's area of responsibility."

The Rice trustee praised the "very happy relationship" between trustees and administration. He noted especially the excellent co-operation between President K. S. Pitzer and Chancellor Carey Cronin, commenting that the complex president-chancellor system has been "sometimes difficult" at other schools.