$1500 SHORT OF GOAL...

Charity Drive Termed ‘Disgrace’

By PHIL KUSNETZKY

The 1961 Rice Charity drive has rapidly come to a screeching halt... and can easily and obviously be considered to be a dismal failure. The organization contributions are not all in yet, but the money collected from individual students is all in and the only description available is that it was a poor showing by the Rice student body.

With only three organizations accounted for, the total stands at $500 instead of the goal of $2000. It has been calculated that the average on-campus student contributed the grand sum of 40 cents while the average off-campus student turned in a whopping 18 cents.

EVEN THE charity committee acknowledged that perhaps the poor showing was due to the fact that contributions were not solicited in the classroom, they and everyone must be aware of the fact that the spirit of charity is not one of solicitation but rather one of giving. In order to do his part in a united all-school effort, one need not be shamed into giving by being confronted with a collection can in the classroom, he should feel a moral obligation to give on his own. Certainly, there are a lot of people at Rice who do not have money to throw around, but something as worthy as a school for blind children deserves more than 18 or 40 cents.

The organizations have been approached (this would not have been necessary if everyone had given even an average of one dollar) and contributions are coming in well.

HOWEVER, if there is anyone who for any reason has not contributed and is aware that he should, he can send his money to: RICE University Charity Drive, Box 109 Will Rice College at once.

The poor showing—or rather pitiful showing—of the charity drive is not merely a poor reflection of the spirit of the Rice Student but is a disgrace to each and everyone of us. If we need to be put on the spot in a classroom full of people who have given, in order to give one small dollar to a worthy cause and will not give any more than 18 cents if not directly approached, then perhaps the Rice charity drive needs to be abolished.