FORUM SPEAKER OBJECTS TO SUPREME COURT BIAS

By CLAIRE PLUNGUIAN

Mr. A. A. White, former dean of the law school of the University of Houston, presented at the Forum Tuesday night one of the best talks to be given at a Forum in a long time. As he went from actual law cases to very personal analogies to prove his basic point, that the Supreme Court has strayed too far from the Constitution to support its ever-increasing anti-state bias, his knowledge of the subject gained from his experience as a lawyer and his melodious rhetoric were almost enough to sway his audience to his opinion.

He began by stating firmly that he was not going to discuss whether the Supreme Court decisions of late have been good or bad, but merely discuss the constitutionality of their actions. He cited several cases to prove that the Court decisions are too often prompted by a desire to take power away from the states, rather than an objective consideration of the facts of the case.

Supreme Court Olympian

White sharply criticized the Court as an Olympian body, too far from the local conditions under which the original law suits it passes upon took place to reach a truly fair decision. When asked if he thought the Court should be removed from "the evil influences of Washington," (he had compared the Court in Washington, constantly being subjected to "national" influences to a referee for the Rice-Texas game who was employed by Texas University) he replied that he thought this would be a very good and wholesome thing.

In talking about the now-classic case of Brown v. Board of Education, White was very obviously making an effort to be tactful about segregation. In fact, he carefully clouded his remarks with so much verbosity that the only point that came through was "You don't want to have standards of education lowered, do you? Where would Rice be if it admitted just anybody" or something to this effect. He also returned to his old (perhaps only clear) stand that this was bad, bad, bad because it showed the lack of respect displayed by the Supreme Court towards the jurisdiction of the states.