Eight stories, 200 girls: the making of a college

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The members of Brown College vote tomorrow on the ratification of their Provisional Government, which was proposed and discussed at a college meeting Wednesday night. If ratified, the members of Rice's new college will have taken the first and most important step in the process by which an eight-floor dorm and 200 women may eventually form a residential college.

The most frequently voiced hope of the members of Brown, from the master to the freshmen, is that Brown College, since it is free from cumbersome traditions, has an opportunity to create an organization that will play a unique part in the education and social development of its members.

'Free Spirit'

This "free-spirit" attitude was especially obvious at the college meeting last night when the Steering Committee, elected last week and composed of Linda Green, Martha Kirkpatrick, Mary Elizabeth Holekamp, Jean Amspeker, and Sandra Coyner, presented its proposed Provisional Government to the members.

The draft for the Provisional Government is short, occupying only one typewritten page, and deals in three sections with the organization of the college government, qualifications for positions in college government, and selection of the college cabinet.

Linda Green, who presided at the college meeting Wednesday emphasized that the Provisional Government would provide only the barest framework for college organization, and that one of its chief aims would be to retain a maximum amount of flexibility in the formal structuring of the college.

Votes Taken

Another member of the Steering Committee, Miss Kirkpatrick, echoed the opinion that the college should not try to bind itself or its officers with too many set regulations and specific responsibilities and duties.

In straw votes taken on various proposals, the membership agreed by at least a majority on all but one of the provisional recommendations of the Steering Committee. The one exception was the qualifications for the position of president, which the Steering Committee suggested be restricted to seniors. The members voted to open the presidency to both juniors and seniors.

The person most conspicuously absent Wednesday night was Dr. Vandiver, who was evidently putting into practice the statements which he made in a college meeting last Saturday afternoon when he told the Brown girls that he wanted to stay out of the internal affairs of the college as much as possible.

Coach Procured

Dr. Vandiver also stated Saturday that he was a "firm believer in strong student government"; but he was also a "stickler for rules."

The Brown Master also announced that he was actively recruiting faculty associates for the college, and Head Football Coach Jess Neely had already agreed to serve as an associate and as football coach for Brown in the Powder Bowl game in the fall.

Regarding the rules of Brown College, Miss Kirkpatrick told the Thresher after the Wednesday meeting that the rules would be established by the new residence committee. She expressed the opinion that rules dealing with such matters as hours and open houses would not differ substantially from those of Jones College.

Elections Set

Ann Wilson, Jones residence chairman, told the Thresher that although the university requires the women's colleges to have curfews, it does not stipulate exactly what the hours shall be.

The referendum for ratification of the Provisional Government of Brown College will be held from 11 am to 2 pm tomorrow. Petitions for office will be due on Friday, March 12, and the college election will be Wednesday, March 17.