STUDENT COUNCIL PASSES NEW S A CONSTITUTION

By DAVID HACKETT

AT A STORMY three hour session last Sunday afternoon, the Student Association adopted the new Constitution with only slight changes. The principal issue under debate was the representation on the new Council.

THE NEW Constitution must now be approved by all of the college governments and ¾ of the voting members of the student body. The general election will be held Saturday. Many of the colleges are planning College Nights to discuss the new Constitution before the college governments vote on the issue.

REPRESENTATION under the new Constitution will be entirely by colleges. It provides for a Student Senate of 21 members, composed as follows: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, councilman-at-large, freshman representative, and three representatives from each college. The college representatives will be the president of the college, a representative from the combined sophomore and junior classes, and a councilman-at-large for the college. It was later amended to state specifically that the freshman representative would be the freshman president.

PETE HUFF read the new Constitution on behalf of the Student Government Committee, which had prepared it. This committee was composed of four members from the Student Association and four members from the Inter-College Council. Huff outlined the changes specifically and opened the meeting to discussion of the Constitution.

THE BY-LAWS, as planned, will give more power to committees of the Student Senate, Huff explained. An Executive Committee is envisioned to assume some of the detail work. It was also pointed out that there would be no Student Center Committee or Manager, since the Student Association now has only an advisory status. A Student Property Committee is also planned.

IN RESPONSE to a suggestion that college representatives be designated by class, Huff stated that the Committee felt the suggested arrangement would provide for more competition and create a better council. Since the college presidents are required to be seniors this assures them five representatives. Huff felt certain that the other two classes would get fair representation on the council.

IT WAS THEN pointed out that it was possible to have a Student Senate entirely without sophomores, or entirely without juniors, or without non-residents.

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Obviously this is a very doubtful possibility, a mere possibility, but he stated that the junior would have a great advantage over a sophomore in a college election, since he would be better known. The non-resident, who is generally not active in college affairs, would not stand a very great chance of being elected.

AT THIS POINT Harde Kilgore introduced two proposed amendments, which he had prepared as a minority report of the Student Government Committee. He proposed that the Student Senate consist of all members, as follows: the five officers provided for as in the original section, five representatives from each of the five colleges, and two freshman representatives. The five college representatives should include an officer of the college, a junior, a sophomore, and a non-resident.

KILGORE sought to clarify the powers of the Student Senate over the subordinate organizations. Disputes between two or more student organizations (including fraternities) would be settled by the Student Senate. An Inter-College Committee was provided to handle those matters.

KILGORE called the Committee's plan for the Senate a "dual" system, which is of the government between the Student Council and the Inter-College Committee. He asserted that 21 members was the ideal size for the best possible council. 22 members would be too big, and it might prove dangerous, he said, as a Student Council might refuse to obey the decisions of the Student Senate, and there would be no way to force them.

LES GREENBERG emphasized the importance of having the college president on the Senate. He stated that non-residents were specifically required in each college, alone there might be too much representation from this office. He called Kilgore's plan a "three-ring circus." He added that the question was not a matter of enlarging the influence of the College Masters over the new Constitution, but that the executive branch of the Senate, under present plans, would have only an advisory capacity.

DICK VIERB declared that three representatives were not adequately represented under the new Constitution — the freshmen, sophomores, and the non-residents. He pointed out that there were 600 non-residents and that they probably had been poorly represented. Defenders of the Constitution said that the non-residents are not adequately provided for in the government, and that if they were they command over 40 votes in each college. This would be enough to elect them of political strength in the college.

The CONSENSUS of the Council seemed to be that the non-residents should be the biggest problem. They are seldom active in college life and they have little reason to care. Some colleges have had difficulty in getting even one candidate for non-resident representation, it was stated. Others pointed out that the non-residents furnish four out of the six members of the Student Council. In reply to this it was stated that these officers were not office-holders, but that the system allowed for the separation between students and non-residents. This amendment also failed.

DICK VIERB then proposed that three non-residents be elected to the student council at large. This was also failed. Walter Moore introduced an amendment providing for one non-resident to be elected by the student body as a whole. Kilgore stated that this guarantees at least some representation for the non-residents. After some discussion this amendment was also failed.

The COUNCIL then voted to consider the Constitution article (Continued on Page 6).
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by article. Article One was passed without opposition.

WALTER MOORE introduced an amendment to the second article which specifically stated that the freshman representative would be the freshman president. After a short discussion the amendment was passed, then Article Two was passed as amended. The remaining articles were passed with only detail changes.

IT WAS THEN suggested that more time should be allowed for consideration of the Constitution before the election, but the majority felt that the Constitution would be amply discussed in the Forum and in the College meetings. The meeting was then adjourned.