Regulations On Alcohol Emphasized By Sims

By KENT ANDERSON

Recent incidents, both on the Rice campus and on the campuses of the other colleges, have once again brought to attention the question of the “possession, serving, and consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus and at student functions.” It has been a touchy problem for administrations with its difficult enforcement, official and “unofficial” rules, and the evident distaste many students hold for such restrictions.

ADVISOR TO MEN James R. Sims, in stating the “official” Rice position, emphasized that it was based on “public opinion” and the Texas Liquor Law. In regulations given to freshmen by the Office of College Masters it was stated that “The serving of or individual consumption of any alcoholic beverage on campus is prohibited” but “beer may be served at off-campus student functions when sponsored by organizations which contribute part of the cost.”

There is no violation of either University or State regulations, in practice, for discreet possession by minors, due to “time honored unofficial tradition,” has not led to prosecution by the University for possession only. Colleges will handle violations of the regulations for unruly or disturbing conduct.

A TREND TOWARD a “second Prohibition” is shown by a recent ruling in which the University (in Austin) placed a ban on all UT parties. In taking this stricter position the University Social Committee emphasized that “drinking or possession of intoxicating liquor ... will subject a student to dismissal ... (due to the fact) ... that there was too much drinking which was not conducive to good scholarship.” It was pointed out that every major state university had similar regula-