Student Participation In Semicentennial Asked

By CLYDE MUCHMORE

Plans for the October activities of Rice's Semicentennial are now in the final stages.

Administration officials have announced several additions and changes in the events of the coming month, which include the inauguration of Dr. Keneth S. Pitzer as the third President of the university and an academic festival which is drawing national attention.

"THE ACADEMIC" procession for the inauguration, at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 10, will definitely include robed members of the Senior Class. Also in the procession will be representatives of colleges and universities and delegates from learned societies and foundations across the country, as planned.

A special Rice University Male Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Arthur Hall, will present a selection entitled "Testament of Freedom," by Randall Thompson. The Rice University Band, directed by Holmes McNeely, will also present selections.

The dinner in honor of President and Mrs. Pitzer, held Wednesday evening at the Rice Hotel, will feature a series of remarks by delegates and guests.

RICE'S ACADEMIC festival, prefaced by President Kennedy last week, will begin in earnest Thursday, October 11, with an address by Arnold Toynbee, internationally known and respected historian. Seniors will also be robed at this ceremony.

Although Rice may well be proud of the distinguished list of participants in the Academic Festival, recognized in educational circles as the most important event of its type in years, Dr. Pitzer emphasizes that the true meaning and success of the festival will depend largely on student participation. All students have been invited to the series of lectures, and the administration has expressed hope that a great majority will recognize the rare opportunity that has been afforded the Rice Student Body.

THE SPEAKER has been announced for the Rice Associate Dinner in honor of visiting scholars Thursday evening at the Rice Hotel Grand Ballroom. He will be Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

The administration has announced that about 28 gold medals of honor are to be presented to scholars for distinguished service to learning. This is the first time in its fifty years that Rice has chosen to have such a ceremony. The University has never given honorary degrees. It is felt that the gold medals are more appropriate and meaningful than other honors.