Provost Carey Croneis Guiding University In Transition Period

By GRIFIN SMITH
The resignation of Dr. W. V. Houston as president of Rice has catapulted to campus prominence a distinguished educator of international prominence.

Dr. Carey Croneis, Wiess Professor of Geology and Provost of the University, is handling the school's administrative affairs until a new president is appointed. He came to Rice in 1954 as the first Chairman of the Geology Department.

THE 50-YEAR-OLD Dr. Croneis has had an outstanding record in the geologic sciences. After receiving degrees from Denison University, the University of Kansas, and Harvard University, he rose from assistant professor to professor of geology at the University of Chicago. In addition, while working on his advanced degrees he served as instructor in geology at Kansas, Arkansas, Harvard, and Wellesley. He was geologist for the state of Arkansas in 1928, and even coached the Razorback tennis team during 1929-36.

HE MARRIED Grace Williams of Bucyrus, Ohio, at Fayetteville, Arkansas, September 15, 1923. They have two daughters.

In 1944 Dr. Croneis became president of Beloit (Wisconsin) College a position he held until coming to Rice. Now he is

The variety and scope of his activities are nothing short of astonishing. He designed the geology sections of the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry as well as the 1933 Century of Progress Exposition. He was Director of the Hall of Science of the Exposition in 1934, where he served as host to 12,000,000 visitors, among them many foreign and American dignitaries including Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hoover and Eleanor Roosevelt.

DR. CRONEIS has served as president of the American Geology Institute and the National Association of Geology Teachers, as well as editor of several geology journals and author of two books.

He also produced the University of Chicago and National Park Service talking films on geology. These six films are still in extensive use after 30 years. As editor of the Harper and Brothers Geoscience Series, he is in charge of a 20-volume work with world-wide distribution.

A CONVERSATION with the modest Dr. Croneis will scarcely reveal the extent of his travels. He has been to all the continents except Australia — to every European and South American country, plus most of Africa and southern Asia.

This summer, on one of his many trips around the world, he was in Japan during the anti-US riots, a guest of the Burma Oil Company at their location far up the Irrawodi River, and visited Nepal, India, Afghanistan, and several provinces of southeast Russia (One, Uzbekistan, was exceedingly interesting, he reports.)

ON OTHER TRIPS he and Mrs. Croneis have ascended both the Amazon and the Nile rivers from mouth to headwaters. Earlier, as a guest of the Secretary of the Navy, he went around Cape Horn on the aircraft carrier Ranger.

With all this, Dr. Croneis has still found time to take active part in Houston educational and cultural affairs. He is a member of the boards of Kinkaid School, the Natural History Museum, the Contemporary Arts Museum, and the Chamber of Commerce.