Catacombs Converted
In College

By RALPH PARKS

The narrow, tomb-like areas beneath the new wings of two of the men's colleges have been recently transformed into liveable space, enhancing the place of the colleges in the lives of some of their members.

The difference between the rough concrete walls and bare light bulbs of a cellar and the quiet, warm atmosphere of walnut panelling and large, comfortable chairs is considerable. The men of Will Rice are responsible for one such transformation.

MONTHS OF planning by a small core of students-turned-artisans have been followed by six months of hard work.

Expenditures so far include $5500 of Will Rice's own funds, a $500 donation, and $1800 from the University. This year's college budget has an allocation of $2000 for development.

THE TV LECTURE room is on the other side of a brick wall from the study room. For completion, it requires only the arrival of furniture. It is hoped that this room will be utilized by faculty members for small classes and seminars in the college. On occasion classroom work may be effectively supplemented by plays, educational programs, etc., on TV. The room will have about twenty desks plus a couple of couches and TV. The blackboards, panelling and lighting are already installed.

Next on the agenda, is a game room with bulletin board, pool table, and bowling machine. The card players will hold forth next door in a panelled room with tiled floor. Pendant lamps will light each of the tables.

ONE LARGE ROOM at the east end remains untouched. The college has decided that it would be best to wait until last to finish this as the music room. When completed the music room will be carpeted and will have walls of accordion paneling.

Hanszen College started its basement development project last year with the initial disadvantage of some rather short-sighted construction work the university had done there in earlier years.

Hanszen's basement has a tiered floor at one end—ideal for chorus and band practice in the days before Hamman practice in the days before Hamman Hall, but now rather restricting and incongruous: The middle area of the basement has been blocked off into tiny dressing rooms for the gnomes and kitchen help.

The college has, however, tried to work around the obstacles and turn out a useful basement.

LAST SPRING, with Hanszen money, the University put up bookshelves, panels, and light fixtures.

The large room at the upper end of the basement is the main object of present plans and efforts. It is divided by partitions into a library area, reading room, and study room which will eventually have twenty carrels.

Much remains to be done on this main room, however. The library has not yet been moved, many carrels are yet unbuilt, and much of the furniture is of questionable condition. But this section has been used for years as a cool, quiet study area regardless of its physical incompleteness.

President Jerry Hanszen said that this room alone will require an expenditure of between $3500 and $4000 before the plans are completed.

THE GAME ROOM is soon to receive a second pool table. The popularity of the present one is attested to by the pock-marked ceiling above it. The TV room at the far west end has four small rooms at one end, formerly used as band rooms, eventually to be made into typing rooms.

Hanszen has been the recipient of such donations as a pool table, furniture, an air-conditioner, and books which have all added substantially to the progress of the basement.