Great Books Club Strikes Houston With Discussion
by Camilla Grobe

To the students and faculty, to all the people of Houston, the Houston Great Books Foundation of Chicago is offering an opportunity for a stimulating reading and discussion program.

The great-books discussion group scheme is based on the seminar method. The group leader will deliver no lectures, they will simply direct the discussion by asking questions. The leaders act as assistants to the teacher, the authors of the Great Books. Imagine a course taught by Plato, Aristotle, Shakespeare, Locke, St. Augustine, Prout, Mill, Adam Smith, Homer, and Hobbes, and you can perceive the idea upon which the program is based. These teachers have written books which are thought as important today as in their day.

The Great Books Foundation hopes, through local discussion groups, to abolish such misinterpretations about the great books as the popular definition of a classic—a book that nobody reads. "For the simple reason," says Joehook, "that they're dead stuff." Modern America is the first country since Athens which believes that Socrates actually died when he took the hemlock and Milton, a hero.

The great-books group reads both sides of every issue. The leaders direct questions and keep the discussion in order. All that is required, therefore, of the leaders is a careful reading of the books, love of good-posed argument, and skill for the training course and the bi-monthly discussion meetings following. The leaders take a training course on book discussion leadership under the direction of the Great Books Foundation. The course will be sponsored this spring by the Houston Great Books committee, and the opening session will be held at the Houston Junior Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Museum Art Quip will present the sixth program in a series of documentary films on the stories of Europe tonight at the Houston Museum of Fine Arts at 7:30.

The program will be as follows:

Czechoslovakia; a Story of the Country of Czechoslovakia before the War,
K. G. Kemp, A contrasting film on post-war Germany and some of its problems.
Beautiful Switzerland. A film on the cities and people of this scenic country.
Italy. A story of modern Italy. Film on the chaotic conditions which brought on defeat, with a sequel on the Vatican City.

The Great Books Foundation is a non-profit organization. There is no tuition for participation. Everyone, however, is advised to purchase the reading materials through the Foundation. The cost of these, in

Sophomores to Dance At Blossom Heath

The Sophomore Dance will be held at Blossom Heath on April 8th. James Turpin, president of the Sophomore class announced Tuesday. Karl Dower's band has been engaged for the evening.

Turpin requests all students in the sophomore class interested in helping with arrangements for the evening to contact the head of the prom committee, Libba Heath. Weathers- per is head of the Dance committee; Smith, Walter, head of the Digital committee; Harley and Aquila, co-chairmen of the Program committee; Gene Woodward is chairman of the Junior Dance committee; and Randy Nette and Teddy Monts are co-chairmen of the Door committee.

The final girls' band has been air mailed to the Rice Institute by Miss Mary J. S. Binford and Ben Hammond.

Candiates Flex Election Muscles
You Can Vote!
The Student Council wishes to remind the Seniors that they can vote in the forthcoming primary election. The Seniors may vote for the President, Vice President, and Secretary-treasurer of the Student Council, Councilman-at-Large, and cheerleaders.

Office-Seekers to Speak in Public

All candidates except those for Honor Council are to speak at the political rallies held leading up to the election.

Candidates for Sophomore Class offices, present freshmen, will speak today at noon in the Physics Amphitheater.

Candidates for Junior Class offices, present sophomores, will speak tomorrow at noon in the Physics Amphitheater.

Candidates for Senior Class offices, present juniors, will speak Friday at noon in the Physics Amphitheater.

Candidates will Submit Election Speeches Soon

Ben Hammond, chairman of the Election Committee, re-emphasized Hopiday the importance of turning in expense accounts by Saturday noon. Ben said that petitions are due from candidates for every position except Honor Council. The Itemized accounts should be turned in to either Ben, Tempe Howze, or Jim Kelly. In the event that none of these are found, the accounts should be dropped in the Student Council suggestion box in Anderson Hall.

Zer Pre-Meds’ Meeting

The Pre-Medic announce a meeting of the Society on Thursday March 31st, at 7:00. Those enrolled in the pre-medical course will be used by the navy for their formal dances next Saturday night at the Houston Club.

Candiates Will Submit Election Platforms

All candidates for office may have their platforms printed in Saturday's, April 2nd, issue of the Thresher. Platforms must be turned into the Thresher office before Thursday noon. The Thresher office in is the office under the control of the Student Council. No platforms will be accepted later than Thursday noon.

The platforms should be handed on the candidate's name, and the platform must be typed in typewriter form, main points first. The Thresher requires that the platform be edited the platform in order to avoid some sort of consistency in presentation and grammar.

Honor Council candidates may submit platforms.
Students Can Become
Great-Books Leaders

A medium of true culture has at last come to Houston. In the last fifty years the city, itself, has been growing by leaps and bounds, but its citizens have not advanced in wisdom, culture, or sophistication. The city has far outgrown its citizens. Now the chance to catch up with this phenomenal growth has arrived. It is not by considering the modern scientific horizon, nor the current literature of pornography, that progress is to be made. On the contrary, all truly great thoughts have already been expressed, and well. It is a truism that "there is nothing new under the sun."

The University of Chicago, through its "Great Books Foundation," offers everyone the opportunity to weigh and consider these "great thoughts" at a minimum expense of both money and labor. The Great Books course does not "teach." Indeed, it has no "teachers." The books are read and discussed by people—all kinds of people. The ideas incorporated in the books are considered, clarified, and applied to modern thoughts and conditions. And most of the books are surprisingly applicable to our civilization. It is only because of their universal applicability that they are "great books" and "great thoughts."

At the present time, the Great Books Foundation is seeking leaders—again, leaders, not teachers. The leader's only duty is to bring the discussion on, or reasonably close to, the evening's topic. The leader gives no instruction, delivers no lectures; the students themselves instruct each other through the comparison of ideas. But the leader is necessary to keep the discussion from degenerating into a "bull session."

The Great Books Foundation is asking for leaders from Rice Institute. It would be to their future the failure of the Rice Institute, whose only motive for existence is the education and edification of the people.

Candidates Will Help
School With Platform

Space for the platforms of all candidates has been made available in Saturday's paper. Candidates may do what they will with it; if they want to run an intelligent campaign, designed to be helpful in raising the level of campus politics, they have an excellent opportunity in this space to make their plan available to the constituents.

Specific points that the candidates will work for are more useful than vague generalities pledging support to principles with which no one will disagree. The list of platforms should include many new ideas that could make campus life a richer and fuller educational experience for all.

It has been requested that the platforms be written in outline form, so that more points and new ideas may be included in a minimum of space. All that is needed other than the name of the candidate is the outline and the platform candidates should feel free to make any recommendations, offer any new ideas, state any stands on current campus issues, that they wish to put before the voters. If the candidates will take advantage of the opportunity, Saturday's paper should contain many new ideas that will be helpful to the Rice Student Association, regardless of who is finally elected to do the job.

Two

The Editor Says

Tyson Says 6 Point Platform Desirable

Once again elections loom large, and every Rice student has faced the Student Council positions have de
tailed a 6 point platform for the Student Council and all past Student Councils. Calling the names of many past ar
possible to walk unmolested. This is, really, very agreeable, for the
ability to walk unmolested; as a matter of fact, it is becoming im-
ther to contribute their efforts to a stronger Honor System; but there are others who only want to run for just some office, or who even aim to weaken the Honor System and protect their friends.

The Honor System depends on the support of the majority of students who will elect competent members who have the courage of their convictions to support the Honor System.

You cannot legislate an Honor System, its success depends on the attitude of the Student Body; or can you have a strong Honor System if the system will support the purposes of the Honor System with one member who does not. Each election is a test of the support of that the Student Body, and of interest to all students, regardless of what their affiliation is, student or faculty, they have a chance to better their outlook by contributing to the Student Council.

"They spend their time hickering over details." This is truer than the first point. But again, if the students don't understand what the representatives they're not going to appoint.

Now if a Student Council candidate really wants to improve the Council, he should offer something like the following, instead of criticizing the Student Council:

1. If I am elected, I will make the Student Council my main priority.
2. I will not only attend all meetings of the Student Council, but will attend meetings of the committee to which I am assigned.
3. I will prepare carefully and fully all business that I intend to put before the Council, so that it may have the best communication possible, and so that the time the Council will not be wasted with ill-organized details.
4. I will make an honest attempt to meet students from every school of my class, and will ask them their opinions on matters before the Council.
5. I will insist on a student reference, every time a disagreement on a major matter, introduction and of interest to all students, comes before the Council.
6. I will insist that the Student Council have hearings on questions of their regulation not be handled by default to the Dean for Student Activities or the Student Activities Committee.

The present Student Council has done a wonderful job of improving the Student Council and all past Student Councils. Calling the names of many past ar
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Camden Discusses Oliver’s “Hamlet” River Oaks Gives Student Discounts

“Hamlet,” J. Arthur Rank’s newest American release of Laurence Olivier’s British picture is currently being seen at the River Oaks Theater in Houston. Students are obtaining reduced rates should drop by the English Department to pick up special slips identifying them as Rice students. A reduction of twenty percent is offered to all students.

Showings are at 2:00 and 8:30 p.m. daily. Student reduction slips must be presented at the box office at least 30 minutes before the show begins.

In an interview with Dr. Camden last week he expressed the opinion that the movie version of “Hamlet” was very well done, and that he thoroughly enjoyed the performance. Dr. Camden teaches Rice’s course in Shakespeare, English 400.

“Hamlet” is Laurence Olivier’s third Shakespearean movie. His first, “As You Like It,” produced in 1937 with Elizabeth Bergner, “Henry V,” his second attempt presented in the U. S. last year, “as a distinct improvement with its beautiful period scenery and fine acting, Dr. Camden said, "Hamlet," however, is a play of a different sort requiring different acting, and one in which poor technique or characterization would be glaringly shown.

In a further discussion of the merits and faults of Olivier’s Hamlet, Dr. Camden stated that there were a few minor points which could have been improved upon. He said that, “The movie version gets off to a bad start with the announcement that it is the tragedy of a man who couldn’t make up his mind, but fortunately, Olivier’s interpretation of Hamlet does not bear out this erroneous warning.” The one really poor note in the play, said Dr. Camden, was the flamboyant reading given to the lines starting “This play’s the thing,” which in his estimation sounds more like Hollywood than Elsinore.

Some critics of Shakespeare say that an attempt to use elaborate scenery in a movie version would spoil the play. Dr. Camden does not agree with this point, saying that the scenery was well designed to fit the mood of the play. Of course in any Shakespearean play, a great deal of editing has to be done to cut the play down to a reasonable length. The only time that a complete Hamlet was given was the Maurice Evans production several years ago, which ran for give hours. Dr. Camden feels that on the whole the editing was good, excepting several omissions which would be essential for a complete interpretation of the play.

He was particularly pleased with the career played. He said that the film’s Polonius was very good, and Basil Sidney’s Claudius high lights the fact that the King is a strong and attractive character. Shakespeare’s dramatic genius can scarcely be better illustrated than in the way he bestows on his minor characters. He especially enjoyed the acting of Stanley Holloway as the gravedigger, and of Peter Cushing as the empty-headed courtier, Orestes. Student tickets entitling one to a 50 per cent reduction, are available in the English office, second floor, Anderson hall. These tickets may be used to secure reservations but must be exchanged at the box office at least thirty minutes before the curtain raises.

All students who want to see a good movie are urged to go.

ASCE Officers Elected PALS Take Girls’ Club To Win Second Half

The recently elected officers of the Rice Affiliate of the American Society of Civil Engineers are: President, Murphy Thibodeaux; vice-president, Holly Sheahan, and Secretary, Ernst Wald. These officers were elected for a one-semester term, while the treasurer, Tony Peterson is continuing his one-year term office.

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Candidates Flex (Continued from Page 1) is running for Junior Secretary-Treasurer.

Candidates for Honor Council positions, three to be named, of the Junior Class are Finie Owen, Catheia Bay, Mary Alice Sanders, Charles Tipton, Ernst Wald, Davey Goodson, Bob Bowles, John Lyon, Sidney Cochran, and Sara Price.

From this year’s freshman class Gordon Baker, Hal D’Amore, Alice Thomas, Alan Pierre, and Marc McLaughlin have filed for the position of sophomore president.

Vice-Presidential candidates are Marianne Loye, Betty Bledroam, Madeline Johnson, Roy Kusan, Neil Cotton, James Hoppe, and David Knox are running for Secretary-Treasurer.

Vivian Fisher, Marjory Bryant, Jan Witon, Ann Irving, Wanda Stent, Nancy Markin, Irene Gordon, Lee Duggan, Marty Reeves, Tom Eaton, and Grace Marie Chandler are candidates for Honor Council. Three of them will be named members of the Honor Council.


The Bally Club has announced the names of twelve boys who have been invited to join that organization. They are Tommy Aitkin, Ralph Alford, Dale Biggs, Win, B sculpture, Calvin Carol, Eddie Fisher, Jim Gerhart, Keith Moore, Willie Merrow, Ward Gregory, Irving Schreck, and Wally Lovejoy.

The Queen for the Navy Ball will be chosen by ballot in class during Navy course next Monday and Tuesday, it was announced Monday. Only Navy students are eligible to vote.

Tickets must be handed to the Publications committee of the student council for the bath by Saturday. Nominations must include a picture of the girl, and pertinent information such as height, color of hair, eyes, etc. Each student will be given five choices, and the five girls receiving the highest number of votes will be the nominees from whom the Queen will be chosen. Selection of the Queen will take place the night of the dance. A visiting dignitary will be the judge.

Candidates Prime For All-School Election

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debate offers logically developed intelligent decision to be reached. To the public audiences our advantage of multi- investigation and analysis of public questions. The The Best Music Is Never To the Big Shot Publicity Seekers

Owl Netters Win Amateur Singles

The Rice tennis team got its first hit of competition last Saturday when the netters met a group of top flight amateurs and split six matches.

The Owls won three of those matches, but dropped both of the doubles matches. Winners for Rice were Chuck Harris, Bob Pills and Bob Harris. Chuck, who is count- ed as our number one player, never lost a set in any of his matches. Bob Pills, who had two sets of doubles matches, lost both of those matches to Bob Harris and Bob Harris and Bob Harris.

Following the Owls' defeat last week by the University of Texas at Austin, the Owls seemed to have lost their confidence. However, last Saturday the Owls faced a strong team in the American University, and the Owls came out with a 6-3 victory.

The Owls started off the match with a 6-3 victory in the first singles match, giving them an early lead. The second singles match was also won by the Owls, 6-3, giving them a 2-0 lead in the match. The doubles matches were lost by the Owls, 6-3, 6-4, but the Owls won the final singles match, 6-3, to secure the win.

Purblind Doomsters Strew Owl Path With Pains; Coach Seeks Amulets

by David Miller and Norris Nielson

Baseball coach Harold Stroh- bridge can be pardoned if he spends one-half of his spare time collect- ing four leaf clovers, rabbit feet, and horse shoes, and the other half of his time dodging ladders, black cats, and broken mirrors.

Why? Well, Strookbridge is merely trying to change his luck, for he has certainly received more than his share, and all of it had in it his initial try at the game four years ago and a double play erased the rally.

The comparative scores of Rice and other Conference schools seem to indicate that Rice will have a tough battle to go in the first divi- sions. With Baylor, Texas, and A&M battling it out for the champ- ionship.

The leading Owl hitters stack up according to the following statistics.

Name
W. Cobbett 6 4 .462
M. E. Curtis 13 6 .428
Churchill 16 4 .250
Schulte 8 3 .375

Rice will have a tough battle to go in the first divi- sions. With Baylor, Texas, and A&M battling it out for the champ- ionship.

Get your friends to autograph your Yearbook here.

Four

Owls Face Beavers

The Owls' initial test will be the Sam Houston State Beavers on the Rice diamond at three o'clock Thursday afternoon.

The starting battery for the Owls will probably be Chambers or Finch and Willard. Line-up for the Beavers will be Glass 1B, Wyatt 2B, Charlie well as, Proctor 3B, and an outfier of Dr. Pahl, Thompson, Guff and Newhill or Nelson.

Rice won by a score of 8-3 against the Owls last week. The Owls will be looking for a better performance this week, as they aim to finish strong in the Conference. The Owls will be counting on their strong defense and solid hitting to secure the win.