

UW Budget Club Threat Is Blocked

The Legislature's Joint Finance Committee, at the start of hearings on Gov. Warren P. Knowles' budget proposal Wednesday, was asked not to consider the University of Wisconsin budget until UW Pres. Fred Harvey Harrington is ousted.

The request was made by Assemblyman Kenneth Merkel (R-Brookfield), who said the budget is the only club the Legislature has over the University.

HIS REQUEST was prompted by four days of protests at the UW. The National Guard was called in Wednesday to help control demonstrators backing black students' demands.

The committee did not accept Merkel's motion. Chairman Sen. Walter Hollander (R-Rosendale) said he would not allow "any rash action."

The UW budget is scheduled for a Joint Finance Committee hearing Feb. 27.

IN A RELATED development, the protests were assailed by Regents Walter F. Renk, Sun Prairie, and Maurice B. Pasch, Madison.

Renk said he planned to introduce a resolution concerning the situation when the regents meet Friday in Milwaukee. He did not disclose what the resolution would say.

"I have felt at times during the last few days that we (the regents) should have stepped in," Renk said. "There has been disruption of classes which is against our rules. Parents have called me saying their sons and daughters are having trouble getting into buildings and classes."

RENK SAID that unless the situation improves other steps — such as more security personnel or further action by the regents — would be necessary.

Traditionally, regents set UW policy which is carried out by the administration and faculty. However, Pasch said the regents might have to become more involved in areas normally handled by the faculty and administration.

"While some might argue that by tradition it is not our place to act, we have never had a situation like this," Pasch said. "New situations require new actions. I don't propose to let anyone shut down this university."



Police Clear Way for Campus Buses After Blockade of Service

—State Journal Photo by L. Roger