

UW Bringing Charges Against Some Students

By JOHN NEWHOUSE
(Of The State Journal Staff)

The administration of the University of Wisconsin is bringing charges against "a number" of students in connection with the student uprising which has tormented the campus for more than a week.

The administration has asked the Wisconsin attorney general to prepare the charges which can result in the students being expelled, suspended, or put upon probation.

Charges will be heard in campus trials.

THE EXACT number of students against whom the University is proceeding was withheld.

"This is a first batch," an administration spokesman said. "There will be more."

The first group, he indicated,

would be from students who had been arrested by police. To date, about 31 students have been arrested, most of them having been released on bail.

MOST OF THE charges will be under a regent action of July 19, 1968, the spokesman said. The regent rules apply:

"For intentional conduct that obstructs or seriously impairs university run or authorized activities on any campus, including activities either outdoors or inside a classroom."

Proceedings against the students will be under a carefully formulated procedure which was developed to protect the rights of students after students had protested — through lawyers in court — against proce-

dures of the past which had been held too loose.

UNDER THE present procedures, the attorney general will be the prosecuting attorney for the University.

The attorney general's office will prepare the charges on the basis of information supplied by the administration. The charges will be returned to the administration in proper order.

THE CHARGES will be sent to the University Committee on Student Conduct Hearings, which will be the formal beginning of the action.

This is a committee which originally was to have consisted of four faculty members, four student members as recommended by the Wisconsin Student Assn. (WSA), and a chairman from the Law School faculty. WSA, however, declined to nominate the four student members.

"The result is that we will proceed with an all-faculty committee," said the university administration spokesman.

The chairman of the committee is Prof. August Eckhardt, of the Law School.

THE ADMINISTRATION will

Turn to Page 2, Col. 3

Number Involved Isn't Divulged

FROM PAGE 1

send the charges to the student, along with the rules of hearing procedure, and inform him that he has 10 days in which to file an answer with the committee.

In the answer, the student must admit, deny, or explain all of the various portions of the charge.

If there is no answer, the charges shall be deemed admitted as to accuracy.

The answer must be signed by the student. His address must be given and his legal counsel, if any, identified.

UPON RECEIPT of the student's answer to the charges, the chairman of the hearing committee will prepare a statement of the issues and file this with the charging officer — the chancellor or his agent — and with the members of the committee.

He then sets a date of hearing.

Depending upon the testimony, the student can be suspended, expelled, or put on probation.

If put on probation, the student may attend classes, so long as he complies with certain rules and regulations involving conduct. Probation may be for two semesters, and extended another two semesters for violation of probation.

UNDER SUSPENSION, the student suffers a temporary loss of student status, up to two years. At the end of this time, he may apply for readmission.

Under expulsion, the student leaves the university although he may reapply at a future date.

If the student feels that the penalty is not deserved, he may appeal to a Committee on Student Conduct Appeals, all of whose members belong to the faculty. The appeal must be within seven days of the announcement of the decision of the hearing committee.

The chairman of this committee is Law Prof. Walter Rausenbush.

THE DECISION of the hearing committee stands until the appeals committee had made its deliberation, either in open or closed hearings at the option of the student, and announced its decision.

Under the procedure presently contemplated, the students charged will probably be permitted to attend classes, until a decision is made by one or both of the two committees to the contrary.

"THE REGENT rules give the administration the option of suspending a student from class until hearings have been held," the spokesman said.

"This, however, is unlikely to be followed, though events could change that decision.

"The placing of a student or students under immediate suspension is contemplated when the individual is likely to repeat an offense which could be injurious to the continued operation of the university or if it is held to be essential to continued operation."

THE UNIVERSITY, he said, is preparing evidence in other cases.

"Getting identification has not always been easy," the spokesman said. "It depends upon police arrests, upon professors seeing, and identifying, students they know who have been guilty in their eyes of disrupting activities; collecting evidence from students, and formulating charges with the aid of the many photographs at our disposal."