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EDITORIAL

Justice For Residence!

The key issue in the residence crisis is not that the Dons have decided to enforce more rigourously the rules as set down but that they have removed the responsibility of the Residence Council to determine what punishments should be meted out for infraction. And they have not given a clear indication of the nature of the penalties they intend to exact.

As the situation now stands, a student caught breaking a regulation, may be summarily expelled by the Dons. No longer can he put forth his case of defense to the Residence Council composed of Dons and student House Presidents. No longer can he expect that a student House President may, knowing the student, advocate on his behalf. If the Don says 'out', then out he goes. And, if he appeals he must appeal on the basis that he is guilty till proven innocent—a complete reversal of the principle on which democratic justice is based.

Furthermore, even the penalties to be set by the Dons and, unfortunately not the Residence Council, are not apparently going to be equally applied throughout the residence. In A House, the students were told by the Don at

a Monday night meeting that any violation of the visiting rules would result in immediate expulsion from residence. On the other hand, students in E House, were informed that a system of warnings, and progressive higher fines would be used for repeated violations, leading eventually to possible expulsion. This unequal justice (if one can call arbitrary punishments not set down by the Residence Council, justice) for students in the Founders Residence disgraceful.

Immediate steps should be taken by the Dons to restore to the Residence Council the power to try all students charged with infractions. (And the charge by the Dons that the Residence Council has failed to discharge its responsibilities is ridiculous—the Council has not yet this year been given a chance to pass judgment on offenders). This granted, the Residence Council should set down a set of penalties for infractions that is equally applied to all students, given scope for the circumstances surrounding the infraction.

The current injustice of the system of discipline is intolerable and should be rectified immediately!

LETTERS

DEAR SIR

I am writing this letter to you because I am incensed. In your column 'students say' (Jan. 13, 1967) you produce ten quotes which prove rather conclusively that the students of this university know absolutely nothing about the various student councils here. This I do not feel is the fault of the councils. The councils have had their problems this year, but they are not completely ineffectual. They have worked hard. It is up to the individual interested student to find out what they have done. If they have not done so then I can only assume that they are not interested.

Sincerely, Peter Vanek F II GENTLEMEN!

Having just read the article 'Students Say' I feel it is necessary to reply. My first comment is that if a student doesn't know

what is going on in his College he is either asleep or stupid, or both. Things just don't happen by themselves. Every activity takes a lot of work and planning.

The following is a list of some of the things that have happened because of the Vanier College Council, its committees, and its students' money. Three days of Orientation activities, intramural and intracollege sports, a very successful coffee shop, a pool table and ping pong facilities, a camera club, College dinner each Tuesday evening, dances including the Semi and the Formal, the Christmas Party, the Fence Painting Competition the Vandoo, a stereo set available in the listening room, plus facilities for obtaining records.

As well we organized the use of the Social and Debates Room to what is hoped a satisfactory situation, helped in maintaining

Warga Speaks

STUDENT AID

The issues of student loans and free tuition have fallen into the background lately for lack of new ideas.

I am proud to say that York has many able faculty members who, in my opinion, have some very original thoughts on the numerous problems facing academic life.

In a recent interview with our Dean of Arts and Science, Mr. Saywell, I was introduced to a very novel and enlightening idea on the subject of student aid.

on the subject of student aid.

Mr. Saywell has considered a plan which he says is comparable to a mortgage system. The government would loan students the amount of money they need to pay tuition, buy books and meet living costs for each year of their education, (this would have to do away with the \$1000 a year maximum) and the student would have a period of 10, 15, or perhaps even 20 years to repay the government.

The present system allows the student only five years to repay his debt. Yet the first five years

after graduation is the time when students are getting settled in life, accepting the responsibilities of marriage, and parenthood etc. and are therefore least able to repay this money.

As Dean Saywell said, our students are an investment in this country. If we give them the chance to go to University, they will thereby increase their earning capacity and provide this country with greater tax revenue as well as greater intellectual potential, and generally increasing our economic productivity and standard of living.

This country is not yet financially capable of supporting a free tuition system, but it is capable of investing money in its own future. Remember, I said investing.

This system, like all others, has many rough edges which must be overcome, but I think that it is a system with many possibilities and could provide the solution to a very complex

food prices at their present level, have a food committee that meets with Mr. Dover, have a House committee that is working quietly on problems in the College and in planning for the Residence, have instigated a study committee on residence costs and fees, and are making suggestions and recommendations concerning overcrowding in the Dining Hall. We have as well been able to create very good relations with both staff and administration. Our Constitution is just about ready, and we hope that it will be presented in a finished form to the new council.

The comment made by Mr. Margel that faculty should not be on a council shows his complete lack of knowledge of how Vanier College Council has operated during the past year, and I might add, shows a very childish attitude. Without their help and suggestions Vanier College would be very much the poorer. There was never anything but the copperation or confrontation of equals at our meetings, and when there was a split vote on a topic it was never between faculty and students.

As for information dissemination; much of the Council's activities has been carried in the Vandoo. The Council tried to initiate a 'Bull Session' where College members could question or confront their representatives—

this failed due to lack of student interest—the Council office is open most of the day so that students can come in and meet their reps and bring their problems or suggestions. As well most Council minutes and correspondance is posted on the wall opposite the office, available to everyone.

I don't particularly condemn first year students for not participating, they are new, they don't know how a university operates—it isn't and shouldn't be treated like a High School. They don't know what initiatives they can take or how big their world really can be; and unfortunately because of the newness of the College and York campus we don't have enough second, third and fourth year and graduate students who might show them the way.

The only complaint I do have is that the student here expect to have things done for and to him. The possibilities in a university are tremendous, but the individual must take the initiative whether it is to find out about a council meeting, or to be the first person ever to be able to initiate the bringing of the Russian Debating Team to North America for a series of debates that will have International coverage.

Alan Moon III.V Vanier Councillor. See Also Page 7

THE RESIDENCE CRISIS

Recently, many Founders College Residence students were interested to learn that the booklet entitled Foundations was not a mini catalogue of women's undergarments but contained a set of rules pertaining to their behaviour in residence.

On Friday 13th, appropriately enough, a memo was sent to all residence students: it said in essence, that the students had defaulted on their responsibility re rule enforcement and henceforth the Dons would enforce the rules and 'rigorously' at that.

You would think in that case, that at the seven house meetings held to discuss this policy change, each Don would tell his or her people pretty well the same things—so that afterwards

'NOW LET'S BE FAIR'

by DOUG McARTHUR

everyone could tell that all Dons had been discussing the same memo. Think again.

In the men's houses the situation was basically unchanged, with the members of the house executive still holding the power to levy fines, etc. 'Rigorous enforcement' consisted of the Dons saying that they were now compelled to discipline anyone they caught breaking the rules. Which, when translated means they will discipline anyone who is indiscreet enough to be caught having people with severe anatomical differences in their rooms after hours, hitting the joy juice under age, etc.

Well, that's not so bad, eh? But it was a little different