



## your student council

The manager of the C.Y.S.F. Typing Service, Mr. Neagle, wishes to apologize to those individuals who might have suffered any inconvenience due to the initial opening problems encountered by the service. Mr. Neagle has assured C.Y.S.F. that these minor problems will be clarified by October 23rd at the very latest.

C.Y.S.F. is pleased to announce that the annual Imagnus Art and Print Show has returned to York Univer-

sity. For more details see the ad in this week's issue of Excalibur or visit Central Square, right across from the T.D. Bank.

The O.F.S. report originally scheduled to be presented in last week's issue will be printed along with the N.U.S. report in two weeks. If anyone desires immediate information on the activities of the conferences please contact Vice president George Karayannides for the O.F.S. report; and Keith Smockum for the N.U.S. report.

Both Vice-Presidents can be contacted at the C.Y.S.F. offices room 105 Central Square.

C.Y.S.F. would like to express its congratulations to those people who helped organize and make York University's first Homecoming a great success. Specifically, Ian Dawson, Steve Dranitsaris, Drago Sampsa, Mr. Orval McKeough, College Representatives, Brad "C", Varey and Paul "B". Leonard for the "Brador Wonder Fridge", all those students who participated and the York Alumnists. If it was not for the Alumnists it would not have been a success!

Vice President Gary Empey wishes to remind all club presidents, colleges and general student body that C.Y.S.F.'s budget night has been scheduled for the 7th of November at 7 o'clock in the

Senate chambers.

Anyone interested in being a poll clerk for the upcoming elections, by-elections and C.Y.S.F. Referendum should apply in person to the C.Y.S.F. offices 105 Central Square. It is a paying job.

**B. OF G. ELECTIONS:**  
Comment

On October 25th all York students will have a choice of voting for two out of nine candidates for the vacant positions on the Board of Governors. Before you vote you will have an opportunity to hear each one of the candidates. On Thursday you can attend the Central Square bearpit session 12 noon or Osgoode's session at 4 o'clock in the J.C.R. or "Pub". If you can not hear them on Thursday you can catch them in the Founders College Dining Hall on Friday at noon or

Monday in the J.C.R. of Vanier College at 12 noon.

It is terribly important that you vote. More importantly it is imperative that you select a candidate that will deliver. All talk and no action is useless. Look for someone who will best represent your views to the other members of the Board of Governors. A good representative should have experience, express honest concern for student issues and be willing to work hard on our behalf.

After you have assessed the candidates qualifications and potential as your representative VOTE. VOTE on the 25th of October because it's your university and you do care.

submitted by  
**David W. Chodikoff**  
President,  
Council of the York Student Federation

# COMMENT: Restraint is the only way out now

Last week Ian Kellogg put forth a number of interesting ideas and opinions on the YUSA strike in particular and government education policy in general. Unfortunately, I feel he has misunderstood the atmosphere of the strike and provincial priorities.

First of all, he placed the staff and students, and the University administration in an "us and them" situation, with the staff and students arm in arm in an air of solidarity. Sorry Ian, I don't know where you were but I saw thousands of York students cross the picket lines to attend classes, and heard dozens express anything but support for the strike even though most were sympathetic to the union position. According to Dean Kaplan, over 85 per cent of all Faculty of Arts classes were being met in spite of the strike.

Kellogg says much about "cutbacks", a phenomenon which he says first appeared in 1972, inferring the provincial government has implemented a program of cuts in social services. First of all, over the past three years government spending on social ser-

vices has grown over 30 per cent. Three quarters of Ontario's budget goes to social services (this would seem to indicate the Davis government places social services quite high on the list of priorities; Furthermore, spending on social services has grown faster than other sectors of the government's spending, so to only mention "cutbacks" in social services is to misrepresent government actions. The restraint program is affecting all government departments, and the non-social service sectors are being restrained most.

The only sector of the provincial government growing faster than social service spending is financing the provincial debt.

Over the past three years this jumped 65 percent to 1.2 billion dollars in 1978-79, almost as much as will be spent on Colleges and Universities. This burden, caused by a decade of government spending growing faster than its income, is becoming intolerable. There are only two possible solutions, increase taxes to cover expenses, or restrain the growth of expenditures. It is

this latter choice the present government of Ontario is pursuing. Obviously the ideal situation would have been for the governments of the sixties and early seventies to have kept a lid on costs, however that was an era when it seemed all the worlds problems could be solved if we could only spend enough money on them. In the early seventies the bubble burst, but the government still possesses very high spending commitments.

It is interesting to note the countries with the strongest currencies and economies (with the lowest unemployment) West Germany, Switzerland, Japan, have had governments that have restrained the growth of government and avoided creation of massive government deficits that prove to be both inflationary and costly. Incidentally all three examples I used are "capitalist" countries.

Back to York, Kellogg said that at the sit-in he experienced the first glimmerings of "mass" democracy from below. He seems to imply that if we can only rise up, over-

throw the present system and initiate some kind of socialistic, "mass democracy" all could be goodness and light. This is a beautiful ideology, but I am afraid it is also quite unrealistic.

Most students who supported the YUSA position, if not the strike, did so out of either a sense of justice (even the administration admitted four per cent was ridiculously low), or self-interest — believing that tomorrow it could be their turn to be "cut-back".

Sorry Ian, it was not socialism in the air, but a feeling of self interest and fair play, and they are two very different things.

David Saltmarsh

(This extra-length comment piece was authorized by a vote of the Excalibur staff assembly, but does not necessarily reflect the view of anyone other than the writer. Any member of the York community can appear before the staff and request a comment piece. Letters of response are invited.)

## letters

All letters should be addressed to the editor, Excalibur, Room III Central Square. Letters must be typed, triple-spaced, on a 66 stroke line. Letters are limited to 300 words (seven column inches). Name, address, or phone number must be included or the letter will not be published. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for grammar and length.

Deadline Monday 4 pm

### Excalibur sinks to a low depth

By its October 6 editorial ("A few words of timely advice for Yorks' unions") Excalibur shows to what depths its calibre of editorial content has sunk.

The editors assert that the political impotence which the student "leaders" displayed during the strike, was due to their poor organizational relationship with the unions, which YUSA is blamed for. Yet, though the Strike Support Committees were even less favoured in these respects (having neither staff, money nor apparatus) they were nonetheless able to initiate many major actions.

More thousands signed petitions and more hundreds attended rallies, walked the picket lines or worked at the sit-in than for any such actions in years. Why does Excalibur reduce these great events to merely that of "50 hard core leftists"?

More students by one form or another took conscious political action in support of YUSA than the total of all those who merely voted in the Spring CYSF elections. If the "leaders" of CYSF and the College Councils really enjoyed the confidence of students during the strike then why were they so unable to organize the evidence to show it?

Excalibur knows perfectly well that various Student Councils are notorious for their unrepresentative structure and history. Most "leaders" are either acclaimed or elected by voter turnouts so light

they're embarrassing. Are the editors so naive as to be unable to see through to the reality behind the hollow "democratic" facade which is CYSF? Strip away this dishonest camouflage and the whole sordid record of this political sandbox is laid bare.

As a test of student confidence a more clear contrast could not be hoped for. Through the YUSA strike, York students registered a judgement on questions of leadership, democracy and political content. They showed more intelligence than Excalibur's editors by swiftly sentencing their "official leaders" to the sidelines.

Robert McMaster  
For the York Revolutionary Workers League

### Excalibur editorial protested

York Students Against the Cutbacks, a new organization that has formed out of the student strike support committee and the 9th floor sit-in, would like to protest the Excalibur editorial of Oct. 12.

You label the support committee as "largely drawn from the left-leaning constituency", as though doing so is enough to dismiss it. Many "left-leaning" people were a part of the committee, as were many people with no defined politics. We united against the administration and the cutbacks.

"There is no evidence", you say, "that they made many converts in the political centre." What about the petition of 2500 names that we collected in three days "to support the just demands of YUSA". You

will have to search a long-time in Excalibur's files to find as substantial a petition.

As for the sit-in, you say "the 50 or so students" (which in reality was a pool that totalled 150) "were unelected and thus had no mandate to speak for anyone but themselves." Once again we can point to a second petition of over 2000 names that supported the demands of the sit-in.

And where does Excalibur get off with this absurd concentration on "elected representatives." David Chodikoff was elected president of CYSF with 535 votes. His platform made no mention of YUSA. The support committee and the sit-in were constituted around the specific issue of the YUSA strike.

It would be of little use for the campus unions to go cap in hand to the unknown and unimportant student "representatives" as Excalibur advises.

We invite all students who want to fight for better quality education to join us.

York Students  
Against the Cutbacks

### More like Teenage Head

The October 11 Bethune Tap 'N Keg featuring the band TEENAGE HEAD was the most fantastic social event we have attended at York in the past four years. No one had to be a committed "punk rocker" to get off on the energizing music this band produced.

From the constantly crowded

dance floor and the rowdy demands for two encores, it was obvious how much everyone was enjoying themselves.

Everybody we've talked to is hoping to see much more of this kind of entertainment on campus.

Laura Brown  
Gord Graham

### "Hooligan tactics" on picket line

Thank you YUSA, not only for disrupting classes for two weeks (which I understand is part of the union process) but also for the wonderfully profane inscription that was etched into the side of my car as I drove across the picket line. The YUSA member that wheeled the nail (or whatever it was) that caused the damage must obviously have been a firm believer in UAW hooligan picket line tactics. This, as I understand it, is not part of the legal union strike process but a cheap attempt of intimidation and a very poor way of recruiting support. Yes, YUSA, thank us for our understanding and support and I thank you YUSA for your equal consideration and understanding of our, the students' position. Once again - thank you ladies!

Michael Kaczala

### An objection from a socialist

I would like to register a slight complaint about the treatment of my comment piece on cutbacks and the sit-in in your last issue.

First, I know the paper has very

little space this year, and I appreciate being allowed to have my say. But since my comment put forward some sort of socialist analysis, I do not see why I was not allowed to identify the socialist group I belong to at the end of it.

My membership in the International Socialists (IS) is what allows me to develop such analyses. Participating in the IS at the sit-in was very important for me. When I engage in political activity, I try to do so as an open IS'er.

Such an identification would also help differentiate my views from those of other people at the sit-in.

I know of no other student paper which is afraid either of official submissions from political groups or parties, or articles from identified members of them.

Perhaps a better method for screening comment pieces can be found.

Perhaps a better method for screening comment pieces can be found to get around this problem.

Also, the head form the comment, "a taste of socialism", just didn't work. Consultation would have been appreciated.

Ian Kellogg,  
member York International Socialists.

Please remember to have your letters typed, triple-spaced on a 66-stroke line. If the letter is not on a 66 stroke margin, we have trouble calculating space, which can lead to some very boring problems with our typesetters. The deadline is Monday, 4 p.m.