

Laskin to reinterpret search procedure to senate

By BOB WALLER

The latest act in York's presidential search comedy of errors starts when the senate meets this afternoon.

At about 5:30 pm today search chairman Justice Bora Laskin will address the senate and interpret the reporting procedure of the committee.

This move follows from an invitation on Jan. 13 from the senate executive committee to have Laskin speak to the senate on the selection procedure.

It also follows from the Jan. 12 meeting of the board of governors when after a stormy two-hour debate the board gave Laskin and the search committee a vote of confidence and also expressed confidence in the ability of the committee to interpret the reporting procedure to clear up "the inherent ambiguities."

The final selection and reporting procedure accepted by the senate is:

— the senate will hear and discuss the search committee report in a "closed" session.

— the results of the senate preferential ballot of the short list of candidates will be known only to Laskin as chairman of the search committee and William Pearson Scott as chairman of the board.

— after this senate consultation, the board will appoint the next president, keeping in mind that whoever it is

must have "broad support" of the senate ("broad support" was not defined.)

The board/ search committee action apparently follows out of the chaos created with the withdrawal of the last two candidates from the first, never officially-released, short list of three presidential hopefuls.

On Jan. 5, York's arts dean John T. Saywell withdrew charging that the procedure was "unwise, if not disastrous."

Saywell said in his letter of withdrawal that the senate should have the "preponderant say" in the presidential selection. He also criticized the secrecy of the selection

How search developed — Page 3

and reporting procedure, calling it "a procedure which ensures that the new president... will take office under a cloud."

On Jan. 8, University of Toronto arts dean A. D. Allen withdrew. He too criticized the existing procedure.

He felt that the new president should be chosen by a committee representing all parts of the university — students, faculty, senate and board.

"It would be foolish to take it on unless one could feel very well assured of general support and sympathy throughout the university," Allen said.

Both men left open the possibility that they would accept renomination if the procedure were changed to overcome their objections.

However, Laskin told EXCALIBUR Tuesday that the ambiguities referred to in the procedure were not those criticized by Saywell and Allen. He declined to elaborate.

The feeling among some senators in the arts faculty and Atkinson College is that unless the procedure is interpreted to meet the Saywell/ Allen criticisms, it will be challenged by an amendment of some sort which if passed, would radically alter the procedure.

However, according to reliable sources in the senate, the board of governors, and particularly chairman Scott, are steadfastly opposed to any revision of the procedure, especially one which might shift the balance of power away from them.

Apparently, Scott has told certain people in the university that if the senate "fiddles with the procedure," the board is prepared to appoint the new president on its own.

Although the board must legally consult with the senate on the presidential appointment (York University Act, 1965,) nowhere is it spelled out what consultation means.

When questioned by EXCALIBUR regarding the allegation, Scott refused to comment. He would neither confirm nor deny the charge.

Excilibur

Vol. 4, No. 18

THE YORK UNIVERSITY WEEKLY

January 22, 1970

Not one elected

York Green slate rejected in McLaughlin's elections

By MIKE BLUMENTHAL

The York Green Committee slate was soundly rejected in the McLaughlin Council elections Tuesday.

In what was interpreted by most observers as a negative vote, the coalition of Mac 70 (the Mac student newspaper) staff and the two independents were elected to office.

The new councillors are: Larry Balaban, Bruce Ball, Jim Cameron, Steve Diamond, Marija Dilkus, Bill Moull, and Repunzel (Cynthia Garfinkel.)

A relatively heavy turnout — 22 per cent of the student body — yielded only 14 slate votes for the YGC. The Mac 70 staff attracted 28 slate votes, and 68 ballots indicated preference for the Mac 70 staff and

the independents. Out of 209 ballots cast, almost half ignored the YGC candidates completely.

While the Mac 70 staff had all had experience in college activities, only one of the YGC had been involved in college affairs.

Some Mac students saw the YGC as a campus-wide club, while the Mac 70 staff were viewed as being "college-oriented". Some students voted mainly for the people that they know. Many voted for the lesser of two evils.

Most students, however, didn't vote at all. One of them said, "I didn't vote because it doesn't matter anyway." Another, who had voted, said: "It's only a college election — it sounds like a crummy story."

The Mac 70 staff were delighted with the results. "We handed in our nominations at the last minute so that it wouldn't be a non-election," said Balaban. "We wanted to keep the YGC out of the Mac council."

Bill Moull, editor of Mac 70, said that the YGC will have to reevaluate its position for the CYSF elections. Repunzel smiled. The York Green Committee members were dejected. They had expected to win at least three seats on the council.

Tim Delaney called it a "complete repudiation of the YGC, mainly due to the personality of Tim Delaney — as if it was my committee, which it is not."

Bill Griffiths, who was on the YGC slate, said quite bitterly that the Mac students had "lost the best platform and the best men." Dan Tiffin, also on the YGC slate, said that he was sad that not many students had voted, and promised that he would cooperate with the new council.

The new council will have many problems to deal with in the new year. Many Mac students are aware of the lack of communication between day students and resident students. "The YGC plank of having social activities during the day is no solution," said Bill Moull. "That would leave the resident students bored during the nights."

Other problems are apathy and lack of college identity. Steve Diamond, a Mac 70 staff member noted that there are too many complainers who aren't willing to do anything constructive.

Jim Cameron, a Mac 70 staff member, noted that Mac council was overbudgeted by \$3,000 this year, "and nobody knows where the money went."

Things started to get tense around the polling booths as the afternoon progressed and the voters kept trickling in. The chief returning officer had only printed 250 ballot forms, expecting a low turnout. 209 of the more than 1,000 students in the college turned out to cast their votes.

In Vanier College eight candidates, two of them running for re-election, were acclaimed into Vanier College Council when nominations closed last week. The Vanier election was to have been held today.

the implementation of the Laskin Report.

Green's main fear is that this committee will be similar to a former York presidential advisory body called the Advisory Council on Student Affairs which was set up in September, 1966, and disbanded early in 1967.

Glendon College withdrew from the council because, says former Glendon student Glen Williams, "The meetings were closed and the students on the committee had no real power."

In a letter to Ross, Green wrote that Winters council "is not prepared to accept a) one more cog in the York administrative wheel, or b) a non-elected super committee". It seems the advisory committee is headed for one or the other directions.

Green believes that decision making, concerning such matters as the food services and the bookstore should take place "within the bodies legitimately formed for that purpose." — The food services and the Bookstore committees. Green is also concerned that the advisory body could be used as a "cover for decisions made by Ross."

Replying to Green's letter Ross said his suggestions "will be referred to the advisory committee."

Winters suspicious of Ross committee

By PAUL AXELROD

York president Murray Ross has been meeting since last March with a special advisory committee, composed of students and faculty. However, to at least one student member, the actual function of the group is unclear.

Edie Rantoul, the former Winters College representative to the committee was recalled from the body, since, says Winters council president Marshall Green, "the committee has no legal status within the university."

Ross originally formed the committee to discuss problems which might arise in the university pending the release of the Laskin Report. Winters council understood that the committee would be disbanded immediately after the Laskin Report was made public.

When a second meeting of the committee was called in December, (after the Laskin Report was out) in which matters such as the food services and the bookstore were hinted at as future topics for discussion, Winters council withdrew Miss Rantoul as an official representative from the college, saying she would only attend the meetings as an "interested student" and would discuss only matters pertaining to



Security officers haul down American flag.

And down it comes

Six students last Thursday afternoon replaced the Canadian maple leaf flying in front of York's Ministry of Love with the U.S. stars and stripes.

It flew for about 15 minutes before two security officers drove up from the gatehouse and removed it. The Canadian flag was put in its rightful place sometime after.

EXCALIBUR photographer Jack Meoff, who followed the students when he saw them parading the large U.S. flag through the Central Square around 1 pm, describes what happened:

"Two students were walking while holding the flag spread out. I guess they were trying to attract more kids."

"They got to the pole in front of the Hum. building, whipped down the Canadian flag, neatly rolled it up and hoisted the U.S. flag. Not many people were around."

"They stood around for a while and another guy came up and tried to undo the ropes keeping the U.S. flag up."

"They asked him whether he agreed that the U.S. flag flying there symbolized the true nature of education at York — the Americanization. "The guy said that it probably did, but he didn't like to see the U.S. flag flying there anyway."

Apparently, the students were planning to present the Canadian flag to arts dean John Saywell, but as of Tuesday it had not yet arrived.