

# EDITORIALS

In recent months considerable criticism has been raised about students who are too uninformed to be concerned about what is happening to them.

At the same time there has been plenty of opposition leveled at the administration of institutions of higher education which refuse to allow students to participate in the decisions so largely affecting them.

Such denunciation of largely blind and foolish bodies like listless unaware students and administration has been raised in the context of education.

But when the actual educators reach the point where they are too damned apathetic to care about their own welfare, there is little hope for students of these men.

A case in point:

Last week the annual Faculty Association autumn meeting was held in Burton Auditorium. The meeting was called to familiarize new faculty with the university, its history, and its future.

The meeting was also designed to familiarize

the whole academic staff with the problems now facing the university; problems like provincial cutbacks affecting developing programs, membership on the Senate which is debating Faculty tenure (in a pseudo-secret meeting two weeks from now), and why faculty must teach general education programs and use the college system.

It was a good chance for Faculty to hear the ideas behind many of the things they will doubtlessly be griping about three months from now.

It was a meeting called to enlighten the faculty about the place where they draw their pay — a place for the enlightenment of others.

Yet less than 20 per cent of the entire York faculty attended the meeting.

The faculty was informed well in advance, was very well publicized, and the purpose of the meeting was clearly explained.

Yet less than 20 per cent of the Faculty attended the meeting.

The Senate had passed a resolution allowing all faculty members to cancel any classes which might interfere with their attending the meeting, in effect an open call to all faculty to attend.

And yet less than 20 percent of the faculty attended the meeting.

Twenty percent of the faculty attending a meeting isn't much better than the turn-out for some of the college elections among undergraduates.

And just like in the lecture halls full of dull, unenlightened students facing supposedly enlightened faculty, the faculty who did attend the meeting asked very few questions.

Tuesday was a tragic day for York University. Once again its location next to the Arctic circle (Steeles Avenue) has brought winter to the wastelands two months earlier than it comes to the rest of Metro, with a cold fall snow storm. This early and short storm was only an indication of greater evils to come.

York students unite. Strengthen yourselves for the coming hardships and start to bundle warmly. Meanwhile, maybe if we picketed the weather bureau or the proposed site for the chapel we might succeed in staving off the inevitable.

## Letterslotsoflettersletshavelotsoflettersletshavelots

### Relief

Dear Sir

On behalf of the Nigeria/Biafra Relief Fund of Canada I wish to express our sincere appreciation to you and the other students at York University for your very generous contribution of \$800.

We are most grateful to you all for your interest and concern, and can assure you that the money raised will do much to alleviate the suffering of the unfortunate victims of the Nigerian civil war.

I hope you will pass on to those concerned our grateful thanks for all the work and effort that made your fund raising drive such a success.

Sincerely,

Mrs. T. Watson,  
Public Relations Coord.  
Nigeria/Biafra  
Relief Fund

### Who is to blame?

There was an election Friday at Founders, did you know?

There was a football and rug-

ger game as well as a cross-country meet this weekend, did you know?

There is a Founders student council meeting every Monday, do YOU go?

There are lectures and tutorials at the University — that I hope you know.

Go around your college or the University and for a few moments take the Time to talk to people! How many DO KNOW about the events taking place in their respective colleges, or about the progress of our soccer team or how many assisted at the filming of Under Attack? concerning "student power"? How many KNOW the people who represent them on our different governments? How many bothered to VOTE for them? How many help our representatives out? How many criticize?

Let me leave you with a last question — What do you do for your college, for your university?

Tamy Ruhmann  
Founders First Year Rep.

### The communists object

Dear Sir:

York Communists deplore the action of the police at Saturday's demonstrations against the war in Vietnam. But we also deplore the manner in which the demonstrations were led.

The major organizers of the marches advertized them as part of an international protest against the US presence in Vietnam. Instead of focusing on this, the marches became attempts to challenge police at Yonge Street and right wingers with police at the US consulate, to physical battle.

York Communists object to this diversion for two reasons: (1) it turned the major attention away from the burning and central issue — the US murder in Vietnam; (2) by deliberately forcing a mainly artificial confrontation with the police it helped give the police commission the excuse it will need to justify the real brutality which we believe they are preparing to employ against students, workers and peace demonstrators.

All of us who are fighting for peace must prevent Canadian police from following their

American counterparts in violence. There will be ample opportunity for direct confrontation; fabricated confrontation now can only confuse the issue.

Future plans for the peace movement must be closely scrutinized by all concerned.

Sincerely,  
York Communists.

### Not impressed by Excalibash

Dear Editor,

What does Excalibur think it's trying to prove by putting on the Festival?

Why is it that everybody thinks that people want these things at the university level? To whom are you trying to pander by the use of this event?

I thought you were at least trying to turn over a new leaf with this thing of having fists on front pages and like that, but to push naked women on us for commercial publicity is a bit too much!

Admittedly, I know very little about it, but it appears to me that you are giving 'bread and circuses' to those who would rather prefer to have some power in the say of the institution.

The way in which you have managed to arrange this affair appears to be one in which those in the residences have little option but to buy the button, as if they do not, they will be isolated in their rooms for that weekend.

Personally, I think it's a rotten idea, run by foolish people. And I for one am not going.

Yours Sincerely,  
Mortorn Graanx  
College Complex II

Dear Sir:

Even a journalist with a "View from the Bottom of the Pile" has a responsibility to get his facts straight.

Professor Pope was not retained by the Faculty of Arts and Science for purely academic reasons. Not even Professor Pope has stated that he was the victim of a purge of the left wing, and Messrs. Goldstein and Hertzog might be interested in reading last Friday's Toronto Star, when Professor Pope declared that the disagreement was not political.

I hope we will not be missing a columnist, for I very much enjoy reading "The View from the Bottom of the Pile".

Yours truly,  
John T. Saywell,  
Dean.

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LOOSE TALK HEARD AROUND THE OFFICE ON TUESDAY EVENING: all right, men, first we kill the layout king for mouthing off, then we destroy the copy desk for defacing the walls with dirty pictures, set fire to all the entertainment and features copy (don't look too hard, the fire is out already), then we kick out the photogs lounging around the darkroom with copy desk chickees, clear out the new staffers (elgie, snook, howard, mckay), and then, maybe then, we will have enough people to rival the seer. OH SUCH A FOUL MOUTH. SUGGESTIONS FOR A BETTER WORLD: deify la'raine, re-organize copy desk and layout, burn Richard (a cry of joy is heard) get some decent hot chocolate, refrain from stealing layout pencils, teach photogs how to use a camera, teach elgie to move his mouth, teach Fleebeck to write, welcome new staffers (bev, nancy, mary, susanna) with a kiss (two kisses) (maybe no kisses), invite A.C. to visit us (knives anyone?), have another staff meeting, cut stew smith sports copy (ooh, that smarts), give roly 20 pages of ads and call the rag Excalibad, get more adorable chicks for copy desk (impossible) (S.S. anyone?) (not me) and so to bed. PILLOW PLUMPER: YSC finally (after two years) agrees to publish Excalibur. THURSDAY — 5 PM — STAFF!

## The view from the bottom of the pile.

by Larry Goldstein and Stuart P. Hertzog

This has been one of those rotten weeks. Larry has been depressed and Stuart has been down at Rochdale doin' his thing. So here are some random jottings — thoughts which we thought might be the subject of this week's column.

### YORK GOES AHEAD WITH \$350,000 CHAPEL.

If we could meet with the anonymous donor who gave the money to build the chapel, we would point out several realities of which he, being a non-student, might not be aware. There are 17 churches and synagogues within a 3-mile radius of York. Therefore the need for a chapel is not pressing.

What is pressing, however, is the need for staff and the need for books, and the need of needy students. Sir, your donation, if invested would provide about \$35,000 per year. This would pay for 3 instructors, or buy 35 Scholarships or even could provide interest-free loan money. In 10 or 20 years, you could still build your chapel. Or, your \$350,000

would buy 50,000 books for the library. Or, if you really dig religion, use your money to create a chair of religious studies. But please sir, don't buy us a chapel . . .

### PETER, PAUL AND MARY CONCERT A DRAG

Because we were so bored by the super-slick concert, we began looking around Massey Hall at the crowd. We saw pimply adolescents, girls with fat thighs, pseudos with natty little sideburns, some "with-it" college profs and . . .

And us. We were there, too. I'll bet we fit one of those categories . . .

### OUR BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE — PIERRE ELLIOT TRUDEAU

Isn't our prime minister beautiful, God bless him? First of all, he compares our proposed interference in Biafra — that is, dropping food to starving people — to the American intervention in Viet-Nam, that is actually fighting a civil war. Then he compares the starving women & children of Biafra to the starving Nazis at Stalingrad. (Go on, tell me he's not the coolest.) On top

of that he says that he's going to lower the taxes of the very rich. And you know who'll make up the difference, don't you? But even that is not what makes him the smoothest P.M. in our recent history.

No. Because after he's said these unbelievably stupid things and used analogies that make John Diefenbaker look like a Socratic genius our boy says that Canadians should encourage dissent. He must know that you can't dissent when you're choked up with bitter laughter.

But the flying fickle finger of fate goes to you, my fellow Canadians. You elected him, you gave him a mandate without exacting one obligation in return. And if you tell him "Now look here my son, we won't elect you next time", he'll say with that typical Gallic shrug and that Anglo-Saxon twinkle in his smile — "Fuck off!"

Need we remind you; he's one of the very rich. He's a sweet mother . . .

Those are some of the things we were going to write about but then, oh well, we were tired and it was just too far to walk.