



John bends minds - a bit

by Olga Shpak

YSC pres John Adams shocked the assembly Friday night by telling Convocation that students and faculty "ought to control the decision and decision-making apparatus which affect them and the educational process."

Reaction to president John's thing was mixed: it ran from extreme shock, to blank faces on the stage, to a little old lady's "what is that young man trying to say? He certainly uses a lot of words to say nothing."

Adams first condemned York for operating on the basis that "a university education or its equivalent is indispensable for a successful career." York must not follow the example of "older but not necessarily wiser universities". We must "rethink" and "restructure".

Newly installed Chancellor Floyd S. Chalmers attempted what could almost be called a rebuttal of this point in his Inaugural Address following Adams. Towards the end of a typical "Address to the Graduates" Chalmers earnestly exhorted the graduates to begin enjoying the establishment. "You are now a part of it," he said. The establishment, he said, was an elite group of people who have accepted the responsibilities of service and leadership.

According to John, a York Professor, Harry Crowe, believes

that it isn't ordinary students who want to participate in decision-making, but a student elite. This elite would "participate on an equal basis with administrative and faculty elites."

Adams concedes that this might be true if students claimed some sort of unique student insight that would "improve the quality of decisions". "That's not where we're at," said groovy John, then demolished Prof. Crowe by calling his claims not perceptive and not pertinent.

"If York is to educate, not train, if it is to be for people, not just technocrats, if it is to be for the individual, not just for society," Adams continued, "we need and ought to control the decisions affecting our lives."

Winding up for a big finish, Adams called passionately for "redefinition of . . . education." He called for "new analysis of decision-making." He called for action and confirmation.

Too bad. John never really got to the nitty gritty. He carefully avoided any definite statements. He never said, "Well, kiddies, we've got to make our own decisions or we're screwed." He never told us how we could get out of the watermelon patch. He never told us how to stop being adult niggers. But, at least he says he wants to be a big kid — if the grownups let him. What he said was important. But was it enough?

United Appeal chug-a-lug

by Kandy Biggs

Your time or your money — either or both can help make York's United Appeal Drive a really big shew. "But I have no cash" . . . Never mind — it's your talent we're after.

Variety Night is being held Nov. 7 with all proceeds going to the United Appeal. The organizers of this show don't know what it will consist of yet, but they do know that York students have a lot of variety. Participants don't even know they're participating yet! (That means you!) Any, all, or no talent is welcomed.

Some group suggestions for skits so far: the Stamp Club is staging a chug-a-lug (coke, of course) The Library staff is demonstrating a read-in, and from the rugger team — a 10 minute free-for-all.

It will take 15 skits to make the evening a success and to give York a strong lead into the Festival weekend. (It starts the following evening).

If you're enthusiastic contact Glen Murray at YSC or George Orr at Excalibur. (They like people).

The faculty and staff will be doing their thing again this year with their pledges and cash donations.

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