

Minister 'mised the public'

Parrot battles broken election promises

By GARY KINSMAN

Ontario minister of Colleges and Universities Harry Parrot spoke at York Wednesday on a Bethune College panel to discuss the differential tuition free hike.

Parrot, the first speaker on the panel, spoke mainly of his 'responsibility to represent all sectors of society' and his support of the international scholarship concept. He spoke, however, very little of the government's policy on the tuition increases for foreign students.

Another participant, Chris Allmand, a spokesman for the Ontario Federation of Students, said the OFS does not support the fee hike and that "the raising of fees for international students, would represent about .6 per cent of the ministry's budget."

Allmand charged the minister for suggesting that the savings to the provincial government would be greater than .6 per cent and that Parrot had "mised the public". "The corporate sectors contribution to the government should be restored, said Allmand, so that

the government would receive more funds.

According to Allmand, the OFS is encouraging local student meetings to discuss the international students' situation. Bethune College representative, Naomi Laird accused the government of breaking its last election promise not to increase tuitions for the 1976-1977.

According to Laird, 46 per cent of international students are from developing countries and "they will be hit hardest by these hikes."

She said 'government policy aims to keep underdeveloped countries underdeveloped.'

"The fee hike is a test for a general tuition increase later on," she said. "OFS is not taking a firm enough position and there is a need for immediate action."

Ivor Picour, the Third World Students Union panelist said that the international students issue cannot be isolated from immigrants as a whole. He saw the issue as an example of government 'racism'.

CYSF president Barry Edson criticized the government for



Harry Parrot, minister of Colleges and Universities for the Ontario government answers questions from the student audience at Bethune college last Wednesday, while CYSF president Barry Edson listens.

playing with thousands of lives by trying to regain the majority they had in the legislature.

Bethune College Master Ioan Davies offered yet another opinion on the foreign fee increases. He said that in times of crisis, governments look to "strangers in the midst to

blame for the country's problems.

During the discussion period, no one expressed support for the Ontario government's policy.

Parrot did not say there would more tuition increases this year because determination for tuition fees has not yet been made for 1977.

York president H. Ian MacDonald, another panelist, said that his personal feelings over the tuition increases are different than those of the institution which made the decision. He would not, however, elaborate on what he meant.

Students can't write

By DAVID SALT MARSH

A series of writer's workshops will be held for the next eight weeks at Stong College on Tuesday afternoons.

The purpose of the workshops is to provide a useful series of discussions on writing, said Virginia Rock, Master of Stong College.

"There are quite a few students who don't do themselves or their ideas justice because they can't express themselves," she said. She added that in the current issue of Harper's, an article on "Illiteracy in American Universities" concluded that one possible reason why so many university students have trouble writing is because they were never taught how to.

The idea of holding these workshops was developed by Rock, Stong Senior Tutor Dave Johnson, and Stong Fellow Michael Rehner

(former director of the Writer's Workshop) to help students in writing and research assignments. Each week will centre on a different aspect of writing, with different instructors and differing formats (depending on the subject and number of participants). A student may chose which workshops he or she will attend and may attend as many as he feels worthwhile.

The first workshop, an introduction to writing, was held earlier this week. Future workshops will deal with such topics as "Understanding the Essay," "The Nature of Research," "The Order of Ideas", "On Style" (choice of words, sentences and structure), "Just Rewards-Taking Your Lumps" (how essays are marked and why), "On 'Practical' Writing" (writing letters of application, resumes, etc.), and "Writing Creatively".

Dusty institution raises fees

By MARY LOCHHEAD

Due to higher operating costs and plans for expansion, entrance fees for the Royal Ontario Museum will be increased October 18th. The new fee structure will raise adult entrance fees to \$1.00 (previously 50 cents), and pensioner's, student's, and children's to 50 cents (formerly free).

The cuts in government spending have already resulted in a freeze on salaries and hiring, and reduced hours are impending after the current special exhibition. The museum has been kept open Tuesday to Thursday nights with free admission from 5 pm to 9 pm; the proposed new hours would close the museum at 6pm.

Regarded by some as a dusty institution with little relevance to "real life", the museum is in fact a very active educational facility. Through extension departments, tours of school groups, libraries, lectures, and films, it reaches many people across the province, but the grants allotted the museum are not sufficient to cover costs.

Higher fees and fewer hours will make access to the museum more difficult for those who work days, have little money, and live at a distance from the downtown core including many York students for example. Many university students use the library and departments for research, and art students frequently practice drawing skills in the museum.

According to York graduate student Susan Grant, "The ROM East Asian library contains valuable texts unavailable elsewhere in Toronto. TTC fare increases combined with the new 50 cent admission charge amounts to quite an expense over a year's work."

Apart from doing serious research, one could just drop in on impulse during a free afternoon or evening. Even 50 cent is a deterrent to such an adventure: it could be your subway fare home.

Despite lower standards of living, many European countries have managed to maintain free museums, to the benefit of their own people, and many North American tourists.

Cheers!

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