

Excalibur

Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity
—Lord Acton

Excalibur founded in 1966, is the York University weekly and is independent politically. Opinions expressed are the writer's and those unsigned are the responsibility of the editor. Excalibur is a member of Canadian University Press and attempts to be an agent of social change. Printed at Newsweb, Excalibur is published by Excalibur Publications.

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Creeping racism, more than a war of words

The Toronto telephone book is a non-discriminating directory. Conspicuously lodged between Western Elevator and Western International Hotels, is the Western Guard Party and its message service, White Power Message.

If you were to dial the number of the Western Guard, you might reach an affable young man named Mike (he will not reveal his surname), who is preoccupied with racial differences.

He accepts uneasily the fact that there are different races. He will not accept that they are equal, or that they should be allowed to mix.

He will tell you plainly, unabashedly, that all the great advances in art, science, religion, politics have come from Aryans, and that non-Aryans are suited for menial tasks. That is what they do best.

He does not hate blacks, Jews, Orientals, Indians; they cannot help what they are. He just wishes they'd go back from whence they came.

All this he will tell you as if he were giving you the time of day.

If you ask he will tell you about the National Socialist (Nazi) Underground, not listed in the phonebook, which operates on a "don't call us, we'll call you" basis.

One must be favoured to be considered for membership by this surreptitious group numbering approximately 20 members.

Members of the NSU claimed responsibility for defacing Bethune College and the bust of Dr. Bethune a month back and most recently for a vicious attack on the college's master, Ioan Davies. Mike will tell you, and Professor Davies will certainly attest to this, that the NSU is not to be trifled with.

"They're pretty gung-ho, they belong to gun clubs and all that," Mike told an Excalibur reporter, Tuesday.

Before carrying out their jingoistic policies on professor Davies, the NSU mailed him a leaflet entitled Buy Aryan — Boycott Jew Businesses.

The leaflet outlines in cartoon format what the group see as a Jewish takeover of the business section in Toronto. The cartoon depicts a Mountie educating a blond teenager on the evils of buying from Jewish establishments. The leaflet is a slick, professional piece of propaganda.

The boy asks, "Do the Jews really dominate Canadian business?" to which the Mountie replies, "You bet they do. Aryans (or whites) have been driven out of many lines of business lately. Jews have already bought up the main business sections of the large cities, now they are moving into the smaller towns."

The message is as old as civilization. In hard times — times of inflation, unemployment, discontent — some members of society look towards the outsiders, the ethnics, the immigrants, for the root causes of the country's malaise.

In the last frame of the leaflet the Mountie addresses the reader. "Finally, white people must unite so that their children can have a decent future free of such economic parasites — learn the facts and help build a strong white Canada!" he prescribes.

"What a joke," a York student says as he tosses the leaflet on the ground. Ioan Davies might have used the same words when he received the pamphlet in his mail, Thursday morning.

Germans must have said the same thing in the 1920s when Adolf Hitler was just a "nutty" extremist. A decade later they were jockeying for position in crowded streets so they might catch a glimpse of him.

If history teaches us anything, it is that today's madmen have a frightening tendency to form tomorrow's government, especially the really tenacious and committed madmen.

Scrawled on the cubicle wall of a Central Square washroom are three angry words — Kill Anti-Fascists! A thoughtless prankster or a thoughtful madman?

Perhaps we have too long dismissed such people as 'pranksters' and have allowed them to thrive in anonymity. Only through open discussion of the issue can we hope to come to grips with the causes of mindless hate.

EXCALIBUR staff meeting

*to meet the CYSF presidential candidates
and to ratify the constitution*

today 3 p.m. room 111

**Central Square
everyone attend**

The Election Routine



United Left Coalition workers make last minute adjustments to Gael Silzer's image while the threat of Kevin Smith and Izidore Musallam splintering the anti-ULC vote keeps Barry Edson's campaign from getting airborne.

Vive la difference

When the dust had settled at midnight on Tuesday, chief returning officer Alex Ahee informed us unofficially that a record 43 names had been slipped under his door as candidates for this year's CYSF elections. Five of them, Gael Silzer, Barry Edson, Kevin Smith, Izidore Musallam and Blanche Blunkett (who may or may not exist), are running for president.

If the number of candidates is any indication, student interest in student elections is surging upward dramatically. There will be no acclamations this year, which is gratifying because it's always nice to have a choice. And, if one boils the presidential contest down, one is indeed faced with a choice — clear, basic and of considerable import.

Gael Silzer, the United Left slate nominee for president, and campus NDP club chairman Barry Edson will probably be the front-running candidates. They were the only two who, as of Tuesday, had prepared coherent and comprehensive campaign platforms.

The differences between them are both clear-cut and drastic. Silzer stands for a heavily politicized,

outward-looking, stern approach to such issues as government cutbacks to social services, student unionism, the role of women, the fight against racial and ethnic discrimination and the relation between students and labour. In sharp contrast, Edson is pushing a platform which deals thoroughly and apolitically with community issues. It stresses the day-by-day quality of life for York students: social activities, cultural programmes, student services, food.

Silzer caters primarily to the student as political animal; Edson, primarily to the student as social animal.

Edson also proposes to drastically restructure the CYSF, tying it more closely to the colleges and, thereby, to the grass roots of the student population.

But Silzer, in keeping with the ULC view of the CYSF as a lobbying force, favours an independent, centralized student government.

The differences between Silzer and Edson may be summed up by two words: the watchword of Silzer and the ULC is "action"; that of the Edson camp, "response".

The choice is clearly defined and, in this time of trouble for Ontario university students, it may almost be crucial.

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