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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Canada will recognize Chile's military gov't

The tragic events in Chile have more meaning for Canadian than is at first obvious.

On the surface, the military overthrow of a Latin American republic seems perfectly normal. After all, they occur on the average of one every four years. In fact, Uruguay has barely had time to start enjoying the pleasures offered by its very own military regime. Other countries like Peru, Brazil and Bolivia could give lessons on the subject.

But the situation in Chile is somehow quite different.

A workable democratic system had been functining for over thirty years without military intervention, a magnificent achievement for a Latin American nation. Moreover, it seems more clear every day that the military was finally instigated to act through, at the very least, indirect interference from huge international corp-rations (read American), aided and abetted by that wonderful force for world freedom, the CIA.

What, one wonders, would be Canada's

Food services has big hit?

Always helpful, those busy little food service people. Now they've come up with Hints for Budgeting Yo.r Food Expenditure, sure to be a big hit with resident students across campus.

Now residence and day students can elbow themselves into the receiving line for a "special balanced nutritious meal" with a discount yet. A typical lunch described in the handout includes a roll with butter, a "small" orange juice, cole slaw, wieners and beans, an ice cream roll and tea, coffee or milk, for only 95 cents.

But you'd better like it, because if you make even one substitute, you pay \$1.30. Oh yes — "Water is valuable to a diet. It's

ree."

fate, if we were ever foolish enough to elect a government which might act contrary to the wishes of big businesses like International Telephone and Telegraph?

Probably, military intervention would be outvoted in the ITT board room as a little too violent and impractical. But one can certainly visualize buckets of money pouring across the border to support parties favourable to business interests. And, in fact, that's precisely what the insurance giants have done in their efforts to counter the NDP in provinces like Manitoba, British Columbia and Ontario.

. . .

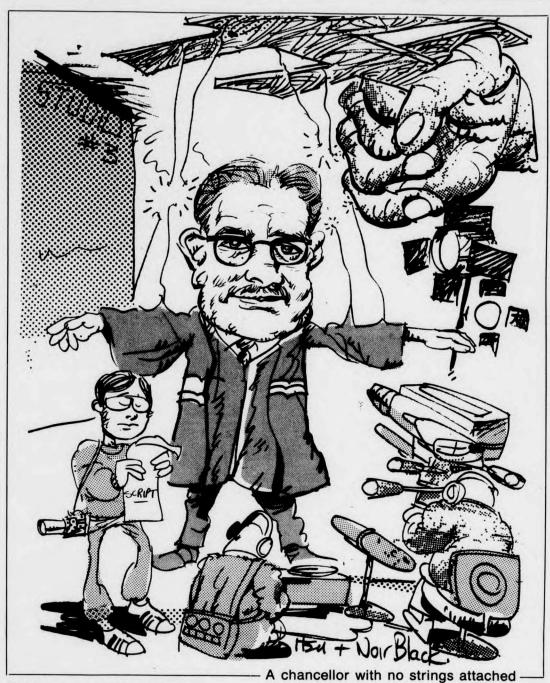
Canda has a basic duty not to recognize, or legitimize in any way, the misbegotten Chilean nightmare that dares to call itself a responsible government. To recognize a regime concocted out of the overthrow of an elected government that never once deviated in practice from the legitimate constitution is tantamount to sanctioning the takeover in the first place.

Canada must also grant Chile's political refugees asylum if they need it, if we care anything about freedom.

The latter is possible, but the former is not likely without great pressure from concerned groups like political parties, strong labour unions and citizens' lobbies. Even then, our government will probably go right along with the rest of the herd and recognize the junta as the effective government of Chile.

Why? Because business must go on. The External Affairs Department has said it will recognize the junta as soon as it has assurances that Canadian lives and property will be safeguarded; as soon, in other words, as the junta shows itself to be effectively in control.

This, of course, is to avoid embarrassment in case the coup proves to be shortlived. And everyone knows there's no chance of that as long as American money



He's a troublemaker

Will Gordon rescue us?

Walter Gordon, a former Liberal finance minister, will assume the chancellor's mantle next week. He brings to the job an unequalled background in high finance punctuated with a nationalism and independence so pronounced that he has been labelled a troublemaker more than once by his more conservative business colleagues.

It would be to York's advantage if Gordon started making a little trouble around here too. For too long, the chancellor's role has been one of pomp and ceremony and little else. Often, it is granted, like a seat in the Senate or an honourary degree, to some deserving, wealthy old guy as a recognition of past service.

But is Walter Gordon, one of the founders of the Committee for an Independent Canada, ready for pasture?

Surely, not! And if that independent streak comes through... well, who knows. Maybe York will finally get the kind of dynamic leadership it

Is there no end to their generosity?

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Mike Lawrence-

has so sorely lacked in the past, and which it so badly needs.

CYSF as a tragic comedy

In his column last week, Michael Mouritsen, president of CYSF, complained that Excalibur lacked a sense of humour. On this point Mr. Mouritsen and I agree. In light of this implicit request for some laughable material, let us examine some humourous aspects of the presidential role itself.

It is no secret that the president of CYSF performs a real function for the campus community. Certainly some financial remuneration is in order, though admittedly in the past Mr. Mouritsen has indicated that he would prefer some other functionaries at York to work for nothing.

Michael Mouritsen draws an annual salary \$5,000 which is pretty good as part-time jobs go. And considering that Mouritsen attends as a student, what else could you call his presidential function but that of part-time?

Some people might think that \$5,000 is a lot of money. In fact it's probably just enough, for in a year when council found it so necessary to trim funds from numerous student organizations, Mr. Mouritsen supported a motion raising his own salary an additional one thousand dollars.

This light chuckle allows some interesting comparisons. Mouritsen's salary, with its 25% raise, equals more than a third of the sum his council granted to this newspaper as operating funds, a tidy \$13,500. The total operating budget of Radio York matches exactly what the President pays himself.

Curiously enough, in a year of generous excecutive raises, the budget of this newspaper was trimmed a full \$5,000, almost 30% less than the previous year's grant of \$18,000. Mouritsen, as president of council, justified such a cut on the grounds that there were more important financial priorities to be met. We can imagine what one of those priorities was.

But after all, how can you begrudge a guy who is working his way through school? Sure, we each pay almost thirty dollars a year in student fees, and part of that reimburses Mr. Mouritsen for his performance. But if it wasn't for us, how else could he manage to sustain himself, how else could he pay the rent on the penthouse he occupies in the graduate residence? Priorities, priorities, priorities.

So Mr. Mouritsen, I hope you appreciate this humourous information as much as I did and as much as your constituents will. But honestly, don't you think they'll stop laughing when they find out that the joke's on them? ...

It seems obvious that what goes on in the council chambers should be no laughing matter. Then again, if you have ever attended one of the meetings you might disagree.

But it hurts. Here are people, elected representatives no less, who at times make things look like a performance of "Take the Money and Run". And it's a lot of money, a budget of over \$90,000 a year. When are council members going to realize that if the students want an evening of dramatic performance, they can find it elsewhere, at a cheaper price?

Certainly the council can and at times does serve a useful purpose. The willingness of council to grant Harbinger operating funds after the administration withdrew its support is only one example of this. Unfortunately such mentionable deeds seem few and far between.

Perhaps when certain members of council stop practising their Jolly Roger wit, some business might get done. There are serious people on council and a visit to any meeting will demonstrate this. But the time has come for some of our junior politicians to stop honing their future aspirations on the York audience.