

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.

News 667-3201

Advertising 667-3800

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 functioning 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 corporations (read American), aided and abetted by that wonderful force for world freedom, the CIA.

What, one wonders, would be Canada's

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.

...

Canada 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 short-lived. And everyone knows there's no chance of that as long as American money is involved... someplace.

Mike Lawrence

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 humorous 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



A chancellor with no strings attached

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

Editor-in-chief

Brian Milner

Asst. editor

Warren Clements

News editor

S. Jennifer Hunter

Sports editor

Ed Piwowarczyk

Layout editor

Lerrick Starr

Photo editor and graphics

Peter Hsu

Staff at large — Peter Matilainen, Agnes Kruchio, Sol Candel, Stan Henry, Anthony Gizzie, Michael Forman, Alan Risen, Rosemary McCracken, Vince Dorval, Chris Gates, Tom Trotter, Judith Nefsky, Robin Endres, Ron Rosenthal, Sue Cooper, Alex Ahee, Shelley Rabinovitch, Dynamite C. Strange,