

Union loyalty creates hole

Book by ex-prez ponders our fragmentation

By KEITH NICKSON

The most impressive aspect of Murray G. Ross' latest book, *The University - The Anatomy of Academe* is the accessibility it presents to a traditionally very dry subject matter.

Ross restricts the discussion to a historical comparison of universities in Canada, England and the U.S. in an attempt to discover the roots of the student rebellion in the sixties. As opposed to a strictly chronological analysis, Ross divides the work into four sections entitled *The Background, The People, The Issues and The Future* which enables him to continually consider the entire spectrum of university growth.

In this manner he manages to delve into the historical evolution of the university and simultaneously gradually focus on the 1960's and 70's which are his primary concern.

Ultimately, it is Ross' style of writing which makes the book so appealing. His sophisticated prose is consistently unacademic, yet never fails to communicate in a lively fashion the often complex developments that transformed the role of the university. Even when such tedious problems as budgeting are discussed, Ross' prose manages to hold one's attention throughout what is essentially a crucial aspect of the modern university.

The only risk that is encountered with such a style emerges when the simplicity of the prose lapses into the cliché or mundane. Fortunately for Ross, this only occurs on two or three occasions. When discussing the youth movement of the sixties, Ross writes "Some societies encouraged and made provision for

youth to 'sow their wild oats'". At another point Ross remarks "The brilliant record of Oxford and Cambridge...was not to be 'watered down' by being merged into a unitary system."

Ross attempts to view the revolts of the sixties as the natural culmination of forces that had emerged earlier in the evolution of the university. The author correctly identifies the tremendous escalation of university enrolment during the post-war years which the institutions failed to properly adjust to.

He adds, "but the student population was not only larger, it was much less homogeneous than before 1950, when it was not easy to be admitted to a university if one was black, female, a Jew or a Catholic or from a working or lower

class family."

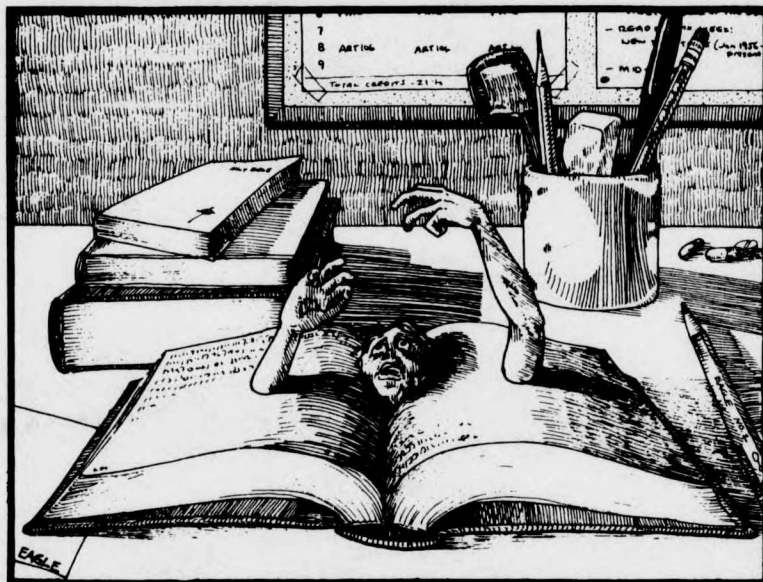
The many insights Ross displays in these chapters probably result from his experience as President of York in the sixties. He clearly distinguishes the new ideologies which "sought a new free, natural way of life" and concludes that what these represented were an attempt "to devalue detachment, objectivity and non-involvement as methods of finding truth" and thus "challenge the foundations on which the university was based."

The arguments Ross presents are rigorously documented and supported by many varieties of evidence. The limitations of this approach nevertheless become clear when the author attempts to predict what the future of the university will be. He vaguely suggests the future will depend on

the ability of the university to solve the problems it now faces and the attitude society adopts towards the value of higher education. Ross also suspects there will be a return to many traditional concepts combined with a more forward towards a new role in society for the university.

Ross is certain nevertheless that the achievement of a stable

governing structure is unlikely. Loyalty to the university is now irrelevant compared to union or association loyalty which he believes has created a 'hole in the centre' or lack of a central authority. It is crucial that this be revived according to Ross, to prevent the ideological fragmentation of all components of the university.



In his latest book, Dr. Murray G. Ross predicts that students will adopt traditional concepts of the university as an institution.

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PRESENTS

a flea market and craft fair

Saturday December 11th
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

at
Atkinson Residence
York University

FOOD

ENTERTAINMENT
for kids

crafts
pottery



SNOW EMERGENCY

All members of the community at the York Campus are advised that when a Snow Emergency condition is declared by Metropolitan Toronto, or at the University the

- 1) Curb parking will not be permitted in the peripheral (Unreserved) lots.
- 2) Between midnight and 8:00 a.m. cars left overnight in peripheral lots will be required to be parked in designated areas in the front portion of the lots.
- 3) Between midnight and 8:00 a.m. no parking will be

following restriction on parking will be imposed in order to facilitate snow removal:

- permitted on any campus roads including those where parking is normally allowed. i.e. Ottawa Road, and the road adjacent to the Temporary Office Building.
- 4) Between midnight and 8:00 a.m. no parking will be permitted in any reserved area.

(The University reserves the right to suspend parking temporarily in any area for emergencies)

- York Campus Parking and Traffic Regulations 1976/77

When a Snow Emergency condition is declared in Metropolitan Toronto this is promulgated through local radio stations, and if it is found necessary to declare an emergency at the University at any other time this will be carried by Radio York. "Snow Emergency" signs will also be displayed at all entrances to the Campus.

The degree of co-operation shown by members of the

community will determine the effectiveness of snow removal, which presents problems because of the substantial number of vehicles belonging to residents which are parked overnight on campus. The above measures will enable a more efficient use to be made of snow clearing equipment, particularly during the night hours, which should prove beneficial to all.

C.G. DUNN,
Director of Safety & Security.