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Bette Stephenson's options seem slim as funding crisis mounts.

\$1.1 billion budget cuts stomp students

Berel Wetstein

Last week's Federal Budget may spell more hard times for Ontario's university system.

In a move so complicated that it took Provincial bureaucrats almost a week to tally up the gains and losses of revenue, 1.1 billion dollars in funding will be stripped from post-secondary education over the next five years. This figure is a minimum loss based on the state of the economy as it was on budget day. If a recession occurs the province will be even harder pressed to find funds.

The lack of funds results from the revoking of revenue guarantees that were instituted in 1972 to compensate the provinces for loss of revenue that resulted from tax loopholes opened to upper income individuals in the hope of expanding the

economy. The loss of revenue was created because provincial tax rates are a percentage of the federal taxes collected from each person. In Ontario this rate is 44%.

The federal government closed many of these tax loopholes in last Thursday's important budget, while lowering the basic tax rate on individuals. The feds argued that since the amount of taxes paid to them would rise then the provinces would also receive more money. With loopholes discontinued, Ottawa reasons that revenue guarantees are redundant.

OFS representatives met yesterday with the Minister of Colleges and Universities, Bette Stephenson, to discuss how the province should handle the cuts. There seems to be three options open to Stephenson:

1) Increase the deficit

2) Transfer some money from other programmes and put it towards education

3) Cut education spending heavily. In the past the Ministry has chosen the third path.

In another incident involving OFS and MCU, the Minister has sent a memorandum to the Regency of Community Colleges, instructing them that no fees other than student activity fees should be collected by the administration. In this way Stephenson is trying to cut off the OFS' financial lifeblood. According to an OFS spokesperson, As we are the only organization that receives any money collected by the administration for students, this is the opening salvo of an obvious attack by the minister.

York stirred by Chilean visit

Michael Monastyrskij

News of a visit by two administrators from the University of Santiago, Chile has resulted in a minor stir, as faculty and student bodies reacted to a rumour that the Chileans would be meeting with President H. Ian MacDonald and Vice President in charge of Academic Affairs, William Found.

The York University Faculty Association, the Canadian Union of Educational Workers, Bethune College Council and the Council of the York Student Federation

were among the organizations that expressed concern over the visit of administrators from a country that consistently violates human rights.

York officials, however, state that last Friday, Luis Ortiz and Faud Assareya came, toured and left without having seen Macdonald or Found, and that, in fact, no meeting had ever been planned. Found's secretary, Elizabeth Motsch, stated that the visit had been arranged in Ottawa. She says, "The Interna-

tional Development Agency just informed us less than a week ago that officials from that university would be coming." She acknowledged that "there was a lot of protest to the visit," but added that the administration could not have prevented the two from coming.

In his letter to Found, YUFA chairman Howard Buchbinder gave his reasons for opposing any meeting between York officials and the Chilean administrators:

"If such a meeting is indeed taking place then I and the YUFA Executive wish to express our deep concern and indignation. Several hundred students died inside the campus of that university during the days of the 1973 coup against the Allende Government. The Pinochet regime violates every tenet of human rights, dignity and democratic process. The administrators of Chilean Universities are under the control of the military and the secret police."

Before coming to York, Ortiz and Assareya were at the University of Toronto, where, according to Jorge Garreton, the newly acclaimed CYSF Director of External Affairs, the two met with U of T officials. Garreton believes that due to pressure put on the administration a similar meeting did not occur at York.

Yvonne Aziz, Executive Assistant to the President, repeats the administration's position that York officials had no intention of meeting the Chileans. "The whole thing has gotten out of proportion," she added.

Vandals put cork on pubs

Brooke Manor

A group of drunken vandals have corked the bottle temporarily for McLaughlin pub goers.

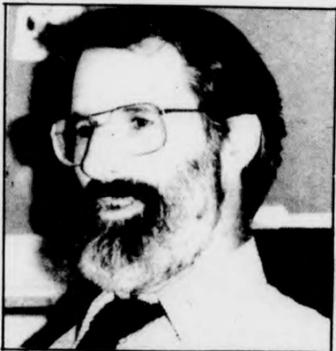
Last weekend two false fire alarms were triggered. Because this wasn't the first time this year, the Chief of the North York Fire Department was immeasurably angered at the University. As a result, John Becker, Assistant Vice-President, closed the McLaughlin pub temporarily. And yesterday, emergency meetings were held with all pub managers.

Members of the McLaughlin College Council feel that they are being victimized by a problem that is not exclusively McLaughlin's. At a general assembly meeting held last night they reviewed the disturbing increase in liquor-related vandalism, and moved on increased security at the door, and establishing patrols outside in the surrounding hallways.

In an advertisement placed in Excalibur this week, Becker

warns that pubs are not so desperately important to this university community that we could not live without them.

Representatives of all York pubs have received Becker's announcement in written and oral form.



Vice President of Student Services, John Becker.

Pub reps will continue to meet with Becker to solve the dilemma facing them.



The improvements are listed in a letter that TTC Chief Manager A.H. Savage sent to Small earlier this week. In the new year two express buses instead of one will leave Wilson Station at 8:10 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. and additional capacity will be provided for the PM rush hour departures from the University.

As commuters have probably noticed, the York University 106 bus now comes every twenty minutes instead of the previous thirty. At present, this increased frequency only continues until 10:15 p.m., but as of January 3, it will be extended to 11:00 p.m.

Another small improvement begins next week. As of Monday, three of the six buses that, between 6:00 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. are designated Garage will be

Express bus improves service in January

Michael Monastyrskij

Responding to the suggestions of William Small, York Vice-President in charge of University Services, and to ridership surveys that show increased bus use at York, the Toronto Transit Commission has decided to improve bus service from the University to Wilson Station.

scheduled to provide local (route 106) service on the return trip to Wilson Station.

At the same time that Excalibur learned of the improved service the Metro executive voted to increase fares to eight tickets for five dollars, or seventy five cents cash. The increase will go into effect in January.

Feds dodge questions

A report leaked to a NDP Member of Parliament indicates that the Trudeau government will establish a voucher system, in order to force students into certain areas of education.

Entitled the Dodge Report, the leaked paper was prepared for bureaucrats in the Ministry of Employment and Immigration, and only a waterdowned version has been present before parliament. The preliminary report suggests that the federal government offer vouchers to encourage poor Canadian students to take certain skilled labour courses. The vouchers would only be valid for subjects that Ottawa felt were economically beneficial to Canada.

It is argued that Trudeau's government will use this system as a way to determine post-secondary curricula and as a strong arm tactic, designed to take away a provincial responsibility without violating the provisions of the BNA act.