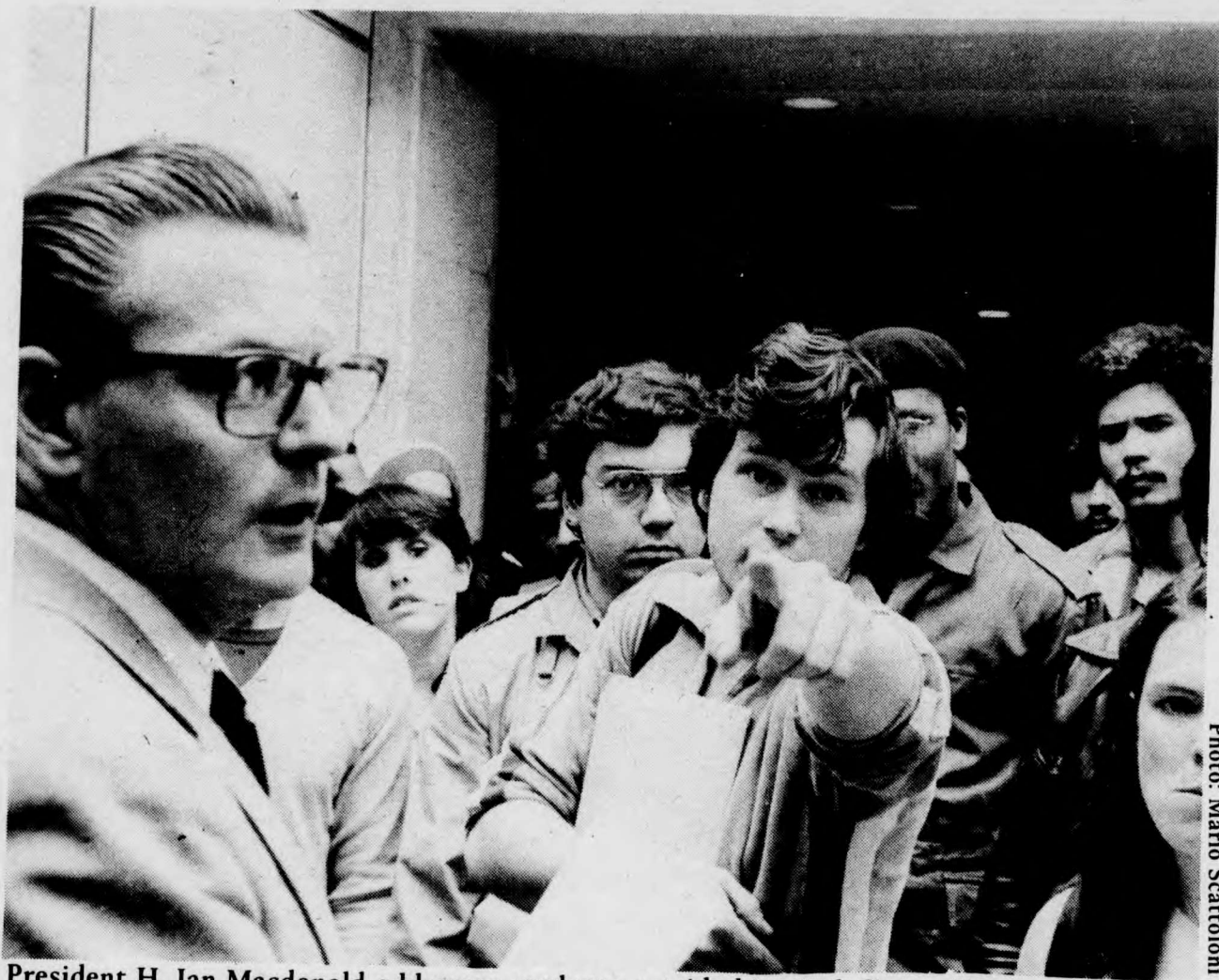


Students confront police

Demonstration to protest racial harassment



President H. Ian Macdonald addresses students outside his ninth floor office yesterday.

York Progressive Conservatives endorsed candidates in elections

BRIAN HENRY

Excalibur has obtained a copy of a recent mailing of the York Young Progressive Conservative's Association in which the York YPC, endorse Chris Summerhayes for President of the Council of the York Student Federation, Paul Isenberg, for CYSF External Affairs Director, and Chris Kozachenko, Danny Simile and Walters for the Senate (Faculty of Arts).

The mailing also contained literature obtained from by the "no" side of the recent CFS referendum at the University of Toronto, and an article from *Excalibur* concerning the U of T referendum and alleged interference in that referendum by the Ontario PC Party.

Matt Marshall, Vice-President of the York YPCs, said some candidates were not approached to find out what their views were. He said the process of deciding which candidates to endorse "wasn't as extensive as it could have been... (but) time was of the essence." Marshall said the endorsements were made by a consensus of some members of the York YPC executive. He said there was not time to contact everybody.

Marshall said that Summerhayes and Isenberg are not YPC members. Marshall said he was favourable impressed by Summerhayes' intention to make CYSF more accountable for how it spends students' money.

Marshall said that he also met with Isenberg, who, Marshall said, is perturbed over the loss of communication with the OFS which resulted from the resignation of CYSF's External Affairs Director this year. Marshall said he was impressed with Isenberg's commitment to the External Affairs position.

Marshall said that Kozachenko is an executive member of the York YPCs. He said that he thinks Walters is also a member and said he did not know about Simile. "We have 120 members," explained Marshall.

Ted Paul, President of the York YPCs said that Walters "philosophically in tune with us," but he declined to say whether Walters or

Simile are actually YPC members.

Marshall said Simile and Walters were endorsed because they are "enthusiastic about the Senate." Marshall said another reason Walters was endorsed was "because we were introduced through a mutual friend whose judgement I trust."

Marshall said the York PCs do not have an official position on the OFS and the CFS referenda. He explained that literature concerning the student organizations was included in the mailing to assist YPC members in formulating a decision on the referenda. Marshall said the literature distributed was chosen because it was factual rather than rhetorical. He also said the *Excalibur* article was included in the mailing to balance the literature from the U of T "no" campaign.

Peter Hoy, OFS/CFS-O field worker for the Metro area, described almost everything claimed in the "no" campaign literature as false. Among other things, the "no" literature states: "Last year CFS Services made a profit. CFS had a surplus. So why do they need a fee increase?" Hoy said that CFS

Services did not make a profit; CFS did not have a surplus; and although the U of T referendum did involve a fee increase, the referenda being held at York do not.

Marshall said "I believe they (the CFS) are asking for an extra dollar." The referendum question asks whether students wish to "continue paying" \$1.00 to the CFS. Marshall said the York YPCs did not check the facts asserted in the "no" literature.

The *Excalibur* article distributed by the York YPCs ("Student Federation charges Ontario PCs with interference in referendum," March 17) reports that the U of T PCs distributed a letter accusing the CFS-O of corruption, and endorsing candidates for the U of T student elections. Because the letter was typed under the official letterhead of the Ontario PC Party, CFS-O accused the Ontario PCs of interfering in a student election, the letter was signed by Tony Clement, an

executive member of the U of T PCs and a leader of the "no" side in the U of T referendum. Bob Harris, Executive Director of the Ontario PCs stated that Clement's use of the letterhead was an "impropriety."

Clement stated that he did not know of any instances of corruption in the CFS-O.

Since the March 17 *Excalibur* article, a YPC convention was held in Toronto at which David McFadden, President of the Ontario PCs congratulated the U of T PCs for defeating the CFS referendum (as stated in the "no" literature distributed by the York PCs the referendum at U of T was defeated by about two to one). McFadden said he did not know about Clement's letter before it went out and noted that the Ontario PCs had received a letter from Clement apologizing for his use of their letterhead.

McFadden said he approved of the idea of a student lobbying group, but said that he thought people were "fed up" with what the CFS/CFS-O are doing. He said the student organizations should stay away from El Salvador and other leftist causes and should stay with student issues.

BRIAN HENRY
BARB TAYLOR

During a demonstration held on Wednesday outside of York President H. Ian Macdonald's office, two Metro police officers unsuccessfully attempted to apprehend a student on a public mischief charge.

The students were protesting alleged incidents of sexual and racial harassment in the Graduate Residence. Janice Joseph, a black woman

living in the residence, wrote a letter to *Excalibur* last week, in which she said Grant Austin, a white male neighbour, has called her racist names, made racist remarks outside her apartment and has pushed a racist letter under her door. "In addition," wrote Joseph, "this tenant has been disturbing me by deliberately banging on the side of the wall that separates the two apartments."

Three students say they tried to talk to Austin last Friday. Apparently, Austin called the police, and eight to ten officers arrived, according to the three students, who claim they were physically abused and racially slurred.

Sergeant Burgess of 31 Division, one of the officers at the demonstration Wednesday, said he had come on campus to arrest one or more of the students involved in Friday night's incident. Burgess said the door frame of Austin's apartment had been cracked. When an *Excalibur* reporter examined the outside of the door, no cracks were evident.

Apparently, the police had attempted to apprehend Frank Hells in the washroom around the corner from Macdonald's office. This caught the crowd's attention and several dozen angry students confronted the officers. Students yelled out that Hells had not been present at the Friday night incident. However, a neighbour of Austin's identified Hells as one of the three people present.

When Hells' legal advisor pointed out that charges could not be laid at that point, and once Hells' jacket (which had been taken from him by the police earlier) had been returned to him, the undercover officers left.

Students turned their attention back to Macdonald and stated that the undercover incident reinforced their call for "an enquiry by the York administration into police conduct and racial discrimination," and "a guarantee of student protection on their own campus and prevention from further abuse of this kind."

Members of the Ad Hoc Student Committee presented these demands and others as a Letter of Protest and Statement of Demands at the beginning of the exchange with Macdonald. All students then had an opportunity to participate, although the demonstration was broken up by the attempted arrest of Hells.

Much of the discussion centered on the role of the York Security and Metro Police. "The guy's (Austin's) call to police received an immediate response," said students. "Her's (Joseph's) did not." Students pointed out that Joseph's complaints to police were not dealt with because police had stated the matter was an internal affair and no criminal offence had been committed. They stated that York Security had refused to investigate Joseph's charges, and had refused to assist in verifying the police abuse which took place Friday night.

Ike Henderson, a member of the Ad Hoc Committee, stated that "Police knocked on students' apartment doors the night before the demonstration in what could be conceived as an attempt to intimidate students who were involved in the Ad Hoc Committee." Theresa Hibbert, a member of the Sociology Department, said "This is just not an isolated incident, it is a general failure on the part of the administration to provide safety, in particular for

Angry students

women students, on this campus."

Vice-President of Finance, William Farr, and Head of Security, George Dunn, also participated in the discussion with angry students. Macdonald agreed to meet with three students and discuss further methods of improving security. "We are prepared to assist students to go through legal action, including paying legal costs," said Macdonald.

Students also called for disciplinary action against Austin and an investigation of York Housing for not dealing with Joseph's complaints. Macdonald said that he had requested that Farr investigate the incident and take appropriate disciplinary action. Farr said that Joseph had been offered another apartment and had accepted. "Why should the victim be moved?" cried students.

Theresa Hibbert called for the eviction of Austin. Hibbert provided evidence that tenants can be evicted under the Landlord and Tenant Act for "substantially interfering with the reasonable enjoyment of the premises for all usual purposes," and "if the safety or other bona fide and lawful right... is or has been seriously impaired by an act or omission of the tenant." Austin could not be contacted by *Excalibur* for comment.

Macdonald agreed that the Housing Department had not acted properly and stated, "We have to follow up that inadequate response." Macdonald said the investigation will take a week to ten days.

Students will be meeting with the administration, and another demonstration has been called for Friday at 1:00 p.m. in front of the President's office.



Artist's depiction of a York Faculty of Arts course description catalogue.

Photo: Mario Scatoloni

Photo: Roman Pawlyszyn