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"I will have to fight them!" declares Ritch, as colleges threaten secession from CYSF

By OAKLAND ROSS

Four college councils at York have thrown down the gauntlet to CYSF president Dale Ritch, and Ritch has eagerly picked it up.

At a secret meeting on November 5, the presidents of the college councils of Founders, Vanier, Winters and McLaughlin decided to launch an investigation into the affairs of the CYSF. That investigation, due for completion before Christmas, will determine whether or not the colleges will push for secession from the CYSF, York's central student government.

Although there have been rumblings of discontent with CYSF from these colleges since early September, the hardening of this discontent into active consideration of secession has only come to light during the past week.

The colleges have already secured the help of CLASP (the legal aid service at Osgoode Hall) to determine the legality and mechanics of secession.

Founders College Council president Izidore Musallam told Excalibur this week that he is prepared to "carry this thing to the end."

"All of us have the same opinion," he said.

Representatives of the four colleges say that their chief concern is with restructuring student government at York. A coordinating committee of college council

presidents has been proposed as an alternative to the CYSF.

"The CYSF is destroying the college system at York," said Winters College Council president Kelly Allen. "I started thinking about pulling out of CYSF when I came to York two years ago."

Representatives of the colleges officially claim the investigation is not a direct reaction to the activist policies of this year's CYSF (which is dominated by members of the United Left Coalition). However, two college presidents have admitted to Excalibur that displeasure with CYSF president Dale Ritch's radical stance figures prominently in their desire to secede.

"We all have our biases," said one.

"Ritch gets carried away with all this political stuff," said another. "He's forgotten about the little things that affect students."

Questioned this week, Ritch said that he was aware of the investigation being undertaken by the four colleges.

"I'm prepared to live with the college councils," he said. "But if they're out to destroy us, I'll have to fight them—reduce them to political impotence."

Ritch characterized the conflict between the CYSF and the colleges as "basically a political split between people interested only in beer and dances and people trying to make education something more than just a good

time.

"I'm convinced they're serious, about this thing," he said. "They'll go to the wall with it. I'm picking up the gauntlet."

The CYSF operates on an annual budget of approximately \$90,000, which is the sum of the council's \$10 share of the student fee paid by each full-time York student. The remainder of the fee is divided among the college councils, the gymnasium and other student services.

This money is guaranteed the CYSF by a 1968 act of the York Board of Governors.

Ritch said, however, that it was

possible that if the colleges demanded this money from the university they just might receive it.

"That would be the cat's ass," he said. "We'd have a huge political issue like this campus has never seen before: the administration interfering in student politics!"

John Becker, York's assistant vice-president and the man responsible for student services, said this week that he had heard rumours that several colleges were considering seceding from the student federation.

"A university bureaucrat should

have a good deal of reluctance about involving himself in negotiations between two student bodies," he said. "On the other hand a long, drawn-out period of conflict isn't beneficial to anyone. If it gets to the point of immobilization, then, of course, the administration will become the final arbiter."

Yesterday, Musallam and Allen met with the presidents of McLaughlin and Vanier (Paul Bushell and Kevin White respectively) to discuss the progress of their investigation. At press time, the results of that meeting were not known.

New funding method for universities in Ont.

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS

A new tuition fee structure based on a per course system is in the drafting stages at York.

The move to determine tuition fees on a per course basis came after the Ministry of Colleges and Universities announced last month that it would discontinue funding Ontario universities according to enrollment figures, the present system of government funding for universities in the province.

The Ontario Council on University Affairs has not yet sent an official recommendation to the Ministry. But it has been

speculated that it will favour the new method of establishing tuition fees by each university.

Ontario Federation of Students field worker Richard Gregory told Excalibur that the new system of government granting will be called "unit-granting" as opposed to the current Basic Income Unit (BIU) system.

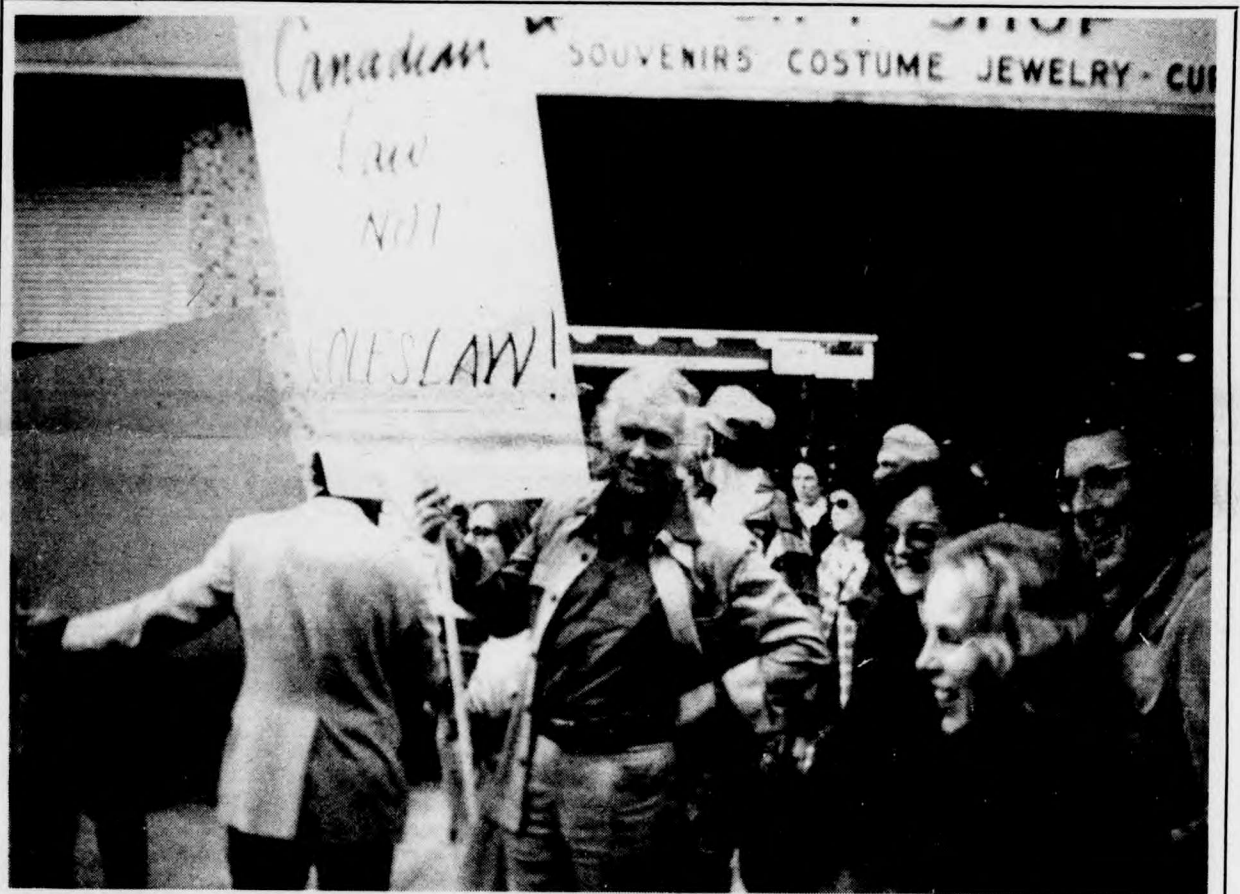
York V.P. John Becker said that unit-granting will reduce the red tape surrounding refunds for courses, and that the system would be easier to administer.

Becker speculated that tuition fees per course, would be \$132, or one-fifth the present lump \$660 tuition fee. When asked if there would be any difference in projected revenue he said that revenue under the unit-granting system would be identical to York's present revenue.

President Macdonald said that the granting method would give the universities greater "autonomy", but he would not disclose any information concerning the drafting of the fee structure at York.

CYSF president Dale Ritch said that the OCUA's anticipated recommendation is a move to keep the "heat off the government" and to shift the impact of the Ontario government's educational cutbacks to the students.

OCUA is expected to make its recommendation to the Ministry later this month.



Author and broadcaster Pierre Berton joins 50 Canadian writers in front of a Coles bookstore in Ottawa to protest the store's practice of dumping

American editions of Canadian books on the Canadian market. See story on page five.

Common rooms assoc. can't cover debt

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS

The Board of the Senior Rooms Association is currently contemplating sending a letter to President H. Ian Macdonald asking the university to "write off" its \$19,000 deficit.

This was confirmed by SCRA Board chairman Colin Campbell on Tuesday.

If president Macdonald accepts the Board's request, the university will absorb the debt accrued by the SCRA over the past five years.

Established in 1966, the SCRA is a non-profit organization assigned to administer social functions for faculty and senior staff members held in the 13 senior common rooms and Masters dining halls. The SCRA, however, has no jurisdiction over lounges in the Ross building.

The SCRA has been operating at a loss for the past five years due to internal and external theft, low food and beverage prices and stiff competition from other outlets on campus.

Campbell said that in the past the Board was guilty of setting inadequate prices for food and liquor to cover staff costs.

"It was lack of sophistication on

the part of the Board for not setting high enough prices for the services they were providing," he said.

The letter being considered, however, may only ask the university to absorb \$9,600 in unpaid sales tax on liquor, and not the total deficit.

Campbell said that at the time the Board was not aware that a sales tax had to be paid on liquor. "Instead the university paid the \$9,600 so we could continue our liquor sales".

He felt that the SCRA should pay for the entire debt although he felt that the SCRA's current members should not be responsible for previous mistakes made by the Board.

According to Campbell, the letter will also include a plea for clarification in lounge proliferation at York and a request that the other food and liquor outlets on campus accept SCRA credit cards.

Liquor sales for the SCRA are covered by a special clubs license which permits members to use a Faculty credit card to buy food and liquor in the designated outlets. The amounts are automatically deducted from the

members' paycheck during the following weeks.

Apparently YUFA was given approximately \$4,000 to establish the eighth floor faculty lounge in the Ross building as a cocktail lounge for faculty members only.

"In view of the fact that the university is encouraging the establishment of other lounges, which increase competition for us, the Board feels that there is justification for the university to help us out as well", said Campbell.

Vice-president John Becker, who is also a Board member, said that the university should not subsidize the SCRA. "The university is fatigued" said Becker "with paying off debts accrued by the various food services at York".

When questioned he thought that the SCRA had outlived its usefulness, he said that there are many other organizations at York that can provide the same kind of services that the SCRA provides. "The SCRA doesn't serve any unique function", he said.

"If the university doesn't accept the SCRA's request, then we will have to increase food and beverage prices and raise membership fees to offset the deficit."

THIS WEEK

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York professor Lee Lorch is honoured by Howard University for his contribution to the civil rights movement in the US p. 7

Do you overeat? The problems of obesity can be quite complex p. 10

Sigmund Freud was a human being too. Paul Stuart attempts to unearth Freud, the man p. 11