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Protesters march to Found's office

By EDO VAN BELKOM
and GRAHAM THOMPSON

The newly-formed Student Strike Support Committee (SSSC) staged a protest rally against the University administration's handling of the CUEW strike, on Tuesday at York's Keele Street entrance.

The rally, attended by approximately 250 students, was followed by an apparently spontaneous march to the office of Acting President William Found on the ninth floor of the Ross building. Approximately 30 to 40 students occupied the hallway outside Found's office demanding to see him.

About 10 students camped outside Found's office on Tuesday night and were continuing their sit-in throughout Wednesday.

"The strike committee was formed in support of CUEW to put pressure on the administration," said Mark Shaub, one of the group's organizers, but he emphasized that "they (CUEW) weren't the instigators behind the committee."

Shaub said that SSSC had their first meeting last Thursday when they drew up a flyer to hand out to students crossing the picket lines on Friday. The group has also been distributing information to students in Central Square.

Shaub said the reason the rally was held at the Keele St. entrance was "to bring support out to the picket-lines and to give support to the union where they need it the most."

Shaub urged the crowd of students to actively participate in the strike and "not to be a neutral body." Cathy Garrett, another rally organizer, shared this opinion, saying there is "a general lack of student interest."

CUEW internal representative Terry Conlin thanked the support group, saying they acted "on their own initiative." Conlin also condemned York's Board of Governors and the provincial government, called them "villains," and then ran through a list of CUEW's grievances, naming money as the major issue. "They (the university) can certainly afford it," said Conlin. "What we have to do is get it from them."

After the rally, the Support Committee led the crowd to Found's office in order to present

ALEX FOORD/ROBERTA DI MAIO



LEND ME YOUR EARS: CUEW rep Terry Conlin speaks to students who gathered for the Student Strike Support Committee rally at St. Lawrence and Keele entrance on Tuesday.

a petition with over 2,000 students' signatures supporting CUEW.

When the group of students arrived at Found's office they were met by Provost Tom Meininger, Acting Director of Communications, Temple Harris and a few other York administrators.

Meininger informed SSSC members that Found had business off campus and therefore could not meet with the students. The group would not accept this answer, and demanded that Found hear what they had to say.

Meininger asked if the students "were here to pressure President Found into settling the strike on the union's terms." When someone replied, "Exactly," Meininger said that is why a meeting between the group leaders and Found in not appropriate.

York students stage sit-in

By GARY SYMONS

In an attempt to pressure the two sides in the current CUEW-York labor dispute into settling, a small group of students staged a sit-in in front of Acting President William Found's office on Monday.

When it started there were more reporters than students at the sit-in which lasted five hours, from one to six pm.

The organizer of the sit-in, Nora Hoyer, said it was held to pressure both parties into settling quickly.

"Both sides need to get their act together, get back to the bargaining table, and get this thing settled," Hoyer said.

Although only 10 to 12 people showed up at the beginning of the sit-in, Hoyer claimed she was not disappointed with the turnout. "It's better than I expected because I expected nothing. The amount of press coverage we got especially surprised me," Hoyer said.

The *Toronto Sun*, Global News, City TV and several other members of the major media were on hand to cover the event.

Hoyer said she felt media coverage rather than the number of protesters involved was her

major concern. "Hopefully it'll get on the six o'clock news and people will see we are serious about being students," she said.

Hoyer did say, however, that attendance at the sit-in was low only because her posters had been torn down on two occasions, first on Friday and again on Monday. Of 86 posters put up only three were left on Monday afternoon, she said.

During the sit-in Acting President William Found came out of his office briefly to speak to the student group. Found expressed his sympathy for their position and said the university and union negotiating teams "are working hard to bring (the strike) to an end as quickly as possible."

It's always the students who are the most affected," Found added.

York Provost Tom Meininger, who also spoke to the group, said "The sit-in is a natural thing to do under the circumstances. It's a traditional way for students to express their concerns."

"Students shouldn't support either side (in the strike). They should support themselves, their own concerns."

CUEW voting on last offer

By CAROL BRUNT

Talks were suspended yesterday between the Canadian Union of Educational Workers (CUEW) and York administration. CUEW is presenting the administration's final offer to its membership tonight at which the union will vote to accept the offer or to continue negotiations. The union had been in continual mediation with York's negotiating team since Tuesday morning in an attempt to resolve the eight day old strike.

Mediation began again Tuesday at the urging of CUEW, following a breakdown in talks last Friday morning.

Strong support was shown by the membership for the continuation of negotiations at a general membership meeting held last Thursday, said Daphne Abergel, CUEW's Communications Officer.

At an open discussion held yesterday in the Central Square bearpit, students had an opportunity to question CUEW Internal Representative Terry Conlin and Provost Tom Meininger.

In his opening remarks, Conlin said that the situation is unlike anything in the past and that it is unclear to the union who they are negotiating with.

From CUEW's point of view, "there is not a lot happening. There has been very little

movement either way," Conlin said. It was suggested today (Wednesday), he said, by the union that the two parties submit to binding arbitration, a suggestion he said was refused by the university administration.

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OUTSPOKEN TOTS: Walk for Peace attracted a diversity of participants last Saturday.

Thousands take part in annual march for peace

By LAURA LUSH

Thousands marched in the annual Walk for Peace on October 20 to celebrate the end of an eight month Peace Petition Caravan Campaign, said spokesperson for the Toronto Disarmament Network Gideon Forman.

The marchers began at University Avenue, shortly after 12:30 p.m., walking to Queen's Park, up to Bloor Street, and finally ending at Christie Pits for a rally.

Led by a lone bagpiper, the protesters' enthusiasm reached its peak at Queen's Park when the marchers shouted for nuclear disarmament while clowns and musicians posi-

oned in the middle of the marchers kept the spirit strong for the duration of the walk.

Dogs wearing shirts saying "Neuter not nuke" and children holding signs saying "We choose to live" were an indication of the diversity of the marchers' approaches to peace issues.

Professional groups, such as the Lawyers for Social Responsibility, union representatives and ethnic groups asking for peace in Central American were all present. Paper-maché heads of Ronald Reagan and Brian Mulroney were held high at the front of the marchers.

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