

And then there was the one who...

# Forget the warts -- remember the new sex

During the year Excalibur has often had occasion to be more than just a newspaper.

Staff members have by turns adopted the roles of ombudsman, sob-sister, sounding board and information officer. The newsroom phone lines have, for example, been virtually ablaze all year with queries from Downsview housewife-secretaries about the going rate for typing essays. (The rate is currently 50 cents per double-spaced page.)

Among the many, uncommon

things that have happened to us on our way to the printer's this year are the following:

Bernard Birman, a member of CYSF and a perennial candidate for CYSF president, made frequent sorties into the Excalibur office to enquire if anyone knew anything about "you know, 'Scalibur, that newspaper thing."

A young woman made several phone-calls during a week-long period to complain about the quality of the air on the ninth floor of the Ross building.

"President Macdonald's office smells like someone is dying in it," she said. The woman went on to warn of an outbreak of planter's warts in the gymnasium.

Just this week, a harried young man rushed into the newsroom and asked for the sports editor. Upon learning that the sports editor was not in, the man left the room only to

reappear several seconds later with a pair of jeans clutched in one hand. "Give him these," he panted, and left.

On another occasion, a determined young woman stormed into the office demanding that Excalibur rally support for the Canadian beaver.

"The Americans are taking over everything," she declared. "The beaver is going to go down the drain like everything else in this country!"

Short of a predictably abortive phone-call to Pierre Trudeau's office, Excalibur soft-pedalled the issue. Let Barbara Frum worry about beavers, we reasoned.

In a recent issue, Excalibur disguised a staff ad with a phony account of the discovery of a "new sex". Shortly after the issue hit the stands, we received a call from a professorial gentleman.

"What is this new sex, please?" he wanted to know. You can fool some

of the people all of the time.

Our second most popular feature of the year was probably the two bushels of "Why not" buttons which were dropped off at the office to promote International Women's Year. The buttons, several thousand of them, were snapped up by eager women and men within a couple of hours after we put them on display in the staff lounge.

We had to refer people to the Obitier Dicta office in Osgoode for days afterward, as demand for the buttons thrived long after our supply had ended.

Our most popular feature of the year was the Save the Whales poster displayed in the lounge window, fronting on Central Square. The office was inundated all fall with requests for copies which, unfortunately, we were unable to provide.

After the poster disappeared one night (under mysterious circumstances), we received a multitude of complaints about its absence.

One weekday morning during the winter, an obviously distraught young man strode resolutely into the office waving what appeared to be a morsel of farmer's sausage skewered to the prongs of a fork.

"You call this a farmer's sausage?" he demanded, with almost maniacal intensity. "I don't call this a farmer's sausage."

Apparently, the offending sausage had too much, or too little, grain in it. It was the last straw in another man's fight to keep mind, body and Versa Food together.

The photo of a Versa Food pie complete with complementary insects which we ran on the front page several issues ago was the result of a tip provided by two nauseous students who groped their way into the newsroom and managed to spill their stoma... sorry... story before collapsing, in disgust, on the floor.

And our list would not be complete without a brief mention of York's official calligrapher (he does the printing on all York degrees), Georges Steffen. He warmed our hearts and cooled our typewriter keys with story after story after story after...



Feelings of Canadian nationalism ran high as New York considered making the beaver its state animal.

## Delayed action

Contrary to tradition, the films made by second, third and fourth year students will not be shown in a large, end-of-year festival, as attendance at these events has been sparse in the past.

The film department has decided that it would be more economical to show the films next year, just after registration in September. Inquire from the film office as to when and where the films will be shown early in the year.

## Women in Love

Winters Films calls it curtains with its last film of the season, when it presents Women in Love, tomorrow and Sunday nights at 8:30 p.m. in CLH I. D.H. Lawrence's classic about love and lust and the search for roles and identities, will cost \$1.25 for Winters students, \$1.50 for students with university I.D.

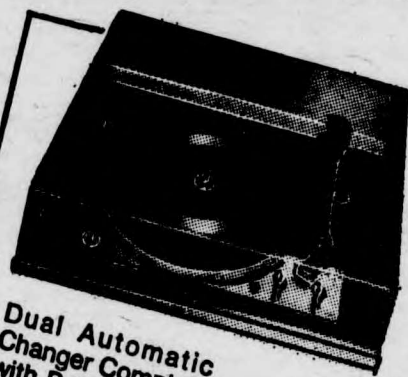
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