

# Excalibur

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## Excalibur publication board plans finalized

By S. JENNIFER HUNTER

A newspaper board to oversee the publication of Excalibur was ratified by the Council of York Student Federation (CYSF) at a special meeting of their Budget Council, Monday night.

The board will act as the publisher of Excalibur on behalf of the university community and will ensure that students are provided with the opportunity of producing the newspaper on a regular basis.

Previously, CYSF considered itself the publisher of Excalibur, but tension between the council and Excalibur became critical this summer when the CYSF executive made an unsuccessful attempt to suspend publication of the paper, fire its staff and seize its property.

The board, which will commence operations within the next few months, was formulated as a result of Excalibur's need to safeguard its independence and its freedom from political intervention.

Representation on the board includes two members of the Excalibur staff, one graduate student, the Communications Commissioner of CYSF, one non-executive member of CYSF, one professional journalist who is a York graduate, one member of the support staff selected by the staff association and one member of the teaching staff chosen by the Faculty Association.

The recent clash between the student government at York and the student newspaper, Excalibur, is only another in a series of such conflicts across Canada. Similar events took place at the University of Alberta, the University of Manitoba, and Memorial University in Newfoundland where the council claimed there was no money to publish a summer newspaper — yet there were no cutbacks in other areas.

The Canadian University Press, defender of student press rights, stated in its code of ethics that "the Canadian student press should be free from pressure by student governments, university authorities . . . and must be aware of its role in society and in the academic community . . . so that it can be free to develop."

## CYSF incorporation could be blocked by government

By MICHAEL VAN DUSEN

The Council of the York Student Federation voted Monday to apply for incorporation.

If granted, incorporation would increase the power of the student government, especially in financial matters. It would also increase autonomy from the university.

The next step is to have the York Board of Governors ratify the constitution CYSF passed Monday. The new constitution does not differ much from the old and one of its new objects will be to encourage the construction of a university student centre.

If the Board of Governors gives its approval, lawyers for the Council can apply for corporate status with

the Ministry of Consumer and Corporate Affairs of Ontario.

Michael Mouritsen, President of CYSF told Excalibur last week that "because you have to comply with certain regulations of the Incorporation Act, it makes the organization more accountable."

Regular statements must be issued on the Council's financial situation under terms of the act.

But CYSF's current executive committee members will become the directors of the new corporation, implying concentrated power in their hands.

In fact, Mouritsen said, the opposite is true because executive members would be more accountable to Council.

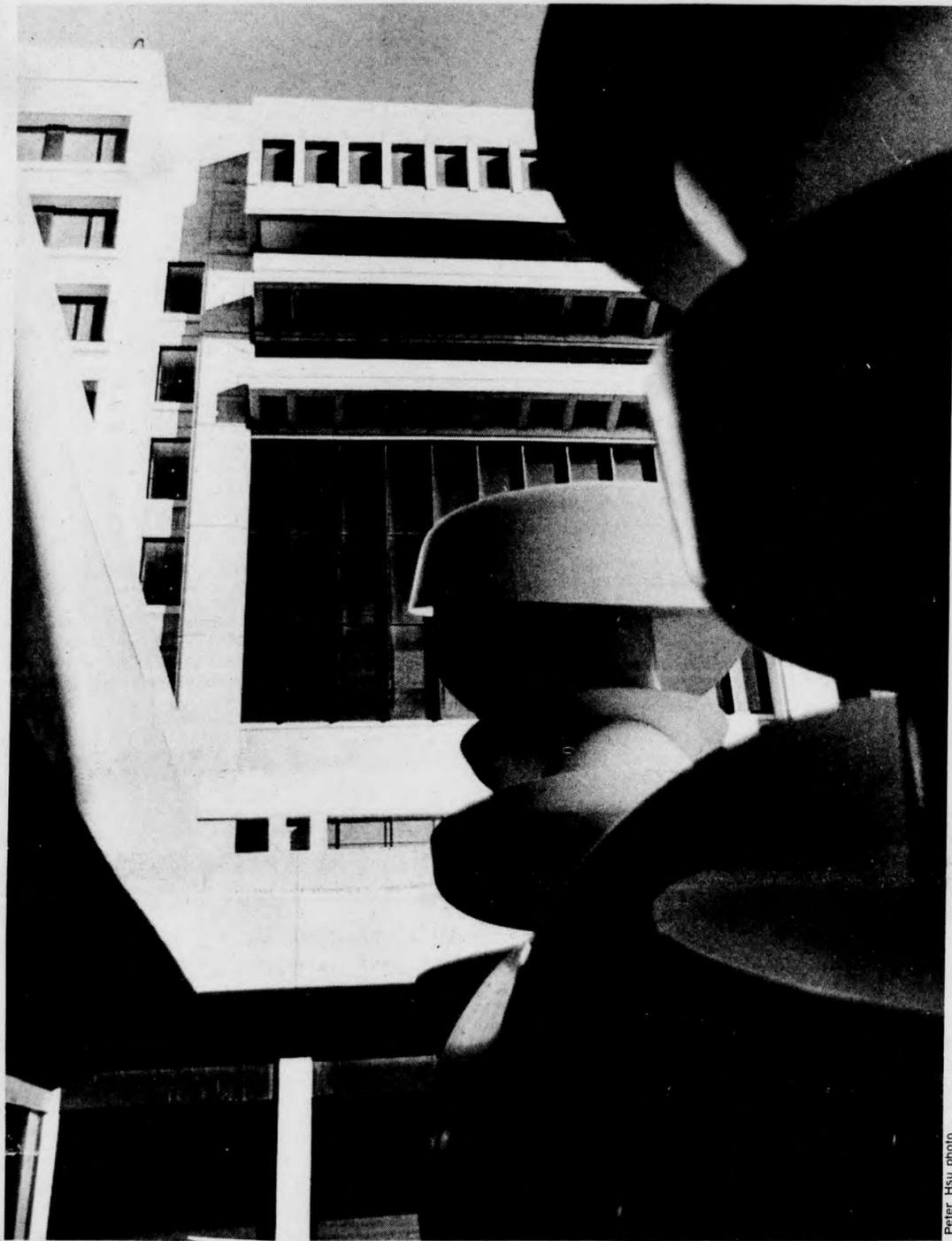
Mouritsen further commented that "the average student won't notice the difference."

When contacted, the Registry section of the Ministry could not recall any student governments which had been registered since 1969, the year in which Ontario cracked down on corporate status for student governments.

While the search for incorporated students organizations was not exhaustive, the lawyers for CYSF said they were not aware of any incorporation since this date either. They added, however, that they have not yet been instructed to work on the application and would not know what to expect until they had looked into the matter.

In 1969, the Student Union of the University of Guelph, then an incorporated body, was asked by the government to change the by-laws of its letters patent to bring its fee collecting rights in line with the law. In the delay which occurred following student elections, the government deadline passed without the council having acted.

When the by-laws were finally submitted the council was told that changes in the corporations act had come into effect. The result was the disincorporation of the Guelph Student Union. Attempts to reincorporate under the new law were fruitless.



A fascinating chess game in the president's office as viewed by our spectacular, long, long range, wide-angle super deluxe camera. Note

the expertise in the move of the Queen's rook closer to the King, without the King catching on at all.

### Appointed by Board on Monday

## Walter Gordon made York's new chancellor

By SOL CANDEL and ROBIN POND

By a decision of the Board of Governors Monday September 10, Walter Gordon was appointed the new Chancellor of York University.

Mr. Gordon, a founder of the Committee for an Independent Canada, was Minister of Finance in the Liberal Cabinet of the late Rt. Hon., Lester B. Pearson.

He will be replacing the previous Chancellor, Floyd S. Chalmers, who has served in that office since October, 1968.

While the Chancellorship traditionally lasts three years, Mr. Chalmers' term was extended an extra two years because, as he commented, "they couldn't be bothered to look for anyone else."

Mr. Chalmers is the retired chairman of McLean Hunter Ltd., governor of the Toronto Arts Foundation and director of the Stratford Shakespearian Festival Foundation of Canada.

Mr. Gordon, contacted by phone, said he was "honoured and flattered" to have been offered the position. "I remember being in on the discussions at the formation of York, and thinking what a great thing it would be to have a second university in Toronto," he said. "I think this has been borne out.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know many

of the faculty and the leading members of the student body over the next year."

The Chancellor's powers are roughly equivalent to those of the Queen of England or the Governor-General of Canada, but with considerably more influence.

"Theoretically," said Mr. Chalmers, "the Chancellor is the final authority on all that goes on at York. He is like God."

He added that he himself did not wield his powers as Chancellor, but drew from his experience to give advice to the Board when it was needed.

Of Walter Gordon, he said, "He is going to be a good man. He's going to give up some of his responsibilities at his firm in order to give a great deal of time to the Chancellorship.

"He will continue to build up the York tradition of being a strong Canadian university, but he won't make any unreasonable policies, like telling American professors that they need not apply."

Whatever plans Mr. Gordon has for York, he comes with a solid reputation for straightening out financially troubled institutions.

In public life, he was elected to the House of Commons in June, 1962, named Minister of Finance in April 1963 and appointed President of the Privy Council in April, 1967.

He is the author of "Troubled Canada . . . The Need for New Domestic Policies" (1961) and "A

Choice for Canada . . . Independence or Colonial Status" (1966).

His public life as Chancellor will be in part devoted to conferring degrees to York graduates. Mr. Chalmers recalls conferring honorary degrees over the past five years to such distinguished recipients as John Turner, Minister of Finance, Governor-General Michener and his wife, actress Kate Reid, and singer Maureen Forrester.

Mr. Chalmers thought very highly of the Board of Governors, calling them "very representative of community life and the nation."

"They take their duties and responsibilities seriously," he said.

Commenting on university life in general, he said, "I don't object to the ceremonial traditions of a university. They help to remind us of the basic traditions and responsibilities of the students of a university.

"I would like to see the students at York wear scholar's robes like at Oxford, but I don't think we can get them out of their blue denims.

"I think York is developing a tradition of its own. It bears the permanent imprint of its first president, Murray G. Ross (1960-69), a good diplomat and a great leader."

The formal installation in office of Walter Gordon as the new Chancellor will take place at the Atkinson College convocation Saturday, September 29.

Peter Hsu photo