

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All letters should be addressed to the Editor, c/o Excalibur, room 111 Central Square. They must be double-spaced, typed and limited to 250 words. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for length and grammar. Name and address must be included for legal purposes but the name will be withheld upon request. Deadline: Mon. 4 p.m.

Battery service letter boosts misinformation, charges security chief

It is regrettable that Mr. Allan Mandel did not check the facts before launching into a denunciation of the university administration and the Department of Safety and Security Services, in his letter to "Excalibur" last week, — "Poor battery service charges York Student".

Had he done so he would have discovered that this is the fourth year that the battery booster service to which he refers has been available to members of the community, and that it was "initiated" recently only in the sense that it is operative during the winter months when the need is apparent, but not during the rest of the year. He would also have discovered that the service is provided not by the Department of Safety and Security Services but by the Department of Physical Plant, Grounds Section, which uses a truck equipped with a special battery booster unit. The fee charged is very nominal, as a check of garages in the area providing a similar service will confirm.

His reference to a lack of concern on the part of "the university administration" for the well-being of members of the community is a generalization which it is easy to make and difficult to refute in the absence of specific examples being given of such an attitude. A similar generalization might condemn all students because a few indulge in such anti-social behaviour as ripping out telephones, vandalizing washrooms, kicking in doors, bending and defacing traffic signs, damaging trees, and other acts of vandalism. Both generalizations are equally invalid and unfair.

It has been encouraging this year to find an awareness among students of security problems, and a willingness by some to offer help, in a matter which is of concern to the whole community, in tangible form. To paraphrase the words of the late President J. F. Kennedy perhaps Mr. Mandel should be asking himself what he can do for the University rather than what the University can do for him. As a suggestion, when the inevitable snow-storms come to York he might find it worthwhile, and perhaps even enjoyable, to organize a group of students to assist members of the community whose vehicles may be snowed in, instead of suggesting that the very small security staff, which in severe weather conditions in winter is always very hard-pressed, be equipped with snow shovels. I feel sure that the Department of Physical Plant, in these circumstances, would be pleased to provide him with the appropriate equipment.

C.G. Dunn
Director of Safety and Security Services.

You're welcome

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Excalibur for the excellent coverage of Women's Athletics.

In the past, the coverage has been minimal, however this year there has been considerable improvement in the quality and

quantity of the articles.

I would like to say thank you for the time and effort devoted by you and your staff in helping to promote Women's Athletics.

Barb Lade
Secretary-Treasurer
Women's Athletic Council



Governments do not teach morals

Who likes to suffer injustice? Are we not indignant or angered when someone does injustice to us? Indeed, injustice seems to strike at the very foundation of any co-operative relationship, whether this is between man and wife, business partners, labour and management, the governed and those governing, or between nations. If the one party is continually doing injustice to the other party, a co-operative relationship will break down and often end in violence.

Our Western industrialized society, and the benefits that we derive from it, will not be possible when the general population no longer believes in or understands the importance of being just to the persons that we deal with. Not only will marriages break down and many children become mentally disturbed misfits, but industrial enterprises cannot function when no one feels an obligation to perform the duties for which he is being paid. Communal and government systems will no longer function to give us the necessary services of water, roads, electricity, etc. when officials steal the money entrusted to them by the public.

This is the reason that millions of people live in misery and some starve to death in India, Africa, South America, and many other places. Their private and public systems cannot function because of theft and corruption. A sense of justice is missing.

Then we should expect that the leaders of our society were anxious to inculcate a sense of justice in the next generation. It may be true that the Christian Church has performed that function in the past, but the Church is rapidly losing its influence as a moral teacher of the young.

Our secular governments have not shown much interest in teaching morals. As a matter of fact, it is interesting to note that the laws enforced in a democracy, like Canada, do not have to pass any test to make sure that they will not do injustice to some part of the population. All they need is the support of a majority of the politicians in power. We will be in serious difficulties the day that jamority is crooked. Our judges commit themselves to judge by the law and are not obligated to do justice at all. Our public system of education does not seem to be aware of the need for teaching justice, either. They just repair their vandalized schools and call for more police.

Ivan Jensen

Collegiate correction

I wish to point out an error in the news article on Page 11, Task Force Ponders... I never stated: "Students are not involved in the colleges because the colleges have nothing to offer them." Something of an academic nature, such as locating the course unions in the colleges would give more students an incentive to participate in the system, because they are primarily concerned about their courses."

The subsequent quote was correctly attributed to me. I trust you will inform your readers of the error.

Barry Edson,
President, CYSF

Varsity veracity

I must admit that I was totally appalled by the letter written by Phil Carr (November 25, 1976) about disbanding our Varsity Football Team. How any one can be so "Utopian" I will never be able to understand. Every system must make room for imperfection. No one person nor one team can excel in every single aspect of life or sport. If every person were to give up on what they do not excel in, I am afraid that we would all be sitting on our asses in padded cells doing absolutely nothing.

Remember our Varsity Basketball Team. With more supporters like Mr. Carr, our Basketball Team would have been disbanded years ago. I am proud to say that we now have a very good basketball team. In fact it may be a

championship contender. The examples do not stop with the Basketball Team, but must include probably every sport offered at the Varsity level by York University.

Maybe all the Football Team needs is a little less criticism and a little more support. I am not ashamed of admitting that I attend York University in spite of having a "losing" football team. The only thing that I am ashamed of admitting is that we have people like Mr. Carr, who because of their personal vanity, can not accept imperfection as a part of life.

Long live Varsity Football at York University.

Peter Donkers,
Editor,
Vandoo, Vanier College.

Who wants a job?

The day has long passed when all university students could move smoothly from school to a good job. The main problem is definitely with the non-professional faculties. Some students realizing this are using every means possible to guarantee themselves a good position after graduation. The majority, it would appear, go blindly and faithfully on in the hopes that out there, somewhere, a "good job, in my field" exists, and will find them. This passive attitude is a pity, for with a combination of a flexible attitude, and an aggressive job search, students can still find for themselves a rewarding career.

The staff of the York Placement Office (Canada Manpower Centre on Campus) are in direct contact with employers. Several incidents have occurred recently. We are mentioning them in the hopes of preventing a trend from forming. Annually, major employers across the country, recruit students on campuses. The recruiting campaign offers students an excellent opportunity for an interview (which is in itself a learning experience) and a job. Yet, several employers have commented that surprisingly few students seem to submit applications.

Five companies this year have cancelled recruitment dates as there was an insufficient number of

applications forwarded to warrant a visit. A major oil firm considered cancelling recruitment of York Arts and Science students because of last year's response. We sent them 30 applications. Lakehead University apparently produced 200.

We have asked major companies to give Employment Information Talks to enable York students to better equip themselves to make career decisions. A series of eight companies, including the spectrum of industries drew only 5-20 interested listeners. The Royal Bank is awaiting the response to their Information Session on January 17, 1977 before deciding whether to recruit York Arts and Science students this year. It is in the interest of York students to encourage these employers to come on campus by participating in Information Sessions and the recruitment campaign.

The Canada Manpower Centre is not the only means of finding employment, but in this day and age, students must use every means available to them. Do you have a job lined up? Do you know that most application forms which are received are improperly completed? Do you know that there are ways to make a good impression during an interview?

Manpower Counsellor

AS THE CAMPUS TURNS

WARREN CLEMENTS

