

letters

All letters should be addressed to the editor, Excalibur, Room III Central Square. Letters must be typed, triple-spaced, on a 66 stroke line. Letters are limited to 300 words (seven column inches). Name, address, or phone number must be included or the letter will not be published. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for grammar and length.

Deadline Monday 4 pm

What about student rights?

Before being critical of the tactics of the YUSA strikers, I would like to qualify anything said in this letter by stating that I am in full support of the YUSA members' demands.

There is however a large group of citizens whose rights as citizens have been violated by the strikers. These people are the residents of the campus, who must cross the picket line to get to and from their homes. Many of us work outside of the university, and have to suffer daily delays and harassment by individuals manning the picket lines.

I wonder what the response of these individuals would be if I set up a picket line in front of the driveways of their homes. To make matters worse, the TTC and postal workers refuse to cross the picket line. It seems that we do not have the same rights as other members of the North York community.

Complaints to police and government offices are to no avail. One striker asked me what it was that I wanted to get home to. During the Monday night rain storm, my wife had to help a lady on crutches reach her apartment in graduate residence (a half-mile walk) because the YUSA drivers encouraged the TTC bus driver not to cross the picket line.

I for one demand that my right to enter and leave my home peacefully—and that my right to receive the same rights as other citizens of North York—be honoured. Am I asking too much?

David Norman

YUSA merits respect

In four hours of picketing at the Keele St. main entrance, I saw four drivers use their vehicles to push YUSA members out of the way. One woman was bumped hard enough to necessitate going to the hospital for a check-up. These incidents occurred within 24 hours of the beginning of the legal strike by staff members who have been offered, in effect, a five per cent cut in their annual salaries' buying power. The fact that people with business or studies at the University can so quickly decide that picketers are their enemies shows just how tenuous a concept the "York community" really is. Most of us you see picketing have never been on strike before and are in no way radicals.

Our average salary is \$9,000 a year. That's one thing to consider when you try using your \$10,000 supercar to push us aside, or yell obscenities when you're been delayed for a few minutes. We have the legal right to inform you of our position and ask you to respect it.

We feel that, as members of this University, we should be treated with respect by its administration and other members. None of us want violence or are barring you from York. But remember that the staff member you almost run over may be the one that you ask for information or a new library card when the strike is over.

Remember also that a former York Administrative Studies Dean

has been appointed by the Council of Ontario Universities to study the pros and cons of reducing university dependence on government funds by drastically increasing tuition fees. If that comes through, do you expect York staff support when you find yourself picketing to keep tuition fees under \$3,000 a year?

A YUSA member
(Name withheld)

Misquoted in the Globe

As a newspaper reporter I do not object seeing my name in print, but I take exception to being misquoted as I was in the Globe and Mail (Friday 22).

In the article *York opens campus bookstore despite yells from the picket line*, I was quoted as saying "I'm looking after myself". This is not what I said but the conditions were so chaotic and noisy I can see how she could have misunderstood me.

Laura Brown

Let staff fight own battles

I strongly protest the stand taken in the editorial of September 14th which stated that "YUSA's cause and the students' cause are one and the same." Some of the union's demands regarding job security seem reasonable enough, but let's leave the staff to fight their own battles. To support their demands runs counter to our interests as students. Consider the inevitable results if the administration gives in to the union's demand of a 10 per cent wage increase; the university budget will not absorb the cost, nor will Mr. Davis & Co., and we students will undoubtedly face tuition hikes next year.

This strike is also placing faculty in an awkward position, splitting their loyalties between "colleagues" and students. Those who refuse to cross picket lines cancel classes and the students get cheated again: I am paying \$800.00 tuition for an education that presently I am not getting.

The YUSA members are selfishly naive if they think the strike is not hurting the student body. Apart from the inconveniences of buying and borrowing books elsewhere, waiting in long line-ups to get onto campus etc., now classes are being cancelled and the school year doesn't seem as if it's begun. But it has and we are losing valuable time.

Complete student and faculty support of the staff's actions may, as YUSA claims, end the strike very quickly. But at what cost? And what do the students gain by it, except the reinstatement of services which should be available to us to begin with? Let's face the fact that the student body, made up of innocent people, is being used by the union members to hit out at the administration. I for one, will refuse to support a group of people who are victimizing the students.

D. Wilson

Disagrees with Woolfson's stats

The September 21st article "The strike is worth the trouble" leads one to doubt the quality of jour-

nalism as was represented by Tony Woolfson's selection of figures for corporate taxes.

He chose the years 1962/63 and 1974/75, and the figures of 9.4 and 5.5 per cent respectively, for the per cent of provincial revenue contributed by corporate taxes. By selecting a severe depression year like 1974 when corporate profits were depressed, it is obvious that corporate taxes would be atypically low. From such a specious selection of data, the author of the article tries to conclude that corporations are paying less tax than before.

But two can play the numbers game. Thus, by picking only one period later, 1975/76, one finds that corporation taxes contributed 12.7 per cent of the provincial revenue. By comparing this to the 1962/63 figure of 9.4 per cent, one finds and increase in corporate taxes of 35.1 per cent, over the 12 year period.

Since many of the later opinions in the article were based upon this sophistry, their credibility can only be seriously doubted.

S. Lemieszewski,
Graduate Residence

Open letter to Macdonald

Dear President MacDonald,

We wish to advise you of our concern that the quality of our education at this university is threatened by actual and potential ramifications of the current YUSA strike. Students are encountering obstacles due to the loss of services normally provided by YUSA members:

- library and resource centre use
- cancellation of classes
- registration and student awards
- bookstore closure
- class support work unavailable

We deplore the fact that it became necessary for YUSA members to take strike action. We urge you to enter immediately into meaningful negotiations with YUSA representatives in order to resolve the strike issues in the general interest of the York community.

Students in the York University
Faculty of Education
Gord Lovgren
Katherine Bond
Cathy Mc Ewan
and four others

Calumet is "out" of CYSF

With regard to the "Our Town" column in the September 22nd issue, Calumet College is not waiting for Bill Farr to decide whether or not Calumet is a member of the CYSF community. Several months ago CYSF president David Chodikoff and Vice-President Farr both recognized. Through the obvious nature of the CYSF constitution that Calumet was out, was no longer in any way a constituent member of CYSF.

What we are waiting for Mr. Farr to decide, is the allocation of funds which in the past have gone to CYSF on Calumet's behalf. The major reason this issue remains unresolved is the YUSA strike which has forestalled the conclusion of the negotiations. We realize that the situation is a confusing

one - particularly since Chodikoff has chosen to reverse his position - but we hope that Excalibur will make every effort to understand what is really happening.

Mark Adair



MINE, DAVE.

Calumet member Mark Adair sends this graphic impression of the controversy between Calumet and CYSF president David Chodikoff.

Calumet member puzzled with CYSF

At last week's council meeting, the CYSF passed a resolution which called for a by-election to be held in Calumet College to elect new college reps.

We find this action not only disturbing but extremely puzzling. Calumet notified the CYSF in a letter dated April 11, that as of May 1, 1978 the college would no longer be a constituent member of the central student council. Then, as required by the CYSF constitution (since last year's council preferred that we not leave the fold) the college asked for arbitration to settle "the terms of withdrawal".

The college asked for arbitration, and not permission to leave. This state of affairs was acknowledged by David Chodikoff at the June 17th Summer Conference, when, throughout the day, he publicly referred to Calumet as a non-member. Now in September the situation seems wonderfully altered, leaving us with a number of questions. Has the CYSF President come down with a raging case of the wishy-washies? Or was it politically expedient to placate Calumet in the summer to ensure their presence at the conferences and thus maintain some fiction concerning CYSF leadership in the student community?

Puzzling as David's seeming change of heart may be, it is also disturbing since it can only serve to confuse the arbitration process which is now in its final stages.

Calumet, throughout the events of the last eight months, has striven to maintain a responsible and objective position as a member of the York community. One could only wish that the CYSF would do likewise.

Lynn MacKay, Calumet.

Pinder's facts disputed

When Harvey Pinder writes that "...the most significant effect I had on the BOG was the ending of their secret meetings" (Sept. 14, BOG REPORT) he is not entirely correct. If he means the secrecy was ended because last year's Excalibur readers were better informed as to the BOG's operations, than in the past, then he is correct. However, the facts (as given by the Secretary of the University) are that H. Pinder officially became a BOG member at the June 20, 1977 meeting of the BOG, but the motion ending the BOG's secrecy was passed at the BOG meeting of May 2, 1977.

Herman Schindler

Half-time entertainment needed

We, for the past few years have been blessed with extraordinary athletic teams at York; and this year seems to be seasoned with much potential. Having witnessed the last two York football games, I foresee the College bowl within the university's grasp.

Well then, let's prepare for the contest now. Our championship team has finally arrived but there are very few champions in the audience. It is very frustrating to see no marching bands at halftime when this university has a renowned music and fine arts department. It is very disappointing to see no thigh-strutting cheerleaders or exotic dancers when this institution has been known as a recruitment centre for many beauty contests, burlesque reviews, and downtown discos.

It is nauseating to see boozing spectators so sloshed that they cheer for the officials and yard markers after each scrimmage. This is no way to prepare for any championship game. Nevertheless I believe that this institution has the academic excellence and the bodies, (especially the shaven legs) to support our athletic teams more diligently. I again will do my share, as soon as my bass drum and cymbals are repaired.

Perhaps what is needed to enhance fan support is a credit course in cheerleading and band marching offered by the Physical Education and Music Departments. Certainly the B.A. degree is not complete without these vital character - building courses.

Mike Zickowski

Excalibur
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Monday
4 pm.



your student
council

A reminder that the CYSF Typing Service will be opening on October 3rd, 1978. The CYSF Typing Service is located in Room 105D Central Square, which is around the corner of the CYSF office, across from the Excalibur's back entrance.
CYSF has just endorsed NORML.

NORML is an agency which is presently trying to decriminalize marijuana. If you want more information please come into the CYSF offices.

Kerry Johnston has been appointed information liaison to Information York.

Jon Simon has been appointed to

the Harbinger Collective.

All of the activities have been effected by the present YUSA strike. We are hoping for a speedy end to this situation so that students can get back to all of their classes.

On behalf of the Council,
David W. Chodikoff
President, Council of the
York Student Federation.