

1978: a poor year for student councils

This is my last year at York, and what a year it was! Last May 1 I made the mistake of going to a CYSF meeting, and by the time it

was over I was a politician. I was incensed by Paul Hayden's large increase in salary and the political pettiness of his council, and when I

returned to Calumet College, I tried to convince everyone there that our participation in the CYSF was a waste of our students' time and money. But cooler heads convinced me that it was not the system but just the Hayden dynasty.

Along came September and the CYSF budget. The three CYSF employees all received raises in 77-78 but, the budgets of Harbinger and *Excalibur* were cut by thousands of dollars. Paul justified his raise by saying how hard he works and yet he was taking four courses. Sue Kaiser, the full-time coordinator of Harbinger, saw her organization's budget slashed by five thousand dollars. A petition to support Harbinger drew 600 signatures — almost as many people who voted Hayden into office — but it was ignored.

The budget stated the surplus from 76-77 was a few hundred dollars but when I checked the audited statement, it showed a surplus of around ten thousand dollars. What happened?

Paul said it was in the bank because we needed it for a rainy day and future considerations such as taking over the Oasis concession or starting a student health insurance plan. Nice ideas, but after the budget crisis was over these ideas disappeared. At a CYSF meeting in March I asked Paul for a progress report on these projects. Paul indignantly refused to answer my questions. Silence speaks louder than words!

Everyone on the council agreed that the CYSF needed more funds to

operate. A fee increase was proposed. Before the last meeting in November I went to see John Becker, who among other things controls the purse strings of the CYSF. I asked about the procedure required to bring about an increase in fees. John told me that for an increase to be enacted by 1978 we had to start the process by Dec. 1. So I went to see Paul. He was unaware of the time restriction and furthermore did not believe that what I was saying was true. That night a motion to ask for a student fee increase was passed by council.

If it had been left up to Paul Hayden, the council would have been underbudgeted for another year. To make the story complete, even though York had raised tuition fees in excess of other universities in 77-78, the administration insists any increase in student fees will have to be raised by increasing tuition fees. I have yet to hear Paul's response to that one.

We have all heard about the cutbacks and their effects on the university, but my college (Calumet) had the axe held over its head like the Sword of Damocles when the administration proposed to join it to another college. This plan was actually a thinly disguised plot to destroy the college. What was Paul's response to this? He wrote a letter to Vice President Farr. Paul's concern was not about the fate of Calumet College but about what would happen to Calumet student fees if it joined Bethune. Bethune is not a member of CYSF.

Fresh in everyone's mind is the election. In third-world countries we hear continual reports of corrupt elections and political treachery — but in good old Canada? Could you imagine Pierre Trudeau calling an election and then passing a law two

weeks before the vote stating that you have to be a Canadian for 45 years before you can be the Prime Minister? Poor Joe Clark! He is only 38. Poor York has been turned into the world's most northerly banana republic.

How does Paul Hayden, or anyone else, get away with being so ill-informed, ill organized, and politically manipulative and still be a student president? It is commonly called STUDENT APATHY but I think that phrase is a misnomer. York is full of some of the most concerned people in Ontario. The government is admitting that there are a million people unemployed. The Canadian dollar reaches new lows everyday while the American dollar does likewise. What is a typical York student to do but work like hell? Their futures are at stake.

I cannot blame any student for not wanting to get involved in student politics. However, as a sad consequence, we get a small self-serving clique dominating the CYSF and spending your \$100,000. It is a sad situation. Take it away David...

Steven Campbell
(outgoing) CYSF rep
Calumet College



'Traitor' René Lévesque splits Canada's proletariat

René Lévesque will be coming to York University on Friday, April 7, 1978 to speak to the York community. This traitor to the people of Quebec will be coming to York in order to do further propaganda for his "independence" fraud.

The visit of René Lévesque takes place in the context of the rapidly deepening and broadening crisis in Canada. The contradictions amongst the imperialists and the contradiction between the big bourgeoisie of Canada and that of the United States, on the one hand, and the proletariat and people on the other hand, are sharpening rapidly.

The contradictions in the camp of the rich on the question of "national unity" and the "independence" of Quebec are also sharpening in the current crisis and a dogfight has broken out on these questions.

A section of the reactionary bourgeoisie in Canada, that section which is made up of the monopoly capitalists who are Canadians, as well as those who are merely an extension of the U.S. imperialist bourgeoisie, is whipping up hysteria about the "independence" of Quebec. The main spokesman of this section of the reactionary bourgeoisie which is advocating political "independence" for Quebec is René Lévesque and his Parti Québécois.

This "independence" fraud is designed to, on the one hand, divert the genuine democratic sentiment of the Canadian proletariat into national and social-chauvinism and thus split the proletarians across Canada on the basis of "French" speaking and "English" speaking. On the other hand, it is designed to deprive the people of Quebec of the democratic right to self-determination and secession. The "political independence" swindle of René Lévesque is designed to consolidate the stranglehold of the reactionary bourgeoisie over Quebec and to

divert any genuine sentiment for liberation into this reactionary direction.

The road to genuine national liberation and self-determination for Quebec is the road of social revolution, the road of defeating the reactionary bourgeoisie in the battle - field. The Canadian proletariat must lead this revolutionary struggle and fight for genuine self-determination for the people of Quebec (including secession if the people of Quebec so desire).

The York Student Movement will be holding a meeting and demonstration this Friday, April 7 to oppose the "independence" fraud of Lévesque and the "unity" fraud of Trudeau. The meeting will begin at 1 pm, Ross S133 and the demonstration will start from there at 1:45 pm and proceed to Burton Auditorium.

York Student Movement
Student wing of the
Communist Party of Canada
(Marxist-Leninist)

Get Lévesque's name right

The following quotes are taken from *Excalibur's* March 30 edition: "At 3:30 on Friday, April 7, Lévesque will speak for 15 to 20 minutes in Burton Auditorium" (Page 13 under a "Rene's Coming" head.)

"The Québec Premier will speak for about 15 minutes beginning at 2:30 p.m. in Burton Auditorium, ..." (Page 14, under "Levesque Ici!")

Which is it, fellas? 3:30 or 2:30? And please get the accents right. It's René, (yes, even in headlines), and Lévesque, with the first "e" accented but the second without an accent (yes, even in headlines). You did all right with "Québec".

Richard d'Anjou

Ed note: It's 2:30.

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