



Hugh Armstrong - new advocate of student power

by Rod Manchee

THE CARLETON

Hugh Armstrong, a Carleton University graduate and the new president of the Canadian Union of Students, thinks that students must develop "Student Power".

HEY!!

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COPS CAN'T COPE

Dear Sir,

I would like to comment on the theft at last Saturday's dance of over \$400.00 of suede and leather coats from both York students and guests of the university. This incident illustrated two things: the inadequacy of the protection and supervision of the cloakroom facilities; and, secondly, the ineptitude of the York security police.

If students are supposed to hang

Mr. Armstrong also believes students are the most likely agents for improving our society, for "they can combine cold analysis (which is what they're taught in the university) with warm concern. At the same time they can, or at least, should, honestly and critically evaluate our society, for they do not as yet have a large vested interest in maintaining the status quo.

"The university should be a moderately liberating environment since it is a place of ideas, but most students are not interested in our society -- they're interested in getting a meal ticket to success. Therefore, I think it's up to the student government and any other student bodies to facilitate flow of information, freedom and mobility", said Mr. Armstrong.

He defends his "anti-meal ticket" stand in this way: "When you're in student government you have to start thinking about things, which is certainly not true in our present education. When you consider the university and really talk to people about it you begin to realize how important social consciousness and the university are."

Mr. Armstrong, 24, was last year's president of the Ontario Region of CUS, a position which involved him in lobbying for a student seat on University of Western Ontario Board of Governors (unsuccessful) and improvement of the Student Aid Plan (successful).

CUS has endorsed a document, the "Declaration of the Canadian Student" which expresses a lot of Mr. Armstrong's philosophy of education. "But," he says, "it should also talk about Canada; our binational culture, our other domestic issues, American economic domination, this sort of thing."

"Our education system now produces passive fact absorbers who are ready to accept author-

ity models. Education should develop the full potential of all citizens as free, creative individuals.

their coats in the cloakroom during classes and at York social functions, why is no protection provided for them? Who is responsible for the cloakroom? - the security force, the janitors, the student council or the Administration? Probably, as is customary around this university, not one of these bodies will accept any responsibility at all. Where else can we hang our coats? The administration has not provided enough lockers for each day student; those provided are not designed to hang up clothes. Since, it therefore seems necessary that we use the cloakrooms,

ity models. Education should develop the full potential of all citizens as free, creative individuals.

"This year we're working on campus support projects to implement the 'Declaration'. We'll do it by intercampus activities like sending Barry McPeake, council vice-president, to speak to Frosh at Waterloo, or by having local campuses reassess their financial priorities, or any other program to develop awareness.

"The list of priorities from the CUS Congress is better than we've had before. We've cut off a lot of fat and got it down to the really essential material."

The main body of the resolutions deal with the quality of education and related topics such

as student housing and universal accessibility.

Two big questions in CUS are who should control education, - the federal or provincial authorities - and should CUS adopt a syndicalist philosophy, like UGEQ, Quebec's student union.

Mr. Armstrong has been president of both a provincial and a federal student union and confesses that he is uncertain as to where the final authority should lie, although "local groups should be left with a great deal of latitude".

As for syndicalism he says, "It's the people on campus, not the people in this office who make up CUS, so I don't think we can take a stand until more people have an idea of what syndicalism is."

Is your prof a holdout?

An interested faculty member sent this to us. We thought our student readers would like to see it.

Dear Colleague:

Whatever you may think of the causes and solutions of the problems affecting the poor, the handicapped and underprivileged in our society, the fact remains that these problems do exist today and the people who try to deal with them need money and need it badly. The United Appeal is set up to obtain this money. This letter is a simple request that you help them get it by contributing to the fund drive which will be commencing at York University within the next two weeks.

Sad to say, last year's record of contributions to the United Appeal was not a particularly shining one -- apparently due mainly to difficulties in the organization for solicitation. Only 64 members, or 8% of the total faculty and staff of 800 were recorded as having made contributions during the faculty, staff fund drive. (As compared, for example, to 26% of the full-time employees at the University of Toronto.) It seems hardly necessary to add that we can and should do better than that...

the procedure for making donations follows

...I'm sure you will do all you can to help the United Appeal finance the 77 worthwhile charitable organizations which are dependent on it.

Sincerely,

V.V. Murray
Chairman
York University United Appeal Committee

The faculty is concerned. Are the students?

why isn't there a security guard at the college entrances, as there was last year? The other alternative is setting up a proper checkroom for students' use, particularly at dances when there are a number of non-York people on campus.

This incident also revealed to me the true purpose of the York security Brownshirts. They seem to excel only in aggravating the students. When I told the security man on duty about the thefts, he replied, "What am I supposed to do about it? It is none of my business." He came to investigate business." He came to investi-

gate only after he had been ordered by the dispatcher in the Central Utilities Building. This enthusiastic enforcer of justice said that he had called the Metropolitan Toronto Police, but when I contacted the Metro Police on Sunday morning, they had no record of any call from York University. Saturday's happenings showed me that the York "police" are incapable of coping with any situation beyond chasing and ticketing students unfortunate enough to park their cars in the wrong place.
Bill Young
(Founders III)