

# Councillors disrupt anti-Zionist meeting

By MEL LUBEK

York's first confrontation about anything took place last Friday afternoon in the Vanier JCR when a group of students, led by former Vanier College Council chairman, Rod Macdonald, shouted and pushed, to stop Harry Kopyto, a speaker sponsored by the York Young Socialists, from addressing students on "Zionism and the Arab Revolution."

As Macdonald and the other disrupters got louder and louder, they got pushier and pushier. At one point, members of the Young Socialists formed a barrier around Kopyto to prevent him from being pushed around.

As about 300 people watched, Joe Charron, the Vanier council chairman, called campus security officers to expel the Trotskyites. Shortly thereafter, the power for the YS microphone was shut off.

The story behind the fracas goes back to early January.

At that time, VCC passed a policy of restricting the use of the Vanier JCR except for events which they considered to be of college-wide significance. To use the JCR, a group had to have permission from the council.

Before the policy was passed, the YS had already scheduled and publicized a series of three meetings to take place from Jan. 15 to Feb. 6. The council approved the first meeting on Jan. 15 but told the YS they could not use the common room for their other two meetings.

The Young Socialists felt that, since they had already spent money putting out their publicity for the three events, it was unfair and arbitrary for Vanier College Council to enforce a policy which would be retroactively applied to the YS plans which were organized at least a month before the policy was passed. Also the socialists said, that if their first program was sanctioned as being of college-wide significance, how could council say

that their other two meetings would not be of the same importance?

On Jan. 23 the YS were prepared to have their speaker address about 60 people, the majority of those in the JCR. VCC chairman Rod Macdonald tried to tell the Trotskyites they couldn't use the room because they didn't have permission.

The YS maintained that they had a right to speak to students in a students' common room and since the majority present in the JCR wished to hear the speaker, democracy should dictate their right to speak.

Given this argument and not knowing what else to do, Vanier Council, through Macdonald, gave permission for the YS to use the JCR for the second of their three programs.

This led to last Friday. The Young Socialists felt there was no reason why they shouldn't hold their third program since they had already held their first two as advertised.

Vanier's new council refused to give the YS permission to hold their meeting.

At 11:50 am Friday, Macdonald and some of his friends sat down in and around the pit in the Vanier JCR. Before the speaker came, Macdonald was asked how far he was prepared to go to stop the speaker. His answer: "I'll kick him in the head with my left foot."

When the YS mike was set up, Macdonald and his friends began chanting and making noise in an attempt to drown the speaker. Shortly afterwards pushing began. About 20 people were in the pit pushing and shouting at each other.

Newly elected Council of the York Student Federation president

Paul Axelrod admonished the disrupters for "using some bureaucratic technical way out to keep them (the Young Socialists)

from speaking." He charged the group was "trying to prevent them from speaking for political reasons."

He was shouted down. After Axelrod's speech the socialists moved their meeting to the Vanier Music Room.



Vandoo editor Brian Traxler (standing, foreground) and others heckle Young Socialist speaker Harry Kopyto (left, at microphone) in Vanier JCR Friday.

## Two calls this week

# Central Square cleared after phoney bomb threat

The Central Square and part of the hum building was evacuated Monday afternoon, after a York switchboard operator was told: "You will die in five minutes."

A second call was received Tuesday afternoon threatening that a bomb would go off in five minutes in the basement of Steacie Science Library.

Administration vice-president W.W. Small advised the evacuation Monday after a male voice said a bomb was planted in the basement of the Central Square. Department heads were phoned while security officers cleared the shops in the Central Square.

Apparently no one thought to pull a fire alarm. Evacuation of the building and a casual search was started within 10 minutes of the call — five minutes after the bomb was supposed to go off.

Metropolitan Toronto police were called in about an hour after the call.

"We haven't got the staff to do a good search," one security officer said Monday.

They could hide the thing "in literally thousands of places," chief security officer, C. M. Beksted said. But if it was true and the building not cleared, he said, "we'd have a terrible time explaining."

"It's a waste of my time," director of safety and security,

C.G. Dunn said noting that it would take a "substantial" bomb to cause any real damage.

Normal activity was resumed after 5 p.m.

Last year a caller threatened a bomb would go off "at York University" within five minutes. No action was taken.

Tracing equipment is being installed today on all major telephone lines into the university. With the equipment a telephone used to call a threat can be traced in seconds.

Phoning a bomb threat is a criminal offense, punishable by

from two to eight years imprisonment.

Two bombs in two weeks exploded at the University of British Columbia in January.

The second bomb exploded in the UBC student council chambers Jan. 23, blowing out a heat register and causing \$400 damage.

The previous bomb, also set behind a heat register, destroyed the register, damaged a wall and shattered a window in the UBC mathematics building Jan. 9. Damage was estimated at \$600.

## Tight cash may halt new residence plan

The federal government's austerity budget may have taken thoughts of a residence for College E students away for another year.

In a telephone conversation with Ryerson Polytechnical Institute vice-president Brian Power last week, Ontario Student Housing Corporation director Frank French explained that four student housing projects, requiring \$13-million of federal government grants, are now under consideration by the Ontario department of education, but the Ontario government feels they can only allot \$10-million from their tight federal grant to cover the projects' expenses.

The four proposed residences are for Queen's University in Kingston, McMaster University in Hamilton, Ryerson and York's College E.

Action on the four projects has been deferred until priorities have been established by the department of education. A decision on which projects will be constructed will be taken "within a week or two," Power said in a letter to Ryerson board chairman William Kelly.

York's board issued a proposal call to the OHSC last February, asking for funds for the College E residence project.

Meditation 'expands mind'

## Peace and success for \$25

By BRIAN MILNER

The International Meditation Society, York branch, reports that 25 students are currently meditating somewhere on campus. The society, founded by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi himself, claims 500,000 student meditators in North America.

Meditation is supposed to cause decrease in the breathing and heart beat rates. According to the literature: "It expands the mind, relieves tension, improves health and...takes the individual mind to the source of thought itself..."

That's quite an achievement, if the method really works.

"It's been the experience of those already meditating that it's working." Howard Shecter, a spokesman for the York group, said in an interview last week.

There's "a lot of scientific work being done to substantiate the experiences of meditation," he said, "but why should you accept my word...you experience it and find out for yourself the validity of it."

Although reluctant to reveal the secret method, Shecter did say that a mantra, a unique Sanskrit

sound, is given to the meditatee, and is central to the process.

The special student rate for this "simple technique" is \$25. The price includes three hours of personal instruction and "checking" later to ensure that the method is being used properly.

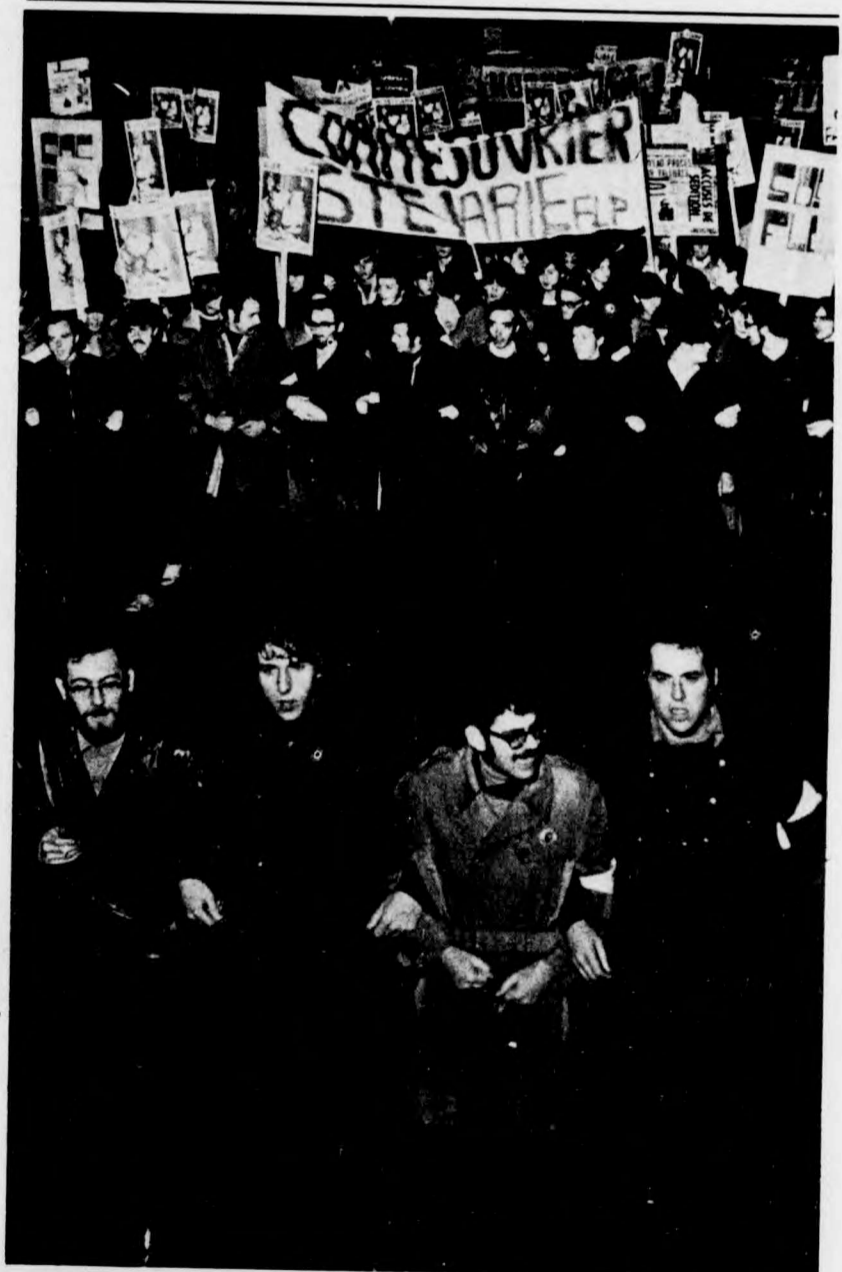
The fee is called a "suggested donation" and, Shecter says, convinces people to take the method seriously. The money doesn't go to the Maharishi. It's "required to keep the society going," Shecter said.

"All the society is trying to do is provide the technique and information on the technique," stressed Shecter.

But one really can't complain about the cost. While other things cost more...and more, the price of meditation is dropping. It used to be \$35.

Drugs must be given up 15 days before instruction to ensure that the experience is not a chemical one. Is that too high a price to pay for "peace, tranquility, efficiency, success, calmness, clarity of mind, a more meaningful "understanding of life"?"

"Yes," said one student. "Why don't (they) have it on some money-back guarantee."



STAN GRAY AT YORK TODAY

Quebec independentist and former McGill lecturer Stan Gray (front right) speaks in Winters JCR at 11:45 this morning. He will rap on the growing struggle to free Quebec from anglo-american capital and class domination in order to develop an independent socialist nation.