

Ontario colleges paralyzed by picket lines

Teachers strike

TORONTO (CUP)— Picket lines set up by teachers at Ontario's 22 community colleges have put 720,000 full-time and part-time students out of school.

The 7,600 college teachers, librarians and counsellors, members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, set up pickets Oct. 17 after last-minute mediation failed to resolve a dispute with the college's governing body.

The union rejected an offer made by the Ontario Council of Regents Oct. 15 of a one-year contract with a five per cent compensation package.

Ron Kelly, chair of the union bargaining committee, said the offer was the same as one the union membership rejected on Oct. 2, when a majority of the membership gave the union permission to go on strike.

In a statement released last week, the union accused the council of "provoking" a strike by presenting a three-week-old offer.

At issue in the dispute is the teachers' workload. The union wants teachers to have more time to prepare lessons and mark papers. The council has refused to budge from its contract proposal.

Although a few colleges plan to continue some part-time and night courses under the supervision of the administration and part-time faculty, students are already protesting.

At Sheridan College, 60 college students milled about Queen's Park, chanting and singing. "We're not going to take it anymore," they shouted.

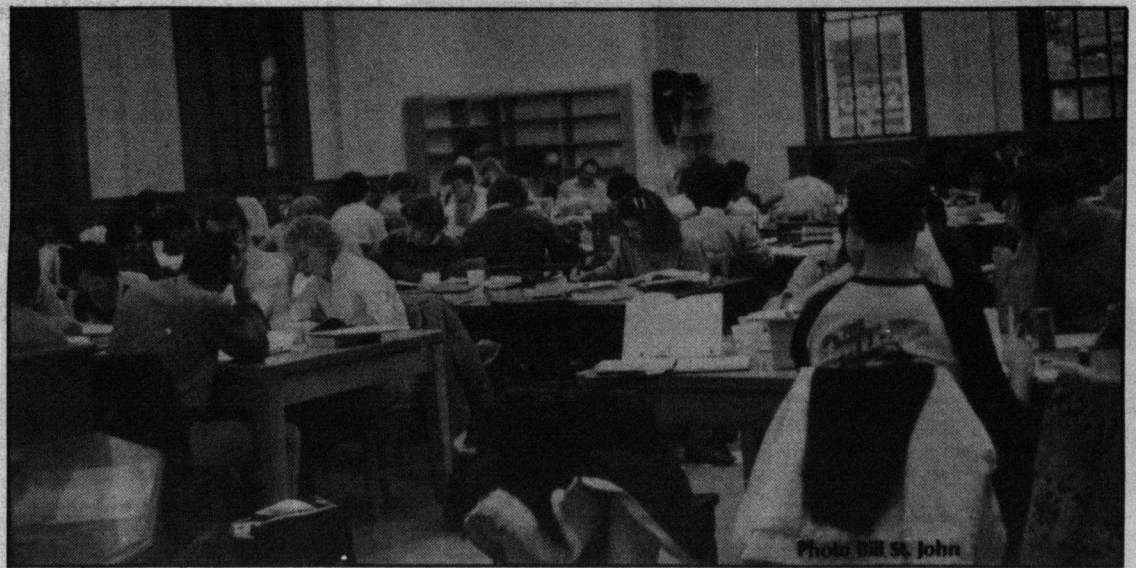
At Humber College, about 400

students demonstrated in front of the college's administrative offices.

Though vowing to remain neutral in the strike, the Humber student council said it organized the protest to heighten students' awareness of the issues involved in the dispute.

"(Ontario universities and colleges minister Bette) Stephenson said we won't suffer, but we're suffering already," said Darrin Caron, student council president at Humber College.

The Ontario Federation of Students has also said it will not pick sides in the dispute.



Thousands of potential Walter Mittys crowd into Chinese Library to do anything but study.

King considers teaching internships

by Shona C. Welsh and Neal Watson
Education Minister Dave King is considering an internship program for first-year teachers.

The planned new program reflects King's concern for unemployed education graduates: "These new graduates lack effective work experience under the supervision of skilled and experienced teachers," he said at a recent news conference.

The impetus for the program was the recommendation of a 1981 report entitled "Theory to Practice." The report studied university programs for training teachers.

Rich Vivone, Executive Assistant to King, said teachers need more practical experience: "There's not many faculties you walk out of and are instantly responsible for 30 or so lives."

The present practicum program for education students is 13 weeks in duration, combining in-class obser-

vation with supervised teaching.

R.S. Patterson, the Dean of Education, said his faculty takes the position that orientation to the profession is critical and in that the internship would support orientation, "it has good possibilities."

Patterson said his faculty would look at the program as an addition to the teacher preparation already in use. One problem emphasized by Patterson was funding for the practicum period.

In order for the internship program to be beneficial, Patterson said sufficient funds from the government must be made available.

The Alberta Teachers' Association (A.T.A.) is currently discussing the program with King. Dr. Nicholas Hrynuk, a spokesman for the A.T.A., said they are not sure what form the internship program will take, but they hope to reach an agreement with King.

"The A.T.A. has been proposing such a program since 1967," said Hrynuk. "We've done a lot of promoting with conferences, etc. (but) the government never committed itself prior to this time."

Vivone said the internship program will do more than provide jobs for first-year teachers: "The most

important thing is you get (students) into a classroom on an intern basis rather than with total responsibility."

He said that partial funding for the program would come from the provincial government.

"As far as we know," said Vivone, "there's nobody else in the country that has the internship program."

Tent money AWOL

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have not talked to her personally."

Hodgins added that he would "personally rather see the money funnelled into another AFL program, such as Project Alternative Child-care Edmonton (PACE).

PACE is a free childcare drop-in center at 9425-109A Avenue which is designed to care for children while parents visit UIC or Social Services, or take courses to increase

their job marketability.

"Technically, it's their money," said Hodgins. "I'd rather they use it. Maybe it would fund a soup kitchen on Boyle Street for a couple of days, but at least it would be doing some good."

The Unemployment Action Center will be closing November 1, due to a withdrawal of government funding.

Nukes condemned

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condemned on ethical and theological grounds."

Phipps called on the new government to exercise its new mandate and "go to Washington and Moscow as many times as necessary to halt the arms race."

"Building tools of death is robbing the majority of God's people of justice," said Phipps. "What we want is guaranteed jobs and guaranteed income, not guaranteed destruction."

Ed Ewasiuk of the Edmonton Voters' Association read a message from Mayor Laurence Decore and emphasized his hope that the city

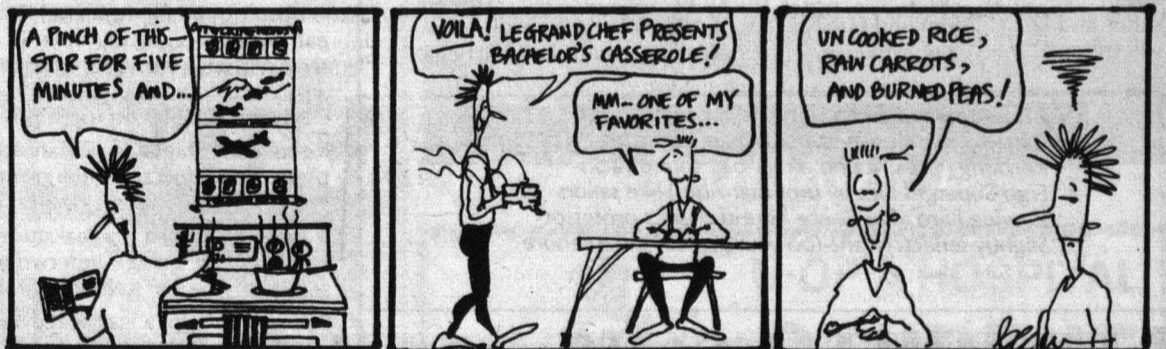
and the country would become nuclear-free zones.

Ewasiuk also paid tribute to NDP leader Grant Notley: "We have lost a supporter of the peace movement and a good friend."

Notley died Friday when the plane he was travelling in crashed near Lesser Slave Lake.

Yard Apes

by Hans Beckers



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