

Scrip and price increases are here to stay, admin. says

By MICHAEL HOLLETT

The university administration, defending its food policies against mounting criticism, says that scrip and the 10 per cent increase are necessary and are here until the end of the year.

Norm Crandles, assistant director of ancillary services, said this week that students did have a choice on whether or not to buy scrip: "They could take it or leave it."

"They knew when they came into residence that they would have to buy scrip, so why are they complaining at this late date?"

"Scrip is here for this year anyway and that's all there is to it. If students on an expensive meal plan wish to get on the cheapest plan, they can make an appeal to their master and ancillary food services will probably accept the master's decision."

"If there were unlimited refunds the whole meal plan system would be meaningless. So far there have been 40 cases of students getting their meal plans lowered," he said.

Crandles also said that rising costs left the university no choice but to make the ten per cent food price increase.

Harry Knox, assistant vice-president, business operations, and the man in charge of university food services, said Tuesday "the status of scrip is being re-evaluated, but I do not foresee any mass refund of scrip before the end of the year."

CHIPS AND COKE

Knox said that originally the reason for a university meal plan was "largely to make sure that kids didn't fill up on chips and coke."

"Also, it would reduce the need for creating cooking facilities in the rooms. Cooking in the rooms would be against health and fire regulations. Guelph dropped their meal plan and people began cooking in their rooms to such a degree that health authorities almost closed them down," he said.

"The 10 per cent price increase was an absolute necessity; we have already lost lots of money on the food services and, since this money comes out of the university's pocket and not Versa Food's, it is not being spent on other parts of the university where it is needed."

"The way prices have been rising we simply

had no other choice about the increase," Knox said.

When asked if it was fair to raise prices in the middle of the year, Knox said: "Would it have been fair to raise the prices in August? Versa, along with the university was pressuring me to raise prices back then, but I was counting on the costs to return to normal. They didn't."

Knox said he disagrees that the ten per cent increase was "railroaded" through the university. He said that all sections of the York community were made aware of the possibility of an increase and the food services committee, an organization representing "all parts of the community," discussed and finally supported the increases.

The food services committee was set up last month "to serve as an advisory committee to the assistant vice-president on all matters affecting the provision of food services at York University."

Of the 21 members on the committee, 14 are students. At the meeting where the price increase was approved, four students were present. Among those voting on the proposal was a

representative of Versa Food. The proposal was passed by a vote of six to two, with two abstentions.

The Versa representative has since been barred from voting on food service committee business.

EXPENSIVE PLANS

Peter Jarvis, a food services committee representative and an employee of Bethune College, has suggested that if a student on one of the expensive meal plans feels he will have excess scrip he can ask his master to recommend that he be allowed to switch to a lower meal plan.

But ancillary services points out that students are supposed to be granted a lower plan only under extenuating circumstances, which does not mean just an excess of scrip. The masters seem generally to be abiding by this.

Dale Ritch, a boycott organizer, has challenged representatives of the food services committee, ancillary services, and Versa Food to a head-on debate regarding food services.

The boycott is expected to begin at the end of this week or the beginning of next week, and notices will be posted.

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Lakeshore College to close teachers may lose positions

By ROSEMARY McCracken

Twenty-five masters currently employed at York's Lakeshore Teachers' College will retain their jobs at least until the college is phased out at the end of next year.

"It's a long range policy as incorporated in the contract between York and Lakeshore," Bill Farr, York's finance vice-president, said Tuesday, describing the planned shutdown.

"We're committed to employ each member of the Lakeshore faculty until June, 1975."

He added that these teachers can be fired only if they are given notice by June, 1974. Anyone kept on after that point will automatically be granted tenure on the main campus.

Etobicoke-based Lakeshore College, which offers a one-year course in primary education to students already holding a bachelor degree, is being dissolved in accord with a recommendation in the 1966 McLeod Commission report.

The recommendation, which proposed that all teacher education in Ontario be placed under the wing of universities, was accepted as government policy by William Davis, then minister of education for the province.

In line with the dissolution, the Downsview campus will further

develop its faculty of education, which offers a four to five year programme in which academic courses are taken concurrently with the practical experience of student teaching in public and secondary schools.

The actual process of integration following the McLeod proposal has been very slow. Lakehead University broke the ice by adopting Lakehead Teachers' College in 1969.

The following year, Windsor Teachers' College amalgamated with Windsor; Brock adopted St. Catherine's Teachers' College in July, 1971; and Lakeshore was placed under York's wing that September.

The University of Western Ontario adopted London Teachers' College last year, and both the Stratford and Peterborough colleges were shut down.

Currently, Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa teachers' colleges still remain under the ministry of education, and are unaffiliated with universities.

With Lakeshore's dissolution, York becomes the only education faculty to give itself totally to the experimental concurrent method of teacher training, although both Lakehead and Windsor have incorporated the method into their training programmes.

The concurrent method attempts to develop a close relationship between student teachers and schools without the intermediate instruction in teaching methods. These methods are incorporated into the teaching of academic subjects, and the teaching faculty are cross-appointed from the academic departments.

As a result, the necessity of masters to give instruction in teaching methods has been eliminated.

NO JOBS

"They haven't been judged and found wanting," explained York's education dean, Robert Overing. "There are simply no positions for them."

The 25 masters may serve as adjunct professors at York, to work in the schools, bridging the gap between the university and the school teaching experience.

But this is difficult, said Overing, because most of the masters are neither academic professors nor presently teaching in the schools.

"They belong to a third category called teacher educators," he said.

At least one person has voiced opposition to Lakeshore's demise. William McClure, Lakeshore principal and assistant dean in York's education faculty, feels the York model "is caught up in the rhetoric, ignoring the reality."

He believes York is ignoring the important changes in teacher education since 1965, such as subject and grade specialization in primary education, instead of preparing the primary teacher to teach all grade subjects in all grade levels. He says the York model does not allow for a person with an intensive background.

"Lakeshore gives considerable emphasis to curriculum development," he said, "and develops a more basic methodology."

He said the college promotes flexibility and adaptability, since the students already have a degree in a specific subject area, whereas York students are still taking their academic subjects.

MORE TO IT

"There's a lot more to becoming a teacher than just going out into the schools," McClure remarked.

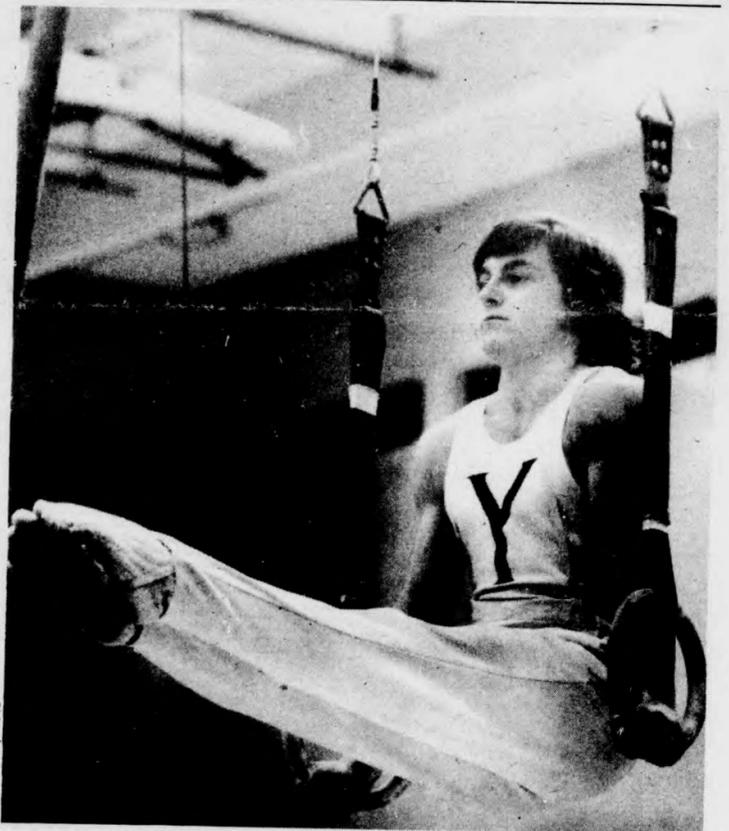
He added, however, that York's close association with the schools and the integration of the academic faculty with the education faculty "have the potential to make the greatest changes in education in Ontario."

Education Dean Overing stresses that York's longer education programme offers more in field experience.

"If you only have one year to prepare to be a teacher," he explained, "you are often so anxious that you are not relaxed enough to learn effectively. A person studying education at York is also continually in touch with an academic person who can give him academic advice."

Overing admits the Lakeshore programme has been more successful than the York model in fostering a sense of community.

"The students spend three-quarters of their time in their academic departments," he said, "while the faculty, who are cross-appointed, also spend two-thirds of their time in their academic departments."



Peter Hsu photo

York's Steve McClean performs on the rings in Saturday's championships at the Tait McKenzie gymnasium. McClean placed in the top six as York swept the competition. York will be hosting this year's national finals on the weekend. For more on the meet see the story on page 16.

York to get more aid

By BRIAN MILNER

York University will receive an extra \$1.16 million for 1974-75 as a result of increases in operating support for Ontario universities, announced by Jack McNie, former minister of colleges and universities, now minister without portfolio. James Auld, former minister of the environment, replaced him on Tuesday.

The total value of the basic income unit (BIU) will be increased by 7.1 per cent from \$1,825 to \$1,955. The BIU is the basis of a formula applied to enrolment figures to calculate the operating grants for the province's colleges and universities.

York's increase is 2.1 per cent over the projected BIU figure, amounting to an unexpected gain of about \$900,000. Bill Farr, York's budget administrator, said Tuesday.

York will also receive a supplementary grant of \$260,000 and a grant of \$128,000 for Glendon College's bilingual programme.

Other universities sharing more than \$6.1 million in supplementary grants are Brock, Carleton, Lakehead, Laurentian, Trent, and the University of Windsor.

OPTIONS INCREASED

Discussing the unexpected bonus, Farr said, "It increases the number of options open to us."

The Ministry did not indicate why the supplementary grants are being provided, but all are going to universities operating on deficit budgets.

Grants for bilingual programmes total almost \$2.8 million. The community college system will receive up to \$3.6 million in grants to accommodate growth in a number of colleges. Cambrian College in Sudbury and Algonquin (Ottawa) will split \$1.26 million for bilingual programmes.

Operating grants to Ontario universities and colleges of applied arts and technology are expected to reach \$770 million in 1974-75.



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