



caricatures by Aislin

CANADA



Since the election of the Parti Quebecois government last November, Canada has been deluged with prognostications, predictions and all manner of portentous pronouncements on Canada's future.

Alas the rostrum has been hogged by media figures and politicians. At times the debate over Canada's future has seemed limited to a Trudeau-Levesque showdown.

An *Excalibur* poll (on page 9) is our attempt to give the real people out there a small opportunity to have a say.

So go to it.

Please make just one response to each question. If you have more to say than our meagre space permits, feel free to write a letter to the Editor.

Excalibur

Volume 12, Number 6

York University Weekly Community Newspaper

Thursday, Oct. 20 1977

YUSA frowns on tactics

By Agnes Kruchio

An issue of the university administration newsletter *York Reports* published two days before a strike vote by the York University Staff Association (YUSA), has been labelled a "scare tactic" by the union.

Written by vice-president Bill Farr (in charge of personnel relations) to "inform the York community about the state of negotiations with YUSA and to persuade staff members that the university's offer is a realistic one," the article justified the university's position by referring to its bleak financial outlook.

"The University hopes that members of the support staff will understand the nature of the financial constraints on York and that it will be possible to resolve the current impasse amicably," said Farr in his report.

But union members reacted angrily to the appearance of the article. "They're trying to in-

timidate us," said Lauma Avens, president of the staff association.

"I've had phone calls all day from area reps (shop stewards), and they're really mad," she said in an interview.

"By putting this out, they (the university) hope they will change YUSA members' minds about voting in favor of a strike," she said.

A strike vote is to be held today after conciliation talks between the university and the union broke down less than two weeks ago. Fifteen days after the receipt of a report of failure by the minister of labour, the union is in a legal position to strike.

In a publication of its own entitled *YUSA Reports* that appeared later on the same day as the *York Reports*, the association claimed figures used by Farr were erroneous.

A package including a 6.5% salary increase and 50% of the cost of running a dental plan which the university had claimed would amount to a 7.25% salary increase, would really only mean a 6.78% increment, the YUSA newsletter stated. The university is "attempting to inflate the actual costs of benefits being negotiated," it said.

See YUSA page 3

Library budget cut

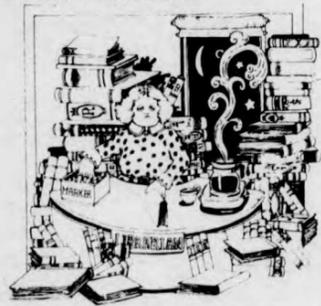
By Denise Beattie

Approximately \$100,000 is being cut from York's library budget this year, covering the period from May 1977 to April 1978.

The form the cuts will take has not yet been decided, however the university has advised the library that because enrolment is down, their budget will be cut.

Repercussions of this situation are already making their appearance. The various departments have been requested to be thrifty voluntarily and circulation supervisor, Fred Johnson, is doing just that.

In response to information that many books are misfiled, he said: "A general shelf reading normally begins at this time but we'll put it off until the budget is known."



According to Johnson new shelving was added over the summer to sections of the Scott Library, requiring the shifting and spreading of many books. Areas Q through Z have not yet been finished and are therefore badly out of order.

"It is his responsibility to see to the managing of the collections," said William Newman, acting director of the library, responding to the information supplied by Johnson.

Although the books are misfiled, he said, "at least they're somewhere in the order."

Newman added that as far as he could remember, circulation had massive extra funding last year, allowing the library to hire more help for the bi-annual reading of the shelves.

"When an area is badly shelved" said Johnson, "someone informs

the supervisors and they get someone on it immediately." A schedule is normally arranged so that different areas are shelved according to use.

The budget is not yet official, so no moves have been made to cut down the staff. According to Johnson casual help will be trimmed. A general reading of the shelves must wait to be carried out until the staff is decreased.

Other areas of the library are also feeling the pressure. Newman sees little leeway in their options to proportion out the cuts. All of the library's services fall within either operation, hours, or book accounts.

A supervisory meeting was held October 11 between the twenty library's services fall within either operation, hours, or book accounts. here or there," Newman said.

Newman presented the resulting tentative positions to the university Policy Committee and now awaits their responses.

"The final decision is mine but I can be overruled" he said, concerning his decision-making power.

The public service departments of the library receive input from users with requests for better security, better shelving and more copies of popular books, Johnson says.

However Newman sees stricter controls on these areas in the future, including shorter hours and a tighter selection process on incoming material.

Up until this year the library has also extended a "grace period" of a day or two for late books. This has been revoked.

"If books were late before we weren't hitting them for a couple of days," said Johnson.

Unhappily he feels this did not work and the library must lay down the law to its users:

"There is no grace period. You get them back."

The picture is far from rosy. Newman says the Library has never functioned at the optimum level and is always short on staff.

"You do as much as you can, otherwise less gets done," he said. "Next year is no brighter."



photo Sandy Zeldin

Menaka Thakkar dances tonight at Burton - see page 13.

Food co-op put on hold

By Peter Hadzipetros

The Black Creek Food Co-op has now been in the planning stages for months. It is ready to serve members of the York Community, as soon as it gets the green light from the administration.

The co-op, according to organizer Doug Holland, will handle fresh produce, fruit, vegetables, cheese, grain, and nuts. It will sell the goods at cost, operating as a non-profit organization.

It will not, Holland emphasizes, be a major competitor to Oasis, Central Square's food outlet, since only Co-op members will be able to take advantage of the service.

Approval for the Co-op must be given by Oasis. Owned by the giant United Cigar store chain, Oasis has an exclusive contract that expires in December of 1979. CYSF (Council of the York Student Federation) must also approve Holland's brainchild, as they have expressed an interest in taking over the Oasis contract.

Holland stated that the co-op has been offered the use of the York University Tenants' Association's (YUTA) office in the basement of 8 Assiniboine. The administration has expressed opposition to this idea, adding that a rent of \$7 per square foot per year, or about \$1400, would be charged.

A second, and less desirable, alternative of an off-campus location has been discussed. This would be much less convenient for

residence students. Should the administration block the co-op from operating on campus, this plan will be implemented, Holland assured *Excalibur*.

Support for the co-op has come from Calumet College in the form of a \$250 grant that has been used in publishing price lists and a Co-op newsletter. The Graduate Students' Association has also hinted that it will provide some sort of support.

Presently, the Co-op has nineteen paid members. More than forty households, mostly on campus, have expressed a definite interest in the co-op. The majority of interested students live in the graduate and Atkinson residences. Some staff and faculty members have also said they would be willing to join. At the moment, Holland said, "it's more of a social thing. We hope it will expand to a kind of a community."

The members make a \$15 loan to the Co-op, in order to purchase supplies, and pay an annual \$5 membership fee. In addition, there is a 15% mark-up on items. This still leaves prices well below the expensive health food stores.

Holland has been involved with the Toronto Federation of Food Co-ops for 2 years and has spent five months as its co-ordinator. The federation will be supplier to the Black Creek Food Co-op.

The future of the Co-op is presently in the hands of Jack Allen, director of ancillary services. It probably won't be before January that a decision is rendered by the administration. If it takes much longer than that, Holland fears, support for the co-op might dwindle. Right now, Holland maintains, "we're just trying to get the ball rolling."



this week

- "Steppin' Out" sabotaged page 2
- Walter Gordon speaks page 3
- Brand new Bearpit from CKRY page 10
- Native Arts Festival page 11
- Traffic jam stalls track team page 16