

GFC Exec. limits media

by Allen Young

The possibility of banning reporters from General Faculties Council (GFC) executive committee meetings was considered Monday, as members complained about press coverage and requested that only their final decisions be reported.

A motion by GFC executive member A. Crawford, that the executive committee request the press to report only the committee's final decisions, was carried after a lengthy discussion.

"Often we are considering things in the executive meetings that will not be dealt with for up to

five weeks by GFC," said Crawford, "When the issues come before GFC members through the media, GFC feels as if they are being put into the position of a rubber stamp. GFC is not served as a decision-making body by having everything coming out in advance."

The decision to discuss the role of the media came about after three members of the executive committee discussed the issue with several GFC members, said Crawford.

Crawford pointed out he was not particularly dissatisfied with the quality of the reporting, but was very concerned about the effect the media has on GFC by reporting the progress of the executive committee's decisions so far in advance of when they come before full council.

University president Dr. Harry Gunning pointed out that

many issues dealt with by GFC are very complex, and allowing the media to attend the executive meetings provides for a better understanding, but no useful purpose is served by publications making it look as if final decisions are being made.

GFC exec. member R.G. Moyles came down very hard on press coverage of the meetings. "I think there is very bad reporting," he said, "Perhaps the media doesn't understand the academic mind, but I like to discuss. I like to probe. I often play the role of Devil's Advocate, and take positions that might not seem plausible, so discussion might be stimulated."

University vp academic Dr. Meyer Horowitz said better press relations with high level committees exist at other universities. "There is a question of at what level we open our discussions,"

he said. "I think we should be as open as we can to make the reporters more informed. If we cannot get that kind of co-operation, and I am afraid that I will be badly misunderstood, then I feel we will have no alternative but to move to hold meetings *in camera*."

Dr. D. Massey was opposed to any requests to either close meetings or limit reporting. "The more open we can be, the better off we will be," he said.

Students' Union rep. Ken McFarlane said he agreed with Moyles' point that GFC should be treated as more of the analytical meeting it is, and that premature reporting is damaging to the treatment of issues by GFC. "Given the circumstances of this year," he said, "I would have to agree that if better arrangements can't be worked out, meetings should be held *in camera*."

Rare books found in Detroit gallery

by Adam Mayers
The silhouette

Rare books valued at more than \$6,000 have been recovered from McMaster University after an investigation which spanned two continents and finally ended earlier this month in a Detroit auction gallery.

A McMaster undergraduate who was also a part-time librarian has been charged with theft in connection with the case. The books are believed to have been stolen over a period of several weeks.

The volumes, a set of 24 books by Charles Dickens were retrieved at the Du Mouchelle Art Galleries in Detroit, along with other 26 volumes which had previously not been missed. The volumes were awaiting sale by auction.

A spokesman for the Gallery expressed "surprise" that the volumes were stolen, but added they had contacted the Library upon learning the true ownership. Archives and Special Collections Director Graham Hill denied this claim.

According to Hill, the thefts were first noticed late in January, when the volumes "simply disappeared from the stacks."

Following the disappearance of the books, Hill mailed letters to book dealers across North America and in Great Britain, describing them in detail, "hoping that something would turn up."

Late last month, a New York dealer called the University and claimed a Hamilton resident had inquired about selling some Dickens novels. The man was asking \$1,000 for the set.

"The co-operations from within the trade was very good," said, "it's always good."

From the information provided by the dealer, McMaster Security was able to identify the suspect as a 29 year old student.

When confronted by Sergeant Allan and Security Officer Garrett, the student admitted to the thefts, but stated

the books had been taken to Detroit. He agreed to accompany the two officers there, where the volumes were later identified in the Du Mouchelle Gallery.

The Dickens' novels and the 36 additional works were retrieved, as well as five more found in the suspect's Hamilton home.

ROGER ABBOTT asks:

SUNDAY MORNING is:

- (a) A new religion involving cucumbers and calendars.
- (b) A popular Peruvian cocktail made from red wine, tomato juice and maple brandy.
- (c) CBC Radio's electronic weekend newspaper broadcast Sundays from 9:00 to Noon.

DOCTOR BUNDOLO is:

- (a) A famous Canadian physician ventilated by the Chinese.
- (b) The instigator of a crazy CBC Radio comedy show heard Monday nights at 8:00.
- (c) Patty Hearst's gynecologist.

LUBA GOY asks:

90 MINUTES WITH A BULLET is:

- (a) A major motion-picture starring Roy Rogers' stuffed dog.
- (b) An unusual party game involving a nurse, a sailor and a whip.
- (c) A new National Top 40 music and "rockumentary" series, Wednesday nights at 8:30 on CBC-Radio.

JAZZ RADIO-CANADA is:

- (a) A Saskatchewan pawnshop specializing in saxophones and wirelasses.
- (b) A weekly CBC-Radio show featuring great jazz performances, Thursdays at 8:30pm.
- (c) An expression used by dope fiends meaning "jellyroll."

DAVE BROADFOOT asks:

AS IT HAPPENS is:

- (a) A glossy magazine about birth control.
- (b) An award-winning phone-out program hosted by Barbara Frum, weeknights at 6:30 on CBC Radio.
- (c) A popular British custom for schoolboys sometimes associated with spitballs.

THE GREAT CANADIAN GOLD RUSH is:

- (a) The basis of Pierre Berton's railroad books.
- (b) Terry David Mulligan's 90-minute rock music series, Mondays at 8:30pm on CBC.
- (c) The sudden flow of money out of Quebec.

JOHN MORGAN asks:

DANNY FINKLEMAN is:

- (a) The host of "Rebound," CBC-Radio's Saturday sports show.
- (b) The host of "The Danny Finkleman Show," Saturdays 10:00 to 11:30am.
- (c) A scientific oddity explained on "Quirks and Quarks," Saturdays at 12 noon.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FARCE is:

- (a) Canada's contribution to NATO.
- (b) Otto Lang's private airline.
- (c) Canada's most-listened-to comedy series, Saturday mornings at 11:30 on CBC-Radio.

DON FERGUSON asks:

YES YOU'RE WRONG! is:

- (a) A state of confusion generally associated with theology professors.
- (b) A comic quiz show starring Rod Coneybear, Tuesday nights at 8:00 on CBC-Radio.
- (c) MacKenzie King's famous retort to Julius Caesar during a 1943 seance.

TOUCH THE EARTH is:

- (a) One of the most difficult positions listed in The Perfumed Garden.
- (b) Sylvia Tyson's "musical roots" show, Tuesdays at 8:30pm on CBC-Radio.
- (c) A popular game played by off-duty kamikaze pilots.



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