

Excalibur

Everything secret degenerates; nothing is safe that does not show it can bear discussion and publicity — Lord Acton

Here we go again

Well, here we go again. McLaughlin college council Monday night called for a referendum on their membership in CYSF. The vote will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

The members of Mac council have yet to tell anyone what their beef with CYSF is. Every time someone asks them they talk about "gross mismanagement of funds" but when it comes down to the crunch none of them have been able to substantiate this claim.

As well they have claimed that EXCALIBUR is biased, specifically for CYSF policies. We admit this. As far as EXCALIBUR is concerned this year's CYSF has initiated and concerned itself with more issues vital to students than any previous council.

We believe that York students are interested in academic reforms. We believe that students here want their

council to respond in a meaningful way to the Laskin report. We believe that York students do want to be involved in issues and organizations that have more than a parochial York frame of reference.

At the Mac council meeting Monday night CYSF president Paul Axelrod suggested that if they really were concerned about the well being of students, Mac council should wait until the CYSF university-wide elections in February and have their referendum then. This seems to be the most logical position, since even if Mac students vote to withdraw from CYSF, the split cannot take place until February anyway.

It makes you wonder about the motives of these people when they insist on plunging the students of McLaughlin into a thing like this on such little notice.

The salary question

In the midst of the rest of the nonsense that has been emanating from the McLaughlin college council this week is the charge that the financial affairs of EXCALIBUR are not what they should be.

Adrian Hill charges in his letter (see page seven) that EXCALIBUR salaries are incredibly high and that some of us make over 150 dollars a week. The only person on the paper's staff who makes this sum is Rolly Stroetev who is both the advertising manager and the business manager and is in charge of the entire advertising department.

It is the advertising department which allows EXCALIBUR to print a sixteen or twenty page paper every week at a cost of only twelve cents per issue to the York student. In comparison the McLaughlin paper, the AQUARIAN costs each Mac student twenty-eight cents per issue.

But let's get a little deeper into the salary question. The take home pay of

the business manager is about 110 dollars a week. That's hardly out of line for a guy with three years experience on this paper and a full time job that would pay him much more in the world of professional advertising.

What's more interesting is the information that Hill DIDN'T include in his letter. Like the fact that EXCALIBUR'S full-time editor makes 100 dollars a week in a job where he has spent up to 60 hours a week. Or how about the fact that when the paper faced a financial crisis this fall the first thing that happened was that all salaried employees took pay cuts.

We know what's really bugging the people in MacLaughlin and we think the students at York do too. They don't like the political position this paper has taken. We're not afraid to defend our positions but it looks like the Mac councillors don't have the guts (or maybe it's the brains) to say what they really mean.

prejudiced opinions on the intentions of the younger generation. Thanks for your reply, help and support in this family dispute.

(Sorry I had to do this "Dad"; I still love you.)

Mrs. J.M.S.

Ed. note:

1. The letter was originally written in Greek and probably lost something in the translation.

2. Karageorgas was arrested for possessing explosives allegedly to be used against the military regime.

3. Karageorgas' arm was injured when a bomb he was constructing accidentally went off.

4. Exact details are unknown except that he was imprisoned for attempting to overthrow the dictatorship.

5. EXCALIBUR got these notes from Greek students at York who obtained them from the Greek Observer, a London-based Greek magazine. The notes are official statements arising from Karageorgas' trial.

6. A group of Greek and Canadian students at York organized Greek Freedom Week.

7. Canada does not exist in a vacuum. To say Canadians should ignore problems and developments in other countries is to support the kind of thinking that allowed fascist regimes to develop unchecked in Italy and Germany during the 1930's.

Convocation complaint

We attended the Convocation ceremonies held at York on Saturday, November 21, 1970 at which Professor Frank Underhill was given an honorary degree and delivered the Convocation Address. The disgusting exhibition of rudeness shown to Professor Underhill by the audience at this Convocation would have to be experienced to be believed. We have attended many convocations before but we have never seen anything like this audience's behaviour for abysmal incivility and boorish stupidity.



This Convocation to confer academic degrees was at a Canadian university and the subject of the Convocation Address was Canadian history given by an eminent Canadian historian; yet obviously many of the audience had not the interest, wit, or manners to listen or let anyone else listen. The entire speech was interrupted by tramping of feet of people leaving, slamming of doors, yelling of children and continuous whispering and talking. If this is the reaction of a Canadian audience to a serious mention of anything about Canada then no wonder we represent merely the coat-tail of world opinion.

Professor Underhill in one of the parts of the speech that we managed to hear, mentioned that until recently he had thought that Canadians' view of themselves as the strong, silent men of the North was merely to cover the fact that they hadn't thought of anything to say. He was probably right. The trouble is, judging from this audience's reaction, he is still right with the lamentable addition that we no longer even have the sense or manners to keep quiet. It seems that the average person attending Convocation is incapable of sustaining interest in anything beyond superficial entertainment. So we suggest that the next time York has a convocation they run a few Bugs Bunny films in place of the Convocation Address.

We're sure Professor Underhill was hurt by the display of rudeness, but we expect he would ruefully and sadly conclude as he may have done before that the trappings of a university do not make an intelligent person and the intellectual and the populace are in spirit as far apart as ever. In other words, you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

Barbara McCaw
Lynn Peikert

Day care confusion

Having read your 'News Brief' about the Day Care Centre in Excalibur, it became obvious that a few items had to be cleared up to avoid some confusion.

The final net loss was so small that it left our financial situation virtually unchanged. The value of the publicity of the campaign cannot be evaluated in terms of hard cash, but can be termed more worthwhile than mere monetary profit. In other words, the Day Care Thing was a success in that it made a lot of people aware of the Day Care Centre at York that previously were not aware of it.

One of the major causes of the poor turnout can definitely be attributed to the success of the Bruce Cockburn concert at Winters the next night. It would appear that in terms of entertainment patterns, people will not attend a concert unless either a big name group or personality is appearing, or it is free. The choice of a concert-dance on a Thursday evening was unfortunate in that it was inconvenient for a lot of people.

A great debt of gratitude is also owed to the folk-singers who gave such an excellent performance that night, each of whom played for no monetary return. Richard

Meek, Chris Keen, Dave Partridge, Catalpa, and Shirley Ross all deserve credit for their contribution to the Day Care Centre.

Jim Harshman of PEAR also deserves credit for his hard work in the advertising campaign and in organizing the talent for the evening.

In conclusion, your article had unfortunate overtones in the light of later developments that weekend. The prime profit of the Day Care Thing was in uncalculatable benefits that drew a larger amount of people of the York Community into an awareness of the Day Care Centre and its problems. This would constitute the building of an even larger base of support than we had before.

Show of hands

In reference to your story entitled "Osgoode seeks pass/ fail" (November 19, 1970), I should like to point out that the "show of hands" in Section 4 was not unanimous. To be more correct, there was one vote against the pass/ fail system and several abstentions. I would suggest that your report tends to suppress dissent by means of ignoring it — a tactic which, although successfully employed for many years, has recently shown itself to be inadequate for federal consideration of the province of Quebec.

A Member of Section 4

Excalibur

The York University Weekly
December 3, 1970

EDITOR
BOB ROTH
ASSISTANT EDITOR
TIM CLARK
NEWS EDITORS
Barry Lerner, David Chud

NEWS

John Livingston, Rob Barlow, Brian Milner, Annamaria Kovacs, Paul Thompson, Greg McConnell, Mike Savage, Wendy Dennis, Shelli Hunter

PHOTOGRAPHY

Tim Clark, Harry Kitz, Dave Cooper

ENTERTAINMENT EDITORS

Brian Pearl, John Oughton

ENTERTAINMENT

Pat Kutney, Steve Geller, Michael Gould, Dan Mekur, Steve Davey

SPORTS

Tim Clark, Rob Rowland, Phil Cranley, Ivan Bern

GRAPHICS

John Rose, Pete Reeder, Laurie Skopitz, Jane Yap

LAYOUT

Louise Paradis, Murray Meldrum

BUSINESS AND

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Rolly Stroeter

ADVERTISING

Leo Smiths, Jackie Stroeter

TELEPHONE:

editorial phone: 635-3201, 3202

advertising phone: 635-3800

controlled circulation: 15,000

Excalibur, founded in 1966, is the York University weekly and is independent politically. Opinions expressed are the writer's and those unsigned are the responsibility of the editor. Excalibur is a member of Canadian University Press and attempts to be an agent of social change. Printed at Newsweb. Excalibur is published by Excalibur Publications under the auspices of the Council of the York Student Federation. Office: Central Square (Southeast corner), Ross Building, York University, 4700 Keele St., Downsview, Ontario.