

Conference this weekend

Present abortion laws called discriminatory

By DIANE MUCKLESTON

"Trudeau's roulette" is how one woman referred to Canada's discriminatory abortion laws at a forum at the St. Lawrence Centre last Monday.

Ellen May, one of the conference organizers and the Toronto co-ordinator of the Canadian Women's Coalition to appeal the abortion laws, said that the availability of abortions depends on a number of variable factors: a woman's age, her province, her doctor's attitudes, her income and the availability of facilities.

May and Joan Campana, a national co-ordinator for the coalition called for a unified, vocal movement which can "point a collective finger" at the government to demand repeal of the abortion laws.

They were two of five on a panel moderated by Toronto journalist June Callwood. Other members were Henry Morgentaler MD of Montreal, president of the humanist association of Canada and a blatant offender of Canada's abortion laws; Toronto lawyer Mary Boyce; and Patricia Merrin; executive

secretary of planned parenthood of Toronto.

In a continuation of the abortion debate, women from across the country will meet this weekend at the University of Toronto in a Cross Canada Conference for abortion law repeal. The conference begins with a Friday night rally and continues Saturday and Sunday with workshops, discussions and speakers.

Position papers and strategy are expected to come out of the plenary sessions and NDP-MP Grace MacInnis is supposed to be on hand. Billeting and child care is being handled by the Canadian Women's Coalition, hosts for the conference. Further information is available at 863-9773.

Campana began Monday night by outlining the social and political significance of abortion repeal to the women's liberation movement. She quoted a recent Gallop Poll as reporting 61 per cent of all Canadians and 71 per cent in the 17 to 29 age group in favour of legalization of abortion. She said that her efforts during a recent cross-country tour had been directed at "removing the confusion, red-tape and despair surrounding abortion."

The next speaker, Morgentaler, faces a myriad of charges of con-

spiracy to perform abortion. The audience of 250 was told he had appeared in court that same day charged with performing an illegal abortion two years ago in Montreal.

He outlined four of the major medical methods of abortion. These methods — dilation and curettage (D&C), vacuum aspiration, hysterotomy and saline induction, — are used at different stages of pregnancy. "Of these, the vacuum aspiration is the best method of abortion up to 12 weeks of pregnancy," he said.

He also said, on the right of abortion: "It is a doctor's duty to help out when asked by a woman who says that she has an unwanted pregnancy and wants to terminate it. Any doctor who denies this duty is criminal."

Merrin explained how the complications of federal and provincial jurisdiction prevent the proper distribution of family planning information. Funds are available for agencies and clinics from the federal department of health but she said provisions should be made for educating youth about birth control in schools.

Boyce gave four major criticisms of the present abortion laws. They're confusing, contrary to the Canadian

Bill of Rights, unenforceable and don't "serve the proper purpose of criminal law," she explained.

As Boyce spoke a disruption broke out in the audience when two members of the Right to Life tried to distribute pamphlets. One of them refused to be quelled, claiming he had freedom of speech in a public forum.

Finally Boyce was able to complete her points as the emotions of the audience heightened.

The final speaker, Ellen May, emphasized the changes that have to occur in a woman's life when she has a child.

And speaking in favour of the right to have an abortion, she said: "Every human life is sacred except a woman's. This makes a woman a non-person — an animal of uncontrollable procreation."

During the concluding period of open discussion the emotional level continued to climb as advocates of the Right to Life were voluble among the speakers from the audience. Pro-abortionists responded by yelling they would have their chance to speak at an upcoming St. Lawrence Centre forum this week.

The forum closed by calling for women to attend this week-end's conference at U of T's Sydney Smith Building.



Joe Greene

Board okays Green as fine arts dean

Joe Green's latest step up York's administrative ladder was officially approved by the board of governors Monday. He will take over from Jules Heller as dean of the faculty of fine arts July 1.

Green, an American, joined the faculty in 1968 as associate professor and director of the program in theatre and assistant dean. He was appointed associate dean in 1971.

Born in Philadelphia in 1934, Green received his undergraduate education at Temple University and his masters and doctorate degree in theatre at Indiana University.

He came to York from Hunter College in New York where he was assistant professor of speech and theatre. Previously he had held teaching posts at the University of Louisville and Indiana University at South Bend where he was also director of theatre.

In reporting his appointment as dean, the daily press has focused on the picking of another American to fill a senior administrative post. But there has been no public protest at York by students or faculty over the appointment.

Green said he has only been in Canada for four and a half years, but plans to apply for Canadian citizenship when he is eligible in six months.

He says he has shown a full commitment to the Canadian community since his arrival here and he doesn't think his country of birth is significant to his job.

Since Green was active in the development of the faculty he doesn't foresee a significant change in the orientation of the faculty.

"I think we will build on the strengths we've gathered," he said. "We'll have to make judgments on the quality of what we're doing and the faculty will have to look at what they're doing. It's time to tune the instrument."

Two new directions for the faculty will be a graduate program and an "interface with the faculty of education" in order to help meet the need for art instructors in the public school system, he said.

Green was the major force behind the establishment of a graduate department in fine arts. It has been held up by a "provisional embargo" by the government but the assessors are now being chosen to look at the program.

Green has been criticized by some students for his views on the role of fine arts education. Green said Tuesday he does not consider the faculty a "job training or placement agency" any more than does the faculty of arts.

"We are not market oriented. The student is told realistically from the beginning that the job market is small," he said. He added however that this may be changing with increased government sponsorship through LIP, OFY and the Canada Council and the increased importance of leisure time activities.

He described the orientation as being based on a tension between two opposing poles: "the desire to develop a general humanistic awareness of our heritage" and to provide "skills and artistic development."

"Neither one is sufficient. We have to keep the two in balance," he said.

Recently Green was able to get a commitment from the president and the co-ordinating committee, of which he is a member, to continue covering the large loss incurred by the performing arts series (about \$30,000 this year). All agreed it is an important part of the "cultural ambience" at the university.

He explained Tuesday that the series "lends an air of excitement and professionalism" to the campus and is important to York because it is "so far removed from the cultural centre of the city."

Green has served as the member and chairman of several senate committees.

Audit department scrapped

By CARL STIEREN

In a move to cut its budget, the York administration has abolished its internal audit department. The department manager, Bill Montgomery, has been fired and the two other staff members and the secretary will be transferred elsewhere in the university.

A memo from personnel services, dated March 8 said: "Effective immediately the function of internal audit as a separate and distinct department within the financial division will cease to exist. Some duties previously performed will no longer be maintained while others will be absorbed within the existing financial systems department . . . and that department renamed as the financial systems and internal audit department."

The move to abolish the department came after an appeal to President John Yolton on March 2 by Montgomery. In his appeal, Montgomery claimed to have saved or recovered almost \$10,000 since the department was established in February 1971. The appeal also claimed that a proposal of internal audit's, adopted by the Senate joint committee on alternatives, will save the university \$40,000 a year.

Head of personnel, Don Mitchell, objected to the use of the word "abolish" and suggested curtail would be better. He pointed out that some functions of the department will be retained while other responsibilities will be modified or reduced.

With a deficit of almost \$150,000 in food services expected this year, internal audit claimed it is preparing a report based on a two-month audit of food services, which could save between \$100,000 and \$200,000 per year by a "reorganization of the service."

Montgomery objected to the transfer of the functions of internal audit to the financial systems department, saying that "this is basically incompatible, because an auditor should never take part in implementing a system that he would have to audit." According to Montgomery, Yolton agreed with him on this point.

Nevertheless, internal audit was abolished at York in the midst of a general budget crisis for education in which U of T expanded its internal audit and Carleton has just established one.

Moratorium? What moratorium?

By TOM (BLUE) SIMON

What if we had a moratorium and nobody came? Well we did or rather we didn't. On Monday afternoon, faded gestetner notices appeared around the campus:

"CYSF Moratorium" (sic) was emblazoned on the top, curving over a cross-hatched setting sun. Or was it rising? "Dr. John Yolton — Pres. York U. (sic)" is going to speak on the "Psychology of Power" it said. The moratorium was to commence at 10 a.m. Tuesday morning.

It didn't. Yolton was there along with the chairman of the meeting and Tony DiFelice, a member of the York Young Socialists. No one else was there besides an Excalibur reporter who decided to go home.

DiFelice later explained "I went there to give some shit to the organizer about the speakers' list and the short notice for the meeting. And I wanted to sell the Young Socialist newspaper."

He did — to Yolton.

At the 11:30 talk on "York Financial Cutbacks" John Becker (Ass't to Vice Pres. on Student Affairs — or so the leaflet said), also bought a copy of the Trotskyist paper.

Again, DiFelice and the Excalibur reporter were the

only ones there. Becker said later, "I was a little disappointed that the information didn't get out to people — on time or broadly enough." However he did get a chance to buy the paper — although when asked to comment he said; "I didn't have any money so I owe Tony a quarter."

Apparently the next scheduled talk didn't happen either.

CYSF president John Theobald was unavailable for comment. The moratorium organizer Dave Armstrong couldn't be found either. Darla Stipanovich, CYSF secretary, first heard about the meeting when she was asked to run off the leaflet late the day before.

Your Excalibur reporter, slightly drunk and desperate for a story, interviewed the man in the street (actually a woman in the cafeteria). When asked about the moratorium that never was she gave three quick responses: "Did I go to the what? No, No. What is it?"

After a brief explanation that it had been called by the Ontario Student Federation as a province-wide day of study of education (and specifically the report of the Commission of Post Secondary Education in Ontario), she decided she should have gone "just to see what Yolton meant by the psychology of power."

