

# Excalibur



Vol. 10 No. 9

York University Community Newspaper

November 13, 1975

## York employee groups vote for unionization, hailed as milestone

By OAKLAND ROSS

Two groups of York University employees achieved union status as a result of membership votes taken last week.

Both the York staff association and the graduate assistants' association were recently accepted as certifiable bargaining units by the Ontario Labour Relations Board. And last week, members of both groups voted in favour of unionization.

Three-quarters of eligible YUSA members voted at polling stations set up on campus and 79 per cent of the votes cast supported certification as a union.

YUSA is the first staff association at an Ontario university to organize all support staff (secretarial, technical, computer and library workers) into a single bargaining unit.

YUSA president Gabrielle Paddle hailed the decision as "a milestone."

The graduate assistants' association, which will legally represent teaching assistants, tutors, lab assistants and part-time course directors, was broken into two bargaining units by the Labour Board — one for full-time employees and another for part-time.

A clear majority of both sectors supported unionization.

"We don't consider the break-up a major political loss," GAA executive committee member Ilene Crawford told Excalibur this week. "Both units will have the same executive, the same

bargaining team, the same structure and will be able to bargain simultaneously."

The GAA expects to begin negotiating its first contract shortly after Christmas.

Ironically, the GAA will not legally represent graduate assistants. It was decided during negotiations at the Labour Board that graduate assistants are not eligible for collective bargaining at this time.

"But the graduate assistants are by no means out in the cold," said Crawford. "We have many of them in our membership, although not officially, of course."

Crawford predicted that there would be "some residual benefit to GA's" as a result of the association's certification.

The York GAA is the second such association in Ontario to gain certification. The University of Toronto teaching assistants were unionized last spring, and unions are forming at several other universities in Ontario.

York vice-president for administration Bill Small greeted with ambivalence the unionization of YUSA and the GAA.

"If their interest is in building a stronger university, then there is no problem," he said. "But if they are just looking after themselves, then you have a completely different situation."

"I trust the new relationship between YUSA and the university will facilitate attracting and retaining well qualified staff."



Harold Milstein and Aubrey Zimmerman of Betar use spray paint to cover White Power slogans and

swastikas in the York tunnel. Racist graffiti is becoming more common at York.

## Liquor policy is discriminatory, clubs "under heel" of caterers

By JULIAN BELTRAME

York University's year-old liquor licencing policy arbitrarily divides student organizations into two camps — those which can acquire inexpensive food and liquor at campus functions and those which cannot.

This finding, disclosed to Excalibur late Tuesday by the Ad Hoc Beverage Committee, was released yesterday in a short four page report, signed by Ioan Davies, chairman of the Council of Masters, Robert Lundel, Dean of Science, Dale Ritch, CYSF president, Peter Jarvis, chairman of the university food service committee, Susan Miller, co-ordinator of the International Student Centre and Nilo Del Bel, chairman of the Italian Club.

The report illustrates how the university liquor policy requiring non-college affiliated clubs and associations to purchase both food and liquor from the university caterers forces them to pay up to a 65 per cent mark-up on liquor.

"The prices of food items, whether cheese trays or dinners (charged by the caterers) range from barely tolerable to outrageous," states the report.

"Pan-college organizations such as the Italian Club, the Third

World Students Union or the International Students Organization, under the heel of the caterer, must pay a 65 per cent mark-up on a case of wine and \$100 for a quantity of cheese and biscuits that could be purchased for \$20."

A college-affiliated function, however, which can be handled under the auspices of the college pubs, can hold their on-campus function "literally at cost", states the report.

Small functions of a non-college affiliated organization may find it impossible to hold on-campus functions, because caterers often refuse to cater small parties unless the organization pays the wages of the bartender, on top of the 65 per cent liquor mark-up. Otherwise the caterers feel, the return would be too small to cover their expenses.

"The effect of this system is to compel many organizations to circumvent the rules in a variety of ways," concludes the report.

The report recommends that the university change its liquor licencing policy so that "all recognized university organizations wishing to put on a function involving minimal food should be free to make the most satisfactory competitive arrangement possible with any of the beverage outlets

on campus authorized to accept bookings in designated locations."

Jarvis, the author of the report, told Excalibur, Tuesday, that the "administration probably wanted to protect the caterers" when they instigated this policy, but that at the same time, "they probably didn't have any intention of hurting such a large proportion of the community."

Norman Crandles of ancillary services said Tuesday, that "originally, only the caterers could hold such functions" and that the policy was changed to ease restrictions.

"We weren't out to put anyone at a disadvantage, were were just looking to be less restrictive," said Crandles.

Crandles admitted that the liquor policy as it now stands discriminates against non-college-affiliated organizations, and that two possible solutions could be immediately foreseen — allow college pubs to handle such functions, or allow the different organizations to supply their own liquor and food.

The latter option, however, would probably be checked by LLBO regulations requiring the university to produce proper accounting for these functions.

## Stadium is shelved

By PAUL STUART

York's chances of becoming the site of a \$3,900,000 Olympic calibre track and field facility were substantially reduced last week when the Metro Toronto Parks and Recreation committee voted four to three to save money by simply improving the existing East York Stadium.

Orville McKeough, York's Director of Development and the man who has carried York's case

to Metro council, was contacted at his office on Friday. He said the York site was still a possibility, as the East York proposal must be approved by the Metro and East York councils, and by the East York Board of Education. But for McKeough, the committee's decision was a "disappointment".

"I don't believe the East York proposal meets the needs of the local track and field fraternity," he said.

McKeough added that "what I can't quite understand is that we at York offered to work with Metro Council on the project and give them control, yet the committee voted to go to East York and I'm sure the Board of

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### THIS WEEK

**Ed Broadbent is a leader on the spot, trying to mount opposition to price and wage restraints** p. 7

**Excalibur reporters Maxine Kopel and Brenda Weeks, report on women's conference at U. of T.** p. 10

**The Liberal party convention came and went, but in case you missed it, don't worry. Anna Vaitiekunas was there and she reports on it** p. 11

**This dance company can't get any funding** p. 12

**York's rugby team wins Ontario championship** p. 20

## Controls hurt poor and help rich — Broadbent

The federal New Democratic party will not support a general strike by Canadian workers as a means of combatting the government's newly introduced legislation on prices and incomes, Ed Broadbent told a crowd of 200 at York, Friday.

The NDP leader made the statement in response to a question, following a speech in which he criticized the government's prices and incomes restraints legislation.

Broadbent, who had earlier called the legislation "unfair" to the working people of Canada and incapable of dealing with price increases, said, during the question period, that a general strike was "not an idea anyone has taken seriously, including the unions."

He did, however, advise unions to negotiate for everything they can get, and to not take into consideration the limitations of the legislation during negotiations

with management. Unions will have to negotiate twice; once with management and once with the government's review board, said Broadbent.

Broadbent, who replaced David Lewis as the leader of NDP in July, called the anti-inflation programme unnecessary and favouring the rich at the expense of the poor. Quoting a 1974 statement by Pierre Trudeau in which the Prime Minister had said that "incomes

controls risk hurting the poor more than the rich", Broadbent told the crowd that little had changed in a year to change the force of that statement.

Broadbent, who received only mild applause from the crowd after his 30 minute speech, advocated the establishment of a two-price system for oil, lower mortgage rates and an increase in housing starts.

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