

Founders, Is It Floundering?

by Harvey Margel

(Editor's Note: The opinions are those of Mr. Margel and do not necessarily reflect the views of Founders Student Council.)

The main idea implicit in the phrase 'college system' is that the college should be the focal point for the students' study, leisure and recreation.

There should also be a distinct college spirit. York limits enrolment to approximately 1000 students per college to eliminate the problems of communication resulting from university expansion.

It is now three years since the college system experiment began, and as a member of Founders College I can report on the results.

The college system, though it will continuously suffer certain setbacks, is still secure.

The first setback came with the planners themselves. They did not help the cause of the college system by constructing the colleges so close to one another. How is it possible for a distinct Founders or Vanier spirit to develop when members of both colleges end up sharing each other's facilities, such as the dining halls and common rooms?

The colleges should have been completely separate in a physical sense. In this way a better opportunity for a unique style of life in each college could have been created.

It has been found that autonomous college government is not practical without a central body uniting the various college councils. The resulting university-wide council, the Students' Representative Council (SRC) has undergone several crises recently.

By the time you read this there should be a new SRC in which the colleges have been given a strong vote and ultimate control.

But the fact remains that a university-wide organization of representatives from the various colleges has been deemed necessary for the survival of the autonomous college. This indicates a weakness in the system.

Another stumbling block for the college system is the social program, especially dances. A dance held by an individual college especially for its members usually bombed last year, because of the small college enrolment. The lesson here was taken to heart. It is pointless for colleges to compete with one another over dances, and this year all colleges will work together to plan bigger and better dances, and, we hope, no more disasters.

The trend seems to be away from



Harvey Margel (F II), social chairman of Founders Council, reports on the Founders College situation.

a college control to a central university control. This is not to say that the college system is a failure, only that, as in every 'ideal' plan, revisions must be made to ensure its success.

But no central body is going to decide on the matter of school spirit. It will be the colleges, individually, who will decide.

This year at Founders, a spirit club will be formed and we hope that a distinct Founders flavor will emerge from the efforts of this group.

The only way the college system and its spirit will succeed is through people interested in making it work.

My own first year at Founders did not make me an enthusiastic supporter of the college system. I was a member of the college in name only--nothing drew me into the life of the college.

Yet as small as Founders was, (if I may digress slightly), there were still the unavoidable cliques and I had mine. No matter how small colleges are, there are always those smaller units known as cliques...

Anyway, I expected the college system with its reliance on small numbers to make new friends for me. But it didn't turn out that way. Vanier and Founders students shared activities and classes and I began to wonder. Where was that individuality in spirit that was the basis of the college system?

I finally realized that Founders was only two years old and needed more time to mature. I made up my mind then to share in the work being done to build traditions at York and to make Founders an example of the ideal working of the college system.

This is the only way the college system and college uniqueness can survive--if each person pitches in and helps.

Founders' social, cultural and athletic activities will be for the most part college-centred this year and we hope to develop the kind of individuality that the college system is all about. We know it can work--all we have to do is try.

Irresponsibility Threatens Residence Experiment

All was quiet in Founders Residence when the 1966-67 term began. It appeared that York's exceptionally liberal Residence Rules would prove themselves practical for dealing with co-education on the university level.

The case was dismissed, however because formal charges had not been submitted to the Court.

Dons Step In

In the opinion of the Dons, something had to be done. They hastily decided to take matters into their own hands and consequently banned the student from entering the residence.

When criticized for usurping the rights of the students to try the case and mete out the punishment, the Dons said they were forced to make the decision because the students had defaulted, that is, demonstrated themselves unable to handle the matter.

By their acute mishandling of the case, the students did indeed show their inability to deal with problems arising in the residence.

As of the end of last year, it was impossible to tell whether the students were ready, finally, to attend to such matters without the need for the Dons to take over.

Sympathetic Dons

There were dozens of parties which did not particularly bother anyone. If the atmosphere became too noisy, a hint from the understanding Dons was sufficient to quell the racket. The forecast for the year was optimistic.

Unfortunately, the relaxed atmosphere was disturbed by a handful of students, including some who did not live in residence, who neglected repeatedly to obey Residence Rules.

Ignore Visiting Rules

Excalibur reports mentioned visits to the girls' house after hours, violence and drugs on campus. A commission was appointed by President Ross to investigate the situation.

The commission dismissed the more serious reports as strictly rumor, but agreed that the problem of students disregarding the times set for inter-house visiting was indeed a serious one.

The suspected parties were told at least three times that ingoring the rules would result in rustication--for the residents, and banning--for the non-residents. Despite these warnings the same people pulled the same stunt and were caught.

Case Dismissed

In the case of one non-resident student who violated the Residence Rules, a joint hearing of the Residence Council and Founders College Student Court was held.

Important Experiment

It is important, this year, that the students learn to cope with residence regulations and misdemeanors. The York residence system is an experiment. The liberal rules must be proven practical. If this is done, other universities will have difficulty justifying their own out-dated rules when confronted with a successful experiment.

If the experiment fails, York students will doom themselves and their counterparts at universities across Canada, to living in a university residence that acts 'in loco parentis'. Failure will also justify the view that yesterday's methods of education still apply to today's students.



Autos adorn the parking lot in front of affluent Founders College.

Oh, The Pain, The Pain

by Dave Waga

York University is a modern complex designed for today's robust youth. If you are not a perfect specimen of homo sapiens erectus when you arrive at York, you must soon achieve such perfection in order to survive.

For the sluggish frail, and overweight there are countless ways to build up and trim down. The following are a few handy hints for helpless freshmen on how to do it!

1. Pushing, shoving, kicking, biting (all legal) when attempting to purchase texts in the book store.
2. Standing in line waiting to pay for the texts.
3. Paying for the aforementioned texts. (Oh that really hurts).
4. Returning all those overdue books to the library. (Note: it takes two minutes to walk to Steacie from Vanier College and four minutes to drive. But it takes 128 minutes to walk to Steacie from Glendon College and 14 minutes to drive. Glendon students can attest to the fact that there are no books in Glendon's library).
5. Running to Burton in the rain (especially from Glendon).
6. Running to Burton after the rain, hurdling mudholes, puddles, and that poor fellow who just came up from Glendon.
7. Trying to find Room 152 in the maze commonly referred to as the Behavioural Science Building.
8. Running up the stairs from Glendon's parking lot.
9. Running to lunch--with Versafood. (Did I say Running?)
10. Dining on our excellent cuisine. (No, not dying, dining).
11. Running to the John (or Jane--as the case may be) after lunch. (And I mean running).

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York University (Founders & Vanier)

Friday, Sept. 22 8:30 pm

Admission: \$1.00