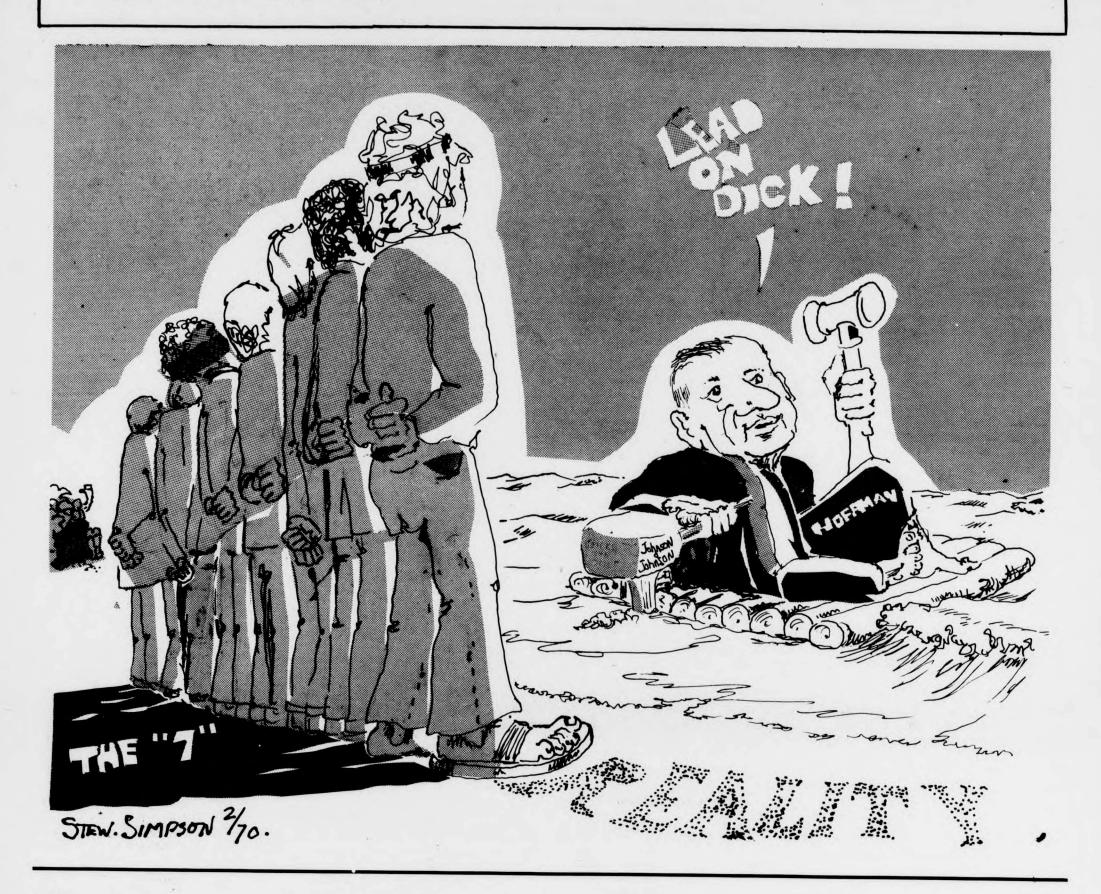
Excalibur

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



Senate versus board... Murray for king

The significance of the resignation this afternoon of the Senate Scholarship Committee goes beyond their refusal to continue work with inadequate funds (\$60,000 from the board of governors instead of the requested \$110,000).

What is more crucial, even though it is important that York's per capita scholarship money should be yanked from its present \$7, is the advent of the debate over which body in this university should have the power to allocate funds to meet what priorities.

Excalibur

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That is, should the senate have the power to back up its chosen priorities, in this instance increased scholarships, by being able to exercise the final say in finances?

Simply put, this issue of where the financial control should lie ranks second in importance only to what the content of our courses should be.

While we do not support giving senate absolute control over allocation of finances at York, we do support them in any struggle to wrest control away from the board. The democratization of decision-making in this community will be hastened by every move that increases the number of people in this university who hold real decision-making power.

Better that power lie in the hands of 150 academics for a while than to remain in the hands of 25 corporate barons. It's an improvement — numbers-wise at least.

Murray G. Ross for king of York! Why? Well, he's only president now and given his actions vis-a-vis implementation of the Laskin discipline report, it would be a title more befitting him.

A couple of weeks ago, Council of the York Student Federation president Paul Axelrod wrote to Ross to ask him to defer implementation of the 83 recommendations until a CYSF special committee could make a study of the document and report (scheduled for the end of the summer).

Ross told the university-wide council that he wouldn't because he has already implemented 15 of the recommendations — and these while "public hearings" were still being held. We suspect he felt that community participation and democracy was too slow.

Or, of course, it might have been that he wanted to see a hard-bound copy (University of Toronto Press) of the report of which he is reported to be so proud before he leaves office (officially June 30, but that depends on the presidential search).

It seems to us, however, that he isn't really concerned or interested in any community comment on his discipline report except that which is agreeable. Otherwise, why would he not agree to the request to delay implementation until York's sanctioned student council could study it. After all, it does represent about 6,000 full-time students and another 6,000 night students.

Axelrod has said: "We refuse to recognize these recommendations until the council takes a stand on them." And rightly so. CYSF is morally justified — though not legally, of course — in doing so.