

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All letters should be addressed to the Editor, c/o Excalibur, room 111 Central Square. They must be double-spaced, typed and limited to 250 words. Excalibur reserves the right to edit for length and grammar. Name and address must be included for legal purposes but the name will be withheld upon request. Deadline: Mon. 4 p.m.

Student wonders about worth of CYSF, where his money goes

It matters not whether you answer me in your paper or in a personal letter; though the answer might be of interest to other students.

In light of the CYSF bulletin encouraging withdrawal from both OFS and NUS; I began to question the worth of CYSF to me as a student. In order to determine the worth, though, I must know the cost.

If I am paying \$660 for tuition, how much goes towards academic costs, how much towards maintenance and how much towards the sponsorship of campus groups (such as CYSF)? To further question where my money goes, can you tell me where the \$1,491 I paid for residence has been spent? I can account for only \$600 of it. Am I helping to pay for the janitors, for the building itself, or what?

Another point which has not been explained to me (I suppose it has been taken for granted) is this; out of this \$2,151 that I have paid, how much say have I about how it is spent? Is it mandatory that I contribute to CYSF (if I do actually contribute) or to activities sponsored by my college? It hardly seems right to me that my money is used for activities which do not interest me. In reference to my residence fees, I think that they help support the many discos and dances (all of which advertise alcohol, some of which advertise "allyou candrink"), yet they do not benefit me; I don't drink.

Can you tell me why I am to contribute to clubs, organizations and activities which don't interest me? I don't mean to be critical of CYSF but why should I sponsor them, what are they doing for me? Why should I sponsor my colleges' activities when they are not geared towards my interests?

Where is my money going and am I not given a say as to how it is spent? A basic suggestion would probably be to get on the college council to change from within. My suggestion would be to have optional support for these activities. In this way one could determine the worth to himself as an individual and the group would certainly be aware of its success or failure in meeting the needs and fulfilling the expectations of the student body.

Name withheld by request

Is the Stong Flyer another lead balloon?

In a recent editorial and front page blurb, of the latest issue of The Flyer, the editor Don Butcher claimed that the editors, and staff of the Excalibur have "consciously abused the freedom given to them", by "writing sketchy information", and presenting "incomplete and incompetent coverage." I would like to say that this is absolutely untrue.

First of all, as a staff writer in the Excalibur, I can assure you that my vote to either support or not support Alice Klein in her bid for the presidency of CYSF was not influenced by any of the editors, or staff of the Excalibur. My vote was my own decision, resting on the issues presented to us by the people running in the election. If I voted for Klein it was not because Michael Hollett is her "common-law husband", as you seem to imply; that has nothing to do with the issue of the election.

To bring it up in the Stong flyer, I feel, is in extremely poor taste, and also disgustingly unprofessional. Furthermore, I find it hard to believe that But-

cher can actually sit back and accuse someone of providing sketchy information, while Butcher himself, base an editorial concerning such an important issue on information given to Butcher by "many informed sources." Who are these informed sources? Why are their names not printed in the editorial? This is what I would call sketchy information.

To make things even worse Butcher claimed that "the information (in the Excalibur) did not give all the facts, did not state all the opinions." I would like to know what "facts", and what "opinions" Butcher is talking about.

To conclude my letter, I would simply like to say that in the future, I would appreciate, and I'm sure the rest of the York student body would agree with me, that the Flyer editor use some common sense, and integrity in writing editorials, and in making assumptions that could prove to be damaging to all concerned.

Ronen Grunberg
Excalibur staff member

What about Argentine anti-semites?

The most recent reports of violent attacks on the Jewish community of Argentina requires the most serious attention from both Jews and non-Jews. ("Little attention paid to anti-semitic violence: Terrorist attacks threaten Jewish community in Argentina" reported by Andrew Tarnowski in February 4, 1977 issue of the Toronto Globe and Mail).

In particular, I condemn those Argentinian anti-semites who present themselves as anti-Zionists. Although these anti-semites find it politically advantageous to cloak themselves in the clothes of anti-Zionism, they still remain the barbaric proponents of racism. In much the same way that fascists use leftist phrases to opportunistically conceal their true ideology, these anti-semites now use anti-Zionism to conceal their anti-Jew lies.

Ironically, the Zionist leadership which purports to have as its main concern the safety and security of the Jewish people has played into the hands of anti-semites, such as those in Argentina, by establishing in the mind of the public an identity between Jews and Zionists. Anti-Zionism has now become a useful cover for fascism.

Why has the Zionist movement with its considerable organizational strength not worked for an international campaign in defence of the Argentinian Jews? In comparison with the protests made about the plight of the Russian and Syrian Jews, the near silence of the Zionist movement on this matter can only be the consequence of the subordination of the interests of Jews to those of the Israeli State; a state which finds an ally in the Argentinian military regime.

Abie Weisfeld
Chairman, Alliance of Non-Zionist Jews

Neutralize Excalibur, insists York student

I noticed in last week's Excalibur that your staff took a vote to determine which candidate to support. Well it wasn't hard to guess who it was. Now that you have these so called vote in Alice Klein's favour no one can come to you and complain since you took a so called vote. Only 20 members of your staff of 70 voted which is a usual turnout for a vote.

But the point is how hard did you make an effort to tell all of your staff of this vote or did you just tell those who would vote the way you wanted? It isn't hard to look at your staff members and figure out which ones were at the meetings and those that were not.

I think that the campus newspaper should take a neutral position in this election and support no one but just report the facts as they are.

Gary Thomas

Editor's note:
Every year, the Excalibur staff

decides by majority vote, which candidate for CYSF president to support. This year, 26 staff members were eligible to vote (having contributed to a minimum of four issues of Excalibur, as per our constitution), and the turnout of 21 represented 81 per cent of the eligible staff.

Usually a regular staff meeting is set aside to screen the candidates. This year, to ensure maximum participation from the staff, we set aside two special meetings for this purpose. Two phonings of the staff were done to ensure everyone was informed.

The first meeting lasted three and a half hours, the second for just under two. Voting was done by secret ballot, and overseen by CYSF's Chief Returning Officer Larry Freedman.

And, those are the facts as they are.

Students are caught in class-oriented crisis

Working class students are placed in a quandary by the question of university tuition fee hikes: Do they demand the halt of increases for temporary personal benefit, or do they challenge the middle and upper classes in defense of their own?

The current battle over fee structure is little more than a sham, and attempts by student organizations to ally their cause with that of the poor amount to little more than patronizing rhetoric. To demand that fee increases be postponed or halted is to demand greater allocations of society's resources for those who already have, and will continue to have, more than their share.

University students (very few of whom may lay claim to a working class background) aspire to higher status and higher class positions. They are the future bureaucrats and technicians of Canada who will assume positions of advantage of

the workers by and large, the beneficiaries of university education are the offspring of more privileged parents. I have seen little evidence of lower class children entering university and doubt that I will until there have been some fundamental changes made in the structure of our society. Indeed, by making it easier for the few to attend, political non-descripts of the middle road may, in fact, be harming lower class chances for betterment.

It may be well that if the current student population were made to pay for its education, the class divisions in our country would become more obvious and the smug could be polarized into support of the poor and social change. If not, there would be at least be some satisfaction in knowing that some of the more fortunate were paying their way.

Keith Forgie

Excalibur writers are also citizens with basic rights

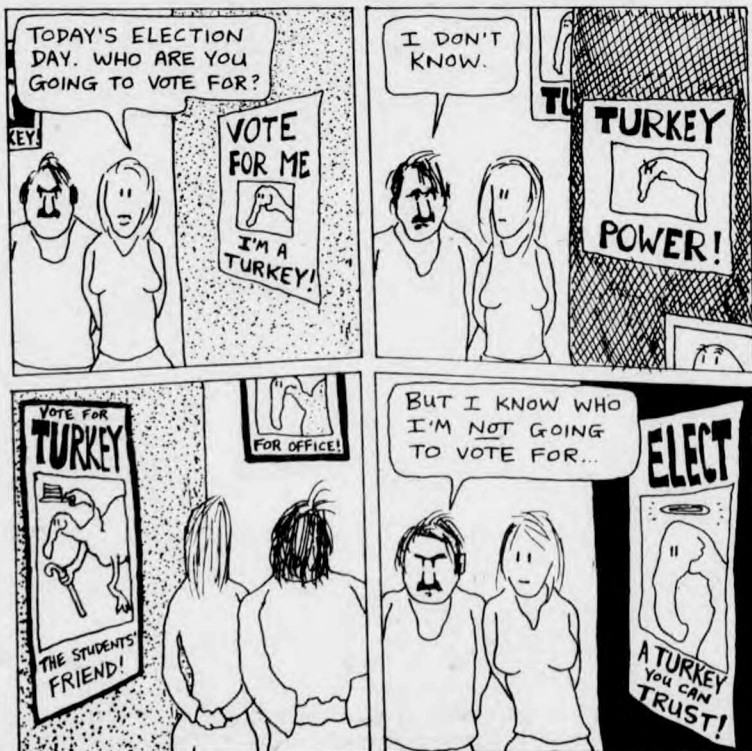
Traditionally York's university student newspaper Excalibur has supported the candidate of the staff's democratic choice. However newspaper staff and concerned students should understand that this procedure involves an honest method. Excalibur establishes a bias in order that the reader may know about it beforehand. This knowledge admits to a few principles that the mainstream media ignores. Firstly we are citizens too, we have power and that there is no objective edifice that has a superior criterion for making decisions. In short we do our best to present a reasonable documentation of our opinions related to the experience of the candidates, their relative abilities, and their philosophy.

Students should be at least as vocal in their own way - the vote - come the election.

D. Ballanger
Atkinson College

AS THE CAMPUS TURNS

WARREN CLEMENTS



Patron saw towtruck give York car a blow

The owner of a maroon - coloured Vega or Astre (late model) would probably be most displeased about the manner in which his or her car was towed away from the service parking area beside the Behavioural Sciences Building at approximately 11:45 a.m. on Thursday, March 3.

First of all, the tow truck operator was unable to lift the car from the rear as there was another car parked too close. The operator then attempted to get into the car through the window on the driver's side. Failing that, he moved the truck to the front of the car, lifted the car, and literally dragged it out. The car's parking brake was on, which of course locked the rear wheels. This was evidenced by the skid marks left on the pavement by the tires, which I examined personally.

However, the best is yet to come. The operator then set the car down and drove under the ramp and around the circle in order to come up behind the car. The operator backed the truck up to the rear end of the car, and struck the car quite hard. I would suggest take to task the responsible parties. I would further suggest that any owner of a car towed in this very questionable manner should check the condition of his car before moving it from the spot to which it was towed.

It may well be asked where the security officer was while all of the foregoing was happening. Well, he was busily talking to the driver of a delivery truck. The security officer, in the opinion of this writer, should have been watching to ensure that no damage was done to the car.

If the owner of the vehicle in question would like the licence plate number of the tow truck, he should get in touch with myself in N432 Ross.

R.P. Ryan