

Bosley speaks to York audience about his role as House Speaker

By DOUGLAS STEWART

The Honourable John Bosley, Speaker of the House of Commons, engaged York students in an informal question and answer session at Osgoode Hall on Tuesday evening.

As a Conservative member for Don Valley West, Bosley emphasized his unique role as a non-partisan representative in Parliament.

"I don't go to conventions, I don't go to policy meetings, and I don't go to fund-raising meetings," Bosley said. "I don't feel an obligation to favor anybody, yet, I feel that the

opposition has to have in any parliamentary system, special rights in order to be able to do its job. That's why, by tradition, the opposition gets the lion's share or the vast majority of questions at Question Period."

When asked what powers the Speaker maintains to discipline members of the House who persist in unparliamentary behavior, Bosley explained. "The House says that their Speaker and their chairman should have the authority to prevent the House from coming into chaos

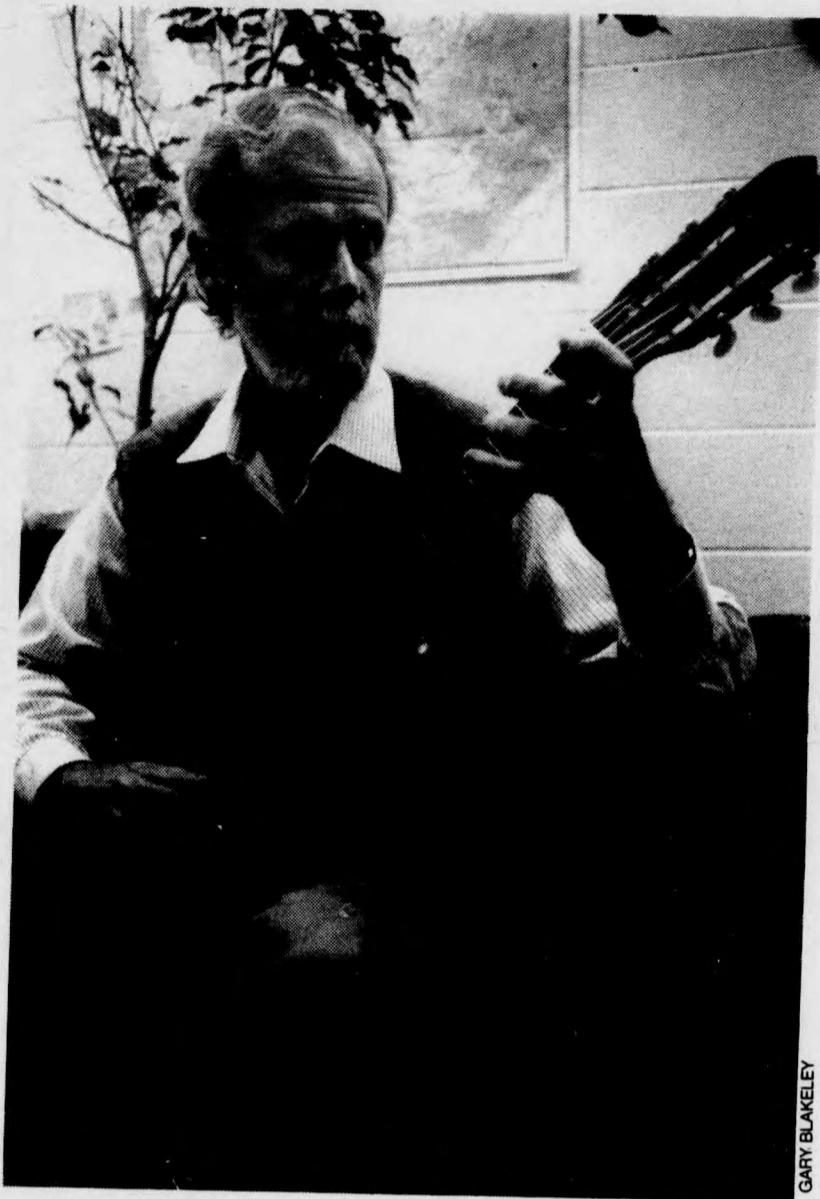
by requiring of a difficult member that day to leave the House."

Bosley said disapprobation of one's colleagues is the real penalty for unruly members. "I am not a policeman and they are not criminals. They are my peers, I have enormous respect for them and I understand what they go through," Bosley said.

Several questions concerned the legitimacy of Question Period as a parliamentary institution. Bosley responded by illustrating the conditions in the House which stimulate often bombastic behavior. "People are behaving on the premise that careers can be made or broken, that parties or governments could rise or fall. Plus in part it is driven by a presumption that, because the camera is on, you think you are speaking to five million people."

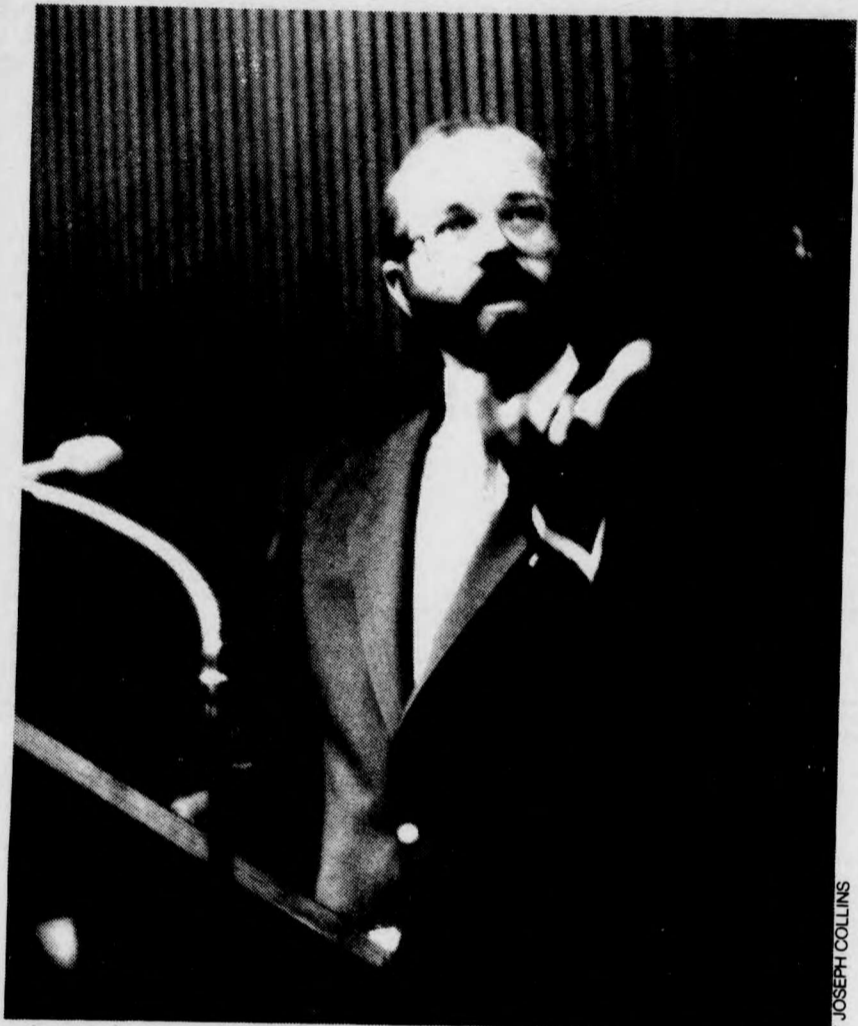
Rather than citing television as an obstacle to the smooth administration of Parliament, Bosley defended the medium as an invaluable communications tool. "Speakers understand a line called 'don't shoot the messenger.' I can't blame television for the way anyone behaves in front of it," Bosley said. "When it was print, members asked questions or developed answers in a way that they hoped it would make the front page of the *Globe*."

Bosley claimed that his impartial role in the House of Commons does not curtail his representation of constituency demands. Bosley pointed out that the Speaker retains the same rights as all members of the House to address the problems or opinions of his electorate or relay any concerns to the respective Government Minister.



GARY BLAKELEY

Incumbent York University Faculty Association Chairperson Hollis Rinehart, pictured above, successfully defended his position against challenger Gottfried Paasche in the YUFA elections of March 7. Rinehart will now begin his second term as YUFA's chairperson. Other winners in last week's election are Paul Evans for Vice-Chairperson of the Organization Committee, and Viv Nelles who becomes the member for the Faculty of Arts Faculty on the union's negotiating committee.



JOSEPH COLLINS

HEAL! The Honourable John Bosley visited York Tuesday. He discussed his duties as taskmaster of the Federal rumpus room.

CYSF publishes strike booklet

By SUSAN SPERLING

In the aftermath of two academic years plagued by strikes at York, the Council of the York Student Federation (CYSF) has issued a ten-page booklet entitled *Strikes: Some Thoughts on Student Government Action*.

In the fall of 1984, both support staff and teaching assistants walked off their jobs after contract negotiations failed, and this past autumn professors at York followed suit. In each case, CYSF failed to take any serious action regarding the strikes.

Now, however, CYSF President Reya Ali has outlined methods for the Council to prevent strikes, or, failing that, possible courses of

action it might take.

Among the preventative measures outlined in the booklet are campus-wide petitions circulated by CYSF and public service announcements on radio stations asking both sides to reach an agreement. As well, according to the outline, "the president of CYSF should set up a meeting with the Minister of Colleges and Universities to express his/her concern that the students not be the victims of the strike."

In the event of a walkout by any of York's three unions (York University Faculty Association, York University Staff Association and the Canadian Union of Educational Workers), the booklet suggests that

CYSF issue a press statement immediately, and start up a phone line with a recorded message about the status of the strike. As well, Ali proposed that pamphlets outline students' rights and methods of action be distributed around campus.

In the section entitled "Taking a Stand," possibilities outlined include: "a series of counter-pickets...legal action, deregistration...council pay for a television ad condemning a certain side, a picket of union headquarters...obstruction tactics..."

The booklet goes on to outline problems concerning residence students and academic considerations of a walkout.

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