

# After the rally, organizing

By Mark Boudreau

Last Thursday, over 100 students, faculty and staff gathered in Curtis Lecture Hall "B" to discuss future strategy against the spiralling cutbacks in post-secondary education financing.

Leading off the speakers was Ilene Crawford, executive assistant of the Graduate Assistants Association, who said the "No-cutbacks" rally on February 9 was just the "starting point of an overall

strategy to combat spiralling cutbacks."

Crawford went on to state that the "watered down motion passed by Board of Governors, calling for the slowdown of cutbacks was totally unacceptable."

Harvey Pinder, student rep on the Board of Governors, who chaired the meeting, added that it was time to take the fight on to Queen's Park.

Shortly after, a motion was unanimously passed supporting the

March 16 demonstration that has been called by the Toronto Area Cutbacks Committee. The Committee is a loose coalition of students, faculty and staff from York, Ryerson, and the University of Toronto.

The meeting then shifted to a discussion on ways to make the March 16 demonstration effective.

This discussion was prompted by a comment made from the floor that "it was no use going down to Queen's Park unless we are going to be heard."

The member from the floor then suggested that it was time to start lobbying MPP's, especially from the opposition parties.

Paul Kellogg, editor of *Excalibur*, then said "the cutbacks committee should seek out support from other sectors of society, i.e. labour and the public service, in order to strengthen our voice."

Not all were in agreement with these suggestions. John Mays, Calumet College student liaison officer, said that the "demonstration would be a symbolic gesture with the hope of making government less insensitive to our demands."

He went on to state that "the fight

against cutbacks was long range" and everyone should realize this before getting involved.

He closed by adding that "you cannot expect the Ontario government to hand over \$41 million one hour after the demonstration."

A five-point framework that the Cutbacks Committee could use to base their arguments on and achieve maximum impact:

- Why is post-secondary education important?
- What's been happening in post-secondary institutions?
- Are the cutbacks new?
- What does Ontario need?

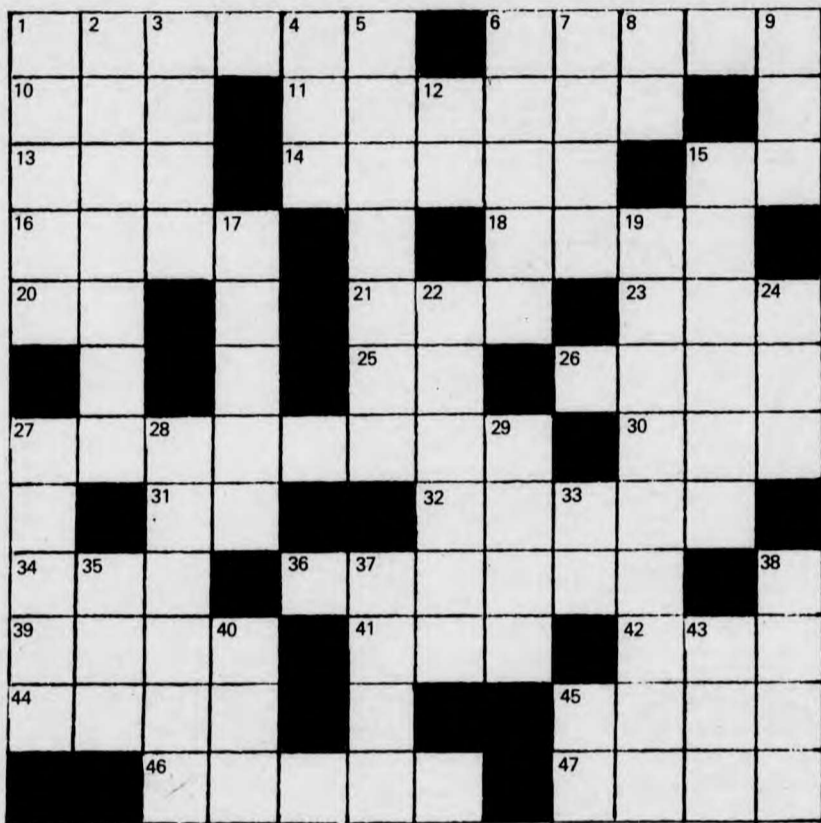
The framework was accepted in principle by a large majority. Woolfson went on to warn the audience that the fight against cutbacks would be a long and hard battle.

"We're up against Darcy McKeough who is reported to be a financial wizzard. He is telling the people of Ontario that there is no money left for post - secondary education."

Woolfson closed by adding that "we must prove that he (McKeough) is wrong."

The meeting ended with committees being formed to organize the March 16 demonstration.

## York content crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Former member of Steve Miller Band
- 6 Knights did it
- 10 \_\_\_ and Keg
- 11 Planet
- 13 Mexicans say it
- 14 Blacksmith's tool
- 15 Garbage radio
- 16 Undressed
- 18 Student council
- 20 They have a big plant in Oshawa
- 21 Consumed
- 23 Cesar Chavez is their leader
- 25 Not intelligible (abbrev.)
- 26 Italian soft drink
- 27 Swamps are this
- 30 \_\_\_ shop
- 31 International Youth (abbrev.)
- 32 proprietor of a House
- 34 Container for ashes or coffee
- 36 Noisy quarrel
- 39 Brutus put holes in Caesar's
- 41 Writer's ammunition
- 42 No room to sit (abbrev.)
- 44 Only two lived there
- 45 Type of candybar (plural)
- 46 Detroit rocker (last name)
- 47 Egyptian goddess

DOWN

- 1 Once known as "College E"
- 2 Peace pipe
- 3 Limited
- 4 Graduate Student Assoc. (abbrev.)
- 5 Rock band
- 6 Turn up the \_\_\_
- 7 Paris airport
- 8 Successor to League of Nations
- 9 Type of hat
- 12 Bane of civilization
- 15 Verify
- 17 Song of farewell
- 19 Exceeds
- 22 He had no heart
- 24 Court
- 27 Method of cooking
- 28 York coffeehouse
- 29 Schoolroom weapon
- 33 Father (baby talk)
- 35 Former singer for Jeff Beck (first name)
- 37 Ready to pick
- 38 York's founding president (last name)
- 40 Not a certain one
- 43 Toronto post-secondary school (abbrev.)
- 45 Tasty number

Solution next week

## OFS supports March 16

By Karen McGuire

Much of the discussion at the Ontario Federation of Students' winter conference in Ottawa last weekend was focussed on the demonstration on Queen's Park to be held March 16 to protest government cutbacks in the funding of post - secondary education.

The Metro Coalition Against Cutbacks presented the conference with its strategy for protesting the reduction in funding of education. This included a media campaign to illustrate the effect of the 5.8% increase in the Ministry of Colleges and Universities budget on post - secondary education at a time when inflation in the cost of educational facilities and services is running at about 16%. This, in addition to the depression of the Canadian dollar means that the post-secondary system is currently being cut back in real dollar terms by about 10%.

Initially, the Metro Coalition proposed a province-wide OFS rally on Queen's Park, with students from all universities and colleges in Ontario coming to Toronto for a mass protest of government policies. An OFS sponsored rally was crucial, it was felt, to show the government that students were behind the Federation in its attempts to negotiate with the Cabinet and Harry Parrott.

However, many of the member colleges and universities which were not within the Metro area felt that a province - wide rally might be a failure, citing the workload students generally have at this time of year, and the difficulty in transporting hundreds of students from places like Ottawa or Thunder Bay. For these reasons, it was felt that it would be more appropriate for the OFS to give its support to the rally by the Metro Coalition and for the member colleges and universities to encourage their students to attend the protest where possible. The OFS also resolved to establish a committee to study long term planning against the cutbacks and prepare a report on the administration of cutbacks with recommendations to go to the universities and colleges sometime in the coming summer.

More on OFS conference in CYSF column.

# CYSF

## A student service

A column submitted by members of CYSF (Council of the York Student Federation). Views expressed are those of CYSF and/or individual members.

On the weekend of February 24, 1978 a four-man delegation from the CYSF attended the Winter Conference of the Ontario Federation of Students at Ottawa University.

The particular workshops attended by the delegation were cutbacks (in all areas of the University), student employment, policy, and O.F.S. services.

Cutbacks workshop motions passed by the plenary included: (1) resistance to the government's attack upon foreign students ability to receive teaching assistantships by limiting the number of work visas, (2) support for the Metro Coalitions' March 16th rally at Queen's Park, to take form of helping in preparation and participation of the rally. (3) The creation of a long term Planning Committee to deal with the problem of cutbacks.

In the area of student unemployment motions passed instructed the plenary to: (1) publicize existing government employment programs i.e. (Experience 78, Young Canada Works, Ontario Youth Employment Program) and U.I.C. benefits as pertains to students. (2) Student unions to create their own employment service to both allocate and create jobs in the area and (3) meet with local manpower people to coordinate services (4) demand that government create more jobs to help resolve the short term employment problem.

The services workshops included a brief from Windsor University who presently has a working medical plan. It was moved that the OFS-FEO investigate an Ontario wide prescription drug-accidental death and dismemberment plan with specific inclusion of contraceptive coverage. It was further moved that OFS-FEO investigate the feasibility of a province-wide credit union with individual representation on the board of that union.

Gary Empey and Brian Hayden

All student clubs and associations have been invited to submit letters to the President concerning cutbacks. If you are not a member of a club or an association, but would like to voice your opinion on the cutbacks to President Macdonald - please leave your letter enclosed in an envelope titled **Cutbacks** with the secretary in the CYSF office 105R Central Square. All of the letters will be collected and delivered to the President. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call 667-2515.

David W. Chodikoff

On Wednesday March 8, 1978 the Red Cross is having a **blood-donor clinic** in the Faculty Lounge of Ross Building between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Your Support is Needed.

Also the C.Y.S.F. requires the help of 6 persons to help set-up the equipment for this Red Cross Clinic. A fee will be paid for the period of time that is required. A half hour in the morning and a half hour in the late afternoon will be about the time required. Applicants can approach the C.Y.S.F. 105 Central Square for information.

Brian Hayden

The deadline for the **Manus (student handbook) Logo contest** will be extended from February 28th to March 7, 1978. If you are interested in submitting an entry, please ask for entry requirements at the CYSF office 105R Central Square, phone 667-2515.

# Going Going Gonzo

• Patrons of the Stong-Bethune cafeteria, run by the Saga Corporation, will be interested to know Saga pulled in \$215 million from its university locations in Canada and the US last year.

Saga operates in more than 1000 locations in North America, 436 of them in universities and colleges (29 of those in Canada).

Canadian universities got their first taste of Saga in 1966 at Carleton. It arrived at York in 1976.

Saga plans to open 15 houses and seven pizza joints in 1978 as they move upward and onward ... (from Canadian U. Press).

• An *Excalibur* staffer got a big of a shock a while back when he and a woman friend stopped into the Women's Centre in Stong for a place to chat. He was told no men were allowed, and asked to leave. We hope this isn't policy ...

Incidentally, militant feminism seems less in vogue over at CYSF; of the 25 members of the student council, only one is a woman ...

• Ooh, those scurrilous student newspapers.

Progressive Conservative national president Robert Coates and federal Health and Welfare minister Monique Begin have charged that the *Dalhousie Gazette* and the *Carleton U. Charlatan*, respectively, distorted their views in print.

Alas, the facts do not bear these two worthies out.

Last November Coates accused the *Gazette* of playing "fast and loose with the truth" in an editorial condemning his position on South Africa, specially its Black homelands policy.

The editorial, published October 27, attacked his support for the policy, based on an article he had published in a Halifax daily earlier in the year. Coates wrote a letter to the *Gazette*, saying, "Nowhere in the article is there any reference to the 'Black Homeland' policy of the South African government and indeed I have stated on a number of occasions that it is an unworkable concept".

Yet in his article, Coates defended South Africa's plans for Transkei, the first Black homeland which was pushed into "independence" in October, 1976. He wrote:

"I visited the Transkei, met Prime Minister Kaiser Matanzima and many of his cabinet ministers. It has both secure borders, a foreign policy that differs significantly from that of South Africa and the potential to become the breadbasket of South Africa ... It would not have attained nationhood without the assistance of the South Africa government ..."

Coates also charged that the editorial said,

"that I have 'publicly supported the immoral and illegal activities of a discriminatory government ...' without having an iota of evidence to back up the claim".

In his article, Coates had described the South African occupation of Namibia, an action which has been declared illegal by the International Court of Justice, as "the most refreshing experiment in Black Africa today".

Somewhat more embarrassing, due to ensuing media coverage, was Monique Begin's insistence that she did not say things that the *Charlatan* had her on tape as saying.

Begin told a lunchtime crowd at Carleton November 2 that the RCMP was out of the government's control, and that Solicitor-General Francis Fox was not being completely honest with the Canadian people on the issue of RCMP activities. She also said there was no threat to national unity in Quebec in 1973.

After an article on her speech was published, opposition members took her to task for breaking cabinet solidarity. Begin labelled the reports an "unfounded, serious allegation". The transcripts of the tape showed otherwise. After the transcripts were published she told the Commons her comments were "taken out of context".

Concerning her statement (on tape), "there is no way somebody is going to tell me that as Quebecker that was a state of national emergency somewhere in Quebec, and some threats. God knows what," Begin said "I never said that". (From CUP)

Ted Mumford