

## Wages for housework and wages for schoolwork too

In Excalibur (Vol.10, No.16) we printed an editorial, "Protest 'Pie in the sky' cutbacks", which criticized a statement of the Wages for Housework Committee. We believe that since Wages for Housework are opposed to the cutbacks presented in the Henderson Report and want to actively oppose them. Though we may not necessarily agree with all their ideas, we feel they have the right to access to Excalibur readers.

Below is that statement:

Whether the Henderson Report is implemented immediately, or in stages over the next few years, it is part of a larger government plan which includes cutbacks in Family Allowance, social services, welfare, and wage controls.

Everyone is affected by the pressure that government is putting on us to work harder and expect less for our work. Women particularly suffer if these proposals come into effect. Increasing education costs mean that women, who are already hard-pressed to make enough money to stay in school because of our lower income levels, are being pushed out of the educational institutions. And when a family is forced to choose it is the son who will be subsidized to go to school.

The biggest saving that the government is making is in the area of Family Allowances — to the tune of \$220 million! Social services are areas where women work and it is those jobs, those incomes, that are jeopardized by the proposals. Wage controls hit women hardest because women are on the bottom of the wage scale already and have less power to fight for exemptions.

### REVERSING VICTORIES

Over the past ten years women have made a strong fight for financial independence and the government cutbacks are an attempt to take away the victories we have won. Students are saying no to the Henderson Report. Women are organizing against the Family Allowance freeze. Teachers are striking for a wage in line with the rising cost of living. Workers everywhere are fighting wage controls. We recognize that an attack on women is an attack on all of us.

### THE WAGE ROUTE

The only reason that we want to go to school is because school is the route to higher wages. If the Henderson Report is implemented it means that we will all have to compete harder. We will have to be even more productive in school. We will have even less choices about the work we do and many more of us will be forced to accept lower paying jobs, to depend on welfare, or on a dwindling man's wage.

We say no to the proposed cutbacks and more — we want Wages For Schoolwork.

Wages For Schoolwork gives us the power to have some control over what we learn. It means that the government could not threaten us

with even less money. It means that we would have the lever to fight for education on our terms.

The government has stated that it is concerned that a good education be a matter of choice for all. If so then let them pay us to go to school, and not ask us to pay.

Joan Sparling  
Wages For Housework Committee.

## Gore's lofty obscenities

Although the university's ideals have diminished fairly consistently throughout the world, York manages to remain the bastion of the unwavering traditions of the English language. The usage of some of the oldest items from the English is remarkable and surprising: of course I refer to the high frequency of obscenity used by the student body.

Obscenity can quite possibly have some purpose, (though I debate that). But even if this holds true, the excessive amount of obscenity which can be heard about York is needless and irresponsible. At the risk of being called a "prig" in writing a letter concerning obscenity, I maintain that there is no reason why the student body cannot refrain from constant, almost indulgent use of obscenity. When an obscenity becomes a cliché, something new must be used.

In one of Gore Vidal's newer books, his obscenities were replaced by the names of Supreme Court judges. The students at York might well think of some similar scheme, and so avoid an hysterical, repetitious and redundant style of language.

David Scott

## EXCALIBUR

Special vote  
on constitution

today 4 p.m.  
room 111

Central Square

### DO YOU WANT TO ACT?

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in March needs male actors.  
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STONG THEATRE

## WINTERS COLLEGE COUNCIL

WILL ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR  
POSITION OF

## MANAGER

of the

ABSINTHE COFFEE HOUSE & PUB  
ROOM 013 WINTERS COLLEGE

Applications may be picked up at Winters College,  
Room 116, 269, 013 or 271 and must be completed  
and submitted no later than February 6th, 1976.

## Commercial's farewell address obscures true cause of friction

The following is the text of a letter sent on CYSF's behalf to Commercial Caterers' workers regarding Commercial's pullout from York University.

### Greetings:

As you probably know by now, Commercial Caterers has asked out of its contract and will cease operations at York University as of the end of April. Commercial has been forced to leave because of pressure from all sectors of the York community.

Paul Farkas, vice-president of Commercial, recently sent out a letter explaining his company's position on his company's withdrawal from York. This letter, on the behalf of CYSF and the students of York University, has been written to correct a number of falsehoods in Farkas's letter.

### COMMERCIAL CATERERS UNDER FIRE

As you are no doubt well aware, Commercial Caterers has been under fire since coming to this university. There are many reasons for the attacks on Commercial, including their anti-worker policies and their profit gouging approach to the York operation. Students have supported campus food workers from the outset and supported the Versa workers when they were unfairly dumped last summer to make way for Commercial.

Under the guise of improving service, Farkas refused to offer jobs to the Versa workers who had served the campus well in order to bust their union, lower wages and cut fringe benefits. As a result of the protest many

workers were re-hired.

However, Farkas was successful in hampering union activities and paying low wages. Contrary to what Farkas says, your union did not force Commercial out of York, your union simply tried to get a decent, living wage for the workers. Farkas is attempting to use the union as a scapegoat to hide the fact that he and his company simply refused to provide the York community with the type of service they demanded.

### LEFTIST RADICALS CAUSED PROBLEMS

In his letter Farkas also refers to the protests of "a small group of the leftist student radicals." This is another deliberate attempt on his part to mislead the workers, because it was almost the entire York community who called for Commercial's removal. Included in the protest were: Virginia Rock, master of Stong College; Ioan Davies, master of Bethune College; the University Food Services Committee; the student organizations of Stong and Bethune Colleges CYSF and many others.

This group is hardly made up solely of "leftist student radicals" and the group is by no means small. Farkas is simply refusing to admit that almost no one was happy with the rotten product his company tried to foist on the York customers.

It also should be made clear that the campus protest was not directed at you, the workers, because you, like us, were simply caught in the middle of Commercial's money-grabbing

game. We understand that you were put in the position of trying to do your best to prepare and serve rotten food. It was not you, the workers, who bought the food and chose the daily menus that satisfied no-one. And it was not you who set Commercial's outrageous prices.

### DEEPEST THANKS

So you have our deepest thanks for the work you have done at York in the past few months. The CYSF has also pledged itself to seeing that the workers are not again forgotten in the caterer shuffle and, at its most recent meeting, the council re-stated its policy of calling for protection of all campus food workers' jobs, regardless of who runs the cafeterias.

CYSF is not in favour of another caterer being offered Commercial's cafeterias nor do we want Rill to be given a campus food monopoly. We are calling for a university operated non-profit food service with all Commercial employees being offered their old jobs.

In order to discuss campus food services, CYSF challenges the administration to a debate in the Bearpit at a time to be decided.

May we continue to work together.

Michael Hollett  
[CYSF Ston representative]

This is the first in a regular series of opinion pieces to be written by members of the Council of the York Student Federation, dealing with campus issues.

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