

In government services

Social work students assured jobs available

An official from the ministry of community and social services Sunday reassured Atkinson social work students they have a good chance of getting ministry jobs despite stiff competition from senior degrees.

Lacking figures to support the claim, Gordon McLellan, executive director of the children's services division, told 50 students and faculty at Glendon College that he felt the ministry was loosening its academic requirements in search of better individual qualities in job applicants.

"Those responsible for interviewing and filling those positions are looking for appropriateness, first of all for that position," he said. Hiring committees judge on personality and commitment to a specific area of social work, he added.

The ministry, he said, has no special roles for the Bachelor or Masters degree in social work. Atkinson which recently changed the name of its programme to social work from social welfare only offers a Bachelor degree.

But the reassurance left some students unconvinced. "Every job I've looked for in other agencies has required an MSW," said one student.

McLellan addressed the first conference-workshop organized by a steering committee of Atkinson BSW students with the aim of setting up a student association.

Students recommended stiffer criteria be applied to students and faculty wishing to enter the department, to raise individual levels of social work qualities.

STRONG VOICE

They also recommended that a new association demand a strong voice in

the selection of the new department chairman when Wilson Head's term ends this year, in the recruitment of new teachers and in the choice of teachers for various courses.

"We've really got to get our input in there," said student Lois Becker.

"But it has to be contractual," added student Bob Katz. When the new association is formed in February, he said, it should receive official recognition from the faculty to sit on department committees.

Before the conference began, the steering committee presented four recommendations on course offerings and nine on field placements in response to student criticism of the faculty for not enforcing pre-requisite courses and not clarifying field placement requirements to incoming students.

Before graduating, the 163 students must complete at least eight social work courses and work 450 hours in a supervised social work setting.

Faculty members have blamed the problems on the department's 78 per cent growth rate this year and similar growing pains to those experienced by four others BSW schools.

The rapid expansion comes at a time when students fear they will not get social work jobs due to stiff competition from those holding Masters degree.

More warnings came from McLellan. "We should never assume that those with social work degrees have a corner on the social service field," he said.

"Witness the growth of storefront legal clinics, the expansion of university psychology departments in the



Gordon McLellan of the ministry of community and social services addresses social work students.

counselling area, the growth of guidance departments in the high schools," he added.

But he advised the students not to buckle under the pressure of unemployment to take a job unsuitable to individual goals.

Citing the case of former social worker Dave Barret becoming the premier of British Columbia, McLellan said further job opportunities for social workers lay in the field of administration and politics.

Job accident report reads like something from early a.m. TV

PETERBOROUGH (CUP) - A construction worker here had an accident which put him in the hospital, although he had been on the job for less than an hour. He was asked to fill out an accident report, and it reads something like a Looney Tunes script.

His job was simply to move a pile of bricks from the top of a two storey house down to the ground.

"Thinking I could save time, I rigged a beam with a pulley at the top of the house, and a rope leading to the ground. I tied an empty barrel on one end of the rope, pulled it to the top of the house, and then fastened the other end of the rope to a tree. Going up to the top of the house, I filled the barrel with bricks.

"Then I went down and unfastened the rope to let the barrel down. Unfortunately the barrel of bricks was now heavier than I, and before I knew what was happening, the barrel jerked me

up in the air.

"I hung on to the rope, and halfway up I met the barrel coming down, receiving a severe blow on the left shoulder.

"I then continued on up to the top, banging my head on the beam and jamming my fingers in the pulley.

"When the barrel hit the ground, the bottom burst, spilling the bricks. As I was now heavier than the barrel, I started down at high speed.

"Halfway down, I met the empty barrel coming up, receiving severe lacerations to my shins. When I hit the ground, I landed on the bricks, receiving several cuts and contusions from the sharp edges of the bricks.

At this point, I must have become confused, because I let go of the rope. The barrel came down, striking me on the head, and I woke up in the hospital. I respectfully request sick leave."

Bargaining agent

Admin. recognizes YUSA

By ROBIN ENDRES

The administration has agreed in principle to recognize the York University Staff Association as the official bargaining agent for York workers.

The YUSA Executive met Wednesday morning with vice-president of administration William Small and director of personnel Donald Mitchell.

Mitchell will henceforth act as the administration's authority on labour relations; that is, as the bargaining agent of the employer. Official recognition of YUSA will have to come from the Board of Governors.

Although details have not been finalized, the YUSA executive will probably appoint three of its members as a negotiating team, representing three different salary levels.

And a bug in every garage

WASHINGTON (CUP-CPS) - George Orwell wasn't really off the beam when he prophesied that by 1984 all of us would have Big Brother as our room-mate.

A secret White House study, undertaken two years ago, proposed that every American home, car and boat be wired to ensure government control, it was revealed by Congressman William Moorhead of Pennsylvania.

The study, conducted by President Nixon's science advisor Edward David, envisioned a "wired nation to give the government means of dispensing services, information and disaster warnings."

The report suggested that a special receiver be installed in every home, radio and television set. The receivers could be turned on by the government even if the TV or radio were turned off.

But the plan was "rejected outright" according to David, for fear of public outcry.

Mitchell and the executive have already agreed to exclude from the Voluntary Association 17 positions classified as management. These are senior administrators such as directors of personnel, Food Services, the Computer Centre, and the university's two vice-presidents.

A further 12 management positions are to be discussed at the next meeting, which will take place Monday. This means that there will be no more than 30 employees, all earning at least \$20,000 a year, excluded from

YUSA membership.

The 48 professional librarians at York have agreed to join the Faculty Association.

In order to qualify under the Ontario Labour Relations Act as a Voluntary Association, YUSA must present a constitution to its membership and then re-sign members. A minimum of 51 per cent is necessary, but if 65 per cent are signed, a vote is not required. Of 1,100 employees at York, YUSA now has 700 members.

Mormon display in Central Square brings a unique religion to York

By SHELLEY RABINOVITCH

If you neither drink, smoke, swear, nor imbibe tea or coffee, then chances are you'd make a fine Mormon. That is, if you could find a Mormon around.

The truth of the matter is, the religious sect nicknamed, "Mormon" is actually the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a religion believing in baptism at age eight (The "age of accountability"), respect for one's parents, and punishment for one's own sins, not those of Adam.

Recently, in Central Square, Elders Seymour and Mortensen (and two other Church members) sat behind a display of the coming of Jesus Christ to America and told those who were interested about their beliefs.

The history of the Latter-day Church is a long one, full of colour and vibrancy. Considered by its members to have been the original church of Christ, it supposedly fell when the 12 disciples of God died. Re-established on April 6, 1830 by Brigham Young in Salt Lake City, Utah, the church has blossomed to a membership of well over 3.5 million members throughout the world.

WARRIOR PROPHET

The nickname "Mormon" comes from the warrior prophet Mormon, who led the white races of America to victory in a war between the white and the red races of America in 600 B.C.

Mormon's son, Moroni, buried the word of the Lord (as given to his father) on gold tablets in a hill at Cumorah, N.Y. in an effort to preserve the word until some deserving peoples would be told by divine revelation where they were hidden.

Joseph Smith, an individual undecided as to his religion, had a vision from God and was led to the tablets. Translating them over a period of time, he incorporated them into the Book of Mormon, one of the two basic works of the Mormon religion (The other is the Bible).

After Smith was shot to death, his follower Brigham Young led a trek from Illinois through Nebraska to what is now Utah, where The Tabernacle was erected. A building with the best acoustics in the world, the Tabernacle is built of granite blocks, held together by wooden pegs and horsehair glue. Not one metal nail was used in the constructional process.

In Salt Lake City itself the roads are perfectly straight, and each road is in the words of Brigham Young "wide enough for four yolk of oxen to turn around in," said Elder Seymour. "This figures out to 128 feet across."

NOT SALESMEN

Differing from the Jehovah's Witnesses approach to religion in that they are not 'salesmen', the men on their missions are quite friendly, and understand misconceptions about their religion.

"We're supposed to be different, so the stares we get don't bother me," said Elder Mortensen.

"The mission is strictly on a volunteer basis," stated Elder Seymour, "and our parents pay for the fare when we are about 19 years old."

"We basically help with family self-understanding, and often we won't even mention that we're Mormons." Elder is a title of the priesthood, which the individual earns when he goes on a mission.

"Jews are held in high regard by the Mormons as they still have their duties on Earth". Noticeably, though, blacks are not allowed into the Priesthood, nor can they become priests.

"It was in a modern revelation that we were told that blacks cannot be priests," said Elder Seymour. "However they can be members of the Church, and many are."

Marriage and children are the most sacred things in the Mormon religion, and understandably family ties are extremely close.

"There are two levels of marriage," said Elder Seymour. "One can get a so-called civil marriage, or one can be married in the Temple of Marriage. Being married in the Temple marries one not only for now, but for all eternity."

The Ontario Mission is situated at 338 Queen St. East, Suite 205, Brampton, Ont.