

FEDERATION NOTES

This past week, posters publicizing a meeting of CYSF's support CUEW committee were placed around the campus. These posters were prepared from an original which did not contain the words "support the union". They were added to the original before reproduction and without the knowledge of CYSF.

This can be further clarified after reading the resolution proposing that such a committee be struck. It specifies that the committee's duty is to facilitate students during the strike. Clearly the intent behind the committee is for it to act as a vehicle for information and discussion in the advent of a CUEW strike, and on the basis of that information and discussion students would be able to, as individuals, decide whether or not to support the union. Furthermore, in the case of a strike, the committee is a means by which students can obtain information regarding their classes, etc. This is not echoed in the poster, due to the phrase advocating that students support the union.

It is up to each student to make his or her own decisions on the basis of any information provided.

So, Bethune wants a responsible CYSF (*Excalibur*, Oct. 8, 1981). We suppose, then, that Bethune students were acting responsibly when, on the night of Oktoberfest, they told holders of CYSF Oktoberfest tickets that it had been cancelled, but that Bethune tickets were still conveniently available.

Admittedly, CYSF and Bethune between them had a large number of tickets to sell, and an improvement in the lines of communication between the two could have prevented this. Since CYSF is attempting to facilitate a wide range of students, while Bethune's priorities are for their college members, instances of this nature will arise. But, in an attempt to co-operate with Bethune, CYSF was willing to voluntarily tone down its advertising campaign once the conflict was discovered, since we felt that we could better afford to sell only half our tickets, while letting Bethune sell as many of theirs as possible.

Little did we know, though,

that Bethune had discovered a way of increasing their sales at the expense of CYSF.

Over the past week many students have demanded

Report only one future

Jim Crawley

There is a future knocking at the gates of Ontario Universities, and the threat behind that knock may reduce the level of quality education, livelihood and economic lifestyle of almost every university across the province.

"The Report of the Committee on the Future Role of Universities in Ontario", released in August, could radically alter and severely curtail the traditional role and purpose of universities, and bring about large-scale cutbacks in faculty, staff and academic programs. The committee proposes major alterations in the existing educational system and suggestions include achieving a more cost-efficient model by reducing the number of universities; limit the scope of some activities and programs; grouping universities in specified categories with different objectives; and the reduction of both faculty and staff.

The document draws attention to the serious underfunding that universities have received from the Provincial Government for the last few years and stresses that Ontario universities cannot be expected to maintain themselves at a quality level if Queen's Park fails to affirm the objectives of the Ontario university system. The report urges that public funding of provincial universities be returned to a level that would permit these objectives to be realized.

Reaction to the committee report has been mixed in its review, but all commentators agree on the far-reaching implications that the report has for Ontario universities. According to Greg Gaudet, CYSF President, any cutbacks will be affecting everyone at York—and certainly for the worse. "On the one hand," says Gaudet, "the provincial government is proclaiming itself to be the defender of quality post-secondary education, and yet, on the other hand, their policies are

refunds from CYSF, and this has radically increased our loss on this venture. We would hope that Bethune and CYSF will in future co-operate to the benefit of all.

clearly causing damage to the educational system."

The report should be high on the reading lists of all members of the university community as it will have long-term effects on the future of all connected to the university system. Yet, the recommendations are only one model for the future; they need not be the model for long-term planning to the exclusion of other, equally realistic options. There is a clear and pressing need to discuss alternate educational strategies and prepare a co-ordinated response to trends of this nature to ensure that the future quality of the university learning environment is not continually reduced or undermined.

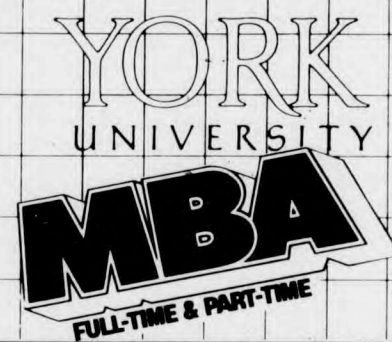
The *World Future Society*, an international society for the study of alternative futures can be one vehicle through which all members of the university community can come together and prepare alternative proposals for the post-secondary system at York and throughout Ontario. The WSF intends to take an active and informative role in bringing about such discussions by holding a series of open forums, debates and educational seminars. The first activity planned will be conducted jointly with other York groups including the CYSF and invitations for a panel discussion in the first week of December will be extended to several active participants on the provincial scene, including the Minister for Colleges and Universities, Bette Stephenson.

If you are interested in participating on a joint planning committee to discuss and prepare future events, including the December forum, contact Greg Gaudet at the CYSF (667-2515) or leave a message at 667-3007 for Jim Crawley.

Jim Crawley is a co-founder of the Futures Research Group University of Windsor and is a visiting scholar from Inter-Future Associates, a New York based academic futures group.

Excalibur Meeting This Thursday At 3

Excalibur meets each Thursday at 3:00 p.m. in 111 Central Square. Every member of the York community is welcome to attend.



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Date: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1981
Time: 12:00 noon — 1:30 p.m.
Place: Room 038/039, Administrative Studies Bldg.

Or contact us at:

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