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May reduce pub prices

Blanket liquor licence mixes pros and cons

By JULIAN BELTRAME

Any financial benefits York's pubs may reap from the upcoming university blanket liquor licence will be in the future, York's big three pub managers said this week.

The immediate effects, they added, have all been detrimental. Winters' Absinthe has already spent close to \$1,500 on needed alterations to bring the pub up to LCBO standards. Most of this cost was for drainage.

The Cock and Bull's bill will approach the \$800 mark, said manager Doug Ross, but Open End manager Dave Bickerton slashed nearly \$600 from a similar estimate by inviting his plumber friends to do the work.

Although York university regulations restricted the pub managers from contracting out their work without going through the physical plant department, Bickerton said, "I just felt the price charged by the university was too high, and I got other means to do it."

Whether the canteen licence will reduce costs to the pubs is uncertain.

The new licence eliminates the daily \$15 cost which each pub was forced to pay for a special occasion permit, which, for a year-round operation, ran to approximately \$4,800. And the immediate cost of purchasing beer and liquor will also be lowered.

But instead of paying a 10 per cent levy on the cost, the pubs will have to pay a 10 per cent sales tax on the retail revenue. So far the pubs have planned to absorb this tax, which means that on a 60 cent beer, the pub will be allowed to take in only 54 cents.

In addition to this cost is a 20 per cent university charge on the purchase cost of liquor, a fee which goes to support York's new beverages manager and his operations. Ross questioned the validity of this amount, since he doubted the university beverages operations would require such a high

amount to run their operations.

Adding to the pubs' financial problems might be the food services committee's proposal that college pubs pay physical plant charges if food is served with liquor.

Lipman questioned the fairness of charging pubs when the senior common rooms would be exempted, and Bickerton felt a per square foot charge would be unfair to the Open End because it "is the biggest place".

Bickerton, however, said he would not eliminate his food operations if the physical plant levy were investigated.

Already the price structure is being changed in anticipation of the introduction of the campus licence. A jug of draft beer, formerly \$2.25, will soon sell for \$2.15, but imported beer and liqueurs will both be increased by five cents.

Although both Bickerton and Ross hoped that in the future the new licence would allow them to lower prices, Lipman said such a move was unlikely. Instead, he would use the extra revenue to raise the bartenders' wages.

Trent students denied franchise, city clerk labels them "transients"

PETERBOROUGH (CUP) — Students at Trent University are being barred from voters' lists in this town's municipal election December 3.

Stan Hendry, the city clerk, has taken it upon himself to interpret the Election Act to deny students status as residents.

He maintains that "all students are 90 per cent transients. They are here for six months or whatever it is and then they are gone."

The Act defines a person's residence as "his true fixed and permanent home or lodging place to which whenever he is absent he has



As determined managers egg on their gorging contestants, the first annual Founders pancake-eating contest turns into a gut-to-gut battle. Doug Lumley

(left) and Fred Arsenault gobbled themselves to third and fourth places respectively. Another photo (with the results) appears on page five.

Detectives patrol central stores with orders to charge shoplifters

By BONNIE SANDISON

A criminal record and two years imprisonment, a \$25 fine, or a

suspended sentence can result from charges of theft under \$200 from the York Bookstore or the Super Discount Drugs store in Central Square.

Shoplifting has been on the rise in both stores over the last few years, and this year both have hired the Loss Prevention Service to safeguard the stores from shoplifting. Once a theft is reported by the trained store detectives, the Metropolitan police are called to the scene and the process of the law begins.

While the item stolen is often very small, law students who pilfer risk non-admittance to the bar; landed immigrants who pilfer risk deportation; and students who pilfer lose the chance to get any job where they must be bonded.

Both bookstore manager Peter Brunner and director Raffel Barreto-Rivera said in an interview this week that 14 people have already been charged and are going to court for shoplifting.

"They take anything," said Brunner. "Anything you can conceal

in pockets, or under coats. People just don't realize that pilferage is a criminal offense."

As well, he added, the large financial loss due to pilferage was one reason for the discontinuation of the five per cent discount students received from the bookstore until last year.

Arnie Donsky, manager of the drugstore, has become very concerned about the shoplifting and its legal implications.

"People take such low priced things, and risk so much," said Donsky. "Once the store detective sees someone shoplifting, and catches him, there is nothing I can do."

"It is the agency which takes the offenders to court in my name, and it was part of the agreement when we (drugstore and bookstore) hired this firm that everyone would be prosecuted."

The 14 people apprehended in the drugstore are now awaiting court appearances; sentencing depends on the circumstances and the prior record of the offender.

Donsky said "the stealing took place on a regular basis. I could not let it continue. It was putting me in the position where I'd have to raise the prices and then everyone would scream."

Brunner explained he used detectives rather than mirrors or cameras because detectives allow customers to shop freely. There is no one sitting behind a camera watching what is going on, and the only person being watched is the one who may commit a crime.

Although neither manager would reveal the amount lost last year due to pilferage, Barreto-Rivera commented that there was a \$1,400 increase in the loss last year compared with the year before. He said it would be embarrassing to name the actual figure, but added that \$1,400 was only a very small percentage of the loss.

Back to the budget

Just five months after taking office as York University president, H. Ian Macdonald faces financial conditions far more severe and pervasive than those which toppled Dr. David Slater, his predecessor, almost two years ago.

Slater's original presentation of a 'budget crisis' to senate in the fall of 1972 overestimated the projected deficit by about \$800,000; he suggested firing 200 faculty members. In the ensuing wave of paranoia, Slater lost all the confidence of the community, and was forced to resign on January 23, 1973.

In a letter to the community issued that day, the board of governors appointed Professor Richard Storr acting president, and promoted Bill Farr, then secretary of the university, to the position of vice-president in charge of finance.

Storr's first (and only) official action was his resignation the following day because of poor health.

"IF THE PRESIDENT CALLS"

The board quickly (and this time successfully) moved to make Professor John Yolton acting president, but the damage was done. It was too late to save the university from quips such as "if the president calls, take his name", and the others that followed in succeeding weeks.

Thus did the budget crisis become a leadership crisis. After much prolonged and heated debate through the spring of 1973, the senate was able to approve guidelines for a search committee, which eventually produced a "short list" of eight candidates for the presidency. A complicated voting procedure whittled these down to two, and of these Ian Macdonald emerged as the chosen leader of the university.

Now the man who served as Ontario's deputy-treasurer, the top civil service post in the province, for seven years, faces his first real test as president. The story appears on page three.



Racism is used to divert the attention of white workers from economic ills, said Angela Davis at Convocation Hall last Friday. And Canada, she added, is not immune. See Story on Page 13.

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