

Editorial

You can't have your cake and ...

Threatened strikes have become to many of us, along with the falling leaves and shorter days, another sign that a new school year has indeed begun.

This year is no different. No sooner were we once again learning the 106 schedule, then we heard York's staff, part-time faculty and grad students resume their annual contract rumblings.

The rumblings have become something more than that, and on Tuesday, the unions representing these groups, CUEW and YUSA, met to discuss possible joint action.

The Council of the York Student Federation has even formed a 'student strike support committee'.

We, for our part, won't be joining that committee, because we cannot support much of

what the CUEW is demanding.

Our reluctance stems from the fact that we find their arguments not convincing, but rather inconsistent.

The union is trying to forge a new relationship with the university, while at the same time trying to exploit the privileges of the old.

The union has asked for a wage increase of about 13 per cent for teaching assistants. This seems, to us, a reasonable figure. But at the same time, they have asked for increases in the wages of part-time faculty ranging from 20 to 28 per cent.

According to CUEW, part-timers are to gain dramatically so that they will earn for their teaching, the same total amount that teaching assistants would make from doing similar teaching and their grants combined.

The union chooses to deny the difference between a TA's grant in-aid and salary, reasoning that TA's should be paid for services rendered. The traditional *patron* relationship between grads and the university must yield, according to the union, to an employee-employer relationship.

Are TA's then to give up their grants, the fruits of this patronage? Hardly. Instead, they are to be considered as additional salary.

Calculated this new way, the TA's salary is indeed much higher than the part-time faculty member's. CUEW therefore wants to raise the part-timer's salary to lessen the difference.

If you've followed the logic this far, you'll probably lose it soon. For even though TA's are now to be only employees

(according to the CUEW) they still ought to be getting all kinds of privileges which no mere worker could expect as part of their salary.

The CUEW demands that the university pay to have TA's theses typed. One union leader instructed us that their thesis, some 500 pages long, cost them nearly \$1,000 to have typed and reproduced. We're sympathetic, but we wonder where TA's will have a chance to earn that typing job from the university (or the free grad school tuition that CUEW is also demanding). If TA's are simply employees then earn it they must. We also wonder where the university, already financially strapped, is going to find the money for all that typing, but that is another matter.

lack of sensitivity

From page 4.

Much of the problem lies in the stigma which is still attached to day-care. "It's still looked upon in the same light as welfare—either as a last resort, or a luxury," said Beach. "But if children don't have adequate care, they can develop problems and become burdens on the taxpayer, later."

To men and women like Pat Rogers, the York day-care centre is an integral part of their lives and of the York community. Rogers, who wouldn't teach the four courses she does now without daycare for her daughter, is appalled by the lack of sensitivity inherent in the subsidy freeze. Although she personally does not require financial assistance, she is a firm advocate of the day-care program, which relies upon subsidies for many of its participants. "The York program provides a stimulating environment for my daughter which she wouldn't have with a babysitter."

The centre is also a source of part-time jobs for students, field placements for colleges and research material for faculty members. Yet, according to director Beach, it is with growing reluctance that the university provides limited funding.

Gilsela Birmingham was lucky to receive a subsidy, enabling her to work, study and simultaneously provide a social and educational setting for her children. She cannot afford a babysitter; she can't afford not to work. If her children weren't in day-care, "it would be downhill from then on." Many other parents are faced with a similar situation. A lack of accessible day-care, says Beach, keeps women out of the job market, deeming them "unemployable rather than unemployed."

44 parents received subsidies at York this year - last year there were 55. If these figures reflect a growing trend concerning the fate of day-care, then the university program may be forced to curtail its 10 year commitment to the York community.

C.Y.S.F. BY—ELECTION

Nominations are being accepted for the following positions:

President
Director of External Affairs
Director of Internal Affairs

Nominations open until: Tuesday, October 7, 1980 4:30 p.m.

Campaigning starts: Tuesday, October 7, 1980 4:31 p.m.

closes: Wednesday, October 22, 1980 11:59 p.m.

Election: Thursday, October 23, 1980
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Advance Polls: Wednesday, October 22, 1980
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Nomination forms and a copy of the Resolutions Governing the Conduct of Elections can be picked up in the CYSF office, Room 105, Central Square, during office hours.

Positions are open only to CYSF constituent members (Environmental Studies, Founders Colleges, Graduate Students, McLaughlin College, Stong College, Vanier College and Winters College).

In conjunction with the election, positions are open for Deputy Returning Officers and Poll Clerks. Anyone interested should leave their name in the CYSF office, Room 105, Central Square during office hours.

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Chief Returning Office

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