

# Excalibur

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## Professors protest too little, too late to avert faculty union

By OAKLAND ROSS

At least 192 full-time professors are actively opposed to the certification of the York University faculty association as a union even though certification now appears inevitable.

"Under no circumstances will I join the union," chemistry professor D.N. Butler told Excalibur this week. "I will get them to fire me instead. One should make an issue of these things."

Signatures from 192 professors opposed to unionization were collected at a booth set up in Central Square before Christmas by six professors, including former York president John Yolton. The petition was presented at the Labour Board hearing on December 22 but according to one of its organizers, physics professor C.M. Dugan, the petition will have little material effect since a majority of YUFA members still support unionization.

"All the vibes are certainly favourable," YUFA chairman Jack Granatstein said this week. He expects the decision on certification to be handed down by the end of January.

Even the professors opposed to unionization accept that certification is now a foregone conclusion.

"Further action is planned," Dugan said this week, "not however, to stave off unionization but simply to make it palatable to those of us who oppose it."

He admitted that the petition didn't have much impact. "We were very late in organizing the opposition," he said.

According to Dugan, members of an organization seeking union status are legally permitted only three days in which to register their protest.

"On close examination, labour relations laws can be seen to favour the formation of unions," he said.

Professors who oppose unionization do so for a wide variety of reasons but the common thread seems to be the feeling that unions are somehow incompatible with an academic environment.

"We are not marketing an industrial product here," said Butler.

Other objections range from the fear that a faculty union will create an adversarial relationship between professors and administrators to the suspicion that the union would be management dominated.

According to YUFA chairman Granatstein, this variation gave rise to contradictions in the position of the dissident professors at the Labour Board hearings.

"I was delighted to see their stupidity," he said. "Before the hearing they were talking in terms of 'adversarial relationship', but at the hearing they seemed to be objecting because the union would be management-dominated. Our lawyer did a fantastic job; theirs was lousy."

The major fear of the dissident professors now seems to be that the faculty union may develop into a "closed shop" (in which event, professors choosing not to join would be forced to resign their posts).

However, YUFA organizers are doubtful that the union would become a closed shop.

"In my personal opinion it wouldn't be a particularly appropriate thing in a university setting," said YUFA secretary Marian Boyd. "After all, free thought is a vital part of the university."

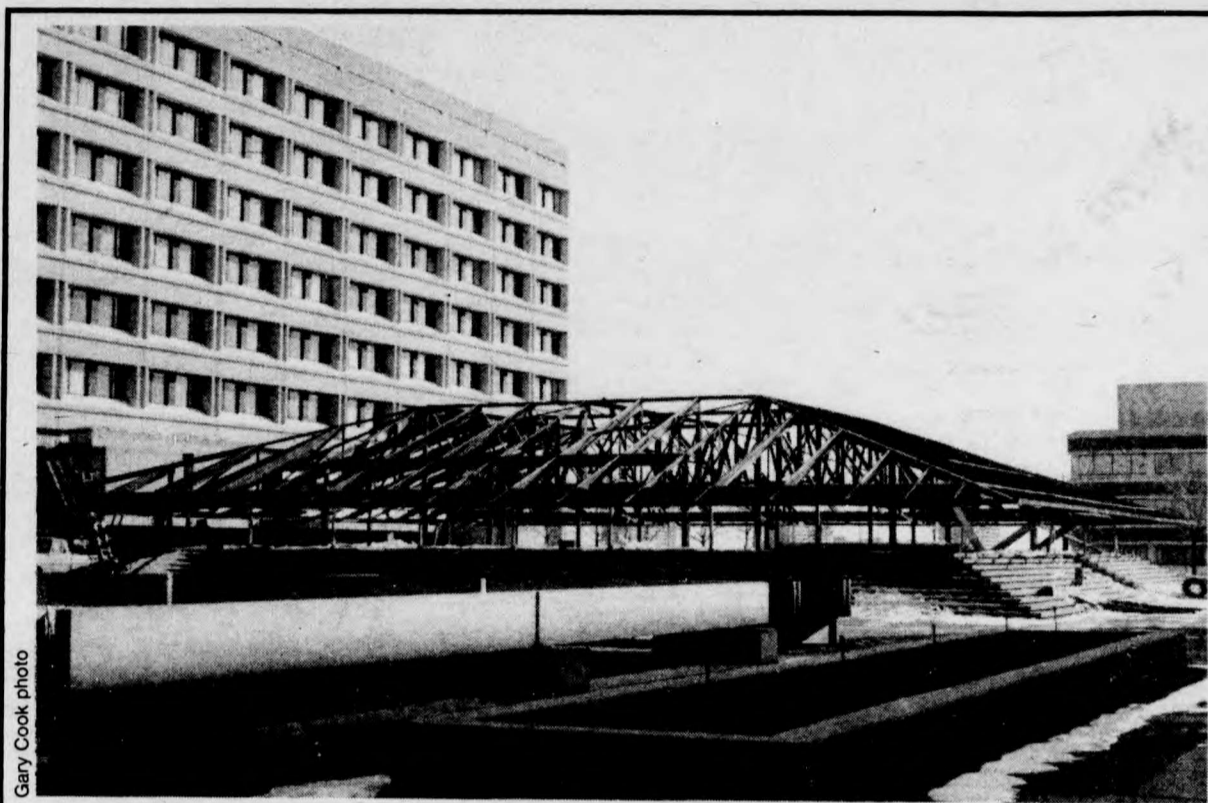
The dissident professors are currently engaged in setting up a formal organization of their own through which they will be able to provide input into the operation of the union.

"Our principal occupation will not be to harass the union," said Dugan, "but simply to deal with the issues."

The only remaining obstacle to faculty unionization is posed by Osgoode Hall Law School which claims that its 35 professors, many of whom are practising lawyers, have a separate interest from YUFA.

Granatstein calls this a "spurious argument". In any case, YUFA, Osgoode and the university have reached an agreement which will permit YUFA to accept an interim certificate while the Osgoode issue is being settled.

When YUFA is certified as a union, it will become the ninth university faculty union in Canada and the third in Ontario.



The option of a religious centre has been around almost as long as York itself. Finally, if you can brave the gale-force winds you can actually watch it taking form. Otherwise, you can watch it at a distance, comfortably esconced in the warmth of the Scott library.

## York's entrepreneurial policy hits college pubs and coffee houses

By ANNA VAITIEKUNAS

Student coffee shops and pubs may have to pay utility fees for their services, pending the approval of the recommendations outlined in a memo from Harold Knox, vice-president of business operations.

Knox sent a letter to the college masters on December 15 advising them that "the time is appropriate to discuss the initiation of utility charges against any activity on campus that produces income."

Knox's proposal was met with little surprise by the pub managers because "we were anticipating some form of rental fee for the pubs," according to Absinthe manager Mark Lipman.

The major bone of contention among the managers, however, is the method by which the pubs and coffee outlets will be charged. Knox proposed that the pubs pay \$2.94 per square foot per year for the actual floor space used by their facility. The utility charge, he claimed, was based on the average figure of furnishing light, heat and power across the campus.

According to the utility charge, the Tap 'n' Keg, which operates once a week in Bethune dining hall will have to pay approximately \$20,000 a year. Tap 'n' Keg manager Mark Benetar said that the pub "would lose money so quickly that we would have to close down almost immediately."

"The university has no right to step in and demand that kind of money," he added. Other pub managers claim that revenue normally allocated to maintenance and renovations will have to be cut to meet the utility charges. The Absinthe and Cock 'n' Bull pubs, which are much smaller in size, will be charged over \$3,000 a year.

Liquor prices, they claim, will be increased if more financial pressure is applied by the university.

### TIGHT FINANCES

"Our financial situation is tight enough as it stands without additional expenses," maintained Lipman.

CYSF president Dale Ritch felt that Knox's proposal was just "another way to make money out of the students". "I've been expecting a rental fee proposal since the new food policy was introduced last summer. The university knows that the catering

companies are feeling the pinch of competition from the student coffee shops and pubs and they are trying to force them (the student pubs) out of business," he said.

"I don't think we should pay a cent".

When asked whether the utility charge is the most equitable method to charge the pubs, Knox said that recommendations will possibly have to be revised to deal with each pub individually. He said that he hopes the recommendation would "generate enough conversation so that all the managers and I could reach the most equitable way of charging for utilities."

The possibility of charging student pubs for utilities has been proposed as early as 1972 when then president David Slater approved the university entrepreneurial policy that maintains that any income-producing operation on campus should contribute to the cost of providing utility service to the university.

## Controversial UFSC chairman quits college



Peter Jarvis listening to arguments at October food rally.

By JULIAN BELTRAME

Citing personal reasons, Peter Jarvis, assistant master of Bethune college and chairman of the university food service committee, resigned both posts last week, effective January 1.

The resignation came as a complete surprise to most of Jarvis' acquaintances. Jarvis said he had not decided to tender his resignation till late December, and that he had not been thinking about it in the fall. The resignation, following closely his role in the food service committee's decision to seek a termination to Commercial Caterer's two-year contract with the university, left many wondering whether Jarvis resigned voluntarily or whether he had been pushed out by an angered university administration.

Jarvis had been a controversial chairman of the food service committee for the past year and a half.

It was while he was chairman of the committee that it successfully sought the ousting of Versafood's 10 year monopoly on campus in favour of the present five-caterer posture. Recently, Jarvis played a prominent role in getting the university to change its liquor licencing policy on non-college affiliated clubs, and in December he supported Bethune and Stong colleges' demand for a termination of the Commercial contract.

Continued on page 8

### THIS WEEK

Excalibur columnist Frank Giomo reviews the year's best quotes p.3

York president emeritus Murray G. Ross argues that nationalism is taking Canada out of the Global Village p.5

Twice U.S. National figure skating champion Dorothy Hamill comes to York. Interview p.9

Theatre is alive and jumping. Entertainment looks at the theatre on campus p.11

Well there's no turning back now. The ski season is upon us and Ontario has more resorts than the Bahamas has islands. A guide p.16