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ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE D'ÉTÉ 1976
JULY 5th—August 13th

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Letters To The Editor

Veteran employee complains of abuses by York's parking office

I have received a York parking ticket for the first time in more than 10 years of employment here. It was at noon on Saturday, February 7. I was going to pick up my five year old daughter who was finishing her dance class in the Fine Arts Building.

I arrived at 11:55 a.m. and, since I was with my wife and our three year old girl, I parked in the convenient spot outside the Burton Auditorium — on the boulevard where charter buses and other vehicles load and unload which I did not know was part of the fire route. I was not blocking any traffic.

A security guard in a red York car came by before we left the car and gave me permission to park for a few minutes to pick up my daughter. In less than 10 minutes, I was told that my car was being tagged and might be towed away. I immediately ran to the car but a security guard was already holding a ticket in his hand while the tow truck was ready to tow my

car.

I explained that the car was only there a few minutes and that I had permission from another guard to park there for a few minutes to pick up my daughter. He put the ticket on my car (time: 12.05) and said that there was nothing he could do. He said that if I would move my car right away, he would not have it towed. He also said that I should have got the permission by writing!

That was how I got my first York ticket and my first lesson of how security services here operates. I think even the Metro Police would only tag the car and allow the owner some time to move it before having it towed, unless under emergency conditions. We pay \$100 for York Parking a year and I do not think that we deserve such harsh treatment.

When I went to pay for the ticket, I was told that there is another unpaid ticket issued on November 20, 1975 under my decal

number to a Camaro. Why, I have never received such a ticket and my car is a Chevrolet Biscayne which has been registered with York reserve parking for the past three years.

I talked to the girl and asked her to check it up. But she said that there is nothing to check and that I am responsible for payment because it was issued under my decal number.

I talked about my problem with another friendly security guard who said he would check it for me. The next morning I phoned the parking office manager for particulars on that ticket in order to file an appeal. I was told that that ticket was not mine and must have been issued to a last year's decal of the same number. (Wasn't last year's decal triangular and this year's rectangular?)

Anyway, I do not have to be responsible for the payment of a ticket that belongs to someone else. But I am very upset about the attitude of the two fellow workers. Why should I have to get permission from a passing guard in writing? Was my word not believable? Why apply the tag and town service on a Saturday to a staff car which was not obstructing traffic, especially as the security guard knew that there were small children in the dance class and almost all the cars in the area were there to pick up those children and would not be staying long?

Why did the girl in the parking office insist that I was responsible for that ticket, even though I pointed out the mistake? Would I deny the ticket if it were mine?

Come on, fellow workers, where is your trust in others? A little friendliness and cooperation can make York a much better place to work, and it might make you a whole lot happier someday.

Ben O,
Scott Library

CLASP corrects some inaccuracies

I am perhaps responsible for two inaccuracies which appeared in the February 26 edition of the Excalibur in the article by M. Debbie Pekilis describing the services provided by CLASP.

Mrs. Billingsley is a Commissioner of Oaths, not a Notary Public, and Mrs. Marjorie Hiley and Mr. John Mullen are the Co-Chairpersons of the CLASP Board of Directors. I am merely director of the Administrative Law Division.

Greg Jones,
Community and Legal Aid
Services Programme

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