

Cooper d'etat

Stuart K. Ross

On Oct. 24 the Cooper Bros., a Western boogie band, played Burton Auditorium (capacity 613) to an audience of about 125. Fifteen tickets had been sold in advance for this CYSF presentation, and as a last ditch effort to prevent a fiasco, the council turned the concert into an "orientation event" and gave away tickets for free.

CYSF President Keith Smockum said that somewhere from \$1,000 to \$2,000 had been lost. But as it was the first concert the council had attempted, he explained, "I don't consider it a total failure."

The first big expenditure was renting Burton. Smockum admitted that the Aud was not a good idea for CYSF concerts, and that the council would be looking into renting college dining halls and liquor licences in the future.

A representative from Platinum Artists, the booking agency through whom the concert had been arranged, said, "All we can do is mail promotional material. If a school thinks the band is worthy of the set price and they sign a contract, then it is final and they are responsible."

George Karayannides, vice-

president of Social and Cultural Affairs at the time (he resigned three days after the concert, for unrelated reasons), blamed in part the lack of commitment on the part of the council. Also, he said, there were problems with Platinum. They wouldn't sign the contract until the week before the event, and so there were only three days left for promotion. "My recommendation was not to go through with the concert." He said that the CYSF needs a full-time co-ordinator to organize these sort of events, because it was too time-consuming for student council members.

The series will continue.

NDP push for OHIP reform

Leora Aisenberg

During the past few weeks, members of the York NDP club have been campaigning at tables set up in the Ross building, asking students to sign a petition concerning health care in Ontario.

According to Tim Gallagher, provincial council delegate of the club, and coordinator of the medicare campaign, the club is generally pleased with the results. The bulk of the campaign is over and one thousand signatures have been obtained. Gallagher hopes to gain another two hundred within the next two weeks.

The York campaign is only one of many NDP endeavours taking place throughout the province. One major goal is to persuade the government to refrain from encouraging doctors to withdraw from OHIP. "Twenty per cent of Ontario doctors are opting out of OHIP, which could eventually lead to a complete abolishment of the medicare program," stated Gallagher.

The fate of health care is a current issue in the news. Last

week, a group of 125 MDs publicly renounced the Ontario Medical Association for persuading doctors to drop out of OHIP.

Gallagher sees the fact that such a large number of students maintain an interest as an encouraging sign. "It shows that many students consider other people, as well as their own future. Some students have acted indifferently towards the issue.

It's a shocking revelation that some aren't even aware of the OHIP program."

Tables will be set up once a week for the next few weeks, in the hope that more students are interested in signing the petition. "We're not promising miracles," said Gallagher, "but the petition is the first step of the whole process."

Counterclaims etc.

Is York's faculty paid more or less than the provincial average?

In last week's Excalibur, Bill Farr, Vice-President of employee and student relations, claimed that York's faculty "did a shade better (than the provincial average) last year and the year before that."

According to Prof. Marshall Walker, however, this is simply not true. Walker, a member of YUFA's negotiating committee, claimed that the faculty received a 6 per cent increase in the 1978-79 fiscal year, while the provincial

average was 6.6 per cent.

In the previous year, 1977-78, York received a 9.6 per cent increase, .8 per cent less than the average.

Quoting from Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Association statistics, Walker pointed out that an associate prof. earned \$3,858 below the provincial average in 77-78, an assistant prof. \$1,227 and a full prof. \$583.

Contract negotiations between the faculty and the administration continue.

Student Federation Notes

"These symptoms of change in the University system should not be ignored. They are signs that the Universities now stand at the brink of a decline which threatens the continued existence of a quality University system in Ontario."

The above quote is not taken from any radical organization or from any student organization. It is one of the conclusions in the report "System on the Brink: A Financial Analysis of the Ontario University 1979." It is put forth by the Ontario Council of University Affairs, a government body set up to act as a buffer and an advisor to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

The whole report deals with Ontario's problem in dealing with post-secondary education. It reveals that Ontario, once number one in operating grants per student, has now fallen to eighth. As well "when the study's five indicators aimed at comparing financial support to each University system during the period 1974-77 are examined, it is noteworthy that Ontario is the sole province whose ranking has declined in all of the indicators."

This government cutback philosophy has obvious implications for York. Between 1972 and 1980 York's expenditure on Library Acquisitions from operating income has dropped over 45

percent. When you go up to get a much-needed book for an essay and the one copy has already been taken out, you know why. It is a situation that can only get worse.

This Thursday November 8th will be an excellent opportunity for you to come out and express your concern. Alex Daschko of the National Union of Students and Chris McKillop from the Ontario Federation of Students will be in the Bearpit at noon to discuss these very issues. The University system in Ontario has gone through dramatic change and not too much of it for the better. It is time for those who are concerned to speak out.

D. Keith Smockum

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