

# University News Beat

by York's Department of Information and Publications

Emergency Services  
Centre — 3333

## Faculty of Education

### Resource Centre: "central clearing house"

"Wonders in a Country Stream" and "The Large White Butterfly" may not be films worth waiting in line in 22 degree weather to see, but they're important teacher training aids for York's education students.

Films, books, multi-media kits, picture sets and other instructional materials are housed in the Faculty of Education's Resource Centre, located in the centre of the Faculty on the 8th Floor of Ross.

"At the core of the Faculty, the Centre might be the only place where education students can acquire a sense of collegiality."

Education's associate dean, Eric Winter wrote this as a concluding thought in a paper on the Resource Centre. It summarizes what the Centre is — a place where ed. students can gather as a community to work collectively, individually, to socialize, and to consult a variety of resources that are not easily available elsewhere.

Staffed by John LeBaron and Mary Stiff, the Resource Centre serves not as a "second library", but rather as an adjunct to Scott and other resources on and off campus for York's 170 education students.

Among the newest and most popular materials at the Centre are the educational kits. Kits are produced by a variety of sources including institutions like O.I.S.E. and the Red Cross, and corporations like Continental Can and McDonald's.

#### HELPFUL KITS

The largest concentration of kits help teach language arts to primary pupils (grades 1 to 6). Ed. students find the kits especially helpful for children with learning problems. They offer a fresh approach.

For example, ethnic students can learn to pronounce English words with the aid of a language master. This kit lets the student hear a word and then record his own voice repeating

the word so he can compare the two sounds.

Budding teachers who have taken kits to Toronto public schools, are usually surprised to find that the resident teachers have never seen such teaching aids before.

Shoreham Public School recently purchased several hundred dollars worth of learning kits after a York education assistant introduced them in class.

Effecting changes like this in education is what York's teacher ed. faculty is all about according to its dean, Robert Overing.

"Most people seem to agree on the need for changes of some sort to help schools to meet the needs of pupils and society more effectively," he wrote in a recent paper entitled "Toward a Redefinition of Teacher Education".

Sheelagh Plant, Dorothy Hill, Anne Camozzi and Gord Kirkland are student volunteers who help out at the Resource Centre. They assist fellow students like Terry Wilson who recently used the audio-visual equipment at the Centre to videotape interviews for faculty member Betty Jordan. Betty teaches a course on environmental education, which is an important topic in Toronto public schools this year.

Another faculty member and part-time counsellor at Thornhill Family Services, Mary Sue McCarthy teaches a course on self concept and the family.

#### CLEARING HOUSE

She relies heavily on the Centre. "It's like a central clearing house for ideas — we use the reading materials and films every week."

This week Mary Sue's class will examine male-female roles. Preparing for class two of her students came across an O.I.S.E. kit on women at the Resource Centre which traces the history of women up to their present



Staff assistant Mary Stiff helps education students Sheelagh Plant, Roy Sullivan, Trevor Owen and Heather Sheehan work with Peabody Language Development Kit.

status.

The Centre's supervisor, John LeBaron, comes from the University of Massachusetts where he is working on his doctorate in educational media.

Wednesdays, John supervises a grade 6 class at Dixie Public School in Mississauga in producing their own television programs.

"It's an attempt to integrate small scale television production into the other regular curricular activities," he explains.

John feels that using video integrates the subject areas and the communications media. As a result of the program, the students at Dixie should become more critical of commercial television.

The Centre's AV equipment can be signed out and used by ed. students in their practicums (practice teaching assignments). Instruction in its use is also available.

#### TIGHT SPACE

Former York student, Mary Stiff, who recently completed her B.Ed. and teacher certification at U. of T., says the one thing the Centre needs is more room. AV equipment is now stored in Mary's office along with learning kits and other valuable teaching

#### Free concert

The Toronto Dance Theatre will perform at York on Saturday, March 16, 8:30 p.m. in Burton.

This free concert is being staged as a co-curricular service by the dance department.

You can pick up two tickets at the Burton box office.

#### Kildare Dobbs to speak

### Irish writing topic of seminar

Kildare Dobbs, Eli Mandel, Mavor Moore, Andrew Parkin and Miriam Waddington are among the guests participating in the Canadian Association for Irish Studies' seventh annual seminar on contemporary Irish writing to be held at York March 27 to 31.

Officiating at the opening of the seminar will be Canada's Irish ambassador. Professor John Whyte (Queen's University, Belfast) will speak on the Northern crisis and Professor R. Skelton (Victoria University) will talk about the novels of Aidan Higgins.

Following a banquet on March 30, there will be a special lecture by Toronto Star literary critic, Kildare Dobbs. The evening will end with a concert of traditional Irish music.

There will be lunch-hour screenings of the films Man of Aran, The Informer, Odd Man Out, and the documentaries Christians at War (BBC) and A Sense of Loss (Ophuls) on the Northern crisis.

David Hammond will present his award-winning BBC television documentary, Dusty Bluebells, on Belfast children's street songs.

During the seminar, Scott Library will mount an exhibition of Irish books and art. There will be three poetry panels with such guests as Seamus Heaney, Michael Longley, and Tom MacIntyre.

Student registration fee for the five-day seminar is \$8. You can get more information from Dr. D.E.S. Maxwell in Winters College.

### Will the inchworm soon become extinct?

Canada is going metric. The transition will affect every man, woman and child in our country as the yard, quart and pound give way to the metre, litre and kilogram. Thinking and estimating in metric units will become natural attributes.

In the 1850's Canada gave up its sterling currency in pounds, shillings and pence, and adopted the present system of dollars and cents. Without a doubt, that was a forward step and we have since enjoyed the simplicity of decimal currency. In the same vein, we will obtain the advantages of conversion if we grasp the basic metric measures, adopt the system wholeheartedly, and readily accept the challenge to get on with the job of metrication for the nation.

The Centre for Continuing Education and the Ontario Ministry of

equipment), she pores through periodicals and xeroxes articles of special interest. Also, she is in the process of acquiring curriculum outlines from departments of education, teachers' organizations and local school boards across Canada.

The Resource Centre's *raison d'être* is to help education students become good teachers. With its week-day hours of 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Fridays 9:00 to 5:00, and Saturdays 10:00 to 1:00), its chalkboard, tackboards, working tables and abundant resource material, it certainly achieves its goal.

Education are jointly sponsoring the Metrication Conference being held on campus this week. It's the first of its kind, designed to assist key education officials in Ontario with the conversion to the metric system; to provide focus, stimulation and some direction for future action.

Last night, the 250 educators gathered in Winters Dining Hall at 1900 h for a Metrication Banquet and an address by Professor Harold D. Allen, Mathematics-Science Coordinator of the Nova Scotia Teachers' College in Truro, N.S. Today and Friday the group will experience a "hands on workshop" and discuss the implications of the conversion.

And you, are you ready to think Metric? Sooner or later, we'll get in tune with the 110 countries that already converse in celsius degrees, metres, litres, grams and degrees thereof. Only the U.S. has no definite plans for conversion.

### Atkin. hum. talk tonight

The fourth and final lecture in this year's Humanities Lecture Series is tonight at 8:30 in the Moot Court at Osgoode.

William R. Coleman, a humanities professor, will talk about the problems he faces in teaching his particular area of the arts.

"Through Dilemma into Dialogue" winds up the series sponsored by Atkinson College.

### A different display

The Faculty of Education's Resource Centre (8th Floor, Ross) gets its Sesame Street appearance from its wall adornments and bulletin board postings.

Not exactly the work of York visual arts students, the Centre is currently featuring an art exhibit of water colours, tissue paper and India ink drawings which was collected by education student, Art Willer.

"We all should be aware by now that the trend in education today is towards humanization of our teaching techniques. Probably by the time we become established as teachers, we'll be facing a new breed of students who won't let us be anything but human and personal," Art says.

He invites his fellow ed. students and others to share "a fabulous experience" with him by viewing the artwork he has collected from grade three and four students in a New York State elementary school. It's on show now at the Resource Centre.

### Scholarships.

The Canadian Wildlife Service is offering scholarships of \$1200 to graduate students enrolled in a program in an aspect of terrestrial wildlife biology.

To be eligible, you must be a Canadian citizen. The scholarships are tenable at Canadian universities during 1974-75.

Application forms can be obtained from Room N808 Ross, or directly from CWS. The deadline for receipt of forms is May 26.

This is the time of year when Rotary Clubs throughout the world solicit applications from students of educational institutions for awards and scholarships which enable them to study in foreign countries for one academic year.

Anyone interested in applying for Rotary Foundation Fellowships and Awards should see Debby Groves, graduate studies, N920 Ross. Informa-

tion and application forms can also be obtained from the Rotary Club of Toronto, Royal York Hotel, 363-8321.