

EDITORIALS

Is there a cure ?

"It's obviously the silly season in student politics."

Well said, John Adams, YSC Pres., even if you too seem to be infected.

It appears all the student politicians of York campus are off on mad campaigns of opportunism, blockade-building, and stone-throwing.

First it was President John, and his

A story with a moral

Ho hum, the YSC has set up another special commission.

This one is to be a Department of University Affairs, designed to: handle student complaints and petitions, represent the students against the administration, and act as a guiding body for regularly-called student forum sessions.

Sounds like an awful lot for one two-man committee to handle.

But at least someone on the council thought of the idea, and if students make good use of the new commission, it may prove of value.

In fact, the more we think about it, the better the idea of a Department of University Affairs sounds.

Wouldn't it be great if this committee could actually prompt immediate action on any student problem here at York U?

Wouldn't it be great if the new committee soon found itself swamped with demands for help, for housing, for guidance, for leadership, and so on — which it couldn't turn down (for of course this new committee couldn't turn down any problems since it is supposed to serve where other committees can't).

threat to try a revolt on campus if his council didn't get the ten dollar fee hike from the Board of Governors.

And then we had the Ad Hoc Committee at Registration telling Freshmen and others to withhold ten dollars from their fees, in support of the YSC. As if the freshmen really know what they are paying any of their fees for, let alone knowing anything about what YSC is.

And down at Glendon, student leaders' good intentions for academic reform failed when freshmen and seniors rejected appeals to withhold course enrollment as a basis for an unstructured school.

Not really so silly, but still a failure. And back at the origin of York,

Wouldn't it be great if this committee grew so active and so respected for its efforts, and so constantly called upon for help that it had to start forming supplementary committees for assistance?

This Department of University Affairs could create special committees to handle specialized problems — like External Affairs, and CUS, and Education, and Communications, and Fees.

And the Department could centralize and elect a chairman and an executive and have long meetings and demand fee increases so it could set up special committees to handle student complaints and petitions that the regular committees couldn't handle.

And . . .

There must be a moral here somewhere.

Or . . . my god, what kind of monster have we created?

Founders College, John Stiff and his council ignored their own internal problems to censure the President of the struggling YSC, for failing to allow Founders to meddle some more in university affairs. Stiff called it a wrist-slap, a reprimand to the YSC. We call it playground politics.

Stamp Club

Stamp out or at least stamp on the Stamp Club if they continue to exhibit the degenerative tendencies that make them such amusing performers.

Although its members look just like average university students, and probably are, they have a particular tendency to surround themselves with an alcoholic fog, and then proceed to annoy everyone in sight.

Recorded in their remarkable list of achievements is the interruption of numerous house parties in residence; splattering of various fruits and vegetables on residence walls particularly grapes and their purple derivative, the interruption of film showings with threatened drunken fist fights, and the interruption of college activities with screams of "let's play", meaning let's destroy and make a mess.

If you want to see such a fine example of York students shown to guests and outsiders alike, sympathize with these healthy young men and above all, never complain of their activities to your student court.

Perhaps the student councils or the chairman of YSC's internal affairs commission should take a closer look at this "club".

Excalibur

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sneaky me. I write staff ad. Lots of new groovy people this week. Olga the blonde bunny, stu (who?), Dave and Dave, the typists, Alan Meckle-Meckle, Claire Potite the layout queen, the monkey, and some others, oh, yes, the chipper Henry, Mccaauuuuuughna, and others. Time out for Founders Dance, Rolly the miser pays out money for dinners. Coffee. We move to Steacie on Saturday. Down with depression. Good night. NEXT WEEK EDITORS MEAT DEADLINES OR ELSE NO MORE MISTER NICE GUY FROM LAYOUT.

Contradictions

by Alan Mekler

"When we asked Pooh what the opposite of an Introduction was, he said 'The what of a what?' which didn't help us as much as we had hoped, but luckily Owl kept his head and told us that the opposite of an Introduction, my dear Pooh, was a Contradiction; and as he is very good at long words, I am sure that that's what it is."

This is my attempt at a Contradiction.

I want to know why people are at York and if they're getting what they want. Plans call for an in-depth interview with one person a week who will bare his tortured student soul. Then, in the best Excalibur tradition, I will compress, suppress, and if that's not sufficient, misrepresent what he says.

I have already conducted my first interview but I don't think it would be fair to use it so soon (it's still too clear in my mind). Instead I'll misrepresent myself.

Q: Alany, why are you attending University? Is it due to some need on your part to finding fulfillment in an academic mileu?

A: Yes and no.

Q: I see, then it's your opinion that for the university to function as a truly viable institution in our modern technological society, it is necessary for it not only to continue in its historical role as a body of scholars pledged to increasing knowledge but also to expand and take an active part in society.

A: Yes and no.

Q: You mean that the university's role in society can't be one of co-operation with the power structure of the society as it exists but must constantly strive for change in the society by peaceful means. By this action you feel that we will be able to create a society where it will be more possible for a man to live an honest existence free from the hypocrisy which is forced upon him by the idealization of material goods to the exclusion of the more essential spiritual values.

A: Yes and no.

Q: You feel that the university for all its lipservice to the goals of scholarship is merely assisting the power elite by training a managerial class for the technological society;

that while the university teaches a course called ethics, it doesn't consider the ethics of aiding the military in their activity. Do you really think that change in the university power structure can be brought about through peaceful means? Have you considered the role of the university in societies throughout history? They have always been the servants of the status-quo. Don't you agree the medieval university existed only to provide the necessary numbers of literate men who were needed for the bureaucracies of the time to function smoothly?

A: Yes and no.

Q: Then it is your opinion that the university is a repressive agent, that not only does it train people for the establishment, it also strengthens the establishment by giving it intellectual credentials, that if we cannot get the university to change and become an instrument for social revolution then it should be abolished.

... That is exactly what I dislike about you radicals — you always advocate extreme measures. I don't want to ask you any more questions.