

Excalibur

When questioned about the contradiction yesterday, Dennis Healy said:
 "I used the wrong word — draft — in the Telegram letter."
 "It didn't come out right."
 "I meant it to mean I was just present at the meeting."

Contradictions

Mr. Anton Wagner,
 3400 Keele St.,
 Apartment 616,
 Downsview, Ont.

October 2nd, 1969.

Dear Mr. Wagner:

Neither Dean Crowe nor I signed Order On Campus. We agreed to its release for consideration by various universities on the clear understanding that it was a working paper than did not attempt to speak for any university and did not bind any university.

Neither Dean Crowe nor I contributed anything to the document.

I invited Dean Crowe to attend the meeting because he is a senior colleague and an active member of the York senate.

Dean Crowe did not contribute anything to the formulation of the document and had nothing to do with its circulation which was handled by the secretariat of the Committee of Presidents of the Universities of Ontario.

The presidential committee, struck by Dr. Murray G. Ross in January 1968 and chaired by Mr. Justice Laskin, has studied the rights and responsibilities of the members of the academic community at York and has already considered the questions raised by Order On Campus. The work of the Laskin committee has advanced beyond the necessity of considering Order On Campus and I am assured that the committee will report this month.

York University's response to the questions raised by Order On Campus will be the report of the Laskin committee. Other universities will be able to use the Laskin report in any way that they see fit. I am confident that it will be an example for other universities to study and that its influence will be far-reaching.

Sincerely yours,

D. M. Healy,
 Acting President

The Telegram

Oct. 2, 1969

In an editorial, Restore Perspective On Campus, The Telegram criticizes my attitude to Order On Campus, the working paper that was issued by the Committee of Presidents of Universities of Ontario. Had the writer of the editorial asked me what my views were, his comments would have been more accurate.

I approved of the release of Order On Campus, **which I helped to draft**, for the following reasons. I believe that it can assist each of the academic communities of this province to find a solution that is acceptable to its own members because it is a working paper that raises questions that should be discussed and debated, without attempting to speak for any university and without binding any university.

Each university in Ontario is different from all the others and prides itself on being so. The working paper, therefore, may be more useful to some academic communities than it will be to others where committees have been at work for a long time.

At York, for example, for the past 21 months, the Laskin Committee on Rights and Responsibilities has been studying the very questions now raised by Order On Campus.

The committee includes members of faculty and students. It has already considered all the points raised by Order On Campus and will report next month. We shall then discuss the report and come up with a document that is right for us.

The Laskin committee has the entire confidence of the York Community and is closer to providing an answer to these perplexing problems than any other agency that might address itself to York. It is in this context that I, as acting president of York University, may not intrude an outside document into their deliberations when they are on the verge of reporting.

I am opposed to violence of any sort on or off campus; so are almost all members of the York community. We are deeply concerned with the formulation and establishment of a system of government without stifling dissent.

If the system proposed by the Laskin committee next month provides the penalty of expulsion for persons who are convicted of violence, after due process, I shall support it.

It is easy to ridicule people who are on the spot by highlighting a few words — sometimes ill-chosen words — taken out of context.

What is far more difficult but essential is to keep in perspective all of the elements and issues that have a bearing on the matter in hand.

Certainly one aspect that must be remembered by the public, even if it has been ignored by the writer of the editorial, is the positive side: York's leadership in the area of student participation, our continuing efforts to develop a good system of self-government, our record of steady progress without undue fuss or violence.

People who take an interest in our affairs and who know us well regard us as leaders not followers. Nobody who knows the record of our academic community in the past 10 years and what we are doing now has found us weak or accused us of fumbling.

D. M. Healy
 Acting President

Memos

Memo to EXCALIBUR editor Bob Waller from reporter Bob Roth

Bob:

For your editorial:

The CPUO discipline working paper was not discussed at the CYSF meeting last night (Tuesday) even though the repudiation deadline they gave Healy had been ignored by the president.

The ad hoc committee against the presidents' report has done nothing either.

It appears only Winters council has done something — no further action, but they did discuss it.

Perhaps it would be worth it to comment also on the York Student Movement's inability to act as a group and stimulate meaningful concrete discussion on the issue until it was too late.

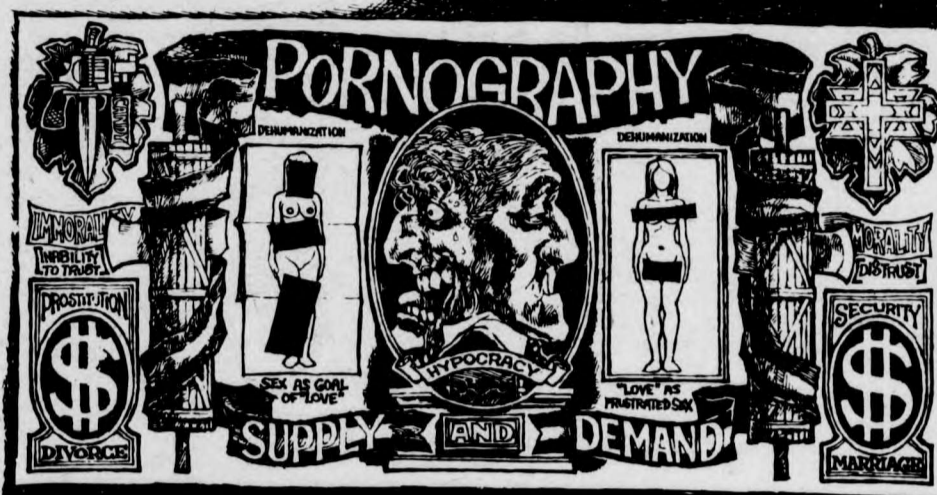
Memo to Roth from Waller

Bob:

We might have written another editorial, addressed to the various groups who supposedly "led" York against the report, exhorting them to get off their asses and finish the job.

We might have gone over the reasons for pushing for an absolute repudiation of the discipline paper, but that has been done many times before and would be redundant.

No, I'm not going to write another editorial. It would merely be a waste of space.



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RCOBB

Skeletons return

The political science union wants George Haggar, the professor who claimed he was not hired at York because of his political views, to come to York and substantiate publicly his charges in debate with Harold Kaplan, chairman of the poli-sci department.

Yesterday, Kaplan told members of the poli-sci union that university lawyers have advised that it would be "unwise" for him to debate with Haggar because the discrimination charge is being examined by the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

However, the OHRC inquiry is only informal, and such a debate at York would not prejudice an investigation that really isn't relevant anyway.

The question of York discriminating against professors because of their political views is not new. The skeleton has periodically emerged from this university's closet ever since the 1963 clash between a former York professor, John Seeley, and president Murray Ross, over the orientation of York in the future.

The issue split the university, students and faculty, and ended when the board of governors supported Ross. Seeley resigned, taking a number of other professors with him.

The clash was interpreted by many to be a "difference" of opinion between the theory of the corporate-style multiversity versus the free critical university (Seeley).

Generally, however, the Haggar incident we are now embroiled seems to point to the fact that this time the university has bitten off a little more than it can chew.

Evidently, George Haggar has decided that he doesn't like to be politically discriminated against and is willing to lay everything on the line to prove his point.

Evidently, the political science students here at York feel that he should be given the opportunity to state his case here.

We agree, and suggest that Harold Kaplan can the legal gobbledygook and agree to debate — immediately.

Excalibur

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EXCALIBUR staff meeting

2 till 4 today

be there

(please)

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