

Mark 1837 rebellions

100 march to MacKenzie's grave in protest

"Having heroes is not part of the Canadian culture," said one amazed onlooker as some 100 people, a mixture of all-sorts, marched with bagpip, fife and drum to the Toronto Necropolis Cemetary Saturday in tribute to 1837 rebel William Lyon MacKenzie, his lieutenants Samuel Mount and Peter Matthews.

The march started from downtown and ended at the 121 year old cemetary across from the Riverdale Zoo.

Students of William Lyon MacKenzie Collegiate laid a wreath on MacKenzie's grave. A school representative said students had chosen the name for their school because MacKenzie was a rebel, the first mayor of Toronto, and intent on destroying the privileged power of the then ruling Family Compact.

At the monument of Samuel Mount and Peter Matthews, 1970 Canadian award winning poet Milton Acorn said in an eulogy to Lount, "he is buried here for doing the best deed

of his life." Acorn then raised a clenched fist in silent tribute.

Both Lount and Matthews were hanged by the British for their roles in the rebellion, despite public outcry against the death sentences.

Lount was a blacksmith who forged arms for the struggle and was also a member of the Legislative Assembly. Matthews was a farmer and activist in support of MacKenzie. The rebellion, a revolt of the colonies against British rule, joined both French Lower Canada and English Upper Canada in a common struggle.

A deputation asked Metro City Council to support the event as an annual commemoration and tribute to Toronto's first mayor last week. Mayor Dennison and alderman Allan Rotenberg strongly attacked the idea. Alderman Fred Beavis said it was not true MacKenzie was not honored, the cafeteria in the city hall basement was named after him.



Accompanied by fife and drum, marchers parade through Necropolis Cemetary to MacKenzie's grave. They are led by Gary Pearly and poet Milton Acorn. Photo by Marilyn Smith.

'I'm not selling my body' says Playboy's Miss June

Playboy's Miss June, Leiko English came to York on Thursday to help sell Lee's jeans. Excalibur interviewed her that night. We must point out that English is her second language and she's not really fluent.



Excalibur: Do you enjoy working for Playboy? Is there anything else you'd rather do?

English: No, I really enjoy working for Playboy and I'm not looking forward to working for any other companies. And I'm going to stay as long as I want to.

Excalibur: People have charged that models such as yourself are only selling your body and nothing else. Do you agree with that?

English: No. I'm not selling my body.

Excalibur: How would you describe your job?

English: I would describe it that I'm just doing top modelling for photography. That's how I look at it. This really helps my career and my job offers. It's not because I'm selling my body. It's just that I figured that Playboy was the best magazine in the world right now. So, if they had no class at all, I wouldn't have posed for the picture. I just gave them credit for being the best magazine, for having class and I was proud to be in their magazine.

Excalibur: Most people would read the articles in Playboy but only glance at the copy around the pictures. They view the woman there as a sex object. Do you view yourself there in any way as a sex object?

English: From a woman's point?

Excalibur: Yes.

English: It's nothing to do with sex. Some guy might look at it sexwise. Every person looks at it differently.

Excalibur: You don't think the majority look at it sex-wise?

English: I don't know. I can't open into each individual guy's hearts and see how they're looking at it. They might say she has a really nice figure a perfect figure, or a nice face or nice legs or whatever it is. Or some guy might look at it strictly as sex.

Excalibur: So you don't think they'd be the majority?

English: I don't know.

Excalibur: Women throughout history have been viewed primarily as sex objects rather than people who can think equally as men. Do you think — as some women may charge — that you're doing women a disservice being in a magazine such as Playboy?

English: What do you mean?

Excalibur: That is, you are helping to stereotype women in a role that they are for sex and not for their minds and men are not to treat them as equals...

English: I don't understand your question. You know I have language problems...

Excalibur: How do you feel as a woman being a grand prize in a raffle? (Part of Lee's gimmicks was to offer a Saturday night out with English for the winner of a draw.) Does it bother you at all?

English: No, because this is what I do for promotion. And it's not just a man's pants. Sometimes I go to lounge wear stores or bookstores I don't just sell men's pants. It just happened to be in Toronto and the Lee Company asked me to come in. Some other days, I do auto shows. It all depends which company asked me. They give me a job to come in.

Excalibur: Do you think you're being paid well enough?

English: Oh yes. I'm making pretty good money.

Later at McLaughlin's Dining hall (English talking) in the din of band music:

Guys: Sign that for me... John... good, good, that's great, oh yeah... Albert, A-L-B-E-R-T... put down "John with love"... (I can't put down love everybody wants "with love")... alright, just put down "to



John" then thanks a lot... to Jacques (What? How do you spell that?) Jacques?... just Jack (J-A-C-K) let me tell you you're beautiful (thank-you very much)... You're lovely... to Bret... (Hi.) to Kimball, K-I-M-B-A-L-L... to Jim... Could I have a happy birthday one to a guy name Jim? (Yeah)... to Colin, C-O-L-I-N, thank-you. (You're welcome)... Hi, my name's Michael. (O.K.?) yes, thank-you very much... Could you make one "to the Powerhouse," (Power?) Yes, far-out...

Could I get one, too?... (to who?) pardon? (to who?)... what?... Cha... Charles... uh Chuck (How do you spell that?) C-H-U-C-K, (Chuck?) yeah... could I get one of these draw cards too? (Of course, yeah, you have to fill one of these out)... what do I have to do? (You have to fill out your name.) What's it for?...

Where is she? Can I check her out? There? Oh wow, I'm doing better where I am right now. I'm disappointed.

... What doo I doo with this?... I'd like ya to sign the poster... (O.K.) My name's Doug. (Doug?) Yeah. (D-U-C-K? ha, ha.) No D-O-U-G, (Huh?) D-O-U-G. How much is a kiss? (No, I can't). You can throw one in, the straight guy's not looking...

Here's one for Dean Tatham, (Who's he?) He's the guy upstairs... The name's Pete (That alright?) No. P-E-T-E. (I can't hear you, that's why.) That's O.K., the music's terrible... Make one out for Tim. (Tim?) Yeah...

Go dance with Jeff. It must be a long day? (I've been up since five o'clock.) Five o'clock? (Yeah, I was suppose to leave Chicago at seven but I missed flight and had to wait until 8:30.) You got a phone number there? (I can't give that to you.) Do you really enjoy it all? (So, long as people are nice to me, I'm nice to them. I enjoy it.)



English autographs pictures of herself for some York students. photos by TIM CLARK