

Spadina subway route

Residents don't want redundant transit station

By ROSS BOBAK

Residents and aldermen of the Spadina-Bloor-Dupont area appeared before the Toronto Transit Commission last week asking for the deletion of a \$5 million dollar subway station from the Spadina subway line.

A brief, with eight recommendations to save the TTC \$7.07 million, was presented by George J. Lustre, a U of T professor, on behalf of the Annex Ratepayers Association.

The major request was for the deletion of the proposed Lowther Station, called a "dead station" and an unjustified expense. The brief states the function of the Lowther station could be replaced by the Dupont Station 1,300 feet to the north and by the present Bloor-Spadina station 900 feet to the south.

An estimated \$100,000 annual savings in station operating costs, a 10 to 20 per cent improvement in subway travel time, and preservation of period residences from demolition are additional benefits.

Another main item asked for the relocation of the Dupont station 400 feet to the north to improve surface route connections and allow for a link to a possible Go train station.

Alderman Ying Hope asked that the forthcoming Spadina streetcar be extended up to Dupont St. where it can have a proper interface with the Dupont Station, rather than have the streetcars loop at Bloor St. This extension was emphasized by area residents who want a convenient surface ride

downtown without the bother of transferring.

Other recommendations indicated eight houses could be saved from demolition and parkettes could be created rather than off-street bus loops.

The brief also suggests liaison between the TTC and area residents be maintained to coordinate and minimize detours and construction traffic, and the Annex community be involved in designing the Dupont station interior decor.

Area aldermen Colin Vaughan and Ying Hope indicated most area residents supported all the recommendations, and felt overly blessed with five closely spaced subway stations.

Two weeks ago, 200 area residents met to discuss the effects of the Spadina line on the Annex. The great majority still opposed the Spadina line, especially the proposed Lowther station. Most of the brief's recommendations originated from motions passed at that meeting.

Metro Chairman Paul Godfrey said he was most impressed by the brief, and the TTC staff would be instructed to report on the pros and cons of each individual recommendation.

TTC staff has pursued a policy favouring widely spaced subway stations in all recent projects, mainly to achieve faster travel times. Most recently, the TTC rejected requests for a station between Finch and Sheppard, to serve Park Home Ave., residents.



New streetcars on Spadina Ave. may be more than just streetcars, namely Light Rapid Transit (LRT) vehicles. A typical example of new generation LRT used across Europe is this 3-section (for bending

around tight corners), air conditioned, solid state, high speed and low noise car in Düsseldorf, Germany. Transit line replacing Scarborough Expressway proposes using about 200 LRT vehicles.

Book Review

B.C.: large companies dominated

By ALLEN DOPPELT

Pillars of Profit: The Company Province, 1934-1972
By Martin Robin, McClelland and Stewart, 351 pages, \$12.95.

The many innovative social reforms instituted by the Barrett government have caused many Canadians to become interested in current political affairs in British Columbia.

The policies of the present NDP government are put into historical perspective by the second volume of Martin Robin's new political history of B.C. Robin writes from a partisan socialist perspective, which sharply distinguishes his views from those found in traditional Canadian academic history books.

Underlying the political narrative is the theory that large corporations were able to dominate the political scene until 1972, because the exploitation of natural resources forms the heart of the provincial economy.

Only large enterprises were able to accomplish this task,

and, as a result, a politically powerful middle class was never really formed. This class may have been able, if it had political power, to act as mediator in the endemic class conflict between the few company managers and the large number of labourers.

The most interesting part of *Pillars of Profit* describes the era of the strange Social Credit government of W.A.C. Bennett. Bennett had a single-minded devotion to the kind of economic development that favoured large commercial enterprises such as the Columbian River dam scheme. The needs of the poor were badly neglected and the Soviets were strongly anti-labour.

The NDP party in the 1972 election received a large amount of support by draining, what Robin calls a "communal ethic" and by promising to rectify the social problems Bennett had ignored.

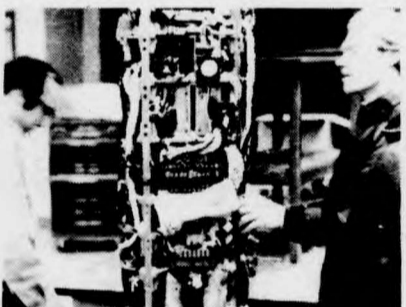
Although Robin's writing style is terrible, his book is valuable because it provides the reader with a challenging interpretation of British Columbia's political history.

Rocket lamp the focus of the York science dept.

A pyrex lamp, invented and developed at York's Petrie Science building, was the subject of Focus on Science last week.

The reason for the special attention was that this lamp, the result of innovative and meticulous research and design by York scientists, was built to produce a clear, intense atomic line essential to ascertain atomic information about our atmosphere.

The lamp was launched Jan. 23 in the payload of the largest, heaviest,



Another York bright idea was launched in this rocket.

purely scientific rocket ever flown in Canada.

The York prototype, the first-ever capable of being flown in a small scientific-rocket payload, was carried by a 42 foot, 720 pound missile which was funded by the National Research

Council of Canada for York University. Dr. G. Shepherd was the principal investigator.

York also worked with Bristol Aerospace Corp. and SED-Systems of the University of Saskatoon on the construction of the rocket motor.

Marxist gives lecture

The Committee for a Marxist Institute, is holding a discussion on Inflation, The State and the Working Class in their lecture series, Views from the Left. The speaker will be Harry Magdoff, a Marxist economist who is the editor of *Monthly Review*. The lecture will be held at the Ontario College of Education Auditorium, Wed. April 10 at 8.00 p.m.

Editor elected

Warren Clements was elected as editor-in-chief of *Excalibur* for 1974-75 by this year's staff, subject to ratification by the Board of Publications.

Clements was *Excalibur's* entertainment editor this year and he was editor-in-chief of the *Winters College Seer* for two years. He has also spent the last two summers working on the *Montreal Star* as a reporter.

Students responsible for phones even during summer says Bell

Residence students with telephone accounts in their names are responsible for all charges to these accounts, even if they leave campus for the summer, according to a recent memo from Bell Canada to Mel Reader, York's communications coordinator.

With the end of term almost in sight, it may pay to set your phone signals straight to avoid hang-ups in September.

Below are the possibilities.

1. Should you decide to leave your telephone service working and

someone else occupies your residence and uses your phone, you are still fully responsible for all charges — including long distance. — if a new tenant is moving in, your service should be terminated and a new number installed for him.

— If you previously shared a service in your name, with other students, and a roommate will continue to use the service, the account must be transferred into his name.

2. The service could be completely

disconnected. There would be a reconnection charge when you return and you would be assigned a different telephone number.

3. The service could be suspended temporarily. No one could use the service, but you would retain the same number on your return. The charge is one-half the monthly rate and there is no charge for reconnection.

If you want to make any change in your telephone service, or if you'd like more information, call the Bell Canada business office at 368-3911.

CYSF Column

Excalibur considerably improved this year

By MICHAEL MOURITSEN

President of the York Student Federation

It should be evident to regular readers of this newspaper that *Excalibur* has improved considerably this year. Compared to the *Excalibur* of previous years, the editing has been mature and balanced, the coverage of university news has been extensive, and the lay-out has been both attractive and imaginative.

Last year's editorial staff was a very closed, politically-motivated clique, more concerned with creating issues and pushing a particular viewpoint than with reporting accurate news. This year, editor-in-chief Brian Milner has been able to recruit a fairly competent news staff, a staff which combines a sense of humour with a sense of the university. The regular and diverse opinion articles have helped to create a very positive and

open image for the newspaper.

As my columns and letters to the editor testify, I have had frequent complaints about individual articles and individual writers. On the whole, however, I do feel that *Excalibur* has earned the respect and confidence of many in the university. It deserves the subtitle "community newspaper."

In a letter to the editor last week, Vanier College student senator Joe Renda accused me of presenting a motion "endorsing racism in universities" at a recent meeting of the Council of the York Student Federation. He also claims that members of the council "voted to support racist theories" in adopting this motion.

Since I know Mr. Renda personally, I tend not to treat his comments seriously.

However, when he insists on printing his remarks, it is possible that some people may take him seriously, especially since neither Mr. Renda nor *Excalibur* saw fit to print my motion in full. I have done so below, and readers are able to judge for themselves whether or not it endorses racist theories.

The motion, which was adopted by CYSF on March 20 and by the university Senate on March 28, reads as follows: "That in response to the recent use of force at the University of Toronto to deny freedom of speech and expression, the Senate/Council communicate to the University of Toronto our endorsement of the principle of freedom of speech and expression, and our support of the University of Toronto's attempts to provide a platform for speakers of diverse views."

I fail to understand why Mr. Renda con-

siders it "irresponsible" of me to have based my motion on facts contained in a news story in *The Globe and Mail*. He apparently does not dispute the central fact on which the motion was based, because he states in his letter that "a group of students and ethnic workers stopped him (Banfield) from speaking."

What more information is required? Physical force was used to prevent a visiting lecturer from speaking. That is the fundamental issue worthy of attention, and it is the only issue that my motion addresses.

Professor Banfield's theories are irrelevant — completely irrelevant — in considering this incident. He was prevented from speaking. The principle of freedom of speech and expression deserves a clear, unequivocal endorsement. Anything less is an invitation to the thugs of the SDS to continue to smash down doors, beat people and disrupt meetings.