A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE...

As a result of last week's editorial, it seems we are confronted with the problem of what we mean by student autonomy.

We do not believe student autonomy means freedom from rules; rather it means freedom to make rules. We admit that rules are necessary for the efficient regulation and administration of this university. Who makes those rules is another question.

As we see it, there are only two choices: rules can be imposed on us by the Committee on Student Affairs, or we can make them ourselves through our Student Council and have them ratified by the Committee on Student Affairs. This may not seem a significant choice, but indeed it is. It is a choice of being led or being leaders; it is a choice of sitting back and blindly following the dictates of a remote and nebulous authority, or of democratically asserting our maturity and responsibility by asking for the right to rule ourselves.

Only if the latter course is followed will we learn to make our own decisions, develop self-discipline and the capacity to act as persons of independent spirit which are supposedly aims of this institution.

At the Student Council meeting Thursday night, this course of action was proposed to Council. However, the members of our Student Government didn't feel it was important enough to consider and passed over it to the discussion of the content of the rules. The dominant feeling seemed to be that principles should be subordinated to facts.

We do not agree with this. We cannot believe that the Committee on Student Affairs does not realize the benefits to be derived from allowing the students to formulate their own rules. We honestly feel that if our Council approached this Committee and offered to draw up a set of regulations subject to its approval to replace these present rules, the Committee would be delighted to allow them the opportunity. Indeed it would remove the Committee from much of the unpopularity it has earned by dictating rules to the students.

A procedure such as this was followed by the Residence Council in drafting residence regulations and it has worked admirably.

This afternoon the Council is meeting with the Committee on Student Affairs; from what we saw at the meeting Tuesday night, our Council seems to be afraid to accept the responsibility which would come with the freedom to govern. We believe this is the case. We hope not.
What is the purpose of a university education? This is the question that presents itself to us, as we see overburdened students cram desperately for that arch-enemy of the scholar—the end-of-term examination. Then we begin to wonder: what does all this forced study accomplish? Is it necessary for students to burn the midnight (or 3 a.m.) oil? What is the ultimate purpose of this system?

The point is that the practice of end-of-term and end-of-year examinations is a senseless and unnecessary demand placed upon the student, and even worse, it does not test the student’s ability to reason, or his ability to form opinions, these being two of the major goals of higher learning. Instead, it measures his memorizing capacity, his physical endurance, and his alertness at parroting back to the professor lecture or textbook material. This, we feel, is not the reason we are at York.

We will concede that, since basic fundamentals must be mastered before more intricate tasks are attempted, and since university education provides an economic benefit to the graduate, that the student must be tested to discover if he is qualified to advance to more complex work. Herein lies the problem: how, and how often, should the student be "examined" to find out the degree to which capacities have been augmented by the university experience?

We propose here one possible solution to the problem: The major feature of our system would be the administering of one test per month in each subject. The students would be told beforehand within two weeks of when the exam would occur but not the exact date, and at that time would given the general outline of twice the number of questions that would appear on it. In other words, if there were to be four questions on the exam, they would be given a list of eight questions—four of which they would eventually have to discuss. The exam itself, in this case, would give a choice of four out of five. The question on the exam itself would be in the order of three essays and a number of definitions. Three would be on the work of the last month and the fourth on some aspect of the previous work. The questions would emphasize opinion and interpretation, rather than straight facts, which seem to be of such great importance under the present system. Each question would be on a general topic, but would require fairly detailed understanding of that topic. This would give the student much more scope and freedom to experiment with new ideas. Each of these periodic exams would count for 10% of the final mark, with the other 20% obtained through an essay (10%) and classwork (10%).

The advantages of this system are many: the foremost of these is that it would test the ability of the student to reason and to form opinions. The element of surprise would not be lost, since the exam could come anywhere in a two-week period, except that it would eliminate much of the pressure associated with final examinations. Students would work at a constant rate throughout the year, and not build up toward the end of each term. This scheme, furthermore, would not test the physical endurance of the student, removing the finality and the disproportional importance of the present final exams. A bad day, or unanticipated disturbance immediately before the exam could not fail the student, since the most that could be lost on one exam would be ten marks. The exams would come at a time when the work is still fresh in the mind of the student, thus allowing more authority in making judgements. After all, the purpose of university is not to memorize an entire year’s work and cram it all into the space of three hours. Also, it is unlikely that the students would forget the work, at least not as soon as they would under the present system.

This is our plan. It has obvious limitations and disadvantages, but we believe it is one possible solution to the present dilemma who should pass in college. With a process of adaptation to the particular courses and flexibility of organization, we believe that it could work if given a chance.
MEHRY CHRISTMAS TO THE RESIDENCES...

Over the weekend a series of events took place of which non-residents are probably unaware. The story is this. On Saturday morning a notice was posted in all residences to the effect that those students who wished to use the residence facilities over the vacation period would have to pay $10.70 a week, plus meals. Those students who wished to stay in residence were required to notify the Master of Residence in writing before December 19.

This caused a great amount of consternation among the residents. No mention had been made of any additional charge prior to this, and in fact the wording of the university calendar indicated that no charge would be made. The residents, many of whom had been planning to spend at least part of the vacation in residence, were faced with the prospect of altering their vacation plans at the last moment, or somewhere finding the fifty-odd dollars the two week sojourn would cost.

After many protests the Residence Council finally negotiated a reasonable compromise with the administration... the students would be charged for meals on a pay-as-you-eat basis, but not for rooms.

The Residence Council is to be praised for its fast and effective action in the face of this unfair treatment by the administration. This incident clearly indicates the value of working through established channels. But the question that bothers us about the whole affair is this: what bunch of incompetents decided that this extra charge should be levied against the students, in direct contravention of the fees outlined in the university calendar, and for what reasons? Did the administration simply not realize the inconvenience and hardship this action would cause or was the announcement purposely timed so as to give the students as little opportunity as possible to protest or take effective action?

And most important, is this the sort of fair and equitable treatment we can expect from an administration that believes students do not need any voice in their own government?

Furthermore, because some persons seem to have submerged all that is 'good', that therefore we must all submit to their domination, and subordinate our inner emotions and beliefs to the demands of the group in which we live? Men cannot degenerate completely, even though moral and ethical faith is falling down around us.

Hear me, oh reader, as long as there is one among us who believes in himself, who refuses to buckle under the yoke of societal slavery, who retains his ideals and sticks to them, it cannot be said that the human race is doomed. All the subversive forces in the world cannot undermine the power and strength of the human soul. Individualism shall not die!

A voice cries out in the wilderness: "I shall overcome".

AND THEN THERE WAS ONE...

Every year at this time, a whole bunch of people take a walk downtown and immediately open their mouths to protest the 'commercialization' of Christmas. This is fine.

Sure, many people use Christmas as an excuse to sell their stock; sure, many people seem to lose sight of the 'real reason of Christmas; sure, to many people, Christmas is symbolised by Santa Claus and beer commercials instead of the Christ child; sure, many people drink to the tune of 'Jingle Bell Rock'. But does this mean that the whole society is bankrupt of religious feeling that ours is a culture of atheistic machines whose eternal purpose is the Almighty dollar, of bare-faced pariahs, whose essential purpose in life is to cheat, conquer, and kill their fellow men?

PRO-TEM WISHES ALL ITS READERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR (Don't work too hard and don't forget the gala party this Friday afternoon in York Hall)
POET'S CORNER...

Christmas is
A good feeling,
Smiles,
Spontaneous greeting,
Snow on your boots,
Red cheeks, and
Holly in the hall.

Christmas is
Music,
Honest joy,
and--
Honest tears
Of joy.

It is a child's time
And a grownup's time to be a child.

Thank heaven for Christmas!

The true Miss X-Mas

Indifference

The candle stood, wax-wicked, tall, white-whipped,
Its flame flickering blue-orange molten heat,
High on the mantle.

The moth, pretty gossamer-winged, brown-speckled creature,
Cavorted irregularly among the black, shadowed corners
Of the room.

I, indifferent, watched her flutter about,
Full of happy life, exploring remote crevices,
Sipping dust, shaking cobwebs from her wing,
And finally, approach the flame.

She was strangely drawn to it,
As I knew all moths were.
I watched as she came close, withdrew,
Came close and again withdrew with a torturous struggle.

I could have saved her by extinguishing the flame
Wherein lurked death
Yet she struggled and I watched,
As with one wild lunge
She leapt
Into the orange molten heat.

She fluttered lightly down,
Scaly wings seared, her body lifeless,
To the foot of the candle
Which still burned with a waxy, death-like calm
As I, considering her foolishness,
Returned to my work.

Marilla.

Christmas

Silver balls,
Charred walls,
Carolling bells,
Funeral knells,
Coloured lights,
December fights,
Glistening foil,
Busy turmoil,
Sunday church,
Staggering lurch,
Many gifts,
Senseless rifts,
Whitely snowing,
Liquor flowing,
Decorated tree,
Deathly key,
Old Saint Nicholas,
Is this Christmas?

John Prout

Take 90 seconds to read about this poor soul. The story is vouched for as true by the distinguished British newspaper, the Manchester Guardian, which published this letter, sent by a bricklayer in Barbados to the firm in England which had employed him:

"Respected sir,
When I got to the building, I found that the hurricane had knocked some bricks off the top. So I rigged up a beam with a pulley at the top of the building and hoisted up a couple of barrels of bricks. When I had fixed the building there was a lot of bricks left over.

I hoisted the barrel back up again and secured the line at the bottom and then went up and filled the barrel with extra bricks. Then I went to the bottom and cast off the line. Unfortunately the barrel of bricks was heavier than I was and before I knew what was happening the barrel started down, jerking me off the ground. I decided to hang on and halfway up I met the barrel coming down and received a severe blow on the shoulder.

I then continued to the top, hanging my head against the beam, and getting my finger jammed in the pulley. When the barrel hit the ground it busted its bottom, allowing the bricks to spill out.

I was now heavier than the barrel and so started down again at half speed. Halfway down I met the barrel coming up and received severe injuries to my spine. When I hit the ground, I landed on the bricks getting several painful cuts from the sharp edges.

At this point I must have lost my presence of mind because I let go of the line. The barrel then came down again, giving me another heavy blow on the head and putting me in hospital.

Am I entitled to compensation?"
LETTERS TO THE EDITORS.....

The comments expressed in this column are not necessarily the opinions of the editors. Letters received must be signed and will be printed subject to available space. We strongly urge all students to make use of this column.

Dear Sirs:
As this is the last issue of Pro-Tem for this term, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the editors and staff on a job well done. There is really no sense in comparing this year's Pro-Tem with that of last year for immaturity has disappeared and in its place a mature, well-balanced effort.

Keep up the good work!

Phil Spencer

Dear Sirs:

The ruling powers of York University should abolish the Christmas holidays. As a Christian festival, the purpose has vanished; it is merely an occasion for the merchants to use sentiment to squeeze more money out of the poor individual. The few people who celebrate it as a religious fete are regarded as odd.

The attitude at this university is hypocritical. We are given a holiday from our classes to go home and see our families and friends, and relax from the pressures of our work here. We are to relax, so we will be ready to begin our studies again in the new year. However, this is far from the case. During this break, we are expected to write essays and prepare for tests. One member of the student body with whom I am acquainted has five (5) tests in his first week back at school. Others have combinations of tests and essays due in the same period.

The argument of this letter is: why give us a "holiday"? Why not continue with class or call the period in question a "slack week" for the continuation of studies at home and shorten the academic year by two weeks? Or else, why not have a holiday?

Jim McCaul

Dear Sirs:

I wish to address the following tirade to Miss X-Mas, whether she be a single entity, existing in flesh and cold blood, or a personification of the Committee in charge of Knocking Apathy Out of Freshmen. I find it hard to believe (even after reading twelve editions of Pro-Tem) that such a completely disillusioned individual could exist, but if she does, I extend to her my deepest pity, and assure her that I do not regard her view with apathy.

The only reason I could imagine to be a cause for such cynicism with regard to Christmas, Miss X-Mas, was that perhaps a close friend or relative or yours was at one time the victim of one of the revellers who, celebrating in the name of Christmas, "get drunk and drive in their cars and kill people". Such an event, whether true in your case or not, is indeed tragic; however, surely you must realize that a sin committed in the name of God does not reflect on God Himself.

Beyond all the parties and gift-giving, there is a certain warm and human glow about Christmas that cannot be mistaken for the alcoholic stupor that you seem to think permeates society at this season.

For some of us whose religious values and ideals have been badly weakened by the revelations of higher education, Christmas and the warmth and good will it generates provide the last solid foundation for a simple and unencumbered faith in mankind.

Yes, the holiday is exploited by merchandisers. Yes, it is used by many as an excuse for unrestrained gaiety. But for everyone who is interested in humanity (and, by the way, that is just about everybody), the true meaning, peace and glory of Christmas are all parts of a very beautiful reality.

Merry Christmas.

Heather Pantrey

Sirs:

During the past few weeks various sources have been putting forth the opinion that this year's crop of freshmen are lacking in school spirit. The most potent voice in the crowd is that of Dave Bell who has access to the student body through his most controversial and enthralling column, "Bell's Bullpen". However, Mr. Bell
has illustrated in his superb and unmis-
takable literary style that his hypocrisy is equalled only by his narrow-mindedness. His comments imply that he has been walking through these hallowed halls wearing blind-
ders preventing him from seeing anything but freshmen. Yes, there is a lack of school spirit and as freshmen definitely do not show any enthusiasm. But unless writing a column containing no constructive ideas is an example of school spirit, Mr. Bell is as guilty as we are. It is my conten-
tion that school spirit is not to be aroused and promulgated by the freshmen who, although eager to boost their university, are as yet unsure of themselves in this new environ-
ment. This year we are the masses, the pro-
letariat, an untapped source of enthusiasm and spirit. We are playing our proper role. It is not us but the third and second year students who have failed. These are the people who are experienced in university life, who know the ropes; it is their job to set an example, to pro-
vide a basis that we, the enthusiasm which we are capable of producing. If they do not take the initiative and show us how it’s done, we will be just as lost next year as we are now and what is worse—who will set the example for next year’s fresh-
men? Since September, as I recall, there has only been one event organized on a school wide basis that I would consider an example of school spirit; this being the "Rhubarb" created at the official opening of the new buildings. By an example of school spirit, I don’t mean the attempt of a small clique to make a school-wide issue of something as universally uninteresting as some-
one’s birthday. I had expected that the Student’s Council was responsible for or-
ganizing a means to show our spirit but evidently I was mistaken. The Student’s Council is much too busy organizing such useful institutions as a student court and deciding what colour jackets we will wear, and whether we will have YORK on the back of them or not. As I see so many people walking through the halls sporting their York blazers and jackets, I can’t help but realize the truth in the statement, "You can’t judge a book by its cover". Who would guess that all those people wearing identical jackets have so little in common and that their York spirit is only as deep as the lining of those red jackets.

Slowly but surely, through a lack of fitness, the spirit and enthusiasm which we, this year’s freshmen, brought to this university is dying. It can only remain strong if we exercise it regularly. It is the duty of the second and third year students to put us through the exercises. Almost half the year is gone and they have failed mi-
erably. We, the freshmen, are waiting, but the time is running out.

アル・ヤング

VOICE OF A WOMAN? ...by Neil Williamson

Last Thursday Mrs. J. Pocook, president of the Toronto "Voice of Women", addressed the York Social Forum, explaining the group views on Nuclear weapons. Since this group is a non-violence movement, they naturally support universal nuclear disarmament.

Briefly, they advocate that the Canadian government should not supply nuclear war-
heads to their military forces, or allow any other country to establish missile base on Canadian soil. In addition, they urge that Canada support and aid in the insti-
tution of world-wide disarmament.

Their proposals are generally acceptable, but their explanation of how this should be done illustrates feminine rather than military intuition. For example, the pre-

cent missile bases should be transformed into observation bases, so we may know when enemy missiles are coming our way. Also, professional personnel who become unemployed by such changes should be given new oppor-
tunities in other fields. This proposal may prove difficult if we consider that there are already one-third of a million Canadians unemployed. The government should also sponsor a conference to gear military pursuits to constructive rather than des-

tructive measures. This suggestion seems confused and probably ineffective if we consider the apparent value of Canadian conferences, such as the one held last month on Provincial affairs.

In addition to their stand on nuclear arms this group is also sponsoring a "Violence Under Your Xmas Tree?" campaign urging parents not to give war toys to their chil-
dren. Having read the reports of noted psychologists who believe that man is a war-like being who enjoys conflict, this move may cause more problems than it solves. Like most other women groups, they support Freedom From Hunger and many other social organizations striving for international co-operation.

At the end of the lecture I was left with two thoughts. I wondered why Mrs. Pocook was invited to address the York SOCIALIST Forum, and I was further convinced that a woman’s place is in the home.

ASSISTANT MANAGER WANTED...

The York Basketball Team is looking for an assistant manager for the remainder of the 1963-64 season. The team had hoped that the managerial choices could operate on a co-educational basis, but Coach Johnson has ruled this idea out for the time being.

Anyone over 16 years of age who know the dif-

cence between Carling Red Cap and Iodine and is interested in becoming a manager of the Basketball Team is asked to get in touch with either Coach Johnson in room C221 or Bill Collins in the Common Room.
York is not the only University having discipline problems. The Committee on Student Affairs for Harvard University has withdrawn Parietal Privileges from the University until March. This means in part that no women will be permitted in Harvard undergraduate dormitories and houses for a trial period of four months.

Needless to say there has been a great outburst of criticism, not only from students but from alumni as well. We are reprinting in this issue a letter of protest written to the Harvard Alumni Bulletin by John Kenneth Galbraith, former Canadian and noted economist and author:

To the Editor of the Bulletin:

I can't tell you how depressing it is to find Harvard having another discussion of these so-called parietal rules. For forty years, undergraduates with a special talent for banal controversy, and no doubt a secondary interest in sex, have known that this subject could be counted on to arouse a certain frustrated materialism which lurks, however unhappily, in the interstices of any academic administration. The resulting debate has invariably combined exceptional dreaminess with a crushing misinterpretation of the nature of a university.

The responsibility of the university to its students is to provide the best teaching that can be associated with the scientific, literary, artistic, or other scholarly preoccupations of the faculty. Additionally, it provides libraries, laboratories, and, though less indispensably, places of residence. Once, when Harvard College was in part a privileged academy for the socially visible, it need to assure parents that their more retarded offspring would have the supervision of men of the sort who, however ineffectually, would try to protect them from the natural penalties of indolence, alcohol or lust. Otherwise needed and prestigious clients would be committed to other institutions. All this, happily, is now over. Thousands of men and women clamor for admission for the serious purposes of the university. It can be part of our bargain that they look after themselves.

Accordingly, rules need only reflect the special requirements of the academic community—the quiet, good order, and opportunity for undisturbed sleep that facilitate reflection and study. No effort need be made or should be made to protect individuals from the consequences of their own errors, indiscretions, or passion. Parents of Harvard and Radcliffe applicants who feel their children need a more protective environment should, no doubt, be put firmly on notice so that they may send them elsewhere.

It is clear that from among those who accept this bargain we will have all the students we can accommodate, and presumably they will be more mature. We will need waste no energy or money in providing the surrogates of parenthood beyond the appointed time. There will be misfortunes, but it will be recognized that these are inherent in personality and not the result of failure of efforts to control it. Our deans will be able to turn gracefully to the more welcome tasks of teaching and scholarship, above all, moral or biological issue being involved, we will be spared, praise God, any further discussion of these rules. Those who (one hopes on the basis of some special competence) are fascinated by the question of whether undergraduates are improved or damaged by fornication can organize private discussion groups or, if married, talk about it with their wives.

John Kenneth Galbraith
Paul W. Wargburg Professor of Economics

KULTURKAMPF (more or less)...

O'KEEFE CENTRE:

DEC. 25 to JAN. 11..."DYLAN", starring Alec Guinness. Sidney Michael's new drama is based on two books on the Welsh poet—one by Thomas' widow, Caitlin, "Leftover Life to Kill", and the other by his American friend and business agent, John Malcolm Brinnin, "Dylan Thomas in America".

"DYLAN" also stars James Ray, Barbara Denja, and Martin Gunner. This is Guinness' first Canadian appearance since the Stratford Festival's first season ten years ago. He plays Dylan Thomas.

JAN. 15 to FEB. 1..."KUGATINO", a Roman musical spectacle, starring Nino Manfredi, Ornella Vanoni, and Aldo Fabrizi. Book, lyrics, and direction by Garinelli & Giovannini.

Denise Cunney, 20 year old brilliant pianist from Newmarket, and winner of the highest marks in Canada at last season's Kinnis Festival, presents a recital in Eaton Auditorium this Saturday evening (December 14) at 8:30 p.m.

The Obratov Russian Puppet Theatre opens a two-week run at the Royal Alexander Theatre starting Monday (Dec. 16) at 8.30. The evening performances on Dec. 19-20-21-22-23-24-26-27-28 will be the satirical two-hour variety show "An Unusual Comedy", and the afternoon performances on Dec. 20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28 at 2 p.m. will be the lavish production of "Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp". Both shows are in English.

There are 200 three-foot-high puppets in this company with 25 puppeteers and backstage technicians plus an orchestra in the p
Sir Ernest MacMillan who was the conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra for twenty-five years, returns to the Orchestra as guest conductor for a special Christmas Concert on Saturday, Dec. 21 in Massey Hall at 8.30.

A pair of special Christmas concerts for children will be presented by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra conducted by Walter Susskind featuring Captain Kangaroo in person, on Friday, December 27 at 11.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Massey Hall.

This year's concert programmes are entirely new and have been carefully designed to amuse and interest young audiences. Included are excerpts from the Soldiers' Chorus from Gounod's "Faust", the fourth movement of Mozart's Fortieth Symphony, the overture to Rossini's "L'Italiana in Algeri", and Prokofieff's "Cinderella Suite".

Sir Ernest MacMillan, who was the conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra for twenty-five years, returns to the Orchestra as guest conductor for a special Christmas Concert on Saturday, Dec. 21 in Massey Hall at 8.30.

Village Corner Club—Toronto's Folk Song Centre

174 Avenue Road (1 block north of Davenport)...

Dec. 15 and 22—The Balladeers
Dec. 16-21—Anna Perez
Dec. 23-28—John Smith—large repertoire to country and western; especially good at Irish dialect folk songs; terrific guitar; a real entertainer
Dec. 29-Greg Winkfield
Dec. 30-Jan. 4—Harry Kornfeld—guitar and banjo master; a big name in New York.

BIG NEW YEAR'S EVE HOOT—Kornfeld, Anna Perez, Balladeers, and "other surprise guests" (?). Knowing the Village Corner, this might be quite a show! Reserve places early! 924-0564

Ed. note: We are hopefully looking forward to Miss Reid's return in January. Help!!! G.H.R.

Choir Concert Tonight...

Tonight, at 7.30 p.m., the York University Choir and Orchestra, both under the leadership of Dr. William McCauley, Director of Music, will present a concert of Christmas choral and orchestral music.

The programme promises to be exciting and pleasing to the ear, so come to the Dining Hall at 7.30 p.m. Following the concert, the Choir and anyone else who wishes to come along are going carolling and adjourn-