

Chevronites Leave Office

In what must be viewed as a total surprise, The Chevron was evicted from its former offices in CC 140 without a fight. On Tuesday, January 2, 1979, Fed president Rick Smit called in a university locksmith to change the locks to the doors leading to the offices in CC 140. There were no Chevronites present at the time of the lock-change and the whole procedure took place without incident.

Later in the day Rick Smit toured the office with local media personnel, and allowed the office to be filmed by CKCO-TV for inclusion in that night's news report. It is reported that Johnson Cheung, a Chevron staffer, tried to use a key that he possessed in order to enter CC 140 on the afternoon of the second.

However his key did not work in the locked door and he proceeded to leave the area. Rick Smit has indicated that anyone who enters the office without his authorization will be prosecuted. So far only selected Federation personnel and some Imprint staff members have been allowed to use the office.

Smit has decided that no precautions other than a lock-change will be needed to secure CC 140. There are no false ceilings leading to the office. (It should be pointed out here that the last time the Chevronites were locked out of CC 140 in February 1977, they did not enter from the ceiling, they were apparently let in by a janitor.) Smit does not believe that the Chevronites will break the office

windows to enter the office. As of press time there had been no invasion attempts. The Chevron does not seem to be strapped for space though, they have found production offices in downtown Waterloo, above Hub Variety.

There has not been a final decision relating to the office space in CC 140. It is not expected that The Chevron will receive any of that space. There is evidence that some of the space will be taken over by the Imprint. It is also possible that Radio Waterloo and some Society publications will be granted space. Also a number of Federation boards may move down there, because of the crowded office conditions in CC 235.

B of D. FDP

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Federation

After a rather silent fall, I have decided to write this column once again. I want to thank the publishers of the free mathNEWS for giving me this chance to make some final comments about The Chevron. I do not intend to deal with that publication in future columns.

I was not surprised by the margin of The Chevron's defeat in the last referendum. What did surprise me was the high turnout. The turnout of 5130 or 36% was the highest number ever and the second-highest turnout since 1968. I was also surprised by the low percentage of spoiled ballots (0.8%), considering that one question actually asked three things.

Fortunately (and surprisingly) the Chevronites did an honourable thing and left the offices in CC 140 voluntarily. I guess they had to honour the referendum, since they didn't boycott this one. I would not want them back using any of the space in CC 140, considering the problems it may cause with fellow users. I would not object to giving The Chevron another office (a small one), perhaps CC 214 (where the Chevron refunds are).

I don't see The Chevron having a problem with office space. To their credit The Chevron (unlike the Imprint) rented office space off-campus, in case they could not find any on campus. While I see that The Chevron (from their Jan. 2nd issue) is as bad as ever, they still should be allowed to distribute on campus.

The results of the referendum lead me to believe that the students do NOT want an "official" paper, at least for a while. Personally I oppose the idea of official

papers, as it suggests that the government in power officially sanctions one publication over another. In a country where anyone should be allowed to start a paper, official status implies a lack of press freedom for unofficial publications. I also feel that students are tired of official publications after the problems of the past few years, and we should wait until at least next fall before there is a referendum or petition about giving fees to another paper.

I hope some of the Imprinters will bear this in mind. There seems to be some greediness on the part some of their staff. They seem to want official status, student fees, and office space almost immediately. As for office space, I think that they should get some (but by no means all) of the space in CC 140. I have always felt that they should get space, even before the referendum. I do not think they should be getting any student fees (with perhaps the exception of small grants under \$1000 a term) until next winter at the earliest (perhaps following a petition or referendum next fall). I have already given my views on official papers. I think the Federation should get out of the newspaper business, and only publish a monthly informational newsletter.

Personally I find the Imprint more politically acceptable than The Chevron. However as a newspaper, I feel that it has gone downhill since early last term, and has a long way to go before being worthy of student money. They should first try to prove that they can make it with the advertisers. If they can't, maybe

they don't deserve to survive, and perhaps another paper will rise up in its place.

Generally I find the Imprint to be staffed by reasonable people. There are some exceptions who will remain nameless. I refer here some of the former free chevronites who left The Chevron. They tend to see the Imprint as a paper out to replace The Chevron. Well I want to see a paper better than The Chevron, not one staffed by ex-Chevronites who are engaged in a "holy war". I do not want the Imprint to become a "non-AIA Chevron". The Chevron was unpopular and had problems even before the AIA. Lets hope such problems are not repeated in the Imprint. I hope it will be known for more than being "the reactionary Fed paper".

Finally some words about CUP. Personally I do not care whether a paper is a member of CUP or not, it is their staff decision. However I do not feel that the Federation or the students should be bound by CUP's silly statement of principles. I feel that CUP is a rather biased, elitist, and hypocritical organization that I have little use for. It was with some interest however, that I viewed the results of the last CUP conference. The Imprint applied for membership and was refused, but was told they'd be reconsidered and possibly accepted in a few months. However the shocker of the show was the expulsion of The Chevron from CUP by a 37-2-8 vote. It was surprising to hear of their own fellow leftists turn against them. I wonder how much support The Chevron has left any more.

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