

10.5.68

(8)

Note by Mr. Evans on attempt to arrange interview with Vice-Chancellor regarding the three excluded students.

Just before 5 p.m. on Friday 10th May 1968 Mr. Ireson came to my office. He said that Mr. Triesman had told him that one of the aspects of the punishment imposed on him was that he had not had a chance to speak to the Vice-Chancellor. The Registrar's letter informing him of the punishment stated explicitly that "Any questions you wish to raise on this exclusion should be addressed in writing to me".

Mr. Ireson asked if I could get in touch with the Vice-Chancellor to confirm whether, in fact, Mr. Triesman was not allowed to see the Vice-Chancellor.

I was unable to contact the Vice-Chancellor until about 5.15 p.m. when I telephoned him. He expressed surprise and said that he had been available all day and would have been willing to see Mr. Triesman or indeed either of the other two, at any time. All they had to do was to ring his secretary for an appointment.

I told him that the wording of the letter appeared to preclude this, and he said that this had not been his intention.

I asked if he would be able to see Mr. Triesman that day, he said that he had someone with him at the time and other engagements which would make it impossible for him to see Mr. Triesman that evening, but he would be glad to see him the following morning, if he could arrange to send a note to the Vice-Chancellor's house to arrange a time.

By this time Mr. Triesman and the other two students were in the Keynes Tower, where a crowd of students had occupied the foyer in order to forestall any attempts to evict the three students.

I was told I would not be allowed to pass through the crowd to see Mr. Triesman and that he was not being allowed to leave his room.

I accordingly asked if someone would take a message to Mr. Triesman that the Vice-Chancellor was willing to see Mr. Triesman as described above. Veronica Beechey offered to take this message up to Mr. Triesman and as far as I know did so.

By that time, however, I understand that the three students were not being allowed by the other students to leave their rooms.