

13.5.68

(24)

PRESS STATEMENT

FROM PETER ARCHARD; M.A.N. STUDENT IN GOVERNMENT. + ONE OF THE THREE STUDENTS
SUSPENDED FOR TAKING PART IN THE DEMONSTRATION AGAINST DR. INCH OF PORTON DOWN.

"The one and only reason why we demonstrated against Dr. Inch and Porton Down was that, after serious investigation using scientific journals, we concluded that the nature of the work in which that establishment is involved is of the most pernicious kind imaginable. It is clear that the work on chemical and biological warfare is of the greatest gravity for humanity.

According to some scientists, it may well prove that chemical and biological warfare has much greater devastating potential than the dropping of several nuclear bombs. The demonstration was organised and calculated to make an impact which would reach beyond the confines of this university. Personally I think the importance of reinstating the three students suspended as a result of the demonstration peripheral to the main issue of CBW.

I sincerely hope that, in the welter of ^{publicity} ~~activity~~ which will arise from the present student and staff activity over the suspension of myself and the two other students, the existence of institutions like Porton Down and the sort of work they propagate will be disseminated as widely as possible. That science should be used for the improvement of man's welfare seems so obvious that it hardly requires stating. Research on CBW constitutes a nasty blench on the whole progressive development of science. That it has been described as "Public Health in reverse" is a testimony to this. We sincerely believe that not only the issue on which we demonstrated, but also the form that the demonstration took, are fully justified by the nature of CBW.

Peter Archard.

M. 13th