

[T of E Ref 31]

STATEMENT CONCERNING INCIDENTS AT DR. INCH'S LECTURE ON MAY 7TH 1968.

I was among those present at a lecture due to be given by Dr Inch (C.D.E.E. Porton Down) on 7th May 1968. The meeting, scheduled for 4:30 pm, was chaired by Dr. Tillett who introduced the speaker. Dr. Inch's introductory remarks were interrupted by a number of students seeking admission. After some discussion between Dr Tillett, Dr Bowden and the students, a number of them were admitted. After a while, some attempts were made to limit the size of the audience, it being the opinion of the organisers that the room was full. One student, whom I later discovered was named Ehanlet (Department?) on being requested to leave by Dr Tillett behaved in a most threatening manner.

The meeting was about to start when someone at the back of the room announced that he was going to interrupt the meeting to read a series of indictments to Dr Inch concerning ~~his~~ the work undertaken at Porton Down. From my position in the centre of the room I was unable to see the speaker. Thereafter a number of speakers, one of whom was female, read a series of charges concerning the effects of certain neurotoxic agents. At this stage Dr Inch was not allowed to answer.

After about five minutes, Dr Inch appeared to wish to leave and Dr Tillett and Dr Bowden started to escort him from the room, whereupon a student rushed forward, and shouting "mustard gas", emptied a packet of yellow powder over Dr. Inch. The assailant readily identified himself as Orchard. Dr. Inch's progress from the room was subsequently impeded by jostling students. With the help of Dr Bowden and Dr Tillett he eventually left the room, pursued by students. I followed to find Dr Inch trapped in a corner of the lobby by the

garden door. I managed to get close to Dr Inch, by which time students, by linking arms, had cordoned off Dr Inch from the other members of the Chemistry staff.

Further indictments were then read to Dr Inch in a hostile atmosphere, punctuated by shouts of "Murderer", and "Keep Science Clean". Dr. Inch then agreed to answer questions. This he did but his replies were often drowned by shouting. Someone then suggested that the meeting be moved back to the Committee Room. Professor Gordon ~~was heard to~~ agreed to this motion and there was some movement amongst students to implement this suggestion. At no time did Dr. Inch agree to the move. At this point there was a shout of "Fuzz" and "Sit" which announced the arrival of the police. Thereafter, much scuffling and jostling occurred as the police tried to reach Dr Inch. By now the lobby was jammed with demonstrators and egress into the restaurant foyer was blocked by a number of students. I soon lost contact with Dr Inch and eventually ~~as~~ with considerable difficulty made my way out ~~to the~~ through the bar and thence via the window staircase in the T.V. room. I was just in time to see Dr Inch leaving in a car.

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