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To the Tribunal of Enquiry.

I learnt several days before May 7th that Dr T. D. Inch of the Ministry of Defence research establishment into chemical and biological warfare was to speak to an open meeting of the Chemical Society on that day, and, understanding also that there was to be some expression of opposition to the work carried out at Porton Down at this meeting, I decided to associate myself with this protest. ~~The meeting~~ I learnt on May 7th that the demonstration was likely to take the form of the reading of an indictment. The meeting was advertised to take place in the lecture theatre block at 4.30 p.m. on May 7th. I went towards the LTB with 2 friends at about 4.30; we were met by Ian Brodie coming from the LTB who told us that the meeting place had been changed to Wisenhoe House. We decided to walk to Wisenhoe House; we arrived at about 4.40, and found the meeting already under way in the old Quiet Common Room.

Several people were gathered in the bar; not all were apparently ~~interes~~ wishing to attend the meeting, but a group of people were gathered around the door by the bar window, and were evidently being refused admission. I walked round to the door between the Quiet Room and the T.V. ^(parlor) room; I found it guarded by Mr. Davis; I indicated the door, and he shook his head. I joined the group around the other door, which was now a little open. Someone called out that

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the doors be left open so that we could at least hear what was being said, and this appeared to be accepted by whoever was guarding the door. Once the door was open it was apparent that there was ample space inside, so we moved into the room standing around the open door and near the group of chemistry lecturers around Dr. Inch.

It was at this point that I heard ~~that~~ David Triesman ~~was~~ reading out ~~his~~ the indictment of the work carried out at Porton Down, and saw that there was already a large group of demonstrators in the room. The reading was taken over by Anna Mendelson, then Mike Gonzales. Several chemists were evidently amused by the indictment. After the readings had continued for about 5 minutes, someone in the group around Dr. Inch announced that Dr. Inch was going to leave, and this ~~group~~ ^{group} immediately began a move to the door near which I was standing. There were cries of "No" and "He must stay to listen" from students. My view was obscured at the moment when mustard powder was thrown at Dr. Inch, but I heard Peter Archard call "Mustard Gas", and a moment later saw Dr. Inch moving towards the door with mustard powder on his shoulders. One student sat in the doorway in an attempt to block his exit, but ^{believe} no one followed his example and ^{he} quickly got up. As

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Dr. Inch was leaving to chants of "Keep Science Clean" and "Close Porton Down", I looked back to the speaker's desk, and saw a tall, burly man, who I assumed to be a chemistry lecturer (but whose name I do not know) roughly holding back and shaking Brian Reeve, who I had seen to take no particular part in any incident.

When I left the room I found myself in the rear of the demonstration. The demonstration came to a halt in the area opposite the entrance to the restaurant, and Dr. Inch was cornered near the exit to the gardens. There did not appear to be any chemistry lecturers in attendance at this point. The readers of the indictment resumed their reading. When these shortly came to an end, questions were put to Dr. Inch. I was too far away to hear all that was said. After, I believe, some initial reluctance Dr. Inch replied to the questions that were put. Certain of his replies were greeted with some ^{noisy} scepticism, but he was generally listened to attentively. This continued for about 10 minutes. A student near me suggested that we move back to a more comfortable room, and one where we could all hear what was being said. This,

was taken up by people near Dr. Indr. The police entered at this point. There was some sound of disturbance as the police made their way to Dr. Indr. Realising that the police intended to take Dr. Indr away, many students called out "Why?" and "Ask him if he wants to go". I did not see the incidents involving the police around Dr. Indr, but heard several police members chanted. I saw that there were several members of the chemistry department with the police. Their exit route lay through the group of students of which I was a member. One chemistry lecturer ^(name unknown) made it his business to clear a way through the students for the police. He threw one student very roughly to the floor in front of me, and hit and pushed out at several others. I was among those who forcibly restrained him from this violence. I remember no attempt to stop the police leaving with Dr. Indr in the area where I was standing (i.e. at the foot of the stairs to the 2nd floor)

After Dr. Inch had left, demonstrators left Wienthoe House by various exits and ran to the front of the house. One student attempted to block the exit of the police car in which Dr. Inch was driven away, but the police drove on at considerable speed regardless of the fact that a student was half-sitting on the bonnet of their car.

Immediately after this two tall young constables strode up to and caught hold of a student who had his back to them and was standing still — I think watching the departing car. Looking round in surprise, he

made a gesture of appeal to other students, about 20 of whom successfully rescued him from the two constables. The action of the two policemen in this incident seemed, as far as I could judge, to be completely arbitrary. I saw no other hostile incidents between police and students outside Wivenhoe House.

The police left shortly afterwards. I saw in all 5 police cars and one van with at least two police dogs in the back.

Christie Barnes
3rd year Sociology
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