

T of E Ref: 64

EVIDENCE RELATING TO THE EVENTS OF MAY 7th.

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PREAMBLE

The events since 7th May have further confirmed me in my opinion that those in authority suffer from what C.W.Mills called "crackpot realism", i.e. a complete loss of contact with reality and the attendant result this has on their senses.

EVIDENCE

It was pointed out to me on Friday 3rd May that a certain Dr Inch from Porton Down was coming to lecture on "Chemical and Biological properties of Toxic Chemicals" the following Tuesday. It was advertised as a "Chemical Society Lecture", the plain meaning of which was that it was open to any member of the Union. It was at once obvious to any man of self-respect that some sort of demonstration of dissent be effected, widening the frames of reference of Dr. Inch's talk. I was puzzled at the time how this could be done effectively, using the lecture to disseminate the full truth about Porton Down and Toxic Chemicals. On coming back from London after the week-end I was delighted to hear that a rational form of demonstration had been found. An indictment would be read to Dr Inch, followed by questions to which he would have a chance to reply.



May 7th arrived. The lecture was scheduled for 4.30 pm in LTB2. A short time before, I wandered into the coffee bar to greet the cadres and have a cup

of coffee. While I was there a rumour began to spread that ~~that~~ the lecture had been transferred to another room (in Wivenhoe House). At the time, ~~and~~ I was somewhat taken aback at this news. However the balance was restored when we found, through unofficial sources, that the lecture was to be held in the Senate room in Wivenhoe House. It was now clear that everything would be attempted to keep non - Chemists out. This was a pity since it was the first time that a Chemistry lecture was to be attended by a ~~number~~ large proportion of non-Scientists, interested in the human implications of science.

(I understood the gardener has alleged he saw me picking up stones on my way to Wivenhoe House. This allegation is



completely founded. Apart from anything else, the acquiring of stones (which never even entered my mind) would have been tactically mindless given the form the demonstration was planned to take.) After being subjected to the pance of a deoy pretending that the talk was to be held in yet another room, I finally <sup>(and others)</sup> arrived at the Senate room. Blocking our entrance was a man whom I now understand was Dr Bowden. After explaining to him that I wished to attend the lecture he told me that it was no longer a ~~University~~ Chemical Society lecture but a Department lecture exclusively for the members of the Department, ~~which, since I saw~~ ~~through the open door~~ <sup>quietly</sup> Paul Houghton sitting quietly in the room, did



~~not exactly appear to me as approaching the truth.~~ Among other reasons I did not believe this as I saw, through the partially open door, ~~sitting quietly~~ Paul Houghton, first year Composite Maths, quietly sitting in the room. I abandoned my dialogue with Dr Bowden when I saw that a stream of consciousness was flowing through the other door; I joined them.

I was smoking when I entered. Suddenly a man sitting down (whom I now understand to have been Dr. Greenhead) told me to ~~stop~~ stop smoking, which was strange considering that many people in the room were likewise smoking. I, of course, refused to do so. He said, in an arrogant voice, 'I am a member of staff' and asked for my name. I gave it.



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As soon as Dr Inck was introduced a student at the back of the room began reading an indictment. While ~~he~~<sup>he</sup> was reading there appeared to be some sort of commotion (with Dr Inck?) at the front. After about five minutes someone shouted 'Dr Inck is now leaving'. At this point a student shouting 'mustard gas' threw some mustard powder over him. After a few seconds, pushing began to get Dr Inck out, and as always in such scuffles, many people not at the origin of the pushing, and feeling pressed and confused, attempted to stand firm. Shouting began 'Close Porton down' and 'Keep science clean'. The



crowd ended up in the corridor, Dr Ingh standing quietly in  
the corner. No violence was used against him and he used no  
force to attempt to get out. (<sup>An</sup> Allegation, <sup>I believe,</sup> ~~has~~ been made  
that I attempted (but was restrained ~~from~~ !!!) from  
hitting the head porter. This is not true. ~~Even~~ ~~as~~  
I ~~was~~ was pushed (as many other people were) by several  
people from the Chemistry Department, but kept my temper  
and restricted myself to warning one of them (Dr.  
Greenlade I believe) to get his hands off me. The most  
I did was either to stand firm or push back when pushed.  
Dr Bowden's allegation that I 'manhandled' Dr Ingh  
(contradicted in his oral evidence) is as worthless and  
ridiculous as his statement that Mike Gonzales was  
promissant at the front. Mike was at no <sup>anywhere</sup> ~~time~~ near the  
<sup>when we were standing</sup> front in the corridor.)



Here Dr Ingh was plainly prepared to answer questions. A rational discussion took place in which Dr Ingh gave some revealing answers (e. g. that Porton Down had to get money from somewhere stipulating the ~~then~~ U. S. A. military establishment). All had been relatively quiet until now when it was announced that the police had arrived and tension rose. A student asked if ~~they~~<sup>we</sup> could all go back into the room where the discussion would continue and the police be called away. Very soon after this the police came charging in and at this point scuffling and pushing started again. (~~When the~~ ~~we~~ ~~it was announced~~ When the arrival of the



police was announced everyone sat down ~~but~~ except for those in front (among whom I was) whom everybody agreed should continue standing and link arms. Linking of arms prevents any individual from being picked on and arrested by the police.) The police, who were obviously puzzled at being called in, managed to get Dr. Ingh out. We all ran into the courtyard where the police attempted to arbitrarily arrest two of our comrades. We prevented this by surrounding and clustering around the victimized individuals. The police finally drove off. I returned to the coffee bar elated that the demonstration had been so successful. It widened the essential conditions for free speech - spread of information - and it clearly brought out the essential human implications of science.