

Jen Thomas.

[Concerning my brush with Dr Bowden].

At the time Peter Archard threw mustard powder over Dr Inch, I was standing at the front of the room. Dr Bowden was also there. I noticed him as he was one of the few members of the Chemistry Staff that I then knew by name, and furthermore had already succeeded in making himself objectionable.

Whilst someone (I think Mr Davies) was taking Peter Archard's name, Dr Inch, after hesitating, left through the door by the bar-bellied table. A group of students had attempted to sit down in the doorway, others were trying to get out and there was a crush blocking that exit.

out hoping to I at once tried to get
leaving and I was crushed amongst a
lot of people. Dr Bowden was on my
left apparently jammed against the door-
post. He tried to pull me back and
appeared to be attempting to block the
doorway personally to stop students leaving.
At this point the pressing of the small
group trying to get out pushed me against
Dr Bowden and I was unable to move
my arms. At this point Dr Bowden
grabbed my glasses from my face, accidentally
poking his finger in my eye at the
time. Then holding my glasses along his
palm he crushed them in his hand
and appeared to put them in his pocket,
though I did not actually see whether
they did go into his pocket.

I shouted at Dr Bowden
but took no further action as my
arms were jammed, and also I can

see perfectly well without my glasses.
The pressure then eased and I chased
after Dr. Inch.

The following day I was
told by my fiancée (a Chemistry student)
that my glasses were in the
Maintenance Office - she had enquired
at Wivenhoe House Porters Desk -
I collected them there.

I collected them and their
condition indicated that what I said
above was correct; they were bent
at the bridge so that the lenses
were looking at each other, the stalks
were bent too.

As they are wire I was
fortunately able to straighten them
out however the lenses remain
slightly chipped.

Before I straightened them
I showed them to several people
including Mr. John Bull and Miss
Islay Fullerton.

J. Thomas
4th June 1968.