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Thursday 12th FEBRUARY, 1970

A.M.S. VOTES TOTAL BOYCOTT

OUR STUDENT COUNCIL, UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED BY HUNDREDS OF CONCERNED STUDENTS, DECIDED BY A STRONG MAJORITY VOTE IN LAST NIGHT'S MEETING THAT ALL CLASSES WILL BE BOYCOTTED AS FROM THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY.

THE MEETING WAS UNIQUE IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE. IT HAD TO BE MOVED TO THE AGORA TO ACCOMMODATE THE OVERFLOWING CROWD. THE USUAL FORMAT WAS QUICKLY DISPENSED WITH AND THE COUNCIL LOST NO TIME GETTING DOWN TO THE NITTY GRITTY. THAT IS, THE REFUSAL ON THE PART OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND SOCIOLOGY FACULTY, IN THE FACE OF RISING PROTEST FROM STUDENTS, TO RENEW THE CONTRACT OF VICTOR WIGHTMAN.

AN INITIAL MOTION WAS TO RESTRICT THE BOYCOTT TO THE ARTS FACULTY ONLY. THE FLOOR UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED SUCH LIMITED ACTION AND DEMANDED A TOTAL BOYCOTT OF ALL UNIVERSITY CLASSES. THE MOTION THAT ACHIEVED CONSENSUS WAS AS FOLLOWS:

"THAT A BOYCOTT OF ALL CLASSES BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 12TH 1970 TO DEMAND THE OFFICIAL REINSTATEMENT OF VICTOR WIGHTMAN AS THE ONLY METHOD TO CORRECT THE INJUSTICE DONE TO VICTOR WIGHTMAN."

THE ABOVE MOTION WAS PASSED FEBRUARY 11TH 1970, AND CARRIED A VOTE OF 14 FOR, 3 AGAINST, 1 ABSTENTION.

THIS RESULTED FROM THE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH OCCURRED ON WEDNESDAY. PRESIDENT TAMBLYN INFORMED THE A.M.S. PRESIDENT, DENNIS WALLACE, THAT HE WOULD CALL A MEETING AT 3:30 P.M. THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS THE MEETING THAT EXPLICITLY STATED WOULD CONTAIN TWELVE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES, SOCIOLOGY-ANTHROPOLOGY FACULTY, DEAN RYAN, DR. FRENCH AND PRESIDENT TAMBLYN. WHEN STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES WENT TO MEET WITH MR. TAMBLYN HE WAS THE ONLY NON-STUDENT PRESENT, ALONG WITH PROFESSOR WIGHTMAN. ANTHRO-SOCIOLOGY FACULTY WAS CONSPICUOUS BY THEIR ABSENCE. THE STUDENT DELEGATION ASKED THE PRESIDENT TO CONTACT THE FACULTY MEMBERS OF THIS DEPARTMENT TO COME TO A MEETING AT 5:00 CLOCK. AT THIS MEETING THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES WENT IN GOOD FAITH TO MEET THE ELUSIVE ACADEMICS. BUT AGAIN THEY

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FOUND IT EXPEDIENT NOT TO ATTEND. INSTEAD A STATEMENT WAS PRESENTED SIGNED BY SEVEN OF
THE SOCIO-ANTHRO FACULTY MEMBERS. APPARENTLY THIS IS THE ONLY WAY THIS FACULTY IS PRE-
PARED TO LET ITS VOICE BE HEARD. BY A MERE WHITE PIECE OF PAPER!

AMBIGUOUS??

REPRODUCED BELOW IS THE STATEMENT AND ALSO AN ACCOMPANYING STATEMENT BY THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

"THE FACULTY MEMBERS OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY REGRET THAT THE
UNIVERSITY HAS NOT FOUND IT POSSIBLE TO RENEW THE CONTRACT OF PROFESSOR VICTOR
WIGHTMAN .

"WE BELIEVE THAT THE DECISION WAS BASED ON CONTINGENCIES BEYOND THE CONTROL
OF THE DEPARTMENT. WE BELIEVE THE DECISION NOT TO RENEW A DEPARTMENT MEMBER'S
CONTRACT WAS AN ECONOMIC DECISION MADE OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT, WHILE THE SEL_EC-
TION OF MR. WIGHTMAN WAS BASED ON ACADEMIC GROUNDS AFTER DUE PROCESS."

(SIGNED) K. DAWSON, ROBERT BENNETT, PETER D. CHIMBOS,
CRAIG HATHAWAY, MARTIN GREENWOOD, STUART BALDWIN,
A. W. ASIMI.

"STATEMENT REGARDING THE PROCEDURES LEADING TO THE NON-RENEWAL OF MR. V. G.
WIGHTMAN'S CONTRACT WITH THE LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

"THROUGHOUT THE PAST WEEK, I HAVE INVESTIGATED THE NATURE OF THE PROCEDURES
WHICH RESULTED IN THE UNIVERSITY'S DECISION NOT TO RENEW THE CONTRACT OF
MR. V. G. WIGHTMAN, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
AND ANTHROPCLOGY.

"AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIOLOGY AND
ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT, AND OTHERS DIRECTLY INVOLVED, IT HAS BEEN
CONFIRMED THAT ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS WERE INVOLVED WITH RESPECT TO THE
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT, BUT THAT THE DECISION WITH RESPECT
TO MR. WIGHTMAN'S CONTRACT IN PARTICULAR WAS BASED ON ACADEMIC CONSIDERATIONS
AND THAT DUE PROCESS WAS FOLLOWED IN THESE PROCEDURES.

"AS A RESULT OF THIS INVESTIGATION, THERE IS NO REASON TO ALTER THE DECIS-
ION NOT TO RENEW MR. V. G. WIGHTMAN'S PROBATIONARY CONTRACT."

(SIGNED) W. G. TAMBLYN,
PRESIDENT.

WHEN QUESTIONED BY STUDENTS WHY THE FACULTY HAD NOT SHOWN UP TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE, THE PRESIDENT REPLIED THAT THEY CHOSE NOT TO ATTEND. HE WENT ON TO CLARIFY THAT HE HAD NO POWER TO CALL SUCH A MEETING.

BUT, THE ARGUS, IN ITS ENDEAVOUR TO GET THE PLAIN TRUTH, DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE THE LATTER REPLY MORE THOROUGHLY. ONE OF OUR REPORTERS QUESTIONED A DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN AS TO THE VALIDITY OF THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT, HE WAS TOLD EMPHATICALLY,

"YES! THE PRESIDENT DOES HAVE THE POWER TO CALL SUCH A MEETING."

AND WHEN TOLD THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD DENIED SUCH POWER HE RESPONDED, "SHEER DRIBBLE."

THE TIME HAS COME!

IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE DECISION TAKEN BY COUNCIL WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE BODY OF STUDENTS PRESENT WAS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. THE BOYCOTT IS THE FINAL LEGAL STEP THAT CAN BE TAKEN AS A MEANS OF PROTEST. HENCE SOLIDARITY IN THIS MOVE CANNOT ONLY BE VITAL BUT MUST PROVE EFFECTIVE IF WE ARE TO RECEIVE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS WE THE STUDENTS ARE ASKING

ANALYSIS:

WHEN AN ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION IS MADE, GAPS STILL STAND OUT BLATANTLY. IN LIGHT OF THE INFORMATION PRESENTED TO US WE CAN ONLY PRESENT TO YOU WHAT HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO US.

WHO FIRED VIC WIGHTMAN?

FACT: A LETTER DATED JANUARY 29TH 1970, SIGNED BY PRESIDENT TAMBLYN, SAYING HIS (WIGHTMAN'S) CONTRACT WOULD NOT BE RENEWED. NO REASON GIVEN.

WHAT THEY SAID:

DR. FRENCH TOLD WIGHTMAN THAT IT WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION.

DEAN RYAN SAID THAT IT WAS A DEPARTMENTAL DECISION.

PRESIDENT TAMBLYN SAID HE JUST SIGNED IT.

WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE SHOW SO FAR?

THE EVIDENCE (ADDUCED FROM THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6TH WITH DEAN RYAN, WIGHTMAN, OTHER DEPARTMENT MEMBERS AND STUDENTS) SHOWS ONLY THAT FOUR PERSONS APPEAR TO HAVE HAD ANY PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISMISSAL; NAMELY, DR. TAMBLYN, MR. RYAN, DR FRENCH AND MARTIN GREENWOOD.

WHY IS THE FACULTY ASSOCIATION BEEN UNABLE TO ACT?

FACT: THE FACULTY ASSOCIATION'S POWERS ARE GENERALLY LIMITED TO CORRECTING PROCEDURAL TYPE ERRORS SUCH AS NOT FOLLOWING ESTABLISHED RULES AND LAWS TO THE

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LETTER, ANY INJUSTICE THAT MANAGES TO VIOLATE THE LETTER OF THE LAW IN NON-RENEWAL CASES IS BEYOND THEIR POWER TO REMEDY, THEY SAY.

FACT: THE FACULTY ASSOCIATION'S INVESTIGATION INTO THE MATTER MIGHT HAVE ENABLED THEM TO HELP WIGHTMAN, BUT THE VAGUE AND AMBIGUOUS STATEMENT SIGNED BY SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT (WEDNESDAY 11TH) SABOTAGED THE ASSOCIATION'S ABILITY TO COME FORWARD FOR WIGHTMAN. THE ASSOCIATION WOULD SEEM TO OW US A CLARIFYING STATEMENT OF ANY CONTRADICTIONS THAT MAY HAVE SHOWN UP IN DEPARTMENT MEMBERS' RECENT STATEMENTS.

SINCE IT IS NOT IN OUR POWER TO PROVIDE ANY ANSWERS TO THESE AND OTHER QUESTIONS, AND SINCE ONLY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION CAN PROVIDE THEM, WE URGE YOU TO SUPPORT THE BOYCOTT. AND BY SUPPORTING THE BOYCOTT WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO EXERT ENOUGH PRESSURE ON THE ADMINISTRATION TO GIVE US THE ANSWERS TO THE MANY QUESTIONS WHERE ~~EXXIX~~ CONTRADICTIONS ARISE.

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+ + ATTENTION! ALL ARTS STUDENTS + +

THE ARTS SOCIETY EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL HAVE DECIDED TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING MOTION MADE BY THE A.M.S. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th.

THAT A BOYCOTT OF ALL CLASSES BEGIN ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12TH TO DEMAND THE OFFICIAL RE-INSTATEMENT OF VICTOR WIGHTMAN AS THE ONLY METHOD TO CORRECT THE INJUSTICE DONE TO MR WIGHTMAN.

FOR = 17

AGAINST = 0

ABSTENTIONS = 0

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NOTE:

COORDINATING CENTRE IS IN THE OLD WINTER CARNIVAL OFFICE.

PHONE: 345-2121 EXT. 451

or

argus EXT. 580 or 344-6911 (24 HOURS)

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