

41 Heol Alun
Wainfawt
Aberystwyth

Dear Myron.

10/2/89

Dyfed. 54233BB.

It saddens so many of us who have had association with the Chemistry department in Aberystwyth to see the demise of a flourishing purpose built laboratory.

I wish that other eminent scientists of your caliber would express their concern so eloquently as you Myron, then maybe the public at large would realize the dire effect of losing this department will have on the University here in Aberystwyth.

Gareth your old colleague has also expressed similar views but it seems that we are up against a Government ^{whose} ~~self~~ views and values do not extend beyond the prosperous areas of the South of England.

We read that the plant-breeding station at Trawscod is under review - also some of the farming research unit outside Aberystwyth.

Similar problems with the world renowned
plant breeding station of Gogerddan.
Where will it end?

Unfortunately we have few people
around these days who are prepared to
fight the M.G.C., and will stand up against
Government policy which appears patetically
biased towards the English political
hierarchy that has shown complete
disregard to the problems of Wales.

I share your views on so many
things Myron, and although now retired
I also feel for those whose future has
been affected by this emergency policy.

Manzel (Alan) sends his kind
regards to you & told me I was going to
send you a few lines. I trust that all
is well with you.

Good luck Myron

Cofon i' cymer

T. I. Griffiths
(Griff) & Glassbeaver

Dept. 48B / 428.
I.B.M.,
Neighborhood Road,
Kingston NY 12401,
U.S.A.
7th June 1989.

Mr T. I. Griffiths,,
41 Heol Alun,
Waunfawr,
Aberystwyth,
Wales,

Dear Griff,

It was a great pleasure indeed to receive your letter here in the new world. Your views are those of the vast majority, and shortly I will send you my account of the way in which the EDCL was brutally put out of business by Big Brother to the East.

I recently wrote a letter to the Cambrian News asking for a boycott of the sale, and have been fighting its closure for three years or more using various tactics. This fight has been made difficult because over a hundred approaches to the various Colleges of the University of Wales asking for a role as a scholar have been rebuffed or ignored. However, I have recently tried again and have received some good support from Sir Goronwy Daniel, who agreed that the sale was unethical and unimaginative. Gareth has also been fighting bravely from "Speit Isaf", Llanddeiniol, SY23 5BG, but has been out of work off and on for three years since being forced to leave the EDCL.

Never a day passes without my thinking back to the EDCL days, and I would give my eye teeth to return there again.

Among the things I have tried in the past are 1) Fighting through all the University's procedures, from College Court and Council to University Court. 2) Contacting the Privy Council. 3) Writing to M.P.'s and newspapers. 4) Writing repeatedly to Principals Gareth Owen and K. O. Morgan. 5) Appealing to I.B.M. in the U.S.A. 6) Trying to raise the money to buy the EDCL by a Bank Loan.

My letters to the Principals were ignored and are still being ignored. Sir Goronwy Daniel wrote to the Principal on my behalf, but I have heard nothing.

I wrote to the Chairman of the U.G.C. repeatedly, with very brave support from Gareth. We both suffered for this and have been put out of work for rebellious tendency. Sir Peter mentioned that the closure was "inevitably subjective".

I am still willing to fight until hell freezes over, but coolness and organisation is needed at this critical stage. The safest way of preventing the closure would be a purchase by the

People of Wales, which is Supreme Authority in its University. It is a matter of appealing to the People in a well organised way, of seeking legal ways of preventing the sell-off, of organising resistance in a positive way. Among the things I have tried in the U.S. is an approach to Foundations, appeals to Journals, and so on. However no journal would accept my advertisement. Even Orville refused to help.

All that is water under the bridge and there is time for one more big effort. 1) Taking out full page adverts in the Cambrian News and Western Mail. The editor of the Cambrian News might do this free of charge, and seems to be sympathetic. We appeal for as much as people can afford. 2) Set up a Trust Fund for the appeal with the help of Plaid Cymru at Aberystwyth. 3) Set up a Steering Committee to go for Euro funds to buy the EDCL. 4) The Committee to make systematic appeals to industry. 5) Involve the T.U.C. of Wales and the Labour Party, if it will help. Similarly the Liberal Party. 6) Obtain the active support of Sir Goronwy Daniel. 7) Obstruct the present sale by trying again to get the Old Building listed. According to Gareth he got it listed before but threats were issued from the College and the National Trust gave up. Gareth can be contacted to find out what really happened. 8) Use Legal Injunction and use the media (TV and Radio) to get help on your side. In this way isolate the elite in the College.

I am afraid that people like John Thomas and Prof. Mansel Davies have no guts for the fight, and the Welsh M.P.'s have so far been ineffective. Mansell can use his connections with Geraint Howells to initiate questioning in Parliament, and Parliamentary pressure on the College. People like the Leader of the Opposition have been stunningly silent, and this is no good. Plaid Cymru M.P.'s should mobilise in defence of the EDCL as a focal point of Welsh Pride, and the Eisteddfod's advanced Organisational capability could be mobilised to raise funds, and force the College to take the EDCL off the open market, and sell it at a reasonable price to the People of Wales.

I will try to mobilise support from the BBC in Wales. I believe that Sir Goronwy would chair the steering committee. There would be no point in expecting help, however, from Jeremy or Graham. They are interested only in themselves.

The enclosed letter shows my latest attempt at getting a job in the University. If my CV can be of any help I enclose it. The obvious things, like a letter writing campaign to the present Principal, should be done. He has hundreds of pages of material from Gareth and myself suggesting uses for the EDCL.

I also suggest an appeal to the European Parliament through your Euro M.P.'s, and use of the European Court. I have exhausted all U.K. appeals mechanisms by going to the Privy Council. This effectively refused to get involved. Records of appeals are with the Privy Council Office, Whitehall.

I suggest that if the Steering Committee is set up, it look for a good barrister like Lord Elystan, willing to give his services free and start obstructing the sale by a series of injunctions, for example on the basis of historical interest. Half the battle is in getting the

old building re-listed, so it can't be sold. An appeal can be lodged with the European Court, thus delaying the sale indefinitely.

I have put my money where my mouth is and have left some scholarships to the University in my Will. Despite this my requests for employment are being ignored.

I am prepared to work in the EDCL without a salary, and to stock it with equipment, getting research off the ground again.

I will get down to writing the appeal for the Cambrian News, and ask the Editor for a free page every week for the appeal.

Many things can be done once the steering committee is formed. Getting the Old Building listed could stop them in their tracks.

Cymru am byth,

P.S. If enough people want to help the campaign, they must organise themselves and get the help of other organisations. Then the appeal could be launched. Once the appeal is underway help could be got from concerts, and events and so on to raise funds for the purchase by the People, or for the legal battle. Football and rugby matches could be arranged, Dick would help with athletics events. The schools could be mobilised to raise funds, and many more things like this. The only people who won't help are the academics in power. The trick is to get the appeal on TV. I am sure that the Farmers Union of Wales would lend a hand, the National Union of Teachers and so on.

RD4 Box 250A,
Kingston,
NY 12401,
U.S.A.,
3rd May, 1989.

Dr. Richard Kemp,
Registrar,
University of Wales,
Dear Dr. Kemp,

Thank you for your recent letter. I enclose a copy of the Will, in final draft. If the University is agreeable in outline I will forward the Memorandum concerning the scholarships.

Thank you for your opinion which I value. However, as the enclosed letter to Sir Goronwy Daniel shows, the idea that I take a Chair in an English University is not unfortunately realistic in the present climate.

As Secretary of the University I would be grateful if you could direct the enclosed to Sir Goronwy in his capacity as Chairman of the recent committee on the University's future. As Secretary and Registrar, I think it is important to let you know that Sir Goronwy has interceded on my behalf with Aberystwyth, a College in which I served with unusual academic success for fifteen years.

I wish to write to you in a friendly spirit of cooperation and constructive thought about the University's future. I think that I have much to offer but that I need affiliation for the reasons set out in the enclosed letter. Sir Goronwy's views must surely be taken seriously. It is a matter of Public knowledge that he believes the only real future is New Federalism. In correspondence he agreed with me that the sale of the EDCL at Aberystwyth is unimaginative and unethical. I have put forward yet another proposal to Aberystwyth to try to avert this sale, but again with no reply. The College has not even replied, apparently, to Sir Goronwy's suggestion that I be given a role there. With all due respect this is not a promising response to reinvigorated federalism.

I wonder whether Federal authority can be used to try to stop the sale of the EDCL and to obtain a reply from Aberystwyth to my various communications. I have several positive things to bring to the University, including a new Institute for Basic Research which is in the final stages of being set up as a Trust. I have the ability to attract outside funding, and in the past I have brought in some quarter of a million pounds. My latest research work will probably be funded by the AFOSR.

I suggest that you could bring in to being a small federal committee to be chaired by Sir Goronwy, of which you would be secretary. Other Members could include Mr J. Henry Jones of Adult Education in Swansea, a former Member of the Council of Wales who has been gravely concerned about my situation for a number of years; and Mr Dafydd Wigley, M. P., who has often written to Aberystwyth and Bangor on my behalf in the past. This could bring up proposals for a solution which would allow me to work inside the University to its benefit.

A list of some twenty or thirty academic supporters has already been forwarded to you and to Sir Goronwy, who has transmitted it to Aberystwyth. This material was sent to you in connection with the Honorary Senior Fellowship, information which you specifically requested in your letter of late 1988. The proper procedure for further consideration of the post, *honoris causa*, would be to put it before the University's Academic Board. This procedure could also be followed in the enclosed request for adjunct professorship. There are precedents in the Universities of London and Lancaster. In the latter a position, *honoris causa*, was awarded to me by the University's Council after a simple suggestion by Dr. P.V. E. McClintock. I have also held visiting positions at Cornell, Pisa, I.B.M., London and Dublin.

Thank you very much in anticipation for your further consideration.

Yn Gywir,

(Dr. M. W. Evans)

Date: 28th April, 1989.

RD4 Box 250A,
Kingston,
NY 12401,
U.S.A.,
28th April, 1989.

Sir Goronwy Daniel,
Letterston,
Dyfed,
Wales,
Dear Sir Goronwy,

Thank you for supporting my various job applications in the past year or so. I have applied for over 200 posts in the U.K., U.S., and Canada, and have made a further 150 or so direct enquiries.

I know that I have been short listed for Endowed Chairs, such as the Plane and Carlson Chairs, for Full Professorships, and once or twice as Head of Department (Chairman). My applications for Assistant Professor have been met with incredulity because of my qualifications. The American Chemical Society has refused to put me on its list of candidates for post-doctoral positions, believing in good faith that a more senior position would be more appropriate.

I am sure you will understand that the senior positions for which I am apparently considered are few and far between, and extremely competitive. I am nearly always considered "over-qualified" for junior positions. As a result I now face another "open-ended" period of unemployment. During this period I could probably continue to produce work of international standard, but for any scientist prolonged isolation is not desirable. Scientific institutions presumably still have an interest in the support of scholarship.

After my Visiting Professorship at I.B.M. to October 1987 I was unemployed for fifteen months, during which time I produced some thirty published scientific papers refereed in scientific journals of repute. Generous support during this time arrived in the form of an Honorary Research Fellowship from the University of Lancaster, through the good offices of Peter McClintock, and a Visiting Academic position in the University of London, with the enlightened support of Konrad Singer and David Heyes.

Enrico Clementi, I.B.M. Fellow, has expressed his growing concern at the situation, and has persuaded the company to provide temporary contractual support until mid-June, 1989. I was recently given an I.B.M. award for my publication activities.

Research activities with David Heyes, over a trans-Atlantic bitnet system constructed privately, have resulted in the possibility of a grant award. In view of the failure of conventional institutional support, I

wonder whether you would consider some form of ad hoc affiliation for me in your Institution, following the precedents set by Lancaster and London. This could perhaps take the form of an adjunct research fellowship with partial institutional support. I would undertake to compete for research funds from outside sources, with some form of institutional affiliation allowing me to do so officially. These funds would be administered by the institution. Affiliation would allow me dignity as a scholar and any publications would be attributed to the institution. Affiliation is important also for interchange of ideas, access to libraries and so on.

I have pleasure in enclosing my C.V. and list of publications, honours and awards. Thank you in anticipation for your consideration, and best regards.

I write in the tradition of scholarship and science.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Myron Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The first name "Myron" is written with a large, looping 'M' and a trailing 'y'. The last name "Evans" is written with a large 'E' and a trailing 's'.

(Dr. M. W. Evans)

Dear Myron

Thank you for your letter and enclosure. I am sorry that you did not apply for the chair in Bangor. It would either have resulted in the chair or a recent case for which fresh evidence would have been available. Well you certainly have all the qualifications for long fights. You have everything except what such qualifications deserve-a senior academic post. I very much hope that the people supporting in Cornell will be successful. You are much too intelligent not to realize that you fight against any of the Colleges in Wales can only be a fight and a contribution for accountability and you might as well do that from a paid post as well as from an unpaid one.

I would very much like to see the Article in the N.Y.T. Our Government is based upon the principle-How Can Democracy be contained from a historical position of Monarchy and Feudalism. All our Institutions are Feudal in structure with some democratic seepage. The U.S.A. has its birth in popular consent with constitution and institutions trying to answer the question- How can we give expression to Democracy. The U.S.A. Freedom of Information Act is quite unthinkable here even under Labour which in the past has been as centralist and as secretative and Civil Servant dominated as any of the Parties.

The One World Programmes on T.V. this week has been a wonderful mental uplift. Listening to the Scientists has been marvelous for clarity and objective analysis. In about the middle of the week they brought on the politicians. I could not bear to listen to the "all things being equal" tripe so I switched off. Given the good sense of the Prince of Wales and his speech perhaps we would be better off with a monarchy if the quality is right. After that democracy-as-democracy benefits no one outside of the Cabinet and they are subservient to Mrs big T. Most of the 630 M.P. are bored to death not knowing what the hell to do with themselves. They do not even have the right to a seat let alone where to sit nor do they have the right to speak. If you are lucky to catch the consent of the speaker you speak for a length of time according to your Parliamentary status not according to your democratic status. If a member of the Front Bench gets on his feet or if a member of the Privy Council stands up he may be in Parliament by virtue of 50 votes majority but Allan Rodgers with the largest majority in Parliament would have to sit down. So I would be very interested to read what Americans have to say. Britain is certainly not the home of Democracy and certainly not the Mother of. France and U.S.A. are the earlier of countries where consent flows from the people. That concept in U.S.A can bring tears to the eyes of hard bitten Senators. Scarman is also one of my law Heroes but of course he is retired now and would, like me, be too old to do any ex-post protecting. The executive future is for people like you and I am glad to see that you can keep up a running fight.

I am not sure if you have had all of the recent "Poems" Let me have the first lines of the last lot. I enclose the latest from the Hall of Memories.

Good wishes to Laura . As ever

Harry

X 21110. Pwllheli. Cymru.

Amwygl Gyfaill.

Sitch am eich pecyn.

Rydwi'n cydweled â'r rhann
fawr o'r hyn sy gennych i'w
ddodend, ond yn anffodus yn
y Gymanwyl Spad Rhoni gohaith
felon eira yn uffern sy gennym.

Gweriniaethon ydwi, ond gallaf
gyfrif aelodaeth ar fy nwylo.

Felly byddai'n canolwngntio
ar y cylch hach rydwi'n llo
yddo. Tair blynedd yn ôl sefydlais
Cyfeillion Llŷn, cymdeithas er
gwarchod iaith, luddiamm a
phetham eraill fel yr amgylchedd
yn Llŷn. Gellwch ddychmygu'n
llwyddiant! Ond rydyni yn dal ati.

By air mail
Par avion



1 Great Britain
Postage
Paid



Royal Mail

International

Aerogramme

Y Dr. Myron Evans.
17-3 F Northwood Apts.
700 Warren Road.
ITHACA.
NY 14850. USA.

Name and address of sender

R. S. Thomas
Y DHIW.
PWLHHELI.
CYMRU.

Postcode

An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure

To open slit here

To open slit here

R. ~~age~~ ~~man~~,
Llefenston,
Ayles, UK
SA62 5TT

3/9/89

Dear Mr. Evans,

When I read your letter of 5 July it was clear to me that its proposals would be more likely to be counter-productive than productive. UCLW Aberystwyth is in considerable financial straits and cannot afford to do without the proceeds of the sale of the EDCH buildings. Nor can it reverse the decisions whereby Swansea rather than Aberystwyth concentrates on physical chemistry and the latter on organic/bio/chemistry and its physics ^{places} with a special emphasis on upper atmosphere research and electronics. Now that I have reported on the powers + functions of the University of Wales I have no official link with the University such as being a member of the University Court. Any attempt by a former Principal or by the University Court to reverse a ^{hard-to-take} decision agreed by UCLW Senate + Council would be resented and would only make matters worse.

I have been wondering what is the best advice to give you, and have concluded as follows:

(i) Forget the Univ. of Wales. It appears that for some reason or other the present generation of chemists in it are not willing to give you a worthwhile post, but generations come and go.

and (ii) Concentrate all your energies on what

By air mail
Par avion



Dr M.W. Evans

RD 4 Box 250A

KINGSTON

NY 12401

United States of America

Aerogramme

Name and address of sender

Sir Goronwy Daniel

Ridge Farm

Llenterston Dyfed

Wales Kingdom

Postcode SA 62 5TT

An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure

What are really good at! Chemical research in your particular specialisation, wherever you can find the best facilities for doing it & even though the initial material rewards be low

Many a good Welshman and many of the world's finest scientists have had difficulties like yours. Remembering your early A.Sc. I have faith in your abilities and you must have faith yourself that (ii) will bring its rewards.

Cordia lltos agurmanid da

Goronwy Daniel

PRIFYSGOL CYMRU

COLEG Y BRIFYSGOL ABERTAWE
PARC SINGLETON
ABERTAWE SA2 8PP

TEL. 0792-205678

COFRESTRYDD



V.J. CARNEY, B.A.

UNIVERSITY OF WALES

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SWANSEA
SINGLETON PARK
SWANSEA SA2 8PP

TEL. 0792-205678

REGISTRAR

VJC/spt

17 June 1986

Strictly Personal

Dr. M. W. Evans,
Department of Physics.

Dear Dr. Evans,

I write to inform you that when your present employment with the College ends on 30 September 1986, there will be no possibility of a further engagement. Will you, therefore, make it clear to those organisations with whom you are liaising that you will no longer have a base at Swansea after that date.

Yours sincerely,

V. J. Carney
Registrar