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DIT Bolton Street Students' Union

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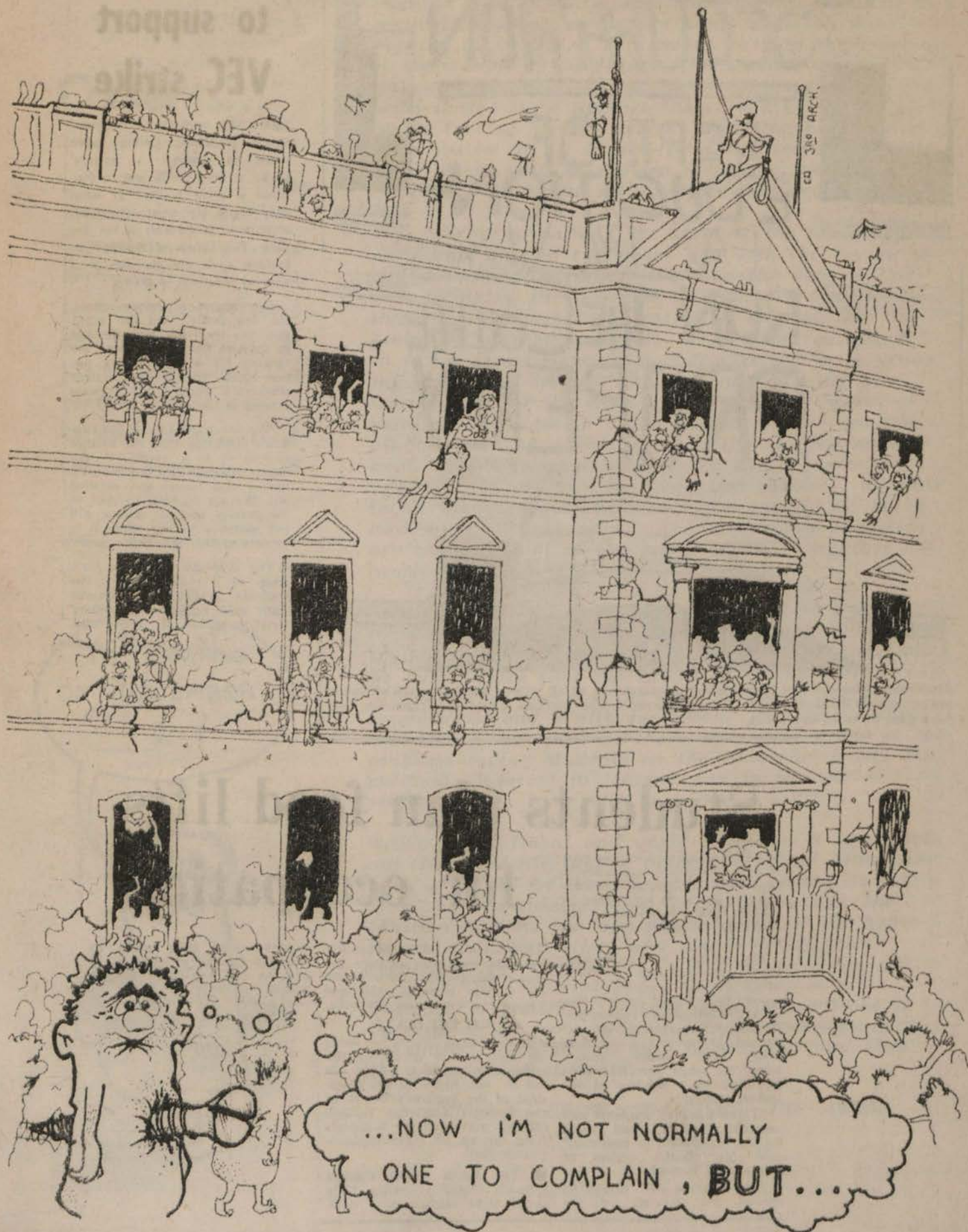
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THE STUDENT/APPRENTICE

Newspaper of Bolton St. Student's Union

Vol. 4. No. 1. 7 Oct. '82





OCCUPATION

DEPT. OF
EDUCATION

PAY THE WORKERS

RUN THE COLLEGE
PROPERLY

Students vote to support VEC strike

THE 309 students at Bolton Street Technical College have voted to support a porters' strike at the college and to continue a sit-in protest at what they claim are now unhygienic conditions as a result of the dispute. The Union of Students in Ireland took the decision at a general meeting yesterday.

The union's education officer, Mr. Joe Duffy, said last night that the students had decided to support the porters, who are looking for a £7.50 parity pay rise with Dublin Corporation workers, which had always existed in the past.

"We are protesting at the run-down condition that the college is now in as a result of the strike. Rubbish has not been removed and toilets not cleaned out. We are in total support of the porters, and the college will not continue to run while it is in this state," Mr. Duffy said.

The students will stage their sit-in on a roster basis. The students' protest will continue until such time as the porters' strike is settled, Mr. Duffy said.

1.2 23/9/82

Students in Bolton Street have started an occupation of the college administrative offices in protest against the Government's failure to sanction a pay increase to porters and cleaners, who have gone on strike as a result.

Students plan food lifts for occupation

STUDENTS who took over part of a Dublin college yesterday in support of striking maintenance workers would be kept going by "food lifts" throughout the weekend, it was stated last night.

The student leader Mr. Joe Duffy, explained that the "food lifts" to the students in a second floor administrative office of the College of Technology, Bolton Street would be arranged at noon and six p.m. today and again at noon tomorrow when supplies would be lifted to a window of the locked premises.

"Three hundred students met yesterday morning and voted for the occupation to continue," said Mr. Duffy, Union of Students of Ireland.

The students are protesting against the attitude of the

Department of Education towards the issue of pay increase due to the porters and the College cleaning staff and educational economies generally.

NOT LET LEAVE

It is believed that some 20 or 30 students are occupying the administrative office. They are led by Mr. Brian Stone, president of the Student's Union in the College. Yesterday College officials prevented the occupiers from leaving or other students joining them.

● The Kevin Street College virtually closed yesterday. Only about eight classes were held.

Students have been asked to visit the College at noon for a meeting to discuss further action.

EDITORIAL

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I'M MARCHING
ON DECEMBER
2!



Students must organise together in a united front to seriously oppose the attacks being made on their position in society. This means raising the level of the student organisation (the student unions) to the point where the Unions are giving a lead to students in the fight against the cut-backs. This is in the face of serious attacks upon the entire education system at all levels (primary, secondary and third level) such as the fee increases, restriction of places, cut-backs in supply of equipment etc.

This process of raising the level of the student organisation started two years ago with the review of the Student Union constitution and the vote of last year changing the terms of reference of the S.U. to those of a defence organisation of students for the protection of their interests. The past two years in Bolton Street have been characterised by a growing awareness amongst the students of the arbitrary nature of the exam system and the improper teaching of courses. These student issues are the platform for the advancement of the student movement. Students must tackle each attack launched against them through the education system. We must tackle also the general attacks on the people being made by the Government. The attacks on education are but one front of the broad offensive against the people.

Bolton Street Students Union must mobilise against the fee increases through the Fee Boycott and adopt the slogan "we won't pay for the crisis of the rich". We must ensure that the extension of the College will alleviate the overcrowding and desperate social, recreational and health facilities. We must ensure that among our members there is a good grasp of the problems facing students on the education front, the political situation in Ireland and in the world situation.

Within the national and world situation it is important that students take a principled stand after discussing issues on these fronts, such issues as the "Pro Life" amendment, the National question, the taxation system, the war preparations of the super-powers and their allies and people's struggles throughout the world.

The idea of students fighting on a united front is very important because if the student movement is not united, then it can only harm itself and thus the interests of students.

STUDENTS UNITE TO FIGHT THE CUTS.

N. IRELAND

The British Government plans to hold an election for yet another Stormont Assembly on Oct. 20th. The elections will not remove the British colonial presence from Northern Ireland but are an attempt by the British to establish some sort of sham democracy in the Six Counties.

This election will only bring together all of the upholders of British Colonialism and Imperialism, such people as Molyneux, Paisley and the treacherous SDLP, traitors to the Irish people, into an assembly which will have its roots in the British presence in Northern Ireland and will work against the uniting of the Irish people into one truly independent Ireland.

This plan of devolved Government or "Rolling Devolution" as it is called by Prior, is to start as a talk shop and will get greater powers from Westminster as the British Government gains more confidence in Stormont and its ability to rule Northern Ireland in the interests of the British Government.

Haughey and Fitzgerald back the Stormont Assembly saying that it is a movement towards Irish unity. In fact it is to be used by these people in order to co-operate more and more with the British presence in Northern Ireland and evidence of this is the conviction of Jerry Tuite by the Irish Courts for alleged crimes committed in London, British police giving evidence in Irish Courts and all under the observation of a Northern Irish Judge.

The character of Imperialism is the domination by one country, in this case Britain, of another, Northern Ireland. This Assembly

attempts to cover up this domination by Britain and to present the British military presence in Northern Ireland as a peace keeping force which is there to prevent civil war. In fact the British military have no more right to be in Northern Ireland than the Israelis have to be in Lebanon or the Russians have to be in Afghanistan.

These elections serve to "keep the pot boiling", to divide the Irish people along religious, sectarian lines and thus make Northern Ireland more governable by the British. This policy of destabilisation has been used always by the British no matter where in the world they have been, the splitting of Pakistan and India, the division of Turk and Greek in Cyprus. It is not only the British who use destabilisation of a country to dominate it, this tactic is used also by the USA in South America and by the Soviets in Africa.

The British ruling class has consistently established so called democracies around the world to serve the requirements of the British ruling class. The real nature of these Parliaments has been to cover up the domination of the subject nations. The establishment of these Parliaments according to the British ruling class have been to "train backward peoples for nationhood and western democracy".

These governments are in fact established to serve the interests of the British ruling class who are always in the background to send in its military forces for the establishment of "the rule of law", the nature of which is the law of Imperialists.

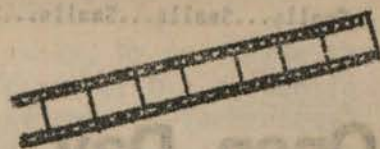
It is not just the British who operate in the world in this way, but the Soviets also. When the Polish crisis arose and the Polish people revolted against their Soviet masters, the Soviets responded by rolling hundreds of tanks into Poland and tens of thousands of crack Soviet troops to crush the resistance of the Polish people. They did the same in Afghanistan and the Americans have done the same in Vietnam and Korea.

The Charter of the United Nations clearly spells out the right of nations to self determination. The UN was established after the second world war, a struggle against fascism. The Charter of the UN also clearly states that there must be no imperialist domination of countries and no colonial rule.

True democracy can only be established in Ireland through the unity of the Irish people in one nation and genuine independence from colonial rule.



Film Society



Letter to Fire Officer,

We, the Executive of Bolton St. Students Union wish to express our concern at the situation as regards fire safety in our main building.

During office hours there are two exits from the building. However, during library hours (5.30 pm - 9.30 pm) there is only one exit; there are very few fire doors, together with the fact that the college is like a "maze" inside and anyone entering the building for the first time would have great difficulty in finding an exit (as there are no exit signs). If this situation existed in any commercial premises I am sure it would be shut down at once - in reality the same issues are at stake - human lives.

At present, due to the Porters' Strike, there is much combustible rubbish lying in the corridors - thus posing an even greater danger.

On many occasions we have 'phoned the fire officer but as yet no action has been taken. Recently in Ireland we have seen the devastating effect fire can have - how many more lives must be lost before action is taken?

Yours sincerely,
Robert McDermott

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Any student wishing to write an article for the newspaper please do so and leave in the S.U. office.
Hope to see you soon

Welcome back everyone. We hope you enjoyed your time off for good behaviour and a special hello to all new inmates. The plan was to have a free film on Open Day to introduce members to the Society (and provide some much needed entertainment). We thought ANIMAL HOUSE a good movie to show but the Department of Education decided to pick a fight with the Porters and Cleaners, making it impossible to screen any films until the dispute is settled.

We are organising the Society in the hope that the dispute will be settled by Tuesday 12th October, in time for the first scheduled screening. If the dispute drags on and we are unable to screen a few films on schedule, we will make arrangements to alter the screenings so that the season will not be shortened.

The Society is run on a yearly membership basis, the fee covers the hire and transport of films from London and includes membership of the Federation of Irish Film Societies.

This year the membership fee will be:

- 1) £10 for Students
- 2) £12.50 College staff.

Some people may wince at the fee but the price of 1 film in a commercial cinema is £3 per film while we show films at 47p per film - you couldn't buy a can of Coke and a Mars bar for that!

However, enough of that if you would like more information come and see us at our Stand on Open Day. NOW FOR THE FILMS

RAGING BULL

Robert Di Nero's gripping boxing movie.

ALLEGRO NON TROPPO:
A hilarious animated feature film.

CASABLANCA:
1942 classic now comes to Bolton St.
Anyone in a trench coat or having a Swedish accent admitted.

ALL THAT JAZZ: The life and loves of a Broadway Director and his show.

NO NUKES: Concert in Madison Square Gardens, Neil Young, Bruce Springsteen & cast of thousands.

MY BRILLIANT CAREER:
Exciting Australian Drama.

THE LADY IN RED:
Action packed gangster movie - never a dull moment.

1900: Bernardo (Last Tango in Paris) Bertolucci epic of Italian life. English language.

GET OUT YOUR HANDKERCHIEFS
Delightful saucy/serious french farce.

BODY HEAT:
Sensuous thriller set in the Hitchcock mould.

AND many, many more - see leaflet for details

DEC. 2 ?

Open Day

Open Day will be on the 14th of October this year and stalls will be open for students to join Clubs and Societies.

Organisers of Clubs and Societies should approach the Union office and let us know what stalls will be open and what help will be needed to organise these stalls. Posters can be produced and leaflets too, free of charge, to Club and Society organisers. It would be a good idea to produce an information leaflet with membership applications for individual clubs etc. These should be written by the Club/Society organisers and Rose our Union Secretary will type them up and we can run off a few hundred copies.

There will be another edition of the Student/Apprentice out before Open Day, specially printed for the occasion. Organisers should contact the Union Office as soon as possible to get a mention in the paper.

Class Reps

Each class should elect class reps. as soon as possible, in order to participate in the Representative Assembly of the Students' Union. Only class reps. have voting rights at Representative Assembly but all members are entitled and encouraged to attend these meetings and participate in the discussion.

ELECT YOUR CLASS REPS.
AND REGISTER AT THE UNION
OFFICE

Lockers

Last year some people left their belongings in their lockers before going on their summer break. Those belongings have been left in at the Students Union office. If you are missing your books etc., please call in to collect them, just give in your locker number, your name and say what was in the locker.

Following is a list of names of people who should call in to collect their personal belongings.

Joseph McNamara
Paul Devine
Joseph Slevin
P. F. Garle
Martin Curtis
J. Caffrey
Robert Karsten
Vincent Kelly
Gerard Horace
Ann-Marie Walsh
Philip Loughlin
J. Farrelly
Brian Eustace
M.J. Harrington
D. Mullane

Whats happening

Dec 2 ?

Disco

BCP 'TILL YA DROP WITH
WITH M.E.T.S.

Don't let the gloom and despondancy of College get you down. M.E.T.S. the Mechanical Engineering Technician Society is organising another one of their Exciting Monster Discos.

The first social event of the year will be held in Sabrina's disco in Henry Street on Thursday 28th October. Tickets will be £2 beforehand from the Student Shop or any of the M.E.T.S. committee or £2.50 on the night at Sabrina's. The disco will be on from 11.00 'til 2.00.

Editor

The post of Editor has become vacant. People interested in this post should contact the S.U. office. No previous experience is necessary for the job and there will be lots of help available



"Well, that's enough about me, Father—what have you been up to lately?"

Porters & Cleaners Strike

The porters and cleaners must be supported as a matter of principle and as a step on the way to resolving the dispute between themselves and the VEC, the Department of Education and thus the full restoration of classes for the students and apprentices, full members of the Students Union.

Any just struggle of people, whatever they be, Porters and Cleaners in the colleges, or liberation fighters in such countries as El Salvador or Afghanistan, must be supported. This is our clear duty as conscious members of society. For students or others to promote the idea that this issue of the strike is none of our concern is clearly wrong, both because we are conscious members of society and as students and members of the Students Union the defence organisation of students which fights for all students, members of the Union.

The fact that 4,000 (approx.) part-time students are not being given their classes along with eight groups of block release apprentices was promoted as being an irrelevancy to full-time students by certain people in the College, not all of whom are students. This promotion of narrow selfish self interest must be opposed and smashed by all who believe in justice and equal opportunity and all democratically minded people.

The justice of the stand of the Porters and Cleaners is clear from the history of the dispute. The pay claim which they made earlier in this year along with other groups of workers was passed by the Labour Court with the agreement of the Department of the Public Service.

This pay increase, a mere £7.50 was paid to the other groups of workers but not to the V.E.C. - employees who work under the heel of the Department of Education and Martin O'Donoghue, the Minister against Education, who maintains that quote "Education is bottom of the pile, and bottom of the pile of bottom of the pile is third level education". The V.E.C. and the Department of Education maintain that Government sanction is needed to pay workers this increase, yet no government sanction was ever sought or approved by the Corporation, Dublin County Council or the Borough of Dun Laoghaire before this increase was given to these workers. This is obvious belligerence on the part of the V.E.C. and is further exposed in a letter from W.J. Arundel, Chief Executive Officer of the V.E.C. in which he asks the workers to return to work and concede their pay claim, end this "victimisation" of students (moral blackmail on the part of Arundel) and to consider the possibility of "a reduction in the job opportunities of your members in the long term" (a straight forward job threat). The belligerence of the V.E.C. is further exposed in their meeting on Sept. 29th not in order to deal with the resolving of the strike, but to deal with the students from Kevin Street who were protesting against the loss of their

classes, by occupying the offices of D.I.T. (Dublin Institute of Technology). All of this and the fact that the V.E.C. issued a "report" on the occupation which reads more like a Stephen Spielberg film script (available in S.U. office) makes the V.E.C. a legitimate target for student protest. At the General Meeting held in the Kinema on Monday 4th Oct. students supported motions in support of the Porters and Cleaners who are on strike and in support of the students occupying the offices of D.I.T. in Mount Street. Verbal support is not enough. We must ourselves demonstrate our support on this issue and fight the cuts in education generally.

ALL OUT TO SUPPORT THE
MOUNT STREET OCCUPATION

MAKE THE RICH PAY FOR THE
ECONOMIC CRISIS
THEY CAUSED IT,
THEY SHOULD PAY

There is a national demonstration planned for Dec. 2nd by U.S.I. to protest against the cuts and we urge all students to support this action.

ALL OUT FOR DECEMBER 2nd
ALL OUT TO FIGHT THE CUTS

'ENTS'

Are you interested in rubbing shoulders with POP groups and Folk singers - organising Discos and Dinner Dances? - then we have just the thing for you. The position of Social and Cultural Officer is at present vacant. Anybody who is interested please come to the Students' Union office (basement). Only qualification necessary - willingness to work.

College Extension

Progress on the College extension at the moment is very slow. There has been no report from the Architect, Mr. Des McMahon (a studio master in 4th year architecture) to College Council.

The official reason for this is that the building design has reached a "crucial stage". The reality of any building programme undertaken by the V.E.C. and the Department of Education is that these programmes are desperately slow, witness the Canteen in Longford House, an Architect was installed in 1981 and that did not involve major building!

It is generally agreed by all who have contact with the V.E.C. that this building would take years and years to materialise. This will be the case unless we, the students, pressurise the V.E.C. and the Department of Education to build the extension as quickly as possible without turning it into a huge rabbit hutch. It is most likely that this extension will not alleviate any of the problems of overcrowding in the College. This increase in floor space will be about 60% - 70% for this part of the College but the increase in full-time student numbers will be about the same (60%). This gives no scope for the alleviation of the overcrowding. We must be on our guard to ensure that this does not happen!

COMMUTER TICKETS
Available now only £17 (usually £25) - with a valid U.S.I.T. identity card (plus CIE travelsave stamp)

U.S.I.T. CARDS
The 1982/'83 U.S.I.T. identity cards are now available in the Students' Union office.

The students' cards are £3.50 until 31st December, January 1st and after they will be £4.
C.I.E. travelsave stamp

£4.

S. U. Executive

The following are this year's Executive of the Students' Union:-

President	- Brian Stone (Sabbatical)
Deputy President	- Jane Anne Keane (Sabbatical)
Treasurer	- Robert McDermot (Construction Economics)
Secretary	- Kevin Mitchell (Construction Economics)
Chairperson/Convenor	- Felix McKenna (Construction Economics)
Sports Officer	- Peter McDermott (Construction Economics)
Women's Rights Officer	- Catherine O'Dowd (Printing Management)

The positions of Editor and Social and Cultural officers are at present vacant anyone interested in these positions please apply to Students Union office (basement).

A.G.M.

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 21st October, '82 in the Kinema C.28 at 1.00 p.m.-

ACCOMMODATION LIST

There is now available an Accommodation List in the Students' Union office Any student seeking a flat digs etc., may come down to the basement to consult this list.

If you have already obtained accommodation could you please come and tell us so that we can cross it off the list.

Kevin St. Occupation

The students of Kevin St. are present in occupation in the D.I.T. offices in Mount St. The Bolton St. students Union supports this action. Any student wishing to join the Kevin St. occupation please go to;
14, Mount St.,
Dublin 2.

Closure of college

In the event of the closure of the college there will be an Emergency General Meeting on the first day of closure at 1.00p.m. outside the college, to discuss what action is to be taken.