

POINTS TO BE BROUGHT OUT IN THE LOCKWOOD DEBATE

1. The "opponents" have made the following points which should be contested -
 - (a) that the Government took or influenced a decision in favour of Coleraine for political reasons;
 - (b) that the Lockwood Committee ought not to have made any recommendation on location at all;
 - (c) that Lockwood "disqualified" Derry for the wrong reasons;
 - (d) that the matter should now be referred to the University Grants Committee or some other body;
 - (e) that the Government should have waited for the views of the House before announcing any decision;
 - (f) that the decision not to put the University in Londonderry is part of a deliberate policy designed to "starve" the west of the Province;
 - (g) that Londonderry was not given a proper opportunity to put its case.
2. Opportunity should be taken to point out that a number of people were climbing on to the Londonderry band-wagon before they had an opportunity to read the Report.
3. It has been claimed that Lockwood does not discuss in detail the reasons for favouring one location over another yet University Grants Committee Reports are confidential and in Great Britain the Government acts upon these.
4. The Government acknowledges its responsibility to Londonderry but must also consider its responsibility to all the people of Northern Ireland and to those who will look to the new University for Higher Education. This is not a University for Coleraine, for Londonderry, or even for the North-West but for Northern Ireland.
5. Far from being determined to do Derry down the Government - encouraged by the promptings of the Attorney-General - has taken every possible step to see that on balance the city will benefit from the implementation of the Lockwood Report.

James J. O'Connell
Academic Planning Board - In Enn Ashby?
Political tension - L'derry, on page 4 of Ashby with statement
Attorney-General - is a teaching hospital