FUNDING PER STUDENT AT MIDDX. HAS FALLEN BY 20% IN THE PAST THREE YEARS.
NEXT TERM THERE WILL BE ANOTHER 30% INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF FIRST
YEARS AND MANAGEMENT PLANS TO PACK IN 4,000 MORE STUDENTS BY 1996.
STUDENT INCOME HAS FALLEN BY ONE THIRD SINCE 1980.
SPENDING ON LIBRARY BOOKS HAS FALLEN BY OVER 70% SINCE 1979.

Last year, on top of previous huge cuts, Melville chose to cut
another 100 staff posts to repay a debt so we could become a
university and he could become a Vice-Chancellor. He wasted a
six figure sum changing Middlesex into a second rate university.

Academic standards are plummeting, there is a huge drop out rate
and the recession means that few of us will find decent jobs when
we leave. Last November this situation provoked mass site meet-
ings across Middlesex, of which six voted for occupation.

We occupied for 28 days and inspired the largest wave of occu-
pations for over a decade, over 23 colleges nationwide. This
created unprecedented publicity about the plight of students and
education, from a *Times* editorial to repeated coverage on TV and
radio. Several MPs visited the occupation and the Government
were in regular contact with Melville.

Since the occupation the college has "mysteriously" received £1.3
million from the Government, it has given the union money it has
owed it for a long time, and has now planned a major £18 million
rebuilding programme. Other small concessions have also been
made on halls, creches and a promise of no charges for course
handouts.

Of course many of these promises will prove to be hollow and
much of it was going to be done anyway, but it is not unreasonable
to assume that some of these changes are directly due to the
occupation. Management and Government are very concerned
not to provoke a similar explosion again and want to cushion the
effects of restructuring at Middlesex so as not to see a repeat of
last winter. They will certainly think twice before making the sort
of cuts they made last summer.