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Vice President Charles O'Reilly, Vice President Clifton Thorne, and Mr. Gary Petre

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At the job meeting yesterday for the Indian Quadrangle construction job, a discussion occurred concerning the readiness of segments of that Quad for occupancy this Fall. As you know, the prospects have not been good, owing to strikes of various construction trades over the past two months. Although these have not resulted in a general strike, the trades that were working soon worked themselves out of sequence, and the effect was soon the same as a general strike. All this has been extremely detrimental to progress.

At yesterday's meeting, word was received that the tinsmith's strike would end Saturday, the 27th. This had been a most serious obstruction. However, word was received that a general strike might be called at any moment. This disquieting news, it seems to me, completely sabotages any prospects which we have held for occupancy at the beginning of the Fall semester. Whether or not the general strike materializes, the work has slowed to such a pace now that it will take weeks to gain momentum, and even though there is a fairly high state of readiness in units "A" and "B", and to a lesser extent in "C" and "D", I think the whole atmosphere of delay has now reached the point where prospects of occupancy should be abandoned for the beginning of the Fall semester.

The state of readiness of units "A", "B", "C" and "D" is still such that although occupancy in early September is now out of the question, it would seem that these four units might be considered for occupancy later on in the semester; depending upon whether a general strike occurs or not; this could occur either early in the semester or late.

I realize that this type of news seems to cast more doubt than ever on the final date of occupancy. But it has one virtue and that is that I would think we could positively abandon hopes for the beginning of the semester occupancy, and therefore make positive plans to cope with this situation. This may mean that fewer students will be granted admission or that more students will have to triple. Of course, that is a decision that the Vice President for Student Affairs will have to make, I suppose.

I will continue to keep all interested parties informed of the status of this project as further developments occur. The above information also reflects the latest official word from the Dormitory Authority, which was represented at the job meeting.

WMT