

17/3

PRIME MINISTER

DIARY

State visit of Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

Penlee Public Inquiry announcement.

EC: Agriculture Council, Brussels.

British Airways financial report to DoT.

CBI Council.

FT European Pulp and Paper Conference, Helsinki.

Institute of credit management national conference.

Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, Earls Court.

International Glass and Glass Technology Exhibition, Birmingham.

Civic Catering Association AGM, Knowsley.

Autoquip Exhibition, Olympia.

Materials Testing '82 Exhibition, Birmingham.

Mr Haughey meets President Reagan, Washington.

Times Directors meet to approve new editor.

Statistics:

Indices of average earnings (Jan).

Indices of basic rates of wages (Feb).

Publications:

Scottish Education Department Statistical Bulletin on Schools, Pupils and Teachers (1974, 1979 and 1980).

72nd Annual Report of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise 80-81.

Pay:

Gas manuals consider offer.

Parliament:

Commons:

Questions: Environment, Scotland.

- Business: Supply (15th allotted day): debate on CUTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND, and a debate on NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CHARGES FOR OVERSEAS VISITORS. Both on Opposition Motions.
- Motions on the Wool Textile Industry (Amendments) Orders.
- Select Committees: DEFENCE: Trident (Witness: Mr Nott).
- INDUSTRY AND TRADE: The Post Office. (Witnesses: Post Office Users' National Council; Mail Users' Association).
- TRANSPORT: Transportation in London. (Witnesses: Secretary of State for Transport; officials from Department of Transport.)
- TREASURY AND CIVIL SERVICE SUB-COMMITTEE. The 1982 Budget and the Government's Expenditure Plans 1982-83 to 1984-85). (Witnesses: HM Treasury officials).
- EMPLOYMENT: The Commission for Racial Equality's draft Code of Practice for the elimination of racial discrimination and the promotion of equality of opportunity in employment. (Witness: Mr David Lane, Chairman, Commission for Racial Equality).
- PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: Expenditure on hospital buildings. (Witnesses: Sir Kenneth Stowe, KCB, DHSS; Mr A L Rennie, CB, Scottish Home and Health Dept., Mr T P Hughes, CB, Welsh Office).
- COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS: Unopposed bills.
1. Hertsmere Borough Council (Rowley Lane) Bill.
 2. Port of London.
 3. London Transport (General Powers) Bill.
- Lords: Debate on the need to introduce effective measures to stimulate industrial growth and to deal with the continuing grave problem of unemployment.
- U.Q. on Namibia.

Ministers - see Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Law and Order

- Police Federation takes advertising space to call for return of capital punishment after two policemen killed on duty within a week; your Commons remarks noted on likely outcome of a free vote.
- Telegraph says Mr Whitelaw is to speak at Conservative Central Council.
- Hattersley attacks Chief Constable Anderton for his remarks about political control; Anderton sees himself and other Chief Constables as the just men and saviours of society.
- Sun says you back Anderton's remarks about Left wing undermining of the police; Hattersley says his remarks are inflammatory nonsense.
- Lady Simey actually joins Chief Constable Oxford in Liverpool in calling for support for police.

- Peter Jenkins, Guardian, says Mail and Murdoch's gutter press have whipped up a virulent campaign against Home Sec who deserves a bit of support; you should call them off and give a calm, responsible lead but he knows of no one who expects you to do so.
- Sun says Home Sec has bolstered police, brought in programme of new prisons and introduced short, sharp sentences for offenders but trouble is that when he talks tough he sounds out of character - we need your iron touch; also want public to recognise that discipline and respect for law begin inside the family.
- Mail: Police Fed. have no doubt - nor does Mail, that they have most law abiding citizens on their side in call to restore capital punishment; if House won't respond that should not be end of matter; life sentences should mean exactly what life is - for the whole of natural life.

Other crime:

- Organisation which aims to reduce custody for children says 100 youngsters under 17 are in some of our worst prisons.
- Qaboo's visit diverted by bomb alert.
- Lord Advocate does not oppose move by Glasgow razor rape case victim to take out private prosecution.
- Lord Justice Lawton tells porn merchants to shut up shop and to expect gaol.
- Lord Jellicoe comes in from the cold to review Prevention of Terrorism Act.
- Scotland Yard cuts overtime to maximum of 60 hours a month.

Unions/Pay

- Express says another major union - UCATT - is being manipulated by a minority of its members - less than 1/2% of its members controlling its affairs.
- 6 top kazoo (comb and tissue) players stopped from appearing on Parkinson show by Musician's union.
- 2 wage clerks at Massey Ferguson, Coventry, stop factory assembly lines from switching on in row over redundancy.

Rail

- McCarthy angers Rose, BR; says he can't judge who is right and who is wrong; and may visit BR depots to find out.

Labour Law

- Mr Tebbit asks TUC to come in an discuss his legislation.

Economy

- Kaufman, of Salomon Bros, the Wall Street pundit, says financial markets have lost confidence in Reagan's policies and must be changed drastically to prevent economic tragedy; wants lower interest rates, lower deficit and higher personal taxes.
- US output rises 1.6% in February but so die interest rates yesterday - by 0.5% to 16.5%.
- Telegraph says Britain and other non-OPEC oil producers under increasing criticism from OPEC for cutting oil prices and presenting cartel with crisis.

- Labour says increasubgky says Govt is accepting 3m unemployed as permanent fact of life.
- Ralph Harris, Telegraph, calls for weakening of obsturctive power of trade unions, matching taxation on unemployment benefit with tax cuts on earnings; abolishing wages councils and end of rent control.
- FT says Budget is likely to be seen more for what it does politically than as an economic event.
- Workers may be facing another rise in NIC to make up lost 5% in unemployment benefits.
- James McMillan, Express, says that with a trade surplus that would make the Japs green with envy, rising exports and the prospect of sustained recovery we all ought to perk up a bit and smile.

Unemployment

- Case of Bristol man who is alleged to have been denied a job by MSC because he had not been unemployed for a year.
- Guardian says Voluntary Centre sending protest to you about community programme because it feels you are using charities as dumping ground for intractable problem of labour market.

Industry

- Chief Inspector of Factories attacks both employers and unions for putting profits and job security before safety.
- John Smith, Opposition spokesman, calls for inquiry into recent events at the Times; lots of profiles of Charles Douglas-Home and explanations of why Evans had to go.
- Times leader says empiricism and tackling each industry on its own ground are needed to improve performance of nationalised industries; FT leader says Govt is getting itself into a tangle over nationalised industries and there is a danger that rhetoric and a political crusade will get in way of clearly thought out decisions.
- Cable TV expected to be given go ahead on Monday.
- NEB expects to raise £50m from INMOS next year.

Panorama

- D/Star says Attorney General in exclusive interview is furious about IRA terrorists boasting on TV -"I think they came out as the bastards they really are", he is quoted as saying.
- D/Star leader says may be a little toomuch propaganda crept into programme but it was a fine piece of investigative journalism.
- Mirror says siglt of self confessed killers parading on screen is offensive but don't blame BBC; blame politicians in Republic and USA who won't extradite for "political" crimes.

Local Authority

- Hereford County Councillors says it would be cheaper to buy cars, pay chauffers and scrap vehicles after 12 months than pay current 45p a mile mileage allowance to staff.
- Sun leader asks what has got into Mr Heseltine asking local authorities to spend more (on capital projects, a distinction which is not made) when rates bills are as high as they are.
- London Transport will prosecute those who won't pay full fares from Mondya.

- Chartered Institute of Public Finance predicts average rise in rates of 15%.

Education

- Teacher who was told she should expect to be assaulted in her career wins her assault case against parent.
- Rhodes Boyson orders two sex education books from Brook Street Advisory Centre to be struck off approved school books list.
- Sun tells Ipswich sit in parents it is wrong to use children as blackmail weapons; Express says it is nasty and offensive for parents to do this.

Defence

- West snubs Russia's missiles proposed as a propaganda stunt; Reagan says it does not go far enough ; let's get down to real arms reduction negotiations; Express says Brezhnev takes the biscuit; sheer brazen effrontery; not serious statesmanship.
- FT feature says as things stand Britain's chances of cashing in on Trident work seems slight.
- Europe cool to Buckley mission on trade with Soviets.

EC

- We are seen to be limbering up on Mandate row after Tindemans/Thorn visit; Cheysson sees you as the very model of being stubborn and says Grench can be a stubborn as you; Madame Cresson says we can't win farm price poker game a second time under same rules - she says France will introduce national aids if there is no settlement by end of this month.
- 200-strong delegation from Socialist members of Euro Parliament to visit Yorkshire in June to study its problems.

Sport

- 15 cricketers in South Africa to be banned from Tests this summer, according to Sun.

Politics

- Jenkins hints he won't try again if he loses Hillhead.
- Bow Group says SDP is a party not of centre but of Socialist left and its slogan might aptly be "Politics before people".
- Benn says Marxism is a world faith and we ought to reconcile it with other political creeds.
- Times leader says if you want something for your constituency have a riot of a by-election.

International

- Lebanon: member of our Embassy staff freed from kidnap apparently without ransom being paid.
- Angola: South African led forces claim to have killed 201 Swapo guerillas in raid into Angola.
- Nicaragua: declares state of emergency because of activities of US secret service and counter revolutionaries.
- Brussels: 200 injured in steel worker riots.

Ministers:

Mr Younger and Mr Fletcher meet Cunninghame District Council, London.

Mr Fletcher visits "Why Not Belong to Glasgow" exhibition, London.

Mr Walker opens British Consultants Bureau/Agriculture Research Council/University Departments Conference, Institute of Civil Engineers, London; presents British Grassland Society National Silage Competition Award, London; and addresses the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in GB luncheon, London.

Mr Lawson and Mr Mellor meet the Energy Managers Co-ordinating Committee, London.

Mr Shaw attends British Water Board launch of UK Waterways Holdings Limited.

Mr Macfarlane addresses Association of District Councils Leisure Services Committee.

Mr Rees visits Yorkshire.

Dr Vaughan addresses Institute of Credit Management.

Mr Whitelaw presides over the Home Office Bicentenary Lecture by Mr Callaghan: "Cumber and Variableness". (6.15 pm)

Mr Wakeham attends Seaview '82 demonstration, Felixstowe - Zeebrugge, aboard the Viking Voyager car ferry.

Mr Baker visits Rediffusion Radio Systems.

Mr Rossi attends King's College Development Committee meeting, King's College, London. (5.30 pm)