

PRIME MINISTER

DIARY

European Council, Brussels.

GLC censure motion on Police Committee chairman for accusations of police racism.

National Union of Journalists conference, Coventry.

Parliamentary Statements:

- Commons - Death Grant
- Lords - Falkland Islands

Publications:

HO: Report of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons (England and Wales) 1982.

Pay:

- University manual workers. response to claim "in line with inflation".
- Gas Supply Manuals: further discussions on rejected offer of between 7.5% and 8%.
- Scottish Further Education Teachers: resumed negotiations.

Parliament:

Commons:

Questions: Prime Minister, Employment.

Business: Remaining stages of the Fire Service College Board (Abolition) Bill (Lords) and of the Stock Transfer Bill.

Motion on the Gas Levy Rate Order.

Motions relating to the National Health Service (Dental and Optical Charges) Amendment Regulations and on the Local Government (Direct Labour Organisations) (Competition) Amendment Regulations for England and Wales and also for Scotland.

Select Committees: ENVIRONMENT: Enquiry into methods of financing Local Government in the context of Government's Green Paper (Cmd 8449). (Witnesses: National Union of Ratepayers and Professor J D Stewart.)

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATION:
Reports of the Health Service Commissioner.
(Witnesses: Staffordshire Family Practitioner
Committee).

FOREIGN AFFAIRS: OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE.
The Work of the Commonwealth Development Corporation.
(Witnesses: Commonwealth Development Corporation.)

Lords:

Salmon Fisheries (Protection) (S) Bill (HL): Third
Reading.

Administration of Justice Bill (HL): Committee.

Wool Textile Industry (Scientific Research Levy)
(Amendment) Order 1982: Motion for Approval.

Wool Textile Industry (Export Promotion Levy)
(Amendment) Order 1982: Motion for Approval.

Social Security (Class 1 Contributions-Contracted-out
Percentages) Order 1982: Motion for Approval.

State Scheme Premiums (Actuarial Tables) Amendment
Regulations 1982: Motion for Approval.

Debate on Community Farm Price Proposals for 1982-83
and the guidelines for European Agriculture.

U.Q. on the Polish Government's obligations under the
Helsinki Declaration, etc.

Ministers:

See Annex

PRESS DIGEST

EEC

- The Summit "clash" is featured prominently. Mrs Thatcher says that Britain should become no more than a very modest net contributor. M Mitterand said that the Thorn/Tindemans plan is not recognised by France as a basis for discussion. British officials let it be known that the Government was maintaining its veto on farm prices until the Budget issue was settled.
- FT leader says that the farm price system should develop to include income guarantees as well as price guarantees. This would allow discretion to individual governments to support farmers at their own expense.
- Labour produce revised draft for withdrawal programme.

El Salvador

- Duarte gets biggest share of vote. A coalition government - possible of right - looks most likely. US express pleasure about size of poll and are said to be involved in trying to form stable coalition.

Falklands

- Lord Carrington returns to make statement. Telegraph says that FCO's determination not to comment so far has made it appear "foolish and spineless". Argentina yesterday formally warned that the situation was becoming "grave and serious".

- Sun leader urges toughness in negotiations.

Law and Order

- Roy Hattersley yesterday warned off chief constables from entering political arena.
- Livingstone attacks "racist" London police at London rally.
- Chief Constable of Surrey complains that criminal statistics are distorted by new recording methods.
- Mirror leader highlights Government's "broken promise" on law and order and says the way forward is through better housed, educated and employed society.
- Christopher Booker in Daily Mail analyses Mrs Thatcher's Harrogate speech.
- Lords to hear Met appeal on ruling that courts have no authority to hear prosecutions brought under "sus" law.

Disputes and Pay

- Nurses leaders consider strike action after Mr Fowler tells them that 6.4% is the limit.
- Lord McCarthy to visit four rail depots this week. Tribunal not expected to report before 13 April.
- Mass meeting of Heathrow T and G workers today to try to get support for baggage handlers strike.
- Foyles ask temporary employees to sign a "take us as you find us" agreement before joining.
- Ministers said to be considering plans to reduce strike powers of Civil Service Unions by withdrawing facilities to collect union dues. Senior Civil Servants understood to be arguing against precipitate action.
- Burman and Sons has told 600 workers that they must accept pay cuts or face dismissal.
- Mr Biffen denies that Rupert Murdoch had broken editorial-independence conditions over Harold Evans dismissal/resignation.

Employment Bill

- Twenty Conservative backbenchers support amendments for lay-off proposals.
- Mr Tebbit said yesterday that he was under pressure to introduce further measures and there is speculation of a further Bill before the next election.
- Sun urges Mr Tebbit to accept ballot amendment.
- FT analyses closed shop features of Bill.

Economy

- Governor of the Bank of England optimistic about prospects with the Select Committee.
- FT leader highlights the problem of bank lending and supports some form of tax to reduce the profit growth and hunger for expansion of the banking system.

Industry

- Sale of Stone Platt textile machinery subsidiary means job loss for half of workforce.
- Heron withdraws bid for ACC.
- Ford cut car prices by average 4.5%.
- Plessey and GEC each win £20m orders from British Telecom.
- Chairman of Lloyds Register of Shipping forecasts that over-capacity in ship building is continuing to grow.
- The Government has commissioned study of its telecommunications need allowing the possible use of supplies from other than British Telecom.

Oil

- Oil companies have asked for a price reduction in Nigerian oil. They claim that they are implementing fully their contracts with Nigeria.

Defence

- Labour reaffirms commitment to cancel Trident.
- David Steel, in interview with Times, indicated that an Alliance Government would end the independent nuclear deterrent.
- Cuts in Army posts should be announced by Easter.
- President Reagan expected to announce tomorrow his support for a new round of strategic arms reduction talks.

Northern Ireland

- D/Telegraph leader kite flies idea of ditching Mr Prior's proposals and concentrating on plans for British-Irish co-operation.

International

- Lord Carrington today flies to Israel as tension mounts over West Bank. Israel will press for British Government action on Arab boycott.
- Editor of official Polish newspaper calls for abolition of Solidarity.
- "Black economy" accounts for 10% of US gross national products according to business leak.

NHS

- British Dental Association attacks Government over forthcoming increases in dental charges.

Education

- Sir Keith Joseph has shelved indefinitely plans for merging O level and CSE examinations.

Local Authorities

- Average rate increases of 15.85% for households and 12.66% for industry forecast this year by the Rating and Valuation Association.
- District auditor seeks declaration that Campden Councillors (including Mr Livingstone) acted illegally in agreeing to settle manual workers' claim in 1979.
- London local councils are owed about £50m in rent arrears.

Unused Public Land

- 73,500 acres of unused land now identified by Government.

Racial Discrimination

- CRE asks Army why there are no blacks in the Guards.
- A Times leader headed "One Nation" discusses the failure of British institutions, including governments, to promote racial integration and mentions specifically that the Prime Minister should, through the next honours list, add at least a dozen West Indians and Asian leaders to the benches of the House of Lords.

Religion

- Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission looks eventually to Pope as universal Primate.
- D/Telegraph leader gives a qualified welcome.
- D/Mail leader attacks "maladroit timing" of report in year of Pope's visit.

Los Angeles Orchestra Tour

- Department of Employment is being pressed to override advisory body's decision not to allow 5 concerts.
- D/Telegraph leader says decision seems unduly restrictionist.

Mark Thatcher

- Scotland Yard refused to comment on reports of his bodyguard.

B MOWER
30 March 1982

Ministers:

- Mr Walker visits the Lord Bank Research Centre, High Wycombe.
- Lord Ferrers visits British Friesian Cattle Society, London.
- Mrs Fenner visits Kew Gardens.
- Lord Belstead visits Bristol Probation Service.
- Mr Lamont speaks at Motor Industry PR Association dinner.
- Mr Wakeham addresses Institute of Internal Auditors.
- Mr Baker opens Cadcam '82, Brighton.
- Mr Baker at award of the Society of Chemical Industries' Chemical Writer of the Year.
- Mr MacGregor at launch of Small Firms Engineering Scheme.
- Sir Keith Joseph opens exhibition of the Design of Rolls Royce Aero Engines, London (6.15 pm).
- Mr Waldegrave addresses GCE Boards annual conference, Bristol (7.00 pm).
- Mr Fowler attends dinner, Nuffield Hospital Trust, London (7.45 pm).
- Mr Finsberg attends Health Visitors Association lunch, London (1.30 pm).
- Sir George Young visits Central Lancs New Town.
- Mr Macfarlane meets NW Council for Sport and Recreation, Manchester.
- Dr Vaughan visits Berkshire Trading Standards Office.
- Mr Pattie addresses US Council for National Policy conference (UK defence policy).
- Mr Nott visits Marconi factory, Neston, Chester.
- Mr Blaker meets chief minister and representatives of Gibraltar Government at FCO.