

Emo 25.

subject of  
Parliament - Opposition  
Allowances - Jan 8.

MR LANKESTER

The Chancellor of the Exchequer rang the Prime Minister this morning (0820) to discuss a subject he had "forgotten" to raise earlier - Financial aid to Opposition Parties, in particular the figure of £290,000. The Prime Minister said it was too late as she had already agreed this figure following discussion with the Chief Whip, although she would have preferred £275,000. The Prime Minister felt it best that there should be a separate statement on this.

The Prime Minister then expressed concern about the interpretation of the Euro Budget, especially the unallocated part. Her views on the final settlement were known by the Chancellor and she would be very angry if it came about that she had negotiated the settlement on the basis of information different from that which was emerging now. The Chancellor said he was worried about certain aspects of this and would get on with it.

The Prime Minister then mentioned the TSRB statement. She was recommending that the pension should go up to the 3rd stage - this would only affect those widowed during the year, who would be £100-£200 better off.

S. J. Pike

DUTY CLERK

7 July 1980