



10 DOWNING STREET

*MB*

Prime Minister

PARTY CONFERENCE

It is felt that Lord Hailsham's views on the Constitution and the House of Lords in particular are too strong for him to be considered as a platform speaker for the debate on the Constitution. As for Lord Soames, he is already committed to the C.P.C. Lecture and for that reason has not been seriously considered as an alternative to Norman St. John Stevas. The name of Angus Maude did arise but since he is due to sum up on party policy and public relations his name was also deleted.

The only major Cabinet Minister without a slot at the Party Conference this year (as indeed has been the case before) is John Nott. Futhermore it is unlikely that the balloted motion will be directly relevant to the field in which he operates.

*Richard Ryder*

4th August, 1980

Richard Ryder.