

PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS

There would be an informal Cabinet meeting at 2.30. The Prime Minister was working at Downing Street for the remainder of the day.

TODAY'S CABINET

Today's Cabinet meeting - the first since the appointment of Government Ministers - was really a bedding-down process and Ministers would be getting ready for a full Cabinet on Thursday.

QUEEN'S SPEECH

We could offer no guidance on the speculation that the Prime Minister might be considering a further Queen's Speech in the autumn.

BUDGET DATE

The Treasury team had been at work since being set up but there were no specific recommendations before today's Cabinet on the date of the Budget.

MOVING INTO NO. 10

The Prime Minister had not yet decided to move into the living quarters at No. 10. She was still commuting between Flood Street and Downing Street and we did not know what she intended to do.

FURTHER APPOINTMENTS

It was not clear at the moment whether there would be any further appointments today - only some Lords and Commons Whips were outstanding. We would keep the Lobby informed.

MR. JAY

We had seen the reports in the morning press of the British Ambassador in Washington having offered his resignation. This was perfectly normal on a change of administration but correspondents could assume that there would be no precipitate action. Indeed, we could not confirm that there would be any changeover.

MRS. THATCHER'S PRIORITIES

Mrs. Thatcher's priorities on becoming Prime Minister were to some extent indicated in the selection of Departments among her first list of Government appointments. These were the Treasury, the Foreign Office, Defence and the Department of Industry. Correspondents could assume that at today's Cabinet meeting she would be expressing some of her hopes and ambitions for the future.