

LEADER'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 114th Meeting held at 5.45 p.m. on Wednesday, 9th June 1976, in the Leader's Room at the House of Commons.

Present: Mrs. Thatcher (in the Chair).

Mr. Whitelaw, Sir Keith Joseph,
Lord Haileham, Mr. Maudling,
Mr. Prior, Mr. Pym, Mr. Gilmour,
Mr. Jenkin, Mr. Peyton,
Mr. St. John-Stevas, Mr. Haseltine,
Mr. Eason, Mr. Maude,
Mr. Buchanan-Smith, Mr. Edwards,
Mr. Neave, Mr. Biffan.

Mr. Atkins.

In attendance: Mr. Butler, Mr. Stanley,
Mr. Patten, Mr. Ridley,
Mr. Nicholson.

Apologies: Lord Carrington, Sir Geoffrey Howe,
Mrs. Oppenheim, Lord Thornycroft.

1. Proposed Business for the Week 14th-21st June

(As a result of the Party's decision to withdraw co-operation with the Government with regard to the Business of the House, following the Government's breaking of a pair in the vote on procedure on the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill on 27th May 1976, only certain parts of the week's business were available for consideration at this meeting).

On Monday, 14th June, there would be a half Supply Day, followed by Opposed Private Business at 7.00 p.m., consideration of the G.L.C. (General Powers) Bill and the Second Reading of the G.L.C. (Money) Bill.

On Tuesday, 15th June, Mr. R. Hughes would seek leave to introduce his Advertisements for the Recruitment of Mercenaries (Prohibition) Bill under the 10 Minute Rule.

On Wednesday, 15th June, Mr. D. Skinner would seek leave to introduce his House of Lords (Abolition) Bill under the 10 Minute Rule.

On Friday, 18th June, there would be the Remaining Stages of Mr. McCormick's Divorce (Scotland) (No. 2) Bill and Mr. Corbett's Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill.

2. Matters Arising on Business

There was a discussion as to the subject for the half Supply Day on Monday, 14th June. It was agreed to debate Rural Transport in England and Wales. (Following a discussion in the Business Committee, it was later decided instead to debate Northern Ireland Security).

3. Mr. Callaghan's Speech

There was a discussion on a remark Mr. Callaghan had just made in his speech on the Vote of Censure, which although vague in content appeared to indicate that the Government wished to reach a settlement with the Conservative Party regarding co-operation over the Business of the House, in particular regarding the aircraft and shipbuilding industries. It was agreed that Sir Geoffrey Howe, in summing up the debate, should indicate that there was no doubt that there had been a broken pair on the Labour side, that this was the Government's responsibility, and that if the Government wished to discuss the restoration of co-operation they should come forward with specific proposals for restoring the damage done.

The meeting closed at 6.15 p.m.