

## The Institute of Economic Affairs

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23 October 1980

See Dry

Hobart Paper: Trade Unions Cause the Unemployment of the 80s

Thank you for your letter of 19 October received vesterday.

I have read <u>The Times</u> article quickly and must confess I should have preferred something written today in order to present the whole Paper as a statement of your thinking in October 1980 rather than 1978. But we could use <u>The Times</u> piece for Part V if Part I (the Introduction) discusses the position in Britain today, especially the Government's first attempt to reform the trade union laws, inadequate though they be, and how the unemployment total of around two million fits into your general analysis of the unemployment that is the "inescapable consequence of mistaken policies of the past as soon as inflation ceases to accelerate" (the quote is. of course, from your Nobel lecture).

Would you therefore do your best to make Part I read as your assessment today of the labour market and the continuing urgency of more fundamental reform in the trade union laws.

The two quotations on page 220 of  $\underbrace{\text{New Studies}}_{\text{cannot find}}$  can certainly be fitted into the text, but I cannot find the Dicey quotation mentioned on the telephone.

If we can receive Part I fairly quickly - so that it reaches us by 3/4 November, with one or two days' grace - we may be able to rush publication so that it will be in time for your visit here in November.

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