

26th June, 1978.

The Rt. Hon Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
House of Commons,
London, S.W.1.

aide memoire from Alfred Sherman.

Our conversation on future "philosophical" speeches.

(1) The social-democratic heritage.

You have decided to go no further with it.

I have drawn Keith's attention to it in case he wishes to adopt it. May I take it that you would not object?

(2) The continuing Conservative Heritage.

I raised it with Hugh Thomas, who responded enthusiastically. We shall be meeting for dinner on Wednesday evening, 28.8.78, to discuss it further; he thinks that following this, a "talk-in" with you, if possible the three of us, would be desirable. A propos, he is not keen for it to be generally known at this stage that he is involved. Like the nightingale (per Horace) he sings most sweetly from the shade of the thicket. The "gang of four" is already seriously overmanned - nine at the last count - and eminences grises

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jostle in the corridors till they become a fire hazard. He recognises that in the course of time his participation is bound to become common knowledge but sees no reason for this being sooner rather than it must be.

(3) The Dancers of World Protectionism.

A major set-piece speech on international economics and "economic statesmanship" to match the Brussels speech Simon Webley is well fitted to carry the main burden here, and ready to do so.

(4) The roots of greatness - Conservatives and Economic Liberals.

You will produce your definitive version from among the many; it can be issued and made ready inclusion in the speeches for publication.

(5) Published speeches.

The second collection of speeches will thus comprise:

- A. St. Lawrence Jewry.
- B. Brussels.
- C. Conservatism/Tradition.
- D. The Roots of Greatness in one version and, if you favour it, World Protectionism or World Trade.

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A foreword dispelling the false images.

If they are to be out before the election campaign they will have to be produced on a tight schedule.

We at the CPS would be glad to publish them, if this were your wish. If they are to be produced instead at Smith Square, our technical capability would naturally be at their disposal if they wished to draw on it.

Were the CPS to be entrusted with it, we should go ahead with design, print contract, editing, annotation and setting of existing speeches and the one, two or three additional ones as they are agreed. This would give us more time and greater flexibility in fixing our launching date and publicity.

I await your responses.