

FROM: NIGEL LAWSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

30th May 1976

*Ben Mangan*

Since you clearly (and alas predictably) got no change from Callaghan, I do hope that you will stick to the "no pairing" threat for the rest of this session. Provided it is accepted that, on all except essential business, our people can - within reason - register as 'absent unpaired', this will inconvenience the Government infinitely more than it will the Opposition; whereas not to implement the threat would, I suspect, be seen as a sign of weakness and of not wanting a general election.

Incidentally, I see that it is being suggested that the Lords will declare the Bill hybrid. This surprises me, since it cannot be beyond the wit of man to devise an amendment on Report to para 6 of Schedule 2 to remove the element of hybridity before the Bill reaches the Lords. But I do very much hope that, in the circumstances, the Lords will be persuaded to use their normal delaying powers in respect of public bills to the full. It is constitutionally of the first importance that cheating should be seen not to prosper.

*Yours  
Ever,  
Nigel*

LAWSON

(MP)

Thank you for your letter of 30th May.

Of course you are right - we must not give way now and I have no intention of doing so.

— But, it will depend on the co-operation we get from the Party. I have already had a word with

With best wishes.

Edward du Cann about this

Yours faithfully  
Nigel Lawson

Nigel Lawson Esq MP