



11th January, 1960.

Dear Sir Keith,

I had a long session with Mr. Pearce and with Mr. Fiennes about the Press Bill on Thursday of last week.

I have made one or two suggestions which I think would cause the draftsman no difficulty.

My main bone of contention is in the provisions of Clause I (2), which in the words of the draftsman leaves the matter "wide open". He is under the impression that the Ministry wanted it left "wide open", but judging from my talks with Dame Evelyn I do not entirely agree with him.

There is one more point of substance - I am somewhat disappointed with the present attempts to deal with a penalty clause. As, however, I understand that this matter is still under discussion with the Legal Department, I can only leave it in their good hands.

I do most sincerely hope that the Minister will see fit to meet some of my objections, and to let the draftsman make the appropriate amendments.

As the draft is confidential I have not discussed it with anyone, except Sir Lionel Heald, Captain F. Corfield and Mr. Harold Gurden, who you will appreciate are the other M.P.s chiefly concerned in the Bill.

Yours sincerely

Margaret H. Thatcher

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