

## PRIME MINISTER

### ISSUES OF THE DAY

#### EVENTS

Rhodesia Elections.

Visit of President Kyprianou.

ISTC discusses private sector strike and arbitration/mediation.

Institute of Health Administration Conference on "Patients First".

NATO forum discusses neutral Afghanistan idea.

Bus pay; BL unions' deadline for improved pay offer.

Car and commercial vehicle production.

Corrie Bill.

#### Debate

On the whole not bad coverage but not a triumph; excellent majority.

#### Steel

Cautious reaction to Callaghan's mediation/arbitration plan.

BSC £100,000 advertising campaign on offer and ISTC leaflets reply. 15 pickets arrested in South Wales. George Brown in Star says Sirs should ballot. Telegraph says Sirs exhausted and feeling strain. Express says Consett wants to get back to work.

#### Government

George Brown sharp comments in Daily Star on Government splits and says speculation rife that it will crack. But says there is no credible opposition. Calls for proportional representation.

Murray in Times interview wants to jaw jaw with Government.

Walter Terry in Sun worries about Prime Ministerial raps for Ministers

#### Employment Bill

Sun says TUC frightened men for spurning ballot money. Mail says Bill will have to be changed - problem of identifying pickets.

#### Cuts

BBC's proposed £130 million cuts, axing 5 orchestras, makes headlines. Musicians Union says it will fight. Huge cuts in rival bus services foreshadowed. Civil Servants to pay more for their pensions.

#### Industrial

Building workers reject 14%; British Gas stick on 17%; Furniture Union opposes Bridgewater pay cut deal to keep factory going.

Afghanistan/Olympics, etc.

Reports that 1,000 Moslems murdered in Afghanistan. Yugoslavia, Algeria and India reject neutrality idea.

Rhodesia

Polling going well but increasing concern over Mugabe's absence in Mozambique and Tanzania - reported to be patching up quarrel between Machel and Nyrere. Soames may stay on a bit - speculation. Labour Party immigration discussion document would ban 75,000 Rhodesian Whites.

EEC

Genscher says UK's Budget problem must be sorted out at next Council. Silkin calls for import controls and "damn the EEC".

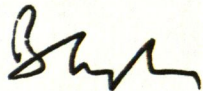
Germany

handling

Schmidt goes out of his way to praise Carter for Iran/before Washington visit. To increase defence spending by 3%.

Other Points

- ICI's profits of £560 million boosted by North Sea oil.
- Enoch Powell explains in Times how he helped to defeat Mr. Heath and return Mr. Wilson.
- Attorney General may intervene in pervert's prosecutions of press.
- Coroner criticises heart operation doctors for taking heart without his permission.
- Post Office investigating Prestel porn and case of young girl who, dialling 999 when her father had heart attack, was told it would cost her £100.
- BL moonlighters sweep streets.
- Life imprisonment for British businessman on Iraq bribery charge.
- Colombian kidnappers demand £25 million ransom; 13 hostages released.
- Health hazards of cavity wall foam.
- Sports Council report shows some sympathy for South Africa.



B. INGHAM

29 February, 1980