

Mr Ingham



Manpower

My speech
but done

PRIME MINISTER

need a joint
document with
MSC? would
refer only
E.

Prime Minister

Content for Mr Pridi to
speak on Industrial Training
in second reading of the bill,
in preference to
publishing a White Paper?

POSSIBLE WHITE PAPER ON INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

When the Ministerial Committee on Economic Strategy on 18 November
approved my proposals for legislation on industrial training boards
I was invited to give further consideration to the question I had
raised of publishing alongside the Bill a short White Paper setting
out our approach to wider issues of industrial training policy.

MD
2/1

On reflection, and in the light of a draft prepared by the official
Manpower Group, I do not propose to pursue the idea of a White Paper
at the present time. I think it is better to concentrate our efforts
on the preparation of a more detailed consultative document which I
would hope we could issue jointly with the MSC in about two months'
time, while the Bill is in Committee. Meantime it is possible to
make only very general statements about our approach to, for example,
improved vocational preparation for school leavers, reform of apprentice-
ship and better opportunities for the training and re-training of
adults. I think these general points can best be made in my speech on
Second Reading.

I am copying this letter to other members of E Committee, the Secretaries
of State for Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Education and Science,
Mr J R Ibbs and Sir Robert Armstrong.

JP
6 January 1981