

PRIME MINISTER

Parliamentary Affairs

~~I understand that Mr. Heseltine will want to report on progress in re-thinking the approach to controlling excessive rates rises: the Chief Whip will also wish to report on the Parliamentary prospects on this front.~~

The Canadian Constitution Repatriation issues now seem much easier, ~~following a constructive meeting this morning between the Canadian Minister of Justice and Messrs. Pym and Jopling, but it might be helpful for the Lord President to mention his conclusions on handling.~~

The one questionmark over next week's business concerns the timing of the Northern Ireland Emergency Provisions (Continuance) Order. Mr. Prior is reported to be most unhappy about the timing proposed, Wednesday evening, but Business managers see no alternative. It would perhaps be better for this to be settled out of Cabinet, but Mr. Prior might raise it.

MAJ

9 December, 1981.