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MR. SHERBOURNE

John Selwyn Gummer

Thank you for your minute of 27 October about Mr. Gummer. Paragraph 118 of 'Questions of Procedure for Ministers' says:-

"Ministers should not accept payment for official broadcasts on radio or television, either on their own or on their Department's account or with a view to donating the fee to charity."

I realise that the arrangement which Mr. Gummer has hitherto had is not quite the same since he suggests that the broadcasting authorities should make a contribution to charity rather than passing it on himself. But I think that he should nevertheless simply refuse a fee. The suggestion that the broadcasting authorities should make a donation to charity could still be regarded as putting Mr. Gummer under some obligation to them which is best avoided.

F. E. R. BUTLER

27 October 1983

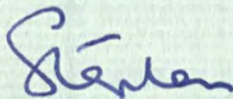
MR. BUTLER

John Selwyn Gummer

John Gummer has been receiving a number of fees from appearances on television and radio, which he of course returns being a Minister.

In the past he has written a letter as the attached shows, gently suggesting that they might consider sending his fee on to a charity.

He has now asked me to advise him as to whether or not he can continue to do this. I would be very grateful for your advice on this.



Stephen Sherbourne

27th October, 1983



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From
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY
John Selwyn Gummer MP

October 1983

Thank you very much for your fee. As a Minister I am not able to accept it. If therefore you feel that it could be sent to a charity of your own choice then that would, I am sure, be appreciated.

Two charities whose work I have found particularly interesting are; The Church Union, 7, Tufton Street, London SW1, and The Shrine of Walsingham, The Bursar, The Shrine Office, Walsingham, Norfolk.

D.G. Martin, Esq.,
Head of Artists' Contracts, Television.

All letters being held back at the moment