

Minutes of a meeting of the National Union Executive Committee
held at 32 Smith Square, Westminster, on Thursday 25th April
at 2.15 p.m.

Sir Russell Sanderson presided and the names of those members of the Committee present are recorded.

1. At the start of the meeting, Sir Basil Feldman, Chairman of the National Union, extended congratulations to Sir Russell Sanderson on his elevation to the House of Lords, and this was warmly endorsed by the meeting. The Chairman responded and then referred to the death of Cdr. Alfred Williams, a former Chairman and President of the Western Area.

He referred to the recent appointment of Lord Carrington as a Knight of the Garter, and congratulated Mr. Alan Paul on his election as National C.T.U. Chairman, Mr. Richard Fuller as National Young Conservatives Chairman, and extended a welcome to Mr. Robin Harris, the new Director of the Research Department.

2. Apologies for Absence were received from Viscount Whitelaw, Sir Humphrey Atkins (President), Sir Henry Plumb M.E.P. and 14 other members of the Committee.
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th February, having been circulated with the notice, were taken as read, confirmed as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
 - a) 1986 Executive Dinner.
It was reported that the Secretary was negotiating for Wednesday 5th February at the Naval and Military Club.
 - b) The Chairman referred to the success of the 'Requiem' in Westminster Abbey on Sunday 21st April, and congratulated Sir Ian McLeod J.P. (Chairman) and Sir Peter Lane (Treasurer) of the organising committee on all their work in producing an outstanding event.

5. Central Council Meeting - Newcastle Upon Tyne.

The Secretary reported on the Central Council meeting held on 22nd/23rd March (a copy of the report is annexed to the minutes). The meeting agreed to record its thanks to the Northern Area for their warm welcome and hospitality on this occasion.

6. Rt. Hon. Nicholas Ridley M.P., Secretary of State for Transport

The Chairman then welcomed Mr. Ridley who addressed the meeting on current topics and especially the Buses Bill presently before Parliament. After answering a number of questions, the Chairman thanked Mr. Ridley for his attendance and speech, and Mr. Ridley left the meeting.

7. Property Review.

The Chairman invited Sir Oulton Wade J.P., Joint Treasurer of the Party, to speak on the recent report produced by a Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Michael Craig-Cooper. Sir Oulton suggested, and it was agreed, that the report should be circulated to all members of the General Purposes Committee for consideration at the next meeting.

8. Standing Review Committee.

Sir Donald Walters, the Chairman of the Standing Review Committee, reported on a meeting which had taken place earlier in the day. The Committee was reviewing the National Union Rules and would report in detail later, but they had made a firm recommendation regarding affiliation fees to the National Union as following:

- a) Associations. Fee to be increased from £10 p.a. to £40 p.a. for which in future they would receive the full literature service, worth £30 p.a.
- b) Other Recognised Bodies. Fee to be increased from £5 to £20, but this would not include the literature service.

The Committee approved these increases, to start in 1986.

9. Social Affairs Forum.

Dame Joan Seccombe reported on the discussion for setting up a third Forum covering Social Affairs, and recommended that this be approved by the National Union.

After some discussion on the proposed title for the Forum and the essential need for the Forum to operate at Area as well as National level, the Committee approved nem. con. the setting up of the Forum with Dame Joan Seccombe as its Chairman.

10. Federation of Conservative Students.

The Chairman reported on the events arising from the F.C.S. Conference at Loughborough and read the terms of the proposed motion to set up an enquiry.

Several members of the Committee contributed to the discussion, after which the Chairman proposed that:

"This Committee agrees to set up a Committee of Enquiry to investigate the events at the 1985 Loughborough Conference of the F.C.S. and to examine whether the organisation of F.C.S. meets the aims and objects of the National Union, and to make recommendations."

This was seconded by Mr. W. Morton and carried unanimously. The composition of the Committee of Enquiry was confirmed as follows:-

Sir Donald Walters LL.B.- Chairman
Dame Joan Seccombe, D.B.E., J.P.
Mr. David Mitchell C.B.E.

The Secretary of the National Union to act as Secretary of the Committee which is to report to a meeting of the General Purposes Committee on June 12th.

The Chairman stated that there should be no enquiry into personal political views of members of the F.C.S.

11. County Council Elections.

Mr. John Heddle, M.P., Chairman of the Local Government Advisory Committee, reported on the County Council Election Campaign. Mr. John Selwyn Gummer M.P., Chairman of the Party Organisation, stressed the importance of these elections.

12. Resolutions from Constituency, Area and Other Organisations.

Seven Resolutions were circulated with the notice, and a further four in a supplementary agenda, which are annexed to these minutes. The Chairman's actions were approved.

13. Party Conference - Blackpool, 8th - 11th October 1985.

The Chairman gave a brief report on plans to date. A further meeting with Lancashire Police was to be held shortly.

The meeting agreed that Mr. Jeffery Archer be invited to make the financial appeal at the Conference.

14. Business for the Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on 13th June and Mr. Norman Fowler M.P. had agreed to address it.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.15 p.m.



The National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations

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15th April 1985

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

To: Members of the Executive Committee

Dear Sir/Madam

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Further to the preliminary notice of 5th February, I have pleasure in forwarding the agenda overleaf and relevant documents for the meeting of the Executive Committee, to be held in the Assembly Room at 32 Smith Square, Westminster, on Thursday 25th April at 2.15pm.

I am glad to inform you that the Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP, the Secretary of State for Transport, has kindly agreed to lead a discussion on matters connected with his Department.

NEXT MEETING

Preliminary notice is given of the meeting of the Executive Committee, to be held on Thursday 13th June, at 32 Smith Square, Westminster, at 2.15pm. Notice of any business for inclusion in the agenda should reach me by Wednesday, 29th May. Rt. Hon. Norman Fowler MP, Secretary of State for Social Services has agreed to speak.

Yours faithfully

Secretary

THE NATIONAL UNION OF CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST ASSOCIATIONS

Executive Committee Meeting - Thursday 25th April 1985

A G E N D A

1. Chairman's opening remarks
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 14th February 1985
(Copy "A" attached)
4. Business arising from the Minutes
5. Central Council Meeting, 22nd/23rd March
To receive a report from the Secretary on the Central Council Meeting
6. Secretary of State for Transport
Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP will lead a discussion on matters connected with transport
7. Property Review
Sir Oulton Wade and Mr Idris Pearce to present the paper on property prepared by the Treasurers' Department. A video on this subject will be shown at 1.45 p.m. before the meeting
8. Standing Review Committee
To receive a report from Sir Donald Walters, Chairman of the Standing Review Committee, on a meeting to be held on the morning of 25th April
9. Social Affairs Forum
To receive a report from Dame Joan Seccombe on the proposed Forum on Social Affairs
10. Federation of Conservative Students - ratification of the appointment of a Committee of Enquiry.
11. Consideration of Resolutions received from Area, Constituency and other organisations (copy "B" attached)
12. Party Conference, Blackpool - provisional arrangements
13. Business for the next meeting (Thursday 13th June)
14. Any other business by leave of the Chairman.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST ASSOCIATIONS

Executive Committee Meeting - Thursday 25th April 1985

Resolutions received from Constituency, Area and other organisations

1. 'Off the Job' Training

"This Committee is of the opinion that :

1. Basic operative craft skills are best taught 'off the job' in M.S.C. Skill Centres by qualified and experienced instructor/lecturers.

2. A greater degree of liaison should be insisted upon by H.M. Government between Statutory Further Education and M.S.C. interests.

3. H.M. Government should be urged to to effect TVEI Industrial Training and Further Education (Job Knowledge) by fully utilising the skills, knowledge and experience and first class facilities at present grossly under-used in M.S.C. Skill Centres."

Carried at a meeting of the CTU National Committee on 16th Feb.

Forwarded to Hon. Peter Morrison M.P.

2. Youth Training Scheme

"This Conference congratulates H.M. Government on its action so far in promoting Youth Training schemes. It also places on record its appreciation of the parts played by the M.S.C., Local Authorities, Managing Agents, the T.U.C. and all those Trade Unions which have co-operated. Conference believes that this coming year must be used to initially consolidate on the successes of the first year with a view to encouraging more and longer-term training later, thus leading to significantly increased job opportunities for Trainees."

Carried by Yorkshire Area C.T.U. Conference and the CTU National Committee.

Forwarded to Rt. Hon. Tom King M.P.

3. Public Transport

"This Conference views with concern certain aspects of H.M. Government's White Paper on the privatisation of Public Transport and asks the Secretary of State for Transport to further consider the implications of the proposals on urban rather than rural areas."

Carried by Yorkshire Area C.T.U. Conference 17th November 1984

Forwarded to Rt. Hon Nicholas Ridley M.P.

4. Civil Service Pay

"In the Civil Service the turnover of Staff is increasingly causing problems which will mean a deterioration of service to the nation. Therefore the Committee urges the Government to return to a permanent system for pay settlements to improve morale throughout the Civil Service and to end the annual confrontation over pay issues."

Carried by the CTU National Committee 16th February 1985

Forwarded to Mr. Barney Hayhoe M.P.

5. National Insurance Contributions

"This Committee urges the Government to investigate the anomalies created in the present graduated system of National Insurance contributions at the lower end of the scale to part time workers, where slight increases in pay due to overtime or nationally agreed levels, can result in a net reduction in take home pay. We therefore request that consideration to a more finely graduated commencement of the scale."

Carried by West Midlands Area CTU 26th January 1985 and by CTU National Committee 16th February 1985.

Forwarded to Rt. Hon. Nigel Lawson M.P.

6. Review of the Burnham Committee on Teachers' Pay

"This Committee urges the Secretary of State for Education and Science to carry out an urgent review of the Burnham Committee; taking into account the present membership of its constituent bodies and ensuring genuine democratic representation, both on the Committee itself and on related bodies such as working parties and CLEA/ST."

Carried by CTU National Committee 16th February 1985

Forwarded to Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Joseph Bt M.P.

7. Northern Ireland

"This Association is concerned at the continuing loss of life, injury to people and damage to property in Ulster, and calls for a yes/no referendum to determine whether the majority of the province wish to remain in the United Kingdom."

Carried nem con. by Wyre Forest Association Executive 3/12/84

Forwarded to Rt. Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP.