

PRIME MINISTER

HIGHLIGHTS

Weekend

Northern Ireland, JMB, teachers and the retirement age are likely to be prominent in the weekend media. Abroad, the Philippines will continue to be a dominant story.

Mr Hurd addresses the local government conference at Wembley on Saturday, and on the same day BBC TV transmit the first episode of "The Collectors", a drama series about staff at a south coast Customs House.

On Sunday, Mr Heseltine appears on "Weekend World", Mr Baker on "This Week, Next Week", Mr Powell on "Face the Press", and Mr Prior on "My Britain".

Main Events

Monday sees the one-day strike in Northern Ireland. The book "The Thatcher Phenomenon" is launched. Tuesday is the deadline for firm bids for BL Trucks and Land Rover; and Austin Rover workers lobby Parliament. The Today newspaper is launched. On Wednesday you receive President Momoh of Sierra Leone; and you attend the Airey Neave Memorial Trust Reception, and then the Greater London Area Council AGM. On Thursday the Criminal Justice White Paper is published; you meet the National Pensioners' Convention; and the World Conference of General Motors Union Leaders opens in Liverpool with an emergency debate on BL. On Friday you give an interview to Good Housekeeping; and Sir Keith Joseph attends the National Association of Head Teachers' Conference, Oxford.

Parliament

The major debates next week are those on Wapping (Monday) and on the plight of the elderly (an Opposition Day debate on Thursday).

Other business includes a debate on the European Community (Wednesday), on drugs (Thursday), and on the closure of Bates colliery (Friday).

Other Events

Monday: Lady Young attends the Council of Europe Ministerial Conference on equality between men and women. The TCSC hears evidence from Treasury officials on EC budgetary discipline.

'World in Action' questions the Government's method of selling off B Tel.

- Tuesday: The UK foreign exchange reserves are published. Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses the Institute of Directors. Mr Waldegrave attends the Pollution Technology Awards scheme. The Trade and Industry Committee hears evidence on the tin crisis from Mr Alan Clarke.
- Wednesday: The NEDC meets. Mr Trippier makes presentation to winners of Young Persons in Industry Awards. Sir George Young opens and concludes joint DOE/DHSS seminar on the elderly "Staying at Home". Various committee hearings: Trade and Industry (Mr Heseltine); Defence (to be announced); Energy (the UDM); Employment (the MSC); the PAC (the Lord Chancellor's Department, on legal aid).
- Thursday: The Balance of Payments (1985 Q4) published. Sir Geoffrey Howe appears on "Question Time".
- Friday: Sir Geoffrey Howe visits Scotland. Mr Edwards begins a visit to Korea and Japan.

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