

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Princess of Wales visits Fashion Services for the Disabled, Saltaire Workshops, Shipley; later visits Leeds Centre for the Deaf

Prime Minister attends NEDC 25 Anniversary meeting

National Union of Students lobby Parliament on grant and loans

Publication of new Highway Code

Association of University Teachers one day strike

NUT ballot on strike action closes

NATO WINTEX exercise (to 17 March)

Teachers pay advertising campaign begins

Gerry Adams addresses Labour rally at Hornsey

STATISTICS

DEM: Overseas travel and tourism (Dec)

DEN: Advance energy statistics (Jan)

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Environment; Scotland; Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Business: Progress on remaining stages of the abolition of domestic rates etc (Scotland) Bill (1st Allotted day)

Adjournment Debate

Housing provision in Bradford (Mr N Madden)

Select Committees: FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: Cultural Diplomacy

Witnesses: GB-China Centre; British Museum

NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK BROADS BILL

WELSH AFFAIRS

Subject: The condition and repair of privately-owned housing

Witness: Committee of Welsh District Councils

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)Select Committees: DEFENCE

(Cont'd)

Subject: The implications for the United Kingdom of Strategic Defence

Witnesses: Ministry of Defence officials

ENERGY

Subject: The effect of oil and gas prices on activity in the North Sea

Witnesses: Rt Hon Alick Buchanan-Smith MP, Minister of State, Department of Energy, and departmental officials

EMPLOYMENT

Subject: Skills shortages

Witnesses: UCATT; Transport and General Workers' Union

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Subject: Damages in tort; Housing Benefits

Witness: Mr Christopher France, CB, DHSS

SOCIAL SERVICES

Subject: Problems associated with AIDS

Witnesses: Professor Michael Adler and Dr David Miller, Middlesex Hospital Medical School; Dr Charles Farthing, St Stephen's Hospital; Dr Tony Pinching, St Mary's Hospital Medical School

TRANSPORT

Subject: Decline of the UK registered Merchant Fleet

Witnesses: Dr M Garrett, Liverpool University, and Mr P Marlow, UWIST (at 4.15 pm); Dr R Hope (at approx 5.00 pm)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: Cultural Diplomacy

Witnesses: CEC; Publishers' Association

JOINT COMMITTEE PRIVATE BILL PROCEDURE

Witnesses: Association of County Councils; Association of Metropolitan Authorities; Association of District Councils

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS

Unopposed Bills

1. Brighton Marine Palace and Pier [Lords]
2. Exeter City Council [Lords]
3. Associated British Ports

Lords: Short Debate on the brain drain of qualified married women who require opportunities for part-time working while looking after their young children

Short Debate on the importance of the English language and the case for making it easier to learn

Billiards (Abolition of Restrictions) Bill (HL): Second Reading

UQ on dyslexia

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- A more cautious approach to Gorbachev's offer manifests itself on press. Peagan offers draft treaty today.
- "Surprise" increase of 20p on NHS charges; diabetics to get free syringes. Opposition angry at rise.

- Emergency laws to curb entry of bogus refugees get mixed reception.
- Government calls for all out war against thugs preying on old folk - Mail reference to David Mellor's remarks in House.
- Big murder hunt in Lancashire after 3 young men, all students, found stabbed to death in their bedsitters.

- 26 Liverpool soccer fans bailed pending appeal against extradition which was granted by magistrate.

- Michael Shea leaves Palace to join Hanson Trust; Prince Philip has hernia operation.

- Home Secretary to look again at Woolwich and Guildford IRA bomb convictions after Yorkshire TV programme.

- Electricity prices frozen for third year running.

- Labour claims Britain's pensioners are the most shabbily treated in Europe and proposes to increase pensions to half earnings.

- Full page adverts setting out the offer to teachers.

- Civil Servants reject 4% pay offer and unions talk of confrontation. - indeed all out strike.

- Craxi announces resignation.

- President Reagan nominates head of FEI as new head of CIA.

- Airbus wins orders worth £2bn.

- Adam Smith Institute calls for privatised jails with prisoners earning their keep through producing goods.
- New London Evening News price cut 10p to 5p in war with Maxwell.

- Danish coaster with 400 tons of explosive on board drifts closer to Devon Coast; warships ready to blow it up.

- Danny Kaye dies, aged 74.

POLITICS

- George Gale, in Mirror, says the dazzling prospect of breaking the Labour Party now beckons the SDP. But it will have to ditch the Liberals after the election.
- David Steel says Tories are the real outsiders in Truro.
- Norman Tebbit accuses Alliance of being "Peter Pans" in partnership with "retread Socialists".
- Times: Labour leaders back plans for annual election in London to curb activities of hard Left councils. New opinion poll shows Labour 6-point drop in party's position since Greenwich.
- Times: Future Labour Government would allow more development on fringes of towns and villages to keep down land and house prices.
- Times: Tories have spring in step at Truro by-election. Know they have something to gain and nothing to lose as they scheme against 10,500 Alliance majority.

EAST-WEST

- Today portrays you as being on a "spying" mission to Moscow trying to find out what is behind recent changes; leader says Gorbachev's new proposals make heartening and dramatic headlines but the small print of what he has on offer will be just as important in the months of negotiation ahead.
- Express says Nancy Reagan is pushing for an arms control deal to give the presidency a boost; leader says European leaders have grave reservations about Gorbachev's INF proposals and say package must include verifiable reductions in short range missiles. You can perform an invaluable service in Moscow by telling Gorbachev West is prepared to negotiate seriously for an agreement that offers both sides the prospect of continuing and lasting security.
- Times P1 lead reports President Reagan's draft proposals for nuclear reduction. You sounded cautionary note about Mr Gorbachev's offer stressing need to read small print.
- FT: You seek action on shorter range missiles and say a great deal of work must be done to secure a sound deal on all forces.
- Independent: Reagan makes new offer on missile treaty. You are cool on Gorbachev proposal to reduce nuclear weapons in Europe.

- Times: Mr Gorbachev to relax overseas travel restrictions as part of continuing reform programme.

TAMILS

- Sun wants to know what has got into the Home Secretary for reconsidering deporting Tamils. Britain is still living with the consequences of uncontrolled immigration and if Mr Hurd imagines the people will tolerate any repetition he is in the wrong job.
- Today: Government was made to look both foolish and harsh when it tried to deport 64 Tamils. So it is changing the rules - an atrociously illiberal act.
- Mail: Home Secretary is absolutely right to deter those who make a fast and unsavoury buck out of passing these unfortunate human parcels. As Britain's front doorkeeper he must be given the power to do the job properly.
- Times: Dossier to be sent to Home Secretary about torturing and beating of Tamils at Sri Lankan detention centre.
- FT: British Caledonian "disturbed" by the move to fine airlines over illegal immigrant passengers; British Airways said it sympathised with the Government.
- Guardian: Dismay as Hurd curbs refugees' right to appeal; leader says the Government changed its mind because it was caught breaking the law - a shoddy climbdown which reflects badly on Home Office.
- Manchester City Council give £10,000/^{job}to Sri Lankan who has sought refuge in church after defying deportation order.

NAZIS

- Telegraph leader says the names presented to Home Secretary are of little men caught up in the gate of history and the public will be readily sympathetic if the Home Secretary does nothing in answer to the insatiable demands of the Nazi hunters.
- Three men alleged to be Nazi war criminals get High Court injunction stopping Thames TV from using their names.
- Guardian says if a prima facie case is made out, we should extradite to West Germany.

INDUSTRY

- Times: Insurance ombudsman criticises insurance industry for not alerting policy-holders of cover changes and failing to give adequate services to inner-city businesses.
- Times: Tokyo and Stockholm rank most expensive cities on earth for business travellers.
- Times: Peter Walker calls for tax changes to allow Britain's managers to be better rewarded. Also calls for children in final year at school to have week of instruction in house buying, mortgages and shares
- FT leader looks at the problems of the British sugar industry in the EC and concludes that Mr Channon has shied away from some of the MCC's recent recommendation.
- Mail says Ford and Vauxhall are set to create up to 5000 new jobs in Britain because quality of British car companies has risen enormously.

UNIONS

- Times: Rover punk strike ends.
- Times: NUT and NAS/UWT expected to announce on Friday overwhelming vote for new round of strikes and disruption in schools.
- Times: Government to introduce emergency regulations to ensure part-time community programme workers do not claim unemployment benefit.
- Independent: Cabinet rift revealed by Civil Service pay offers.
- Independent: Under the title of 'Striking the core of union power' is article on TUC and employers' dismay at plans to end national pay talks.

ECONOMY

- £ strong with hopes of 10% base rate at Budget time.
- FT: Labour accuses the Chancellor of deliberately keeping interest rates up high so he can make more political impact at the time of the Budget.
- FT: Treasury pay offer to main trade union for scientific and technical civil servants conflicts with Mr Clarke's policy of regional pay variation and performance-linked pay. Treasury say "pay negotiations have to stay in touch with what is going on in the big wide world".
- Sir Terence Beckett will present paper at NEDC which makes no mention of regional variation.
- FT leader says it is curious that all three opposition parties are against tax cuts and favour the money going into job creation. The Greenwich by-election and recent opinion polls might suggest this is a politically shrewd stance. Your Government has emphasised the need for industrial training and spurned the "unreal jobs" which the Opposition would create in the public sector. However there is a strong case for bringing forward necessary maintenance work on infrastructure - mainly sewers and railway tracks. The long-term solution still lies in education and industrial efficiency but this does not preclude effective short-term palliatives.
- Guardian says both CBI and TUC will today accuse you of pursuing economic policies which have failed to bring down unemployment or pay settlements. Director General's paper amounts to step by step rebuttal of your monetarist policies.

MICHAEL SHEA

- Speculation over his salary with Hanson Trust - ranges from £60,000 to £80,000.
- Sun welcomes his decision to go; he never showed the remotest perception of what was of legitimate interest to newspapers and the people.
- Plenty of features elsewhere about his discharge of what is felt to be a pretty impossible job.

DEFENCE

- Independent: Thousands of NHS beds promised to US forces if war breaks out in Europe.

LAW AND ORDER

- Star says Government is urging judges to crack down on thugs who attack old folk.
- Express claims that a chef at the Jordanian Embassy, suspected of molesting 20 girls, has escaped justice by hiding behind diplomatic immunity.

MEDIA

- Kinnock wins an apology from BBC after Sir Robin Day in interview with Steel/Owen said: "If you have ever interviewed Mr Kinnock you will know you don't have the time to get in the questions you want to".
- BBC postpones another TV drama about manipulation behind the promotion of the Government until after election (Mail).

HEALTH

- Times: EMA critical of 20p increase in prescription charges.
- Times: Edwina Currie says Government may change law to make condoms more reliable as method of preventing AIDS infection.
- Times: Government asks regional health authorities how they are spending £25m to reduce hospital waiting lists.
- Independent editorial says there is nothing to be gained by conducting a serious AIDS campaign as if it were a revue bar farce. A sober campaign focused on those most at risk is called for.

PENSIONERS

- Mirror leads with "Thatcher's forgotten people" and the "league of shame" in which Britain comes next to Greece at bottom of Euro league table for pensions.

EDUCATION

- Express says more than 4000 ILEA children are sent home each week because of teacher shortages even though Authority has 1300 teacher surplus.
- Times: ILEA first to adopt policy of integrating handicapped children into ordinary schools as an "overriding objective."

SPORT

- Big Mirror blast at football authorities for leaving football grounds wide open to property speculators after years of neglect.

AID

- Independent editorial criticises an administration and a congress indulging in crude protectionism and erratic cuts in development programmes for washing its hands of US bankers' problems with Third World debt.

SPAIN

- Star claims it has saved donkey from ritual crushing to death at fiesta. So does Sun. Mirror says they make asses of themselves.

BEIRUT

- Times: New moves to try to get 26 hostages released. Archbishop writes to Beirut and Shia Muslim leader offers several hundred Lebanese and Palestinians in exchange.

MIDDLE EAST

- Independent: Arafat offers concessions designed to break deadlock over Middle East conference.

MOSCOW

- Times reports from Moscow that 800 people saw Western fashion show to launch West Germany glossy magazine in Russian. Said to be result of Mrs Gorbachev's influence.

IRELAND

- Times leader critical of Oxford Union's invitation to Gerry Adams to speak. It was a mistake and should be "unmade quickly".
- Independent: Haughey still chasing votes for Taoiseach.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DEM: Mr Clarke visits North Peckham

DEN: Mr Walker attends Electrical Cable Makers Confederation annual dinner, London

DTP: Mr Moore launches new edition of Highway Code, Hillingdon

HO: Mr Hurd addresses National Union of Journalists broadcasting conference, Grosvenor Hotel, London; later attends ACPO-IPEC press reception, London Press Centre

MAFF: Mr Jopling attends NEDC 25th Anniversary Meeting, Millbank Tower, London

MOD: Mr Younger visits Hereford

WO: Mr Edwards attends Glasgow Garden Festival launch, London

DEM: Mr Lee opens Lincolnshire enterprise show

DEN: Mr Buchanan-Smith appears before the Energy Select Committee, House of Commons, London

DES: Mr Walden addresses National Union of Students' lobby on grants and loans, House of Commons

DHSS: Mr Newton visits Terence Higgins Trust, London

DHSS: Mr Lyell attends Midlands Region Managers Conference, Royal Court Hotel, Coventry

DHSS: Baroness Trumpington attends International Export meeting on client access to personal social services records, Anugratia Hotel, Egham, Surrey

DOE: Lord Skelmersdale speaks at Local Amenities' Society Advisory Committee, London

DTI: Mr Howard addresses Parliamentary Liaison Committee for small businesses on the Consumer Protection Bill

DTI: Mr Clark address overseas students seminar, London

DTI: Mr Shaw visits Loughborough

DTP: Mr Bottomley attends Institute of Purchasing and Supply annual lunch, Kensington

DTP: Lord Brabazon lunches with the Baltic Exchange, London

DTP: Mr Spicer addresses conference organised by Les Etats Generaux des Etudiants de L'Europe, London School of Economics

FCO: Lady Young addresses Kings School, Canterbury

HO: Mr Mellor speaks at St Stephens Hospital, Fulham on dealing with the drug problem

HO: Mr Hogg visits City of London fraud squad

HO: Lord Caithness visits HM Prison, Liverpool

MAFF: Mr Thompson visits Agricultural Training Board, Stoneleigh

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

MAFF: Mr Gummer attends Federation of Agriculture Co-operatives AGM,
London

MAFF: Lord Belstead attends Glasgow Garden Festival reception, Dover
House, Glasgow

OAL: Mr Luce speaks at international conference on arts funding, London

TV AND RADIO

"QED"; BBC 1 (21.30): Your biological guide to AIDS

"Newsnight"; BBC 2 (22.25)

"Diverse Reports"; Channel 4 (20.30): Is AIDS campaign reaching all those
it needs to?

"The Lordship's House"; Channel 4 (12.30 am)

"Beyond Belief"; Channel 4 (12.00 am): Is the contemporary church in
Britain vague? With Bishop of London, the Rt Rev Graham Leonard

"Analysis"; BBC Radio 4 (20.15): Richard Mayne considers prospects of
reform of the Common Agricultural Policy and implications for the future
of the EEC
