

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

House returns

ECOFIN

STATISTICS

Bank of England: Quarterly Analysis of bank advances (Nov)

DTI: Retail Sales (Nov - final)

DTI: Credit Business (Nov)

DTI: Producer Price index numbers (Dec - prov)

HO: The operation of the Firearms Act 1968

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Transport; Wales; Energy

Business: Housing (Scotland) Bill: 2nd Reading and Money Resolution

Adjournment Debate: The United Kingdom's relations with Poland
(Mr A Carlile)

Lords: Starred Questions
Merchant Shipping Bill (HL): Third Reading
Local Government Bill: Second Reading
International Trust Fund for Tuvalu (Immunities and Privileges)
Order 1987: Motion for Approval
British Film Fund Agency (Dissolution) Order 1987: Motion for Approval
UQ to ask HMG whether they are confident that they can maintain the therapeutic regime at HM Prison Grendon at its previous standard, in view of the present state of staffing and resources

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

Warm tributes - apart from Sun - to Lord Whitelaw as you leave power struggle open by declining to nominate new deputy Prime Minister. Lord Belstead's appointment well received.

Markets nervous today after another shares crash in New York on Friday.

Budget: Mail says Chancellor told advisers and fellow Ministers "This will be one they won't forget".

Sweeping policy changes foreshadowed in re-vamp of DTI and scrapping of regional development grants.

Jaguar car sales last year up 14% across world in 1986.

Yorkshire miners vote to go back to work after week-long dispute to allow negotiations, but British Coal abandons plans to reopen Yorks colliery; Sun calls miners kamikaze. Telegraph claims that John Walsh is making ground on Scargill.

Britain's hospitals in danger of blood shortage because of vote for industrial action by blood transfusion workers over subsistence allowances.

Nurses at Roehampton and West Middlesex reputed to be ready to follow Manchester nurses in 24-hour strike over pay structure.

Today reports case of surgeon paid almost £90,000 for doing nothing after suspension 3 years ago; now faces inquiry.

Number of doctors sued by patients has doubled in last 3 years.

ACTT seek talks with TV-AM after company proposes £10,000 a year pay cut and total flexibility among technicians.

Independent: Labour, Conservative and Alliance councils in London are to unite to demand value for money from the capital's police force. They will urge Home Office Ministers to force the Met to reduce the cost of policing to London's ratepayers.

Crawley said to be the first town to achieve full employment under your Government.

Star claims that IRA gang, under Evelyn Glenholmes, are planning to launch a missile attack on an Army helicopter in England.

Rhodes Boyson argues for children, 7 and upwards, who fail new tests should be sent back to school in Summer holidays until they pass. Today says in his over-the-top way Dr Boyson has exposed an embarrassing grey area - what tests are supposed to prove.

Mail says a survey by the Assisted Places Committee shows that the scheme to help brightest children from poor families to go to private school is more popular than ever.

Star says you are furious over £12,000 payment to comen to try to secure Terry Waite's release and you fear it will be treated as ransom; Mail describes deal as a classic sting but it is easy to be wise after the event when distress can make people gullible.

Ted Heath says he will vote for Richard Shepherd's Official Information Bill.

Labour MPs attack idea of privatising nature reserves as "unprecedented vandalism".

ECGD employes American consultancy to teach staff good manners to customers (Telegraph).

Roy Hattersley wants Government to ban the admission to UK of men who married "slave wives" from Birmingham in Yemen - he believes the girls are being forced by FCO and Yemen to bring them in order to return.

Eight police injured, 41 fans arrested, 73 thrown out of ground and two pubs wrecked in clashes at Arsenal v. Millwall soccer cup tie; FA to thold inquiry. After this Star says, football authorities have got to be joking in seeking readmission to Europe.

Kenneth Clarke's "punk" 18 year old daughter banned from a pub in Birmingham after brawl in which it is alleged she bit another girl's finger.

Two more reported dead in renewed violence in Gaza strip. Israelis send more troops in. David Mellor, in Telegraph article, explain his outspokenness on issue.

Lord Shackleton follows you in getting Freedom of Port Stanley.

Independent: Gorbachev has called for a summit meeting with China to crown improved relations between Kremlin and Peking.

LORD WHITELAW

Star P2: Maggie will battle alone as Willie bows out.

Sun P2: Willie goes but Maggie won't have a new deputy. Lord Belstead known for his safe pair of hands. John Wakeham triumphs over Brighton bomb tragedy; leader sheds no tears for Lord Whitelaw's departure - it claims he was a poor Minister and it suspects that many of the wrong decisions you have made were on his advice. You are right not to appoint a deputy Prime Minister - a stuffed tabby in your parlour would be better than yet another silly buffer at your side.

Mirror P2: Thatcher axes job as Whitelaw quits. Title dropped. Lord Whitelaw keeper of the Conservative conscience throughout the Thatcher years.

Today P1: Maggie won't replace deputy. Loyal loser who calmed Cabinet. I'm eternally in your debt, says Maggie. Feature on Lord Belstead - it's a pleasure to be savaged by him.

Express P1 lead: My sadness. Whitelaw tells of regrets as illness forces him to quit. A major personal and political blow to you. Feature on Lord Whitelaw - the last Grandee. Leader headed "A great man; a great loss"; says he will be remembered as one of the greats of post war British politics.

Mail P1 lead: It's divide and rule. Whitelaw quits but Maggie won't replace him. You leave the contenders for the crown to fight it out. It looks as if John Wakeham will take over power broking role. On Lord Belstead the headline is "The quiet image of a tough peer". Leader says no man in politics is irreplaceable but Lord Whitelaw is unrepeatable; they don't make them that way any more.

Telegraph P1 lead: Whitelaw steps down; Lord Belstead joins Cabinet; Wakeham heads Privy Council. Deputy Prime Minister role vacant. You leave wide open power struggle - Features - Exit Whitelaw, the loyal lieutenant; enter Belstead, the low profile charmer. Leader says this is the sharpest personal loss you have suffered in office.

Guardian P1 lead: Health worry forces Whitelaw to resign. More work for Belstead and Wakeham but no new deputy leader. Leader says no member of the Cabinet, apart from you, has mattered more these last 8 years than Lord Whitelaw. Things will be different and less steady without him. Ian Aitken describes Lord Whitelaw as the past master of the art of achieving the impossible.

Times leads with resignation saying doctors and family told him to quit after 30 years in Tory front line. Your decision not to appoint a deputy indicates you are unwilling to nominate anyone who could be regarded as "Crown Prince"; Robin Oakley writes there can be no replacement for Willie Whitelaw, the most instinctive politician in the Thatcher Government.

Times leader says for 10 turbulent years he struggled to reconcile the slower reaches of the Conservative Party with a leader who likes the rapids - there is now no one in Cabinet who could reasonably affect the title of elder statesman.

Lord Belstead, said to be on trial for rest of this session, is described as hard worker and good listener.

Dennis Kavanagh in Times, looks at Lord Whitelaw's political life concluding that as a true blue Conservative he has been one of the least partisan of men. He has faithfully served the interests, however changing, of his party.

Independent P1 report: Whitelaw resigns Government. One of Lord Whitelaw's key roles over the past eight years has been that of chairing Cabinet committees and acting as peace-maker in disputes. Reports that Mr Wakeham and Sir Geoffrey Howe would be taking over Lord Whitelaw's Cabinet committee posts. Under the heading "Loyalty of Lords' leader", "Winning concessions and even consensus", Anthony Bevins writes a political obituary to Lord Whitelaw.

FT P1: Prime Minister is not to replace Whitelaw as deputy. Inside, Peter Riddell's assessment is of a loyal member of the old guard whose enforced resignation leaves a gap which cannot be filled by a single minister. In view of your unwillingness to reshuffle the Cabinet, Lord Belstead will inevitably appear a stopgap.

NUM

Mirror leader says the analysis of the last 6 years under Scargill is devastating. He promised more money, but hasn't won a single negotiation; would stop pit closures but more have been shut; talked about democracy but denied a strike ballot; demanded more power for union movement but has set it back decades. A vote for him would be a vote for further decline, further defeat and further closures.

Mail: Victory for coal chiefs as pit strike crumbles.

SECURITY

? Independent: The official Whitehall definition of national security has been dramatically extended to cover all the Government's defence and foreign policies. The use of telephone tapping and other Security Service operations has been extended to include bodies like CND.

ECONOMY

Independent: World's financial markets open this morning prepared for a highly nervous week in the stock markets and foreign exchanges following last Friday's plunge in share prices on Wall Street. Dealers preparing for an immediate stock market fall of up to 50 points.

Times: Dollar expected to have another nervous week.

FT: British economy is set to out perform the rest of Europe, according to Cambridge Econometrics. Manufacturing output is forecast to grow by 3% in 1988.

INDUSTRY

Times: Government may bow to pressure from fire chiefs and ban furniture foam.

Times: Demand for graduates by business and commerce becoming so great there are hardly enough to go round.

FT: New style DTI to be unveiled this week will mark the end of sponsorship of industrial sectors designed to give the Department a sharper profile in promoting a climate of enterprise.

POLITICS

Times: Alliance policy backing NATO gains support.

Times: Labour to launch new blitz on extremists after new allegations of intimidation and harassment against party members.

Times: MORI poll shows most voters believe community charge less fair than rating system.

AFRICA

Times: After your visit to Africa you are expected to give high priority to persuading Pretoria to release Mandela.

EAST/WEST

Times leader discusses the improved Anglo-Soviet relations and calls for more money to be made available for Russian studies in schools and colleges, particularly when Russia seems interested in taking a more active part in international trade.

BERNARD INGHAM

DEN: Mr Parkinson visits International Boat Show, Earls Court

MAFF: Mr MacGregor attends Laurent Perrier Champagne Award for Wild Game Conservation, London

DEM: Mr Cope addresses Institute of Chartered Accountants press launch, ICA, London

DES: Lady Hooper meets the Standing Conference of Regional Advisory Councils for Further Education about their role in the Education Reform Bill

DES: Mrs Rumbold meets with National Confederation of Parent Teachers Association about their response to the consultation documents

DES: Mr Jackson attends the Natural Environment Research Council Reception, London

DES: Mr Dunn meets with London Chamber of Commerce about Inner London Education Authority and the Education Bill

DHSS: Mrs Currie attends Help the Aged photocall for the Take Care Of Yourself campaign

DOE: Mr Trippier addresses Federation of Master Builders, London

SO: Mr Forsyth launches Standard Grade Brochure, New St Andrews House, Edinburgh

MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

DOE: Mrs Rowe interviewed by Radio London

TV AND RADIO

"Today": BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

"Kilroy": BBC 1 (9.20) daily discussion programme

"You and Yours": BBC Radio 4 (12.00)

"Business Daily": Channel 4 (12.00)

"Panorama": BBC 1 (21.30) - 'Arthur Scargill Evermore?'

"Information Technology": Channel 4 (18.00) on role of robotics in manufacturing

"World in Action": ITV (20.30)

"The World Tonight": BBC Radio 4 (22.30) followed by "The Financial World Tonight" then "Today in Parliament"

"Newsnight": BBC 2 (22.45)

"The Eleventh Hour: Soft Cell": Channel 4 (23.00) on genetic engineering