

Conversation with Lord Whitelaw 25/9/89 (F)

Important to have united conference

PM Press will go for fringe meetings
There will be coded messages.

Get Cranleys
letter
Edinburgh
festival

WW I have done Panorama on night before conf.
Anthony Howard is doing about Cm party
Kenneth Baker is on it

We have to get voices saying thing is going
well.

PM K Baker will do that first day & week

WW On Poll tax so many people are
talking nonsense.

Tory areas financing Labour areas.
Transitional period is vital. If we get
over it, we will be OK.

PM NL strapped for cash.

WW Health so important

AD Professor Einhorn's article I saw.

WW How can we get some of these people
not to adopt such an aggressive tone.
David Mellor has always had aggressive
tactics. Trafford did it so well.

PM Moore to replace him.
Kenneth so keen on it.

WW Kenneth must not be angry with
doctors. Idea of a fight because they
have been rude. They carry too many
of their rather insistent doctors.

The small doctors in country towns have got ~~hooked~~ hooked.

WW Worried about Doctors translating news to writing rooms.

AM Managers are on our side.

WW H of L desperately short of good people at those levels. All the people with promoting have been promoted. Can anyone be brought in from outside.

PM It doesn't work.

WW It might work at a lower level.

PM Roy Griffiths who did the reports but he will not be very persuasive

WW H of L respect knowledge. Someone who understood health service. Maybe someone slightly older.

PM Bunkerfield is there (too old). Walter Ian McCole - he stuck his neck out too much. Skidmore not quite right.

WW Management of health service. Is there one of those.

PM. Worried about elevating someone like Julia Comberledge.

WW Caroline Cox won't do it.

PM Carters?

WW Don't move him. He is good at dealing with the Lords. He is biggest prospect of all that age group.

PM. Anxious to have Camoys.

PM Is Belstead persuasive. He is a great leader.

WW I picked my big occasions because I wanted to succeed. He could do it but it might detract from other work.

PM What about young Dravo, or Michael Ancram?
Or Max Bearerbrook.

WW But he will want to stay to earn money. Lord Reppin will be difficult.

WW As for general thing winning this election starts from this conference.

Lord Whitelaw

Central Council in March if nothing happens.
Now that I cease to be president.

I will offer resignation as deputy leader.

If anything happens, in the meantime, I
must resign immediately.

