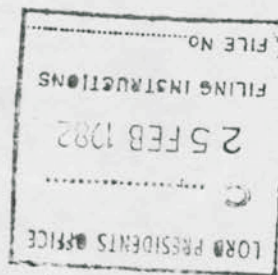
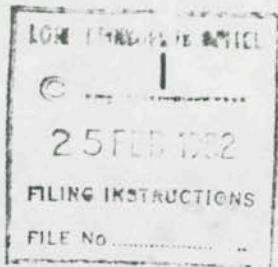




Parliament

Speaker's House Westminster London SW1A 0AA

24th February 1982



Dear Francis,

I am becoming increasingly concerned at the recent length of some Ministerial answers. I am sure that you too have sensed the feelings of the House on this. Extended answers rob Back Benchers of their chance to put a Question - and Question Time is, after all, their time.

I hesitate to make a public statement on this - I am sure that if you let my views be known among your colleagues, there will be no need for me to do so.

*Yours ever,
George*

Speaker

The Rt Hon Francis Pym MC MP
Privy Council Office
Whitehall
London SW1.

-3 Wind 1502





PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

2 March 1982

CF
End for Cabinet folder,
M.

Acw Mike,

MAO
2/3

... I attach a copy of a letter dated 24 February which the Lord President has received from the Speaker about the length of Ministerial answers. The Lord President has replied to the Speaker promising to draw the matter to the attention of his Ministerial colleagues and we agreed, when we briefly discussed the matter this morning, that an appropriate way to do this might be for the Lord President to raise the point at Cabinet on Thursday.

Cons over,
David M.

D C R HEYHOE
Private Secretary

M Pattison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1