

PRIME MINISTER

cc: Mr Gow

Miss Stephens

David Clark seeks a third closure meeting for South Shields. This request arrived on the same day as I submitted to you a draft reply following up the last meeting. But I think we should let that go without any reaction to the latest request.

You may think we ought to start to draw the line somewhere: but Dr Clark has been perhaps the most reasonable of all those who have come to see you from the Opposition benches, and he has noticeably not gone off to tell the press a different story after having had a friendly talk with you.

Agree to see him again?

Yes
no

Alan Legg Deputy Clerk
pp HAR

1 April, 1982

John Stacey
3/1/1982

Caroline

To fix meeting pl. with suitable Ministers. But well into the future. MAR 5/4

1 April, 1982

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of 31 March. I will place your letter before her at once, and we will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

M. A. PATTISON

Dr David Clark, M.P.,

Factory folds: Meeting called

A CREDITORS meeting has now been called following the collapse of a Jarrow machine handling factory last week.

A full statement of the affairs of Crushing Screening and Engineering of the Bede Industrial Estate is to be given then.

Creditors will be given the option at the meeting, which will be held on April 14 at the New Crown Hotel, South Shields, of calling in a liquidator if they think it is necessary.

The factory closed last Friday putting 30 men out of work at what was described as "five - minutes notice."

The workforce were given a week's notice in lieu of pay and the company was slammed by a Boilermakers Society union official for their "hush-hush" tactics over the closure.

The announcement of the creditors meeting by company director Mr James Hart is the first statement the company have made since the closure.

Mr Hart has also called a further creditors' meeting at the New Crown Hotel for later in the day on April 14 to discuss the financial position of CSE (Projects) Ltd.

CLASSIC COLLECTION OF
SUITS
by
TRICOVILLE : BELLINO
LEROSE
Ideal for weddings and
special occasions
NOW AT
G.K.L. Co
Limited
of FOWLER STREET

SHIELDS
Gazette
and Shipping Telegraph



INDIAN
CUISINE
ENGLISH
MEALS
AVAILABLE
TAKE-AWAYS at the
STAR OF INDIA
194 OCEAN ROAD, SO. SHIELDS
Tel. South Shields 562210
Open till 3 a.m.

No. 35206 (Established 1849) Wednesday, March 31, 1982 14p

As firms close, Thatcher gets hard words from South Tyneside ...



Dr Clark



Coun. Robinson

**'JOBS
LOSS
CAN'T GO
ON' - MP**



**Blueprint
for work**

COUN. Sep Robinson, of Whitburn, wants to get the economy moving by asking the Government to use the £90 a week it costs for every unemployed person to create jobs instead.

As chairman of South Tyneside's finance committee he is to ask the borough's MPs, Dr David Clark and Coun. Don Dixon, to take the plan to the Prime Minister.

"We are quite prepared to take the lead in South Tyneside to get the economy on the move

again by creating more jobs which in turn will give a better quality of life for people in the borough.

"If the Government were to give us this £90 a head, we would quite happily find worthwhile jobs for people at present in the dole queues in the borough. But without this type of help from the Government our hands are tied," he said.

He said he was going to ask the MPs to find out why the Government would not put money back into the country.

"After all, paying out £90 a week in wages instead of subsidising people to be out of work would seem to be a much more sensible course of action."

PRIME MINISTER Margaret Thatcher was being given two stark messages today from South Tyneside.

THE FIRST was a desperate cry from Dr David Clark, MP for South Shields: "Factory closures in South Tyneside can't go on." It came after the sudden closures of Crushing, Screening and ...

Shields, within a week.

THE SECOND came from Coun. Sep. Robinson, the Council's Finance chairman, who is telling Mrs Thatcher: "Give us the £90 it costs for every person on the dole and we'll find worthwhile jobs for the unemployed."

Dr Clark is demanding a meeting with the Prime Minister over the recent factory closures in the borough.

In the past six months, eight factories have either closed, or announced cuts, with the loss of more than 700 jobs.

His move follows the sudden closures of Crushing, Screening and Engineering, of the Bede industrial estate at Jarrow and the Tone Class clothing factory in South Shields within a week.

"With another factory going, I have decided yet again to seek a meeting with the Prime Minister. Something has got to happen. We can't go on losing factories like this," he said.

Tone Class, in Taylor Street, closed with the loss of 63 jobs and 30 lost their jobs at Crushing, Screening and Engineering. Both factories left their workforces without pay.

The Marconi factory at Bill Quay is still operating, but it has already announced that 290 jobs are about to go, while Fidus Controls Ltd. at Middlefields, South Shields, decided to switch its operation to Bletchley, Buckinghamshire, with the loss of 32 jobs.

The Mary Harri's clothing factory, at Laygate, put out 90-day redundancy notices in February with its notice of closure involving 130 jobs. This followed the loss of a Marks and Spencer order.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

cc ✓ 1/14

31 March 1982

Rt Hon M Thatcher MP
Prime Minister,
10 Downing St.,
SW1.

Dear Prime Minister,

I am sorry to be writing to you again so soon after you kindly agreed to see me recently over a factory closure in South Shields.

However, I feel I must seek a further meeting to discuss further the unemployment problem in my constituency.

It was my hope that the problem had been arrested but only this past week two further closures have been announced. The whole industrial base of the town is going and the matter is now reaching crisis proportions of the 1930s.

Yours sincerely,

Dr David Clark

MP South Shields.

Last chime ...



THE bells of St. Hilda's ancient town centre church will ring out tomorrow in South Shields for the last time for months.

Whenever the four ton bells toll, the bell-tower sways precariously.

FIRED - JUST LIKE THAT!

NOT JARROW, IN SOUTH SHIELDS.

By OLWEN VASEY

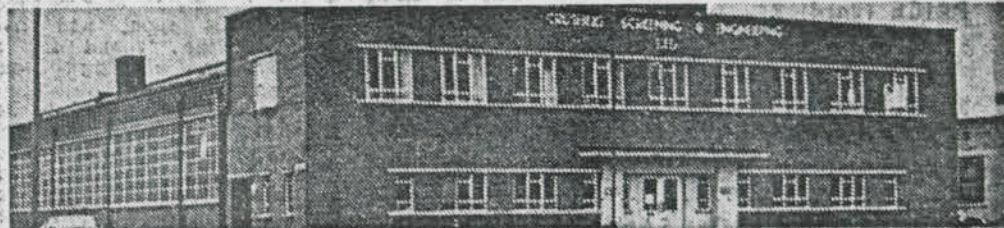
SHOCKED workers at a Jarrow factory have been sent home at "five minutes' notice" and told that the plant is closing.

The bombshell was dropped by the management on 30 men at the Crushing, Screening and Engineering plant on the Bede industrial estate.

The angry workers claim they have been given only one week's pay in lieu of notice — and now their union is considering taking the firm to an industrial tribunal.

Today Boilermakers Society district official Bob Glass slammed the company for its "hush-hush" tactics.

He said: "These men were given literally five minutes' notice. There has



been an approach from the Department of Health and Social Security. We are looking at all aspects. We may take this to an industrial tribunal."

Mr Glass added that the men were holding a meeting at the plant tomorrow to decide what action to take.

He said he thought the treatment of the workers had been unfair. "It was a shock to them. I think the company could have been more above board.

"All companies are struggling for contracts at this time, but I don't think they had any idea that this

was likely to happen."

One of the men said: "Most of the people working there were told last Friday at 3.25 p.m. not to report for work on Monday because the firm was closing."

He said some workers had been with the firm since 1954. "We were only given five minutes' notice."

An official at the factory today said: "The management does not want to comment on anything."

It is understood the firm's plant at Consett is continuing to operate and there have been no pay-offs there.

The men said their job involved quarry work of a "highly technical and heavy" nature.

Aid scheme gets special tribute

CIB TRAVEL

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BOOK

Intasun

LOTS OF HOLIDAYS LEFT

At a FRACTION of the price
Beautiful Cubic Zirconia Rings,
Earrings and Pendants all at
Discount Prices
253 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD
SOUTH SHIELDS
Telephone: 557284

Princess Diana's 'first' baby

THE Princess of Wales said today that her baby is due to be born on July 1 — her 21st birthday — let slip one of the best kept Royal secrets while visiting St. Gemma's Hospice in Leeds.

The Princess was talking to 74-year-old Mr Edwin Wilson at the time. Mr Wilson said after "I told the Princess that I shared the same birthday, June 10, as the Duke of Edinburgh and she be all right if the baby was born that day. She laughed and replied, 'Oh, no it's not. It's due on July 1 — my birthday'."

The Princess wearing an emerald green maternity coat with matching hat, was greeted by a crowd on her arrival. As she toured the hospice, talking to the 38 patients, she picked up presents for herself and the baby.

After touring the wards, Prince Charles opened the newly refurbished £2m hospice before for York by helicopter.

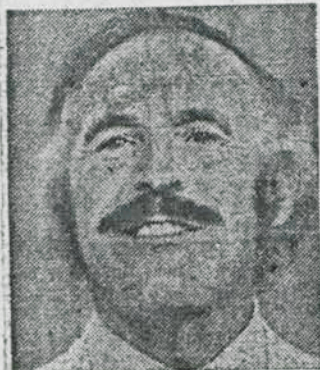


Henry's Oscar



HENRY Fonda with his Oscar after being named Best Actor by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Los Angeles for his role in On Golden Pond. See also Page 3.

Bruce's divorce



TV personality Bruce Forsyth's eight-year marriage to Anthea Redfern was ended in a few seconds in the London Divorce Court today. Bruce, 53, named Anthea's boyfriend, millionaire hotelier Freddie Hoffman.

QUICK END TO 63 JOBS!

Shields
Gazette
3/3/82

A SOUTH Shields clothing factory was locked and deserted today after a shocked workforce was told that the firm was closing down.

A total of 63 employees are now out of work following the announcement that was made to them on Friday.

One of them told the Gazette how she was waiting for her pay on Friday and was instead told by the company owner that there would be no wages this week — and that the firm was closing.

The firm, Tone Class, opened up in Taylor Street, South Shields, three years ago.

The company owner,

Mr P. Phillips, was unavailable for comment today and is believed to be in Paris.

Since Mr Phillips made his shock announcement to the staff, a number of them have since stayed on at the factory to tidy it up. But today all had left.

Tone Class was started up on the site of the former Jo-Bel Clothing company, which closed in December 1978.

Tone Class not only used the same premises, it also retained the same machinery and took on many of the same staff.

One of the workers said: "It was just like the same place — only we had a different boss."



● Marble Index: centre, front, Colin Smith, and left to right, Graham Winter, Steven Cooper and John Winfield.

Rock band win for Shields

MARBLE is now top of the rocks, or at least the South Shields rock band Marble Index have come out on top of the pile of groups who entered a national talent contest.

The four-piece band from Harton Comprehensive beat 300 other groups from all over the country to win the Rock School contest run by the Trustee Savings Bank and the BBC Nationwide programme.

And in the process they won £2,000 for themselves and a £1,000 worth of musical equipment for the school. But it could be the final piece of glory for the band.

The group expect to split up when school breaks-up in the summer to go to different colleges across the country.

But in the meantime Colin

SOUTH AUT

H
E

E.g.
STARTERS

BL/FORD
VAUXHALL
DATSUN
VOLVO fr

SIMCA/CH
Stock list
Fiat, Honda
etc. All u

ALTERNAT
BRITISH
DATSUN
Foreign r

REPAIR SE
For Star
Diagnosis

FITTING S
Burglar

Dis...down by

Unemployment Figures

SOUTH SHIELDS					
MALE		FEMALE		BOTH	
NO	%	NO	%	NO	%
6002	26.5	1951	12.3	7953	20.7