



National Health.

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

28 March 1980

I promised to let you have some material about the Prime Minister's remarks during the Election campaign last year on prescription charges and health charges more generally.

There are two separate sources: the Press Conference at Conservative Central Office on 18 April 1979 and a speech in Beeston on the same day. I attach a transcript of the Press Conference. The section which may be quoted is that which I have sidelined at the top of page 3. In defence, Mr. Jenkin could quote the earlier answer about prescription charges on page 2. You will see, however, that the material needs to be handled carefully.

A transcript of the relevant part of the Beeston speech is also attached, together with a couple of Press cuttings reporting it. You will see that the Prime Minister did indeed say at Beeston that "the Conservative Party has no plans for ^{new} National Health Service charges". I also attach, as promised, a copy of the transcript of Denis Healey's broadcast.

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