

14 May 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Queen dines with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Caledonian Club, London

The Princess of Wales attends The British Paraplegic Sports Society Ball, Osterley

Association of First Division Civil Servants Annual Conference, London

Association of University Teachers Bi-annual Council, Leeds (to 16 May)

Formal results of ballot on Fresh Start Prison Officers Association

EC: Education Council, Brussels

STATISTICS

Bank of England: Financing of the CGBR (1st qtr)

Bank of England: UK Banking Sector statistics

Bank of England: Money Stock (1st qtr)

DEM: Labour Market Statistics: Unemployment and unfilled vacancies (Apr-prov) average earnings indices (Mar-prov), employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes

DTI: Provisional figures of vehicle production (Apr)

DTp: Heavy Goods Vehicles in Great Britain 1986

PAY

Electricity Supply: Manuals; 77,658; 1 April

Local Authority APT and C Grades; 634,200: 1 July

PUBLICATIONS

DES: HMI report on survey of education for physically handicapped children in ordinary schools in Kent and St Marks Primary School, Newcastle

Bank of England 1987 Report and Accounts

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Northern Ireland; Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Prime Minister

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

Business: Consideration of Lords Amendments to Criminal Justice Bill
 Consideration of Lords Amendments to the Parliamentary and Health Service Commissioners Bill
 Proceedings on the Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust Bill (Lords). Followed by Committee and Remaining Stages of the Territorial Sea Bill (Lords)
 Consideration of Lords Amendments to the Registered Establishments (Scotland) Bill, which is a Private Member's Bill

Adjournment Debate: Health services for the elderly in Islington (Mr Chris Smith)

Lords: Finance Bill: Second Reading and Remaining Stages
 Consolidated Fund Bill: Second Reading and Remaining Stages
 Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill: Consideration of Commons Amendments
 Family Law Reform Bill: Consideration of Commons Amendments
 Consumer Protection Bill: Consideration of Commons Amendments
 Local Government Bill: Second Reading and Remaining Stages
 Parliamentary and other Pensions Bill: Second Reading and Remaining Stages
 Diplomatic and Consular Premises Bill: Second Reading and Remaining Stages
 Sheeps and Goats (Removal to Northern Ireland)(Amendment) Regulations 1987: Motion for Approval
 Home Grown Cereals Authority Levy Scheme (Approval) Order 1987: Motion for Approval
 Lord Chancellor's Salary Order 1987: Motion for Approval

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- A day of polls which get you off to a flying start; Labour a miserable start; and Alliance a mixed one. And good unemployment figures expected today.
- GALLUP 39/28/30
- MARPLAN 43/29/25 - worth 118 seat majority
- POR (marginals) 41.5/28.5/24 - undecideds coming down 2-1 in Tory favour
- SCOTSMAN 25/43/18
- HARRIS (LONDON) 45/33/20 - Tory trend even more marked in marginals.

- Today revealing its colours after this array of polls it leads with "Alliance lead Labour".
- Sun has a 2-page centre spread on your response to readers' questions headed "Killers must dread the rope". Joe Haines does a spoof interview in Mirror - the only popular paper not to interview you.

- Alliance pledges to shake up Government machine - PR; scrap Official Secrets Act; bring in Bill of Rights; devolution.

- Report that police have foiled a terrorist plot for Perth.

- Renee Short virtually admits Tories will win during Select Committee hearing.

- James Tinn, MP for Redcar, quits on eve of election, worn out fighting Militant attempts to replace him over 3 years.
- Owen reacts sharply to your Mail interview saying he and SDP should have stayed in Labour Party and fought.

- General Bernard Rogers, SACEUR, says non-nuclear Labour Government would be the last straw for USA in Europe. Express reports angry Labour reaction. Mail: Kinnock nuked by NATO general.

- Michael Heseltine, in interview with Shelter, would like to see mortgage relief phased out and believes right to buy has gone too far (Daily News).

- Institute of Directors says Conservative policies have provided a firm foundation for future governments.

- David Owen says Left is not loony - they are clear-headed and totally dedicated people who have systematically transformed London Labour Party.

MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Telegraph says 77% of Conservative voters want you to bring back Cecil Parkinson.

- Jan Leeming praises you for caring about her after her attack by raiders at BBC.

- NUS/NAS deny report in Sun they have called off half day strikes after realising the campaign had become a total flop and Labour Party pressure.

- Norman Fowler makes more money (£1.5m) available to enable AIDS victims to be treated with AZT.

- New York Times says you are on verge of becoming No 1 Western leader.
- BBC to extend 9 O'Clock News to 50 minutes for election; ITN adds only 5 minutes.

- Civil Service unions agree to stage strike in election week.
- Civil Servants claim privatised dockyards are becoming open house to spies because of cost cutting.

- Westland to make 1115 redundant.- increases total to 2000.

- You are to give Airbus a £450m flying start today (Mail).

- Military coup in Figi.

- Ian Smith retires as leader of Zimbabwe's remaining white MPs.
- Australia's Labour Government cuts dole for schoolleavers, introduces means test and sets up extra welfare fraud squads.

ELECTION

- Sun says proof that Labour's moderate election manifesto is a lie is to be found in reselection of Deirdre Wood.
- Today says the Alliance has made a fine start to credible policies by submitting its plans for the country to a firm of accountants. Voters should take what (other) parties say with a pinch of salt. Chancellor says Alliance proposals "seem to be highly implausible to say the least".
- Daily News on Anne Sofer's book on London Left takeover says her criticism is trenchant but she does not offer much in the way of positive alternative.
- Express finds 'horror' for Kinnock in the polls; leader on "Alliance in Wonderland" points to the fact that the Alliance, while pledging not to claw back 2p tax cut then voted against it. An "absurd contradiction which typifies Alliance's shifty thinking" about the economy. On Deirdre Wood it says that with friends like Greenwich Labour Party, Kinnock does not need enemies.
- Times: Birmingham Labour group purges left-wing by removing three women committee chairmanships because of their alleged left-wing leaning
- Geoffrey Smith, in Times, says Kinnock was right to challenge you to TV debate and you were wise to refuse. But would it have been better for the rest of us if you had accepted? Kinnock needs to make up so much ground that it is worth trying anything that might put you off your stride.
- Philip Howard in Times lists what he calls characteristic quotes from you going back to 1972. It's Kinnock's turn tomorrow.
- Times: Picture of you on front page meeting young handicapped girl at Not 12.
- Times: BBC poll shows nearly 25% of electorate do not know party of their MP.
- Times leader looks at the foreign policy issues in this election, saying that four years ago the "Falklands Factor" helped the Conservatives.
- Times: Drawing on your Daily Mail interview says church leaders refuse to accept your telling off for failing to do their job of teaching right from wrong.
- Mail leader says the Alliance's Great Reform Charter was worthy and sonorous. But perhaps the two Davids sensed how profoundly unstirred the electorate could be at their plans; report says your plans for education get support from head teachers, parents and educationalists.
- Anne Sofer in Times assesses the hard left alienation of London voters and says nobody doubts that the "London Left" is a major liability to Labour Party, a greater danger than the Liverpool Militants ever were.
- Ronald Butt in Times looks at the local election results particularly in the Midlands where the much changed Conservative Party now increasingly represents the aspirations of hard-working and responsible people in the categories which used to be described as working class. You will win election if you successfully attack your opponents on the ground of their attack.

ELECTION (Cont'd)

- Patrick Cosgrave in Times discusses reforming the House of Lords and says it would be simple to organise for Ministers who sit in the Lords to be available for questioning in the Commons.
- Spectrum in Times profile the Department of Education and Science and asks, after a brain-storming year at Education, can Kenneth Baker turn thought into action if the Tories win next month? Civil servants say education has been like a glorious party since Baker arrived. Headache will come when they have to start delivering his promises.
- Telegraph on Scottish Tories says the conference finds the party with good grounds for hope, but prepared to lose some MPs, and the consequences of a fresh loss of strength would be very serious. But the possibility of collapse has begun to recede under Malcolm Rifkind.
- FT: Labour plan for 50,000 jobs in Civil Service; rallying call by Kinnock to PLP; Michael Cassell analyses Mr Kinnock's often unhappy relationship with media.
- FT says it is ironic that you launch your campaign in Scotland where you are in third place.
- Independent: The Thatcherite rights Americanisation of Britain was attacked by David Steel; Steel said your place as world statesman will be secured not on the basis of TV footage, but by whether you promote or obstruct the prospect of moving towards common security and away from adversarial terror.
- Independent: David Owen accuses you of running scared of the new political alignment. He said that you were seeking to prop up the Labour Party to preserve the current political power balance.
- Independent: Polls bring bleak news for Labour; Labour dismissed the polls as contradictory and not credible.
- Guardian: Polls give flying start to Thatcher; grim picture for Labour. Report says manifesto will envisage the virtually elimination of council housing over next 10 years and its replacement by mixture of associations, trusts and co-ops.
- Guardian leader on Alliance's plans for constitutional reform says the subject is especially important to the SDP/Libs and the Alliance has its opponents on the defensive. Tories and Labour are guiltily aware that most of their supporters rather like the Alliance approach.

EDUCATION

- Star attacks NUT ("pathetic") for campaigning for reinstatement of 2 Leicester teachers convicted of cocaine and LSD offences. Kenneth Baker will command universal support for his decision to sack any teacher convicted of drugs offence.
- Express: Another London headmaster - in Haringey - quits because of extreme education policies; another story says as many as 300 new style direct grant schools will be in place by 1990s if you win a third term.
- Times: HMI report criticises ILEA's showpiece school, Quintin Kynaston, for allowing too many pupils to be academic under-achievers.

HEALTH

- Mirror leader attacks "bloody scandal" of hospital waiting lists and says you admire people who never fall ill, never get injured and have plenty of money to pay for anything.
- Times: Scientists test air conditioning and water supply at Charing Cross Hospital for signs of Legionnaire's disease.
- Mail says patients are being asked to shop around for a hospital bed; its leader wants to know why NHS can't be more like a travel agency which finds you an alternative flight when one is booked up.

CHILD ABUSE

- Star says you have taken charge of personal fight against child abuse.

IRA

- Star attacks IRA for glorying in death of murderers and para-military parades associated with them. Security forces should not stand idly by.
- Independent: Gaddafi has supplied the IRA with large quantities of plastic explosives in retaliation for Britain's part in last year's American air raid on Libya.

LAW AND ORDER

- Times: Retiring Chief Inspector of Constabulary says young policemen being sent out to face the front line of Britain's streets like inexperienced recruits to battle.
- Times: 250 quizzed by fraud squad about Johnson Matthey Bankers £248m collapse.
- Times draws on your Daily Mail interview and says that Government expected to redraw proposals for tackling lenient sentences if it wins election.
- Times: Crackdown on £50m a year fare dodgers as Tube, bus and rail inspectors join forces.

UNIONS

- FT: Tory Trade Unionists begin court action against NALGO.

INDUSTRY

- Times: Top executives break through £200,000 a year pay barrier.
- Times: Jaguar recalling nearly 5,000 new XJ6s because of braking system problems.
- Times: Bank of England report sharp increase in number of householders with mortgage debt problems.
- Independent: Pressure increased on the Government yesterday to put right hundreds of motorway barrier supports suspected of being installed wrongly.
- FT: European Investment Bank to lend £1bn for Channel Tunnel

ECONOMY

- Times: Bank of England's first auction of gilt-edged stock went smoothly yesterday, with £1b issue 2.3 times oversubscribed.
- Times: Bank of England Governor warns against further rapid cuts in interest rates.
- Times: Future of £720m Sun Life group uncertain after South African Liberty Life group continue battle for boardroom role despite losing fight to appoint 3 of its own directors.
- Times: EEC plan to abolish stamp duty on securities which cost British Government up to £1bn a year, equivalent of a penny in the pound of income tax revenue.
- FT editorial discusses OECD report and says its moral is not that deregulation is a bad thing but that it is only half the story. And on farm subsidies the editorial says the OECD report makes it clear that solutions on subsidies can no longer be postponed.

DEFENCE

- FT: President Reagan tells Congress Missile Treaty no bar on SDI parts testing.
- FT: Disarmament proposals put Chirac on defensive as NATO meet in Stavanger to consider reply to Gorbachev.

USA

- FT: Reagan admits talks with Kin Fahd on Contra aid.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Lord Young hosts lunch for Jia Shi, Chinese official, Admiralty House, London
- HMT: Mr Lawson addresses the Association of Inspectors of Taxes, London
- HO: Mr Hurd addresses Association of Chief Police Officers dinner
- MAFF: Mr Jopling addresses Dairy Trade Federation Annual Lunch, London
- DEM: Mr Trippier visits Newcastle
- DES: Mr Dunn attends conference on alcohol concern
- DES: Mrs Rumbold visits Wakefield Education Authority, including Wakefield District College and formal opening of Wolley Hall
- DTI: Mr Butcher addresses Public Issues Conference; later addresses Retail Consortium
- DTI: Lord Lucas receives courtesy call from Snr Jorge Martinez, Governor of State of Nuey Leon, Mexico, London
- DTP: Mr Bottomley attends the Institute of Road Transport Engineers annual conference, Solihull
- MAFF: Mr Gummer addresses Blue Faced Leicester Association Dinner, Hexham
- SO: Lord Glenarthur visits Scottish Centre for the Communication Impaired, Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow; then attends Scottish Money Show, Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre, Glasgow; later visits New Lanark Village; then attends British/Italian Round Table Seminar, Prestonfield House Hotel, Edinburgh
- SO: Mr MacKay addresses European Association of Livestock Markets, Edinburgh
- OAL: Mr Luce visits various arts institutions in Lincolnshire
- WO: Mr Roberts meets Welsh Association of Community and Town Councils, Cardiff; later addresses German Regional Chamber of Commerce lunch, Llantrisant

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- MOD: Mr Younger attends Nuclear Planning Group Meeting, Norway; later visits Berlin
- DTI: Mr Pattie visits Cannes Film Festival
- DTI: Mr Clark visits Interpack Exhibition, Dusseldorf

TV AND RADIO

"You and Yours"; BBC Radio 4 (12.00): A national opinion poll provides the answers about how satisfied the voters are with the way MPs perform their duties and the politicians respond

"Pillars of Society"; Radio 4 (19.40): Geoffrey Goodman looks at the Co-op movement

TV AND RADIO (Cont'd)

"Comment"; Channel 4 (19.50): Another personal view on a current topic

"This Week"; Channel 4 (20.00)

"The Economics of Excellence"; BBC Radio 3 (21.35): Professor A H Halsey discusses scholarship in a "cold climate" with Christopher Ball, Lord Annan and Tom Blundell

"Question Time"; BBC 1 (22.05): David Blunkett, Usha Prashar, the Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley MP and Sue Slipman

"Their Lordship's House"; Channel 4 (01.00)
