

8 June 1987

PRIME MINISTER

Labour - and more specifically Kinnock and Hattersley - split over tax policy which Independent says is "an extraordinary mess".

Times poll of marginals finds increased Labour support pointing to a reduced majority for you.

Conservatives' advertising campaign hits 3 pages of the nationals.

Mail sees falling inflation on Friday as a tonic for you.

Frank Chapple contributes a 4-page dossier to the Mail on the hard Left.

Child Poverty Action Group says Britain is more divided under you.

Jim Callaghan says your visit to Venice is "shameless".

UDM says Kinnock is not fit to lead his country or his party.

Guardian suggests tide of opinion is shifting against Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein, in West Belfast.

Edward Chaplin prevented from leaving Iran.

Civil Servants disrupt Channel Ports and airports in 2-day strike deliberately timed for general election.

Express says thousands of teachers are refusing to walk out today in response to union call.

Star says cruise missiles will be out of Britain by the end of the year - good news for you. You have paid a remarkable power-broking role in the arms control negotiations; leader attacks Bishop of Durham for urging people not to vote Tory - theological clap-trap.

Inside, Star says Kinnock won't answer its question as to how Britain would call Russia's bluff without nuclear weapons if they demand and we won't withdraw BAOR and they threaten to bomb British cities.

Another story says you will be back in NO 10, according to Star poll of polls - 43/35/21, virtually no change in a week.

Sun front page lead on the nightmare of a Kinnock win - 14 days that will leave us helpless. You call up Mum's Army to rout Kinnock - "everyone eager to keep Britain free belongs to me". Shock Labour plan for 32p basic tax, according to Chancellor. How Labour would steal the pound in your pocket.



Sun leader says Britain is in peril. Under Kinnock it would stand in the most deadly danger since 1940. "How incredible that at a time Labour's policy has been hijacked by a witless, irresponsible leader and his CND wife, there's not a word of protest inside the party", it says.

Another feature reveals the attack on private schooling by Labour and a school head sacked by loony Left.

Mirror features "grotesque" life under Thatcher who, it claims, has divided Britain more than any Prime Minister before, with the rich getting richer and the poor "left wallowing in ever-increasing misery".

Mirror leader on Summit, says you will be there to have your picture taken. Polls report says Kinnock was boosted by two opinion polls.

Mirror feature contrasts Tory promises and action on NHS and gives Meacher his opportunity to say what Labour would do.

IPCS take advertising space to say "A poll tax could cost you a great deal of money".

Today leads with its comment headed "If you care about Britain" the only way is to vote tactically and get rid of you in identified key seats. News story says Kinnock is prepared to form an unholy alliance with Tories if he fails to win outright, even postponing his plans to scrap the deterrent to persuade Conservatives not to bring Government down. The best they can hope for is supremacy in a hung Parliament. You rally "Mum's Army".

Kinnock confirms everyone on more than £15,000 will lose under Labour, says Today.

Daily News claims your majority will be reduced to between 40 and 50, according to Times poll of marginals. London meanwhile is backing Left, with Livingstone and Grant heading for landslide victories.

Express leads with "Neil and Roy split over tax bite - would hit pay packets at £15,000 or £25,000: Hattersley says £25,000; Kinnock £15,000". Chancellor says Kinnock is making it up as he goes along.

Inside it heads its election pages with "The stars come out for Maggie" and says snatch squads are ready to pounce at Kinnock's rallies to make sure he has an easy time.



Express has two leaders - one says the Advertising Standards Authority should be alerted to a Labour ad which talks of the expulsion of Militants - what expulsion?; and another which says that on issue after issue the experts warn about the consequences of Labour's policies. The men who know what's what know that a Kinnock regime would be a disaster.

Feature by defence correspondent on why Europe waits in fear for Kinnock's deadly signal to scrap Polaris.

Jon Akass, in Express, says Labour protests too much about caring.

Jean Rook goes on the trail with Kinnock "the gift wrapped boyo".

Mail says Labour tax plan means 32p basic rate. Its tax plans are beginning to smack of a gigantic hoax. In its front page comment it says never mind the party label - take the human material of which a Parliamentary Labour majority would have to be fashioned - Trots, Marxists, hard Left - with a reference to Frank Chapple's dossier of the Left printed elsewhere.

Mail leader says the case of the disappearing married man's allowance (under Labour) becomes curiouser and curiouser. For 36 hours Labour have put up a barrage of evasive waffle. You don't have to be a Miss Marple to unravel this one. Caught in the act of picking the pocket of millions of working men, Hattersley and Kinnock had to invent some story, however tall.

Inside, Mail's parade of the hustings, says "She's a great leading lady, say the stars", and "Bully boys who would rule under Labour" - your reference to the return of trade union power.

Sir John Egan, Jaguar, tells Mail that Labour wants to put the clock back more than 10 years - industrial anarchy with thousands of lost jobs are at stake if Labour wins.

Telegraph leads with Labour's tax rise disarray; leaders split over who will be hit. Ex-defence chiefs hit out at Kinnock - all of them over the last 20 years, apart for one who has died, it says, are united in opposition to Labour's defence policy. Reagan set to give you a big boost with a high profile breakfast.

Inside, Thatcher's bleak vision of nation under Labour; Mum's Army play to the gallery. Professor Richard Rose says Labour needs more time to close the gap - and at the low rate they have been changing, it would need until August or September to close it.

Telegraph leader on the Venice agenda says it is just as well expectations are modest. But since Britain is performing



precisely as the wisdom of the Summit would have all perform, you should return for polling day with the plaudits of your partners ringing in your ears.

Guardian says you react fiercely to counter marginal polls. Reagan is confident of autumn summit and you will seek to share credit for breakthrough.

Guardian's leader focusses attention on the Conservative campaign. It says the Tories aren't raring to go, they look disorganised, defensive and frankly tired and haven't been able to lay out a revitalised agenda for the 1990s, merely offering more of the same. They may win the war but they do not believe they have won the argument.

Independent says Kinnock softens his stance in interview on dual control over battlefield nuclear weapons, allowing a "long period of reorganisation". Labour admits more will lose in tax changes.

Independent leader on Labour's tax policy, the Alliance has published a detailed account and Conservatives should be judged by their record and commitments. The Labour Party has left the greatest uncertainty. Before Thursday it must try to resolve these questions or it will be judged to offer compassion without having any coherent plan to make compassion work.

Another Independent leader, referring to a series of well heeled people who plan to vote for Labour, says their attitude springs from a mildly contemptuous lack of interest in the grimy details of creating wealth and their egalitarianism is curiously dated. To millions the Thatcher revolution has not been a diminishing experience. Oddly the view from Birmingham and Coventry is not always as harsh as it is from Hampstead and Holland Park.

Peter Kellner, in Independent, suggests that Owen and Steel seem only to score Prime Minister points off each other and not off Kinnock or you.

Peter Jenkins, in Independent, says if the poll of polls turns out to be correct, Labour's performance will be no better than when Kinnock took over in 1983 and there will remain a 25% blocking vote who will not have Socialism even on Kinnock's sentimental terms.

Times leads with its poll of marginals. In seats where Labour was second the Conservatives lead is down to 1% (40/39/18) compared with 42/34/23 last week. In seats where Alliance came second, Conservatives lead 10% (down 3) at 40/30/Lab 27.



Inside in Times you portray Conservatives as party of peace and Kinnock defends financial plans with a pledge to reintroduce 25p lower tax band.

Times interviews David Owen who says there is no shame in coalition.

Times leader draws attention to the silence of the Left and says the British people may feel Labour should be safely in Opposition rather than governing the country while its internal struggle goes on.

FT leads with confident "Thatcher takes time for Summit".

BERNARD INGHAM