

26 June 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh visit Ross and Cromarty

The Queen Mother visits Central Flying School, RAF Scampton

The Prime Minister meets Senator Richard Lugas

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PUBLICATIONS

HMI: Report on the Langham School, London Borough of Haringay

HMI: Report on Newman College, Birmingham, Initial Teacher Education,  
Post Graduate Primary Course

HMI: Report on St Josephs RC Secondary School, Salisbury

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PARLIAMENT

Continuation of the Debate on the Address

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MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DES: Mr Baker visits Dorset Local Education Authority and Gillingham  
School

DTI: Lord Young visits Parnham Trust, Yeovil

DTI: Mr Clarke visits Nottingham

WC: Mr Walker addresses Welsh Association of District Council's  
Annual Conference, Cardiff (prov)

MAFF: Mr Gummer receives visit from His Excellency Archbishop Luigi  
Barbarito, St John's Cathedral

MAFF: Baroness Trumpington speaks to Perez Foundation, Chelmsford

ODA: Mr Patten sees departure of Red Cross Ship bound for Mozambique,  
Shoreham

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PRESS DIGESTQUEEN'S SPEECH

Kinnock promises to fight Government's programme tooth and nail - opposition convinced Government will have great difficulty with rate reform. But the programme gets a general warm and admiring welcome from the media, though trouble is expected over rates.

Times leads with poll tax plan at centre of Tory reforms - an uncompromising package of radical reforms which see some of the hardest fought Parliamentary battles for years. Inside its summary of the Government's programme is headed "Mrs Thatcher journeys to change the social landscape".

Geoffrey Smith, in Times, suggests Conservatie majority will be particularly rigorous in scrutinising Bills when the opposition in the Commons is ineffective.

Robin Oakley feature in Times, describes the programme as that of "a woman in a hurry".

Times leader, under heading "A speech of liberation", says the programme is chipping away still further and on a wide front at the rock face of the post-1945 order. No one can say it is being done without popular consent. The biggest difficulty looks likely to arise from the flat rate community charge.

In another leader on Scotland, the Times says the inference to be drawn from the two sentences in the speech about Scotland is that the Government is refusing to be panicked by the election result. If so, this is excellent. The Government should develop and improve the present constituency arrangements resisting legislative, as distinct from administrative, devolution.

Star: Maggie's revolution - shake up will affect us all. You spell out blockbusting terms of the Thatcher revolution. The most radical changes for 40 years. Leader headed "No stopping Superwoman" says you are back in business with a vengeance. What is breathtaking is your sheer dynamism. Kinnock can be in no doubt you have presented a formidable package and he will have his work cut out to dent it.

In another story, the Star says you were involved in a furious clash with Kinnock on "extras" in schools.

Sun: Its inter-city Maggie - she'll visit crisis areas. You are to throw caution to the wind by paying personal visits during summer holidays. Unions face a new assault; home rates to be axed.

Sun leader headed "On with the revolution" says the Speech made a great start to your historic third term. An action packed programme giving power to the people.

Mirror: "Tories put the boot in" - new attacks on councils and schools.

Today: Kinnock attacks Tory "fee society". A packed schedule of reorganisation will catapult the nation permanently to the right. Summary inside - "Maggie launches Tory revolution" - says every parent, home owner, tenant and trade unionist will be affected by radical policies.

Today leader says the veil began to be lifted on your hidden agenda. Far from running out of ideological energy, the Tory engine is only now beginning to get up its full head of steam. You want to spread the benefits of choice down the income scale. But there will be heavy costs.

Daily News: A Tory "fee for all" - Kinnock hits at Queen's Speech. Leader sees the Queen's Speech as a strange mixture of freedom and constraint, liberalism and authoritarianism. It is organising youth training on the cheap. The paper's summary of the programme says you are thinking again on rates.

Express: Maggie - now we're on our way. Queen's Speech full of reforms. Jon Akass in column headed "Royal seal on Tory revolution" - promises to be most revolutionary Parliament since 1945.

Mail leads with "Maggie's working summer in the cities" - to give up part of your holiday. Leader says the Government's determination to tackle Britain's problems was never more visible. The most radical and dramatic programme in over 40 years which goes to the heart of the problems which still disfigure and distort so much of our society. The big minefield is rates.

Inside coverage of programme is headed "A blueprint for a better Britain".

Telegraph leads with "Thatcher visit to 'front line'" inner cities. Gauntlet thrown down to Leftist councils. Regeneration of inner cities to be central theme of historic third term.

Telegraph leader on the Government's admirable plans for wider choice and higher standards in education. But Kenneth Baker needs to be more specific and he needs to remove vipers from the academic nest. The new orthodoxy in education has been encouraged by HMI and energetically peddled by teacher training colleges.

Guardian leads with "Thatcher faces accusations of a divided nation" - warned of growing dangers by Leon Brittan and opposition leaders. Inside two-page summary of the programme is headed "Radical reforms promise Thatcher's busiest session".

Guardian leader headed "How triumph can lead to trouble" says the speech contains something to gratify almost every contemporary Conservative obsession. But the Government faces a rocky political road.

Independent: Queen's Speech reveals Tory plans for cities as Kinnock condemns "fee paying" society. You take on town halls. Editorial says housing and education reform are more important than rate reform which will waste time and political good will. The "poll tax" will be as unfair, cumbersome and as expensive to administer as the present system.

Elsewhere in Independent: Blunkett warns of civil disobedience; you urge trust in the people; Tory rebellion threatened on poll tax; doubts on all sides over union reform; Ridley plans crusade to put emphasis on right to rent.

FT: P1: "Government seeks to avoid Tory backlash over reform of rates". Inside, three pages devoted to details of proposals. Sketch writer says you were at your most rampant and seemed to be enjoying yourself immensely as you engaged in noisy clashes with the labour leader. Leader, headed "Rate reform trouble", says that even before the Queen's Speech backbenchers were publicising their misgivings and some are openly threatening to oppose the legislation, or at least to abstain. The poll tax proposal is so friendless that one of your recent policy advisers is promulgating the amazing myth that the whole idea is a civil service plot to get the Government bogged down.

## OTHER NEWS

### POLITICS

Denis Healey leaves Shadow Cabinet after 28 years in front line; Sun: the first casualty among the new Left dominated MPs. Express says he may go down in history as Labour's last Chancellor.

Tribune Group decides not to combine with hard Left in a joint bid for candidates.

Ken Livingstone warns Kinnock in Tribune today that the party is heading for disaster unless he drops attempts to oust hard Left.

Joe Haines, in Mirror, says if Labour is to have a chance of winning the next election it won't be with the policies and party structure which lost it the last two. Defence and taxation were self-made disasters and union block vote needs reforming.

Today leader headed "Owen in the wilderness" says Owen is a man of huge talents but by turning his face against a merger with Liberals he is in danger of becoming a lost leader.

Today political editor issues a warning to Labour against the likely consequences of devolution - fewer Labour seats in Westminster.

Charles Moore, in Express, says if a Bishop (of Durham) enters the political arena he must expect to be attacked. What is odd about Bishop Jenkins is that he rushes into politics armed with certainty whereas in religion he is full of doubt. Public pronouncements cannot help Christian belief and damage respect for Bishops.

George Gale, in Mail, says SDP's best way to power lies with, or in, the Tory party.

Times: Foreign Affairs Committee says some of Toryies' key foreign aid policies should be completely reversed.

David Lipsey in Times looks at the reality of life in the Prime Minister's Policy Unit under the heading "The courtiers at No 10". He discusses the work they do and discusses briefly Bernard Donoughue's memoirs and concludes that the Prime Minister needs and deserves courtiers, but they should not be encouraged to pretend that they are really princes.

Independent: With 41 women in Parliament, feature says it must be possible that more women's issues have a chance of being debated.

#### CIVIL SERVICE

Strike on brink of collapsing after only 20% heeded union's call.

#### EDUCATION

A L Rowse, writing in Mail, says there are too many universities.

Mail says a Labour school governor in Haringey has switched her children to Tory Enfield because she felt they were not learning enough in Labour Haringey.

## HEALTH

Independent: St Bartholomew's administrators considering marketing the hospital services overseas and to industry to counter cash shortages.

FT: Article based on "Health Economics" by Prof George Teeling Smith argues that the NHS can never satisfy demand because expectations will always outstrip resources.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Lesbian and Gay Unit of Camden Council proposes a weekend course to discuss the evils of "heterosexism" in the office.

Voluntary and church schools top ILEA's league table of exam results for second successive year. Indian, East African and Asian pupils do best. Bangladeshi, Caribbean, Arab and Turkish children do worst.

## INDUSTRY

Sun leader on Peter Walker's "disgraceful attack" on the role of Ian MacGregor in the coal strike says he let MacGregor do the dirty work, making sure his reputation was not at risk. "If precious Peter had a tenth of (MacGregor's) ability or a hundredth of his courage, he'd be a far better politician than he is".

Argyll planning to sue Guinness for £3bn.

FT: T&GWU is to ballot 13,500 dockers on a national docks strike to be implemented if employers in West of Scotland reintroduce casual working in local ports.

## LAW AND ORDER

Court frees John Fleming, whom Scotland Yard pursued across two Continents to question him in connection with Brinks Mat gold robbery. MPs 'furious' over the wasting of time, expense and effort on the fiasco.

## CHILD ABUSE

17 children, taken from their parents in Cleveland after diagnosis of child abuse, made wards of court in first stage to secure their release from local authority care. One girl goes home.

Mirror says enraged parents are demanding the immediate sacking of the two doctors who, they say, have wrongly accused them as child sex abusers; leader says parents ought to have the right at least to be heard before their children are taken away and the Home Secretary should address this basic freedom - more basic than any in the Queen's Speech.

Independent feature says sex abuse figures may be tip of iceberg.

#### EC

You and Spanish Prime Minister being urged to resolve impasse over cheaper air fares because of row over application to Gibraltar.

FT: Electronic Engineering Association writes to Lord Young claiming that further delays to the EC research programme would be detrimental to UK interests.

Independent feature on the Summit categorised as the moment of truth by Delors; issues are too political for the technicians, too technical for the politicians.

#### RUSSIA

Gorbachev demands "revolutionary changes" in the economy.

#### USA

Serious allegations that members of US administration conspired to lie to Congress on Irangate operation.

#### EAST/WEST

Independent: General Rogers interview tonight on Newsnight previewed. He is to make strongest attack on current arms control proposals.

#### INDIA

Independent editorial says Rajiv Gandhi has shown no evidence of his political skills. He must rebuild his support before next elections but India looks set for a period of instability; police hold 90 Sikhs in Golden Temple raid.

NEW ZEALAND

David Lange set for a landslide poll victory within the next two months.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Independent: Whites in Zimbabwe have realised it is not important for them to hold political power as Mr Mugabe abolishes the 20 seats reserved for whites.

Independent: International Atomic Energy Agency set to ban South Africa.

BERNARD INGHAM