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PRIME MINISTER

To note the timing

- not 14 October

NJS

27/5

Rt Hon Michael Jopling Esq MP
Parliamentary Secretary
HM Treasury
12 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

27 May 1980

Dear Michael

MJS

As you know, it is imperative that we should have the Codes on picketing and the closed shop in operation for next winter.

I am therefore writing now to give you advance warning that during the spill-over session I shall be laying these two Codes in draft for the approval of both Houses (affirmative resolution procedure). While for most Codes an hour and a half's debate late in the evening is sufficient, in view of the importance and sensitivity of the subjects I think we will run into difficulties if we do not allocate at a minimum a half-day to each. Perhaps we could have an early word about this.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Duchy, the Lord President and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Love
J. H. [Signature]