

LEADER'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 140th Meeting held at 5.00 p.m. in Wednesday 24th November 1976 in the Leader's Room in the House of Commons.

Present: Mrs. Thatcher (In the Chair)

Mr. Whitelaw, Sir Keith Joseph, Lord Carrington, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr. Prior, Mr. Pym, Mr. Peyton, Mr. Jenkin, Mr. Davies, Mr. St. John Stevas, Mr. Maude, Mr. Buchanan-Smith, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Neave, Mrs. Oppenheim, Mr. Biffen, Mr. King, Mr. Taylor, Lord Thorneycroft,

Mr. Atkins,

In Attendance: Sir Michael Havers, Mr. Brittan, Mr. Butler, Mr. Stanley, Mr. Patten, Mr. Hooson, Mr. Ridley, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Wynn.

Apologues: Lord Hailsham, Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Heseltine.

1. Proposed Business for the Week 29th November to 6th December

On Monday 29th November there would be continuation of the debate on the Address with an amendment on industry and employment being moved (Mr. Biffen and Mr. Prior)

On Tuesday 30th November there would be the conclusion of the debate on the Address on a general economic amendment (Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr. Pym) and this would be followed by a Ways and Means Resolution relating to a National Insurance Surcharge.

On Wednesday 1st December there would be the Second Reading of the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill and a related Procedural Motion (Mr. Biffen and Mr. Lamont)

On Thursday 2nd December there would be the Second Reading of the Social Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (Mr. Jenkin and Mrs. Chalker)

On Friday 3rd December, there would be Government Business: the Second Reading of the Fishery Limits Bill (Mr. Buchanan-Smith and Mr. Hurd)

On Monday 6th December there would be the Second Reading of the National Insurance Contributions Bill (Mr. Nott)

2. Matters Arising on Business

There was a discussion and the following points were agreed:

.../i) There would

i) There would be a two-line whip on the Ways and Means Resolution on the National Insurance Surcharge on Tuesday, 30th November.

ii) Mr. Biffen was invited to consult Mr. King on detailed aspects of the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Bill.

iii) Subject to any further view from the Business Committee, we would not vote on the Second Reading of the Social Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill on Thursday 2nd December.

iv) We would vote against the Second Reading of the National Insurance Contributions on December 6th on a two-line whip.

3. Continued Discussion on Devolution

There was further discussion on how we should vote on the Second Reading of the Devolution Bill and it was agreed that this would be continued at 4.00 p.m. on 1st December. In the meantime Mr. Pym and Mr. Atkins would conduct close and extensive consultations with our back bench members.

The Meeting closed at 6.12 p.m.