

BACKGROUND BRIEFING ON YOUNG CONSERVATIVES by Tim Cowell.

The attendance is the best for years - over 1250 tickets have been issued to the YCs, plus 250 to the Local Associations. The dramatic increase in numbers attending is an indication of the improvement that has occurred in the fortunes of the organisation. Phil Pedley, the Chairman, and his fellow officers took our advice and gave the recruitment of members and the creation of new branches top priority among their activities. Politically they maintained the campaigns, particularly on "Peace and Defence" debating with, and defeating CND.

The Conference Agenda reflects many of the important issues that concern younger members of the Party and provides an opportunity for the achievements of the Government to be outlined to the YC's and public at large. In particular the debate on the Youth Training Scheme will enable us to encourage YCs to assist Ministers in the coming months with the promotion of this crucial policy. The many aspects of "Defence and Disarmament" will be covered on the Saturday afternoon and the film the "Peace Game" should be well received. Mr Michael Heseltine is not speaking on defence as such, but I have no doubt that he will mention this during his Presidential Address. The motion on "defence" could be more helpful, but I am hopeful that it will be heavily defeated. The other debates and speeches will provide a varied "menu" for representatives and the opportunity to hear Lord Home speak on "International affairs" will conclude a topical weekend.

I know that the Prime Minister will receive an enthusiastic welcome from her young supporters.

YC File

23rd National Young Conservative Conference



The Winter Gardens, Bournemouth
12th-13th February 1983

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE/MONDAY, 17th JANUARY 1983

18/83

THE PRIME MINISTER, The Rt Hon MARGARET THATCHER MP, will be the principal speaker at this year's National Young Conservative Conference in Bournemouth. The Prime Minister will deliver her address at 1200 on SATURDAY, 12th FEBRUARY.

Representatives will also hear speeches from the Rt Hon MICHAEL HESELTINE MP, Secretary of State for Defence and National President of the Young Conservatives, from the Rt Hon CECIL PARKINSON MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Paymaster General and Chairman of the Conservative Party, from the Hon PETER MORRISON MP, National Vice-President of the Young Conservatives, and from MICHAEL SPICER MP, Vice-Chairman of the Conservative Party responsible for youth. Also speaking will be the Rt Hon LORD HOME OF THE HIRSEL and the Rt Hon PETER WALKER MP, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Rt Hon JAMES PRIOR, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

The Conference will be chaired by PHIL PEDLEY, National Chairman of the Young Conservatives. He will be assisted by the National Vice-Chairmen - Chris Hayward, Patrick McLoughlin, John Guthrie and Richard Fuller.

Attached are details of the motions, together with a note on press facilities and an application form for press passes. Copies of the complete agenda and particulars of fringe events will be available shortly.

...../

Friday, 11th February

- 2000 Conference Representatives' Reception - Highcliff Hotel.
- 2100 Regency Styli Disco - Highcliff Hotel.
- 0000 Close of nominations for National Young Conservative Elections - Highcliff Hotel.

Saturday, 12th February

Morning Session 0930/1245

The Conference will be opened by the Worshipful the Mayor of Bournemouth,
Cllr Mrs SHEILA McQUEEN.

ADDRESS by PHIL PEDLEY, National Chairman of the Young Conservatives.

REGIONAL AID

Tim Mitchell on behalf of Bath Young Conservatives to move:

'This Conference condemns the Labour Party's continued hostile attitude to the EEC and calls upon the Government to vigorously promote the benefits of membership and, in particular, to publicise the considerable resources under Regional Aid.'

Reply: the Rt Hon JAMES PRIOR MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

BALLOTTED MOTION

PARTY ORGANISATION AND YOUTH

Nick Robinson on behalf of Macclesfield Young Conservatives to move:

'This Conference, believing that the youth vote is vital to a Conservative election victory, calls for a greater allocation of resources to be devoted to the Young Conservative Organisation.'

Reply: Mr MICHAEL SPICER MP, Vice-Chairman of the Conservative Party.

...../

Saturday, 12th February

Afternoon Session 1430/1730

ADDRESS by the Rt Hon PETER WALKER MP, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food - Reflections of a Former National Chairman of the Young Conservatives.

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

Ian Groves of Hartlepool Young Conservatives to move:

'This Conference welcomes the new Youth Training Scheme with its greater training content, but believes greater flexibility is needed when arranging schemes with companies and in permitting the Youth Training Scheme to be used for training for self employment.'

Reply: the Hon PETER MORRISON MP, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Employment and National Vice-President of the Young Conservatives.

DEFENCE

Mike More on behalf of East Lewisham Young Conservatives to move:

'This Conference deploras the run down of the Nation's conventional defences in favour of the Trident nuclear force.'

FILM 'THE PEACE GAME'

ADDRESS by the Rt Hon MICHAEL HESELTINE MP, Secretary of State for Defence and National President of the Young Conservatives.

CONFERENCE BALL 2000/0030 at the PAVILION BALLROOM, Bournemouth.
Dancing to the Southern Knights and a disco.

...../

Sunday, 13th February

Morning Session 0930/1300

BALLOTTED MOTION

NATIONAL YOUNG CONSERVATIVE HUSTINGS

ADDRESS by the Rt Hon CECIL PARKINSON, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster,
Paymaster General and Chairman of the Conservative Party.

ABORTION

Gilly Greensitt on behalf of the Isle of Axholme Young Conservatives to move:
'This Conference, believing that freedom of choice is central to Conservative philosophy, is of the opinion that abortion should be a matter of personal choice for the woman concerned and therefore calls upon Parliament to enact legislation to realise this situation.'

ADDRESS by the Rt Hon LORD HOME OF THE HIRSEL - International Affairs.

CLOSE OF CONFERENCE by PHIL PEDLEY, National Chairman of the Young Conservatives.

END

...../

PRESS FACILITIES

A payphone for the use of correspondents will be available in the Press Office at the WINTERGARDENS, off Exeter Road, Bournemouth. This telephone will also accept incoming calls and the number is 0202-24590

The headquarters hotel for the Conference will be the HIGHCLIFF HOTEL, West Cliff, Bournemouth BH2 5DU, telephone 0202-27702, telex 417153. Accomodation is available for correspondents, please contact reception.

DAVID DAVIES
Press Officer

APPLICATION FOR PRESS PASSES:

23rd NATIONAL YOUNG CONSERVATIVE CONFERENCE
THE WINTERGARDENS, BOURNEMOUTH, 12th/13th FEBRUARY 1983

Name of Newspaper/Agency/Broadcasting Organisation

.....

Name(s) of representative(s).

.....

.....

Name and address of person to whom press passes should be sent:

.....

.....

.....

Please complete as soon as possible and return to:

Mrs Jane Wright, Press Office, Conservative Central Office,
32 Smith Square, Westminster, LONDON SW1P 3HH.