

PRESS DIGEST

Election

- Guardian says you are heading for the biggest election victory of recent times, beating Labour landslide of 1945; Marplan gives you lead of 21% (47/Lab 26/Alliance 25).
- 2 more opinion polls put Alliance ahead of Labour - TV-AM Audience Selection poll gives you 15% lead over Alliance (44/29/Lab 24); Sun Telephone Survey gives you 17% lead (45/Alliance 28/Lab 24).
- Conservatives launch all out campaign to demolish Alliance late rally; Guardian sees Labour fighting to hold the Alliance in third place.
- But you look like getting a bumper majority; Corals still accepting bets even though you are 8-1 on; £ rises on prospect of your victory.
- Kinnock the new Labour man in trouble for bad taste over Falklands for saying it is a pity others had to leave theirs on the ground at Goose Green to prove it - ie. you have guts; accused by TV audience of being a traitor; Sun says outburst stuns Labour HQ; Express leads with "Labour's new sick joke".
- Kenny Everett also in trouble for some remarks at Tory youth rally; David Steel says he shows dangers of runaway Toryism. And Mirror says he is the foolish face of Toryism.
- D/Star says it can't vote for Foot even though backbone of its readership comes from working people; Labour Party not recognisable now by giants who created it; only one leader in charge of a political party and philosophy - Margaret Thatcher.
- Foot finally comes down behind Pat Wall, Militant, and against Ben Ford in Bradford; calls Keith Joseph a "nutter" and attacks integrity of Peter Rees.
- Times says union leaders are preparing for a radical look at Labour movement's policies in the wake of the expected humiliation on Thursday, shifting back to the centre; may even revise policy of boycotting your Administration.
- Two Labour peers - Lever and Shackleton - back Roy Jenkins.
- Top Tories, according to Express, are fighting to keep Francis Pym in the Cabinet, as Home Secretary.
- Poll suggests falling support for Sinn Fein; SDLP says it will win 4 seats.
- Survey suggests only one-third of blacks will vote; but 61% of Asians will.

Other Points

- Sun centre page feature on Red Mob who will be in charge if worst happens - Benn, Holland, Meacher, Morrell, Boateng, Livingstone, Wise,

Bevan, Wall, Fields, Nellist - not to mention Scargill, Slater, Gill and Kitson.

- Mirror, on your voting fears, lists seats where, it says, you want non-Tories to vote Labour to keep out Liberals.
- Mirror - Waste of a Nation feature, turns the spotlight on the NHS.
- Tom King says Labour is concealing a vindictive plan to buy back Council houses at below market price if they win.

#### Comment

Sun attacks "The Two Faces of Sister Shirl"; trouble with this little angel is that she has a shady, scarlet past which it proceeds to retail; a disorganised woman; and Alliance as mixed up and woolly-minded as she is.

Express: one of Labour's more foolish charges against Tories is they will dismantly the NHS; but there is a simple way to rebut the accusation - look at the facts; no substance to charge. George Gale, on the unions, says present Labour Party is as profound an embarrassment to unions as they are to it; they may not be exactly a live issue in the election but their irresponsibility towards the public and incompetence in looking after the party they gave birth to have contributed massively to outcome.

Guardian in a last look at the Labour Party, says Labour campaign has been dead in the water for a fortnight and the search for scapegoats is under way. Foot is a symbol of Labour's abiding introspective obsessions.

Times says that in view of its patchy record in cutting public expenditure and the blandness of its campaign, the Government's determination to finish the job has to be taken somewhat on trust. That trust exists almost solely in your personality and willpower.

#### Unions/Pay

- Scargill brings new threat of national pit strike after NCB discussion document on industry and performance leaked.
- Left wing takes control of Post Office Engineering Union executive.
- 18 NHS consultants, in letter to Times, ask for their 8.7% award to be cut to 4.6% in line with NHS workers lest services be cut.
- Alan Hare, FT, writes to you calling for legislation to limit imbalance of power in Fleet Street - FT still strike bound, ACAS moves in.
- Pay rises of 4.6%, plus £50, accepted by half BBC's staff.

### Economy

- City, according to Guardian, expecting public expenditure squeeze if Tories win.
- Housebuilding up 10,100 in first four months of this year compared with 1982.
- 20% increase in car sales in May compared with a year ago.
- Business failure rate eased in May.

### Industry

- Row over cut price sale by BSC of electric arc furnace from Llanelli to South Africa.
- People's Express airline still only half full after 10 days in business at Gatwick.

### Local Authority

- Liverpool Council to create 1,000 jobs mostly in street cleaning and house repairs.

### Transport

- Teacher killed and 20 children badly injured in Devon coach crash.

### Media

- TV-AM boosts its audience by 100,000 to 300,000 compared with BBC's 1.7m.
- Mail diary says BBC, though in red, has had to fork out £850 for Lichfield photos of Alasdair Milne.

### Law and Order

- Roach inquest told he had been hearing voodoo voices.

### Race

- 91% of people in Britain oppose any attempt to block sporting links with South Africa, according to Mori poll for South African Olympic Committee.

### Northern Ireland

- Mail feature says IRA is extracting money from Republic's youth in return for hard drugs.

International

USA: Musical "Cats" wins 7 Tony Awards.

W. Germany: 40 British holiday makers hurt when coach runs off motorway.

Russia: offers to keep nuclear weapons out of Baltic if Scandinavian countries ban such weapons from their territories; dozens die in Volga boat fire.

Middle East: Syria refuses to receive Shultz on visit to Middle East.

Australia: PM, Hawke, here; to have lunch today with Queen.

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