

8 Dec.

PRIME MINISTER

DIARY

Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels.

Social Affairs Council, Brussels.

Defence Council Ministerial meeting, Brussels.

General Election in Denmark.

100th Oxford v Cambridge Rugby.

Smithfield Show, Earls Court.

Trevi Ministers meeting (Home Affairs), London.

Senate vote on Canadian Constitution.

Announcements of Engineering Council membership.

Ford shop stewards meet to discuss pay/strike.

Russian Ambassador to address Tory Foreign Affairs Committee.

Russian Prime Minister in Hungary for Talks.

Statistics:

Construction-output (3rd qtr).

Provisional figures of vehicle production (Nov).

London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-Nov).

Provisional estimate of money supply (mid-Nov).

Births by Birthplace of Parent 1980.

Births by Birthplace of Mother 1980.

Publications:

MMC report on European Ferries/Sealink.

Response to Home Affairs Select Committee Report on the Prison Service. (3.30 pm).

Consultative Document on the Compulsory Wearing of Seat Belts.

Draft Clauses on Institutional tax avoidance.

Pay:

Teachers.

Nurses and Midwives.

Miners

Water workers.

Parliament:

Commons:

Questions:

Prime Minister, Defence.

Business:

There will be a debate on Public Expenditure Proposals for 1982-83.

Motion on EEC Documents 9675/81 and 4632/79 Carriage of Goods by Road.

Select Committees:

Environment: Private Rented Housing Sector. (Witnesses: Chestertons; Shelter).

Social Services: The age of retirement. (Witnesses: Equal Opportunities Commission; Life Offices Association).

Foreign Affairs: Overseas Development Sub-Committee. The work of the Commonwealth Corporation. (Witness: ODA).

Lords:

Starred Questions:

Midlothian District Council Order Confirmation Bill: Consideration on Report.

Hops Marketing Bill (HL): Second Reading.

Appropriation (No 3) (NI) Order 1981: Motion for Approval.

Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Bill (HL): Second Reading.

U.Q. on the deteriorating position within Poland, etc. and on additional help to voluntary and church organisations in Britain.

Ministers: See Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Foot/Tatchell

- Foot wins first round 12-7, but non-endorsement of Tatchell subject to NEC confirmation; Tatchell shocked and dismayed.
- Bermondsey party stands by Tatchell and says while they have their share of nutters he is not one of them.
- Guardian says it was a messy triumph and holds out prospect of a long and bitter struggle extending beyond Bermondsey.
- Comment:
- D/Star wants to see more candidates being challenged.
- Mirror: Foot won because he had to; Labour's chances of winning next election disappearing in pit dug by people like Tatchell over last two years but Left tide may not yet be ebbing.
- Mail: Will Foot follow up campaign to flush out other extremists and bring back proscription of organisations?
- Telegraph: Sara Barker, old national organiser, would have boiled down likes of Tatchell for glue; does she live again?
- Guardian: If Tatchell is unacceptable how can Labour tolerate others.

Other Politics:

- Labour holds Birmingham by only 2 after 5 councillors defect to SDP.
- SDP to engage American firm to advise on fund raising.
- Guardian says Mr Biscuit Barrel (Crosby) is a member of SDP.

Economy:

- Wholesale prices rise slows down and input prices improve; retail sales on upward trend after a poor summer but increase in value lagging behind inflation.
- Building Society savings lowest level last month for five years.
- FT says that US deficit will be far larger over next 3 years than authorities have so far admitted.
- FT prints article by Meade, Vines and Weale, Cambridge economists, who advocate a new financial strategy.

Today's Debate:

- Times says 24 "Wets" met in secrecy last night to assess tactics for today's debate; some speculation that Chris Patten will vote against Government over 2% but Times says he won't even abstain. because, in Times article, he senses a change in Parliamentary party's stirrings which suggest it has not entirely lost its common sense or instinct for self-preservation.
- Chancellor, on Panorama, says it would be foolish to change course now through recovery maddeningly slow.
- Times leader says Chancellor appears to be edging, however reluctantly and heavily disguised, towards a turn in the road which could come at Budget; it wants more public investment and attacks inertia at Treasury over this.
- Prof Burns, at Select Cttee, says unemployment will be less than 300,000 higher at this time next year and will start falling before end of 1982.
- Racial boss, Businessman of Year, tells Chancellor that unless urgent action is taken British industry will be cleaned out by Japs in a few years.
- Geoffrey Goodman, Mirror, says we have made an enemy of public spending which is now reaching absurd proportions but could it be people prefer tax cuts to civilised welfare?
- Express leader welcomes plan to help unemployed do community work - no reason why they shouldn't work for their dolw if they don't do others out of job.

Unions/Pay:

- BL workers return but then blackleg trouble with those who went back earlier so Metro production halted.
- Municipal busmen reject 4% and say raise offer or else
- Right wing win CPSA elections.

Industry:

- Advanced passenger train makes debut but tilt mechanism develops fault on return journey.
- 3000 Talbot workers to be laid off for 9 days in addition to Christmas holiday.
- Lockheed to end production of Tri-Star with implications for Rolls-Royce.
- Mail says fowl pest has knocked out one in 3 French turkeys and they are now buying in Britain.
- Guardian says Mr Howell was fair game for Civil Servants over juggernauts but fault with statement was that it did not set lorries in context of transport strategy; heavier lorries could be improved.
- Irish State line to take over P&O Belfast ferries.

Local Authorities:

- Norwich gets leave to take appeal against Mr Heseltine's order to High Court.
- Mail says Prostitutes' Collective and Lesbians Line given high priority by GLC's grants panel.

EC:

- Mail says you are pressing for resolution of Budget problem before Christmas and Lord Carrington hopes to be able to announce today a special Foreign Ministers' conference in London next Monday.

Education:

- Express leader praises Sir Keith Joseph for telling universities that recruits for primary teachers should have good degrees in main subjects of curriculum - not sociology, psychology, politics etc.
- Sir Keith Joseph introduces stringent new financial controls for 5000 Church and other voluntary aided schools.

Defence:

- NATO Ministers say anti-nuclear protests in Europe mainly financed by Russians; going to mount propaganda counter-attack.
- Ceaucescu wants you to support his policies on nuclear missiles in Europe and sending letter.

Law and Order:

- Chief Constable Alderson, Devon, criticises Home Secretary for no legislating on police consultation with local councils; Scarman is being mugged.
- Chief Constable Alderton praises Manchester police handling of riots.
- Guardian says Govt has shelved as impractical election pledge to draw up register if immigrants' dependants entitled to come to Britain.

Northern Ireland:

- PIRA, in policy switch, to test its strength at elections through Provisional Sinn Feinn.
- Carron announces a Catholic Fourth Force.
- Sun condemns disgraceful demonstration by Orangemen in Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral.

International:

- South Africa - claims its troops wiped out main black guerrilla HQ 50 miles inside Angola.
- Poland: Recordings of Solidarity leaders, including Walensa,, discussing overthrow of Government played on national radio.
- Canada: Levesque's party conference ends with deep split between him and most delegates.
- USA: Telegraph reports increased isolationism in response to ant-American and anti-nuclear protests in Europe.
- Venquela/Libya - four aircraft hijacked in Central America and over Mediterranean.
- Russia - FCO condemns callous disregard of human rights in Sakharov case.
- Belgium - Martens asked to form Government.

Ministers:

Mr Jenkin visits Runcorn, addresses NW CBI.
Mr Walker addresses UKASTA Council, London.
Mr Walker lunches with Tate and Lyle, Sugar Quay, and later presents awards of British Poultry Breeders and Hatcheries Association, House of Commons. Mr Buchanan-Smith also attends.
Mr Biffen addresses SMMT Annual Dinner.
Lady Young speaks at Annual Banquet of Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Childhall, London.
Mr Edwards addresses the Small Firm's conference (part of the Business Opportunities Programme), Cardiff. (12.00 noon).
Mr Fowler attends Smith and New Foundation reception, Temple Place, Victoria Embankment, London. (6.00 pm).
Mr Howell visits Transport and Road Research Laboratory, Crowthorne, and launches Consultative Document on Compulsory Wearing of Seat Belts.
Mr Heseltine opens NEDO seminar on "The Future of Construction Research", Cafe Royal. Mr Stanley also attends.
Mr Younger and Mr Fletcher dine with Chairman of South of Scotland Electricity Board, London.
Mr MacGregor at BOP event, Cardiff.
Mr Lamont visits Royal Smithfield Show, Earls Court.
Mr Wakeham visits Casu Electronics, South Ruislip.
Mr Moore visits Heysham Power Station, Lancs.
Mr Buchanan-Smith visits Smithfield Show, Earls Court.
Lord Ferrers addresses EURASCO Banquet, London.
Mrs Fenner addresses British Agrochemicals Association lunch, London.
Mr Eyre addresses Walsall Chamber of Commerce (BOP).
Lord Trenchard attends Defence Industrialists' dinner, Admiralty House.
Mr Waldegrave visits Aston University, Birmingham.
Dr Vaughan addresses The Royal Society of Medicine - Psychiatry Section, London. (8.00 pm).
Mr Finsberg visits Central Blood Laboratories, Elstree, Herts. (9.15 am).
Mr Waddington visits Tilbury Docks.
Mr Morrison addresses Federation of Personnel Services annual conference lunch about employment services, London.
Mr Macfarlane visits Southern Council for Sport and Recreation including three sports centres in Reading and two in Bracknell.

Major visits:

Mr Tebbit chairs Council of Ministers Labour and Social Affairs, Brussels.
Mr Marten visits Herr Offergerd, Federal Minister for Economic Co-operation, W Germany.
Mr Rossi visits Brussels for EC Labour and Social Affairs Council meeting.