

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY NO. 4.

LEADER'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

93RD MEETING

5.00 p.m., Wednesday 21st January, 1976 in the

Leader's Room at the House of Commons

REVISED AGENDA

1. Minutes of the 91st meeting - circulated, and
of the 92nd meeting - attached
2. Future Business
3. Forthcoming Events
4. Speakership, Deputy Chairmen, etc.
5. Any other business

Conservative Research Department
24 Old Queen Street, London SW1

CFF/GSB
19.1.76

LEADER'S CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 93rd Meeting held at
5.00 p.m. on Wednesday 21st January 1976 in
the Leader's Room at the House of Commons

Present: Mrs. Thatcher (in the Chair)

Mr. Whitelaw, Sir Keith Joseph
Lord Carrington, Lord Hailsham
Mr. Maudling, Sir Geoffrey Howe
Mr. Eym, Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Jenkin
Mr. Peyton, Mr. St. John-Stevae
Mr. Raison, Mr. Maude
Mr. Buchanan-Smith, Mrs. Oppenheim
Mr. Biffen, Lord Thorneycroft
Mr. Atkins

In attendance: Mr. King, Mr. Butler
Mr. Stanley, Mr. Patten
Mr. Ridley, Mr. Nicholson

Apologies: Mr. Prior, Mr. Heseltine
Mr. Edwards, Mr. Neave

1. Proposed Business for the Week 26th - 2nd Feb

On Monday 26th January there would be a Supply Day with
subjects to be decided, followed by a Motion on the Financial
Assistance for Industry (Increase of Limit) (No. 2) Order
(Mr. Heseltine, Mr. King).

On Tuesday 27th January Mr. Frank Allaun would seek
leave to introduce his Requisitioning of Empty Properties
Bill under the 10 Minute Rule. This would be followed by
Motions on Suggested Amendments to the Trade Union and Labour
Relations (Amendment) Bill and the Third Reading of the Bill
(Mr. Prior, Mr. Hayhoe).

On Wednesday 28th January Dr. Edmund Marshall would
seek leave to introduce his Education (Parents of Young
Persons) Bill under the 10 Minute Rule. This would be
followed by the Remaining Stages of the Prevention of
Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Bill (Mr. Whitelaw, Mr. Alison,
Mr. Biggs-Davison), and of the National Coal Board (Finance)
Bill (Mr. McNair-Wilson).

On Thursday 29th January there would be a debate on the
Employment Situation (Mr. Nott, Mr. Prior), possibly followed
by Prayers on the National Health Service Charges (Dr. Vaughan).

On Friday 30th January there would be Private Members'
Motions, the Motions selected in the ballot being those of
Mr. Paul Dean, Mr. Peter Hardy and Mr. Arthur Palmer.

On Monday 2nd February there would be a debate on
Procedure (Mr. Peyton).

2. Matters Arising on Business

It was agreed that:

i) We should vote against the Financial Assistance for

Industry (Increase of Limit) (No. 2) Order, on a three-line whip, indicating that the Government had been ignoring their own conditions governing the provision of assistance.

- ii) There would be a running three-line whip on the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill.
- iii) There would be a running two-line whip on the Remaining Stages of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Bill.
- iv) A final decision on whether to vote against the Government in the Debate on Employment (assuming that this was on an adjournment motion) should be made in the light of the views of the Business Committee.
- v) In the Debate on Procedure we should criticise any proposal that non-members of either House should sit on any committee to examine the procedure of Parliament, and we should emphasise the need for the Lords to be effectively represented on any such committee. We should reserve our final decision on membership of such a committee and consider it in the light of the debate.

3. Subjects for the Supply Day

It was agreed that:

We should spend the first half of the Supply Day debating Mental Health, with special reference to the question of releases from mental institutions, on the understanding that the Government had undertaken to provide time to debate the Butler Report. Dr. Vaughan and Mr. Alison would speak. The second half of the Supply Day would be devoted to Municipal Trading and Direct Labour, with a vote on a three-line whip at 10.00 p.m. Mr. Raison and Mr. Speed would speak.

4. Forthcoming Events

It was agreed that:

- i) As no members of the Shadow Cabinet were at present intending to speak on Saturday 24th January (when the Government had major speeches being made by Mr. Wilson, Mr. Crosland and Mr. Hattersley), some members should prepare speeches or statements.
- ii) We should press for a two-day debate on the Public Expenditure White Paper before the Budget.

5. Other Business

There was a discussion on the election of Officers of the House consequent on the announcement that Mr. Selwyn Lloyd was retiring as Speaker.

It was agreed that:

We should provide a candidate to fill the fourth position (the second deputy Chairman of Ways and Means) and that we should consult the 1922 Committee about this question.

The meeting closed at 6.12 p.m.