



10 DOWNING STREET

P.M.

ALFRED SHERMAN WAS MUCH
CONCERNED [OVER-SENSITIVE?] BY THE
PARASE "SEWISH LEPRECHAUN".

HE ASKED ME TO DRAW IT TO YOUR
ATTENTION!

DW.

UK NEWS = LABOUR

Postmen to study changes in union

By Nick Garnett, Labour Staff

THE UNION of Post Office Workers yesterday reversed a previous decision and agreed to consider changes in union structure to cope with the splitting of the Post Office into separate posts and telecommunications corporations.

The union's annual conference in Blackpool instructed the executive to produce a report as soon as possible on necessary changes in structure. A special conference earlier this year had rejected restructuring.

The earlier decision blocked any further action on restructuring until next year at the earliest, despite warnings from Mr. Tom Jackson, the general secretary, that such a move could affect the union's ability to represent its members.

Yesterday's change of mind will enable the executive to reopen its investigation of restructuring and could result in the same proposals which were rejected last year.

Dockers to
accept 13%

Healey backs moderation but denounces Howe policy

BY JOHN LLOYD AND CHRISTIAN TYLER

MR. DENIS HEALEY, the Shadow Chancellor, threw his weight heavily on the side of moderation yesterday by advising the TUC to reopen a dialogue with the Government — on the right terms — and by condemning industrial action taken for political ends.

In a major speech to the national industrial conference of the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union at Eastbourne, Mr. Healey said: "Simply to refuse co-operation is not enough."

"You have got to show what sort of co-operation you can deliver to a Government — let's be fair — of any party which takes account of human and political needs."

After his speech Mr. Healey underlined his point by saying: "If the Tories can create a basis for talks, then of course the unions should talk."

Mr. Healey was talking on the platform used on Monday by Mr. Frank Chapple, general secretary of the EPTU, to call for reopening of a relationship between the trade union movement and the Government.

The Shadow Chancellor was more circumspect than Mr. Chapple, stressing his view that the offer of talks to the TUC by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, earlier this week was bogus.

"His offer of an olive branch has turned out to be a cane. He was not offering a dialogue, but another lecture about trying to keep up with price increases."

In an implicit reference to the TUC Day of Action, Mr. Healey said: "Street demonstrations won't force a change of course, and industrial action for political purposes simply forces millions of people who loathe Mrs. Thatcher's policies

to shelter behind her skirts."

But the Day of Action was defended by Mr. Len Murray, TUC general secretary, in a speech to the American Chamber of Commerce in which he attacked what he called the Government's "blinkered" faith in monetarist theology.

Given the state of the British economy, it was no wonder that the TUC was compelled to draw attention to the danger, he said.

"I would much rather that the TUC did not have to resort to demonstrations to get this message across, and would much rather sit down with the Government — and, yes, the CBI — and discuss all aspects of the economic strategy in a serious way."

The TUC was not entitled to dictate to the Government, but it was entitled to a serious hearing, not "casual after-dinner comments."

The Government was basing its economic policies on faith and hope, Mr. Murray said, and seeking to impose them by fear. Yet there were some in the "administration" who did not live entirely out of "old, dog-eared textbooks."

Unless the present reliance on monetary control alone was reconsidered, social tensions would increase.

Mr. Healey's strictures are bound to be unpopular with trade union leaders, who are privately less than impressed with the Opposition's performance in Parliament and take the view that the unions must perform the task for it.

Mr. Healey reserved his fiercest sarcasm for his successor Sir Geoffrey Howe, saying that he followed "half-understood, half-baked theories of that Jewish leprechaun Milton Friedman."

Tal job agre

By Ray Perma
Correspondent

SHOP STEWART Linwood plant voted yesterday 1,300 redundancies on Tuesday.

The company must cut the bring production into line with The redundancies effect in August.

Mr. John C. said shop stewards concentrate on general terms for the would lose their also want a long commitment from the future of L.

Mr. Carly said also that it would be futile for us to time bearing in mind company is taking because it has a waiting to be so

Electricians to seek negotiating format outside of Confederation

BY JOHN LLOYD

STRONG OPPOSITION to the strikes in the engineering industry last winter was expressed by delegates

number of companies in the General Electric (GEC) group. It is now an endangered species

CUT IT OUT

says Brian Clough