

HOUSE OF COMMONS SWIA OAA

20th February, 1975

Rt.Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.. Leader of the Opposition House of Commons London, S.W. 1.

Ican Mayant.

At Shadow yesterday, Willie and Michael both expressed concern about the unwillingness of businessmen to make their views effectively felt about the Industry Bill.

I now hear that at a dinner last evening a few very senior industrialists were urging Ralph Bateman to mount a great campaign against the Industry Bill - and virtually ignored the efforts of the Opposition!

Bateman seemed likely to respond to the pressure - and there appears to be a danger that instead of co-operation there will be <u>divided effort</u>. This, I suggest, makes the more urgent the meeting that I think was proposed for you with a very small number of top industrialists, particularly Ralph Bateman.

I am copying to Willie and to Michael Heseltine.

Leven,
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c.c. Rt.Hon. William Whitelaw, CH, MC, MP Michael Heseltine, Esq., MP