

cc Tom Lowell
IGYDW

Note of a meeting with the Prime Minister and the Officers and Area Chairmen of the Young Conservatives on Tuesday 12th January at 18.00 hours

The meeting lasted for 1hr 15 mins.

Phil Pedley, a National Vice-Chairman, opened a discussion on CND. In particular, concern was expressed in the amount of publicity achieved by CND, and the apparent lack of response by the pro-nuclear side and the Government. It was felt the decision to show "the War Game" on television and its subsequent showing at meetings round the country had been highly effective propaganda for CND. Need for a television programme to put the positive "need for nuclear" case. Could we not use MOD material?

The Prime Minister appreciated the concern they felt at the apparent recent success of CND. She urged the Young Conservatives to write in to the BBC asking for a balancing programme along the lines indicated by Mr Pedley.

One point stressed by the Prime Minister was in regard to the experience of Poland which showed the consequence of peace without freedom and what happens under the heel of a Communist Government.

Mr Pedley reiterated that the need was for a film to show in village halls to counter "the War Game".

Mr Robert Miller-Bakewell (Scotland) commented on the growing interest of secondary school pupils in CND. It is apparent that there is a biased view point being put across by teachers and by school age CND members.

Mr Nick Moore (Wales) made unusual point that some people do not seem to appreciate that CND stood for the unilateral cause.

Mr Peter White, Vice-Chairman, raised the question of youth unemployment. The YC's, he said, welcomed the Government's new training initiative. They were unhappy about the compulsory element. They were worried about the low level of grant and compared the £25 at present to the £15 being offered. The YC's felt the Government was missing out in its approach to this problem. There was a need for a more positive, constructive and sympathetic view. The Prime Minister responded by explaining that 7 million people changed jobs annually. There were 700,000 school leavers this year, approx 137,000 still looking for jobs. Training is not a bad choice. On the payment point, the more they are paid the less we can do for them. The Government is offering further education, job or training. The reason we have more youth unemployment is that we are the only major European country without conscription. The Prime Minister stressed that the Government was not thinking of it, but merely showing how our youth unemployment figures were boosted. She also stressed the importance of the quality of training.

/Continued

Angela Hills (Northern) said that our opponents were having success in branding us among youngsters as a party of unemployment. We need to publicise what we are doing far more. We need to catch the imagination of young people in a positive way.

The Prime Minister recalled her own visit to Sunderland where there are three Skill Centres in Engineering within a 30 minute bus ride and vacancies. She had been told that Sunderland people were not used to travelling. Angela Hills confirmed that this was the case.

Michael Brook (Yorkshire) expressed concern about the political impact of regional unemployment. The YC's are worried that even after 12 months training the youngsters will find no job available. This leads to the feeling "Why worry about the quality of training if we aren't going to get work?" He also raised the question of mobility of labour.

The Prime Minister reminded the YC's that no Government can guarantee jobs. She also pointed out that no other Western country had 33½% council housing.

Mr Brook also raised the question of Enterprise Zones and why couldn't the whole country be designated an Enterprise Zone.

The Prime Minister pointed out that there were already complaints from firms on edge of EZ who are having to pay rates and compete. The EZ concept was designed to give a boost to run-down, inner city areas, which would not otherwise have much chance of regeneration.

Mr Iain Picton (Chairman), thought that "£15 was not a lot to live on". The Prime Minister said in reply that many parents regarded it as part of their duty to look after their own.

Mr Duncalf (North West) suggested that Liverpool might become a Freeport, on the lines of the one in Ireland.

Mr Picton referred again to the perception of the Party among young people and wanted a full scale PR exercise to counter the unfair image which was being projected of "hardness and uncaring attitude".


Mr Chris Hayward (Vice-Chairman) commented that our PPB's were "not professional". Could we have one PPB specially for young people.

Mr Moorefelt that some Cabinet Ministers did not come over well on the media. They ought to appear "more human".

Mr Nick Tate (South East) believed that we should use United States marketing methods; take lessons from Republicans and Democrats. Scrap PPB's. Allow political advertising.

The Prime Minister said she understood the complaints about the standard of PPB's. A professional production now costs £2,000 and the Party is short of money. She did not believe that there would be any change in the TV acts to allow political advertising.

The meeting ended at 7.15 pm.


Derek Howe

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Chairman of the Party: THE RT HON CECIL PARKINSON MP

Deputy Chairman: THE HON R. ALISTAIR McALPINE

Vice Chairmen: ALAN HOWARTH
LORD MARSHALL OF LEEDS
SIR ANTHONY ROYLE KCMG MP
THE RT HON THE BARONESS YOUNG

6 January 1982

Caroline Stephens
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

Dear *Caroline,*

National YCs

Further to our telephone conversation I am writing to give you the names of those who will be attending the meeting with the Prime Minister on Tuesday 12 January at 6 pm.

National Officers

Chairman Iain Picton
Vice Chairmen Chris Hayward
Phil Pedley
Peter White

Area Chairmen	David Grant	Greater London
	Angela Hills	Northern
	Richard Duncalf	North West
	Michael Brook	Yorkshire
	Jude Stedman	East Midlands
	Len Kirby	West Midlands
	Jon Phillips	Eastern
	Nick Tate	South Eastern
	David Johnson	Wessex
	Debbie Humphrey	Western
	Nick Moore	Wales
	Robert Miller-	Scotland
	Bakewell	

Hon Secretary Mark Worrall

One Vice Chairman, Jim Cooper, will be unable to attend as he will be on his honeymoon.

I discussed the question of topics with Iain Picton and would suggest the following,

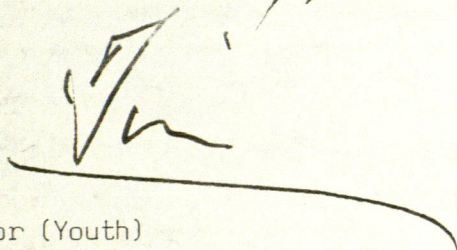
CND
Youth Unemployment
Perception of the Conservative Party by young people

As usual we shall be arranging for a photographer from the Keystone Agency to take a picture for the Conference Handbook. I will phone his name through either to Derek Howe or yourself on Tuesday morning, and shall emphasise that the photographer should ask for Derek when he arrives.

In passing you might like to know that Ian Gow has arranged for Iain Picton to meet the Prime Minister for approximately 15 minutes before the main meeting.

The YCs will be gathering at Central Office and I will be bringing them in one group and report to the policeman at the entrance to Downing Street.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Tim', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tim R Cowell
Assistant Director (Youth)

EACH IS MORE GRASSY THAN
THE OTHER.

Publicity,

PRIME MINISTER

Meeting with the Young Conservatives:
Tuesday 12 January at 1800

There will be a photographer by the name of Roy Moreton who will take a photograph at the commencement of the meeting.

I attach:-

1. The guest list (Flag A)
2. Briefing from Mr. Tebbit's Office (Flag B)
3. You may wish to discuss
 - a) Youth unemployment
 - b) Perception of the Conservative Party by young people
 - c) CND
4. Background notes on individuals coming (Flag C).

es,

11 January 1982

C.N.1) - Financing.

① - Using Materials from Reference.

Major dependence otherwise for Peace.

② - Two options.

③ - War game. - Answer. C.O.I.

Secondary school leaflets.

Peter White - Youth Unemployment.

- Social consequence.

- Comparison -

- low level of grant.



Job Centres - Don't push schemes

- Careers service.

Y.O.P. Interview.

- to be better on full time

Told to stop advertising etc.

Areas - Respendaly bad problem.

Free Ports - Liverpool. - Customs. U.A.S.

Party - Full Scale P.R. on Youth Unemployment
Air of Professionalism cloud them.
Europe.
YOUTH.

Meeting with the Young Conservatives on
Tuesday 12 January

Guest List:

Chairman Iain Picton

Vice Chairmen Chris Hayward
Phil Pedley
Peter White

Area Chairmen David Grant
Angela Hills
Richard Duncalf
Michael Brook
Jude Stedman
Len Kirby
Jon Phillips
Nick Tate
David Johnson
Debbie Humphrey
Nick Moore
Robert Miller-Bakewell

Hon. Secretary Mark Worrall