

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Queen opens the Guards Museum, Wellington Barracks

STATISTICS

BSA: Building Societies monthly figures (Jan)

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Business: PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS:
Rural Development (Mr Malcolm Ross)
High Technology Industry (Mr Timothy Wood)
British Rail (Dr John Marek)

Adjournment Debate: The operations of the housing right-to-buy provisions in Lambeth (Mr W Skelton)

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

No more cash for NHS in Budget, but Ministers predict contingency fund will be used to fund pay rises for nurses.

Hattersley says he will be astounded if you do not devote more money to NHS.

Ford accept new pay offer with 70% vote in favour.

Land Rover talks break down and strike looks to be on from Sunday.

Vauxhall workers at Ellesmere Port vote to strike for better pension.

Number of strikes last year - as distinct from days lost - lowest since 1938.

Unemployment at its lowest point for 6 years; Express says Government is confident it will be down to 2m by end of year. Norman Fowler gives a warning about excessive pay settlements.

City speculates interest rates could rise again.

TV-AM boss wins victory when journalists decline to back technicians on strike.

"The Next Steps" reporting in pops largely a play on words over the prospect, as they put it, of the privatisation of Met Office. Qualities describe it as biggest Civil Service shake up this century.

BP acquires 80% of Britoil's shares.

Midland Bank £500m in red - first to lose money this century - because of bad Third World debts.

£60m wiped off Burton's shares after Government inspectors unearth £2.5m payment to Ronson.

NHS - Star claims your support for its war on waste in NHS.

Labour Party accused by British Red Cross Society of hijacking red cross emblem for its NHS campaign; it refuses to scrap 1m leaflets on this account. Today says Labour Party could be taken to court.

Today leads with "Pay victory for nurses" with up to 20% to be paid out of reserves and rises averaging 10-12%.

Hospital doctors and GPs in Redbridge place local newspaper advertisements saying their hospitals can admit only emergency cases because of a severe shortage of theatre nurses and financial cutbacks (Times).

Sir John Hermon attacks Stalker's book for its "untruths, distortions and inaccuracies". Independent says Police Authority is to examine Hermon's role with a view to possible disciplinary action.

Amnesty International claims trial of PC Blakelock's murderers at Tottenham was politically biased (Mail). Why does it make such allegations? leader asks. Very likely it was started by Caribbean, American or even Irish members.

Gerasimov, on ITN, says Britain does not believe in a nuclear-free world and Russia's task is to convert us.

Gorbachev says Russia must overhaul its political system without retreating from Marxism/Leninism.

Lords vote for a council run scheme of dog registration after Commons last year approved abolition of licence; suggest licence of £5-15.

Row over Bert Millichip, FA, wanting British soldiers confined to barracks during Euro championships to prevent hooliganism; Army outraged, especially as they claim there is no history of British forces in Germany being in trouble at matches. Mirror leader describes this as a devastating own goal by "Megamouth" and "Maxichump".

Kinnock describes Gaza as "hell" and "a vast slum"; Israel tells him to keep his nose out of military affairs. Also in row over allegations that Israelis have shot Palestinians in back.

Rabbitt and Du Pont pull out of presidential race which as a consequence loses its best brains (Guardian).

Ron Baird, president of NUPE, dies, 56.

Five hill people charged with murder of British tourist in Thailand.

Mail reports David Owen urging you to get Gorbachev to help you get to bottom of Waldheim issue since Russians knew about him.

Robert Maxwell, in Mirror, says his family fortune in Lichtenstein is to be given away with nothing for his children.

Charles Moore, in Express, back from South Africa, says you set the political pulse racing there; while the West has lost moral stature in South Africa, you have gained standing and without you apartheid would be strengthened.

YOUR INTERVIEW

Star, within a piece on NHS, says you signalled you are intent on tax cuts in Budget rather than extra NHS funding.

Sun: Mik's threat, by Maggie - Gorbachev's nuclear-free Europe plan would put West under threat from superior Soviet forces.

Mirror: Thatcher won't budge on NHS cash - you deliver uncompromising cash snub.

Today: Nurses will be better off with tax cuts, says Maggie.

Express incorporates your interview in its Budget/NHS story.

Telegraph: You say you will not be deflected from tax cuts by opinion poll findings that most people want more money spent on NHS.

Mail: No more cash for NHS, says Maggie.

BUDGET

Sun: Lawson says no more cash for NHS. He plans 2p cut in basic tax rate and top tax rate.

Today soaring wages are denting hopes of a give-away Budget.

Express leads with Thatcher sticks to tax cuts - Cabinet turns down health cash plea; agrees it must not be blown off course by demands for extra NHS money; leader says the Cabinet's message should silence the clamour for more NHS cash in Budget, however taxes enrich everyone earning income, including NHS workers. All the more reason to cut deep.

Mail: Cabinet gives Chancellor green light for record tax cutting Budget.

Telegraph P1: Chancellor opens way for tax cuts and No 10 heads off pressure to make Budget Day NHS day.

Guardian P1: You dampen expectations that a tax cutting Budget could bring more money for NHS.

Times: Tory controlled Social Services Committee set to cause Government serious embarrassment by rushing out, just days before Budget, a report demanding immediate extra resources for NHS.

FT: Treasury's refusal to provide any extra new public money for the NHS was endorsed by the full Cabinet, with no dissent.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM

Star: Ian's wind of change - a reference to the possibility that Met Office may be privatised.

Sun: Outlook bleak for Met men - several Tories predict Met forecasts will be more accurate if the Office is hived off.

Today: Whitehall blows out the TV weather stars - you are going to privatise the weather.

Mail: Maggie privatises Michael Fish and Co. TV weathermen to feel the heat of Thatcher revolution.

Telegraph P1 lead: Whitehall shake up for 70,000; leader describes reform as "a change for the better". This is not the big bang some had expected but it could be the start of a chain reaction which in 10 years' time will have changed face of public sector beyond recognition and almost certainly for the better.

Guardian P1 lead: Civil Service shake-up hits 70,000 jobs; leader says you have taken 2 sensible decisions - to embrace the main principles of the efficiency unit report and to introduce changes in stages. Managerially the proposals make sense.

Times leads with job shake-up for 70,000 civil servants and you shrink from full reforms. Treasury have won a large victory after 8 months of in-fighting and internal lobbying as the plans published are much more tentative than had been predicted. Civil Service unions give cautious welcome to plan.

Independent: Up to 70,000 civil servants could be switched to new agency boards within a year. Although the report is radical in its aspirations, there is a question mark over how thoroughly its ideas will be carried out. Union leaders divided in their response to the proposals. Leader says yesterday's statement should only be the first shot; the barrage against inefficient bureaucracy must be sustained.

FT: Civil servants given new powers of management. Proposals could herald far-reaching changes in the structure of the civil service. Leader says there are doubts about practicalities of

reform: will these fledgling agencies prove any more able than nationalised industries to escape from ministerial interference?

Keith Middlemass, history professor from Sussex University, writing in Times, discusses how Whitehall could make itself more open, what the public should be told, and concludes that we should begin the long overdue change from defensiveness to trust.

FORD

Express says the company appears to have bought peace and achieved little else at great cost. It is far too premature to say that Britain is heading for the bad old days. But in the aftermath of Ford it would be as well to remember wretched times past.

Times leader says there is no solace to be gained from the settlement. Financial markets already starting to worry about latest figures for average earnings. It concludes that such settlements may be justified in factories but cannot be justified over the economy as a whole.

INDUSTRY

Times: Government giving £10m over six years to new type of laboratory at Liverpool University to specialise in academic and industrial contract research in surface science.

Times: Stock Exchange surveillance department launches investigation into whether Country NatWest Securities has breached the Exchange's rules on dealings in traded options.

FT: Lloyds Bank staff reject 6.5% pay offer.

IRELAND

Sun says Haughey gives Britain his orders - a pardon for Birmingham bombers and no extradition while his demands are not met. Tom King should stop playing monkey to the Irish jig and tell him to jump in the Liffey.

Express cartoon has you telling Tom King: Wouldn't it be marvellous if the Irish Government would attack the IRA as enthusiastically as it attacks the British Government?

Times: Mr Haughey rules out snap election.

LAW AND ORDER

Times: Lord Chancellor believed to have made preliminary offer of almost 5% to Law Society and the Bar for a rise in legal aid fees.

Independent: Brian Woollard, the Chief Inspector trying to uncover Freemasonry in the Metropolitan Police, appears on Channel 4 chat show tonight, though masons and the police will not be represented. Leader says the influence of Freemasonry on the police force is becoming a cause for scandal which the Commissioner must end. It says the least he can do is to make undeclared membership of the Masons a disciplinary offence.

Independent investigates growing incidence of dog-fighting in Briain.

EDUCATION

Times: PAC severely criticises Government for its lack of control over its £78m award scheme for postgraduates.

Times: Parents will have to pay for their children's individual music lessons at school and for board and lodgings on field trips in plans to clarify the practice on charging for extras.

Times: HMI Senior Chief Inspector warns Kenneth Baker in confidential report that adult and further education in London could be jeopardised if the ILEA were abolished.

Independent: Mixed reception to Kenneth Baker's announcement of charging policy for extra-curricular school activities. Labour says it erodes concept of free education, but National Association of Head Teachers, while deploring proposed charges for music tuition, says it widens the definition of free education.

ENVIRONMENT

Independent: Environmentalists launch concerted campaign to stop Government building four-lane dual carriageway along the White Cliffs of Dover.

COMMUNITY CHARGE

Independent: New opinion poll shows three times as many voters in marginal constituencies strongly oppose the community charge as those who strongly support it.

Times: Michael Howard says people who refuse to pay community charge will face jail.

EC

George Gale, in Mail, says the budget deal was "pretty awful". But you obviously see overwhelming advantage in single open market.

FT leader has serious doubts about effectiveness of stabilisers: while the agreement puts legal limits on spending, it puts none on production. The deal remains markedly less stringent than the Community's agricultural proposals last July. It should be given the benefit of the doubt, but the doubt remains.

SOVIET UNION

Times: Mr Gorbachev calls special talks with Central Committee over rising tide of nationalism which is prompting ethnic unrest.

Times: Mr Gorbachev launches strong attack on what he alleges are stepped-up militaristic activities by NATO and calls for intensification of Soviet foreign policy propaganda.

Independent: Gorbachev vigorously defends his reform policies at a Central Committee plenary, pointing up wider differences with his Number Two, Ligachev. Two Gorbachev proteges are appointed as candidate members of the politburo as Yeltsin loses his seat.

NATO

Lord Chalfont, writing in Times under heading "Can Thatcher rally Europe?", says when Western leaders meet at NATO summit their main task will be to defuse the time bomb which began to tick when President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev signed the INF agreement. He goes on to say that your important task is to persuade the European allies that Western Europe will increasingly need to accept much more of the burden of ensuring its own security. The present situation poses great dangers but at the same time offers great opportunities.

SOUTH AFRICA

Independent: Relatives of the Sharpeville Six attend Commons press conference to mobilise support as it is suggested you may have intervened with President Botha to call for clemency on their behalf.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DEN: Mr Parkinson visits Brean Down to see Severn Barrage Site

DHSS: Mr Moore opens Kiln Court Residential Home, Kent and visits Medway Ambulance Services

DTP: Mr Channon visits London Air Traffic Control Centre

HO: Mr Hurd visits Campsfield House YCC

SO: Mr Rifkind opens Micro-electronics Development Centre Building, Paisley College of Technology, Paisley; later addresses CBI lunch, Holiday Inn, Argyle Street, Glasgow

DEM: Mr Cope addresses the British Venture Capital Association conference, Manchester; later addresses Kirkles and Wakefield Chamber of Commerce, Huddersfield

DEN: Mr Morrison lunches with Wrexham Energy Action

DES: Mr Jackson addresses the Polytechnic Public Relations and Information Service conference, London; later meets Amedee Turner MEP about research industry and the EEC

DES: Lady Hooper visits Leeds Inner City Task Force area

DOE: Lord Caithness visits London Fire Brigade, Training Centre

DOE: Mrs Roe attends seminar on New Housing Legislation in Taunton

DTP: Mr Bottomley visits Land Rover

HO: Mr Hogg visits Lincoln Prison

MOD: Lord Trefgarne visits RACAL, Bracknell

OAL: Mr Luce visits Hastings

WO: Mr Roberts meets Board Members of Wales Tourist Board, Cardiff; later chairs second meeting of Welsh Language Advisory Group, Cardiff

WO: Mr Grist attends Nursing in the Community Symposium, Cardiff; later visits Cardiff Royal Infirmary

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

MAFF: Mr MacGregor visits Spain (to 21 February)

DOE: Mr Trippier visits Pakistan (construction projects) (to 25 February)

MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

DEM: Mr Fowler on Any Questions

DES: Mr Baker interviewed for BBC TV Leeds "North of Westminster"

DES: Mr Dunn takes part in Radio Kent Round Table discussion

TV AND RADIO

"Today": BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

"Business Daily": Channel 4 (12.00)

"You and Yours": BBC Radio 4 (12.00) - first of four programmes looking at forthcoming changes in the social security system

"On Course": Channel 4 (13.00) on open learning

"The Parliament Programme": Channel 4 (14.00)

"Any Questions?": BBC Radio 4 (20.20) with Norman Fowler MP, Roy Hattersley MP, Farrukh Dhondy (commissioning editor, Channel 4 multi-cultural programmes) and Roland Long (CBI Council member)

"Newsnight": BBC 2 (22.25)

"The World Tonight": BBC Radio 4 (22.30) followed by "The Financial World Tonight" then "Today in Parliament"

"The London Programme": ITV (22.35)

"Week Ending": BBC Radio 4 (23.30) - Bill Wallis, David Tate, Sally Grace and Royce Mills with a satirical view of the week's news
