

SUBJECT.

Gov mach  
J. S.



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

sc. Master set.

MR. SPARROW

CPRS Work Programme

It may be helpful if I record the outcome of your discussion this afternoon with the Prime Minister about the CPRS's work programme (which was the subject of your minute of 6 October to Mr. Butler).

On the study on trade unions, the Prime Minister said that it would be important for you to discuss with the Secretary of State for Employment how the study should go. It was agreed that a two-stage study should be contemplated. The first stage, which could begin immediately, would be a dispassionate comparison of the pattern of trade unionism in this country with that in our competitor countries with a view to arriving at a conclusion about the relative success of unions in different countries at achieving what their members require of them. The second stage was at the moment harder to discern, but would be concerned with the lessons which might properly be drawn from this analysis for trade unions in this country. The Prime Minister will wish to consider, after the first stage is completed, how the second stage should best be approached.

On the education study, the Prime Minister was content for you to go ahead, in consultation with the Secretary of State for Education and Science. Similarly on pensions, the Prime Minister was content for you to proceed as you propose, in consultation with the Departments most closely concerned.

I am sending a copy of this minute to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

M. G. SCHOLAR

15 October 1982

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