



THE MAGIC TOUCH

THIS pale, slender hand has the magical touch of friendship. It is the best single asset the Monarchy could have acquired to play its role in modern life.

During the week in Wales the hand got blue with cold, and so bruised by hundreds of handshakes that its owner shook it with pain. But still she went on giving a new and refreshing

Sunday Mirror

meaning to the tired old routine of pressing the flesh.

What a relief the Princess of Wales has not been trained all her life to be a Top Royal.

This delicious piece of human machinery comes to the job without any protocol hang-ups, and

wades into the crowds with a compulsive and glorious warmth.

But Di, don't forget your old Dad, the courageous Earl Spencer.

He says he has not seen you since the Royal Wedding three months ago. And like all Dads, he's missing his youngest daughter.

So come on, Di. Don't leave it another week. Pop along to Althorp and cheer up the old chap today.

TODAY'S WEATHER

WARM and windy. Outlook: Mostly dry.

London, East Anglia, E England, Midlands, Wales: Dry, sunny, perhaps rain later. Max. temp. 15C (59F). SE, Central S and SW England, Channel Islands: Dull with drizzle. 15C (59F).

Lights: London 5.04 p.m., Birmingham 5.08, Cardiff 5.16, Plymouth 5.23.



Sir Michael Edwardes—last-ditch talks.

Jenkin brush-off for unions

From Page One

Industry Minister Patrick Jenkin had told union chiefs that he wanted no part of the negotiations.

Union leaders protested against his "brinkmanship," and said they were convinced the Government secretly wanted British Leyland—in the words of one of them—to "go down the Swanee."

Defy rules

TUC Secretary Len Murray, with assistant secretary, Ken Graham, were present as observers at the talks.

Technically, the official strike by BL's 58,000 workers was due to start at midnight last night.

Leyland shop stewards yesterday voted to defy government picketing rules if the strike went ahead.

They drew up a 24-hour-a-day picketing rota, and laid plans to begin with a mass picket at Longbridge from 6.30 a.m. tomorrow.

Shop steward Ken King, one of over 200 union officials at the meeting, said: "The Government says we can have six pickets per gate. We'll have our six—

and a couple of thousand either side of them to demonstrate and lend moral support.

"We aim to hit the management hard and fast. There are no holds barred. Nothing is going to move in or out."

Meanwhile, management prepared to move into emergency strike headquarters, secretly made ready in case plants are blockaded by a picket siege.

Two boltholes were revealed yesterday as Haseley Manor, a converted mansion near Warwick which Leyland use as a management training centre, and Grosvenor House, in Redditch, Worcestershire, the BL Systems Computer Centre.

£20 claim

The dispute is over BL's offer of a 3.8 per cent basic wage rise plus a guaranteed £3.75 a week incentive bonus—in reply to the unions' claim for a £20 rise.

Sir Michael Edwardes, BL's tough chairman, made it plain the wage offer cannot be improved. He has warned the Government he and his entire board would quit if forced to make a bigger offer.

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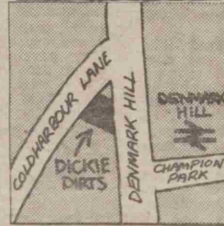
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FOR SALE—BUT WHO WILL BUY?

Backlash threat to industry

WHO would buy a company losing £1,000 a minute?

That is what BL is said to have lost last year, despite selling cars and parts worth £2,877 million.

According to a BL spokesman it's "against the rules" to spell out which divisions and ranges of models are losing most money.

But one official did reveal: "Jaguar is closer to profitability than the rest of the products in our car division."

And that claim is supported by Daniel Jones, a senior research Fellow in the Science Policy

By DAVID HUGHES

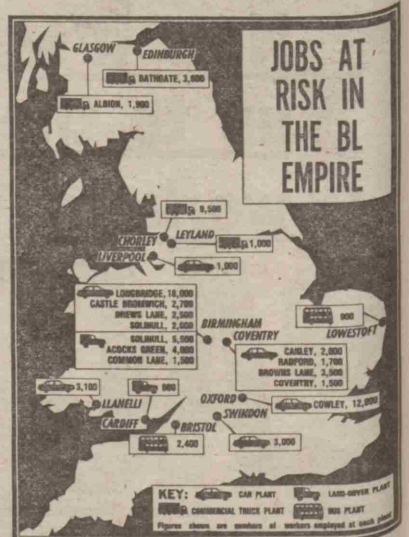
Research Unit of Sussex University.

Mr. Jones, who has made a special study of British Leyland and its problems, said:

"If Sir Michael Edwardes is not bluffing and the worst did happen, a receiver would be brought in and his job would be to sell off the assets."

"Where possible the receiver would like to dispose of sections of BL as going concerns."

"Jaguar would be the first to be sold. And I would not be surprised to see a bid



THESE are the jobs on the line in 22 of Leyland's biggest plants.

There are 36,200 at risk in Birmingham alone, 12,000 at Cowley, Oxford, 9,500 at Chorley, and 8,700 in Coventry.

There are other plants in the huge BL empire, each employing up to 900 people. But an estimated 7,000 independent component companies do £26 million worth of business with BL every year. So a BL shutdown could mean up to 750,000 jobs at risk.

come in from its own management board.

"Honda, because of its already established link through the Triumph Acclaim may step in and save the Cowley plant."

"The Longbridge plant might be taken up by another foreign manufacturer, possibly Toyota or Renault."

Mr. Jones said it would be hard to find a taker for the heavy commercial vehicles division.

PLEA FOR 'SENSE'

AN appeal to BL workers to show "commonsense" was made yesterday on behalf of the 1,700 BL dealers who service and repair the company's products. Between them they employ 75,000 people.