

010 SP

2



Caxton House Tothill Street London SW1H 9NXF

Telephone Direct Line 01-213.....6400.....
Switchboard 01-213 3000

Tim Flesher Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

mf

Phoe Murray

JA

4 March 1983

4/3

Dear Tim

COMPENSATION FOR PAST CLOSED SHOP DISMISSALS

The Prime Minister may wish to be aware that an application by Mr S M Temple for compensation under the Employment Act 1982 for his past closed shop dismissal has been rejected by my Secretary of State on the basis of a report by Mr Billam, who has been appointed as the Assessor under the 1982 Act.

Mr Temple was a member of the appropriate trade union (TGWU) while the closed shop agreement at his place of work was in operation. He was dismissed as a result of resigning from the union after it failed to give him the support he believed due in a grievance with his employer. The Assessor, however, does not uphold his claim that he genuinely objected on grounds of conscience or other deeply-held personal conviction to being a member of the TGWU.

Mr Temple's case received considerable press publicity at the time of his dismissal. He also received expressions of sympathy from Mrs Thatcher and Mr Prior during the General Election campaign after he had brought to their notice the general fact that he had been dismissed in a closed shop. It is therefore possible that the decision on Mr Temple's application for compensation may receive publicity.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Derek Hill (NIO).

Yours Sincerely

Felicia Everiss

MS F M EVERISS
Private Secretary