

Prime Minister

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Education

PRIME MINISTER

Last week I had the pleasure of a visit from Professor Dorothy Hodgkin. She is sad at the contraction that has been applied to universities though she accepts that there may have been Departments in which some pruning was justified. She wishes that we could rival other Western countries in our numbers in higher education but even here accepts that a much higher proportion of our students graduate than in most other Western societies: that our higher education has usually a higher entry standard than is required overseas: and that on comparable definitions our higher education participation rate is not much different from the countries she quotes.

It was enjoyable to meet her. She is impressive - but a little vague on the economic implications of what she would like to see.

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1 March 1983