

PREMIER'S DAY OFF.

You'd think nothing would be more traditional than a Tory Rally - but the Midsummer Fete at Luton Hoo features a variety of Hovercraft and their kind to bring it bang up to date. The machine catching all the attention at the moment is the Gray Cushion Freighter.

If party fetes can march with the times, other people can march too. A hundred nuclear disarmers come all the way from Luton in the hope of meeting the principal guest at the main gate - but Prime Minister Harold Macmillan slips in the back way and disappoints them.

Another hoverer - a one-man Hover-Scooter, home-made for £250. Might be very handy for Prime Ministers, or even for their Ministers of Hopping and Local Government. The Premier himself gets around so fast, some people are taken completely by surprise. Yet another - the Winget Airglide Hover-Barrow.

You just can't escape the things - so the Prime Minister decides it's time he had a go. Provided he can get aboard.

Perhaps he's wishing he hadn't, after all. Still, at any well organised fete - and this must be, because its committee has 490-vice presidents - there's always one way to relieve your feelings. Who's have thought he'd be left handed.