

Daily Coal Report - Thursday 27 September 1984

13

	<u>Number</u>	<u>plus on holiday</u>
(i) Working normally	44	1
(ii) Turning some coal	9	-
(iii) Some men present	20	-
(iv) On strike/picketed out	99	-

Seafield (Scotland) - where 4 men have reported consistently for several days - has moved from category (iv) to (iii).

Generally the position is much as yesterday. However, in Scotland, the Coal Board claimed a new milestone with 300 miners reporting for work - including a record 181 at Bilston Glen.

No change in the North East. In Yorkshire 48 men reported, including one at Thurcroft for the first time despite 100 pickets.

In North Derby figures include 236 at Bolsover, 166 at Shirebrook and 157 at Warsop.

Numbers in Kent are unchanged.

There are good attendances in the working areas.

Scargill today claimed that support for the strike was growing, and that 131 pits were shutdown. The Coal Board have drawn the media's attention to the actual figures.

Coal Movements

180,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

43 coal trains ran.

Law and Order

There were 4,000 pickets at Allerton Bywater but they failed to prevent the 6 working miners from reporting. There was some disorder and a

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few arrests but no major violence.

Cheshire County Council has today announced that it is to sue Derbyshire County Council for a £1.5 million policing bill. Derbyshire has so far refused to meet expenses incurred by other forces during the dispute.

Industrial Relations

The Secretary of State for Energy has reported to MISC 101 on the position reached between the Coal Board and NACODS.

The Coal Board's initial reaction is that the resolution passed at yesterday's Delegate Conference of TGWU opencast workers does not present an immediate or major threat to coal movements.

Tonight's press reports, suggesting that new peace proposals acceptable to the Coal Board and NUM are in the hands of ACAS, are invention.

Line to Take

- As yesterday, stress key elements of Coal Board offer. Avoid direct comment on NACODS or TGWU situations.
- The number of miners reporting back to work continues to grow. For example, this week has seen new records established in Scotland and North Derbyshire. NUM members denied a ballot by Mr Scargill are beginning to vote with their feet.

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