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1 October 1984

Deer David,

COURTS AND THE MINERS' DISPUTE

Pone Muntin

Dr

I mentioned to you on the telephone on Thursday that there has been further progress in the appointment of stipendiaries to deal with the outstanding cases relating to the miners' dispute. The most recent appointments are:

- (i) Chesterfield: has arranged for the loan of court clerks from Manchester and Sheffield; this will enable them to go ahead with plans for a second stipendiary from 15 October.
- (ii) Mansfield: has been allocated a stipendiary for the period 5-16 November.
- (iii) St Helens: has been allocated a stipendiary from 1 October for two to three days per week, subject to a weekly review. Extra court clerks have also been arranged.
- (iv) Peterlee (Co Durham): a stipendiary will sit for the two weeks beginning 22 October.

The Home Secretary intends to give details of the use of stipendiaries in his Conference speech, and it would be helpful if there could be no prominent publicity of these developments before then.

Tam,

N A PANTLING

Catalogue Reference: PREM/19/1334