

Daily Coal Report - Tuesday 2 October 1984

	<u>Number</u>	<u>plus on holiday</u>
(i) Working normally	45	-
(ii) Turning some coal	9	-
(iii) Some men present	21	-
(iv) On strike/picketed out	100	-

Although the general situation is much as yesterday, there are some encouraging features:

- NACODS men have reported as normal in the working areas. Only at two pits in the militant part of South Wales have NACODS men walked out.
- In Scotland numbers at Bilston Glen rose to a new record of 185.
- In Yorkshire 50 men reported, including 6 at Rossington for the first time and 2 at Denby Grange for the first time. The 4 men who reported yesterday to Manton colliery were present again today.
- In North Derby the main feature was a record 182 men at Shirebrook.

Coal Movements

161,000 tonnes were moved yesterday, of which 117,000 tonnes went to the CEGB.

27 coal trains ran.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Law and Order

3,400 pickets caused trouble at Thurcroft pit (Yorkshire) where 1 miner reported this morning. Stones were thrown, 2 police officers were injured: there were 10 arrests.

At Rossington (see above) there were 400 pickets and 5 arrests.

In Scotland there were 500 pickets at Frances pit - the first large scale picket in Scotland for some time. These included a contingent from the north east.

Industrial Relations

The Coal Board and NACODS had further talks today. NACODS are to meet ACAS tomorrow. Media reports tonight that a "peace plan" is to be put to Friday's meeting of the Board are incorrect. The Board will receive a report of NACODS views, including their demand for an independent tribunal to take final decisions on colliery closures.

There are reports of a possible 24 hour rail strike next Tuesday in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire. The Federation of Rail Unions is alleging victimisation of train crews at the Shirebrook depot.

Alleged Contempt of the High Court

Writs alleging contempt were served on Scargill, McGahey, Heathfield, Taylor (President of the Yorkshire NUM), and Butler (General Secretary of the Derbyshire NUM). All 5 were given 48 hours (which expires on Thursday) to appear in court and explain their conduct after last week's High Court ruling that the strike in Yorkshire is unlawful and that men who cross picket lines should not be disciplined. Scargill today repeated his determination not to attend the court voluntarily.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

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Labour Party Conference

Mr Kinnock said today that the price of continuing the strike was 6 times as great as "any so-called savings" He did not however refer to a new Labour Party "peace initiative" as had been expected.

The TGWU has put forward an emergency motion calling on the conference to back the NUM in defying the High Court ruling that the strike is unlawful.

Line to Take

Members of the public can see for themselves that the Coal Board's offer is a fair one. They also overwhelmingly agree that the violence and intimidation of the militants, which is helping to sustain this senseless strike, must not be allowed to succeed:

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SECRET AND PERSONAL