

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Pie Minton

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Daily Coal Report - Wednesday 3 October 1984

Numberplus on holiday

(i)	Working normally	45	-
(ii)	Turning some coal	9	-
(iii)	Some men present	22	-
(iv)	On strike/picketed out	98	-

Seafield (Scotland) and Manton (Yorkshire) have moved up to category (iii).

A slight overall improvement today:-

- Attendances in the main working areas are good.
- NACODS men are working normally today. Those on strike in South Wales returned to work this morning.
- 315 reported for work in Scotland, including a new record 187 at Bilston Glen.
- In the Coal Board's western area a record 8,633 men reported.
- In the North East the situation is unchanged, although there are safety problems at Wearmouth where 17 men reported (see below).
- In Yorkshire attendances are up to 56 (Kellingley 7, Allerton Bywater 6, Rossington 4, Markham 4, Carcroft 1, Yorkshire Main 6, Denby Grange 2, Bullcliffe Wood 1, Woolley 1, Kiveton Park 10, Brookhouse 4, Manton 4, Silverwood 2, Thurcroft 2, and 2 at Shireoaks for the first time).

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- In North Derby 182 men have again reported at Shirebrook, 161 at Warsop and 224 at Bolsover.

Coal Movements

165,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

50 coal trains ran.

Law and Order

At Woolley (Yorkshire) 3 policemen were injured in clashes with more than 1,000 pickets. The pickets built barricades and set fire to them in an attempt to stop the single miner reporting for work. Stones and other missiles were also thrown.

Elsewhere picketing was relatively light.

Industrial Relations

As reported at MISC 101 today. No further developments.

High Court Proceedings

One of the 3 mechanics expelled from the NUM by the Durham Mechanics Branch for repeatedly crossing picket lines at Wearmouth has initiated court proceedings against the union. His case is likely to go before the High Court in Sheffield on 12 October.

Pits at Risk

The Coal Board has warned that Wearmouth pit will be endangered unless the NUM agrees to help with vital shaft maintenance work. If legal safety requirements cannot be met the power may have to

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be shut off on 17 October.

Horden-Blackwall pit in Durham is also at risk because of flooding.

Labour Party Conference

The TGWU has withdrawn its motion urging defiance of the courts over the ruling on the strike's legality. It had reportedly been warned that passing a resolution backing Scargill could itself constitute contempt of court.

Line to Take

As before, stress key elements of Coal Board offer.

The country admires those miners who, despite threats and intimidation, are seeking to pursue their democratic rights.

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