

I remember vividly

The first debate on the local industry  
in which I spoke as an M.P. in the  
House of Commons. ~~It was soon~~  
after <sup>Aberfan</sup> ~~Aberfan~~. Who could ever forget it!

The gallery was filled with families parents  
relations, but to live with them again.  
Among the great & experts ~~of the~~ on the local  
industry on one side of the House in those days

were ~~those~~ ~~of the~~ ~~with~~ ~~Aberfan~~. ~~The~~  
families who were <sup>as well as others</sup> ~~the~~  
who had experienced <sup>themselves</sup> ~~themselves~~ with very

fast, very slowly, very danger & very hope  
that comes to ruin, & then with the families.

I had walked hard - my speed - I had need  
was one of <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>copying</sup>, tried to learn

for other ways that relevant to this just  
~~the~~ identity; where people had a special  
 kind of comradeship ~~special loyalty~~, a  
 special <sup>way of</sup> community. ~~And that was the danger~~  
~~of the~~ ~~special~~ ~~loyalty~~ ~~in~~ ~~one~~ ~~another~~,  
 that is ~~the~~ special loyalty. ~~and~~

Libby have to be had - details - the  
 some people came into them - I remember  
 all the wonderful speeches made by the  
 numbered sign holders. and the John Decker  
 Jo. Deckerly - <sup>who always spoke</sup> <sup>the most dramatic</sup> <sup>recalling</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>denying</sup>  
 remember speech after speech (talking of the difficulties  
 conditions in some of the pits in what these) the  
 main of ~~the~~ ~~British~~ ~~mining~~. I remember  
 the Fuel Policy when given '24' <sup>late</sup> <sup>1960's</sup>



do mention letter and more particular part, letter  
equipped with a letter reference.

Investment

3.

PIECE FOR WELSH CONFERENCE SPEECH BY THE LORD CHANCELLOR

~~We have seen on T.V. the violence~~  
~~recently~~ Those of us who saw what happened on Monday or  
~~what has been reported in the newspapers must be grievously~~

anxious at what is happening to our country. Law is

the condition of civilised life in any country and respect

for law is the condition in which men and women can

enjoy their civil rights in freedom. If there is a

right to strike, there is also a right to work. Picketing

is lawful if it consists in the right to impart ~~information~~ <sup>persuade</sup>

~~information~~ peacefully and discuss rights and wrongs in

a civilised manner. Both the TUC and the NUM recognise that

the maximum number which can reasonably be required

for this purpose is six.

Who - etc  
What kind of picketing  
Lawful

What we have seen in the past few weeks, and  
~~what came to a head in the disgraceful scenes on Monday,~~

is not picketing at all. It is not even secondary picketing

which in any case is against the civil law. What we have  
 seen on Monday, and unhappily, before Monday is an organised  
 crime of violence, all the worse because it is organised  
 by the leaders of a national union in support of an  
 industrial dispute. It is an attempt by force to prevent  
 others from doing what they have a perfect right to do.

It is intimidation. It is unlawful assembly. ~~It is not.~~  
 It is done by means of ~~criminal physical assault, and~~  
~~threats of assault, and criminal damage to property.~~

*N.P.* ~~The police have no interest in the miners' strike in so~~  
*are not particular about any strike. They seem to be*

far as it is an industrial dispute. They have no interest  
 in picketing as such. But they have an interest, or rather  
 a duty, to protect others - ~~the~~ ordinary man and woman - ~~whenever~~  
~~they are going about their lawful occasions, doing~~  
~~what they have a perfect right to do.~~ *however.* When they discharge  
 this duty the police are entitled to use force when it  
 is necessary, and they are entitled themselves to the full  
 protection of the criminal law when they do so and are

# fairness

L.C. (3)

~~resisted by criminal violence and force.~~

*A duty which they discharge with ~~calm~~  
not courage. fairness, patience or restraint.*

~~But it is not enough to say that the police must  
enforce the law in this way. We have a duty too.~~

We, as well as the police, have a duty and that duty is  
to support the police in the discharge of their duty.

When I say that we have a duty, I mean of course that  
the Government has a duty on behalf of the public, and I  
mean too that the public has a duty to support the  
Government.

Our duty is not discharged simply by condemning  
violence. Our duty is not discharged <sup>or even simply</sup> even simply by

seeking to prevent violence. Our duty demands and the  
national interest requires that we see that violence does  
not pay and is seen not to pay.

~~There are people who have not quite understood this.~~

The leadership of the opposition in both Houses of Parliament are amongst them. They go through the ritual of condemning violence in words. But they then go on to say that the Government should immediately surrender to it by calling a conference, or setting up a Court of Enquiry is response to it. Of course the miners' strike poses a real danger to the country, to the miners themselves, to our prosperity, to the employed whose jobs are at risk, to the unemployed whose return to work will be delayed, to our industry and ultimately to our whole economy.

But when a strike is deliberately being organised necessarily in such a way as/to involve the illegal use of force, threats and violence contrary to the criminal law, there can be no question of treating this simply as an industrial dispute to be settled by negotiation. ~~to negotiate under duress of force is to put a premium on criminality.~~

P. B. B.



surrender to the very violence which caused the crisis.

~~It is not enough to condemn violence in words, and then~~

~~to condone it in deed. That is hypocrisy. It is the~~

~~eternal sin of the Pharisee throughout the ages. The~~

~~duty of us all - Government and Opposition - is to see~~

~~that violence and criminality shall not succeed, not now, or~~

~~ever if our freedom is to be preserved. Let violence~~

cease. Let the law be kept. ~~After that the parties can~~

~~negotiate, but neither party can reasonably be heard to~~

~~say to the other: "You must give in to our demands before~~

~~we will agree to negotiate". And neither party must resort~~

~~to crime as a means of securing its demands.~~

~~but the ministers do return to work. By~~

~~They~~ ~~number~~ ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~spoken~~ ~~in~~ ~~unspoken~~  
~~hope~~ ~~with~~ ~~in~~ ~~millions~~ ~~of~~ ~~people~~ ~~in~~ ~~our~~ ~~land~~  
~~the~~ ~~scope~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~ ~~is~~ ~~very~~ ~~large~~  
~~and~~ ~~many~~ ~~of~~ ~~them~~  
~~resist~~

AL

No-one can say just

~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~day~~ ~~is~~ ~~just~~ ~~how~~ ~~or~~ ~~precisely~~ ~~when~~  
~~do not~~ ~~know~~ ~~how~~ ~~to~~ ~~do~~ ~~it~~

When this  
world ends

→ though end it will

~~with it~~ ~~one~~ ~~body~~ ~~do~~ ~~not~~ ~~know~~

~~standing~~

~~But~~ ~~the~~ ~~day~~ ~~will~~ ~~come~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~

~~will~~ ~~return~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~

NO ~~But~~ believe = ~~and~~ ~~believe~~ ~~in~~ ~~that~~  
most ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~condemned~~ ~~for~~ ~~violence~~ ~~that~~ ~~is~~

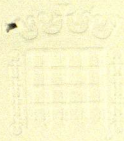
reflected in their names.

— that ~~most~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~people~~ ~~long~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~to~~ ~~return~~

to work to ~~return~~ ~~to~~ ~~live~~ ~~and~~ ~~then~~  
normal ~~in~~ ~~their~~ ~~with~~ ~~it~~ ~~and~~ ~~at~~ ~~home~~ ~~at~~ ~~home~~  
in their community <sup>(3)</sup>

— that the management wants only to build  
a reputation but actually for the future

that this people ~~do~~ ~~not~~ ~~have~~ ~~lost~~ ~~the~~ ~~people~~  
have ~~lost~~ ~~confidence~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~future~~ ~~and~~ ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~people~~ ~~do~~ ~~not~~  
can build it. <sup>men</sup> <sup>when</sup>  
The day will come when the struggle is over



For all our books - let it be soon.

13-11  
Extract from a speech by the Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, F.R.S., M.P., (Finchley), Prime Minister, at the Welsh Conservative Party Conference in Porthcawl on Saturday, 23rd June 1984.

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#### THE COAL DISPUTE

Today we are in the fifteenth week of the Coal strike. That strike is a tragedy.

- A tragedy for those miners who are not working, most of whom have not been on the picket line hurling abuse or worse at the police, but are anxiously watching events from home. Many have lost £2,000 or more in earnings. Family budgets have been cut to the bone. And debts are piling up.
- A tragedy for the industry, in orders lost and in coal faces already abandoned or endangered.
- A tragedy for the country. Steel workers here in South Wales know from bitter experience that customers lost in a strike are not easily regained. Indeed, some of them are lost forever. But not content with the lost customers for coal, the organisers of the strike want to turn away customers for steel. If they succeed, they will destroy jobs not only in the steel industry but in the coal industry which supplies it, in railways which move between the two, and in the many smaller industries which are suppliers to all three.

.../ This strike

This strike is a tragedy for another reason. Most miners wish to see a strong and prosperous coal industry for themselves, their sons and their families. It is precisely what the Coal Board and this Government want - precisely what we are working for.

We should be pulling in the same direction.

I remember vividly the first debate on the coal industry in which I spoke as a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons. It was soon after Aberfan. Who could forget it? The Gallery was filled with families, parents, relatives, trying to live with their agony.

I had worked hard on my speech - I had read every page of evidence to the Aberfan Enquiry, tried to learn from others everything relevant to this great industry whose people have a special kind of comradeship, a special sense of community and a special loyalty.

Every time we had a debate the MPs who knew the industry so well came into their own. I remember the wonderful speeches made by the much loved Jim Griffiths and also his colleague Harold Finch from Bedwellty - who always spoke of the terrible toll on the health of the miners. I remember speech after speech which recalled the difficult conditions in some of the pits in which these miners of Britain worked.

Surely, I thought, it is possible to make things better - better equipment, better pits, safer and healthier conditions.

And then as fate, as chance, as hard work would have it, one bright day in May 1979 I found myself in Number Ten.

My colleagues and I decided to develop coal as an energy resource that would last for centuries, long after our North Sea oil and gas had gone.

We decided that despite all our difficulties over public expenditure, we would invest in coal to give better and more productive pits for a better future for the industry.

THE GOVERNMENT'S RECORD

And so we have invested £3,800 million - that is £2 million for each and every day we have been in office - more than was called for in Labour's "Plan for Coal". Did you know that last year we invested in Britain's coal industry almost twice the amount invested in the entire coal industry of the rest of the European Community?

But it is not just capital investment that is important. It is important also to understand the human problems of a community where closures of uneconomic pits have to take place.

There have always been closures. Over eleven years Labour Governments closed 330 pits - an average of 30 a year. Far more than we closed last year and far more than the Coal Board envisage closing this year.

Successive Governments have recognised the acute difficulties faced by men and their families when closures do take place. But this Government has made far more generous provision for voluntary redundancy and early retirement than any other government of the past.

No wonder that over sixteen thousand men have already expressed an interest. The reduction in manpower needed can be made without a single compulsory redundancy.

In addition, NCB has established a new enterprise agency to help create jobs in the communities affected by closures. And as you heard from Nick Edwards earlier today, new companies are coming to Wales and new jobs are being created.

It is not only in investment and in the help given to those leaving the industry that this Government's record outstrips that of its predecessor. The pay offer on the table will keep miners way above the average, something to which they traditionally attach great importance.

.../Many people

Many people in the industry acknowledge all these things. Two out of the three coal industry unions have not taken strike action. One quarter of all miners are going into work - and showing great courage in doing so.

Not only in Nottinghamshire - but also in Lancashire, in Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, in North Wales. And for the first time this week, in spite of all the difficulties and pickets they have to face, miners are at work in Scotland.

The violence which has recently disfigured the television screen has left us grievously anxious at what is happening to our country. Law is the condition of civilised life and respect for law is the condition which enables men and women to enjoy their civil rights in freedom. If there is a right to strike, there is also a right to go to work. Picketing is lawful only when it seeks peacefully to persuade.

It was Disraeli - a Conservative Prime Minister - who made that kind of picketing lawful. The TUC itself has stated that excessive numbers can lead to violence. The NUM itself has in the past laid down strict rules that the number of pickets should not exceed six.

What we have seen in the past few weeks is not picketing at all. It is an attempt by force to prevent others from doing what they have a right to do. It is intimidation. It is unlawful assembly.

The police are not partisan. But they have a duty, to protect ordinary men and women going about their lawful business. A duty which they discharge with courage, fairness, patience and restraint.

Our duty is not discharged simply by condemning violence. Our duty demands and the national interest requires that we see that violence does not pay and is seen not to pay. Let violence cease. Let the law be kept. That is the spoken and unspoken hope and wish of millions of our fellow citizens.

.../No-one can say

No-one can say just how or precisely when this strike will end, though end it will.

But I believe: - that most miners condemn the violence that is inflicted in their name; - that most of them long to return to work and to live again their normal lives at work, at home, in their community; - that the management wants only to build a prosperous coal industry for the future; - that this Government and this people have confidence in that future and in the men who can build it.

The day will come when the strike is over. For all our sakes, let it be soon.