

Prime Minister (2)

38

Daily Coal Report - Tuesday 13 November 1984

	<u>Number</u>	<u>plus on holiday</u>
(i) Working normally	45	-
(ii) Turning some coal	12	-
(iii) Some men present	49	-
(iv) On strike/picketed out	68	-

Ellington (North East), Celynen South (South Wales), Ledstone Lock, Houghton Main and Cortonwood (Yorkshire) have moved from category (iv) to (iii).

The Coal Board have this evening issued the following briefing:-

"A total of 920 ex-strikers returned to work today.

This is 483 more than last Tuesday which was the highest for that day during the NUM dispute.

So far this week 2910 miners have returned - 709 more than all the men who came back throughout last week.

Since Monday 5 November, 5111 men have ended strike action and returned to work.

The number of pits producing coal is 58 - an increase of 2 so far this week: Markham colliery in Derbyshire and Monktonhall colliery in Scotland.

Miners are working at an additional 68 collieries where coal production has not yet began.

NUM members are, therefore, working at 126 of all the 174

collieries - 6 more than yesterday (Monday).

The National Coal Board confirm that more than 56,000 (about 30 per cent) of all members of the National Union of Mineworkers in the coal industry are not on strike.

Our latest records (for September 1984) show that the total number of NUM members in the industry is 189,000 - and this includes 178,000 miners and other coal mining industrial workers.

NUM members are the largest group among all the 222,000 employees in the industry. Of those 222,000 employees, 88,000 are working."

Scargill claimed this afternoon that there had been no material change in the situation, and that some miners had rejoined the strike.

Coal Movements

165,000 tonnes were moved yesterday - the same figure as for last Monday.

23 coal trains ran.

Law and Order

The violence was on a lesser scale than yesterday.

However, more than 40 police were hurt at Frickley pit (Yorkshire). Some 600 pickets built barricades and stoned the police. Petrol bombs were thrown, but fortunately none ignited.

12 arrests were made following clashes in South Wales.

Bishops Condemn Violence

Roman Catholic Bishops of England and Wales today issued a statement calling for the end to violence and a return to negotiating procedures.

High Court

The Irish High Court has ruled that money belonging to the Derbyshire NUM should not be frozen along with other NUM funds. Reportedly some £700,000 of the £2.75 million frozen in Dublin belongs to the Derbyshire area.

Line to Take

Over 5,000 miners have returned to work over the last week, including many in Yorkshire. Ordinary decent miners now recognise the futility of supporting union leaders whose only interest is political confrontation. They recognise that the Coal Board's offer is a generous one. They are beginning to put their families' interests above those of Arthur Scargill.

Distribution: Members of MISC 101, Paymaster General
Sir Robert Armstrong, Mr Gregson (Cabinet Office)

Enquiries: Michael Reidy, PS/SOS for Energy, Tel: 211 6070