

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Daily Coal Report - Friday 30 November 1984

Number

- (i) Working normally 46
- (ii) Turning some coal 18
- (iii) Some men present 74
- (iv) On strike/picketed out 36

Weekly 100,000
66,000

11941

Comrie (Scotland) has moved into the some men present category today. Otherwise there are no changes.

129 new faces appeared today, bringing the weekly total to 1,971 and the total since 5 November to 15,127.

Coal Movements

190,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

37 coal trains ran.

The NCB's total deliveries for the week are estimated to be 950,000 to 960,000 tonnes; of which around 660,000 are for the CEGB.

Law and Order

The tragic death of a taxi driver (Mr David Wilkie, 35) in South Wales has been widely reported. A massive police operation involving 120 detectives is under way to find two men seen running along the bridge shortly after the two concrete missiles were thrown. South Wales Chief Constable, David East, pledged today that police would ensure that any working miners who wished to return to Merthyr Vale colliery would be able to do so. 28 policemen have been injured in picket line violence outside this pit in the last 8 days.

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Dr Owen called for a "gut reaction" return to work by miners in protest at the killing, when speaking after visiting Thoresby colliery in Nottinghamshire today. He added: "I don't believe you can blame the Coal Board for the violence at all, neither do I believe you can blame the police".

NUM general secretary Peter Heathfield said he had no comment to make when asked about the death of the taxi driver.

Picketing in Scotland was fairly heavy for a Friday. Five strikers were arrested outside the home of a miner working at the Longannet complex this morning.

In Yorkshire, an NCB van carrying miners to work was stoned at South Emsall, near Wakefield. Trees were felled and dragged across the road at Goldthorpe colliery and police were stoned at Rossington in South Yorkshire.

In North Derbyshire, the home of a working miner in Chesterfield was daubed with slogans, and an NCB bus was stoned by pickets at Killamarsh and paint was thrown over a working miner's car parked outside his home at Bolsover.

Kinnock and Scargill speak at rally

Neil Kinnock and Arthur Scargill are sharing a platform at a miners' rally at Stoke-on-Trent this evening. 89% of miners in Staffordshire worked in the 24 hour period yesterday. The Prime Minister has called on Mr Kinnock to condemn the violence in his speech tonight.

Fire at Seafield colliery in Scotland

Rescue teams fought successfully yesterday and today to save the large Seafield colliery in Scotland from an underground fire. Although an area of coal has been lost, the main production face, developed at a cost of £3.5 million, has been saved.

Court Case: Appointment of Receiver

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies this evening appointed a receiver to run the affairs of the NUM and ordered the removal of three miners' leaders - Scargill, McGahey and

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Heathfield - as trustees of the union's funds until a fuller hearing next Thursday.

The order was made on an application by 16 working miners, led by Colin Clarke, president of the working miners committee, who claimed the NUM's leaders were not "fit and proper" persons to look after the unions' funds, because of their "serious and flagrant" contempts of court. The judge said that in making his temporary order he had borne in mind the working miners' claim that union funds had been "put in jeopardy", and that the miners' leaders had been unable to give an assurance that they would obey court orders in future.

Counsel for the NUM said that there would be an appeal, which could be held tomorrow if this can be arranged.

Mr Herbert Brewer, the Derbyshire solicitor appointed as receiver, could bring the union's £4.3 million unfrozen funds back from Luxembourg to Britain. He could even pay the £200,000 contempt fine.

Line to Take

Peter Walker issued the following statement about the murder of the taxi driver this morning:-

"What horrifying news. I feel grief and anger - grief for the victim and anger towards those who killed him. I know that the vast majority of miners shun the men of violence and will share my revulsion and incomprehension. To anyone who does not condemn such monstrous savagery I say - how can you live with your conscience?"

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