

Daily Coal Report - Friday 25 January 1985

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	<u>Number</u>
(i) Working normally	49
(ii) Turning some coal	27
(iii) Some men present	76
(iv) On strike/picketed out	22

M

Emley Moor (Yorkshire) has moved into category (ii).

160 new faces today bring the total for the week to 3,250 compared with 2,870 last week.

Area attendances were as follows:-

			<u>Change on</u> <u>last Friday</u>
Scotland	(24 hr attendance)	3,975	+ 574
North East	(24 hr attendance)	5,481	+ 1035
Yorkshire	(24 hr attendance)	5,171	+ 963
North Derbyshire	(24 hr attendance)	6,287	+ 378
Western	(24 hr attendance)	11,638	+ 206
South Wales	(morning shift)	342	+ 233
Kent	(morning shift)	132	+ 15

The Coal Board have informed the Department of Energy that in recent weeks a further 5 production coal faces and 7 salvage faces have been lost, bringing the total figures since the dispute began to 30 and 23 respectively. A heating problem is also threatening the main production face at Scotland's Seafield pit and a number of faces in other locations remain at risk.

Coal Movements

Another good day. 187,000 tonnes were moved.

46 coal trains ran, including the first train to Didcot power station since the dispute began. BR are optimistic that this will prove the best week since the beginning of October.

Law and Order

Still generally quiet.

There were 300 pickets at Markham colliery (Yorkshire) including Mr Benn MP. But no disorder was reported.

NUM

The exchange of letters between the NCB and NUM is attached, together with the press statement issued by the NCB. The preliminary meeting between both sides is likely to take place on Tuesday.

NACODS

NACODS leaders met in Doncaster today, but with events between the NCB and NUM moving fast it seems likely they will remain on the sidelines.

Line to Take

The Government wishes to see an early end to this senseless dispute. The preliminary meeting which is to take place between the Coal Board and the NUM on Tuesday provides a positive opportunity for both sides to identify a basis for new negotiations. However, for there to be a real chance of success the NUM must show beyond doubt that they recognise the reality of uneconomic closures. It is up to them.

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