

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Blup
21-1-85

Daily Coal Report - Tuesday 29 January 1985

Pure Minister
16

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

By 5.00 pm 194 new faces had reported. Yesterday's final total was 927. The total for the week so far is 1,121.

Area attendances were as follows:-

			<u>Change on last Tuesday</u>
Scotland	(24 hr attendance)	4,120	+ 316
North East	(24 hr attendance)	5,845	+ 274
Yorkshire	(24 hr attendance)	5,453	+ 578
North Derbyshire	(24 hr attendance)	6,398	+ 151
Western	(24 hr attendance)	11,381	+ 195
South Wales	(morning shift)	345	+ 41
Kent	(morning shift)	140	+ 3

Coal Movements

165,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

32 coal trains ran.

Law and Order

Generally quiet though, in what was doubtless intended as a symbolic gesture, some 3,000 pickets gathered at Cortonwood this morning.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

NCB/NUM Talks

The Board have said they were disappointed with today's talks about talks. Afterwards they issued the following statement:

"The NCB at informal talks in London today invited the NUM to submit proposals for settling the dispute, taking into account the principal issue of uneconomic capacity.

The NUM General Secretary said he would consult with his colleagues, and the Board await their reply."

Scargill later claimed that the union had tabled a number of new initiatives and said they had sent the Board a letter seeking an immediate resumption of full negotiations without pre-conditions. However, the Board's version of events suggests strongly that the union has made no concession at all, and in particular that it shows no sign of a more concilliatory or reasonable approach on the question of uneconomic closures.

Scargill and Heathfield later met the TUC and it remains to be seen what pressure that body will now put on them.

The full NUM national executive has been called to a meeting in London tomorrow.

Line to Take

As yesterday.

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

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

Coal

