

Daily Coal Report - Friday 8 February 1985

33

	<u>Number</u>
(i) Working normally	50
(ii) Turning some coal	30
(iii) Some men present	75
(iv) On strike/picketed out	19

Brenkley pit in Northumberland has moved from category (iii) to (ii). Four out of five pits in Northumberland are now producing coal.

By 6.00 pm 199 new faces had reported bringing the total for the week to 3,754 and that for 1985 to 14,683. The total number who have now returned since the strike began is 37,431.

Today's area attendances were as follows:-

			<u>Change on</u> <u>last Friday</u>
Scotland	(24 hr attendance)	4,619	+ 439
North East	(24 hr attendance)	6,982	+ 1074
Yorkshire	(24 hr attendance)	6,595	+ 1007
North Derbyshire	(24 hr attendance)	6,550	+ 202
Western	(24 hr attendance)	11,953	+ 211
South Wales	(morning shift)	379	+ 41
Kent	(morning shift)	155	+ 18

Coal Movements

194,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

56 coal trains ran.

Law and Order

No change.

NUM/NCB

The Coal Board reiterated today that the NACODS agreement would be fully honoured. This morning's attendance figures do not, however, suggest that NACODS members have been rattled by Scargill's claims yesterday.

A good letter for once.

This evening the Board sent the attached letter to the NUM. NB This is in the post and may not arrive until Monday. It should obviously not be mentioned in public until the NUM have received it.

Line to Take

The Coal Board have made the best offer since nationalisation and are anxious to achieve a negotiated settlement as quickly as possible. They have already concluded an agreement with NACODS that will benefit both sides and the industry at large.

The obstacle to a settlement with the NUM is Mr Scargill's repeated insistence that all uneconomic pits should remain open until the last tonne of coal is exhausted. Mr Scargill's intransigence, his repeated use of diversionary tactics, and his obvious desire for confrontation, are doing great damage to his members interests.

Miners wishing to end the strike should return to work on Monday.

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