

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Daily Coal Report - Thursday 21 February 1985

	<u>Number</u>
(i) Working normally	54
(ii) Turning some coal	26
(iii) Some men present	75
(iv) On strike/picketed out	19

Oakdale (South Wales) has been downgraded from category (iii) to (iv). But this does not imply any major movement: 2 men were present today compared to 4 last week.

By 6.00 pm 129 new faces had reported bringing the total for the week to 1,744.

Area attendances were as follows:-

			<u>Change on</u> <u>last Thursday</u>
Scotland	(24 hr attendance)	5,133	+ 211
North East	(24 hr attendance)	8,718	+ 702
Yorkshire	(24 hr attendance)	7,545	+ 567
North Derbyshire	(24 hr attendance)	6,931	+ 56
Western	(24 hr attendance)	12,051	+ 195
South Wales	(morning shift)	491	+ 84
Kent	(morning shift)	171	- 1

Coal Movements

201,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

56 coal trains ran.

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Today the main news was that handlers at Blyth and Jarrow ports started loading coal ships, including two ships destined for power stations in the Thames valley: further significant evidence of a weakening of the strike in the North East.

Law and Order

Quiet again, with reports that many pickets are in a despondent mood.

NUM

A copy of the Coal Board's final proposal to the TUC is attached.

Following last night's rejection of the proposals by the NUM national executive the outcome of today's delegate conference was a foregone conclusion. It sinks the TUC initiative, and virtually eliminates any other prospect for negotiation. Given the union's intransigence the Coal Board will do everything possible to encourage a major return to work by ordinary miners.

Frances/Seafield Pit

NUM pickets prevented NACODS members from entering the pit today to make vital inspections despite warnings by the Board that their action could lead to further job losses.

High Court

The Court today ordered that the NUM's challenge to an injunction against use of its "Star Chamber" disciplinary machinery should be heard in the week beginning 4 March. The injunction was granted to nine working miners at the Woodside drift mine near Consett without the union being present or represented.

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Line to Take

Please draw on today's Parliamentary Statement by SOS for Energy  
- attached.

Distribution: Members of MISC 101, Paymaster General  
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