



Stalemate: Mr Scargill after a day at Congress House. (Photograph: Murray Job).



Disappointed men: Mr Jack Taylor, president of the Yorkshire miners (left); Mr Emlyn Williams, South Wales president, and Mr Peter McNesty, Nacods general secretary.

## Striking miners join police

By Peter Davenport

Several striking miners have left the picket line to join the police force.

During the past few months, they have attended courses at the Home Office training school at Dishforth, North Yorkshire. Some have graduated and joined forces policing the pits dispute.

The school said yesterday that it would not name the men in case of reprisals.

One man, on the course which ends at Easter, is a former face worker aged 24 at Manders colliery, near Rotherham, South Yorkshire. He was on the picket line until two months ago.

Although not wishing to be named, he said he had supported the strike initially but had been sickened by the intimidation and violence.

"I never dreamed it was going to be like this," he said. "I started out when the strike first started. I went down to the picket lines to see what it was like and I didn't like what I saw. I think there has been a lot of violence by the miners on the picket lines, and intimidation."

"I had had enough of it when I saw there was planned violence by some. Initially I appreciated the cause, but not the actions taken by the

National Union of Mineworkers.

"If I was asked to go on picket duty now I would. It's my job and I am proud to be a policeman."

The mining communities have traditionally been recruiting grounds for the police.

The Home Office said last night that there were six miners on the present course at Dishforth, but it was not possible to say how many were former strikers.

Ten police forces, ranging from Nottinghamshire through Yorkshire to Northumbria, send recruits to Dishforth.

## The plan the union rejected

The following is the text of Coal Board proposal conveyed to the NUM by Mr Norman Willis and rejected by the union.

1. It is of crucial importance for the parties concerned in the current dispute to concentrate attention on the future success of the industry and in so doing to concentrate themselves to reconciliation and restoration of relationships.

2. The NUM recognize that it is the duty of the NCB to manage the industry efficiently and to secure sound developments in accordance with their responsibilities and the NCB recognize that the NUM represents and advances the interests of its members and their employment opportunities. In this regard the NCB is firmly of the view that the interests of the membership of the NUM are best served by the development of an economically sound industry.

3. The parties undertake that immediately upon a return to normal working, discussions will commence upon the revision of the Plan for Coal, such revision to be completed within six months. In order that this programme, which is of vital importance to the industry, the mining communities and the country, be carried through with the utmost effectiveness the parties specifically and mutually commit themselves to giving maximum priority to this period of consultation and reconstruction and providing the necessary resources. The TUC undertake to provide assistance if called on by either the NUM or the NCB. The issues that could be included in discussions are attached as an annex. Nothing in this paragraph will prevent any party from referring collieries to the Review Procedure.

4. The parties accept that it is of value to outline, at this stage, the procedures that flow from a commitment to modify the Colliery Review Procedure.

5. The existing Colliery Review Procedure has the objective of periodically reviewing at colliery and Area level the performance and future investment opportunities of

pits with representatives of unions. The parties accept the need to modify the procedure. After a return to normal working, there will be urgent talks about the early establishment of modified procedure and about the constitution, membership and role of the independent reference body which is to be incorporated into the procedure. Until such time existing procedures will apply.

6. Proposals about the future of pits will be dealt with through the modified Colliery Review Procedure. In accordance with past practices, those pits which are exhausted or facing severe geological difficulties will be closed by joint



Man in the middle: The TUC's Norman Willis

agreement and in the case of a colliery where there are no further reserves which can be developed to provide the board, in line with their responsibilities, with a satisfactory basis for continuing operations such a colliery will be closed.

7. Under the modified Colliery Review Procedure the independent body will constitute a further consultative stage after the national appeal stage to consider reference from any of the parties to the Procedure where agreement is not reached in the usual steps at colliery and Area level. All parties are committed to give full weight to the view of the proposed independent review body.

8. At the end of this procedure the

Board will make its final decision. The parties accept this is not intended to constitute a non-strike agreement.

Annex  
1. Parties to the dispute have already been prepared to agree that, with a view to establishing a developing and expanding coal industry equipped to meet future energy requirements, they will jointly discuss Plan for Coal and any proposed revision.

2. The parties undertake to commence talks urgently after a return to normal work on Plan for Coal and any proposed revision. The parties will agree before the return to work on a target date of six months by which time this plan will be completed. The parties will be ready to hear the views of other interested parties on Plan for Coal.

3. Discussions about Plan for Coal will include the following but is not thereby limited.  
Market and output prospects, national energy needs and increased sales of coal.

(1) To existing markets.

(2) New markets: (a) industrial markets; (b) conversions from other fuels; (c) Support for industrial conversion plants; (d) domestic uses and equipment development.

(3) New uses for coal: (a) liquefaction; (b) gasification.

(4) Marketing programmes: (a) Plans for marketing; (b) Programmes to support marketing by NUM.

(5) Reserve Position: (a) Exploration programmes; (b) Development and expansion of existing pits where market and production opportunities are identified.

(6) Productivity: (a) Improvement in performance at pits; (b) Investment in equipment for improved safety and performance.

(7) Closure and Community Responsibility: (a) Mobilization of local authorities and industry as well as MSC NCB Enterprise Company to develop retraining and new job creation; (b) UK and EEC restructuring resources and how obtained; (c) Programmes for voluntary redundancy and early retirement and the terms available; (d) Transfer and relocation allowance; (e) Retraining programmes.

## Receiver wants sequestration to end

Mr Justice Nicholls, who ordered the seizure of the National Union of Mineworkers' £3 million assets after its refusal to pay a £200,000 contempt of court fine was asked yesterday by the Receiver to end further sequestration.

With about £5 million in his possession, the Receiver asked for sequestrators appointed last October to be discharged to avoid duplication of costs.

But after fears expressed by the working Yorkshire miners' counsel, Mr Michael Burton

QC, Mr Cresswell, counsel for the Receiver, said he would be content if the order was stayed. The judge said he would give judgement on Monday.

● An injunction against leaders of the National Union of Seamen will be sought on Monday. (Barrie Clement writes) The action, brought by a shipping company, Stephenson Clarke, was adjourned yesterday at a private hearing in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court in London. It alleges that union members

on the Puffborough, moored near Blyth, Northumberland, have acted illegally by refusing to open hatches so that coal can be loaded for the Central Electricity Generating Board.

● Mr Enoch Powell, Official Unionist MP for Down South, last night urged the Government to step in and help repair the damage created by the management "catastrophe".

● A total of 93 miners returned to work yesterday, the National Coal Board said. Leading article, page 9

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