

Secret

5

PRIME MINISTER

M

At the coal meeting on Friday you asked why hydrogen was needed at power stations.

I understand that it is used for cooling turbo alternators. I am told that it is 10 times better than air in its cooling efficiency, because it has a low density, and high thermal conductivity and thermal capacity. It is used in all modern turbo alternators - whether oil-fired or coal-fired, or whatever. There is apparently some leakage when it is used, and therefore it needs to be replaced constantly.

I noticed that yesterday's "Sun" carried a story about the NCB's negotiating strategy. I attach a copy of it. I asked Nigel Lawson's office for their views about where this story might have come from; my own guess was that it might have come from the NCB itself, who - foolishly - might have thought this was a way of ensuring that their opening offer was not taken to be their final offer.

Mr. Lawson's office thinks it might have come from the NCB, that it is damaging, and that we can do no more than to wait and hope that it will not be taken up in a big way.

MUS

*but that it
also might have
come from anywhere*

14 September, 1982.

MONTH PAY FOR NHS

More later' pledge in bid to end deadlock

be prepared to work at anything they have to offer. The whole problem with this dispute has been the Government's refusal to get into negotiations. Before, it has just put offers on the table and said take it or leave it. Now at last it seems we can start some negotiations. The new formula—already approved by the

Cabinet—was revealed by Health Minister Kenneth Clarke. The ingenious plan would allow both sides to save face. MINISTERS can claim they are sticking to their strong line that no more money can be put on the table at present.

UNIONS can point to the fact that there would be more money later.

It would make the full award over 12 months greater than the current offer.

Last night Mr Clarke said of the plan: "This simple suggestion can be acceptable to us."

Action

He stressed in an ITN interview: "The Government is clear about the amount of money that is available."

Mr Clarke added that ministers were prepared to meet the unions on a more flexible deal "in the hope that the Health Service can be saved from its present state."

But the formula has probably come too late to avert the TUC's Day of Action on September 22.

Ministers would certainly prefer to see the unions make the first request for talks.

Any six-month deal struck would then probably have to be put out to ballot.

Whatever emerges, the health workers will still have received at the end of 12 months considerably less than the claim of 12 per cent.



Kenneth Clarke... he unveiled the new peace formula

ITV FACES BLACKOUT ON 'D-DAY'

ITV technicians were urged by their union last night to black out top programmes—including Coronation Street—on the TUC's Day Of Action.

The union, led by Alan Sapper, "strongly recommended" its 25,000 members to strike for an hour or more on Wednesday, September 22, in support of nurses and health workers.

The ACTT stoppage is expected to come in peak viewing time—between 7.00pm and 10.30pm.

BBC is unlikely to be hit because its workers belong to the more moderate Association of Broadcasting Staffs.

The final decision on the ITV stoppage will be made today by union branches in separate TV companies.

Independent radio news could also be affected.

But TV and radio workers are anxious not to black out news programmes carrying reports of the day's big union demo planned in London's Hyde Park.



Sapper... strike call

8 per cent and that's it, Scargill

SUN EXCLUSIVE

By TOM CONDON Industrial Editor

A PAY gauntlet will be thrown down to militant miners' leader Arthur Scargill this week.

No-nonsense coal board bosses will not give him a penny UNLESS he gives up his colossal 30 per cent claim.

If Coal King Arthur plays ball, board chairman Norman Siddall will make an opening offer to Britain's 200,000 miners of between four and six per cent.

In the course of bargaining, this could be talked up to eight per cent.

The board recognise that Mr Scargill is pledged to call a special conference which will urge strike action unless they give the claim in full.

But they believe there is no mood in the coalfields this autumn for an all-out stoppage.

And they are prepared to put their final offer to a secret pithead ballot.

Offer

The board have decided on their latest strategy, because they are losing £1 million a day.

Mr Scargill's pay claim, which calls for a £27.20-a-week flat rise for all miners and a four-day week, will cost £1,000-million in a full year.

Mr Siddall and his board colleagues say there is no way they can even begin to talk about such a generous offer.

They want the miners' negotiators to recognise on Wednesday that a single figure deal is on the cards.

They think the miners themselves will see the problems facing the industry and vote to stay at work.

GERMITS



TIMES WINNER FOR Quality YEAR Amateur Photographer 1981

Largest send this coupon dx. HA3 0DQ. NT. (09.30-5.30)

for film(s). 135 Amount £ the back of the cheque.