

Prime Minister ②

Daily Coal Report - Monday 26 November 1984

JT

26/4

	<u>Number</u>
(i) Working normally	45
(ii) Turning some coal	15
(iii) Some men present	75
(iv) On strike/picketed out	39

Bersham (North Wales) has been upgraded to category (ii). Ackton Hall (Yorkshire) and Solsgirth (Scotland) have been upgraded to category (iii).

By 5.00 pm a further 975 striking miners had returned. (This compares with 2,282 last Monday, though given the large numbers that have already returned in North Derbyshire some lessening of the flow back is unsurprising).

This brings the total who have returned since 5 November to 14,118. The number not on strike in the industry rose to 99,000 - 44 per cent of the total workforce.

In Scotland 280 new faces reported on the morning shift. Attendance at Bilston Glen rose to 884. There were men present at a further 9 pits, notably Monkton Hall (206), Killock (123) and Polkemmet (110).

In the North East there were 278 new faces and good attendances at Ellington (562), Whittle (466), Wearmouth (312), Vane Tempest (181).

In Yorkshire there were 134 new faces including 400 at Shireoaks. Attendance at Manton dipped to 363. One factor was that NACODS withdrew co-operation. More generally recent violence and

intimidation in the Yorkshire coalfield has undoubtedly deterred many who would wish to work.

There were 137 new faces in North Derbyshire. Elsewhere the position was fairly static.

Coal Movements

953,000 tonnes were moved last week - coincidentally, the same tonnage as the week before.

32 coal trains ran on Friday.

Law and Order

6 people have been charged following Friday's savage attack on Michael Fletcher in his home at Castleford. A further 5 have been charged on related offences.

There were further outbursts of violence throughout the Yorkshire coalfield this morning with reports of lorries set on fire, oil being poured across roads, barricades, and missiles being thrown at the police. There was also trouble in Wales.

Scargill

Scargill returned to London today from a short visit to Paris, where he reportedly had talks with his French counterpart.

Line to Take

The return to work is continuing. 99,000 men - 44 per cent of the total workforce of the industry - are not on strike. It is not surprising that Mr Scargill is again turning for help to his overseas paymasters.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Mining communities want a return to work and reconciliation, not the campaign of mob violence and intimidation which the militant left are now set upon.

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

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

SECRET AND PERSONAL