

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Prime Minutes (2)

Daily Coal Report - Tuesday 4 December 1984

20

	<u>Number</u>
(i) Working normally	46
(ii) Turning some coal	18
(iii) Some men present	74
(iv) On strike/picketed out	36

There was a further slight increase in attendances today. 130 new faces reported. Area attendances were as follows:

			<u>Change on yesterday</u>
Scotland	(24 hr total)	2248	+ 6
North East	(24 hr total)	3157	+ 67
Yorkshire	(24 hr total)	2814	+ 86
North Derbyshire	(24 hr total)	4713	+ 435
Western	(24 hr total)	10740	+ 5
South Wales	(morning shift)	127	no change
Kent	(morning shift)	108	- 5

Coal Movements

171,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

26 coal trains ran.

Law and Order

Apart from the usual picketing there were isolated violent incidents. In Kent there were a number of attacks on working

SECRET AND PERSONAL

SECRET AND PERSONAL

miners. In one incident a miner was taken to hospital after being beaten by two hooded youths. Another man had a car driven at him. In the third incident two car drivers tried to force a coach off the road.

To date 1256 police have been injured in the dispute.

NUM

Scargill has given a predictably defiant display today. He told striking miners that receivers and sequestrators appointed by the courts would not stop the union winning "the greatest victory in history".

However Trevor Bell, General Secretary of the NUM's white collar staff, said he was worried about the future of the union if it did not return to the negotiating table.

Receiver

At the time of writing the Receiver appointed by the High Court had still not succeeded in obtaining the £4.63 million lodged in a Luxembourg bank. Discussions were continuing.

High Court

The Receiver's appointment is expected to be re-confirmed at a High Court hearing in London this Thursday.

In separate High Court actions the representative of the craft section of the NUM today gave an undertaking to the Court that he would not take part in meetings of the union's National Executive pending the hearing of a legal move to unseat him. Two working miners (a South Wales NUM member and a member of the NUM Cokeman's section based in Barnsley) obtained the Court's authority to read the books of their local union executives to

SECRET AND PERSONAL

SECRET AND PERSONAL

establish whether the strike had been validly called.

Line to Take

Mr Scargill defies the Courts, and through his refusal to countenance a national ballot he defies democracy. The public at large fervently hope that mining communities will stand up to this threat, assert their rights as individuals and return to work. The Government are determined that democracy will prevail and the militants will fail.

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