

SECRET AND PERSONAL

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## Daily Coal Report - Wednesday 23 January 1985

	<u>Number</u>
(i) Working normally	49
(ii) Turning some coal	25
(iii) Some men present	77
(iv) On strike/picketed out	23

St Johns (South Wales) has moved from category (iv) to category (iii) today.

By 6.00 pm 382 new faces had reported back, compared to 376 faces last week. The week's total now stands at 2,871.

Area attendances were as follows:-

			<u>Change on yesterday</u>
Scotland	(24 hr attendance)	3,865	+ 61
North East	(24 hr attendance)	5,329	+ 137
Yorkshire	(24 hr attendance)	4,923	+ 48
North Derbyshire	(24 hr attendance)	6,431	+ 184
Western	(24 hr attendance)	11,513	+ 327
South Wales	(morning shift)	335	+ 31
Kent	(morning shift)	137	None

Coal Movements

176,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

42 coal trains ran.

Law and Order

Isolated incidents in Yorkshire but generally quiet.

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NUM

There were renewed claims today, from Labour party politicians amongst others, that the NUM wanted renewed talks without pre-conditions, and that the Government was obstructing this. But no sign from Scargill that he had changed his line on uneconomic closures. The NUM national executive meets tomorrow.

The TUC General Council met today and afterwards issued a statement saying that the Government and the Coal Board should respond positively to the NUM's "readiness" for further negotiations. Norman Willis suggested that this week's informal discussions between the Board and the NUM "provided the basis for substantive talks and an honourable settlement".

The TUC also expressed concern about the prospect of the Nottinghamshire breakaway group, saying that such groups would not be eligible for TUC affiliation. In an effort to stop the South Derbyshire executive from breaking away, Scargill today presented what was later described as a "peace formula". At the time of writing details had not been disclosed to the press. An attempt to launch a working miners' support group in Yorkshire ended in disarray this afternoon after strikers infiltrated the meeting hall.

BR

British Rail announced tonight that 20 railwaymen are to lose their jobs at two depots in Humberside as a result of the coal dispute. The job losses were caused by the refusal by ASLEF drivers at Immingham, in support of the miners, to handle iron ore and BSC's decision to make future movements by road.

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European Parliament

The Foreign Secretary has announced that HMG will not co-operate with the Parliament's inquiry, initiated by Labour Euro MPs, into the policing of the pits dispute.

Line to Take

As yesterday.

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