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MR TURNBULL

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COAL

Total at Work

There was some discussion at MISC 101 about the number of miners at work. The position is as follows:

Mineworkers	<u>36,900</u>	(members of the NUM)
Officials	<u>6,100</u>	(members of NACOBs)
Total Miners	<u>43,000</u>	
Management/Clerks	<u>14,000</u>	(including members of BACM)
Total working in coal fields	<u>57,000</u>	
Headquarters staff	<u>6,500</u>	(including area HQ, research centres and Hobart House)
Total at work	<u>63,500</u>	

The two key numbers above are the 43,000 miners, and the 57,000 workers in the coal fields. The total number of men in the first category is 180,000 of which 24% are working. (Incidentally Hobart House employs 700 people.)

Presentation

Peter Walker's comments on the competence of the NUM's public relations department and Ian MacGregor's lack of confidence in them were disturbing. We have felt for some time that the NCB have not fully appreciated the importance of skilful presentation both to the public and to the miners. Peter's comments support this view.

It is essential that the NCB consults professional advisers on the presentation of their case. We do have an excellent story to tell but it is not coming across strongly enough.

It is also important that the NCB take more systematic steps to sample the opinion of miners throughout the country. This information is vital in order to decide future tactics.

DAVID PASCALL
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