

COAL STRIKE

Grimethorpe Colliery and at least eleven other pits in the area were idle three days after Emanuel Shinwell's appeal for peace at the coal face. Since the Grimethorpe men downed tools the Yorkshire dispute had cost the nation 125,000 tons. Miners' President Will ~~Leather~~'s strong condemnation of the strikers drew fierce protests. The National Mineworkers' Union vigorously denounces the strike; at the same time warning the nation that more men must be drawn into ~~mining~~ mining if we are not to be permanently short of coal; More than 2,000 northern firms have only one week's supply. When we want every ton we can get, 5,000 men ~~were~~ ^{were} out. Out too, were the p&t ponies. The ill wind did them a bit of good. A reminder, incidentally, that if our mines had been properly equipped in the past, when equipment could be obtained, no ponies would be in the mines today.

The men whiled away the time with sport of one sort and another on the Saturday before the visit of the Minister of Fuel and Power. It was a tragic commentary on the plight of the nation.

On Sunday, to a cinema in South Elmsall, near Pontefract, ~~many~~ miners flocked to hear Emanuel Shinwell. Each man had to show his card before being allowed in, ~~the~~ ^{It was a} private meeting. Pressmen ~~knelt~~ ^{d 2 kick} their heels outside.

No reporters, no newsreel cameramen, were admitted.

~~When~~ Fuel Minister Shinwell appeared to be feeling the heat.

~~of the sun when he pushed his way in to the meeting. This~~

~~is supposed to have been a summer when the sun had not been on~~

~~the~~

~~is the press afterwards in 1917.~~

*7 year to Sun in of on strike
2 to Press ✓ Mr. Shinnell to the*

But that was not the end of the strike at some of the pits.

Brought up to regard the strike weapon as theirs by right,

miners are sometimes puzzled when their union tells them

not to use it. Opinions gathered on the spot are illuminating.