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MINERS EXECUTIVE MEETS TO-DAY.

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W. H. Brown

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINeworkers TO-DAY WILL CONSIDER THE GRIMETHORPE STRIKE. THE MEETING WILL HAVE BEFORE IT CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY THE YORKSHIRE AREA COUNCIL OF THE UNION WHEN IT MET YESTERDAY AND THE PREVIOUS DAY. NO STATEMENTS WERE ISSUED AFTER THESE MEETINGS. THE EXECUTIVE WILL ALSO CONSIDER FURTHER PROPOSALS FOR EXTENDING THE MINERS WORKING TIME ABOUT WHICH THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION WITHOUT AGREEMENT BEING REACHED; THE COAL BOARD HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE MINERS SHOULD WORK AN EXTRA HALF AN HOUR PER DAY. THE MINERS SAY THIS IS IMPRACTICABLE BUT HAVE OFFERED TO WORK ON SATURDAYS.

THE LOSS OF COAL DUE TO THE GRIMETHORPE DISPUTE MAKES IT EVEN MORE NECESSARY FOR AGREEMENT TO BE REACHED ON THE QUESTION OF EXTRA WORKING TIME AND IT IS PROBABLE A COMPROMISE WILL BE

REACHED TO-DAY.

The Star (Sunday)

10/9/47

LATE FINAL PIT CRISIS TALKS: MEN AT RACES

"Star" Industrial Correspondent

WHILE leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers met at a crisis session in London today, many miners from the South Yorkshire pits affected by the strike went to Doncaster races.

Special buses arrived at the course for the start of the St Leger meeting from the Barnsley, Grimethorpe, Mexborough and Rotherham areas and local services brought racegoers from the Doncaster pit villages.

Other miners also made their way to the races on bicycle and on foot, and others, who were working on the earlier shifts, were expected later.

The London meeting was called to discuss ways and means of increasing output and ending unofficial strikes to save the five-day-week.

Mr Will Lawther, the president, who has issued repeated calls to the South Yorkshire strikers to go back to work, had in front of him Mr Shinwell's figures showing how much coal the strike has cost the nation.

Last week the loss was 245,000 tons; the week before it was 153,000 tons; this week it is expected to be about 250,000 tons.

These losses of more than 600,000 tons in three weeks were regarded with extreme gravity by the union leaders.

The leading officials — Mr Lawther, Mr Arthur Horner, the secretary, and Mr James Bowman, the vice-president, who has been in charge of manpower — were also reporting to the executive of their meeting with the National Coal Board yesterday on the extension of the working week in the pits.

It was felt in some circles today that the executive may agree to a longer working week, in view of what Mr Horner himself has described as "the failure of the union to keep their promises to the Government on production."

It was being emphasised at the meeting that a continuation of the South Yorkshire stoppage, or of the recent well-below-the-target output figures, could be so disastrous as to bring down the Government.

It was also made quite clear that unless production increased considerably, the industrial life of the nation might be threatened.

Miners' MPs today continued their tour of the Yorkshire coalfields, holding pit-head meetings to urge the men to return to work.

Many pits had decided to resume work today, but attendance at the day shift was extremely poor, the best being 60 per cent at Wombwell Main Colliery near Barnsley.

Grimethorpe men hold a meeting tomorrow at Cudworth.

15 Pits Make A Promise

Men at 15 of the 48 affected Yorkshire pits have given promises to miners' MPs and union officials to resume work. The 2,500 men at Grime-thorpe who meet tomorrow...