

2-10-10

MY NEW COAL PLANS - SHINWELL

With coal tapping the Nationalisation list, Mr. Shinwell rounds off his mining survey. Some pits are due for scrapping - some will grow into vast new fields. In this exclusive interview, Mr. Shinwell opens up with inside information.

My job is to see that the State takes over Britain's coal mines. But that is only stage one of the big change-over. Many of our old mining areas are in very poor shape - the map shows where they are - in Lancashire, West Cumberland, parts of Lancashire, Cannock and the Forest of Dean.

Our task is to make the best of them, to infuse fresh blood into their veins and restore them to full active life wherever possible. We must not let any area become derelict if it can possibly be prevented. These areas therefore still have a part to play in our plans for the coal mines.

We know what their faults are and there is a bitter legacy of memories of the terrible "depressed areas." But the past is best forgotten.

We are planning great new coalfields in the East of Scotland, over the border of Nottinghamshire, Kent and Lincolnshire. We have studied modern coal-getting methods like those in America and in Europe - and the best parts of these systems will be used over here. We plan to - and will - develop the coalmining industry in every possible way for the benefit of the miner and the nation.

as a whole.

BY A REVER

So that's it. Well we've got a hell of a lot to gain if it works out - and anyway what have we got to lose?