

Miners Strike 1984 85 Loss Without Limit

The Dictionary of Labour Biography has an outstanding reputation as a reference work for the study of nineteenth and twentieth century British history. Volume XIV maintains this standard of original and thorough scholarship. Each entry is written by a specialist drawing on an array of primary and secondary sources. The biographical essays engage with recent historiographical developments in the field of labour history. The scope of the volume emphasises the ethnic and national diversity of the British labour movement and neglected political traditions.

Since the end of the year-long 1984-85 Miners' Strike over a quarter of a century ago, the stance of the Nottinghamshire miners still causes intense debate. Because of the apparent parallels with 'Spencerism' and 1926 the question has often been asked, was the soul of strike breaking solely to be found in the Nottinghamshire coalfield? However, was the answer to the Nottinghamshire miners actions in 1984-85 to be found in events a lot nearer than 1926? What effect did the reaction to the events under the Labour Governments in the 1960's and 1970's make on the Nottinghamshire miners and influence their actions in the early 1980's? Was the 1984-85 crisis in the NUM simply a case of disagreement over internal procedural practices? This study shows the complexity of collective identity in the NUM. It is an interpretation of the Nottinghamshire tradition within the NUM and not their apartness from it. The Nottinghamshire miners were central to the controversy in the 1984-85 miners' strike: without a fully researched account of their role with reasons put forward for their actions, the whole debate cannot be properly contested. To that end this thesis will hopefully enhance that debate. Previously un-accessed evidence and first-hand knowledge from the strike in the Nottinghamshire coalfield are used to contribute to the understanding of a defining moment in British coalmining and labour history. Historically, Nottinghamshire's policies and traditions were those of the moderate right in the NUM, while studies on NUM politics have tended to look at views with a left- wing bias. A satisfactory understanding of the 1984-85 strike and the role of the Nottinghamshire miners is required in order to get a more balanced account which accumulated in the a split in the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) ranks and the formation of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers (UDM). The first part of the study looks at the main events from the five years that preceded the 1984-85 strike, however the main emphasis is on the events of the year long strike in the Nottinghamshire coalfield (8 March 1984 to 3 March 1985) and the subsequent post-strike constitutional crisis that led to the formation of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers in the autumn of 1985. The second part of the thesis looks in depth at the key areas of debate surrounding the 1984-85 miners' strike, namely the ballot issue and the Rule 41 Domino Strategy. Various theories are put forward as to why the failure to hold a national ballot was a fatal tactical error and why the subsequent Rule 41 'domino theory' failed so miserably in the Nottinghamshire coalfield. Events in the Nottinghamshire coalfield in 1984-85 centred on what the majority of Nottinghamshire miners considered as a misapplication of trade union democracy. The initial controversy surrounded the decision to run the strike without recourse to a national ballot under NUM Rule 43. Instead an area by area domino strategy under NUM Rule 41 was tried, with disastrous results. The theory behind the domino strategy was that traditional left-wing Areas of the NUM would start a rolling type of industrial action with other areas falling into line i.e. that is, like a row of dominos put on their end in a line, when one falls the rest should follow suite and fall. The strategy relied on the use of cohesion, the sole strategy being based on confrontational picketing and the sanctity of the picket line. It was here that the roots of the failure of the strike lay and from this the initial split occurred in the NUM ranks from which it proved impossible to recover. The eventual outcome, played out through a series of episodes throughout 1984 and 1985 was the formation of the 'breakaway' Union of Democratic Mineworkers. The thesis will show that the Nottinghamshire miners' reaction when the strike broke in March 1984 was a defence pact guarding traditional methods of dealing with internal union politics against what they saw as unconstitutional procedures. Historically their reaction in March 1984 was similar to that of the unofficial strikes in 1969 and 1970 which launched the rise of the left in the NUM during the 1970's. It will also argue that far from being the blacklegs of 'Spencerite mythology', the Nottinghamshire miners adhered to time honoured regional autonomy in 1984-85 in line with moderate traditions within the NUM. Despite reservations, in the past Nottinghamshire miners had shown unity in the NUM with the adoption of the National Power Loading Agreement (NPLA) in 1966, their participation in the national strikes of 1972 and 1974 and by adhering to the overtime ban throughout the duration of the 1984-85 dispute, from the start of the overtime ban in the autumn of 1983 to the end of the strike in early March 1985. The actions of the NUM NEC and the left of the NUM were instrumental to the outcome of the 1984-85 strike. In the absence of a national ballot the outcome was that confusion reigned and a strike that got off to a bad start went from one crisis to another, eventually resulting in a permanent split in union ranks. A key question, is did the left of the NUM, who essentially had control of the NEC, know there was a possibility of this mayhem happening from the start and in the event of it happening needed a convenient scapegoat for the failure of the strike? Here the Nottinghamshire miners fitted the bill nicely, they were the weak link in the national chain of solidarity and were stained for time immortal because of the events of 1926 and their links with 'Spencerism'. Additionally various myths about the Nottinghamshire coalfield's apparent immunity from the effects of rationalisation and the effects of 'perfect geology' have been hatched to enhance reasons why the majority of Nottinghamshire miners failed to support the 1984-85 strike. This thesis will supply evidence to show these theories are myths and will show that the Nottinghamshire miners' acted within their normal traditions and understood union procedures. Essentially 1984-85 was a challenge to the Nottinghamshire miners' deep routed tradition. The NUM's obstinate stance and failed strike strategy were key factors in causing the split in the union and the strike being lost. It speeded up the process of decline. The eventual outcome was a tragedy not only for the NUM but for the deep coalmining industry in Britain generally. It was as the title of Adeney and Lloyd's book suggested 'Loss without Limit'. 1 At the start of the 1984-85 strike just over 170 collieries existed, by the end of 2011 just 5 collieries remain in production as the end of a significant chapter of British labour history nears its end.

The most powerful force in the world economy today is the redefinition of the relationship between state and marketplace - a process that goes by the name of privatization though this term is inadequate to express its far-reaching changes. We are moving from an era in which governments sought to seize and control the 'commanding heights' of the economy to an era in which the idea of free markets is capturing the commanding heights of world economic thinking. Basic views of how society ought to be organized are undergoing rapid change, trillions of dollars are changing hands and so is fundamental political power. Great new wealth is being created - as are huge opportunities and huge risks. Taking a worldwide perspective, including Britain, where the process began with Mrs Thatcher, Europe and the former USSR, China, Latin America and the US, THE COMMANDING HEIGHTS shows how a revolution in ideas is transforming the world economy - why it is happening, how it can go wrong and what it will mean for the global economy going into the twenty-first century.

This book, first published in 1986, examines the miners' strike of 1984-5 – an event that formed the decisive break with a forty-year-old British tradition of political and industrial compromise. The stakes for the main parties were so high that the price each was willing to pay, the loss each was willing to sustain, exceeded anything seen in an industrial dispute in half a century. This book examines and assesses the strike's full implications, and puts it into its historical and political context.

Where other books are either highly partisan dismissals or appreciations of the Third Way, or dull sociological accounts, this book gets behind the clichés in order to show just what is left of Labour party ideology and what the future may hold. New Labour has changed the face of Britain. Culture, class, education, health, the arts, leisure, the economy have all seen seismic shifts since the 1997 election that raised Blair to power. The Labour that rules has distanced itself from the failed Labour of the 70s and 80s, but the core remains. Labour remains gripped by its own past - unable and unwilling to shed its ties

to the old Labour party, but determined to avoid the mistakes of which lead to four electoral defeats between 1979 and 1992. Cronin covers the full history of the party from its post war triumph through decades of shambolic leadership against ruthless and organised opposition to the resurgent New Labour of the 90s that finally took Britain into the new millennium.

This book, available at last in paperback, analyses the 1984-85 miners' strike by focusing on its vital Scottish dimensions, especially the role of workplace politics and community mobilisation. The year-long strike began in Scotland, with workers defending the moral economy of the coalfields, and resisting pit closures and management attacks on trade unionism. The book relates the strike to an analysis of changing coalfield community and industrial structures from the 1960s to the 1980s. It challenges the stereotyped view that the strike began in March 1984 as a confrontation between Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader, and Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government. Before this point, in fact, fifty percent of Scottish miners were already on strike or engaged in a significant pit-level dispute with their managers, who were far more confrontational than their counterparts in England and Wales. The book explores the key features of the strike that followed in Scotland: the unusual industrial politics; the strong initial pattern of general solidarity; and then the emergence of varieties of pit-level commitment.

A controversial new investigation in the 1984 Miners strike and how it changed Modern Britain. The Miners' strike was a dividing line in Modern British history. Before 1984, Britain was an industrial nation, reborn from the ashes of the Second World War by Clement Atlee's vision of a welfare state. Most of the great industries were nationalised and the trade unions was one of the major forces in the land. After the strike, which ended with humiliating defeat in March 1985, Thatcher's Britain was born. In March 1984, the leader of the Miners' Union, Arthur Scargill, led his members out of the pits without a ballot to protest at planned pit closures; they would spend the next 13 months facing the utmost deprivations as they fought to keep their jobs. On picket lines the miners faced harassment and the police, which culminated in the violent Battle of Orgreave. Meanwhile Thatcher's government feared that Britain was on the verge of a civil war. It was a struggle of attrition that neither side could dare lose. Twenty five years after the strike, the debate is still controversial. Marching to the Faultline tells the full story of the strike from confidential cabinet meetings at Downing Street to backroom negotiations, and life on the picket line. The book draws on previously unseen sources from interviews with the major figures, private archives and documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act to set the record straight. In 1984, a small group of metropolitan homosexual men and lesbian women stepped away from the vibrant culture and hedonism of London's defiant gay scene to befriend and support the beleaguered villages of a very traditional mining community in the remote valleys of South Wales. They did so in the midst of the 1984 miners' strike - the most bitter and divisive dispute for more than half a century, and in one of the most turbulent periods in modern British history. In the 1980s Margaret Thatcher's hardcore social and fiscal policies devastated Britain's traditional industries, and at the same time, AIDS began to claim lives across the nation. At the very height of this perfect storm, as the government and police battled 'the enemy within' in communities across the land and newspapers whipped up fear of the gay 'perverts' who were supposedly responsible for inflicting this lethal new pestilence upon the entire population, two groups who ostensibly had nothing in common - miners and homosexuals - unexpectedly made a stand together and forged a lasting friendship. It was an alliance which helped keep an entire valley clothed and fed during the darkest months of the strike. And it led directly to a long-overdue acceptance by trades unions and the Labour Party that homosexual equality was a cause to be championed. Pride tells the inspiring true story of how two very different communities - each struggling to overcome its own bitter internal arguments and long-established fault lines, as well as facing the power of a hostile government and press found common cause against overwhelming odds. And how this one simple but unlikely act of friendship would, in time, help change life in Britain - forever.

This is an OCR endorsed resource. Build strong subject knowledge and skills in A Level History using the in-depth analysis and structured support in this tailor-made series for OCR's British period studies and enquiries. - Develops the analytical skills required to succeed in the period study by organising the narrative content around the key issues for students to explore - Enhances understanding of the chosen historical period, supplying a wealth of extracts and sources that offer opportunities to practise the evaluative skills needed for the enquiry - Progressively improves study skills through developmental activities and advice on answering practice exam questions - Helps students to review, revise and reflect on the course material through chapter summaries and revision activities that consolidate topic knowledge - Equips students with transferable critical thinking skills, presenting contrasting academic opinions that encourage A Level historians to make informed judgements on major debates Each title in the OCR A Level History series contains one or two British period studies and its associated enquiry, providing complete support for every option in Unit Group 1.

This book presents a first-hand account of the inner workings of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in its confrontation with the Tory government during the Miners' Strike of 1984/5 that changed the face of industrial relations in the UK forever. It charts the spirited defence against mine closures and the devastating aftermath, including the privatisation of British Coal, leading inexorably to the demise of the UK coal industry.

Six out of seven US, and two out of three British, employees are not represented at work. Towers argues that the erosion of the effective defence and representation of employees could have a serious negative effect on economic performance.

The Baby in the pram is a fantastic moving read of Mark McClare's struggle in life set amongst the working class mining communities of Nottinghamshire. Powerful and emotive it explores the challenges of growing up with a bullying father who most of the time would resort to fisticuffs against his own family, through the challenges of finding love with the love of his life Desa and making a family amidst the challenges of the Miners Strike 1984/85, a life threatening accident, overcoming Cancer to the harrowing loss of his Precious Daughter Nicola through Cancer and the launch of a charity in her name Funny at times, always interesting, profoundly moving but somehow a real page turner which grips you to the end, Mark takes us through many jobs, Miner, the owner of racehorses and Dogs, furniture restorer, selling christmas trees with his garden packed with a few hundred before christmas to dog breeder and building a house on a plot of land in the west of Ireland, it's fundamentally a book about love and grit and getting on with life despite the many challenges, A book for all survivors to show your not alone, and there is hope after al

The Thatcher era was the most dramatic period in British politics since the 1940s. As Conservative Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher proved to be the 'Iron Lady' at home and abroad. This book analyzes the politics of the Thatcher era in an incisive and challenging manner.

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Scotland, with workers defending the moral economy of the coalfields, and resisting pit closures and management attacks on trade unionism. The book relates the strike to an analysis of changing coalfield community and industrial structures from the 1960s to the 1980s. It challenges the stereotyped view that the strike began in March 1984 as a confrontation between Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader, and Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government. Before this point, in fact, 50 per cent of Scottish miners were already on strike or engaged in a significant pit-level dispute with their managers, who were far more confrontational than their counterparts in England and Wales. The book explores the key features of the strike that followed in Scotland: the unusual industrial politics; the strong initial pattern of general solidarity; and then the emergence of varieties of pit-level commitment. These were shaped by differential access to community-level moral and material resources, including the economic and cultural role of women, and pre-strike pit-level economic performance. Against the trend elsewhere, notably in the English Midlands, relatively good performance prior to 1984 was a positive factor in building strike endurance in Scotland. The book shows that the outcome of the strike was also distinctive in Scotland, with an unusually high level of victimisation of activists, and the acceleration of deindustrialisation consolidating support for devolution, contributing to the establishment of the Scottish Parliament in 1999.

Once employing thousands, with many collieries dotted all over the area, coal mining in the East Midlands has all but gone. Once tens of thousands depended on mining. Ken Wain tells the story of mining, its triumphs and disasters.

Heritage, Labour and the Working Classes is both a celebration and commemoration of working class culture. It contains sometimes inspiring accounts of working class communities and people telling their own stories, and weaves together examples of tangible and intangible heritage, place, history, memory, music and literature. Rather than being framed in a 'social inclusion' framework, which sees working class culture as a deficit, this book addresses the question "What is labour and working class heritage, how does it differ or stand in opposition to dominant ways of understanding heritage and history, and in what ways is it used as a contemporary resource?" It also explores how heritage is used in working class communities and by labour organizations, and considers what meanings and significance this heritage may have, while also identifying how and why communities and their heritage have been excluded. Drawing on new scholarship in heritage studies, social memory, the public history of labour, and new working class studies, this volume highlights the heritage of working people, communities and organizations. Contributions are drawn from a number of Western countries including the USA, UK, Spain, Sweden, Australia and New Zealand, and from a range of disciplines including heritage and museum studies, history, sociology, politics, archaeology and anthropology. Heritage, Labour and the Working Classes represents an innovative and useful resource for heritage and museum practitioners, students and academics concerned with understanding community heritage and the debate on social inclusion/exclusion. It offers new ways of understanding heritage, its values and consequences, and presents a challenge to dominant and traditional frameworks for understanding and identifying heritage and heritage making.

Trouble is brewing in Ystrad. It is time to defend jobs, the pits, and a way of life that has formed both the life of valley and the nation. The union is squaring up to the Coal Board, the government, and the country. Gwyn Pritchard, overman at Blackthorn colliery, believes that the way to save his pit is to keep his men working and production high. His men disagree and when an old collier dies on Gwyn's shift, the men's simmering resentment spills over into open defiance. But Gwyn faces a challenge at home too. His daughter Helen is in love with a fiery young collier, Scrapper Jones. In March 1984, when miners across the country walk out to join what will become a year-long strike, Scrapper throws himself into the struggle and Helen joins the women, preparing food for the soup kitchen and standing with the men on the picket line. Scrapper, Helen, and Gwyn must decide which side they are on as the dispute drives the Pritchard family apart and the Jones family to ruin. What matters most—to be right, to be loved or to belong?

Written by leading international scholars, Twentieth Century Britain investigates key moments, themes and identities in the past century. Engaging with cutting-edge research and debate, the essays in the volume combine discussion of the major issues currently preoccupying historians of the twentieth century with clear guidance on new directions in the theories and methodologies of modern British social, cultural and economic history. Divided into three, the first section of the book addresses key concepts historians use to think about the century, notably, class, gender and national identity. Organised chronologically, the book then explores topical thematic issues, such as multicultural Britain, religion and citizenship. Representing changes in the field, some chapters represent more recent fields of historical inquiry, such as modernity and sexuality.

The process of economic globalization, as product and capital markets have become increasingly integrated since WWII, has placed huge, and it is argued by some, irresistible pressures on the world's 'insider' stakeholder oriented corporate governance systems. Insider corporate governance systems in countries such as Germany, so the argument goes, should converge or be transformed by global product and capital market pressures to the 'superior' shareholder oriented 'outsider' corporate governance model prevalent in the UK and the US. What these pressures from globalization are, how they manifest themselves, whether they are likely to cause such a convergence/transformation and whether these pressures will continue, lie at the heart of the exploration in this volume. The Globalization of Corporate Governance provides a detailed analysis of the evolution of the key corporate governance systems in the UK, the US and Germany from the perspective of the development of economic globalization. As such it is a valuable resource for those interested in how economic and legal reforms interact to produce change within corporate governance systems.

The Miners' Strike, 1984–5 Loss Without Limit Routledge

No one personified the age of industry more than the miners. The Shadow of the Mine tells the story of King Coal in its heyday – and what happened to mining communities after the last pits closed. Coal was central to the British economy, powering its factories and railways. It carried political weight, too. In the eighties the miners risked everything in a year-long strike against Thatcher's shutdowns. Defeat foretold the death of their industry. Tens of thousands were cast onto the labour market with a minimum amount of advice and support. Yet British politics all of a sudden revolves around the coalfield constituencies that lent their votes to Boris Johnson's Conservatives in 2019. Even in the Welsh Valleys, where the 'red wall' still stands, support for the Labour Party has halved in a generation. Huw Beynon and Ray Hudson draw on decades of research to chronicle these momentous changes through the words of the people who lived through them.

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In 1984 the National Coal Board announced a reduction in coal output that amounted to the loss of twenty pits and 20,000 jobs. The National Union of Mineworkers saw this as an attack on their members and called them out on strike. Twenty years on, this is the story of that bitter, year-long dispute is told through the memories of people from mining communities who took part in it.

A new study of the personal, political, and institutional impacts of social movements.

In September 2014, the people of Scotland will decide whether after 407 years of British rule they want to be an independent country. Chris Bambery, a leading figure in the Scottish Independence campaign, seizes the opportunity to delve into the real and oft-forgotten history of Scotland. A People's History of Scotland is a corrective to the usual history of kings and queens, victorious battles and bloody defeats. Rather it tells the story that matters today, the story of freedom fighters, suffragettes, the workers of Red Clydesdale who fought for their rights, and the contemporary struggle for independence. It looks at the struggles for nationhood as well as for a socialist future, while also charting the lives of Scots who changed the world- from the real MacBeth, to the father of modern capitalism, Adam Smith, as well as campaigner Mary Brooksbank. This is a passionate cry for more than just independence but also for a nation that has socialist roots.

The British Economy in Transition: From the Old to the New? examines attempts at economic regeneration in areas that have experienced the decline in 'traditional' industry of recent years. The contributors also look at the impact of techno and managerial modernization strategies in industries that have survived, but have had to adapt rapidly to do so. Coverage includes: * Coal * Steel closure and economic regeneration * Defence conversion * Modernizing textiles * Modernizing motor vehicles * Trading ports in Merseyside * From manufacturing to service industries in the Midlands * the Engineering industry - prospects in the South East * Deindustrialization and regeneration in the North East Each industry is discussed by an expert in this area. The book will be a valuable guide to all those interested in change in British industry and business.

First published in 1998, this book, through a combination of theoretical and empirical research, tries to advance beyond the available literature to an understanding of the links between strike activity and the political process. Although its primary focus is upon the long-term impact of the 1984/85 Miners' Strike, it discusses other industrial settings and 'political' disputes. By linking the political socialisation process with strike activity in a refreshing and thought-provoking manner, this book provides an insight into why some people are more interested and involved in political activity in comparison with the population at large.

No

Never before published in the U.S., GB84 will be launched in 2014 alongside two other novels by David Peace: The Damned Utd and Red or Dead In taut and gripping prose that often feels like the relentless text of a surveillance report, GB84 tells the story of the British coal miner's strike of 1984—including the actual bombings, riots and protests that brought the country to the brink of civil war. Called by its author "fiction based on fact," the book depicts a real-life 1984 more violently dystopian than even Orwell imagined.

Slowly starving strikers find themselves pitted against a prime minister—Margaret Thatcher—determined to crush them . . . a police force willing to use infiltration and violence to achieve her will . . . and equally hungry scabs who need a job . . . Mixing real events and characters with the voices of the increasingly desperate strikers, the book becomes a stirring saga of courage against overwhelmingly sinister forces, and paints a searing and haunting portrait of events that changed the course of British history.

Margaret Thatcher branded the leaders of the 1984-85 miners strike "the enemy within." With the publication of this book, the full irony of that accusation became clear. Seumas Milne revealed for the first time the astonishing lengths to which the government and its intelligence machine were prepared to go to destroy the power of Britain's miners' union. There was an enemy within. It was the secret services of the British state, operating inside the NUM itself. Milne revealed for the first time the astonishing lengths to which the government and its intelligence machine were prepared to go to destroy the power of Britain's miners' union. Using phoney bank deposits, staged cash drops, forged documents, agents provocateurs and unrelenting surveillance, M15 and police Special Branch set out to discredit Scargill and other miners' leaders. Planted tales of corruption were seized on by the media and both Tory and Labour politicians in what became an unprecedentedly savage smear campaign.

Describes the achievements of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, examining her skills as a policy maker, politician, and manager while implementing foreign policy for the administration of George W. Bush.

John Lowe, chairman of Clipstone Colliery's strike committee, was at the forefront of the fight for jobs of the twelve months' 1984/85 miners' strike at a time when most Nottinghamshire miners preferred to work. The now well known 'dirty war' fought by the Thatcher Government against the National Union of Mineworkers transformed him from a passive family man into a political animal. Lowe was witness to many disturbing events, recording his experiences and thoughts in a diary so that they would never be forgotten: read about a pensioner friend beaten at a police roadblock, a bleak but unifying Christmas, the slow trickle back to work; and finally the the dreaded day the strike ended - and the first harrowing weeks back at the coal face among people he despised. With the scars of the dispute still fresh, John Lowe reflected upon both local and national events to produce pieces of writing from the heart, illustrated via a huge collection of documentation and memorabilia. Although a tale of sorrow it is also a testament to the unquenchable spirit of men and women fighting for a just cause during the most significant industrial dispute in modern history.

Seminar paper from the year 2011 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Culture and Applied Geography, grade: 1,7, Technical University of Chemnitz (Anglistik/Amerikanistik), course: British Society, Culture and Politics, language: English, abstract: This paper should bring three main topics into accordance because all three,

