

Acts, to issue instructions relative to the management and uses of miners and to act in a negotiating or conciliatory capacity in all disputes between the owners and the workmen subject to this that the Coal Control does not interfere until local machinery has been exhausted, and it does not negotiate while men are on strike, it being its established practice to negotiate in an atmosphere of reason and not of force.

The local machinery above mentioned varies slightly district by district, but in the main the same course is pursued in each coalfield.

The channels through which a dispute passes are as follows :—

*Ordinary Dispute at a Colliery*

- (1) Colliery manager—lodge secretary or committee.
- (2) Colliery agent—miners' agent.
- (3) District conciliation board representative of the district coal owners and the district miners.
- (4) Where negotiation or conciliation is desired the Coal Control Acts, or,
- (4a) Where arbitration is desired an arbitrator is appointed by the Ministry of Labour.

*District Dispute*

- (1) District Conciliation Board.
- (2) and (2a) as above (4) and (4a).

*Minimum Wage Dispute*

- (1) Joint District Board.

Disputes arising out of minimum wage disputes