

"THE BIG MEETING"

The "Big Meeting" they call it in County Durham - the one day in the year when the miners of the county take over Durham City. The American Ambassador is among the distinguished guests, who watch the miners come to town - and not only the miners, but their families and neighbours. In fact, some villages have left hardly anybody at home.

Any pit that hasn't got its own band, hires one - to escort the banner to the racecourse, where the speeches are made. Tony Greenwood on one of the platforms holds an interested audience which includes Hugh Gaitskell.

But above all, this is a family outing - and the youngsters in particular have the time of their lives. The Big Meeting's a grand opportunity for making new friends!