

The Board has available a comprehensive fund of information on all matters respecting coal dating back to the inception of its predecessor, the Dominion Fuel Board, in 1922. Many other departments of government continue to take advantage of this situation by consultations on various matters having to do with the supply and marketing of coal. The Board maintains the closest co-operation with the Division of Fuels of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys on fuel problems.

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Coal (1946), the Board has continued to work for a reduction of customs duties and sales tax on coal mining machinery. It has also maintained its efforts to create a uniform system of coal mine cost accounting which would provide an accurate presentation of the cost of production.

The Dominion Coal Board consists of seven members including the Chairman who is its Chief Executive Officer and has the status of a deputy minister. The Board is responsible to, and subject to the direction of, the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys.

Subsection 2.—Provincial Government Aid*

Newfoundland.—The Newfoundland Government, through its Mines Branch, provides several valuable services to those interested in prospecting and mining. It will supply certain geological maps of specific areas to interested parties. It will identify specimens sent in from Newfoundland and Labrador and will assay by chemical means those that appear to have some mineral content. If good specimens from a known area warrant further help, a geologist from the Department of Mines and Resources will visit the locality and give advice. Prospecting and mining permits are issued by the Department and claims are registered.

Nova Scotia.—Under the provisions of the Mines Act (R.S.N.S. 1954, c. 179), the Government of Nova Scotia may assist a mining company or operator in the sinking of shafts, slopes, deeps and winzes and the driving of adits, tunnels, crosscuts, raises and levels. This assistance may take the form of work performed under contract, the payment of bills for materials and labour or the guarantee of bank loans. Any such work must be approved by the Department of Mines. The Government is also authorized to assist the mining industry to procure power on the most economical basis and may guarantee the Nova Scotia Power Commission against any loss incurred on account of capital investments made for that purpose or revenue. Mining machinery and equipment that may be used in searching for or testing and mining minerals may be made available through the Government. Such equipment is under the direct supervision of the Chief Mining Engineer.

The Government of Nova Scotia is also empowered to make any regulations considered necessary for increasing the output of coal. Such regulations cover the appropriation on payment, of unworked coal lands, operation of coal mines, loans or guarantees for loans. Close co-operation is maintained with the Federal Government in carrying out federal regulations made to secure increased production and economical distribution of coal from the mines of the Province.

New Brunswick.—There are five divisions under the Mines Branch of the Department of Lands and Mines. The *Mineral Lands Division* administers the disposition of Crown mineral rights including the issuing of prospecting licences, recording of mining claims, issuing of mining licences and leases and other matters pertaining thereto. Detailed and index claim maps are prepared for distribution. The *Mine Inspection and Engineering Division* administers the safety regulations governing operations under the Mining Act. Regular inspections of all mines are performed. Laboratory facilities are maintained. It is the responsibility of this Division to approve equipment used in mines. The *Geological Division* carries on general and detailed geological mapping and investigation. Maps and reports are prepared for distribution. Mineral and rock specimens are examined for prospectors. Preliminary examinations of mineral prospects are performed where requested and circumstances warrant. The *Mine Assessment Division* is responsible for collection of mining tax and royalties and preparation of statistics concerning mineral production.

* Compiled from material supplied by the respective provincial governments.