

of coal research and to the dissemination to the industry of technical information resulting from research, the Board initiated the now annual Dominion-Provincial Conferences on Coal. In the field of coal statistics, the Board has a long-standing co-operative arrangement with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics under which the Bureau collects most of the statistical information required by the Board.

Government purchases of fuel, which constitute an important outlet for coal, claim a part of the time of the Board's staff in an advisory capacity. Advice on fuel matters is also continuously available to all government departments and agencies. A senior official of the Coal Board is chairman of the Interdepartmental Fuel Committee, which advises on the supply, purchase and utilization of fuel for the Department of National Defence, and of the Dominion Fuel Committee, which is organized along similar lines as an advisory body to other government departments.

The subvention assistance on the movement of Canadian coals, which the Board administers, is authorized from year to year by votes of moneys by Parliament; payments are in accordance with Regulations established by Order in Council. This assistance, which has been provided in varying degrees for the past 30 years, was designed to further the marketing of Canadian coals by equalizing as far as possible the laid-down costs of Canadian coals with imported coals. During the year ended Mar. 31, 1962, a total of 3,274,482 tons of coal was shipped under subvention and \$16,781,253 was paid in assistance. Costs and conditions of the coal industry being subject to variations, the Board must review from time to time the rates of subvention and the areas where the assistance is required.

Coal subventions of another type, based on the Btu content of coal used in thermal-electric power production, were authorized in January 1958 by the provisions of the Atlantic Provinces Power Development Act. The Dominion Coal Board was designated as the Government of Canada's administrative agency for subvention matters in agreements made with the provinces under this Act.

As agent to the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys, the Board receives applications and administers loans under the Coal Production Assistance Act (RSC 1952, c. 173, as amended by SC 1958, c. 36; SC 1959, c. 39; SC 1960-61, c. 20; and SC 1962-63, c. 13). The Board also administers payments under the Canadian Coal Equity Act (RSC 1952, c. 34), which provides a subsidy on Canadian coal used in the manufacture of coke for metallurgical purposes. In the year ended Mar. 31, 1962, payments under this Act, totalling \$192,927, were made on 389,751 tons of coal.

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 publishes, for sale at nominal cost, geological reports, geophysical maps and compilations of general data pertaining to specific areas and makes available, from unclassified files, various other information to interested parties. It identifies specimens sent in from Newfoundland and Labrador and assays by chemical means those that appear to have some mineral content. If good specimens from a known area warrant further investigation, a geologist from the Department of Mines, Agriculture and Resources is available to 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 (RSNS 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

* Compiled from material supplied by the respective provincial governments.