

ficers are stationed at the Regina headquarters.

The Precambrian Geology Division of the Geological Sciences Branch conducts geological surveys in the Shield areas of the province and publishes maps and reports for the information and guidance of the industry. Resident geologists are stationed at Uranium City and La Ronge and at the latter centre a laboratory provides for storage and examination of core and samples. The Division processes exploration data and assessment work to be made available for inspection by the industry.

**Alberta.** The Energy Resources Conservation Act, proclaimed January 1, 1972, provided for the transfer to the Energy Resources Conservation Board of responsibility for the administration of The Pipe Line Act, The Coal Mines Regulation Act and The Quarries Regulation Act. This transfer brings under one administrative authority all aspects of the energy resources of Alberta including their conservation, regulation and transmission. The Board regulates coal mines and quarries and maintains standards of safety by inspection and certification of workers. The oil and gas industries are served in a similar way but regulatory measures are also concerned with preventing the waste of oil and gas resources and with giving each owner of oil and gas rights the opportunity of obtaining a fair share of production. The Board compiles periodic reports and annual records which are of invaluable assistance in oil development in Alberta. The Workmen's Compensation Board also maintains safety standards and pays the cost of training mine rescue crews. The mining industry is also served by the Research Council of Alberta which has made geological surveys of most of the province and has carried out projects concerned with the uses and development of minerals. The Council has studied the occurrence, uses and analyses of Alberta coals and their particular chemical and physical properties, the use of coals in the generation of power, and the upgrading and cleaning of coal; and has also studied briquetting, blending, abrasion loss, shatter and crushing strength, asphalt binders and dust-proofing of coal. Studies have been made of glass sands, salt, fertilizers, cement manufacture and brick and tile manufacture.

The province from time to time has had commissions examine various aspects of the mining industry when it has considered that their findings would be of assistance in developing such industries. The province, together with the Canadian Association of Oil Well Drilling Contractors and the Canadian Petroleum Association, maintains a detailed supervisory and safety training program concerned with the drilling of oil and gas wells. Of assistance also to mining companies and oil companies are the special reductions provided for in the Alberta Income Tax Act. These follow the parallel provisions in the federal Income Tax Act.

**British Columbia.** The British Columbia Department of Mines and Petroleum Resources provides assistance to the mining industry through two established branches and two new divisions, Economics and Planning, and Mineral Taxation, which were to begin operation in 1974.

Inspectors of the Mineral Resources Branch are stationed at various centres throughout the province. In addition to inspecting coal mines, metal mines and quarries, they may also examine prospects, mining properties, roads and trails, and carry out special investigations under the Mineral Act. Environmental Control inspectors conduct dust, ventilation and noise surveys at all mines and quarries and recommend improvements in environmental conditions. Other inspectors administer the Roads and Trails and Prospectors Grubstake programs, and the reclamation sections of provincial mining statutes.

The Geological Division carries out a variety of geological studies and publishes data concerning mineral deposits. It makes assessments of the mineral potential of land, collects, stores and disseminates geological statistical data, and records the exploration and mining activities of the industry. An inventory of mineral deposits is under way with a view to establishing a quantitative appraisal of mineral resources. The Division offers a restricted number of free assays for prospectors, identifies rocks and minerals, and provides lectures for courses in prospecting. The Mining Titles Division administers provincial laws on the acquisition of rights to minerals and coal. It provides information, including approximate-site maps, on mineral claims and placer leases and their ownership as well as data on the ownership, location and status of coal licences and coal leases.

The Petroleum Resources Branch is responsible for administering the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act and related drilling and production regulations. These regulations stipulate efficient and safe practices to be used in the drilling, completion and abandonment of wells,