

In the latter part of 1942 it became increasingly evident that there was grave danger of a coal shortage due to the increasing cost of production incident to the War and that many mines would go into bankruptcy and shut down if financial aid were not provided. On Nov. 23, 1942, by Order in Council P.C. 10674, the Emergency Coal Production Board was formed, the Coal Administrator being appointed as Chairman of the Board.

By the early months of 1943 the supply position was becoming grave and as supply was more within the function of the Department of Munitions and Supply a transfer was made of the duties and responsibilities of Coal Administration to that Department. This was accomplished on Mar. 5, 1943, by Order in Council P.C. 1752. The Coal Administrator under this Order became Coal Controller. On transference of Coal Administration to Coal Control, the Coal Controller became Chairman of the Emergency Coal Production Board. A breakdown of the responsibilities and duties of the Coal Controller and the Chairman of the Emergency Coal Production Board follows.

*Dominion Fuel Board—*

- (1) The payment of subventions on the movement of coal and administration of Orders in Council governing such movements.
- (2) The administration of the Domestic Fuel Act and Act 20-21 Geo. V and payments thereunder.
- (3) Maintaining ordinary peacetime work and contacts, some of which had direct bearing on the war effort (e.g., production costs).

*Coal Administration—*

- (1) The maintenance of the price ceiling on coal for domestic consumers, industrial, railway and others.
- (2) The payment of subsidies through Commodity Prices Stabilization Corporation Limited, to maintain ceiling prices on coal (import subsidies).
- (3) The licensing of coal dealers as per Order of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board No. 1.
- (4) Statistical records and tabulations of prices, sales and stocks of coal.
- (5) Same data in respect to coke.
- (6) The maintenance of adequate supply to the domestic population.
- (7) The administration and payment (through the Commodity Price Stabilization Corporation Limited) of assistance in respect to cost-of-living bonus.

*Coal Control—*

- (1) The control, maintenance and increase of coal production in conjunction with the Emergency Coal Production Board. At present Coal Control functions in an advisory and assisting capacity.
- (2) Control and maintenance of coal imports.
- (3) The distribution or allocation of available coal in Canada to war industry, railways and other industry.
- (4) The allocation of Canadian coal to export markets and bunker supplies.
- (5) The overseeing and allocation of coal supplies to the Armed Services in conjunction with the Purchasing Division of the Department of Munitions and Supply.

*The Emergency Coal Production Board—*

- (1) Maintaining and stimulating production of Canadian coal, lignite, coke and peat.
- (2) The opening and operation of new coal, lignite, coke and peat operations.
- (3) Prohibiting or limiting operation of inefficient mines or plants.
- (4) Directing the production policies and methods of coal mines, etc.
- (5) Making recommendations to the Minister for the procurement or transfer of labour.
- (6) Providing financial assistance to maintain or increase production and payment thereof.
- (7) Suspending rules, regulations or laws impeding maximum production.
- (8) Requiring adoption of production bonus or incentive plans.