

in Council P.C. 1094 of Mar. 15, 1949, provides assistance on coal mined in the Provinces of Alberta and British Columbia where exported from Canadian seaports to foreign countries other than the United States and its territorial possessions or sold as fuel for ships' stores. During the year ended Mar. 31, 1953, a total of 2,586,042 tons was shipped under subvention and \$4,623,696 was paid in assistance.

Because of the growing impact of oil and natural gas on the markets for Canadian coal, the Board and its staff intensified its study of the relation of these competing sources of energy and of possible new outlets for the solid fuel.

On the matter of technical research as related to marketing and distribution, the Board continued to maintain close liaison with the Division of Fuels of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys. Under the auspices of the Board, a fourth Dominion-Provincial Conference on Coal Research was held at Ottawa on June 4 and 5, 1952, for the purpose of co-ordination and exchange of ideas. It was attended by delegates from the provincial governments and research bodies of Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, representatives from the Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, together with federal representatives from the Dominion Coal Board and Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

The Interdepartmental Committee on the Supply to the Armed Forces of Fuel and Equipment for Heating continued its activities during the year. Furthermore, at the request of several government departments for advice on coal matters, a Committee composed of senior purchasing agents of the various government departments was established and meetings were held throughout the year under the auspices of the Dominion Coal Board.

The Board maintained its efforts to create a uniform system of coal-mine cost accounting which would provide an accurate presentation of the costs of production.

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Coal (1946), the Board continued to work for a reduction in customs duties and sales tax on coal-mining machinery. As agent of the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys, the Board continued to handle applications for loans under the Maritime Coal Production Assistance Act (R.S.C. 1952, c. 173) and administer the loans granted thereunder. The Board also continued to administer payments under the Coke Bounty Act (1930, c. 6) which provides a subsidy on Canadian coal used in the manufacture of coke for metallurgical purposes. During the year ended Mar. 31, 1953, 801,890 tons had been bonused at a cost of \$396,935.

The Dominion Coal Board consists of seven members including the Chairman who is its Chief Executive Officer with 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\*

**Nova Scotia.**—Under the provisions of the Mines Act (S.N.S., 1950, c. 3), 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

\* Information supplied by the Departments of Mines or Mines Branches of the various provinces.