

The Board, since its inception, has worked toward the co-ordination of the activities of various Government Departments and other bodies relating to coal. On the matter of technical research as related to the marketing and distributing of coal, the Board has maintained close liaison with the Division of Fuels of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys. Under the auspices of the Board, Dominion-provincial conferences on coal research have been held annually since 1949 for the purpose of co-ordination and exchange of ideas.

At the instance of the Board, an Interdepartmental Committee on the Supply to the Armed Forces of Fuel and Equipment for Heating was set up in 1949 to advise on the purchase and supply of fuel to the Armed Services. In addition, close contact has been maintained with the purchasing agents of those Government Departments using coal whom it has advised on questions connected with the buying of coal.

In a wider sphere, the Board has met on occasion with the Coal Policy Committee of the Provincial Ministers of Mines and has given consideration to recommendations made by the latter body relating to coal. It has also kept contact with trade and other associations concerned with the various phases of the Canadian coal industry in order to foster better mutual understanding of governmental and private endeavour. It has generally constituted a central agency through which representations could be made to the Government.

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Royal Commission, 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.

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 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, 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.

\* Compiled from material supplied by the provincial governments.