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FUEL
and the Future

**The Proceedings of a Conference held in London
on October 8th, 9th and 10th, 1946, under the
Auspices of the Fuel Efficiency Committee**

VOLUME ONE

LONDON
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PREFACE

The general need for efficiency in British industry has never been greater than it is today. Fuel efficiency is an integral part of production efficiency, and correct fuel utilisation is now, and will be in the future, essential in every factory, establishment and home. For this reason, the Fuel Efficiency Committee of the Ministry decided in March, 1946, to convene a conference at which both the present state of development of fuel utilisation and its future trends could be freely discussed by experts in each individual field in an informative manner for the general guidance of all fuel users, industrial and domestic.

Nearly five thousand industrialists and members of domestic organisations interested in fuel usage attended the conference on 8th, 9th and 10th October, 1946.

After a joint opening session at which those assembled were addressed by prominent members of the Government, Industry and Trade Unions, the conference divided into eight sections meeting simultaneously in different places, each section holding three sessions consecutively. The sections dealt with the following subjects :—

- Section " A "—The Generation of Steam.
- Section " B "—Steam Utilisation.
- Section " C "—Heat for Drying.
- Section " D "—High Temperature Processes.
- Section " E "—The Carbonisation and Chemical Industries.
- Section " F "—Special Industrial Sessions.
- Section " G "—Modern Heating and the Architect.
- Section " H "—The Home and its Fuel Services.

Two joint sessions were then held simultaneously, one dealing with the Sizing and Grading of Coal, and the other with District Heating, after which there was a closing session presided over by the Rt. Hon. Emanuel Shinwell, M.P., Minister of Fuel and Power, and addressed by the Rt. Hon. Sir Stafford Cripps, K.C., M.P., President of the Board of Trade, at which also the sectional chairmen summarised the conclusions of their meetings.

The proceedings of the conference have been printed in three volumes, of which this book comprises the first. It is devoted to the opening and closing sessions together with the first three technical sections dealing with the generation of steam, steam utilisation, and heat for drying.

Considerations of space have made it necessary to curtail most of the communications to a greater or lesser extent by abridgement, summarisation or condensation as best fitted the subject. Every care has been taken to avoid the omission or distortion of any essential matter, and the authors are thanked for submitting to this unfortunately necessary operation.

Where requested, acknowledgments have been formally made in the text of this publication. In addition, the Ministry wish to express their thanks to all those who have contributed to the success of this conference and without whose aid it could not have been held.

Finally, it should be pointed out that the fact of publication of these proceedings must not be held to imply that all the views expressed therein are necessarily in every respect those of the Ministry of Fuel and Power.