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# NATIONALISATION OF THE MINES

BY

FRANK HODGES

*Secretary of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain*

WITH FOREWORD

BY

THE RT. HON. JOHN R. CLYNES, D.C.L., M.P.

LONDON

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TO  
THE TOLERS  
OF THE UNDERWORLD  
AND  
ROBERT SMILLIE

## FOREWORD

By THE RT. HON. JOHN R. CLYNES, D.C.L., M.P.

OF the making of books there is no end. But few of them deal with the daily toil of the nameless Nobodies who make up the millions of our industrial population. The poet has sung of the blacksmith in the village, and the painter has portrayed the drudge at the plough. These are artistic backgrounds to distressing industrial realities which have seldom provided a theme for the pen of popular authors.

We may sing of the soldier and the sailor, but seldom of the men who toil at the forge, or hammer the plates in the shipyard. The world of romance and sentiment is far removed from the world depicted in this book. It is a book of the real under-world. It does not ask us to weep over the graves of miners sent to their doom in hundreds when we are shocked by some terrible explosion. It commands attention - for the every-day conditions of the men who

at their peril dig for the first essential of British industry—Coal.

In this service for industry the author shows that one miner is killed every six hours, and another is injured every three minutes. Dangerous as are the pursuits of many wage earners, they are at their worst safer than the conditions of the miners at their best, and “the risks of capital,” which at times are real, are as nothing to the risks with which the winning of coal surrounds human life.

The case of Nationalisation is argued in these pages on grounds of national interest, and many who fear that national ownership would diminish production will find themselves answered with a case that goes far to prove that not less but greater output of coal would arise from the system of ownership and management supported by the author. National ownership is advocated not for a trade, or a class, or a sectional benefit. Gain for the community inspires the demand made for immediate changes in both the terms of service, and the conditions of ownership of this great property.

Minerals were not made by man. Mines are part of the great store of mineral wealth which man should inherit. Private ownership in these stores has not conferred either upon the trade or the community the advantages which should be derived. The strength



of the miners' case rests, not upon what is promised from the change, so much as upon the lamentable results with which we are faced in the history and experience of private ownership. The results are a convincing answer. The life standards, the homes, and the colliery conditions of men who give this indispensable toil, afford the most crushing case against the continuance of the present system. The case rests upon broad human grounds, as well as expediency, and it is argued from the standpoint of high public policy and not from a motive of class interest.

In a comparatively few years of service the author of this book has placed us under an obligation by his work, and brings new qualities and energy to the store of experience and courage revealed by a long line of Miners' Leaders, who, after the most bitter struggles, are approaching a stage where they will have placed this great army of underworld workers in a position not inferior to that of any other class of the wage-earning population.

Men who may feel that the miners' struggles for better conditions are a handicap to other trades are forced now to try and understand the miners' purpose, and to examine their claims. Critics may assail their leaders, but they cannot deny that one glorious result from their years of effort in organisation has led the miners out of

conditions which were akin to slavery into a position where they can compel attention because their service provides the foundation for the trade and commerce of Britain.

The Miners always had a strength which only in recent years has been fully revealed. Their strength lies behind the fact that however much we may mourn the demands which they make, we will not go down the pits to take their place. This strength is enormously increased by the plea which Mr. Hodges puts before us.

## AUTHOR'S PREFACE

THESE are days of fierce polemics, bitter controversy, political partisanship, and clash of industrial interests. In Britain, as elsewhere, the principal points around which the protagonists circle are economic in their character. The economic position of the Coal Industry arrests the attention not only of the principal combatants, mine owners and miners, but the fiery glow of the contest attracts the casual passer-by as few other contests have done in the world of industry. Proletarians, professors, politicians flit about in the outer circles, watching, waiting, quarrelling, sometimes assisting, sometimes impeding the general progress of the battle. In such an atmosphere it is difficult for one of the many combatants to withdraw temporarily and attempt to set down the reasons for the fight.

At the moment of writing the struggle rapidly approaches its zenith, but the writer hopes that this little work, hurriedly written in intervals of retirement from the conflict,

will elucidate the position of the coal industry as it now is and also the proposals put forward by the miners in relation thereto. The average political considerations have not animated the writer in preparing this work for the general reader. The primary reason is economic. The coal industry occupies so important a place in our industrial and economic life that one is continually forced to an examination of its foundations and general structure in order that we can assure ourselves of the general economic well-being of all dependent industries. Political view-points, are many and varied, but in the main they approximate to and are influenced by economic forces. If the economic basis of our political and social life is unsafe then it appears to be essential to direct attention to the fact that unless the defects are rapidly remedied all our political and social superstructure will come crashing down.

The social misery consequent upon such a fall provides in itself an irresistible impulse in many men to leave no stone unturned to prevent such a catastrophe. The whole question is one of method. Many defects are universally admitted, whilst remedies are almost as numerous as the defects.

If the remedy set forth in this book for the ills of the industry could be proved to be less effective than any other that may be

proposed, then the writer gratefully feels that his mind is still receptive enough to prevent him falling into the appalling position of rejecting it because it is new.

For the reasons set forth in this little book no other remedy except that of National Ownership of the entire industry, with joint control by the full personnel of the industry and representatives of the whole community, seems to be complete.

Especially is that the case when human personality is under consideration. The last two chapters are devoted almost exclusively to this phase of the problem. We are confronted with an increasingly educated working class; a class which more and more rejects the imposition of external will and authority over it; a class which yearns for the status of responsible manhood in industry and which rebels against any cramping institution which thwarts its aspirations for freedom. The purpose of life is becoming more generally manifest as the enjoyment of freedom. For generations it has been believed by the working classes that the only institution which stood in the way of freedom was political in character. The freedom of political democracy is a magnificent accomplishment, but it is now realised that the slavery of industry is harsher than the slavery of the unenfranchised serf. Hence the impulse of industrial freedom. The

struggle to shake off the imposition of external wills because the instruments of production are owned by the possessors of such wills is the most remarkable phenomenon of the age.

Those who resolutely decline to take cognisance of this fact are ill-equipped to make provision for Britain's future, or, for that matter, of the future of any modern country.

If it appears that this point is unnecessarily stressed in these pages, it is due to the fact that it is the principal problem of the period from the writer's point of view.

F. H.

LONDON,  
*February, 1920.*

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APPENDIX I

COAL INDUSTRY COMMISSION  
ACT, 1919

REPORT

BY

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SANKEY, G.B.E.  
(Chairman).

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.

I HAVE the honour to present a further Report in  
pursuance of the Coal Industry Commission Act, 1919.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

I

*I recommend that Parliament be invited immediately to pass legislation acquiring the Coal Royalties for the State and paying fair and just compensation to the owners.*

3. METHOD OF PURCHASE OF COAL  
ROYALTIES

XIX

The value of each individual royalty owner's interest should be assessed by Government valuers with an appeal to a specially constituted tribunal.

XX

Such valuers should take into consideration—

- (a) the properties where coal has been developed ;
- (b) potential properties where coal is known to exist and is awaiting development ;
- (c) surface wayleaves and shaft rent in certain cases which destroy the amenities of the neighbouring property ;
- (d) the usual royalty charged in the district for the class of coal in question ;

but not—

- (e) properties in which the existence of coal is uncertain but suspected ; and
- (f) underground wayleaves.

XXI

I also suggest that Parliament in laying down the principles of valuation should consider whether it is not possible to fix a total maximum sum which would form a pool to be allocated between the various individual royalty owners in accordance with the foregoing or any other principles which Parliament may adopt. The advantage of this plan would be that the State would at once know its total maximum liability.

II

*I recommend on the evidence before me that the principle of State ownership of the coal mines be accepted.*

5. METHOD OF PURCHASE AND CARRYING ON OF THE COAL MINES

XXXV

It is suggested that the State should purchase all the collieries, including colliery buildings, plant, machinery, stores and other effects in and about the colliery at a fair value subject to the next paragraph.

## XXXVI)

In addition, expenditure on development of the collieries (including the provision of houses) incurred after a date to be fixed and with the consent of the Controller of Coal Mines should be repaid with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum from the date of the expenditure provided that if such expenditure has become remunerative before the date of the purchase, the amount of the sum payable by way of interest should be reduced by the amount of the profits earned thereon.

## XXXVII

In further addition the State should take power to purchase real and movable property directly associated with the working of the colliery not comprised in paragraph XXXV, other than the assets at the colliery, at a fair value.

## XXXVIII

In the case of composite undertakings the owners should have a right to compel the State to purchase, and the State should have the right to compel the owner to sell the whole undertaking if, in the opinion of an arbitrator, the severance of the undertaking cannot be economically or commercially effected. By composite undertaking is meant an undertaking where a company or firm is carrying on a colliery in addition to and in conjunction with another works, *e.g.*, a colliery and a steel works.

## XXXIX

Without prejudice to the powers recommended by the last paragraph, it is a matter for careful consideration whether the coke and by-product industry, which is at present only in its infancy, should not be allowed to remain in private ownership.

**XL**

It is suggested that the bulk of the present officials engaged in the coal mining industry, including the managing directors of companies, should be offered an opportunity of remaining on at their present salaries on a 5 years' agreement together with any increases awarded from time to time.

**XLI**

The Civil Servant has not been trained to run an industry, but the war has demonstrated the potentiality of the existence of a new class of men (whether already in the service of the State or not) who are just as keen to serve the State as they are to serve a private employer and who have been shown to possess the qualities of courage in taking initiative necessary for the running of an industry.

**XLII**

Hitherto, State management of industries has on balance failed to prove itself free from serious shortcomings, but these shortcomings are largely due to the neglect of the State to train those who are to be called on for knowledge and ability in management.

**XLIII**

The experience of the last few years has, however, shown that it is not really difficult for the British nation to provide a class of administrative officers who combine the strongest sense of public duty with the greatest energy and capacity for initiative. Those who have this kind of training appear to be capable in a high degree of assuming responsibility and also of getting on with the men whom they have to direct.

## XLIV

Finally, under State ownership it is always possible to lease a mine to particular persons on terms agreeable to those who are engaged in the production of coal thereat, and this principle can be applied not only to a mine or a group of mines contained in a particular district, but to a composite undertaking.

N.B.—If and when the coal mines are acquired by the State any just claims of pioneer boring companies should be recognised, and the State should take power to carry out exploratory borings.

## 6. THE SCHEME FOR LOCAL ADMINISTRATION

N.B.—The propositions put forward in this scheme must not be regarded as recommendations, nor does the scheme aim at being comprehensive. The time at my disposal only allows me to make suggestions which it is hoped will be useful to Parliament.

*Index to Scheme*

	Paragraphs.
(i) Local Mining Council .. .. .	XLV—LIII.
(ii) District Mining Council .. .. .	LIV—LXIV.
(iii) National Mining Council .. .. .	LXV—LXXII.
(iv) Finance and Publicity .. .. .	LXXXIII—LXXXVIII.
(v) Safety, Health and Research .. .. .	LXXXIX—LXXXV.
(vi) Admiralty Coal .. .. .	LXXXVI.
(vii) Export Trade .. .. .	LXXXVII—LXXXIX.

## (i) THE LOCAL MINING COUNCIL

N.B.—*The object of this part of the scheme is to take advantage of the knowledge of the workers by allowing them to sit on the Councils for the purpose of advising the manager and to give them an effective voice in all questions where their own safety and health are concerned.*

XLV

Every mine shall be under one duly certificated manager who shall be responsible for the control, management, direction and safety of the mine and the extent and method of working, provided always that such manager shall not be personally liable for conforming to any lawful order for safety made by the District Mining Council.

XLVI

There shall be established at each mine a Local Mining Council who shall meet fortnightly, or oftener if need be, to advise the manager on all questions concerning the direction and safety of the mine.

XLVII

The Council shall consist of 10 members of whom the manager, under-manager and the commercial manager shall be *ex officio*. Four members shall be elected by ballot by the workers in or about the mine and the remaining 3 members shall be appointed by the District Mining Council. The members shall hold office for 2 years.

XLVIII

It shall be the duty of the Council to report fortnightly to the Minister of Mines and to the District Mining Council any fall in output and the cause thereof.

XLIX

If the manager refuses to take the advice of the Local Mining Council on any question concerning the safety and health of the mine such question shall be referred to the District Mining Council.

## L

The contracts of employment of workmen shall embody an undertaking to be framed by the District Mining Council to the effect that no workman will, in consequence of any dispute, join in giving any notice to determine his contract, nor will he combine to cease work, unless and until the question in dispute has been before the Local Mining Council and the District Mining Council and those Councils have failed to settle the dispute.

## LI

There shall be a commercial manager of the mine or group of mines (which office, if the District Mining Council think fit, shall be vested in the mine manager) whose duty it shall be, subject to the control of the manager, to arrange for the purchase and supply of stores in the mines and to take steps subject to the control of the district commercial manager for the disposal of its output.

N.B.—It is thought that some of the present managing directors of companies might be appointed the commercial managers.

## LII

Each mine shall send in a costing account in the approved form to the District Mining Council.

## LIII

The workers at each mine shall be entitled to an output allowance to be ascertained in an approved manner and divided among them half-yearly.

## (ii) THE DISTRICT MINING COUNCIL

N.B.—*The object of this part of the scheme is to prevent the bureaucratic running of the industry by causing it to be controlled locally by a Council of fourteen, upon*

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---

*which there is equal representation for the miners, for the consumers, and for the persons acquainted with the commercial and technical side of the industry.*

### LIV

There shall be established in each mining district a District Mining Council upon whom shall rest the main executive responsibility of taking measures to secure the health and safety of the workmen and the production of coal in the district.

N.B.—It is suggested that the mining districts be :—

1. Scotland, East.
2. Scotland, West.
3. Northumberland.
4. Durham.
5. Cumberland.
6. Yorkshire.
7. Lancashire and Cheshire.
8. North Wales.
9. Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire.
10. Staffordshire, Worcestershire and Shropshire.
11. Warwickshire.
12. South Wales and Monmouthshire.
13. Gloucestershire, Somersetshire.
14. Kent.

### LV

The District Mining Council shall conform to any order for safety made by the Chief Inspector of Mines, or by a Divisional Mines Inspector, and shall not make an order in respect of safety which is contrary to any Act of Parliament or regulations thereunder.

### LVI

Subject to the direction of the Minister of Mines the District Mining Council shall manage in its district the entire coal extraction, the regulation of output, the



discontinuance of or the opening out of mines, trial sinkings, the control of prices and the basis of wage assessment, and the distribution of coal.

## LVII

In fixing the pit-head price under State ownership the following items shall be provided for :—

- (a) a fair and just wage for all workers in the industry.
- (b) the cost of materials, &c.
- (c) upkeep and management, and development work.
- (d) interest on the Bonds to be issued as the purchase price of the coal royalties and coal mines.
- (e) the contribution towards a sinking fund to redeem the Bonds.
- (f) a profit for national purposes.

## LVIII

The District Mining Council shall be entitled to make arrangements with local authorities or with private persons (including in such term co-operative societies, companies, firms and individuals) and in country districts, if permissible, with the local railway station-master, for the sale and distribution of inland coal, and with private persons, firms and companies for the sale and distribution of export coal, and shall have power to fix from time to time the price above which coal may not be sold for household and industrial purposes.

## LIX

The District Mining Council shall consist of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, appointed by the Minister of Mines, and twelve other members. Four members shall be elected by ballot by the workers,

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and the remaining eight members shall be appointed by the National Mining Council as follows :—

Four to represent consumers (of whom in iron and steel districts two at least shall represent the iron and steel trades, and in shipping districts two at least shall represent recognised coal exporters).

Two to represent the technical side of the industry, *e.g.*, mining engineering, and

Two to represent the commercial side of the industry—purchase of material and sale of output.

### LX

All members shall hold office for three years, and shall be paid a salary.

### LXI

The District Mining Council shall meet at least monthly, and oftener if need be.

### LXII

The District Mining Council shall appoint all mine managers and all commercial mine managers within its own district.

### LXIII

The District Mining Council shall appoint a commercial committee, and a commercial manager whose duty shall be, subject to the control of the commercial committee, to arrange for the purchase and supply of stores for any mine and to take steps for the disposal of the output of coal from his district.

### LXIV

The contracts of employment of workmen shall embody an undertaking to be framed by the District Mining Council to the effect that no workman will, in

consequence of any dispute affecting a district, join in giving any notice to determine his contract, nor will he combine to cease work, unless and until the question in dispute has been before the District Mining Council and the National Mining Council and those Councils have failed to settle the dispute.

(iii) THE NATIONAL MINING COUNCIL

*N.B.—The object of this part of the scheme is to get a body composed of members of the District Mining Councils who shall meet at stated intervals to discuss and advise the Minister of Mines on all questions connected with the Industry. The Minister of Mines will be assisted by a Standing Committee of 18 members elected from and by the National Mining Council, who will meet regularly for the purpose of superintending the operations of District Mining Councils. The Minister of Mines will sit in and be responsible to Parliament.*

LXV

There shall be established a National Mining Council, which shall meet from time to time to discuss with and advise the Minister of Mines upon all questions connected with the operation and management of the industry.

LXVI

The Minister of Mines shall be appointed by the Government, and shall sit in and be responsible to Parliament. Such Minister shall superintend the operation of the District Mining Councils and shall preside over the National Mining Council.

LXVII

The National Mining Council shall be formed as follows:—Each District Mining Council shall elect

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one member for every 5,000,000 tons of output, provided that every district shall elect at least one member.

### LXVIII

The members shall be elected for three years and shall meet once a year in London, once a year in Edinburgh, and once a year in Cardiff and at such other times as summoned by the Minister of Mines. Members shall be entitled to their travelling expenses.

### LXIX

There shall be elected from and by the members of the National Mining Council a Standing Committee of 18, six of whom shall retire each year and shall not be eligible for re-election for the next year. Six shall represent the workers, six shall represent consumers, and six the technical and commercial side of the industry.

### LXX

The Minister of Mines shall be entitled, after consulting the Standing Committee, to veto any resolution come to either by a Local Mining Council or a District Mining Council, and in the event of his so doing he shall state publicly his grounds for so acting.

### LXXI

No national alteration of wages shall be made without the consent both of the Minister of Mines and the Standing Committee.

### LXXII

The contracts of employment of workmen shall embody an undertaking to be framed by the District Mining Council to the effect that no workman will, in consequence of any national dispute, join in giving any

notice to determine his contract, nor will he combine to cease work, unless and until the question in dispute has been before the National Mining Council and that Council has failed to settle the dispute; provided that on the written request of 15 members of the National Mining Council the Minister of Mines shall convene a meeting of the Council within one month.

**(iv) FINANCE AND PUBLICITY**

**LXXIII**

The finances of each district shall be kept entirely separate, and a return in the approved form shall be sent to the Minister of Mines once a quarter.

**LXXIV**

An approved system of auditing shall be established for all accounts.

**LXXV**

The Treasury shall not be entitled to interfere with or to have any control over the appropriation of moneys derived from the industry. The said moneys shall be kept entirely separate and apart from other national moneys, until the profit accruing from the industry is periodically ascertained and paid into the Exchequer.

**LXXVI**

It being of vital importance that the Mines Department should be managed with the freedom of a private business, the present Civil Service system of selection and promotion by length of service, of grades of servants, of minuting opinions and reports from one servant to another, and of salaries and pensions, shall not apply to the servants attached to the Mines Department.

LXXVII

The Minister of Mines shall cause the following statistics to be made public :—

- (a) the quarterly financial return from each district ;
- (b) the output from each district ;
- (c) the number of persons employed above and below ground ;
- (d) the cost per ton of getting and distributing coal, showing proportion due to wages, material, management, interest, and profit ;
- (e) the amount of coal produced per man per shift ;
- (f) the amount of absenteeism.

LXXVIII

Pending the acquisition of the coal mines by the State, the colliery owners shall continue to have and be subject to the rights and liabilities conferred and imposed upon them by the Coal Mines Control Agreement (Confirmation) Act, 1918, or any statutory provision that may be substituted therefor as suggested in the Interim Report of the 20th March presented by me and my three colleagues, or otherwise.

(v) SAFETY, HEALTH AND RESEARCH

LXXIX

For providing for safety, health and research there shall be a corps of officers, as set out in the following paragraphs.

LXXX

For safety, the present system of Chief Inspector and Divisional Inspectors shall be continued, and such inspectors shall continue to perform the same duties

as their predecessors, but the number of inspectors shall be increased and shall be in proportion either—

- (i) to the area, or
- (ii) to the number of men employed, as for example, one inspector to, say, 5,000 men.

#### LXXXI

The appointment of such safety inspectors shall be made by the Minister of Mines, to whom the inspectors shall report and be responsible.

#### LXXXII

For health, there shall be appointed central and local inspectors of health as distinguished from safety, who shall be charged with the superintendence of the health and convalescence of colliery workers.

#### LXXXIII

The appointment of such health inspectors shall be made by the Minister of Mines, to whom the inspectors shall report and be responsible.

#### LXXXIV

For research, there shall be attached to the Ministry of Mines a Research Section for the purpose of carrying out departmental research work in safety, health and economies in mining.

#### LXXXV

The appointment of such research staff shall be by the Minister of Mines.

#### (vi) ADMIRALTY COAL

#### LXXXVI

The Admiralty and the War Office shall be entitled to requisition coal at any mine at a pit-head price equal to the lowest price charged to any consumer.

(vii) THE EXPORT TRADE

LXXXVII

Any person shall be entitled to purchase coal for export from any mine in the same way as he would have been entitled had such mine remained in private ownership.

LXXXVIII

The State shall not make or give any undue or unreasonable preference or advantage to, or in favour of, any particular persons desirous of purchasing coal for export, nor shall the State subject any particular person desirous of purchasing coal for export to any undue or unreasonable prejudice or disadvantage whatsoever.

LXXXIX

Any exporter to whom coal is sold for export shall divide all profits over 1s. per ton equally with the District Mining Council.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Interim Report of the 20th March last presented by me and my three colleagues (paragraph 15) outlined certain units of economy and of improvement which it was suggested should receive the attention of the Commission in the near future. Having regard to the magnitude and complexity of the question of nationalisation, it has been barely possible to touch upon these other matters, but I desire very briefly to report upon them as follows :—

- (1) *Housing*.—This matter is in the hands of the Local Government Board and (for Scotland) the Scottish Office, with whom we have conferred and who are fully alive to the peculiar urgency of the problem in certain



mining districts. I associate myself with the remarks of my friend Sir Arthur Duckham in paragraphs xi and xii of his Report.

(2) *Baths and Drying of Clothes.*—I recommend that the Home Secretary should promote the necessary amendment in Section 77 of the Coal Mines Act, 1911, to make these facilities universal at collieries, and I have reason to believe that the Miners' Federation of Great Britain would exert very strong pressure to make their use almost as universal.

(3) *Continuity of Transport from the Colliery, and Pooling of Wagons.*—I recommend that these matters should receive the earliest possible attention from the Minister-Designate of Ways and Communications (Sir Eric Geddes) as soon as his Department is fully constituted.

(4) *Clearance.*

(5) *Reduction of Voluntary Absenteeism.*

(6) *Use of Machinery in Mines.*

Coal-cutting.

Coal-conveying.

Underground transit.

(7) *Elimination of unnecessary Distribution Costs.*—

I recommend that these matters should receive the early attention of an authority having the necessary technical and commercial qualifications such as the Advisory Board of the Controller of Coal Mines and his Department.

This Report does not apply to Ireland.

The evidence will be published separately.

The learned counsel who watched the proceedings on behalf of the Royalty Owners and of the Mining Association of Great Britain on page 6 of his printed

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speech formulated the question awaiting our decision. as follows :—

“ What changes should in the national interest be made, and when, by legislation or otherwise, in the organisation of the coal-mining industry ” ?

I agree that the question is a proper one and have endeavoured to answer it.

I desire to express my personal thanks, and the obligation I am under, to Sir Richard Redmayne and Sir Arthur Lowes Dickinson, two of our Assessors, and to Mr. Arnold McNair, our Secretary, and Mr. Gilbert Stone, our Assistant Secretary, for the great help I have received from them in the preparation of this Report and throughout the enquiry. They are Government officials and the Report does not necessarily express their views.

All of which I humbly report for Your Majesty's gracious consideration.

JOHN SANKEY.

ARNOLD D. McNAIR,  
*Secretary.*

GILBERT STONE,  
*Assistant Secretary.*

20th June, 1919.

## APPENDIX II

# BILL OF MINERS' FEDERATION

## THE NATIONALISATION OF MINES AND MINERALS BILL, 1919

A BILL TO NATIONALISE THE MINES AND MINERALS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE NATIONAL WINNING, DISTRIBUTION, AND SALE OF COAL AND OTHER MINERALS.

WHEREAS it is expedient that mines and minerals should be taken into the possession of the State.

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :—

### ESTABLISHMENT OF MINING COUNCIL

1. (1) For the purpose of winning, distributing, selling, and searching for coal and other minerals, there shall be established by His Majesty by Warrant under the sign manual, a Mining Council, consisting of a President and 20 members, ten of whom shall be appointed by His Majesty and ten by the Association known as the Miners' Federation of Great Britain.

(2) It shall be lawful for His Majesty, from time to time, to appoint any member of the Privy Council to be President of the Mining Council, under the name of

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the Minister of Mines, to hold office during His Majesty's pleasure.

(3) The Members of the Mining Council, other than the President, shall be appointed for five years, but shall be eligible for reappointment. Provided that His Majesty or the Association known as the Miners' Federation of Great Britain respectively shall have power to remove any person appointed by them and appoint some other person in his place. On a casual vacancy occurring by reason of the death, resignation, or otherwise of any of such members or otherwise, His Majesty or the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, as the case may be, shall appoint some other person to fill the vacancy, who shall continue in office until the member in whose place he was appointed should have retired, and shall then retire. The members of the Mining Council shall devote the whole of their time to the business of the Mining Council.

### MINISTER OF MINES AND PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY

2. (1) The Minister of Mines and one of the Secretaries of the Mining Council (to be known as the Parliamentary Secretary and to be appointed by His Majesty) shall at the same time be capable of being elected to and of sitting in the Commons House of Parliament.

(2) The Minister of Mines shall take the oath of allegiance and official oath, and shall be deemed to be included in the First Part of the Schedule to the Promissory Oaths Act, 1868.

(3) There shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament to the Minister of Mines a salary at the rate of £2,000 a year, and to the Parliamentary Secretary a salary at the rate of £1,500 a year.

(4) The Minister of Mines and the Parliamentary Secretary shall be responsible to Parliament for the acts of the Mining Council.

## OFFICERS, ETC.

3. (1) The Mining Council shall appoint a Secretary (to be known as the Permanent Secretary), and such assistant secretaries and officers and servants as the Mining Council may, with the sanction of the Treasury, determine.

(2) Subject to the provisions of Section 11 (2) of this Act, there shall be paid to the Permanent Secretary, Assistant Secretaries and other officers and servants such salaries or remuneration as the Treasury shall from time to time determine.

(3) There shall be transferred and attached to the Mining Council such of the persons employed under any Government Department or local authority in or about the execution of the powers and duties transferred by or in pursuance of this Act to the Mining Council as the Mining Council and the Government Department or local authority may with the sanction of the Treasury determine.

(4) Notwithstanding anything in any Act, order, or regulation, any society of workers, all or some of whose members are wholly or partly employed in or about mines, or in any other manner employed by the Minister of Mines, or the Mining Council, or a District Mining Council, or Pit Council, or otherwise under this Act, may be registered or constitute themselves to be a Trade Union, and may do anything individually or in combination which the members of a Trade Union or a Trade Union may lawfully do. Provided further that notwithstanding any Act, order, or regulation to the contrary, it shall be lawful for any person employed under this Act to participate in any civil or political action in like manner as if such person were not employed by His Majesty, or by any authority on his behalf.

Provided, further, that no such person shall suffer dismissal or any deprivation of any kind as a consequence of any political or industrial action, not directly

forbidden by the terms of his employment, or as a consequence of participation in a strike or trade dispute.

#### CONSTITUTION OF MINING COUNCIL

4. (1) The Mining Council shall be a Corporation to be known by the name of the Mining Council and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and may acquire and hold land without licence in mortmain.

(2) The Mining Council shall have an official seal, which shall be officially and publicly noticed, and such seal shall be authenticated by the Mining Council or a secretary or one of the assistant secretaries, or some person authorised to act on their behalf.

(3) The Mining Council may sue and be sued without further description under that title.

(4) Every document purporting to be an order, licence, or other instrument issued by the Mining Council, and to be sealed with their seal, authenticated in manner provided by this Act, or to be signed by a secretary or by one of the assistant secretaries, or any person authorised to act, shall be received in evidence and be deemed to be such order, licence, or other instrument without further proof unless the contrary is shown.

(5) Any person having authority in that behalf, either general or special, under the seal of the Mining Council may, on behalf of the Mining Council, give any notice or make any claim, demand, entry, or distress, which the Mining Council in its corporate capacity or otherwise might give or make, and every such notice, claim, demand, entry, and distress shall be deemed to have been given and made by the Mining Council.

(6) Every deed, instrument, bill, cheque, receipt, or other document, made or executed for the purpose of the Mining Council by, to, or with the Mining Council, or any officer of the Mining Council, shall be exempt from any stamp duty imposed by any Act, past or future, except where that duty is declared by the document, or by some memorandum endorsed thereon,

to be payable by some person other than the Mining Council, and except so far as any future Act specifically charges the duty.

TRANSFERENCE OF MINES AND MINERALS TO  
MINING COUNCIL

5. (1) On and after the appointed day, save as in Sub-Section 3 of this Section, provided—

(a) Every colliery and mine (including all mines, quarries and open workings of ironstone, shale, fireclay and limestone, and every other mine regulated under the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts, 1872 and 1875, but not including mines, quarries, or open workings of minerals specified in the First Schedule to this Act), whether in actual work, or discontinued, or exhausted, or abandoned, and every shaft, pit, borehole, level, or inclined plane, whether in course of being made or driven for commencing or opening any such colliery or mine, or otherwise, and all associated properties (including vessels, lighters, railway rolling stock, and all works, including works for the manufacture of bye-products, in the opinion of the Mining Council belonging to any mine undertaking or connected with any colliery or mine, and every house belonging to the owners of any such colliery or mine, which, in the opinion of the Mining Council, is usually occupied by workmen employed at such colliery or mine), (all of which are herein included in the expression "mine"); and

(b) all coal, anthracite, lignite, ironstone, shale, fireclay, limestone, or other mineral, excepting the minerals specified in the First Schedule to this Act, whether at present being worked or not worked, or connected or not connected with any mine, beneath the surface of the ground (all of which are herein included in the expression "minerals"); and

(c) all rights and easements arising out of or necessary to the working of any mine or the winning of any mineral, including all mineral wayleaves, whether air-leaves or water-leaves, or rights to use a shaft, or ventilation or drainage or other royalties, lordships, or rights in connection therewith, whether above or below the ground (all of which are herein included in the expression "rights").

shall be transferred to, vested in and held by the Mining Council in their corporate capacity in perpetuity, and shall for all purposes be deemed to be royal mines, and the minerals and rights thereof respectively.

(2) The Acts contained in the Second Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed.

(3) Provided that the Mining Council may at any time before the appointed day give notice in writing to the owner of, or person interested in, any mine or minerals or rights, disclaiming, during the period of such disclaimer, all or part of the property in such mine or minerals or rights to the extent specified in the notice, and thereafter such mine or minerals or rights shall, until such time as the Mining Council shall otherwise determine, to the extent specified in such notice, not vest in the Mining Council as provided by Sub-Section (1) of this section. Provided that in such case it shall not be lawful for any person other than the Mining Council, without the permission of the Mining Council, to work such mine or minerals in any way. Provided further that on the termination of such disclaimer by the Mining Council, such mine or minerals or rights shall, to the extent of such notice, as from such date as the notice may prescribe, vest in the Mining Council as if such notice of disclaimer had not been given.

#### **PURCHASE OF MINES**

6. The Mining Council shall purchase the mines of Great Britain in them vested by this Act (other than



those which are the property of the Crown at the time of the passing of this Act or which have been disclaimed in whole or in part in accordance with Section 5 (3) of this Act) at the price and in the manner provided by this Act. Provided always that the value of any rights as defined by Section 5 (1) (c) of this Act shall not be taken into account in computing such price, for all of which no compensation shall be paid.

#### MINES COMMISSIONERS

7. (1) For the purpose of assessing the purchase price of mines it shall be lawful for His Majesty, by warrants under the sign manual, to appoint ten Commissioners, to be styled the Mines Purchase Commissioners (herein called the Commissioners) of whom one, appointed by His Majesty, shall be Chairman.

(2) Three of the said Commissioners shall be nominated by the Association known as the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, and three by the Association known as the Mining Association of Great Britain.

(3) At the expiration of twelve months from the passing of this Act, in the event of a majority of the Commissioners failing to agree as to the purchase price of a particular mine or of its associated properties, it shall be lawful for the Chairman himself to fix the purchase price of such mine, which price shall then be deemed to be the price fixed by the Commissioners, but, save as herein expressly provided, the finding of a majority of the Commissioners voting on any question or as to the purchase price of mines shall be final and conclusive and binding on all parties.

(4) It shall be lawful for His Majesty to remove any Commissioner for inability or misbehaviour. Every order of removal shall state the reasons for which it is made, and no such order shall come into operation until it has lain before the Houses of Parliament for not less than thirty days while Parliament is sitting.

(5) The Commissioners may appoint and employ

such assessors, accountants, surveyors, valuers, clerks, messengers, and other persons required for the due performance of their duties as the Treasury on the recommendation of the Commissioners may sanction.

(6) There shall be paid to the Commissioners and to each of the persons appointed or employed under this section such salary or remuneration as the Treasury may sanction; and all such salaries and remuneration and the expenses of the Commission incurred in the execution of their duties, to such amount as may be sanctioned by the Treasury, shall be paid out of moneys provided by Parliament.

#### VALUATION OF MINES

8. (1) The Commissioners shall, as soon as may be after the passing of this Act, cause a valuation to be made of all mines other than those disclaimed, whether or not developed or working or abandoned or exhausted, in Great Britain, showing what on August 4th, 1914, and what at the date of the passing of this Act was respectively the total ascertained value of each mine and its associated properties and the rights, as defined by Section 5 (1) (c) of this Act, therein, and the total ascertained value of such mine and its associated properties respectively exclusive of such rights; and the owner of every mine and any person receiving any rents, interest, or profit from any mine or possessed of any rights therein or connected therewith, on being required by notice by the Commissioners, shall furnish to the Commissioners a return containing such particulars as the Commissioners may require as to his property, rent, interest, profits, or rights in such mine.

(2) The Commissioners may likewise cause any mine to be inspected, require the production of documents, or do any other thing which may, in their opinion, be necessary to fix the purchase price of the mine or its associated properties.

(3) The Commissioners in making such valuation shall have regard to returns made under any statute

imposing duties or taxes or other obligations in respect of mines, or minerals or rights, and to any information given before or to any Commission or Government Department, including the Coal Industry Commission constituted under the Coal Industry Commission Act, 1919.

#### ASCERTAINMENT OF PURCHASE PRICE

9. (1) The purchase price of mines exclusive of associated properties (other than mines in the possession of the Crown at the time of the passing of this Act shall be computed subject to the provisions of subsections (2) and (3) of this section by ascertaining the average annual number of tons of minerals actually raised during the five years preceding August 4th, 1914 :

Provided that as regards coal-mines in no case shall the maximum purchase price, exclusive of associated properties, be taken to be more than the following :

When 100,000 tons or less have been raised per annum on the average during such five preceding years, a capital sum equal to one such year's output at . . . . .	s. d.	
		12 0 per ton
When more than 100,000 tons have been raised per annum on the average during such five preceding years, a capital sum equal to one such year's output at . . . . .		10 0 per ton

(2) The Commissioners in arriving at such computation shall also have regard to the actual gross and net profits which have been made in the mine during such years or thereafter and to the amounts which may have been set aside from time to time for depreciation, renewals, or development, and to the probable duration of the life of the mine, and to the nature and condition of such mine, and to the state of repairs thereof, and to the assets and liabilities of any mine undertaking existing at the time of purchase

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which are transferable to the Mining Council under section 16 of this Act.

(3) Provided further that where a coal-mine, in the opinion of the Commissioners, has not been fully developed, the amount which would be raised under full development without any increase of capital expenditure shall be taken as the average annual number of tons raised, and the maximum purchase price in such case shall be taken to be a capital sum equal to the product of such number of tons and 12s. or 10s. per ton respectively, for the purpose of ascertaining the maximum value per ton under subsection (1) of this section.

### ISSUE OF STATE MINES STOCK

10. (1) The purchase price of any mine and such of its associated properties as have been purchased, as ascertained under the provisions of this Act, shall be paid by the Mining Council in mines purchase stock to the persons who, in the opinion of the Mining Council, have established their title to such stock. Provided that an appeal shall lie to the High Court under rules to be framed by the High Court from the decision of the Mining Council as to the title of any such persons, but for no other purpose.

(2) For the purpose of paying such purchase price the Treasury shall, on the request of the Mining Council, by warrant addressed to the Bank of England, direct the creation of a new capital stock (to be called "Guaranteed State Mines Stock"), and in this Act referred to as "the stock," yielding interest at the rate on the nominal amount of capital equal to that payable at the date on which this Act received Royal Assent on what, in the opinion of the Treasury, is the nearest equivalent Government Loan Stock.

(3) Interest shall be payable by equal half yearly or quarterly dividends at such times in each year as may be fixed by the warrant first creating the stock.

(4) The stock shall be redeemed at the rate of one

hundred pounds sterling for every one hundred pounds of stock at such times and by such drawings as the Treasury, on the recommendation of the Mining Council may think fit.

(5) The stock may be issued at such times and in such amounts and subject to such conditions as the Treasury may direct, and may be issued as bearer bonds with quarterly or half yearly interest coupons attached.

(6) The stock shall be transferable in the books of the Bank of England in like manner as other stock is transferable under the National Debt Act, 1870.

#### POWERS OF MINING COUNCIL

11. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Mining Council to open and work mines and search for, dig, bore, win and deal with minerals and generally to carry on the industry of mining, distributing, vending, and exporting together with all other industries carried on in connection therewith. Provided that it shall not be lawful for the Mining Council to lease or sell any mine or minerals or rights to any person, association, or corporation.

(2) The Mining Council may, from time to time, in such manner and on such terms as they think fit—

(a) subject to the general consent of the Treasury, appoint or continue in employment or dismiss managers, engineers, agents, clerks, workmen, servants, and other persons; and

(b) construct, erect or purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire buildings, plant, machinery, railways, tramways, hulks, ships, and other fixed or movable appliances or works of any description, and sell or otherwise dispose of the same when no longer required; and

(c) sell, supply, and deliver fuel, coal and other products, the result of mining operations, either within or without the realm; and

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(d) enter into and enforce contracts and engagements; and

(e) generally do anything that the owner of a mine might lawfully do in the working of the mine, or that is authorised by regulations under this Act or by this Act; and

(f) employ local authorities for any purpose they may think necessary to carry out their duties under this Act, on such terms as may be mutually agreed.

(3) In addition to the powers conferred on the Mining Council by the last preceding sub-section, the Mining Council may, in such manner as they think fit, work any railway, tramway, hulk, ship, or other appliance for the purpose of winning, supplying, and delivering coal or other products.

(4) The Mining Council may compulsorily purchase land or acquire such rights over land as they may require for the purpose of this Act, and shall have, with regard to the compulsory purchase of land, all the powers of purchasers acting under the Land Clauses Act, 1845, and the Land Clauses Consolidation (Scotland) Act, 1845, or any other Act giving power to acquire land compulsorily for public purposes, which may hereafter be enacted.

(5) With respect to any such purchase of land under the Land Clauses Acts in Great Britain the following provisions shall have effect (that is to say):—

(a) The Land Clauses Acts shall be incorporated with this Act, except the provisions relating to access to the special Act, and in construing those Acts for the purposes of this section “the special Act” shall be construed to mean this Act, and “the promoters of the undertaking” shall be construed to mean the Mining Council, and “land” shall be construed to have the meaning given to it by this Act.

(b) The bond required by Section 85 of the

Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and by Section 84 of the Lands Clauses Consolidation (Scotland) Act, 1845, shall be under the seal of the Mining Council, and shall be sufficient without sureties.

#### **DISTRICT MINING COUNCILS AND PIT COUNCILS**

12. (1) The Mining Council shall, for the purpose of the carrying on and development of the mining industry, divide Great Britain into districts, and shall in each district constitute a District Mining Council of ten members, half of which shall be appointed by the Miners' Federation of Great Britain.

(2) The Mining Council may delegate to any District Mining Council or Pit Council, such of their powers under this Act as may conveniently be exercised locally, and the District Mining Council shall upon such delegation have and exercise within their district all the powers and duties of the Mining Council as may be delegated to them.

(3) A District Mining Council shall, subject to the approval of the Mining Council, have power within their area to appoint Pit Councils for each mine or group of mines, composed of ten members, half of which shall be members of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, and nominated by the workers of the mine or groups of mines aforesaid, and the District Mining Council may delegate to such Pit Council such of their powers concerning the immediate working or management of a particular mine or group of mines as the District Mining Council may, subject to the approval of the Mining Council, think fit.

(4) The members of District Mining Councils shall be appointed for three years, but shall be eligible for reappointment, and the members of Pit Councils shall be appointed for one year, but shall be eligible for reappointment.

**FUEL CONSUMERS' COUNCIL AND ADVISORY  
CONFERENCE**

13. (1) For the purpose of advising the Mining Council it shall be lawful for His Majesty to appoint persons, to represent the interests of consumers, to be known as the Fuel Consumers' Council.

(2) The Mining Council shall have power to convoke at such time as they think fit and under such regulations and conditions as they may prescribe advisory conferences of representatives of District Mining Councils, and the District Mining Councils shall have power in like manner to convoke advisory conferences of Pit Councils within their area.

(3) The expenses of the Fuel Consumers' Council, National and District Mining Conferences shall, subject to the approval of the Treasury, be paid by the Mining Council.

**PAYMENT OF MINING COUNCIL AND DISTRICT  
MINING COMMITTEES AND PIT COUNCILS**

14. There shall be paid to each of the members of the Mining Council, other than the President, such salary as the Treasury may determine, and to the members of the District Mining Councils, and to the Pit Councils, such salaries and emoluments as the Mining Council, with the consent of the Treasury may determine.

**ACCOUNTS**

15. (1) The Mining Council shall cause full and faithful accounts to be kept of all moneys received and expended under this Act, and of all assets and liabilities and of all profits and losses, and shall annually lay such accounts before Parliament.

(2) The Mining Council shall annually cause a balance-sheet of accounts to be made, including a



capital account and a profit and loss account for each mine worked under this Act.

(3) Such balance-sheet and statement shall be so prepared as to show fully and faithfully the financial position of each such mine, and the financial result of its operations for the year.

(4) All moneys raised under the authority of this Act shall, as and when raised, and all other moneys received hereunder shall, as and when received, be paid into a separate account called "The National Mines Account."

(5) All moneys withdrawn from the National Mines Account constituted under this Act shall be withdrawn only by the order of the Mining Council or such other person as the Mining Council may from time to time appoint.

(6) All moneys in the National Mines Account, or payable into that account by any person whomsoever, and also all moneys owing by any person under this Act, are hereby declared to be the property of the Crown, and recoverable accordingly as from debtors to the Crown.

#### **TRANSFERENCE OF EXISTING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

16. (1) There shall be transferred to the Mining Council all the existing assets and liabilities of mine undertakings and associated properties, as and when they are transferred to and vested in the Mining Council, other than liabilities for rights including royalty rents, wayleave rents, or any other underground rents or charges, payable or due at the time of the passing of this Act to any person, all of which shall cease to be payable on and after the appointed day.

(2) On the passing of this Act, there shall be ascertained by the Commissioners the amount of all moneys due to or from all mine undertakings, and the findings of the Commissioners as to the amount of such moneys shall be binding and conclusive on all parties.

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(3) The net amount of all moneys due to any mine undertaking, after all debts due from any such undertaking have been deducted, as ascertained under Sub-section (2) of this section, shall be paid by the Mining Council to the persons to whom in the opinion of the Commissioners such debts are due, and shall be deemed to be expenses incurred under this Act. Provided that an appeal shall lie to the High Court, under rules to be framed by the High Court, from the decision of the Commissioners as to the title of any such person, but for no other purpose.

### PAYMENTS OUT OF MONEYS PROVIDED BY PARLIAMENT

17. (1) All sums expended or payable under this Act in carrying out the provisions of this Act for expenses, or for salaries or wages payable under this Act, or in the construction, erection, or acquisition of buildings, plant, machinery, railways, tramways, hulks, ships, or other appliances or works, or otherwise, shall be payable out of moneys provided by Parliament.

(2) Provided that moneys received under this Act in respect of the sale or export or supply of coal or other minerals (including the moneys received from the Government Departments) may be directly expended in or towards carrying out the purposes of this Act.

### PAYMENT OUT OF CONSOLIDATED FUND

18. After full provision has been made for all outgoings, losses, and liabilities for the year (including interest on securities created and issued in respect of moneys raised as aforesaid, and on moneys paid out of the Consolidated Fund), the net surplus profits then remaining shall be applied in establishing a sinking fund and, subject thereto, in establishing a depreciation fund in respect of capital expended.

## REGULATIONS

19. (1) The Mining Council may, from time to time, make such regulations as they think necessary for any of the following purposes :—

(a) The management of mines under this Act ;

(b) the functions, duties, and powers of the District Mining Councils, Pit Councils, and other bodies or persons acting in the management and working of mines or distribution and sale of fuel under this Act ;

(c) the form of the accounts to be kept and the balance sheets to be prepared in respect of mines under this Act ;

(d) the mode in which the sinking funds and other funds connected with mines under this Act shall be held and administered ;

(e) generally any other purpose for which, in the opinion of the Mining Council, regulations are contemplated or required.

(2) The Mining Council, before making or altering any regulations or conditions of employment, including wages, as affect workmen engaged in the mining industry, shall consult with the association known as the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, and, in the event of such representatives and the Mining Council failing to agree, the matter in dispute may be referred to arbitration on such terms as may be mutually agreed.

(3) Provided that nothing in this section shall be deemed to interfere with the right of any employed person, subject to his contractual obligations, to dispose of his labour as he wills.

## STATUTORY REGULATIONS

20. (1) Every mine worked under this Act shall be managed and worked subject to the provisions of the Metalliferous Mines Regulations Acts, 1872 and 1875, the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, the Coal Mines

Act, 1911, and any other Act regulating the hours, wages, or conditions of labour in mines.

(2) There shall be transferred to and be vested in the Mining Council all the powers and duties of the Secretary of State and of any other Government Department imposed upon them by the Metalliferous Mines Regulations Acts, 1872 and 1875, the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, the Coal Mines Act, 1911, or any other Act regulating or affecting mines or the hours or conditions of labour therein.

#### DUTY OF MINING COUNCIL TO SUPPLY COAL

21. (1) It shall be the duty of the Mining Council to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of fuel at reasonable prices throughout Great Britain, and for this purpose it shall be lawful for the Mining Council, or for any local authority or Government Department acting on their behalf, to establish stores and depots and to employ vehicles and to use all other necessary means for the selling of fuel and to sell fuel within the area of every local authority, and, further, for this purpose it shall be the duty of the railway companies or authorities of Great Britain to provide such facilities for the conveyance of fuel as the Mining Council may deem necessary to enable them to carry out the duties imposed upon them by this section at rates not greater than such railway companies or authorities are now entitled to charge for the conveyance of fuel.

(2) Where the Mining Council delegates to any local authority all or any of their powers under this section, it shall be lawful for such local authority to exercise all or any of the powers of the Mining Council so delegated to them.

(3) All moneys had and received or expended by a local authority under this section shall be deemed to be had and received or expended on behalf of the Mining Council.

**TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT**

22. This Act may be cited as the Nationalisation of Mines and Minerals Act, 1919, and this Act and the Metalliferous Mines Regulations Acts, 1872 and 1875, and the Coal Mines Regulation Acts, 1887 and 1908, and the Coal Mines Act, 1911, may be cited together as the Mines Acts, 1872-1919, and shall come into operation on the first day of the second month, which shall be the appointed day, after the passing of this Act, and, save in the case of disclaimer, all valuations, purchase, and transference of mines and minerals to the Mining Council, and all other arrangements for the carrying out of this Act shall be concluded on or before the first day of the second year after the coming into operation of this Act.

23. This Act shall not apply to Ireland.

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**FIRST SCHEDULE.**

Minerals excluded from this Act :—

Sandstone.	Slate.	Building Clay.
Granite.	Chalk.	Gravel and Sand.
Cherts.	Flints.	Igneous Rocks.

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**SECOND SCHEDULE.****ENACTMENTS REPEALED**

Session and Chapter.	Title or Short Title.	Extent of Repeal.
1 William and Mary, ch. 30.	An Act to repeal the statute made in the fifth year of King Henry IV. against multiplying gold and silver.	The Whole Act
5 William and Mary, ch. 6.	An Act to prevent disputes and controversies concerning Royal Mines.	The Whole Act
55 George III., ch. 134.	An Act for altering the rate at which the Crown may exercise its right of pre-emption of Ore in which there is lead.	The Whole Act
1 James I. of Scotland, ch. 12	Mines of Gold and Silver pertains to the King.	The Whole Act
12 James VI. of Scotland, ch.31.	Anent the Tenth Part of Mynis.	The Whole Act