

appointed a proxy for the meeting shall have one vote and one further vote for each complete ten thousand tons of the annual standard tonnage of his coal mine or mines; in respect of any excess over a multiple of ten thousand tons a quantity of five thousand tons or upwards shall carry an additional vote:

Provided that at any general meeting held during the first year of operation of the scheme before standard tonnages have been determined, every owner present or who has appointed a proxy for the meeting shall have one vote and one further vote for each complete ten thousand tons of the output of his coal mine or mines in the period of twelve months ended 31st December, 1929; in respect of any excess over a multiple of ten thousand tons a quantity of five thousand tons or upwards shall carry an additional vote.

30. Votes on a poll at any general meeting may be given either personally or by proxy, and in the latter event the instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing and shall be sent to the Secretary not less than two days before the meeting takes place.

31.—(1) A minute book of the proceedings at general meetings shall be kept by the Secretary and all Resolutions and the result of voting thereon shall be entered therein.

(2) The minutes of each meeting shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which they are approved and such signature shall be sufficient evidence of their accuracy.

#### *Notice of Decisions of the Board and other Notices.*

32. The Board shall, through the Secretary, give notice in writing of their decisions, and of the decisions of any of their Sub-Committees, to all owners immediately after the decisions have been reached. Such notices and any other notices to be given by the Board to any owners individually under the provisions of the Scheme shall be addressed either to the registered office of the owner, to his principal place of business, or to such address as he may furnish to the Secretary as appropriate for the service of such notices, and they may be served either personally or by prepaid post, and if posted shall be deemed to have been received by the owner within 24 hours of the posting thereof.

#### *Amendment of Scheme.*

33. The owners may, by Resolution in general meeting from time to time, authorise the Board to submit to the Board of Trade any alteration in the provisions of the Scheme or a new scheme in substitution therefor and the Board shall thereupon submit such alteration or new scheme in writing to the Board of Trade:

Provided that—

(a) The method of voting on the Resolution authorising any such submission shall be that prescribed in Clause 29 of the Scheme;

(b) The Resolution in order to have effect must be supported by at least 51 per cent. of the total number of votes that could be recorded under that Clause by all the owners;

(c) In the event of the Board failing to submit the alteration or new scheme in writing to the Board of Trade within seven days of the passing of an effective Resolution hereunder, any owner may so submit the same; and

(d) The alteration or new scheme (as the case may be) shall not come into force unless

and until approved by the Board of Trade and shall then be operative from such date as may be prescribed by them.

#### *Classification of Coal.*

34. For the purpose of determining the various classes to which the coal produced in the District belongs the Board shall, as soon as possible after their first election, and subsequently from time to time as they may think fit, require returns to be made to them within a specified time by every owner, in a form to be prescribed and issued by the Board.

35. The Board shall allocate the coal produced at each coal mine into classes, such classification being made at the discretion of the Board according to the nature of the coal or of the trade, industry or other category of consumer supplied, or according to whether the coal be supplied for use in Great Britain or for export to any other country.

36. Any classification made by the Board under the scheme shall immediately be communicated to all the owners.

37. If any owner is dissatisfied with any classification made by the Board in respect of his coal mine or mines, he may give notice of objection to the Board at any time within fourteen days after such classification being communicated to him as aforesaid, and the Board shall thereupon reconsider the matter and deliver their decision thereon without delay.

#### *Determination of Standard Tonnage.*

38. The Board shall determine at such times as they may think fit an annual standard tonnage for each coal mine or undertaking and may, if they think fit, further distribute the standard tonnage fixed for any such mine or undertaking among the various classes of coal produced therefrom, provided that such distribution of the standard tonnages among classes of coal shall be effected for all coal mines or undertakings producing those classes of coal or any of them.

39. In the determination of such standard tonnages the Board shall have regard to the special circumstances of every coal mine (including the efficiency and economy of the working of the coal mine, the extent to which it has been developed or is being developed for economic working, and the extent to which its output has been increasing or decreasing).

40.—(1) For the purpose of assisting the Board in the determination of standard tonnages, every owner shall furnish to the Board, upon notice given to him by the Board, a statement, in writing, giving any information which the Board may require for the purpose of fixing standard tonnages and in particular specifying the name and situation of every coal mine or undertaking owned by him within the district and the output of such mine or undertaking during the year ended 31st December, 1929, which, in the absence of any special circumstances calling in the opinion of the Board for special treatment, shall be the standard tonnage of the mine or undertaking.

(2) Every owner may also include in the aforesaid statement particulars of any seasonal fluctuations in trade and the respective quantities of each class of coal comprised in the output for the period and it may be accom-