

given, specifying the place, the day and the hour of the meeting, and in case of special business, the general nature of that business shall be given by the Secretary or other person convening the meeting to each Owner in accordance with the method hereinafter prescribed, but the non-receipt of the notice by any Owner shall not invalidate the proceedings at any general meeting.

24. Except at the first meeting called under Clause 17 the Chairman of the Board, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, shall preside at all general meetings, and in the absence of both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Owners present at the meeting may appoint a Chairman for that meeting from those present thereat.

25. Representatives of Owners in the District whose combined output represents a majority of the total output raised during the last completed calendar year for which figures are available shall constitute a quorum.

26. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum be not present, the meeting, if convened upon such requisition as aforesaid, shall be dissolved, but in any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week; and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum be not present, those Owners who are present shall be a quorum and may transact the business for which the meeting was called.

27.—(1) Any Owner shall be entitled by giving notice to the Secretary to nominate a representative or representatives, and also alternatively a substitute or substitutes for such representative or representatives being Directors or other officials employed by such Owner to act in his place at all general meetings, and any person or persons so nominated shall for the purpose of the proceedings of all such meetings and voting thereat in the absence of the Owner, be deemed to be an Owner.

(2) Attendance at meetings shall not be limited to one such representative or substitute for each Owner, but in the event of two or more representatives or substitutes attending the meeting, only one such representative or substitute may vote on behalf of such Owner.

28. At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless a poll is demanded by any Owner or the representative of any Owner, and unless such a poll is so demanded a declaration by the Chairman that a Resolution has on a show of hands been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority or lost, and an entry to that effect in the book of proceedings of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against that Resolution. On a show of hands every Owner or his representative shall have one vote, and at a poll every Owner or his representative shall have one vote for each ton of coal raised during the last completed calendar year for which the figures are available at the mine or mines of which he is the Owner, but if a poll is taken before the 31st December, 1931, then each Owner shall have one vote for each ton of coal raised by him in the year ended 31st March, 1928.

29. A report of the proceedings of all general meetings shall be entered in a Minute Book, and a proper record of such meetings shall be kept. 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.

Classification, Prices and Sale of Coal.

30.—(1) The Board shall, as soon as possible after the first election of the Board, allocate the coal produced at each coal mine into classes, and fix a minimum price per ton of twenty cwt. for each class of coal, below which price coal of that class shall not be sold or supplied by Owners, and for this purpose the Board shall appoint a Sales Committee to assist them in this respect. The duties of the Committee, subject to Clause 10 (2) of the Scheme, shall be:—

(a) To provide for the classification of all coal produced in the District, and to make recommendations to the Board accordingly, 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.

(b) To make recommendations to the Board in respect of the minimum price below which every class of coal produced in the District may not be sold or supplied by Owners of coal mines, and for securing that the actual consideration obtained by the sale or supply of the several classes of coal shall not be less in value than the price so determined:

Provided that such minimum price shall not apply to coal supplied free or at reduced rates for the use of persons who are or have been employed in or about the mine, and the dependants of such persons.

(2) The Sales Committee may appoint sub-committees to deal with any class of coal, or with any other matters within the province of the Sales Committee.

31.—(1) Any classification approved by the Board under the Scheme shall immediately be communicated to all the Owners.

(2) If any Owner is dissatisfied with any classification made by the Board, he may give notice of objection to the Board at any time after such classification being communicated to him as aforesaid, and the Board shall reconsider the matter and deliver their decision thereon without delay.

32.—(1) The minimum prices fixed by the Board shall, in the case of coal sold or destined for shipment, be f.o.b. at the customary place or places of shipment, and in all other cases shall be fixed by the Board, having regard to all the circumstances of the case:

Provided that there shall be only one minimum price for each class of coal as defined in the Scheme.

(2) The minimum prices fixed in the first instance shall remain in force for such period as the Board may deem desirable, but the Board may revise the minimum prices from time to time, and shall alter the same when alteration appears to the Board to be necessary, and in particular on the application of any Owner for the revision of the price so fixed for any particular class of coal produced by him, the Board shall forthwith consider such application and make such alteration in price (if any) as is in their opinion necessary.