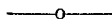


drilled. The Commission also has the power to promulgate and enforce such rules as may be necessary to conserve the State's water resources and its oil and gas resources (Code 1951, Art. 66C, secs. 15-17, 666-701; Acts 1953, ch. 613).

Appropriations	1953	1954
General Fund	\$107,362	\$110,441
Staff: 24.		



BUREAU OF MINES

Frank J. Powers, Director

Mine Examining Board

Chairman: Frank J. Powers

Ellis Ellifretz, Miners; James H. Close, Operators

City Building, Westernport

Telephone: Westernport 4031

The first Mine Inspectors were appointed by the Governor in 1878 serving in Allegany and Garrett Counties. These inspectors, functioned independently, reporting only to the Governor, until 1916 when they were placed within the Department of Labor and Statistics. The inspection powers became a function of the Bureau of Mines upon its organization in 1922 as a unit of the Department of Labor and Statistics. Upon the organization of the Board of Natural Resources in 1941, the Bureau was transferred to the newly-created Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources. The director of the Bureau is appointed by the Governor from a list of eligible persons certified by the State Employment Commissioner. The Bureau of Mines is responsible for the inspection of all mines within the State in order to maintain proper sanitation, ventilation, and safety standards in all mining operations. All persons or corporations engaging in open-pit or strip mining operations are required to register with the Bureau previous to the beginning of their operations and to report periodically during such operations. The Bureau of Mines examines all applicants for certificates of competency as mine foremen, assistant mine foremen, and fire bosses. The Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the University of Maryland and the Boards of Education for Allegany and Garrett counties conducts classes in mining operations throughout the western part of the State. The Bureau, under an Act of 1949, is required to furnish gaseous training to men applying for first-class certificates and fire boss certificates of competency. This work is being done in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Mines (Code 1951, Art. 66C, secs. 478-497).

Mine Examining Board

The Mine Examining Board consists of the Director of the Bureau of Mines, who also acts as Chairman of the Board, and two persons appointed by the Governor, one representing the Miners and the other the Operators. Each appointee serves until his successor is appointed and qualifies. The Board examines applicants for the rating of first-class mine foreman and fire-boss and issues "certificates of competency" to each successful applicant upon payment of the stipulated fee (Code 1951, Art. 66C, secs. 478-497).

Appropriations	1953	1954
General Fund	\$46,541	\$44,871
Staff: 8.		