

following the discharge from liquidation was not, counsel submitted, a matter requiring approval of the Court.

The decision of the Court was given on July 30th. The liquidators and receivers were discharged and the liquidation period was terminated but fees asked for by the receivers and liquidators were drastically reduced.

Realizing that the Court had not been called upon to approve the terms of the merger agreement, public criticism was now directed against the merger, it being alleged that there were no provisions therein requiring the operation of Scotia plants in Nova Scotia and that there was no protection in the agreement for the employees of Scotia.

The affairs of Acadia Coal Company, subsidiary of Scotia, were affected by this merger. The Acadia Company operates a number of mines in Pictou County, including the mine at Thorburn which is known as Acadia Number 3. Immediately following the completion of the Scotia-Dosco merger, announcement was made by the Canadian National Railways, the chief purchaser of Thorburn coal, that the Railway would not purchase any more of that coal. On September 8th, announcement was made by company officials that the Thorburn mine would be closed altogether at the end of the current shipping season or about October 15th.

This announcement meant that the 1300 people living in Thorburn were to be deprived of their only means of livelihood, the mine being the sole source of employment in that community. Since the mine had been operated only one or two days a week in recent months, conditions at Thorburn were already extremely bad. Distress existed in many homes and sanitary and living conditions in those homes were deplorable.

A Thorburn citizen's and miner's committee

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