Contents

List of Tables	vi
Acknowledgements	vii
Introduction	I
The Era of Expansion, 1870–1914	4
2 The First World War and its Consequences, 1914-20	24
3 Decontrol	49
4 The Road to Crisis, 1922-6	66
5 The General Strike, 1926	92
6 Coal and Rationalisation, 1926-9	108
7 The Genesis of the Coal Mines Act of 1930	124
8 The Control of Competition, 1931-9	138
9 The Failure of Compulsory Reorganisation	153
10 The Second World War and the Nationalisation Issue	169
Appendix 1 A Plan to bring about large scale Amalgamations in the	
Colliery Business and to Modernise and Rationalise the Industry:	
Memorandum by the President of the Board of Trade, 24	
February 1929	201
Appendix 2 Coal Mines Reorganisation Commission: Mem-	
orandum on Colliery Amalgamation, July 1931	203
Appendix 3 Mines Department: 'The Case for Fostering Amal-	203
gamation in the Coal Mining Industry', 16 October 1936	205
g	205
Bibliography	209
Notes and References	215
Index	268