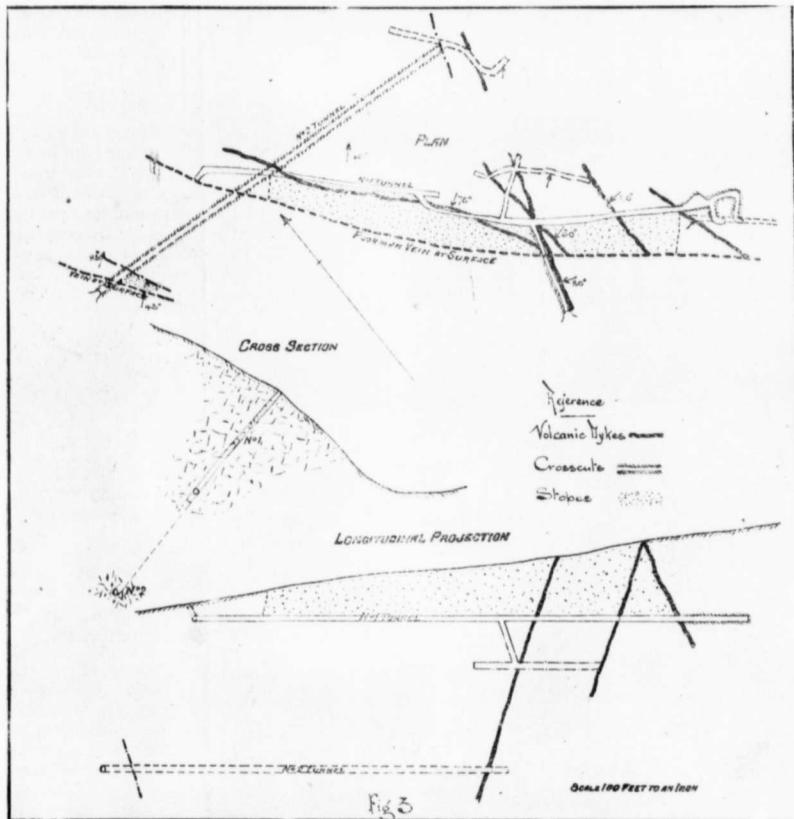


the mine development at the time and they now stand idle, serving merely as monuments of technical rashness and incapacity or as costly reminders of the reprehensible methods of stock boomers and their so-called expert allies.

More recently, and in other parts of the Province, a number of veins have been worked. Some have been opened up satisfactorily, others have been great disappointments. Both kinds will be dealt with in the sequel because even in failures there is usually something to be learned, often more than from the greatest success, technical or commercial.

less than 1 to 8 per cent. considering each deposit as a whole, but there are limited parts of some of the deposits in which the percentage of the base metal sulphides is very much larger. In one case the percentage was so high in the part of the vein first opened up that, in the usual haste to have a mill, it was almost decided to build a coarse concentration plant for the treatment of the ore, when, fortunately for the company concerned, more judicious counsels prevailed and further development was undertaken before coming to a decision as to treatment. The additional work shewed conclusively that the great bulk of the ore was of such



Reduced one-third from original drawing.

SOME GENERAL FEATURES OF THE DEPOSITS.

Form.—All the deposits hitherto worked are either what are commonly called true veins or bedded veins, the latter, when they happen to have a low inclination, being known in the Province and adjoining areas as "blanket" veins.

Direction and Hade.—These are quite as variable as in the deposits of silver-lead and auriferous and argentiferous copper ores, already noticed by the author. Fig 1 will make the variations evident at a glance.

Inner Nature.—The bulk of the deposits consists of quartz, with which are associated sulphides of one or more of the base metals, in proportions ranging from

character that it could be best treated by amalgamation and fine concentration, the relatively small proportion of ore which, in the early days of development, suggested coarse concentration being afterwards hand sorted.

Here we have an additional reason for delaying the erection of a mill until the deposit it is intended to serve has been adequately developed. It cannot be too often asserted—at least to those whose aim is legitimate mining—that the erection of treatment plant before there is a sufficient quantity of ore blocked out to pay for it, is simply a form of gambling. We know it is sometimes said that all mining is a gamble, but that is a libel. Mining is certainly not free from gambling, nor is