

SOME PRODUCTION COMPARISONS.

The following memo of the largest outputs of the several larger coal companies since 1902 may be interesting, as showing the possibilities of production in normal times. The figures deal only with sales and not production. Why give sales instead of production? For the reason that sales give a fairer view of progress. The tables in the annual Mines Reports show striking difference in the consumption of coal at the collieries, a difference in some cases of ten per cent. Assume that two companies have an output of 250,000 tons each a year. The colliery consumption of one equals thirteen per cent. of the output, and of the other five per cent. This shows that the latter company made larger sales by twenty thousand tons than the first, thereby making an additional saving or profit of at least \$100,000. The smaller consumption at the collieries the larger quantity to send to market :

Name of Company.	Largest sales.	Year obtained	Sales 1917
Dominion Coal Co.	4,273,000	1913	3,210,000
N. S. S. & Coal Co.	817,000	1910	555,000
Acadia Coal Co.	465,000	1913	350,000
Cumb. Ry. & Coal Co. }	435,000	1902	-----
Dominion Coal Co. }	362,000	1908	297,000
Mar. C. Ry. & Power Co.	197,000	1917	197,000
Intercolonial Coal Co.	280,000	1906	147,000
Inverness Ry. & Coal Co.	273,000	1913	app. 200,000
Brns D'Or Coal Co.	52,680	1913	38,000
Greenwood Coal Co.	39,000	1917	39,000
Milford Coal Co.	14,000	1917	14,000
Minudie Coal Co.	49,250	1916	27,934

The sales of the four companies last named are for the fiscal year ending September.

Other companies doing business in 1917 which made no report for 1916 were Strathcona Coal Co. (re-