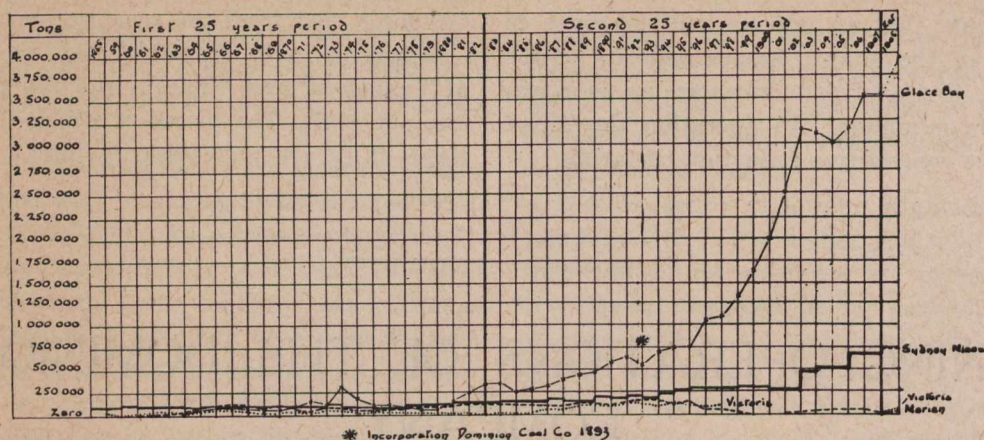


break up today after the excavation of the underlying coal seams, thus admitting the surface drainage.

The land area of the Glace Bay field would have been a positively ideal one for easy and cheap working had it been mined to the rise from properly located shafts. Had this been done, haulage and pumping problems would have been simplified exceedingly, but instead most of the coal has been hauled from the deep.

The genesis of this short-sighted and expensive procedure is to be found in the fact that the coal field was

of the operator, the revenue of the Provincial Government, or the price of coal to the consumer. This statement is based on considerations of an engineering character only. Equally cogent and weighty commercial factors could be adduced in support of this statement, but such considerations are outside the scope of this description. When it is borne in mind that in 15 years the Dominion Coal Company produced more coal by 50 per cent. than was produced in the 35 years that preceded their incorporation, it will be recog-



Comparative Chart of the Yearly Production of the four Basins composing the

Explanation -

Glace Bay
Sydney Mines
Victoria
Morien

SYDNEY COALFIELD from 1898 to 1907

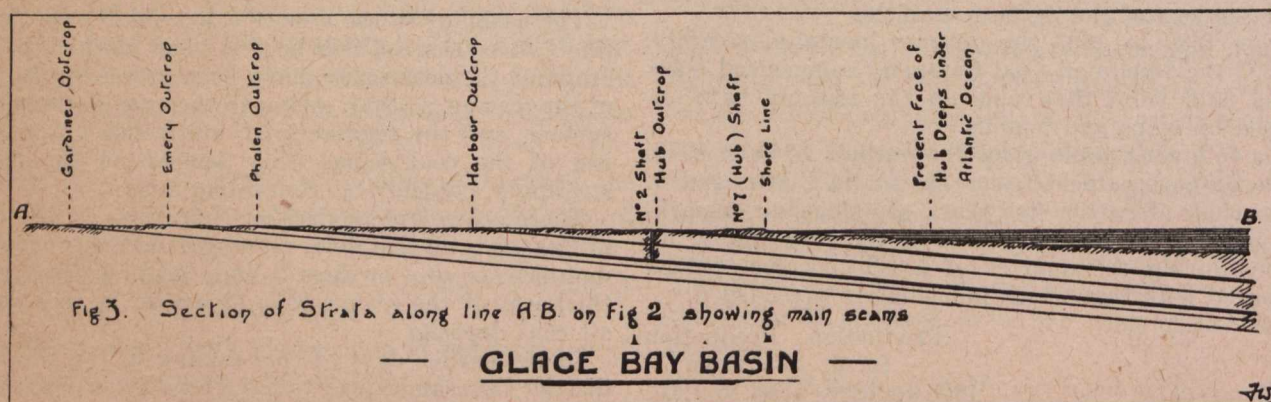
Fig.

operated by independent and rival companies, with inadequate capital, who, to quote from a report made by H. Y. Hind in 1871, "allowed the desire for an immediate profit to supersede the necessity of a judicious arrangement of the mode of working."

It was therefore, very decidedly for the benefit of all concerned in the mining of coal in this district that a consolidation of interests should take place. This occurred when the Dominion Coal Company was form-

nized what their operations have meant to the trade of the Dominion generally, and the prosperity of Cape Breton in particular.

Taking the coal seams in the order of their relative importance, the Phalen seam first claims attention. It is worked from six collieries, commencing with No. 1 ("Dominion") at the western limit, and ending with No. 6 on the eastern side. The land area bounded by Lingan Bay on the west and by Big Glace Bay on the



ed, and there can be no doubt that had the Glace Bay Basin been worked as a virgin field by this or a similar corporation the result would have been a marked conservation of our national coal resources, and, incidentally, cheaper coal at the present time.

One could hardly conceive from an engineering or economic standpoint a series of mines where an amalgamation of interests was more desirable, or where independent operation was more likely to have disastrous future consequences, alike as regards the profits

east, is worked by the first five mines. No. 2 mine occupies the centre of the basin, while Nos. 1, 5, 3 and 4 workings cover the rise coal, radiating from west to east in the order given, like the spokes of a wheel. The territory on the other side of Big Glace Bay Lake is worked from No. 6 mine. Nos. 3 and 5 mines have an all-land territory, while Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 6 have submarine territory in addition to their land areas.

It is not necessary to give a detailed description of the general characteristics of the coal mined from the