

convention opened in Indianapolis in the middle of Jan'y. To show the delegates have no great business capacity, or act merely on nervous impulse, let me quote the following from the Montreal Star of 5th. inst :-

"President Lewis charged Peter Quinn, of Illinois, with having practically called him a liar. The stenographic record of the debate was read, but the incident did not develop further. The convention adopted a resolution to the effect that the national executive board had exceeded its authority in suspending the officers of the Indiana district for having disobeyed an order that the miners should return to work in the Hudson mine pending the adjustment of the strike there. This was practically a reversal of the convention's action of a few days ago approving President Lewis action in the matter, and indicates that the delegates will pass some measure giving a new interpretation to the sections of the organization's constitution defining the authority of the national body in its relation to district body."

I do not say that the cases are amalogous or that they are precisely on all four. Yet I incline to the opinion that the one has a considerable bearing on the other. In a certain district in the United States the U. M. W's have increased the initiation fee of foreigners, or as it is adroitly put of 'unskilled miners' to fifty dollars. The rate is equivalent to prohibition or exclusion. If the U. M. W. is justified, even admit it, on the ground that foreign labor is a menace to safety, in excluding them from the order and probably from the mine, are not the Nova Scotia operators justified in saying that they can have no dealings with members of a foreign organization. May they not claim that a foreign order is inimical to the successful operating of their mines.

A Truro contractor, giving evidence before the eight hour day commission, said he was of the opinion "that the shorter hours would mean a greater purchasing community. Work-a-day people having more time at their disposal for leisure would spend more." Well, now, if that is not one of the funniest arguments in favor of an eight hour day I ever heard advanced. An eight hour day would certainly not give the workmen more wages, however it might tend in the opposite direction. At the present time a large majority of the workingmen, I fear, spend all they earn, and with the same wages and eight or even six hours a day they could not spend more for the simple reason that they had not it to spend. If an eight hour day will have the remotest tendency to make work-a-day people less thrifty then the community should up and oppose it. What we want is a class of workmen who will spend less and not more. If the workingmen under a shorter day will spend more, then the shorter day will be conferring a benefit on the trading or catering class, and not on the workers, those whom it is intended to benefit.

Mr. McNaughton, who ousted friend Milner from the generalship of the Jubilee Mine, is predicting great things for his colliery. He says he is about ready to produce coal.

# Coal Shipments Jan., 1909

## —DOMINION COAL COMPANY, LTD.—

### —Output and Shipments for Jan, 1909—

	—Output—	—Shipments—
Dominion No. 1	36 473	
Dominion No. 2	36 178	
Dominion No. 3	15 417	
Dominion No. 4	20 644	
Dominion No. 5	38 670	
Dominion No. 6	3 838	120 130
Dominion No. 7	9 255	
Dominion No. 8	12 892	
Dominion No. 9	22 604	
	195 971	120 130
Shipments Jan. 1908.....		202 063
Decrease " 1909.....		81 933

## INVERNESS RAILWAY & COAL CO.

Shipments Jan. 1909.....	9 918
" " 1908.....	202 422
Decrease " 1909.....	10 504

## CUMBERLAND RAILWAY AND COAL CO.

Shipments Jan. 1909.....	27 294
" " 1908.....	27 015
Increase " 1909.....	279

## NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL CO.

Shipments Jan. 1909.....	47 750
" " 1908.....	38 845
Decrease " 1909.....	8 905

## ACADIA COAL CO.

Shipments Jan. 1909.....	24 852
" " 1908.....	29 433
Decrease " 1909.....	4 581

## INTERCOLONIAL COAL CO.

Shipments Jan. 1909.....	19 767
" " 1908.....	24 948
Decrease " 1909.....	5 181

Under the heading "Pittsburgh News" the Coal Trade Journal says:—"There is considerable interest shown among miners here as to the outcome of the wranglings that are occurring in the national convention of the U. M. W. at Indianapolis. The consensus of opinion is that Lewis will win out. There is disappointment over the financial showing. Last year the cash balance was just short of one million dollars; this year it is just over \$500,000, with a possibility of strife in the Anthracite field ahead."