

tons of peat fuel annually. 1,300 plants making machine peat are now in operation in Russia.

I admit that the hardness of anthracite permitting long hauls without much waste—the small volume it occupies requiring a minimum of space for storage—and the small amount of volatile matter it contains insuring a nearly smokeless flame, are such valuable properties of this fuel that so long as it can be obtained, it will be used by those who can afford to pay for it. Peat-fuel is, however, admirably adapted for use in grates during the late fall and early spring, when our heating furnaces are not in operation. This fuel will compete in price and cleanliness with soft coal for the purpose stated in our most luxurious homes. For the inhabitants of our rural districts, villages, and certain parts of our cities, whose homes are not supplied with hot air, hot water, and steam systems of heating but require the use of stoves, peat fuel will prove a cheap and excellent fuel, far superior to wood, and far more convenient to handle.

Although peat can be used in any of the common stoves now in use in Canada, a stove of excellent design, specially constructed for peat-fuel, has been brought out in Sweden by the Aktiebolaget Ankarstrums bruk. These stoves—a model of which may be seen at our peat plant at Alfred, are tasteful in appearance, and very convenient in operation.

The economy, which may be effected by the use of peat is readily understood, when it is stated that in Ontario and Quebec the average price of anthracite with a high percentage of ash, is \$7.50, and in Manitoba, \$10.00 per ton, whereas air-dried machine peat, containing only about 5% of ash can be manufactured at a cost of considerably under \$3.00 for an amount having the same calorific value as a ton of the anthracite we import. This could be sold at places conveniently situated as regards transportation facilities and not too far from the place of manufacture for a little more than one half the price paid for anthracite in Ontario and Quebec, and for a little more than one-third of the price paid for anthracite in Winnipeg.

THE UNITED U. M. W. OPPOSES ILLINOIS SETTLEMENT.

When the conference at Indianapolis between the operators of Illinois and the international board of the U. M. W. ended in an agreement Saturday, July 23rd, John H. Walker, president of the U. M. W. district of Illinois, stated that while he did not favor the settlement he would not actively oppose it in the referendum vote which it was decided should be taken by the miners of the State. The notices of settlement went out from the national headquarters to the various locals in Illinois, for a referendum vote prior to Saturday, July 30th. A few locals responded immediately and in each instance favored the settlement.

Then Mr. Walker got busy. He issued a circular letter, denouncing the settlement made by the international board, said he had the operators whipped and that they would all sign up immediately if the miners would vote down the proposed settlement, and he said a lot of other things. Moreover he and his entire organization, executive and local throughout the State, began a bitter and violent campaign of opposition, so that some locals even adopted resolutions demanding the resignation of President Lewis. It was

as pretty an instance of insurrection or insubordination, as had occurred within the ranks of the U. M. W. in many a day and the annals of the order are by no means tame.

John H. Walker, the district president, was a candidate for congress against "Uncle Joe" Cannon on the Socialist ticket at the last election. His right hand man, Duncan McDonald, is a candidate for office on the same ticket in Illinois this year. This coterie of officials do not recognize that the coal operator has any rights at all. Walker's boast is that the miners are just beginning to come into their own in Illinois. He openly preaches that the mines belong to the men who work in them and not to the operators. There are various kinds of Socialists but the "advanced" type leaves nothing for anyone but themselves. Walker expects to be a candidate for the national presidency of the U. M. W. at the next election and if he wins out in Illinois over Lewis he will use his victory to pave the way. If he loses in his present insurrection, he will be severely handicapped in any future career within the union. —Coal Trade Journal

Referring to Scotia the Montreal Witness says:—

The recent notable advancement made by the Scotia Steel and Coal Company, its ever and fast increasing business and brightening prospects are now being much commented upon in stock circles. Holders of Scotia are much interested to discover just how the position of the stock will be effected by the enlarged profits of the present year.

There is a rumor to the effect that, not only will the dividend be raised shortly, but that a bonus will be paid later in the year, making the dividend seven percent.

It is also stated that some Scotia financing is going to be done in England in the near future. This is somewhat vague at the moment, but it is likely that something in this way will be done.

The British interest in Scotia Corporation is increasing, and the settlement of the recent disagreements has removed the greatest obstacle to the placing of stock if deemed advisable in London. The Nova Scotia Company is making excellent headway under the able management of Mr. R. E. Harris, president, and Mr. Thomas Cantley, general manager.

The value of the Wabana ore deposits in Newfoundland is now computed to be much greater than formerly, covering no less than an area of 35 miles of high grade ore.

The ruction that has broken out within the miners' organization between the Illinois State leaders and National President Lewis is receiving considerable attention from miners and operators, as its probabilities are thought by some to indicate a split. Walker and McDonald have a considerable following, and Walker has already announced his candidacy for Lewis' position at the next election. With his colleagues in Illinois, White and other leaders in Iowa, and opponents in other States and districts, Lewis is likely to have a big job to hold his position. Besides, he is pretty well worked out, and is in a perilous state of health through nervous breakdown.