INTRODUCTION.

Canada, like all northern countries, possesses large areas of peat bogs, which are distributed practically all over the country. The following table, obtained from the bulletin on peat by Dr. R. Chalmers, of the Geological Survey of Canada, gives a summary of the peat areas in Canada and the average depths of the bogs. East of Lake Superior the figures are at least approximately correct; west of that they are largely estimated.

Province of	Square miles.	Average depth in feet.
Nova Scotia	250	8 to 10
Prince Edward Island	10	"
New Brunswick	250	"
Quebec (in settled parts)	500	"
Ontario (in settled parts) 450 Ontario (Moose River Basin, etc.) 10,000	10,450	5 to 8
Manitoba	500	6 to 10
Alberta, Saskatchewan and Territories	25,000	5 to 10
British Columbia and Yukon Territory	no data	.....
Total in round numbers	37,000	

Dr. Chalmers states, however, that the above figures are undoubtedly too low, as up to the present time no systematic investigation of the peat bogs has been undertaken, and most likely many bogs have not been recorded and included in the above estimate. It is evident, however, that the bogs in Canada cover an enormous area, which at present has been very little utilized either for fuel manufacture, agriculture or reforestation.

The area of the peat bogs suitable for the manufacture of fuel and other peat products or for agricultural purposes can, therefore, at the present time not be estimated, but considering the similarity of the peat bogs in Canada with those of northern Europe it is reasonable to assume that a large percentage of the Canadian bogs will prove suitable for either of these purposes.

An idea of the immense amount of fuel contained in the peat bogs can be had from the following calculation:—one cubic yard of a drained and settled bog gives at least about 250 lbs. of air dried peat, containing about