

7. Peasants should be allowed to work peat bogs owned by the government, paying a yearly rent of 0.45 to 0.90 cents per square yard.

The Russian government, especially from a military point of view, is anxious to make Russia independent of imported fuel and gives, therefore, to private persons or companies erecting peat plants in Russia a loan of 40% of the cost of the plant. This loan can be paid back in peat products. It is also stipulated that manufacturers of machine formed peat may have their peat coked at the government plants at a cost of \$1.37 per ton peat coke. The government buys, if desired, this coke at a price calculated on the basis of the fuel value of Newcastle coal at \$4.42 per ton, so that the peat coke is paid more or less according as it is inferior or superior in fuel value to this standard. The production of peat fuel in Russia was some four million tons in 1902, and it is yearly increasing.

GERMANY.

In Germany the peat question is of less importance, on account of the coal and lignite resources, but in certain parts of this country a very extensive peat industry has been established, and much credit is due several German inventors of machinery and processes for the utilization of the peat bogs. The German government operates several experimental farms for moor cultivation and gives a yearly grant to the society "Verein zur Forderung der Moorkultur im Deutschen Reiche" in Berlin. In certain districts the railroads have a special tariff for peat and lignite, and in other districts canals have been built and cheap freights thereby made possible.

AUSTRIA.

The experimental farm at Vienna has had since 1901 a special branch for moor cultivation and peat manufacture. Other experimental farms are established at Sebastianberg, Laibach, Klagenfurt, Aduont, Sterzing, etc., where free education is given in moor cultivation and peat manufacture. The society "Deutsch-Österreichische Moerverein" has its headquarters at Staab bei Pilsen.

HOLLAND.

In Holland peat fuel has been used for centuries, and at present the production is over one million tons per year. The worked out peat bogs are excellent for agricultural purposes and annually about 1,000 acres of such land are gained.

During the last fifty years some 250 miles of shipping canals and 500 miles of moor canals have been built. The cost of these canals has been \$4,800,000, and for maintenance and improvement of older canals a further sum of \$4,480,000 has been spent. The government has contributed to these works \$2,891,600, and the provinces \$4,369,200. In order to be inde-