

of production on a scale sufficient to demonstrate the best production methods and the costs.

1st. Briquetting of the raw lignites of Central Europe, especially those of Germany, has been carried on successfully for years past, the output for 1913 in Germany being 20,000,000 tons.

2nd. The briquetting of bituminous slacks and small sizes is carried on in several parts of the United States in a commercial way at the present time.

3rd. The briquetting of anthracite slack in British Columbia has been a practical success for some years past, both for domestic and locomotive fuel.

4th. The carbonizing of North Dakota lignites has been carried on at Hebron, N.D., in a semi-commercial way, and carbonized Souris lignite has been produced at Estevan on a small scale.

5th. The briquetting of these lignites, however, has not been carried on in a commercial way, any briquettes made being produced sporadically in carload lots, sufficient in amount only to demonstrate that briquetting is practicable.

6th. Carbonizing is a simple process and sufficient information and experience has been obtained to warrant commercial production.

7th. Briquetting and suitable binders require study upon a commercial scale in order to determine temperatures, pressures, mixtures and results in actual practice.

8th. The necessary waterproofing, which is obtained by a heat treatment of the completed briquettes, presents no difficulty whatever, being a simple matter of coking the binder at a low heat.

9th. Summing up, the producer must face the difficulties inherent in commercial production which are approximately of the same order as those met in other industrial establishments. The problem has been solved; it remains merely to overcome the incidental difficulties.

10th. The road to success in the briquetting problem is strewn with the wrecks of ill-conceived attempts to do this apparently simple thing—failure resulting from either lack of knowledge of what had been done, lack of technical experience, or shortage of money.

11th. For the above reasons, amongst others, private capital is chary of such enterprises. It is argued that the chances of failure are great, and, as the market cannot be cornered, any process when