been established in Europe for almost a century, but no one, in this country, thought of turning to the European peat using countries for advice and enlightenment concerning the best process to employ for the manufacture of peat fuel in Canada. This seems incredible, especially at the present day, when the inventor of processes is still able to hold the attention and sometimes the purse strings of astute business men.

In Europe the annual production of peat is large. In Russia alone, during the last year, over 2,500,000 metric tons were produced; together with a large output in Germany, and other countries. The process employed in all the European countries is the air-dried machine peat process, sometimes called the "wet process": and this is the only economic process for the manufacture of peat fuel known to-day.

Unless the manufacture of peat fuel is conducted on a bog situated reasonably near a community which is able to take over the entire output produced, peat manufactured for domestic or fuel purposes alone would not prove a profitable venture. This is due to the comparatively low heating value of the peat to its moisture content, and to the large volume it occupies, per heat unit, as compared with coal; and when to these disadvantages is added that of high freight rates per ton, the reason of the foregoing statement will be obvious. But while peat may serve as a domestic fuel in only certain cases, it may be well adapted for the production of power, or as a fuel gas. This is especially so in the case of peat which has a high nitrogen content, since this element can be profitably recovered in the ammonia gas formed in the by-product recovery producer. According to the process employed in by-product recovery work, the ammonia gas is fixed with sulphuric acid, and the resulting product "ammonium sulphate" is then sold for agricultural purposes. The demand for this commodity is, to-day, greater than the supply, consequently its price per unit is somewhat high. Whenever, therefore, the nitrogen content of the peat is sufficiently high, the production of a fuel, or power gas, accompanied by by-product recovery, would prove profitable. But in the case of the production of power, the same economies must be introduced into the manufacture of the fuel that apply to a

4