

through this compartment where the peat is, and hot air deprives the peat of its moisture. That is the reason that in 36 hours we get it as hard as this sample.

Q. Why are you not going on with it?—A. There was so much prejudice about peat, and so many people had spent a lot of money on peat, fabulous sums of money that everybody is afraid of it.

Q. Would you write for us a statement of what you have done, and include in it that statement you showed me from Mr. Hingston, and send it to us, and we will take the matter into consideration and see what we can do?—A. Yes. You were asking me why we did not go on with it. We are going to go with it now. We are trying to form a company, but it is pretty hard; but some friends told us that if we were to see the Government and explain our plan they might help us to go ahead with it, and it would not cost the Government so much as at Alfred. With about \$10,000 we could put up a demonstration plant, the principal part, the part which treats the peat, and it would be capable of making 100 tons a day. Then if they found that satisfactory, all they would have to do would be to put up the necessary buildings, and the industry would be ready. We can work every day, as we are not dependent on sunlight, but we use electricity. Our peat can be stored without disintegration.

STATEMENT RE EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION—THE OLIGNY PROCESS—
FOR THE TREATMENT OF PEAT

The equipment comprises movable grates 43 inches long by 15 inches wide on which the peat is deposited in bulks measuring 12 inches by 8 inches by 4 inches. These grates loaded with peat are placed on an endless chain conveyor which carries them to the apparatus where the treatment by solutions and electrical charges is made; then the peat, still on the grates, is put through a circular cutter which cuts it in four-inch slices; it is then carried, always by the same conveyor, to the dryers where the loaded grates are deposited. These dryers are conveniently placed on each side of the chain conveyor. This endless chain can also be used to transport the finished product to the storage.

The operation by which the peat is cut up in slices and afterwards passed through our solution is all done automatically without the help of anybody. The treating apparatus comprises one electrical battery, one anode and one cathode. The solution part comprises one steel basin with an automatic tap and an air compressor. The dryer contains several compartments and has the following dimensions: 40 feet by 20 feet by 10 feet in length, width and height. One hot-air furnace feeds alternately four compartments.

COST OF PRODUCTION—BASIS OF 25 TONS DAILY—FINISHED PRODUCT
READY TO BE SHIPPED

4 men to dig out 50 tons a day	\$12.00
3 men (operators) at \$2.50 a day	7.50
2 men on the dryers at \$2.50 a day	5.00
100 gallons of solution at 0.035 per 2 gallons (2 gallons per ton of peat)	35.00
Heating of dryers and power (2 tons)	6.00
1 man for the heating and looking after the solution	3.00
1 foreman (per day)	4.00
Interest and depreciation	2.50
Total	\$75.00

It is to be noted here that the 50 tons of peat are reduced to 25 tons when the peat has been dried, and on account of this the peat equally loses half of its volume, this latter loss being obtained by the destruction of the life or capillary action of the peat.