

Miami Florida June/ 26th 1924.

Mr. H. N. Rodenbaugh, General Manager.
Florida East Coast Railway.
St. Augustine
Florida.

Dear Sir:-

I am so much interested in the possibilities for fuel and power production from "peat" from the Everglades, and knowing that you in turn are no doubt looking into this source of fuel.

Of course it will be only a matter of time until such firms as "The Mond's Gas Corporation of England" who have been so successful in their operations (with a much lower grade of peat than is found in the Everglades) in England, Germany, Italy and Russia, in each country they have found great savings over the use of any other known fuel, and they have made large financial profit in the use of this low grade fuel.

Florida's fuel supply (peat) is perhaps the richest in the world from a fuel and by-products standpoint--such as ammonia, tars, and oils, the source of supply is so close to point of consumption, there is a demand for the main product "power" (as well as the by-products) for lighting the cities and towns in Southern Florida.

This vast deposit of "low grade fuel" is sufficient to furnish power to all Florida for all times--- a few acres would run or furnish you fuel for your Miami Electric Light and Power Company for each year---it costs practically nothing, a plant to utilize this power and save the by-products would not be a large capital investment, to obtain a cheap and dependable fuel---and would I am sure reduce the cost per KW to far less than half of present cost.

I have had Dr. Robert Ranson make some demonstrations here at Miami which have I am sure proven all the above; these demonstrations have not cost much, but the thought occurred to me that you should be considering this vast source of cheap power to supply your several power plants, and for that matter for power for your railroad; I am quite sure that Dr. Ranson would be agreeable to a proposition from you to give you the benefit of his research work (more than Government has done) and make further investigations and reports to you, thus giving you the benefit of knowledge which will sooner or later be public property through Government reports, or perhaps the activities of the Mond's interest, or Mr. Henry Ford's experts who I understand will soon investigate.

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The small amount of moneys I have spent on giving Dr.Ranson an opportunity to demonstrate that the thought of using these vast beds of fuel is not by any means all theory, but that electricity can be generated at only a small cost as compared to other fuels now in use, and I consider my money well spent to have this knowledge.

Dr.Ranson is no doubt well known to you, like all scientists his zeal has no doubt led him astray, but he is certainly equipped to give you or any one who requires cheap power the benefit of not only his own research "right on the ground" but the knowledge acquired on his trip to Europe to investigate this industry, he could assemble all the facts and figures for you and I am sure would be invaluable.

I trust you will not think I am presuming to offer the suggestion that you employ Dr.Ranson to report fully to you, but I feel that instead of him trying to finance this industry he should furnish the information, facts, figures, and experiences of others who have been successful financially along the same line to some Company such as yours, to the end that advantage can be taken of this great storehouse of cheap fuel right at our door.

Very respectfully yours

J.F.Jaudon.