



EXPERIMENT GROUND FOR MARITIME SIGNALS IN THE VICINITY OF BERLIN.

Recent rapid advance in the technique of lights and lighting has induced the Government of the Reich specially to fit up and arrange an *Experiment Ground for Maritime Signals*. Presuming that other States Members may be interested in this installation, a short description thereof and of the work undertaken is given below.

In order to make continuous tests of the progress made in the technique, particularly insofar as the lighting of sea-marks, lighthouses and lightships is concerned, and to succeed in determining the best economical efficiency of all installations, the Government of the Reich has specially fitted up an *Experiment Ground for Maritime Signals*. This experiment ground is to the Eastward of Berlin, near the small town of Friedrichshagen, on the Northern bank of Muggel Lake, and is directly under the control of the Reichsverkehrsministerium (Ministry of Commerce). The experiment ground embraces a large field with a building for working-plant, workshops, premises for fitting-up and for photometry, a laboratory, dwelling-houses, offices and outhouses. The ground is lighted from its own motor-driven plant which provides both continuous and alternating current. In addition, there is an air-compressing plant. The work of the experiment ground includes not only practical tests of the appliances and fuel employed but also scientific research work. With regard to scientific research work, the establishment undertakes the examination of the composition of the usual gaseous and liquid fuels; it takes up all questions dealing with the use of electric sound and light waves set apart for maritime signalling and watches over the standardisation and the colouring of the occulting disks as well as over the translucency of different kinds of glass. There exists also a plant for the measurement of lighting power, from the ordinary ship's lantern, passing over Muggel Lake, to the greatest distances, under varied meteorological conditions.

Practical test-work covers the examination of mechanical rotating and occulting devices, of speed-regulating appliances, of alternating and changing devices for lights; also investigation into the possibility of replacing benzol incandescent burners by incandescent electric lights in the lamps; it includes also the examination of sound-emitters and wireless apparatus for fog-signals with the necessary controlling accessories.

Later on the workshops will undertake the manufacture of new inventions which have not before been made; where not handed over to commercial undertakings, refitting and repairs will also be entrusted to them.

A store for the accessories necessary for outside posts is attached to the experiment ground, the quality and uniform composition of the material being assured by constant supervision.

This year, on account of the steady increase in the range of work of the establishment, the present premises must be enlarged and various rearrangements made; the competent Department intends to publish a detailed description of the installations after their conversion.

