

PAPER FROM COTTON SEED HULLS.

Figures prepared by the American Paper and Pulp Association show that if all the fibre were recovered from the hulls annually produced in the operation of cotton seed oil-mills, there would be available for the manufacture of high-grade papers about 200,000 tons of paper stock.

The average cotton crop of approximately 12,000,000 bales produces 6,000,000 tons of cotton seed. Deducting about one-third for replanting, there remains for production of cotton-seed oil 4,000,000 tons. It is estimated that the hulls constitute about 42% of the weight of the seed, which would leave an estimated yield of 1,680,000 tons of hulls. Only about 60% of the total tonnage of hulls produced in the country could be gathered profitable for treatment, leaving available about 1,000,000 tons per annum.

It is found that the average weight of fibre recoverable is about 20% of the weight of the hulls. This would indicate a maximum production of 200,000 tons of hull fibre, yielding 75% on 150,000 tons of paper stock. This is about 50% of the country's annual consumption of 300,000 tons of rags used in paper making and about 10% of the world's annual consumption of nearly 1,000,000 tons.

TO DO AWAY WITH STAMPS.

(Chamber's Journal.)

An interesting attempt is being made by the postal authorities to avoid the waste of time incurred in stamping letters.

A simple small machine was set up in the London General Post Office wherein, instead of a penny being inserted in the slot for a postage stamp the letter and penny are both posted at the same time. The letter is then franked with a postmark, the familiar postage stamp being dispensed with.

Although this idea is somewhat new to Britain, it has been in service in New Zealand for some time; and as the initial experiments have proved successful there is every indication that it will be extensively adopted in that country, for letter posting at all events.

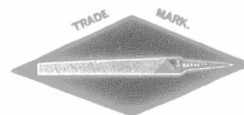
It means not only a considerable saving in time in busy post offices, but at the same time represents an appreciable economy in the maintenance of the department as the expense of manufacturing adhesive postage stamps is saved if the invention is adopted extensively.

Philatelists may be disposed to deplore the disappearance of the postage stamp; but it will cause no misgivings among commercial men, among them the adoption of such a device has been advocated for some time, and to prevent pilfering of stamps.

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