

alcohol and filtration. The precise nature of the dye itself can only be judged by elaborate chemical tests.

MINERAL PIGMENTS.

If adulterated they may contain chalk, sulphate of lime, china clay, excessive moisture, and other substances, usually put in to cheapen the article.

A complete list of pigments, together with tests for ascertaining the presence of suspected compounds, would require more space than can be spared in this chapter.

LUBRICATING OILS.

An admixture of animal, vegetable, and mineral oils may be detected by gently warming a sample of the oil with caustic soda. No effect is produced with pure mineral oils. If animal or vegetable oils are present, saponification takes place, i.e., the formation of an oil soap, which can easily be seen. The purity of mineral oils, or their suitability for lubricating, is generally measured by such properties as the flash point, viscosity, specific gravity, and so on.

WATER.

Lime salts may be found by adding a few drops of ammonium chloride and ammonia, then following by some ammonium oxalate solution, when a white precipitate is produced.

Sulphates are detected by a white precipitation produced by the addition of barium chloride solution to a quantity of the water acidified with hydrochloric acid.

Organic Matter.—If the water be slightly acidified with sulphuric acid and a few drops of a solution of permanganate of potash be added, the color of the water will change from pink to brown, more or less quickly, according to the amount of organic matter present.

THE BRITISH MARKETS.

LONDON, AUG. 24.—The mechanical market is absolutely stagnant at present, and both buyers and sellers are occupying themselves watching each other. Scandinavian makers have modified their views of prices somewhat, but not far enough to meet the buyers' views, and, consequently, nothing is being done or likely to be done till later in the year. We cannot hear of any sales for next year by manufacturers yet.

Sulphite remains fairly firm, but little business is being done. Sellers are not anxious to sell, as there is really not a large quantity left for this year. For next year, considerable business has been done at an average reduction of 10s. as against this year's prices. The enormously increased out-turn of the new mills, estimated in the beginning of the year at 65,000 tons, has now dwindled down to about 20,000 tons, as many of the projected schemes have come to naught, and others have not been built on such a large scale as was at first intended. We therefore do not see how the market is to drop, as some papermakers think it will, to £7 per ton.

Soda remains firm at last prices.

CURRENT NET PRICES, C.I.F.

	£	s.	d.	to	£	s.	d.
Sulphate and soda, bleached, per ton	10	0	0	to	12	10	0
" unbleached, first	8	0	0	"	8	10	0
" " second	7	15	0	"	8	0	0
Sulphite, bleached,	11	10	0	"	15	0	0
" unbleached, first	8	5	0	"	10	7	6
" " second	8	0	0	"	8	2	6
Pine, dry, in sheets	4	2	6	"	4	10	0
" 50 per cent. air dry	2	0	0	"	2	2	6
" extra fine	2	2	6	"	2	7	6
Brown, dry	4	2	6	"	4	7	6
" 50 per cent. air dry	2	2	6	"	2	5	0
Aspen, dry	6	10	0	"	7	10	0

THE SITUATION.

M. R. WARNER MILLER, of New York, recently appeared before the International Commission, at Quebec, on behalf of the paper manufacturers of the United States, to protest against any change in the paper and pulp duties. In an interview, afterwards, he presented the views of his fellow papermen as follows:

"The present position of affairs on our side is quite satisfactory to both producer and consumer. Pulp wood, for paper-making, comes in duty free; the duty on pulp is 10 per cent., while on paper it is 15 per cent. These duties are far lower than the average revenue duty, and are merely intended to offset any advantage that cheaper labor on the Canadian side would give in making paper for the American market. Even with the duty thrown off, it would be a long while before the Canadian mills could compete, as our machinery is on a much larger scale. They would, of course, have the advantage of an inexhaustible supply of spruce at their doors. The advantage of the retention of the duty is that it makes the position of our papermakers in the United States secure, and enables them to safely invest in the best machinery. Paper is cheap enough now, in all conscience. When we began to use wood pulp instead of rags, paper was 16c. per lb., and now the newspapers get it for about 2c. The New York World, as you say, issued an appeal for cheaper paper some time ago, but, if anyone can supply it cheaper than they are now getting it, the business is open to him. Looking at the situation as a whole, the paper manufacturers decided to make a strong protest against interference with the duties of the United States, which are to-day far lower than those of Canada."

The Toronto Globe, in a leading article, dealing with the question of the reimposition of postage on newspapers, suggests that, as free transmission of papers was originally given as a measure of compensation for the high tax upon printing presses and other newspaper supplies, with the abolition of free postage should come a corresponding reduction in taxation, and urges the reduction of the duty on news print, as the raw material of the newspaper. The Globe asks: "Why should we have this special discrimination? Why, in view of the abundance of raw material for papermaking, in Canada, should paper be 20 or 25 per cent. dearer in this country than in the United States?" and adds: "It seems to us that the position of the newspaper industry, under the legislation of the last session, calls for the serious consideration of the press and the Government, and that there should be a united movement to have removed the unjust discrimination which now obtains against one particular industry and the capital and labor employed in its prosecution."

The pulp and papermen of Canada, it is quite apparent, need to be up and doing. As The Paper Makers' Association of Great Britain has been of great practical value to the trade there, why could not equally beneficial, if not still greater results be obtained by the formation of an active association of the paper manufacturers of Canada? They are not so many that they could not be brought together and the advantages of organization in the early days of the industry, will probably produce more far-reaching results than later on. The multiplication of pulp mills in the Dominion during the past few years, and the necessity of bringing pressure to bear in order