

would need a drug room. I know one dyer who has to walk sixty yards for every batch he weighs, sixty yards for his sample, and sixty yards with additions, etc., to tell his men to take the batch out. If he dyes sixty batches per day he must walk about four miles more than he ought to, or, in other words, his master pays him one-quarter of his wages for nothing but to wear his shoe leather. Most drug rooms in this country—and I have seen many—are miserable, dirty, small, uncomfortable shanties, and you would wonder sometimes, when you look upon some of the work of our craft, if it is really possible to bring such beauty from such filth. A proper drug room should be either in the centre or at one end of the dyehouse, large enough to have a place for all your drugs, so that all of them can be put in their places. It should be airy, lofty, and well lighted; everything about it should wear a cheerful aspect, so that every time you have occasion to enter it, no matter what annoyance you may have met with in the mill or dyehouse, you will feel as if you were at home again, your ruffled temper put straight. In such a place you can scarcely fail to work economically, therefore your master will be repaid for providing for your comfort.

Next come your drugs; and I venture to say that in the selection of drugs the idea of economy is very often never thought of. We often use drugs because we have used them before, and feel sure that they will produce the shade we desire; we use them because we know of no better method; we have been too lazy to look for anything better and cheaper. We get to be very much like a locomotive; we cannot run unless we are on the track we have been in the habit of running on. The moment we get off the track we are stuck; we lack education; we have never read the literature published at great expense for our benefit; we are too wise in our own secret ways, invented by our fathers, or possibly our grandfathers; we neither want to learn other people's ways nor teach them ours; we have too much of the life of a flower about us—appear beautiful for a short time during our natural lives, and then die and wither away, to be forgotten that we ever had any existence.

The Foremen Dyers' Mutual Improvement Association has no use for such an idea; the world has no use for such. We are here for the purpose of benefiting our fellow-men, and at the same time improving ourselves. If we wish to excel we shall have to excel in the selection of the drugs we use. What is there more humiliating to a foreman dyer than to be told that his colors are not up to the standard; that So-and-so's goods look better than his, although made from the same stock? What is more humiliating to a foreman dyer than to hear the salesman say on his return home after months of hard work trying to sell his goods, "it's no use to offer ours alongside other people's; we are not in it; our colors are dead—no life in them. I could have sold lots if the colors had been bright. The goods were all right, but the colors bum; consequently I have done nothing." Result, change of dyer.

Don't buy drugs because they are cheap in price; they may be dear in practical use. There is nothing saved in paying one dollar a pound for Glauber's salt; you can buy it at fifty-five cents per hundred pounds. Sugar is best used with your tea and coffee at home; you have no use for it in your drugs. You need not buy water by the barrel; you can have it through the water-main. Dyestuffs that contain the least percentage of the above will be found to be the best. Don't buy one hundred pounds of an article that fifty pounds of it will spoil before you can use it, simply because you can buy one hundred pounds two cents per pound cheaper than what you can buy ten pounds for. Don't buy drugs because the drugman says your neighbor is using them, but find out by test and trials if you can improve on what you are using. Wherever you may be, keep your eyes open; if, perchance, you see a color better than what you are producing, find out if you have the necessary drugs for producing it; if not, never rest until you know what will, and what will do it cheapest, if more than one way. You will find the names of drugs vary, although in many respects the products are the same; each house gives a special name to their own. Of that we will say little. Learn to make your own combinations, keeping in mind red, blue and yellow; the combinations that can be obtained with these three are inexhaustible.

Next comes your help. How many masters to-day are ready to hire the man who is willing to work for the least wages, regardless of the man's abilities! I would, if I had my own way, employ the best men in the city and pay the best wages, and I should have the best results from their work.

TEXTILE CENTRES OF GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.*

After a preternaturally long infancy and a short but healthy youth, the textile industry of the Empire of Germany is now entering upon a vigorous maturity. Whether its further development will be that of a giant can only be surmised; but if the surmise be based upon the marvellous growth of its youth, a giant stature is clearly indicated. Such startling industrial growth as Germany's during the past 17 years has only been equalled once in history; that was in the United States from the close of the war to the early nineties.

While the Teutonic race has been famous for its textile fabrics since history runneth not to the contrary, it is only during the last two decades that it has assumed proportions which bring its development within the industrial marvels of the 19th century. What were textile centres there in mediæval times are textile centres to-day; but in the earlier days those centres were only a minority of the German, as they are now. The modern development began some years after the King of Prussia became the Emperor of united Germany. Indeed, it would not have been possible under former conditions any more than the erstwhile prosperity of

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