

of 3.6 tons. The power required for the driers and this press amounts to about sixteen horse-power. Another press has a capacity of nine tons a day, requiring 45 horse-power for the machine.

#### **Use for Dry Distillation.**

'A very attractive process is the charring of sawdust and subjecting it to a process of dry distillation. The remaining charred material (charcoal) is then briquetted and yields a briquette of very high heat value, equivalent to the best anthracite coal. The process is practically the same as that used in the distillation of wood. The resulting by-products are an illuminating gas, which can be used to light up the mill, wood vinegar or pyroligneous acid, wood spirits or methyl alcohol and wood tar. The wood tar can be subjected to further treatment and yields creosote, benzol, naphthalin, paraffine, etc.

'Sawdust has been used for the operation of gas producers for power purposes, in which cases it can be handled either in the loose form or in the form of briquettes.

'Related to the briquetting of sawdust is the manufacture of artificial wood. This material is of great tenacity and strength, does not decay and is less susceptible to the action of the atmosphere than is natural wood. All this artificial wood can be sawed, planed and cut, but not split. The manufacture of it has become quite an industry abroad. Decorations for walls, ceilings and furniture are manufactured from mixtures the essential part of which is sawdust. These ornaments rival carved work and are a great deal cheaper, replacing those made of zinc, papier-mache and artificial stone or cement.

'Sawdust is the essential part of a stone-like material used for building purposes and also for paving blocks. These paving blocks are said to outlast the regular creosoted wood blocks.

'Sawdust is pulverized and used

instead of sand. In this state it can be colored, perfumed and used for many purposes, such as for sachet bags and the like.

#### **Miscellaneous uses.**

'The writer remembers the time when this fine sawdust was used in offices instead of sand and blotters. Its polishing qualities in the pulverized state for gold and silverware are well known. Further, from fine dust of colored wood, such as mahogany, etc., stains can be made to be used in imitating other woods. With linseed oils one can make a filler. The material for this filler is best obtained from the kind of wood on which it is to be used.

'Sawdust and shavings are used for packing glassware, porcelain and other ceramic articles. In this state it must be dry, so as not to have a detrimental effect, especially on ceramic goods.

'The use of sawdust for cleaning floors is too well known to need mention; not so generally known is its property of preserving eggs.

'Any person handling oily and painty tinware should know that it is an excellent means for cleaning fresh paint from such tinware, rendering the vessels perfectly dry and clean.

'Sawdust is used in the manufacture of insulating material for steam boilers and steam piping, and as insulating filler in fireless cookers, ice boxes, walls, etc.

'It can be laid in cement floors instead of sand, rendering these floors warmer and more porous. It is used for roofing material instead of sand, making roofing paper lighter for transportation and so reducing cost.

'Charred sawdust is an excellent means for filtration of liquids and has disinfecting qualities, making it more suitable for this purpose than ordinary charcoal. Added to brick it makes a more porous brick. Mixed with clay it can be used for the manufacture of filtering articles; this has proved to be an attractive process.

'Sawdust is used to absorb mois-