

Q. "Is this the aerodynamic technique?"

A. "Yes, paper production in an airstream. Then there are the organic solvent delignification techniques."

Q. "Could you tell us more about this?"

A. "In essence it is a waterless method permitting delignification and the production of pure cellulose in an organic medium. With this method the raw materials are more fully utilised. One of the most important tasks in avoiding pollution is to utilise all the basic components in the wood. Lignin, bark, and other valuable organic compounds are very important raw materials. From lignin we can obtain ion-exchange resin and activated charcoal; also, lignin can be used in agriculture as a binding agent and in organic industry as a raw material. An enormous amount of research has been performed on lignin which has not found a practical application. Bark also should not be regarded as just a waste product. It can be used as an ecologically safe, high-caloric form of fuel. There are other ways in which to use it, too. Bark can be used for the manufacture of valuable herbal medicines.

Q. "Should these new techniques be introduced in the waste-products units of pulp-and-paper plants?"

A. "We need to move to an integrated industrial plant. If, for instance, the medical or pharmaceutical industry is interested in a number of elements which can be extracted from bark, this means that the construction or expansion of a combine should be planned with due respect to the interests of affiliated industries."