

WALL PAPER AND DECORATIONS (Continued.)

machines. In addition to the advantage of being able to wind more slowly than by the old way, the appearance of the paper is improved by passing over several rollers, which act as calenders. The large bundles are then taken to machines which unroll and feed the paper into other machines, which re-roll it into the form in which it is sent out to the dealer. This re-rolling is also done more slowly, and consequently more carefully than of old, as three of these machines are now used where two had to do the work before. The output can also be handled more expeditiously, and there is less waste. It goes to the dealer in better shape, and is therefore a factor in the selling quality. The move is an enterprising one, and will be appreciated by the factory's customers. Other improvements have recently been made with a view to perfecting the manufacture of their papers, and the factory now has a plant equipment equal to any.

HOW DESIGNS ARE PRINTED.

Many of the designs in wall paper nowadays are so dainty that one cannot help wondering how they are made. The most difficult part of the work perhaps is prepar-

ing the rollers for the press. In the confusion of colors, which is so common, the difficulty is increased by the necessity of having a separate roller for each color. By the kindness of Colin McArthur & Co., a representative of BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER was shown the different steps in preparing the rollers for the press. This is the only firm in Canada making its own rollers.

The wood of which the rollers are made is the best seasoned maple. It is usually cut into lengths about 20 inches long and about 5 inches square, or less, according to the size of roller desired. In this state it is left to dry for four years. The ends, and a hole lengthways through the block, are painted, so that it will not dry faster with the grain than across it. This prevents warping and splitting. At the end of four years, all the blocks which have split are thrown away. The others are turned to a standard size and are ready for the next operation.

The design is got from the artist in colors just the same as the finished paper. From this an outline of the pattern is made in transfer ink on specially prepared paper.

This is laid on the roller, and rubbed. An outline design is thus left on the roller. As many rollers are used as there are colors in the pattern. On each roller is next painted that part of the design that is of one color. For example, all the red of the pattern is painted on one roller, and when completed this roller will print the red.

The next operation is the most difficult, and requires the most skilled labor. It is to make the type, as it may be called, for printing. This is done by bending and fitting small pieces of brass to fit the outline of any one color, and then driving them into the wood. Several difficulties are met here. These pieces of brass must be all the same height above the roller. Besides, there are so many twists and turns in the outline that the pieces must be very small. This necessitates a great many joints, which must all be perfect. This is where the skill of the workman shows itself. Sharp angles and curiously curved lines are followed in outline with an ease that surprises the uninitiated onlooker.

After this is done on all the rollers, the next thing is to fill up the parts which are outlined in brass. The filling used is the very best of felt. It is specially prepared and made from the best lamb's wool. This

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