

Sprayed Asbestos Insulation

The spraying of asbestos insulation, methods and machines for which have recently been patented by several parties, is developing slowly. While it seems to be the general opinion that Canadian fibre is not suitable for this purpose, it has also been stated that relatively long fibre works well, but is too costly.

Waste newspaper, shredded in a suitable manner, is being sprayed, but of course it is not fireproof insulation.

Very Clean Fibre

As a result of some of the conversations with men in the industry, the impression was gained that if very clean fibre, free from all non-fibrous contamination, were made available, it is very probable that a market could be developed for it. In addition to a high degree of cleanliness, the other requirements would be uniformity, thorough openness and good homogeneity.

As an example of the possible applications where such fibre could be used to advantage, there may be cited the use of asbestos as a filtering medium.

Asbestos Textiles

As the manufacture of woven brake lining accounts for such a large proportion of the asbestos textiles made, it would be valuable to know the future trend of the brake lining industry. But a safe forecast cannot be made. A suggestion was heard that if the producers are desirous of maintaining, if not increasing, the consumption of spinning fibres, they should encourage the manufacture of woven, as opposed to molded, brake lining. Just how they could do this was not made clear, but is a thought.

Canadian fibre is not considered suitable for the manufacture of asbestos textiles for electrical insulation, due to its magnetic iron content. Improvement in the electrical properties, presumably by the elimination of this impurity, is therefore desired. Because of the apparent scarcity of long fibre of good electrical properties, at least one party have expressed their readiness to undertake the processing of Canadian fibre as soon as a commercial method for removing the magnetic iron becomes available.

The Heat Resistance of Asbestos

There was found a considerable interest in what might be termed the heat resistance of asbestos. This includes the temperature of dehydration, the rate of dehydration at different temperatures and the effects of these factors on the properties of asbestos fibre and products made with asbestos. Practically all grades of fibre are involved, for interest in this subject was