

PROGRESS REPORT

DIVISION OF Chemistry

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PERIOD COVERED
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INVESTIGATION: Asbestos

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- TOPICS:
1. Tests for Bell Asbestos Mines Ltd.
 2. Asbestos for Filtration Purposes.
 3. Survey of Asbestos Industry.
 4. A.S.T.M. Meeting and Exhibit.

1. ^{Bell} Tests for Asbestos Mines Ltd.

Three samples of mill fibre were received from the Bell Asbestos Mines Ltd., with the request that they be wet screened and tested for dye adsorption.

The tests have been made and the results reported. The dye tests were made by Mr. van Winsen.

2. Asbestos for Filtration Purposes

The tests which were to have been made in Toronto have been postponed owing to the absence of one of the wine chemists. These tests will be made in the near future.

A visit was made to the plant of the American Leitz Filter Corporation at Paterson, N. J. where they have tried to process Canadian fibre but have so far been unsuccessful. A sample prepared here was tried in the filtration of wine and was found to work satisfactorily. Mr. Hunziker, the superintendent was away, but his assistant was very well pleased with our fibre and said that they would be very much interested in the process of preparation. He intimated that new developments promised an expansion of the use of asbestos for filtration purposes.

3. Survey of Asbestos Industry

(1) While in New York, I got in touch with Mr. Roff, of Whittaker, Clark and Daniels, who are the sales agents for Asbestos Corporation Limited. Unfortunately, Mr. Roff was just leaving for out of town and we had no time to discuss matters fully. He did say that he had one very definite problem put up to him by a customer who uses asbestos in paint and he promised to take me to interview this party next time I was in the vicinity.

(2) A visit was made to the Amtorg Trading Corporation where I interviewed Mr. Seidenbond, who is in charge of ore imports, including asbestos fibre, and Mr. Gertzenberg, vice-president. They told me that very little Russian asbestos was coming into the United States both because the home demand was increasing and because Europe was a better market for whatever fibre Russia had for sale.