

SYMPOSIUM ON PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS

INTRODUCTION

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In the period since World War II and particularly during the present decade, many new types of paper have been developed. In a product where cellulose has held dominance for generations as the principal fibrous component, papers made from inorganic and synthetic organic fibers have become commercial realities. This accomplishment has been made possible by the development of agents for effecting interfiber bonding. This in turn has stimulated renewed interest in fiber bonding agents for improving the dry as well as wet strength of cellulosic papers. New chemical modifications of the cellulose fibers have been developed to improve its papermaking properties. In addition, papermakers have adopted new plastics for coating and impregnation which provide paper-plastic combinations having unique

properties. New mechanical modifications in the paper sheet have been developed to enhance its toughness or to adapt it for use as a yarn in knit or woven products.

As in all product development, testing has had a necessary and important role in the success of these new accomplishments in paper. For evaluating the special properties of the new products it is often necessary to develop new methods of test or to adapt existing methods. These new methods are now well known to the producers of these materials.

It is the object of this symposium to acquaint the paper technologist and consumer with some of the new developments in paper and with the methodology which has been evolved. It is also hoped that the new testing techniques may lead to a fresh approach in the development of improved methods for conventional papers.

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