

The strong red color of tar liquor and disinfectant emulsions made from low temperature tar oils, the cause of which has puzzled chemists, has handicapped the marketing of low temperature tar, Stephen P. Burke and Solomon Caplan of Long Island City told members of the American Chemical Society. They explained that the objectionable color could now be extracted by means of a borax solution.

The amount of heat necessary to carbonize various types of coal at the comparatively low temperature of 1100 degrees Fahrenheit has been measured by Stephen P. Burke and V. F. Parry of Long Island City. They found that Pittsburgh coal required only 7 British thermal units of heat energy while Utah non-coking coal took 37 and Denver sub-bituminous coal 81 units.

DYESTUFFS USED TO MAKE BETTER RUBBER

Dyes and other organic compounds are now being used for prolonging the life of rubber as well as for speeding up the vulcanizing process in making the finished product from the sticky crude plantation rubber. Donald H. Powers of Pennsgrove, N.J., described how the dyestuffs industry is thus helping the rubber manufacturer, at the meeting of the American Chemical Society at Philadelphia.

"Organic compounds have been used as accelerators in vulcanizing rubber for the past ten years," Mr. Powers said, "but the dye industry is now furnishing some of most widely used ones as well as developing newer and better ones. In addition, an organic anti-oxidant, a substance that slows up the aging of rubber, has been developed."

The world rubber situation will be profoundly affected when the secret of keeping rubber "alive" is solved. Rubber deteriorates fast on exposure to sunlight and under nearly all conditions to a varying extent. Chemists have been trying for years to find some substance with which to "dopo" the rubber and keep it from aging too fast. A new substance put on the market by the dyestuffs industry, Mr. Powers said, is already prolonging the life of rubber manyfold.

Before the use of organic dyestuffs in rubber products only a few inorganic colors were available, Mr. Powers said. But now a wide variety of shades is used producing stocks of superior products, and the dyestuffs industry is busy searching for new and still better compounds for use in rubber manufacturing.

NEW GLAND EXTRACT NOW MADE FOR COMMERCIAL USE

An extract of the parathyroid gland, a small ductless organ back of the thyroid gland in the neck, which controls the lime content of the blood, may soon be on the medicine shelf. A.M.Hjort and H.B.North of Detroit reported their successful preparation of this hormone from animal glands to the American Chemical Society which met recently at Philadelphia. The active substance that does the work is believed to be a protein.