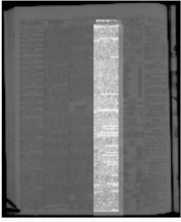




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LATEX CUP DESIGN.

THE MALAYAN COMPETITION.

Dr. W R Jones, Managing Director of the Malayan China-clay and Pottery Co. Ltd, writes: The Acting Director of Agriculture and some well known Rubber Planters have pointed out that a written account of some of the fifty-seven designs submitted for our Latex Cup Design Competition would be of general interest to planters.


SOME OF THE DESIGNS.

The designers who required conical pieces of pottery to screw into the bottom of the cups to prevent them from falling when pressed on the ground, could not have known that one such conical screw-piece would be more difficult to make than a score of latex cups; and those who sent designs with protruding arrangements for hooking the cups to the cup suspenders did not take into consideration that such protruding hooks would treble the cost, as they would prevent the resting of the cups for burning, glazing and packing.

Certain ingenious designs were submitted to make it possible to collect latex during heavy rains. One such can best be described as a kind of "moustache cup," without a handle. The intention was that the rain-water, falling on the narrow band stretched across the mouth of the cup, would run off over the sides, whereas the latex falling vertically, would drop into the cup through the space between the band and edge of the cup. The same object prompted other designers to suggest latex cups with lids having eccentric holes. Such cups would be costly to manufacture, and would give Ramasamy considerable trouble to clean.


The idea behind one design was that by pulling slightly the spring holders the cup could be tilted, emptied, and washed





without being removed, and hence there would be no breakages! I was rather nervous that this design would be considered one of the best, and as the designer was a member of the staff of a firm dealing in latex cups, I was able to speak severely to him for such ruthless designs against trade! This design had the further objection that the suspension holes would become clogged with latex.


The object of the designers of square-shaped, 'V' shaped, triangular, and elliptical cups was to enable the cups to rest right up against the bole of the tree. Such cups could not however be easily cleaned, would be difficult to manufacture in bulk, and would be more fragile than round caps.



The gentleman who suggested a finely perforated cover, like a coffee strainer, must have had considerable experience, not so much in rubber as in coffee in various hotels!

THE MOST SATISFACTORY DESIGN.

The Acting Director of Agriculture has decided that the most satisfactory design is the one submitted by Mr F J Wydler, A R S M, D I C late of Waterfall (Selangor) Rubber Estates, Rawang, and the large number of planters who have seen the sample cups made from this design have all agreed, without exception, that Mr Wydler has succeeded in designing a cup that is undoubtedly by far the most suitable they have ever seen.




Mr Wydler, in submitting his design, wrote as follows:—

"The ideal latex cup must be designed to satisfy each and every point mentioned below:—

(1) It should hold about 10 ozs of liquid.

(2) It must hold a maximum of latex for a minimum of "wetted surface," at any instant during the filling stage. In other words, the ratio of liquid content to wetted surface, at any time during filling must be large and increase during filling. In other designs (on the market) this ratio decreases or remains constant.



(3) The surface of latex exposed to the air, at any instant during filling, must be a minimum, or rather the ratio of latex content to latex surface exposed to air must be a maximum.

(4) It must be so designed that cleaning is made facile.

(5) It must be able to stand without support; it must almost be unbreakable.

(6) It must easily fit into ordinary hangers without danger of falling through, or toppling over.

(7) It must be easy to manufacture and

economical to produce."

The inner surface of the cup forms a hybrid between an ellipsoid and a paralleloid and its shape is based on mathematical calculations which are given in detail in Mr Wydler's letter, together with graphs of the curves proving conclusively that such a cup would give the minimum amount of cup-scrap.

Special machines have been erected at Gopeng Perak, for manufacturing this cup in white glazed "porcelain," and thousands are now being made daily. The Sales Agents are Messrs McAlister and Co who will shortly carry stocks of these cups at their various branches.

With the arrival of Mr J L Sime in Ipoh Mr J Baird Matthews becomes Agent of the Straits Trading Co there vice Mr F A Kimmel who is going on leave.

At Skelmorlie Parish Church, Ayrshire, on Oct. 6th, by the Rev. R B Grant Sutherland, B D, Hilary Rougier Moullin, of Kajang, Selangor, eldest son of the late Hilary Rougier Moullin, M D, of Lyss, Hants, was married to Jessie Robson Crum Ewing, daughter of the late Humphry Ewing and granddaughter of the late Humphry Crum Ewing, of Strathleven, Dumbartonshire. The Church was beautifully decorated, and a reception was afterwards held at Ferncraig, the residence of the bride. Later the newly wedded couple left on their honeymoon.