



The displays attracted many. Top is the display showing raw products used in the manufacturing of our paper. The various types of flax used here are shown. Below is the part of the safety

exhibit. Members of the First Aid Room Staff are pictured at the left in the picture and other posters portrayed the work of the Safety Department.

HOW BLOTTERING PAPER WAS DISCOVERED

One day early in the 19th Century, while making a batch of paper, a careless workman in a mill in Berkshire, England, forgot to put the sizing into the stock, and the whole lot was apparently ruined. Was the proprietor of that mill mad? All that paper spoiled. After he relieved his feeling sufficiently so he could sit down without shaking, he decided to write a note. So he took a piece of that paper for his note. Might as well use it himself. Nobody else would.

Taking his pen in hand, he started to write. To his surprise, the ink spread in all directions. He couldn't write on the paper. Then he did get mad. The paper was absolutely worthless. Suddenly a bright idea flashed. Why not use the paper for drying ink, instead of sand then in vogue. So he wrote on some paper and placed the unsized paper on top of the ink—and it

worked.

So he sold the unsized paper as blotting paper. Since it was something new, and since from the time of Adam people have been curious, the blotting paper sold fast. If they could buy paper that would do the work, why have a lot of ballast hanging around the office?

At first, blotting paper was pink because it was made of red rags. Red, being a fast color and difficult to bleach, wasn't good for the manufacture of writing paper. During the process of manufacture the red became pink, but pink correspondence paper was out of the question. That was before color became the rage in kitchens, bathrooms, and stationery.

Of course, as time went on, the progressive manufacturers gradually put white blotting paper on the market. Today we have green, blue, pink, yellow, white, and all the colors of the rainbow.