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DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENTS IN BUILDING MATERIALS INDUSTRY

INTRODUCE DUVANOV METHOD IN BRICKWORKS -- Berlin, Taegliche Rundschau, 6 Mar 51

As the result of experiments carried out by the Zehdenick I and Mildenwerk II brickworks, a rapid-firing process for the production of bricks has been adopted by brickworks in Brandenburg and Mecklenburg.

The process, the Duvanov method devised by Pavel Duvanov of the USSR, is to be introduced in all brickyards of the German Democratic Republic.

At the Zehdenick plant, the characteristic method used in the Duvanov process for arranging the base for stacking the bricks was modified so that three bases are drawn together and a slit, four bricks high, runs the entire length of the burning channel. Above this base the bricks are stacked with air spaces between them so that only 270 bricks per cubic meter are stacked compared with the 325 bricks formerly stacked in the same area -- a reduction of 17 percent. The uniform distribution of coal throughout the firing zone was made possible by using a rotary feed method and by reducing the stoking time from 60 to 15-20 minutes.

These improvements made it possible for the fire advance (the distance which the fire advances in 24 hours) to increase by 55 percent. Consequently, production of the kiln has risen from 170,000 to 240,000 bricks per week. The complete firing period of the kiln has been reduced from 12 to 7.8 days. Coal consumption has been cut from 330 to 275 kilograms per 1,000 bricks, a saving of 16.7 percent.

The new method has been introduced with even greater success in the Mildenwerk II brickworks. A 21.7-percent reduction was made in the number of bricks stacked per cubic meter, and the stoking time was reduced to 15 minutes. A considerable acceleration of the firing schedule raised the weekly production from 172,000 to 253,000 bricks, with a coal saving of 17 percent. The Mildenwerk II plant was obliged to operate a second shift of the furnace crew to be able to keep up with the rapid-firing schedule.

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At the Hecklingen Brickworks it was pointed out by activist Sgraja, who introduced the Duvanov method in that plant, that the precedents established by certain brickworks in the various Laender must lead to the adoption of the new rapid-firing process by all brickyards of the German Democratic Republic. He stated that Hecklingen had been able to up its firing schedule by 84 percent and that this figure was to be raised to 120 percent. A further reduction of costs is to be effected by the use of locomotive cinders, coke dust, and other waste fuels.

In line with the German Democratic Republic's system of industrial competitions, Mildenwerk II has challenged Zehdenick I to compete for increased production and saving of fuel by application of the rapid-firing process. Other competitions have been entered into between Brandenburg and Mecklenburg plants.

TO PRODUCE PORTLAND CEMENT -- Berlin, Taegliche Rundschau, 12 Jun 51

The cement works at Rummelsberg is turning out hydroment, a cement-type binding agent made of lime and ash waste obtained at the nearby Klingenburg power plant.

Production of Portland cement is to begin in the near future at the rate of 80 tons per day, and this output is to be doubled by the end of 1951.

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