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THESIS

for the Degree of

Bachelor of Science.

T 217

1910.

THE LOSSES OF GOLD DURING CUPELLATION
USING VARIOUS MAKES OF CUPELS.

BY

B.H. DOSENBACH.

OK - A.P. Mauro

10920

There are on the market various cupels. Many of the assay-supply firms sell a "manufactured" cupel, presumably made of bone-ash. The great majority of all cupels used, are made of bone-ash in the assay office itself.

The object of this work is to compare the losses of gold when the various patented, the various manufactured and the ordinary hand made cupels are used.

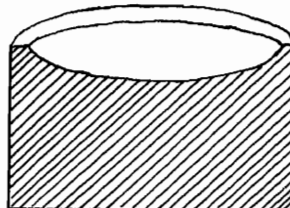
Four different makes of cupels were used.

No.1. A manufactured bone-ash cupel made by the Denver

Fireclay Co.

Diameter $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

Weight 42 grm.

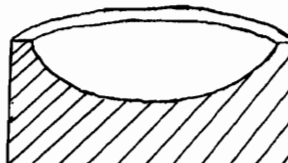


No.2. A manufactured bone-ash cupel from the Henry

Heil Chemical Co.

Diameter $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

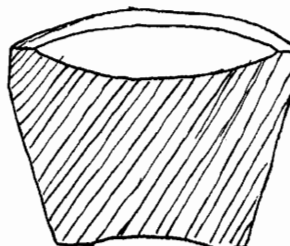
Weight 30 grm.



No.3. A patented Morganite cupel.

Diameter $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

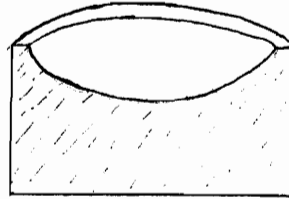
Weight 62 grm.



No.4. A hand made bone-ash cupel, air dried for five months before using.

Diameter $1\frac{1}{2}$ ---

Height 45mm .



Cupels No.3. had the greatest hardness, and No.2., No.1., and No.4. follow in the order given, as to hardness.

THE PURE GOLD.

Gold already nearly pure^e was inquarted with four times the weight of silver. The resulting button was then parted with $\text{HNO}_3(2\text{H}_2\text{O to 1 HNO}_3)$. The gold, after annealing, was sponge like, and could easily be broken up for weighing.

The amount of gold used in each cupelation was between 19 and 20 mgs. Each gold sample was weighed to the nearest $1/100$ mgm., and the gold was considered pure.

THE LEAD USED.

Three hundred grams of the sheet lead ^{were} ~~was~~ scorified to about 10 grams and cupeled. No gold or silver resulted from this test. The lead was therefore used as silver-gold free.

All cupelations were made in a coal fired muffle furnace with ordinary draft.

The cupels were put into the muffle and heated from five to ten minutes, four rows of five each being cupeled at the same time in each muffle. Temperatures were taken after the buttons had started to drive and after they had blicked, giving the average temperature of the muffle during the process of cupelation. The temperatures were taken about 1/4" above the top of the cupels. A Platinum - Rhodium thermo junction being used for this purpose.

The time of cupelation in nearly every case was between 16 and 20 minutes from the time of the start of driving, to the time of blicking.

All beads in the bone-ash cupel after blicking were spherical on a very small axis, and appeared to be much brighter than those in the patented cupels. The beads in the latter cupels seemed to flatten out somewhat, after blicking, and in some instances they seemed to show some indications of a sprouting action but appeared to have been depressed to some extent.

The accompanying tables give the results obtained by the tests performed. The curves show the average loss at each temperature. The average losses with each succeeding temperature is found in Table No.1.

TABLE NO.1.

<u>Temp.</u>	<u>No.1.</u>	<u>No.2.</u>	<u>No.3.</u>	<u>No.4.</u>
720°C	-----	-----	0.15%	0.35%
730°C	6.43%	-----	0.16%	-----
740°C	-----	-----	0.28%	-----
745°C	-----	-----	-----	0.40%
750°C	0.51%	-----	0.32%	-----
760°C	0.73%	0.35%	0.23%	0.36%
770°C	-----	0.45%	0.56%	-----
780°C	0.72%	0.68%	0.32%	0.48%
790°C	-----	0.61%	0.63%	0.70%
800°C	1.91%	0.85%	1.64%	1.35%

CONCLUSIONS.

A comparison of the curves plotted show, that while a loss in the patented is very low, it is also very erratic, giving a small loss at one temperature, and a much greater loss at another temperature.

The loss in the manufactured bone-ash cupels is greater than the loss in the patented cupels and is also very irregular, but follow a more consistent curve, due to increase in temperature, than the patented cupels.

Cupel No.4., which is the hand made bone-ash cupel, shows a much more even loss, due to varying temperatures, also a loss which is lower than the manufactured cupels, and very little higher than the patented cupel.

From the fore-going, it appears, that while the Morganite Cupel gives a slightly smaller loss than the hand made bone-ash cupel, the results are more erratic, and that for practical work the hand cupel is the preferable.

①
THESIS RESULTS

ON

THE RELATIVE LOSSES OF GOLD IN DIFFERENT KINDS OF CUPELS

No.	Mt. No.	Mt. button	Loss	ph. Loss	Temp.	Time	No.	Mt. No.	Mt. button	Loss	ph. Loss	Temp.	Time	No.	Mt. No.	Mt. button	Loss	ph. Loss	Temp.	Time	No.	Mt. No.	Mt. button	Loss	ph. Loss	Temp.	Time
1	1888	1823	40	201	760	201	62	1891	1870	39	35	750	19-20-20	63	1875	1869	42	41	760	16 to 20							
2	1837	1444	15	66	780	1	63	1941	1933	207	18	760	*	64	1935	1933	16	1808	800	*							
3	1949	1910	39	170	800	1	65	19304	1947	246	24	780	*	65	1930	1938	22	1821	730	*							
4	1830	1960	20	101	790	1	66	1951	1941	04	30	760	*	66	1931	1940	09	15	790	*							
5	1983	1928	71	206	850	1	65	1938	1989	09	35	750	*	67	1944	1935	09	145	730	*							
6	1944	1939	05	125	790	1	66	1930	1936	21	208	760	*	68	1943	1930	13	140	800	*							
7	1938	1900	38	190	800	1	67	1938	1936	02	103	740	*	69	1930	1936	06	227	730	*							
8	1929	1920	09	05	790	1	68	1930	1935	25	35	760	*	70	1929	1931	05	20	790	*							
9	1943	1971	27	135	850	1	69	1945	1929	122	167	260	*	71	1927	1933	06	183	800	*							
10	1463	1930	18	91	780	1	70	1934	1930	121	120	790	*	72	1936	1942	14	71	800	*							
11	1924	1940	24	120	800	1	71	1940	1937	109	174	740	*	73	1928	1931	028	14	730	*							
12	1925	1960	115	160	790	*	72	1932	1925	02	32	760	*	74	1924	1932	12	60	790	*							
13	1931	1964	37	130	850	*	73	1930	1932	14	32	770	*	75	1960	1932	34	125	800	*							
14	1932	1934	15	46	780	1	74	1922	1937	02	76	790	*	76	1939	1932	07	35	760	*							
15	1933	1900	33	175	800	1	75	1933	1931	098	124	740	*	77	1929	1921	03	15	730	*							
16	1912	1964	07	40	790	*	76	1933	1928	23	22	760	*	78	1931	1945	065	137	730	*							
17	1931	1948	17	78	800	1	77	1945	1957	35	77	770	*	79	1945	1940	115	134	800	*							
18	1932	1939	128	64	750	1	78	1934	1935	117	88	760	*	80	1934	1935	03	145	760	*							
19	1937	1925	100	13	760	1	79	1936	1935	025	87	790	*	81	1931	1927	04	12	730	*							
20	1936	1936	16	130	790	*	80	1931	1938	04	30	760	*	82	1932	1931	07	190	730	*							
21	1930	1930	00	310	850	1	81	1932	1931	31	150	730	1	83	1930	1931	34	140	800	*							
22	1931	1932	08	45	810	1	82	1945	1931	00	30	760	1	84	1931	1932	08	404	760	*							
23	1933	1930	03	12	740	1	83	1931	1936	200	23	740	1	85	1930	1932	024	16	730	*							
24	1944	1930	16	80	790	*	84	1944	1924	02	90	740	*	86	1931	1930	10	20	730	*							
25	1960	1929	170	13	760	*	85	1927	1938	16	31	750	*	87	1937	1930	27	192	800	*							
26	1932	1966	10	30	780	1	86	1935	1937	16	31	760	*	88	1934	1933	06	130	760	*							
27	1930	1930	05	12	740	1	87	1929	1934	024	70	790	*	89	1934	1931	03	12	730	*							
28	1936	1920	16	80	790	1	88	1928	1936	35	160	800	*	90	1936	1930	19	26	760	*							
29	1944	1937	12	31	760	1	89	1934	1930	10	100	730	1	91	1931	1930	31	132	800	*							
30	1960	1930	11	23	760	*	90	1930	1939	10	34	850	1	92	1936	1933	10	30	760	*							
31	1974	1933	115	25	760	1	91	1930	1930	025	40	790	*	93	1936	1931	07	30	730	*							
32	1934	1930	14	70	790	1	92	1937	1937	40	100	760	*	94	1937	1930	17	17	730	*							
33	1934	1930	12	100	760	*	93	1932	1930	17	17	730	*	95	1937	1931	13	120	800	*							
34	1930	1922	84	81	760	1	94	1930	1932	22	60	770	*	96	1935	1933	095	144	760	*							
35	1940	1939	03	18	760	1	95	1930	1941	11	34	760	*	97	1929	1935	04	120	730	*							
36	1930	1930	16	130	790	1	96	1930	1941	11	25	800	*	98	1936	1939	104	120	740	*							
37	1944	1930	10	30	760	1	97	1934	1937	27	130	730	*	99	1936	1933	023	130	800	*							
38	1925	1935	095	48	760	1	98	1944	1930	101	120	770	*	100	1932	1930	00	31	760	*							
39	1932	1936	106	303	760	*	99	1933	1934	026	121	740	*	101	1932	1935	022	11	730	*							
40	1930	1944	16	20	730	1	100	1930	1936	01	50	760	*	102	1935	1938	02	125	760	*							
41	1948	1936	10	30	760	1	101	1935	1930	11	35	750	1	103	1932	1936	10	135	740	*							
42	1949	1934	037	24	760	1	102	1931	1930	18	11	730	*	104	1933	1933	100	130	760	*							
43	1945	1930	010	075	720	1	103	1925	1922	035	180	740	*	105	1932	1930	02	18	730	*							
44	1937	1939	07	33	790	1	104	1930	1946	16	30	740	1	106	1934	1930	105	125	740	*							
45	1930	1927	23	60	760	1	105	1934	1930	06	201	730	1	107	1934	1934	10	13	730	*							
46	1932	1925	02	33	760	1	106	1925	1920	00	103	730	1	108	1930	1930	100	30	760	*							
47	1930	1938	04	105	730	1	107	1904	1938	02	125	740	1	109	2000	1944	043	12	730	*							
48	1968	1939	07	40	790	1	108	1937	1920	11	18	770	1	110	1930	1920	03	41	740	*							
49	1930	1936	19	71	800	1	109	1913	1922	02	32	730	*	111	1930	1946	14	71	730	*							
50	1960	1938	12	110	800	1	110	1944	1930	02	32	730	1	112	1936	1930	03	41	760	*							
51	1964	1935	105	33	720	1	111	1930	1934	02	100	740	1	113	1938	1934	016	13	730	*							
52	1945	1930	14	70	790	1	112	1930	1934	12	60	790	1	114	1939	1937	07	30	740	*							
53	1930	1930	00	100	760	1	113	1935	1930	02	17	730	1	115	1934	1936	18	41	760	*							
54	1930	1927	13	15	790	1	114	1930	1945	111	37	720	1	116	1934	1937	105	13	760	*							
55	1930	1928	04	202	720	1	115	1930	1932	02	18	740	1	117	1930	1932	028	13	730	*							
56	1930	1932	12	60	790	1	116	1960	1930	12	60	790	1	118	1930	1929	025	127	740	*							
57	1930	1930	06	30	730	1	117	1932	1938	04	120	760	1	119	1930	1934	05	135	760	*							
58	1930	1930	04	203	760	1	118	1930	1932	14	42	800	1	120	1930	1933	06	33	760	*							
59	1931	1931	10	102	790	1	119	2000	1936	14	20	740	1	121	1930	1937	15	21	730	*							
60	1960	1934	14	190	790	1	120	1933	1945	10	51	790	1	122	1930	1935	03	125	740	*							

No	Wt. Au	Wt. button	Loss	% Loss	Temp	Temp. Time	No	Wt. Au	Wt. button	Loss	% Loss	Temp	Temp. Time	No	Wt. Au	Wt. button	Loss	% Loss	Temp	Temp. Time
257	19.20	19.03	.17	.87	730	14.20														
258	19.20	19.00	.20	1.04	730	"														
259	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
260	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
261	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
262	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
263	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
264	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
265	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
266	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
267	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
268	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
269	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
270	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
271	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
272	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
273	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
274	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
275	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
276	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
277	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
278	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
279	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
280	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
281	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
282	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
283	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
284	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
285	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
286	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
287	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
288	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
289	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
290	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
291	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
292	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
293	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
294	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
295	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
296	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
297	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
298	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
299	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
300	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
301	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
302	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
303	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
304	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
305	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
306	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
307	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
308	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
309	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
310	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
311	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
312	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
313	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
314	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
315	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
316	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
317	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
318	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
319	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
320	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
321	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
322	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
323	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
324	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
325	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
326	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
327	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
328	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
329	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
330	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
331	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
332	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
333	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
334	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
335	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
336	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
337	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
338	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
339	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														
340	19.20	19.10	.10	.52	730	"														

Notice - The plotted curves and the explanatory matter incidental to the chart will be found on sheet #5 of this series of blue prints. The sizes and nature of the different kinds of buttons used will also be noted.

Temperature.

800
790
780
770
760
750
740
730
720

0.25 0.5 0.75 1.0 1.25 1.5 1.75
Loss %

Cupel No. 1 ----- Curve E
Cupel No. 2 ----- Curve B
Cupel No. 3 ----- Curve C
Cupel No. 4 ----- Curve F

Plotted by
B. H. Dassenbock

