

TR7-199

## R. 403

## CLAY FROM BETWEEN BLESSINGTON AND TAYENE

The sample of clay received in February and stated to have been submitted by Mr. A. Hughes, has been tested for suitability for ceramic and paper purposes. The sample contains 36 percent of material finer than 20 microns. This minus 20 micron material has an ignition loss of 13.9 percent, indicating a high percentage of clay, but its brightness of  $51\frac{1}{2}$  precludes any use as a paper clay. The plus 20 microns fraction consists of quartz.

The sample may be semi-dry pressed as a briquette with 10 percent added water, but does not possess sufficient plasticity for stiff plastic pressing or extrusion. The semi-dry pressed briquette has a drying contraction of 1 percent, and fired at  $950^{\circ}\text{C}$  has a firing contraction of 2 percent, the resultant brick being a light buff in colour, being easily abraded and showing some lamellar cracks.

The sample submitted is unsuitable for the manufacture of bricks or for use in paper manufacture.