Where the technique of tobacco is concerned, cigarette-paper should be considered as being an integral part of tobacco and it should have even been made to do its share towards the improvement of the qualities, the taste and the flavour of the weed. In other words, the part played by cigarette-paper should have been similar to that of the external leaf wrapped round a cigar. Nevertheless, no serious investigation has ever been undertaken to examine the possibilities of eliminating or neutralising the acrid taste and unpleasantly caustic odour of gases arising from the combustion of such paper.

While remaining, as hitherto, thin, silky, white, opaque and combustible, cigarette-paper should contain in its cellulose texture certain essential elements, such as are to be found in high class oriental tobacco, principally aromatic resin-gums and glucosides. High class oriental tobaccos owe their fragrant and mellow taste to the presence of those essential elements which exist in the pulp of their leaves, also, they owe the characteristic soothing and delicate aroma of their smoke to the distillation of these elements when making cigarettes.

The vapours of those aromatic resin-gums and the products of the distillation of the glucosides alone are able to sweeten and neutralise the sharp taste and caustic flavour of the smoke due to the combustion of the cellulose albumins and other constitutive elements of tobacco.

As a result, cigarette-paper which contains, in its texture, a certain quantity of aromatic resin-gums and glucose is necessarily of great importance in the cigarette-paper and tobacco industries.

The advantage of such paper is particularly invaluable in the manufacture of cigarettes with medium and inferior quality oriental tobacco, especially cigarettes with black tobacco in general and Virginia tobacco. As these types of tobacco are already poor in resinous and glucose elements, they possess a sharp and prickly taste and the smoke from their combustion is very caustic.

Numerous experiments carried out in important tobacco factories have already proved that all poor tobaccos, of inferior quality, such as tobacco from Thessalia, Argos, China, etc., when smoked in industrially manufactured paper containing aromatic resin-gums, acquire a pleasant and surprisingly soothing taste and at the same time lose the characteristic caustic property of their smoke.

It should be observed that this paper containing aromatic resin-gums in no way affects the respective individual character of each type of tobacco, in respect to its odour.

The process, object of this invention, is one which allows the incorporation, in the cigarette-paper pulp, at a suitable stage of manufacture and especially in the last beating, of a natural or artificial gum containing soothing and sweetening elements such as aromatic resin-gums, for instance, arabic gum, adraganthin and more especially gum known as mastic-gum which, thanks to its viscous nature, is retained in the paper pulp and cannot be carried away by the water which is driven out of the pulp during the manufacture of the paper.

Extraction of aromatic gums from tobacco requires quite a special technique for which the cigarette-paper industry is not yet prepared. It is therefore necessary to replace them by aromatic mastic resin-gums, the nature, organic composition and volatile essences of which are identical to those of tobacco gums.

Mastic resin-gums are obtained by cutting into the bark of certain shrubs of the pistachio family, grown mainly in the island of Chio in the Grecian archipelago and in the neighbourhood of Smyrna.

Incorporation of these mastic gums in cigarette-paper pulp, after previous preparation and according to the process indicated below, makes it possible to obtain cigarette-paper possessing all the requisite properties for the improvement of the taste and flavour of inferior quality and of second rate species of tobaccos.

The smoke from the combustion of this paper is free from any caustic and disagreeable odour; it gives off an almost imperceptible aroma of high class tobacco, able to combine with the odours of all tobaccos,
greatly improving them but leaving their respective character unchanged. Moreover, the taste of the sweet and soothing smoke of this paper acts as neutraliser of the acid and rough taste of ordinary tobaccos.

This paper is of silky texture in appearance, with normal strength, absolutely white and opaque and in no way different from ordinary cigarette-paper.

10 The composition of the cellulose pulp of this new paper is absolutely the same as the one used for manufacture of ordinary cigarette-paper; the invention consists in incorporating with such pulp 3 to 5% mastic resin-gums, prepared in a solution in the following manner:

The mastic gum is previously macerated for 24 hours in a hermetically closed container, with, for example, eight times its weight in acetone and twice its weight in alcohol. Sugar may be added to the extent of 2% of the dry weight of the paper pulp which is being subjected to the treatment.

When the paper pulp is ready, in the last beating, and before it is poured into a vat previous to treatment in the paper machine shaker, the solution of mastic gum thus obtained—previously filtered and cooled—is poured into the vat directly by means of a pipe.

It is also possible to precipitate the gum in the vat on the pulp stock after the gum solution has been introduced, a suitable quantity of alum or citric or tartaric acid in solution, concentrated to about 2–3%, being added for the purpose.

The incorporation of the gums with the paper paste can also be effected as follows:—

The gums are first pulverized and dried and afterwards dissolved in acetone or another solvent of the same chemical nature. The percentage of gum to the acetone may vary from 1 to 5 per cent.

The gum solution having been obtained, a certain proportion of calcium carbonate is added to the solution until a solid precipitate is obtained, the calcium carbonate absorbing the gum solution and transforming it into an impalpable powder. This powder is mixed with the paper paste, together with the necessary amount of calcium carbonate for the manufacture of the paper. This operation takes place when the latter is in the breaking vats.

55 The invention is applicable to manufacture of cigarette-paper for all purposes.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A process for the manufacture of cigarette-paper, consisting in the incorporation in the cigarette-paper pulp, during manufacture, of a natural gum containing soothing and sweetening elements.

2. A process for the manufacture of cigarette-paper as claimed in claim 1 further characterized in that to the paper pulp, in the last beating before the pulp is poured into the vat, is added a 3 to 5% quantity of mastic-resin-gum macerated for 24 hours in a hermetically closed receptacle with eight times its weight in acetone and twice its weight in alcohol.

3. A process for the manufacture of cigarette paper as claimed in claim 1 further characterized in that to the said mastic-gum is added a quantity of sugar equal to about 2% of the dry weight of the paper pulp to be treated.

4. A process for the manufacture of cigarette paper as claimed in claim 1 further characterized in that the gum solution is incorporated in the cigarette-paper by aspiration or steeping of that paper when it leaves the machine.

5. A process for the manufacture of cigarette paper, as claimed in claim 1, the natural gum being an aromatic resin-gum.

6. A process for the manufacture of cigarette paper, as claimed in claim 1, the natural gum being tragacanth.

7. A process for the manufacture of cigarette paper, as claimed in claim 1, the natural gum being arabic gum.

8. A process for the manufacture of cigarette paper, as claimed in claim 1, the natural gum being ilang-ilang.

9. A process for the manufacture of cigarette paper, as claimed in claim 1, the natural gum being frankincense.

10. Cigarette paper which is on combustion, free from a disagreeable and caustic flavour and manufactured from pulp in which is incorporated an aromatic resin gum.

11. Cigarette paper which is on combustion, free from a disagreeable and caustic flavour and manufactured from pulp in which is incorporated an aromatic resin gum.

12. Cigarette paper which is on combustion, free from a disagreeable and caustic flavour and manufactured from pulp in which is incorporated tragacanth.

13. Cigarette paper which is on combustion, free from a disagreeable and caustic flavour and manufactured from pulp in which is incorporated arabic gum.

14. Cigarette paper which is on combustion, free from a disagreeable and caustic flavour and manufactured from pulp in which is incorporated mastic gum.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

BASILE SEFERIADIS.