

## Leather Investigations: The Composition of Some Sole Leathers (Classic Reprint)



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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from Leather Investigations: The Composition of Some Sole Leathers Vegetable-tanned leather is essentially a compound or mixture of hide or fibrous proteid material with tannin. Depending on the use to which it is to be put, it may be finished in several ways whereby the composition of the final product may differ greatly from the simple compound. The tanned leather may be used without material change in composition, as for shoe soles; it may be greased, as for harness and belting; or it may be greased and dyed, as for harness and shoe uppers. In addition to the insoluble hide and tannin which are the essential constituents of leather, moisture, mineral matter, fats, and water-soluble tanning materials, which remain to a small extent in well-scoured leather, are present. All of these, when not present in excessive quantities, are proper and normal constituents of the leather. In fact, the presence of a large percentage of oils or fats, even in sole leather, is of decided advantage in increasing the water resistance, flexibility, softness, and life of the leather, while the presence of a small amount of uncombined tannin is often of some advantage in retarding water penetration and hardening of the leather and in making it solid and firm. The presence of a large excess of uncombined tannin materials other than those mentioned is useless or harmful. Leather is not a definite compound and is therefore impossible to produce of an exact composition. The ratio of combined tannins to hide substances approximates 7 to 10 (see last column of table on pp. 16 to 20), while the percentages of water-soluble constituents, mineral matter, fat, and moisture may...

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