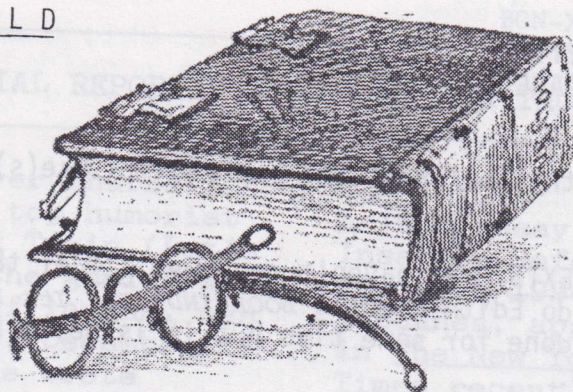




DUES/SUBSCRIPTIONS! This is the last chance to remind you. Please don't forget; we don't want to lose anyone.

BOOKBINDING TEXTS. We have just received the latest Dover Publications, Inc. catalog *DOVER CRAFTS AND HOBBIES*. Believe it or not, Dover currently has five (5!) bookbinding texts in print: *THE CRAFT OF BOOKBINDING* by Manly Banister @ \$7.95; *CREATIVE BOOKBINDING* by Pauline Johnson @ \$11.95; *BASIC BOOKBINDING* by A. W. Lewis @ 3.95 (a "Best Buy"); *HOW TO CLOTHBIND A PAPERBACK BOOK* by Francis J. Kafka @ \$2.95; and, "*BOOKBINDING: Its Background and Technique* by Edith Diehl @ \$14.95. All of these books have been reviewed in our newsletter (see BGN-VII-5-18). Since there is no information to the contrary, it is assumed all the above are paperbound, acid free paper, and signature sewn; the typical Dover construction. The only Banister editions I have ever seen have been hardbacked, so this may be a new edition. The text claims its list of suppliers has been updated. There are also books of more periferal interest on subjects such as marbling. Dover's address is: 31 East 2nd Street, Mineola, New York 11501. Add \$3.00 to any order for postage and handling. According to our copy, they would be glad to put anyone on their mailing list.

METHOCEL (Cellulose Ether). Some years ago we visited The Paper Source (730 Franklin, Suite 111, Chicago, IL 60610; 312/337-0798) during lunch break from the Guild of Book Workers Seminar on Standards of Excellence in Hand Bookbinding. We saw many interesting things at The Paper Source, but one was particularly intriguing; Methocel. On a quite conspicuous display stand there was a large supply of brochures, and we brought one home. (The store salespeople were far too busy to answer dumb questions!)

Now the question is: what is it? And does it somehow interface with bookbinding? Oddly enough, virtually the entire four-page brochure concerns itself with how to get Methocel into solution. In fact, here is all it says about uses:

"Thank you for requesting a sample of METHOCEL* cellulose ether. We think that you will be pleased with the results of this versatile gum in your formulation.

METHOCEL cellulose ethers can function as highly efficient thickeners, film formers, binders, water retention agents, suspension aids, lubricants, protective colloids, and emulsifiers. Applications include foods, cosmetics, paints, construction products, pharmaceuticals, and ceramics, as well as many others. Detailed information covering the use of METHOCEL products in each of these applications is available on request."