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Review

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solution can be recommended from a purely business point of view." As far as I have observed, Dr. Heinemann does not deal with the question how far seasonal manufacture may be bound up with the seasonal demand for bricks : for, of course, building itself is a seasonal occupation.

Dr. Trier's "Lederindustrie," though one of the shortest, is also one of the best of the series. The tanning trade has undergone great changes in processes and great changes, also, in the sources from which it obtains its hides, and in the markets in which it disposes of its leather. All these developments are here explained in a brief and competent manner. Dr. Trier calls attention to the business consequences which flow from the facts that hides are by-products, and that their supply and price are in large measure independent of the demands of the leather market.

When a series offers us so much, it is perhaps a little ungenerous to ask for more. But I have been struck, in most of the monographs, by the extremely scanty information concerning the capitalistic side of the several industries : the capital invested, the owners, their organisation in firms, companies, syndicates, the movement of prices, the fluctuations of dividend, and financial policy generally. Such information is indeed very difficult to get : almost every preface laments the extreme reticence of the manufacturers. But in these days of joint stock companies there are means of getting a good deal of information about most businesses. The ideal monographer, it is clear, should be not only an Economist and a "Techniker," but also an Accountant ! But I doubt whether the profession of Accountant has sufficiently progressed in Germany to make this proposition as intelligible there as it is becoming with us in England.

W. J. ASHLEY

Chemical Industry on the Continent. A Report. By HAROLD BARON, Gartside Scholar. (Manchester : At the University Press, 1909. Pp. xi+72.)

THIS, like several of the preceding Gartside Reports, is mainly of a technological character. The writer gives a straightforward account of the processes he found in operation in the works to which he was able to gain admission in Belgium, Northern France, and Western Germany ; and this part of his modest volume ought to prove suggestive to those engaged in chemical and dyeing undertakings in this country. Of more general interest

is the concluding chapter on Patent Protection. According to Mr. Baron, the German Patent Office makes a much more thorough search as to the originality of an invention than the British Office, and charges only a quarter of the British fee. Accordingly, "it is a frequent practice among inventors in this country who file many applications for patents to first file the application in Germany, in order to get the benefit of the search, and, if the reply is favourable, to then file the application in England and other countries, claiming the priority of the German application under the International Convention." Not only is the search more thorough, but the German practice also gives greater opportunity to the public—*i.e.*, to rival manufacturers—to oppose the grant. "The result is that a patent, when ultimately granted in Germany, represents an asset of more real value to the owner. In case of infringements, he can sue with greater confidence of success than is the case with an English patent."

Mr. Baron seems to have no doubt at all in his mind about the Patents and Designs Act of 1907. "There are already indications that the German colour manufacturers are taking steps to erect works in this country in order to comply with its provisions"; elsewhere it is mentioned that the Bayer Company, of Elberfeld, are already erecting works at Port Sunlight (p. 47). "This cannot fail to improve employment in this country, *owing to the introduction of foreign capital.*" Apparently Mr. Baron is not one of those who believe that all a government can do by its legislation is to "divert" a portion of a given amount of domestic capital from one employment to another less profitable. Nor does he seem to be troubled by the reflection that the chemicals "made in England" will probably be, for a time, more expensive to the English consumer than if they had continued to be made in Germany. And it has apparently not yet occurred to him to worry about the proposition that when imports are diminished (*e.g.*, of German-made chemicals), English exports inevitably fall off in like proportion!

W. J. ASHLEY

The Origin, the Organisation, and the Location of the Staple of England. By ADALINE L. JENCKES. (Doctorate Thesis of the University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia. 1908. Pp. 83.)

THE conception of the Staplers presented in this work is the usual one. They existed largely for the advantage of the English