

bers have adopted measures to avoid the fluctuating and ruinously low rates, which, owing to heretofore existing sharp competition, have made the manufacture of their products unprofitable. The German acetylene industry is very important, there being

at present in the Empire over 200,000 plants producing this gas. New patents for improved methods of production are constantly being issued. Thirty-two of the smaller towns in Germany are lighted by acetylene gas, and a number of other plants are in

course of erection. The gas is also used by the railroads for lighting passenger cars.

This year's production (1900) of calcium carbide in Germany is estimated at 20,000 metric tons, equivalent to 360,000 hectoliters (9,500,000 gallons) of petroleum.—United States Consul Hanauer at Frankfurt.

Imports of leading classes of machinery into Germany for the first nine months of 1900 have been officially reported as follows: Locomotives and automobiles, 3,771 metrical tons, valued at \$403,044; sewing machines with stands, 2,750 tons, valued at \$293,620; agricultural machinery, 27,940 tons, worth \$2,986,227; cotton spinning machinery, 6,509 tons, worth \$695,680; and machine tools, 5,370 tons, worth \$573,940. In the German official estimates the value of machinery imported is given at \$106.88 per metric ton, while that of machinery exported is \$214.72. This is because the machinery imported is largely of cheaper kinds, such as commoner sorts of agricultural machinery. The locomotives imported come largely from Belgium, the sewing machines from Belgium and the United States; agricultural machinery from the United States to some extent; spinning machinery from Great Britain, and machine tools almost entirely from the United States.

There is a growing demand in all parts of Germany for modern office furniture and equipment, especially for improved safes, cash registers, roll top desks, typewriter desks, letter files, and watchmen's clocks.

The recent vote of the German Commercial Diet against any increase in the new Imperial tariff of the existing duties on breadstuffs is a most interesting indication of what may prove to be the final attitude of the Reichstag. The Diet, which was attended by representatives of Chambers of Commerce and industrial and commercial associations from all parts of the German Empire, voted 147 votes to 143 against an increase. As a short time ago large increases in the import duties on foodstuffs were regarded as certain, this victory for the anti-Agarian interests is highly significant. Resolutions were also passed at the Diet against the proposal to fix minimum as well as maximum duties in the new tariff bill. This proposition also emanated from the Agarian party and is opposed by the manufacturing interests, which believe that it will have a tendency to injure Germany's export trade.—Dun's Review.

GREAT BRITAIN.—American exports of machinery to Great Britain have made a remarkable gain during the last few years. In 1898 imports of American machinery into Great Britain amounted to \$7,321,254, in 1899 to \$9,804,496, and in 1900 to \$12,679,924. No other country makes anything approaching this showing. The nearest competitor of the United States in this trade is Germany, which exported in 1899 machinery to Great Britain to the value of a little over \$1,200,000. The only other states sending important quantities were France, Belgium and Holland, in the order named. The figures by countries for last year have not yet been published by the British Government, but in the report regarding Trade and Navigation for the year 1900, it appears that the imports of machinery have fallen off slightly. This may, however, be apparent rather than real since imports of electrical machinery are now classified separately for the first time. These amounted to \$6,152,590, a very large portion of which came from the United States.—Dun's Review.

During the past year the amount of capi-

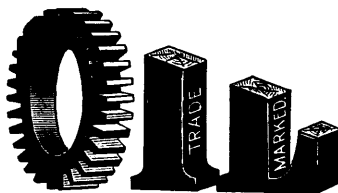
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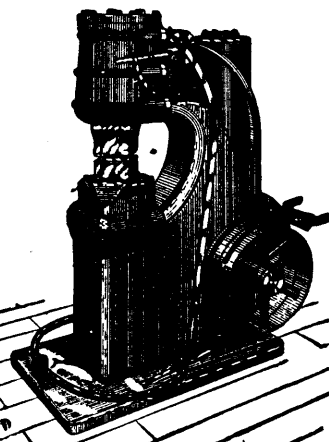
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