

et de l'industrie

Ministère de l'Industrie

KINGDOM OF BELGIUM - Ministère de l'Industrie
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND LABOUR.

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BELGIUM,
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Industries and
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GENERAL NOTES

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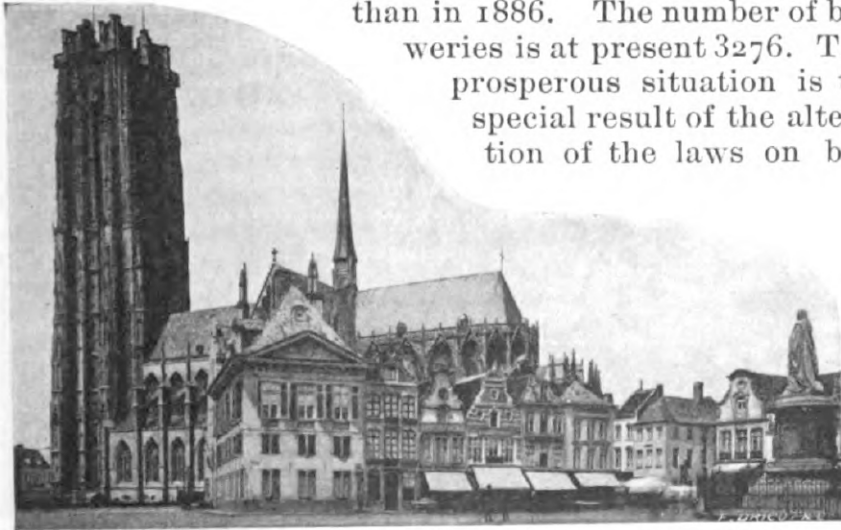
BRUSSELS. — ÉM. ROSSEL, EDITOR.

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1904

Brewery.

This industry holds one of the most important places among the national industries of Belgium.

The production of beer in 1902 exceeds 14 millions of hectolitres, which is about $\frac{1}{3}$ more than in 1886. The number of breweries is at present 3276. This prosperous situation is the special result of the alteration of the laws on bre-



THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINT-ROMBOLD, MECHLIN.

wery which was applied in 1886. It consecrates a greater liberty of work, while securing at the same time the interests of the Treasury. It has also allowed the introduction of considerable improvements in the equipment and in the system of manufacture.

The exportation of beer has gradually developed creating new markets and opening new roads to the activity of Belgian breweries.

The table which follows indicates first the progression of this industry since the application of the new law

perceiving the duty according to the quantity of flour declared; and next the decrease of the number of brewers working still according to the superannuated system of the act of 1822.

YEARS	NEW LAW		SYSTEM OF 1822		TOTAL	APPROXIMATIVE
	NUMBER OF BREWERIES	QUANTITIES OF TAXABLE FLOUR	NUMBER OF BREWERIES	DECLARED TAXABLE CAPACITIES	NUMBER OF BREWERIES	QUANTITIES OF BEER PRODUCED
		Kilog.		Hectol.		Hectol.
1886	1,938	108,458,845	697	703,792	2,635	9,460,801
1890	2,433	141,315,072	373	243,842	2,806	10,770,658
1895	2,724	161,638,135	190	116,992	2,914	12,230,308
1900	3,112	192,492,081	111	67,876	3,223	14,616,535
1901	3,153	191,083,306	100	59,332	3,253	14,660,330
1902	3,200	188,347,995	76	37,449	3,276	14,431,418

Formerly there were only two systems of manufacture employed in Belgium; viz. :—

1° High fermentation beer, which is the most demanded;

2° Spontaneous fermentation beers, which are special beers made in Brussels and in the neighbourhood.

Since then large and extensive works have been erected to manufacture, low fermentation beer of the austrian and german type of which successfully compete with the foreign products.

Strong ales of the english type—ale and stout—are also manufactured and highly appreciated.

The General Association of Brewers, having its seat in Brussels, constitutes the Federation of all Brewers' Societies of Belgium.

These Societies assemble in periodical meetings where they ventilate the means of improving the material situation of the brewers, and they organize lectures on scientific subjects likely to introduce improvements in their manufacture.

Every year in July, in the chief-town of each province in rotation, take place the great brewers' assizes organized under the guidance of the General Association.

Belgium possesses several establishments of brewery

education which are in great repute and have a great number of native and foreign pupils :—

The Superior Institute of Brewery of Ghent;

The Superior School of Brewery connected with the University of Louvain ;



THE BREWERS' GUILD HOUSE ON THE S. SIDE OF THE « GRAND'PLACE » BRUSSELS.

The Technical Brewery School annexed to the Institute of St. Lievin at Ghent ;

The Brewery School annexed to the College of La Louvière.

Different newspapers on brewery are published in

Belgium; the most important are : the *Little Journal of the Brewer* and the *Adviser of the Brewery*. These publications appear periodically and are redacted with great authority. They constitute for the brewers, detained by their work far from the brewery schools, a serious and invaluable teaching.