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THE DYESTUFFS AND AUXILIARY TEXTILE PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

by the Swiss Chemical Industries Association, Zurich

Switzerland occupies a leading place in the field of synthetic dyes, although it has to compete with countries more favourably situated as regards facilities for obtaining stocks of raw materials. As a matter of fact, with regard to raw materials Switzerland only

task of continually improving the fastness of their dyes and the properties of their auxiliary products for the textile industry, as well as enriching the assortment of their products which answer ever more closely the requirements of the consumer. They also try to



possesses water, salt, air and electrical energy ; all the rest has to be imported. The dyestuffs industry, located in the neighbourhood of Basle, has succeeded in overcoming these difficulties ; it has even made itself indispensable on the world market. To what does it owe this success ? To the quality of its output which it succeeds in always maintaining at a very high level. The dyemakers of Basle are never content to rest on their laurels. On the contrary, no matter how satisfactory a result may be it only serves to stimulate the activity of their research departments. In every branch of production, they have set themselves the

improve the processes of application of their products to textile fibres, leather, paper — in short, in all fields — and to discover methods of use offering the maximum possible security. Their research departments employ teams of specialised chemists, trained in Swiss universities, who have at their disposal laboratories equipped with all that modern technique has to offer. The Basle dyestuffs industry is above all an export industry ; for this reason it is of the greatest importance to the economic life of the country and is also a not unimportant factor in world economy, worthy of the good name of Swiss workmanship.