

NEWS

INTERESTING PATENTS

Paul D. Boone, Washington, D. C., who has prepared several literature surveys on the treatment of fats and oils, has supplied us with portions of two old British patents. One of these grants a patent to Hezekiah Beers Pierpont on Cottonseed Oil. The other grants to Patrick Trant the exclusive right to "Hard Soapes."

Portions of these patents are copied below as a matter of historical interest:

"A.D. 1677 No. 199

Manufacture of Soap.

Trant's Patent.

CHARLES THE SECOND, &c., to all whom these presents shall come, greeting.

WHEREAS wee have bin informed, by our trusty and welbeloved PATRICK TRANT, Gentl, that hee haveing, with much charge and industry, found "THE WAY OF MAKEING ALL SORTS OF HARD SOAPES COMMONLY CALLED VENETIAN, MARSEILLES, CASTILE, AND ALL OTHER HARD SOAPES (AS THEY ARE NOW USUALLY MADE BEYOND THE SEAS), BEING HIS OWNE INVENCON, AND NEVER BEFORE PRACTISED IN THIS OUR KINGDOM," hath humbly besought us to grant unto him the sole benefitt for the terme of fowreteene yeares, according to the statute in that behalfe made.

NOW KNOW YEE, that wee, being desireous to encourage the inventors of such arts as may bee of publick use and benefitt, of our especial grace, certeine knowledge, and meere mocon, have given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heires and successors, doe give and grant unto the said Patrick Trant, his executors, administrators, and assignes, especiall licence, full and sole power, priviledge and authority, that hee and they and his and their workmen and servants, and noe others, shall and may dureing the terme of fowrteen yeares ensueing the date of these presents, use, practice, exercise, and enjoy the said art or Invencon of making all sorts of hard soapes comonly called Venetian, Marseilles, Castile, and all other hard soapes as they are usually made beyond the seas, within our kingdome of England and principality of Wales, in such manner as to him and them shall seeme meet, and shall have and enjoy the sole benefitt and advantage arising thereby or by reason thereof; to have, hold, and enjoy the said licence, power, priviledge."

etc.

"A.D. 1799 No. 2292

Pierpont's Method of Obtaining Cotton-Seed Oil.

NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said Hezekiah Beers Pierpont, do hereby declare that the following is a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and of the manner in which the same is to be performed (that is to say) :—

This new sort or species of oil I intend to distinguish by the name of cotton-seed oil. The vegetable substances from which the said oil may be produced or extracted are all seeds, commonly known and called by the name of cotton seeds, comprehending every species of seeds that are grown or produced from trees, shrubs, and plants, commonly known or

called by the names of cotton trees, shrubs, or plants, and all trees, shrubs, or plants from which cotton wool or cotton seeds are or can be produced. The means or mode of producing or extracting the said oil from the seeds afore mentioned are the same as those which are commonly used for extracting or producing the oil from linseed or flax seed.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Sixteenth day of May, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

HEZEKIAH (L.S.) BEERS PIERPONT

Sealed and delivered (being first duly

stamped) in the presence of

JOSEPH WILSON,
Fenchurch St."

BOOK REVIEW

"THE GERMAN FAT PLAN AND ITS ECONOMIC SETTING"

by Karl Brandt

319 pages and 13 pages of bibliography. Fats and Oils Studies No. 6 of Food Research Institute, Stanford University, California, September 1938. Price \$3.00.

Joseph S. Davis, Director of the Institute, in his preface states:

"Growing governmental interposition in agriculture, and in the commerce in animal and vegetable fats and oils, has greatly modified world trade in these important foodstuffs; and it is profoundly altering the general character of farming in a number of countries. Of these countries Germany seems to offer the most instructive case for study, because control has perhaps gone farther there than elsewhere, both socially and economically. From it, certainly, there emerge a large number of highly significant facts and lessons to be learned."

"The scope and significance of the work are much wider than a brief title can suggest. The first half not merely provides the essential background for discussion of the far-reaching fat plan of recent years; it also constitutes an illuminating treatise on the whole economy of fats and oils in Germany prior to the new regime, with special emphasis on the dairy industry, the oil-mill and margarine industries, and the marketing system through to the consumer. This complex part of modern economic life is so little understood, for any country, that so competent a presentation is to be welcomed for itself."

ANNOUNCEMENT

The fourteenth annual convention of the SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION will be held on May 23 to 27 in the Lord Baltimore Hotel at Baltimore, Maryland.

It is of interest to laboratory staffs in the oil, fat, and soap industry that this organization has among its subdivisions of Science and Technology Group whose membership is composed of librarians in the chemical, biological, and other scientific fields.

The conference is devoted to general sessions and group round table discussions of methods, materials, and sources of information.

Activities of such national scope are stimulating and resourceful for all scientific librarians.