

THE RECOVERY OF BY-PRODUCTS

For a comparison of the economical aspects of the various methods of gasification, the valuation of by-products is very important. Until now, such by-products may be of little value as no market can be found. This situation will change immediately when production of gasoline from coal has been started, because then the by-products of gasification after refining can be mixed with products

of hydrogenation and synthesis which thus may sometimes even be improved, or gasification by-products can be hydrogenated at much lower cost than coal. Therefore, a maximum of by-products should be provided in connection with coals of high tar content, as long as their recovery does not cost much more or even simplifies the production and purification of the synthesis gas. In Germany, the tar sold to hydrogenation plants was valued at 40 to 50 percent of the production costs of synthetic or hydrogenation gasoline from coal, and these plants were operated with the lowest production costs for gasoline. However, it should be remembered that for caking coals, no inexpensive method of carbonization or by-product gasification has been developed so far.