

Standard Oil Holds Secret Nazi Patents

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New York, June 8.—The Standard Oil Co of New Jersey, issued today a 2,500-word statement, entitled "Our Business With Germany." It details the story of hydrogenation, the German-invented process to make synthetic gasoline, and recounts the involved patent-trading with German companies in progress around the world for nearly 15 years.

Hydrogenation is what might be called a wonder process. By it, gasoline is made from coal. It is of great importance in oil refineries and has tremendous implications in the great fields of chemistry. In the United States, it is used, in the manufacture of high-quality aviation gasoline.

Standard Oil, in today's historical study, narrates its dealings, past and present, with I. G. Farbenindustrie, the world-potent German chemical trust.

Among the chief points are:

Standard Oil is 100 per cent owner of Standard-I. G. Company (now the Standard Catalytic Company), holder of all hydrogenation patent rights for the world outside of Germany. I. G. originally owned 20 per cent but has been bought out since the start of the present war.

Standard Oil is 100 per cent owner of Jasco, Inc., which was originally organized to handle the problems of chemical products from oil and gas, chiefly synthetic rubber. Jasco now holds exclusive patent rights for the United States, Britain and France. I. G. formerly owned half of Jasco but likewise was bought out.

International Hydrogenation Patents Company, which controls hydrogenation patent rights outside the United States, is jointly owned by Standard Oil and Royal Dutch Shell. Headquarters were moved to Curacao before Hitler invaded the Low Countries but Germany does not recognize this action, maintaining that I. H. P.'s main office is in The Hague, "where a German commissar is now administering its affairs."

Standard Oil has had "virtually no control over the handling" of its European properties for the last 18 months and reports that it is keeping in the closest voluntary touch with the State Department concerning the world's danger zones.

All exchange of technical information between Standard Oil and I. G. has stopped since the war began. I. G.'s ownership of Standard Oil stock is now six-tenths of 1 per cent of all shares outstanding.