

Possible Gasoline Substitute Found In Methyl Alcohol

A motorist pulls into his local service station and tells the attendant to "fill 'er up." The attendant takes the hose from the pump and proceeds to fill the tank with methyl alcohol.

Alcohol, you say? Alcohol obtained from low-grade bituminous coal, produced at a cost of roughly 11 cents per gallon.

It's all possible, according to two Aggie chemical engineers.

Dr. W. D. Harris and Dr. Richard R. Davison found the idea of using methyl alcohol as an automobile fuel intriguing. They conducted a non-funded study of the possibilities and came up with some surprising conclusions.

The researchers feel that conversion of coal to methanol will be economically feasible, since the raw material at the starting point

is considerably cheaper than with natural gas or oil.

"Methanol," Dr. Harris said, "has a high octane rating, higher than premium gasoline. It does not pollute anywhere near as much as petroleum products, and it will produce a marked increase in power in automobiles."

Dr. Harris pointed out that motor tests showed methanol produced as much as 90 per cent less carbon monoxide and hydrocar-

bons than did gasoline. He added that acceptable emission standards might be met with alcohol without any emission control equipment.

"Compression ratios could be raised again," he said, "delivering much more 'punch' to automobile engines. Methanol can also be mixed with water in certain amounts without lowering its efficiency or performance as a motor fuel."

As with any "good news" research, there are some drawbacks. One is the possibility of starting difficulty in cold weather. The researchers feel that this can be overcome with manifold heating devices or perhaps additives in the fuel itself.

A modification in the carburetor would be required for existing automobiles in the form of changes in port size, but this again would not present an ex-

pensive problem.

Mileage is, however, lower per gallon with methanol, but not necessarily lower per dollar, the researchers contend.

Conversion facilities, they said, could be located near large coal beds. In this coal-rich country, an almost unlimited supply of coal, presently known to be in excess of 200 billion tons of coal and lignite, would supply automobiles for many decades.

The researchers believe that about 200 gallons of methanol can be produced from one ton of coal with proper technology. At \$2 per ton, the cost-per-gallon for raw materials is far less than of gasoline. Economies of scale in large production efforts could possibly bring the "gate" price of the fuel down to about 8.5 cents per gallon.

Many of the numbers given in their study are educated guesses,

the researchers admit. They feel, however, the economics of methanol vs. gasoline are too close to the issue too serious to be taken lightly.

"The possibility of saving billions on pollution controls and billions yearly in imports while selling the consumer a good product at low cost with a fair profit may seem too good to be true," Dr. Davison said. "But it is also too good to be ignored."

Prairie View, TAMU To Use Both Libraries

A new and important development is currently underway which will enable students and faculty members from Prairie View A. and M. College and Texas A&M University to share library facilities and materials from the Texas A&M University Library and from the W. R. Banks Library at Prairie View A. and M. College.

Mr. Frank Francis, Jr., Librarian, W. R. Banks Library, and Mr. John Smith, Director of Libraries at Texas A&M University, are currently working on a plan of developing library cards for use throughout the Texas A&M University System. Both librarians have hailed this new development as a step forward in maximizing the strengths of both universities.

Faculty members and students who are interested in securing library cards or in learning more about the new inter-university library program should contact Mr. Frank Francis, W. R. Banks Library at Prairie View A. and M. College.

They're Here!!
ALL THE UNIQUE 
Mother's Day GIFTS AT
Happy Cottage
 809 E. 29th — Bryan

COLLEGE GIRL 
 there is a Shop for you!
THE CLOTHES HORSE
 3801 E. 29th
 Just off University Dr.

NEEDED
USED BOOKS
 at
UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE
 "At the North Gate"

PAWN LOANS
 Money Loaned On Anything Of Value.
 Quick Cash For Any Emergency.
 See Us For Ready Cash Today.
Texas State Credit Pawn Shop
 1014 Texas Ave., Bryan
 Weingarten Center

ALLEN Oldsmobile Cadillac
SALES - SERVICE
 "Where satisfaction is standard equipment"
 2401 Texas Ave.
 823-8002

MOTHER'S DAY Gifts

To Mother with Love

SKAGGS ALBERTSONS DRUGS & FOODS

SHOP SKAGGS ALBERTSONS FOR A WIDE SELECTION OF MOTHERS DAY CARDS

DANA SOLID COLOGNES \$1.00

"TABU" "AMBUSH"

THE FRAGRANCE BOTIQUE
 FOUR WORLD FAMOUS FRAGRANCES

"INTIMATE" "MOON DROPS"
 "ULTIMA" "REPLIQUE"

\$5.75

COLEMAN 2-BURNER STOVE \$14.99

COOKS LIKE A KITCHEN RANGE

COLEMAN CAMP OVEN \$8.99

YOU CAN BAKE BISCUITS-TOASTS CAKE-ROASTS HAMS-PIES

LADY SCHICK TIME MACHINE

CUTS DRYING TIME BY 34 PERCENT
 SUPER STRONG 1400 WATT SYSTEM
 EXCLUSIVE COMFORT VENT
 KEEPS FACE COOLER
 LARGEST BONNET FOR LARGEST ROLLERS
 FOLDS COMPACTLY FOR STORAGE OR TRAVEL

\$29.99

To Mother with Love..

KODAK POCKET INSTAMATIC 20 CAMERA OUTFIT 19.99

TIMEX ELECTRIC LADIES WATCHES 24.99

ATTRACTIVE DESIGNS

INSULATED THERMOS SERVER AND MUG SET 4.99

LADY THOMPSON GOLF SET 25.99

1-3 WOODS
 3-7-9 IRONS
 PUTTER

SHOP SKAGGS ALBERTSONS FOR

"MOTHERS DAY" BOXED CHOCOLATES

PANGBURNS-KINGS
 WHITMAN'S
 FRESH SHIPMENTS JUST ARRIVED

CONTINENTAL BY WEST BEND

7 P. SET POLISHED ALUMINUM \$9.99

1 QT. GOV. SAUCEPAN
 2 QT. GOV. SAUCEPAN
 5 QT. DUTCH OVEN
 10" SKILLET

REMINGTON SUPER 600 HAND HELD DRYER WITH STYLING ATTACHMENT \$17.99

WILLIAM WEBSTER CHAR-BROIL KETTLE GRILL

STURDY ALUMINUM CONSTRUCTION

\$29.99

UPPER AND LOWER DRAFT VENTS.

MELAMINE 45-PC. SET DINNERWARE \$9.99

8 - DECORATED DINNER PLATES
 8 - CUPS 8 - SAUCERS 8 - CEREAL DESSERT BOWLS 1 - VEG. BOWL
 1 - OVAL PLATTER 8 - BREAD & BUTTER SALAD PLATES 1 - SUGAR WITH LID & CREAMER

UNIVERSITY DRIVE AT COLLEGE AVE.

SKAGGS ALBERTSONS DRUGS & FOODS

 