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#### GERMAN METHANOL INDUSTRY MENACE

NEW SYNTHETIC ALCOHOL

Wood Alcohol and Fear Is That This Business Will Be Ruined

commercial production of a synthetic to follow. alcohol in Germany has taken American manufacturers of wood alcohol awares. In three months the domestic per unit or service becomes. More industry, with an investment of \$100,- telephones mean additional calls and 000,000, has been placed absolutely necessitates more equipment and adat the mercy of German competition, ditional employes to handle them. Secretary of Commerce Hoover de- The average investment in 1920 was clared recently. Synthetic product \$125 per telephone; in 1924 it is menthanol, and salvation of the \$145, and it is estimated that it will domestic industry rests entirely upon be \$175 in 1929. production in this country of the supplying said Secretary Hoover.

mours Co. and several other American manufacturers now are investigating prospects for the production of methanol in the United States, said the secretary, according to the New York Commercial. U. S. Caught Napping

American manufacturers have forestalled the German industry by undertaking production of the synthetic product several years ago, as the patent rights were available to them, but were loath to change over and, heedless of the menace, were caught napping when the American market was flooded in February with the German product, it was said, in the Chemical Division of the Commerce department. Importations of methanol last year totaled only 48 gallons, valued at \$29. In January imports totaled 40 gallons, valued at \$26. These importations, in all probability, were merely samples, according to the chemical division.

The amazing importation of the German product commenced in February when the total entered was 62,971 gallons, valued at \$29,420, or approximately 46 cents a gallen. In March imports totaled 69,886 gallons, valued at \$26,976, or 37 cents a gallon. A significant feature of the March importations is the reduction in value per gallon. The German manufacturers claim the cost of production is from 18 to 26 cents. specific duty of 12 cents applies, and transportation to United States costs about 3 cents, it was learned at the Commerce Department.

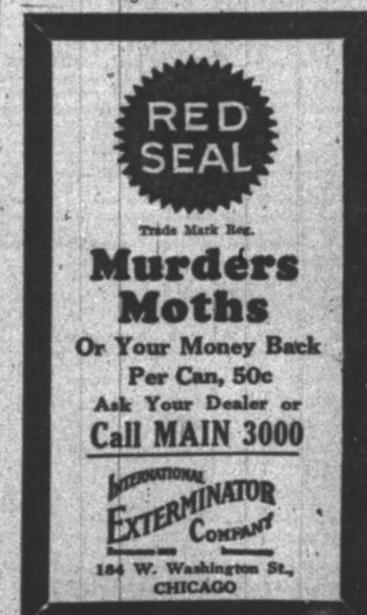
Tariff Can't Help As the price of domestic wood alcohol is 70 cents, at which the manufacturers declare they are losing money, it will be seen that an increase in the tariff, even of 50 per cent, the maximum under Section 315 will not suffice to protect the domes tic industry, unless it starts the manufacture of the same product, it was

explained in the Chemical Division Prior to the war, Germany exported from 25 to 30 per cent of the total consumption of wood alcohol in the United States, but since 1914 the chemists abroad have been experimenting extensively and many patents have resulted, of which methanol is one. The synthetic alcohol is the product of carbon monoxide and ence of a catalyst. It was evolved as a result of the fixation of nitrogen, carbon monoxide being substituted in combination with hydrogen. Portends Advancement

"A cheaper alcohol for industrial purposes presents a large vision of industrial advancement," Secretary Hoover declared.

T. W. Delahanty, of the Chemical Division, said there was no question that if methanol is made cheaper it will enter into wide use not only as a solvent but as a motor fuel.

FOR DRY CLEANING & DYEING RUG CLEANING & CURTAIN STRETCHING THE RELIABLE LAUNDRY PHONES 178-179



#### TELEPHONE CO. TO SPEND MILLIONS

More Than \$110,000,000 To Be Expended in Next Five Years, Report

More than \$110,000,000 will be Can Be Produced Cheaper Than spent by the Illinois Bell Telephone company in the next five years, to build extensions and additions to its plants to supply the ever increasing demand for service from the citizens of Illinois. A total of \$22,810,860 was appropriated in 1924 for this Revolutionary development of the work, and more will have to be exchemical industry promised by the pended in 1925 and each of the years

The telephone company differs from other businesses in that the more and other commercial solvents un- business it does, the greater the cost

The need of maintaining a proper product that Germany alone now is depreciation fund was demonstrated during the latter part of last Decem-Fortunately for American manu- ber when Illinois was visited by a facturers, the Chemical Foundation severe sleet storm. Damage of more holds a basic process patent, filed than \$1,000,000 to telephone systems in the United States several years was suffered in a few hours. More ago and sold to the Foundation to- than \$1,000,000 to telephone systems gether with other patents by the gov- in various parts of the state and toll ernment during the Wilson adminis- and long distance lines were considerably hampered. A depreciation reserve is one of the cost of maintaining service, and it takes a costly storm like that one, to point out some of the cost of telephone service.

> A new election law in Egypt greatmight ly restricts the right of suffrage by requiring both candidates and voters to fulfill certain educational and financial qualifications. Egypt is evidently getting as progressive as Virginia and South Carelina.

leader, says that Al Smith can be to supply the increased demand for nominated and elected President in dollar bills, but up to now the Amer-1928. So far there have been no ican people have shown ability to echoes from Mr. Bryan and Mr. Mc- spend them as fast as they can be

George F. Olvaney, Tammany The government will no doubt try

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