

NOTES CONCERNING ACIDS, BASES, AND SALTS

SYNTHETIC ACETIC ACID MANUFACTURE IN JAPAN

World Trade Notes, April 20, 1931

The Nihon Gosei Kwagaku Sakusan K. K. of Ogaki manufactures 800,000 pounds monthly of synthetic acetic acid. Three other companies also plan to manufacture synthetic acetic acid, but have not yet commenced operations.

It is reported that of these firms, the Nippin Chisso Hiryo Kaisha (Japan Nitrogen Co.) has a patent for the manufacture of acetic acid from acetaldehyde, and another patent for making acetic anhydride from acetic acid, but actual manufacture has not been initiated. The company has also applied for another patent covering certain features in the synthesis of acetic acid. (*Assistant Trade Commissioner Howard B. Titus, Tokyo.*)

No, GLACIAL acetic acid is not manufactured in Iceland.—*The Cornell Chemist.*

ACID HYDROCYANIC CONTIN- UES EXEMPT FROM BRIT- ISH DUTY

World Trade Notes, January 26, 1931

A treasury order has been made exempting acid hydrocyanic, anhydrous, from Key Industry Duty until June 30, 1931, which represents a six months' extension of a previous order. This product was not included in the schedule to the general exemption order issued several weeks ago, which continued the exemption of some 65 products and groups of products for a further 12 months to the end of 1931. As it was the only omission from this schedule compared with that of the preceding year the presumption has

been that it would become subject to the 33½ per cent. duty after the end of 1930. (*Trade Commissioner Roger R. Townsend, London, England.*)

BRITISH IMPORT LIME JUICE FOR MANUFACTURE OF CITRIC ACID

World Trade Notes, March 9, 1931

Approximately one-fifth of the 498,189 gallons of lime juice imported into the United Kingdom from the British West Indies in 1929 was in concentrated form, used solely for the manufacture of citric acid. The 1929 imports were higher than those for any of the four preceding years. (*Trade Information Bulletin No. 743, "Markets for Fruit Juices and Fruit Syrups in the United Kingdom" by Trade Commissioner James Somerville, Jr., London.*)

SOIL ON MOUNTAIN TOPS MORE ACID THAN IN VALLEYS

Science Service

Indianapolis, March 15, 1931.—The higher the sourer, seems to be the rule regarding soil reactions. Confirming by researches in the richest forest region in eastern North America the observations of other investigators in various parts of the world, Dr. Stanley A. Cain of Butler University has collected a considerable series of data from the Great Smoky Mountains region in Tennessee and North Carolina, which is to be developed as the greatest of the U. S. National Parks in the East.