PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Method and Apparatus for Catalytic Exothermic Gaseous Reactions

We, CHEMICAL CONSTRUCTION CORPORA-TION, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America, of 525, West 43rd Street, New York 36, New York, United States of America, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the

10 following statement:

This invention relates to an apparatus for effecting an exothermic vapor phase catalytic reaction wherein a gaseous reaction mixture is passed through a stationary catalyst bed. The 15 invention is particularly applicable to the usoful recovery of steam during exothermic vapor phase catalytic reactions which are conducted at high pressure. This invention is further concerned with the recovery of steam 20 during such reactions as ammonia synthesis, synthesis of methanol from hydrogen and carbon monoxide, the Fischer-Tropsch synthesis of hydrocarbons and high alkanols and other similar hydrogenation reactions.

In converters for exothermic vapor phase catalytic reactions, it has been known to cool the reacting gas in the catalyst by means of colder unreacted gas passing through cooling tubes in the catalyst before said gas enters 30 the catalyst. The reacting gas in the catalyst and the cooling gas in the tubes flow in the same direction or are cocurrent. The present invention as contrasted with the prior art, involves the flow of hot gases within the converter. An apparatus arranged is provided which produces a centralized flow with consequent improved catalyst bed cooling and improved means for transfer of hot gases.

In the prior art apparatus the flow of gas 40 in the main stream enters the converter and flows through the annulus between the high pressure clusure and internals and through a heat exchanger. Close to the exit of the interchanger, any by-passed gas is mixed with

the main stream and the total gas stream of 45 unconverted gas flows through the cooling tubes in the catalyst. The gas, now preheated to reaction temperature, is collected and flows to the catalyst as a single stream. The gas stream is usually contained in a central passage conduit which conducts the gas upwards through, but separated from, the catalyst bed. Then the gas stream is dispersed over the catalyst bed, flowing downwards through the catalyst. An electric hearer is usually placed in the central passage conduit to preheat the gas stream prior of its passage to the catalyst bed during start-up operations.

The gas passing over the catalyst reacts to form, for example, ammonia, and the heat generated is transferred to the unconverted gas in the cooling tubes except for the part that is absorbed as sensible heat in the converted gas which leaves the catalyst at about 500°C. The converted gas flows next through the heat exchanger where is transmits sensible heat to the unconverted gas as required. With this flow pattern, all of the heat of reaction is retained in the gas finally leaving the con-verter as sensible heat. Although considerable heat is contained in the final exit converted gas as sensible heat, the temperature level ar which it is available is generally too low for effective heat recovery. Nevertheless, in some instances it is possible to generate low pressure or even high pressure steam from this sensible heat.

Two prior methods of obtaining steam from heat generated in the converter are-(1) by recovering what heat is available from the stream of gas exiting from the converter, and (2), by a series of coils within the catalyst bed through which water passes to be heated and thereafter to supply heat to an external boiler. Both of these methods contain disadvantages. There is a poor recovery of heat as steam from the exiting gas because the temperature is too low for effective heat

recovery. As for the second method of recovering steam, the main difficulty is the fact that the water circulating in the coils must be of the highest degree of putity to prevent tube failure by corrosion in the presence of the excessive temperatures and pressures in converters such as ammonia converters. An additional disadvantage is the fact that if there is failure of the external boiler within and 10 appurtenances thereto, the whole system, both converter of steam generating plant, must be sbut down for repairs. One of the principal advantages of the present invention is that is provides a simplified and more efficient heat 15 recovery as steam. The heat recovery is at the high temperature level of the gases immedialely exiting from the catalyst bed.

In present-day commercial installations, converters are generally expected to operate effi-20 ciently for a period of years before shutdown for maintenance or catalyst bed replacement is necessary. One of the major factors in shortening catalyst life in practice is localized overheating or het spots in the catalyst bed. 25 Thus a major aspect of converter design concerns the spacing and layout of the cooling tubes in the catalyst bed. Heretofore, there have been certain restrictions on the layout of the cooling tubes due to practical considera-30 tions of gas flow to and from the catalyst bed, In the prior art the gas flow has been downwards through the catalyst bed and supporting grid, and then directed outwards toward the converter wall by a horizontal baffle. Then 35 the hot converted gas stream, after flowing out toward the converter wall and down around a vertical baffle, is directed to the internal heat exchanger. Alternatively, instead of directing the hot converted gas to the internal heat exchanger, this gas is conducted directly out of the converter for external heat exchange by means of a group of flexible tubes.

However, these arrangements result in a restriction on the spacing of the cooling tubes, since the provision of space toward the convecter wall for the downward flow of the hot converted gas limits the location of cooling tubes relative to the converter wall. Thus the outermost cooling tubes must be spaced a certain minimum distance from the converter well, in order to provide clearance for the downward flow of the gas. Consequently, the outcrmost portions of the catalyst bed may not receive sufficient cooling, and the danger of 55 localized overheating of the bed around its outer periphery is always present.

In this invention an apparatus is provided whereby the aforementioned disadvantages are overcome. The hot converted gas, after 60 leaving the catalyst bed, is first directed hocizentally inwards toward the center of the converter. Then the gas stream passes downward through a series of passages which are adjacent to, but independent of the passages which serve to conduct the hot unconverted

gas upwards to the top of the catalyst bed. The hot converted gas is then collected in a central chamber and passed directly out of the converter for optional heat recovery through a central passage which may be concentral with other gas flow passages. Thus a centralized flow pattern has been achieved.

This arrangement possesses several remarkable advantages. First, a new flexibility in cooling tubes location within the catalyst bed, Since the cooling tubes may now be placed at or adjacent to the periphery of the catalyst bed, rather than being kept a minimum distance from the converter will to provide clearance for the peripheral downward flow of converted gas as in the prior act, the possibility of the generation of hor spots or localized overheating in this region of the catalyst bod has been considerably reduced. In addition, since the hot converted gas is now collected as a single central flow, a simpler mechanical arrangement is possible when the hot gas is to be employed as a source of high pressure steam. Since in a preferred embodiment of the present invention the adjacent centralized passages for flow of unconverted and converted gas are produced as bored holes in a single central block of metal, fabrication and operating problems such as expansion considerations are reduced or eliminated.

The optional removal of the hot converted gas from the converter for heat recovery immediately after this gas leaves the catalyst bed, whereby heat is recovered at a higher and more usable temperature level, is an important aspect of usage of this invention. .

In accordance with the present invention, there is provided a method of effecting catalytic exothermic gaseous reactions at high pressures and temperatures in a converter which comprises passing a gaseous reaction mixture in heat exchange relationship with gases which have been heated by exothermic catalytic reaction, passing the unreacted gaseous mixture about the catalytic bad in a direction cocurrent to the flow of gases through the catalyst bed and in heat exchange relation with the gases within the catalyst bed collecting the unreacted gases in a centrally located section below the catalyst bed, directing said collected unreasted gases upwardly through but out of contact with the catalyst bed, reacting said gases in the catalyst hed, directing the reacted gases to a centrally located section below the catalyst bed, passing the gases through said section but out of contact with unreacted gases flowing upwardly, withdrawing the reacted gases from the converter, and, if desired returning the withdrawn gases to the converter, passing said gases in heat exchange 125 relation with unreacted gases and finally withdrawing said returned gases from the con-

The invention also provides an apparatus for effecting high pressure exothermic catalytic 130

reactions comprising a reactor shell with adjacent circulating plate, a heat exchanger section, a citalyst had acction, a gas collecting and distributing section between the catalyst 5 bed section and the heat exchanger section, means to introduce reactant gas, means to introduce by-pass gas and exit means to conduct reacted gas from the reactor, wherein said apparatus includes two horizontal baille plates 10 spaced apart from each other in said collecting and distributing section from: the spaced apart and section exchanger and heat section respectively, said horizontal baffle plates 15 having an outer perimeter contiguous with the circulating plate adjacent the internal wall of said shell, at least one conduit leading through the two baffle plates to direct unreacted gases which have passed in a flow about caralyst 20 bed cocurrent with the flow of gases in contact with the catalyst and have left the catalyst section to a point adjacent the exchanger scotion, at least one other conduit defining an opening in the baffle plate adjacent the heat 25 exchanger section and extending from said baffle plate adjacent the heat exchanger section through the baffle plate adjacent the catalyst section and into a space defined in said catalyst section but out of contact with the catalyst bed, a concentric outer conduit defining the space within the catalyst bed for further conduoring unreacted gases which have left the heat exchanger in a direction cocurrent to the flow of gases through the cutalyst bed, said outer conduit extending through the baffle plate adjacent the catalyst bed and defining an opening in said baffle plate and at least one other conduit defining an opening in the baffle plate adjacent the catalyst bed and extending through said caralyst bed for directing the collected unreacted gases upwardly through the catalyst bed but our of contact with the catalyst bed for said unreacted gases contact the catalyst.

In the accompanying drawings:-Figure 1 illustrates an embodiment of this invention wherein high level hear recovery as steam may be accomplished in an external unit such as a steam boiler, Referring to the Figure, the high pressure converter consists basically of a chamber defined by a high pressure shell 1 and cap plates 2 and 3. The unconverted feed gas enters via 4 and passes down through the annular space between shell 55 1 and circulating plate 5. This arrangement provides maximum cooling for the shell 1. The gas stream leaves the annular space toward the bottom of the converter chamber, and passes upward on the shell side of the heat exchanger defined by plate 6, tubes 21 and baffles 22. The gas sream is warmed by indirect heat exchange with the gas inside tubes 21 and toward the upper or warm end of the exchanger an additional quantity of cold feed 65 gas may be intermixed with the warmed gas

for temperature control. This additional quantity of cold gas is admitted via line 37 and the annular space between conduits 25 and 24,

which are concentric pipes or tubes.

The warmed and termperatue-adjusted feed gas stream is now directed outwards by haffle 20 and upwards through the peripheral clearance into the distributing chamber defined by plates or baffles 19 and 15. Referring to the left side of the figure, which illustrates the preferred cooling tube arrangement, the gas stream leaves the distributing chamber and enters a series of inner tubes such as 40 which may be of an insularing nature. The gas stream is conducted by sube 40 into heat exchange with the catalyst bed 11, and flows downwardly in cocument heat exchange in the annular space between pipe 40 and concentric outer pipe 12. Thus the feed gas stream is warmed further, and serves to moderate the temperature rise from the conversion reaction in the catalyst bed.

The feed gas stream, now wanned to the proper temperature for catalytic conversion, passes downwardly into the chamber defined by plates 14 and 15, and inwardly via passages 18 into a central chamber in block 16. Block 16 is a single unit containing a group of radial horizontal passages 18 which meet at a central upward outlet which joints conduit 10. Block 16 also contains a group of independent vertical passages 17 for downward flow of converted gas. Passages 17 ere adjacent to but not connected with passages 18, with each passage 17 located in the space or geometric 100 sector between two adjacent passages 18, all within unit 16.

The warmed feed gas stream passes up wardly through the central chamber in block 16 as a combined gas stream from passages 105 18, and enters conduit 10. Conduit 10 conrains an electric heater 7, admitted through block 2 via a passageway formed by conduit 8 which is sealed against plate 2 by upper gas seal 9. Electric heater 7 is used during 110 start-up to heat the gas stream to conversion temperatures. Under ordinary operating conditions, heater 7 is not required since the necessary heat is obtained from the conversion heat of reaction in the cooling tubes and heat 115 exchanger.

The feed gas leaves the top of conduit 10 at the proper conversion temperature and is dispersed by baffle 6 over catalyst bed 11. The gas stream flows downwardly through bed 11 120 and exothermic conversion takes place. The temperature in bed 11 is measured by thermocouples 39, with variation from desired set points being readily compensated for by varying the ratio of input gas stream flow admitted 125 via 4 to the cooling flow admitted via 37 and also by varying the total amount of input gas feed. The hot converted gas stream leaves the bottom of catalyst bed 11 through grid sup-

port 13 and is directed through the space defined by catalyst bed grid support 13 and baffle 14 into downward passages 17. The gas stream leaves the bottom of passages 17 and becomes a single combined flow, leaving the converter via central passage 23 and exit conduir 38

The hot converted gas stream now passes through an external heat recovery device such as a steam boiler, not shown, and is cooled. In a preferred embodiment, the gas stream is partially cooled and then re-enters the converter via conduit 36 and passes upward through the annular space between passages 15 23 and 24. Sufficient sensible heat is left in the partially cooled converted gas stream, for it to be a suitable heat source to warm the cold incoming feed gas. The partially cooled converted gas stream then enters the distribut-20 ing chamber defined by baffles 20 and 19, and passes downward through heat exchanger tubes 21. The converted and now relatively cold gas stream is collected in the chamber defined by baffles 26 and 27, and passes downward 25 in the annular space between conduit 25 and circular support 28, and finally leaves the converter via 35.

It should be noted that, in this preferred embodiment of the invention, the centralized flow pattern allows transfer and removal of the hot converted gas through 23 which is the centermost of a group of concentric conduits which in effect provide insulation for the hot gas in 23. Thus the hot gas leaves via 38 at the highest possible temperature level

that may be practically achieved.

A modified form of the invention which is devoted exclusively to the centralized flow concept is shown in Figure 2. The basis flow pattern and nonenclature of Figure 2 is essentially the same as Figure 1, up to the point where the hot converted gas leaves the catalyst bed and is directed centrally downwards. The pre-conversion flow in Figure 2 will therefore be described in brief terms only. Referring to Figure 2, the converter is defined

by high pressure shell 1 and top plates 2 and 3. The gas stream enters via 4, is directed downward in the annular space between baffle 50 5 and shell 1, and then flows upward within the shell 6 of heat exchanger having tubes 21 and baffles 22. The gas stream temperature is controlled by supplementary cold gas admitted via conduit 49 leading through cap

46 fastened by bolt 48 into conduit 50 and upwards to intermix with heated feed gas at the hot upper end of the heat exchanger. The warm feed gas now proceeds upward via chamber defined by haffles 15 and 19 into insulated tubes 40 leading into cooling tubes

sulated tubes 40 leading into cooling tubes space which is annular stace between tubes 40 and 12. Hot feed gas flows downward into the chamber defined by baffles 14 and 15 and into horizontal passages 18 in central block 16. Then combined gas stream passes upward

in conduir 10 having start-up electric heater 7 which is admitted via conduit 8 having upper gas seal 9. Hot feed gas is then dispersed by baffle 6 over and through the catalyst bed 11, temperature control bed 11 is achieved by thermocouples 39 which control gas input flow rate and temperature.

The hot converted gas stream leaves the bostom of caralyst bed 11 through grid support 13 and is centrally directed via baffle 14 to vertical passages 17 which are in unit 16, adjacent to but independent of passages 18. In Figure 2 a generalized central flow concept is illustrated. The hot converted gases flow downwards through passages 17 and then cutwards through the chamber defined by baffles 19 and 20 and into heat exchange tubes 21. As the hor converted gas flows down through tubes 21, heat is given up to incoming cool feed gas circulated outside the tubes by baffics 22. Then the still warm converted gas is collected in the chamber defined by baffles 26 and 27 and passed out of the converter via the annular space between circular support baffle 28 and central conduit 50, and exit passages 51 in cap 45. The converted gas stream may be passed to hear recovery as

well as product recovery aperations.

It should be noted that, although the arrangement of Figure 1 provides more external heat recovery and this heat is obtained at a higher remperature level and thus is more useful, the arrangement of Figure 2 requires less heat transfer surface for feed gas preheat and hence a smaller heat exchanger may possibly be used, since the converted gas is used in the heat exchanger tubes at a higher temperature level in the case of Figure 2.

Figures 3, 4 and 5, show details of the 105 central distributing block 16. Referring to Figure 3, a plan view of unit 16 is shown with overall features and flow passages. The outer radial dotted lines designate horizontal feed gas flow passages 18, leading to the central 110 collecting space which leads upwards to the conduit 10 shown in Figure 1 which leads to the catalyst bed. Conduit 10 fits into block 16 as far as notch 60. Downward passages for converted gas 17 are shown as large solid 115 circles. This overall arrangement of passages 13 and 17 is further clarified in Figure 4 which is a sectional elevation view 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 provides another elevation view of Figure 3, but on a different section 5—5. Here a practical medification of the invention to provide more complete catalyst bed cooling is illustrated. Referring back to Figure 3, smaller dotted lines leading to solid circles 65 are chown within outer radial dotted lines designating passages 18. As will be apparent from Figure 5, the inner detted lines represent an additional separate passage below and independent of passage 18, leading to insu-

lated cooling tube 40. The purpose of this modification is to show how catalyst cooling tubes may be located in the catalyst bed in the area immediately above unit 16. Thus in accordance with Figure 5, partially warmed feed gas from the lower heat exchanger is conducted in through the small bostom passage below passages 18, and upwards inside the insulated cooling tube 40. The gas stream flows out of the top of tube 40 and then downward in the annular space between 40 and outer tube 12. This downward flow provides catalyst bed cooling in the adjacent region of the bed, which is above unit 16. The feed gas, 15 now warmed to conversion temperature, discharges down into the main warm feed gas stream in passages 18. The central block 16 contains a number of openings 18 which permit gases, after being preheated by passage 20 through tube 12, to onter into the central opening of block 16 to be directed upwardly through tube 10 and thus distributed to the bed of catalyst. Figures 1 and 2 are not large enough scale to show that there the numerous tubes 12 within the reactor and that it is preferred to have some of the tubes 12 and insert tubes 40 penetrate through the central distributing block 16 to provide sufficient heat exchange within the catalyst bed. Consequently, gas passing down through tube 12 as illustrated in Fig. 5, commingles with gas from other tubes 12 outside of block 16 and which direct the gases towards the opening 18. Fig. 5 also shows that the tubes 40 penetrate through the block and act as a passageway for gases just as illustrated for tubes 40 in Fig. 1. Looking downwardly on central block 16, Fig. 3, there is illustrated the opening 65 represented by two solid rings. The outer ring indicates edge of the block 16 to which tubes 12 are connected. The inner solid ring indicates the lower opening in block 16 to which tubes 40 are connected. As pointed out above, this arrangement of 45 block and tubes permits the passage of gases through and into the central block 16 when it is required that extra tubes 12 be inserted into the catalyst bed to accomplish desired heat exchange, thereby maintaining an optimum temperature within the catalyst bed.

An alternative arrangement which substitutes a group of downcomer pipes for the central block unit is shown in Figure 6. Referring to Figure 6, which is an enlarged sectional 55 view of the central part of the converter, a portion of the incoming feed gas is warmed in exchanger defined by shell 6, tubes 21 and baffles 22. The warmed feed gas may be moderated in temperature by an additional portion of cold incoming feed gas admirred in the annular space between concentric conduits 24 and 25. The total feed gas stream passes upwards through the outer annular space between shell 6 and the chamber defined by baffles 20 and 19, and enters the outer

chamber defined by baffles 19 and 15. The feed gas then passes upward through the inner tube 40, and downwards in heat exchange with the catalyst bed 11 in the annular space between tube 40 and 12.

The warmed unreacted gas collects in the chamber defined by baffles 14 and 15 and proceeds horizontally inward towards the centre of the converter by means of the space between downcomer pipes 17. Then the feed gas stream passes centrally upwards in conduit 10 and downward through catalyst bed 11 where in exorhermic catalytic conversion takes place. The converted gas stream passes through catalyst bed grid support 13 and into the chamber between grid support 13 and baffle 14. The converted gas stream now passes through central downcomer pipes 17 and into the central chamber between baffles 66 and 19. Then the hot gas stream passes out of the converter for heat recovery via conduit 23 as previously described, returning in the annular space between concentrate conduits 23 and 24 and passing into heat exchanger tubes 21 to ward incoming feed gas by indirect hear exchange.

Figure 6 also shows the cooling tube arrangement whereby cooling of the catalyst bed may be achieved adjacent central conduit 10. The arrangement which achieves this is shown on the right side of Figure 6, wherein the downcomer pipe 69 is shown as another position of pipes 17. The incoming feed gas leaves the heat exchanger section and enters the outer chamber between baffles 15 and 19. A portion of this gas will proceed up through inner cooling tubes such as 67 by means of the central clearance space between baffles 66 and 15. Then the gas passes downward in the annular space between tubes 67 and 68, providing cooling in the catalyst had area immediately adjacent to conduit 10. The gas then joins the balance of the incoming gas stream in the chamber defined by baffles 14 and 15 and proceeds upwards through conduit 10 as previously described.

Other modifications and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. One such variation would be to eliminate downcomer pipes 17 completely and provide a continuous vertical cylindrical baffle instead, where pipes 17 are located. Radial horizontal pipes could be provided, leading inwardly from the cylindrical bafile and converging on and passing gas into central conduit 10. These pipes would serve to conduct unconverted gas to conduit 10 from the chamber defined by haffles 14 and 15, with the function of downcomer pipes 17 being handled by passing the converted gas downward in the sector-shaped space between the radial horizontal pipes.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A method of effecting catalytic exothermic gaseous reactions at high pressures and temperatures in a converter which comprises passing a gaseous reaction mixture in heat ex- 130

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change relationship with gases which have been heated by an exothermic catalytic reaction, passing the unreacted gaseous mixtures about the catalytic bed in a direction cocur-5 rent to the flow of gases through the catalyst bed and in heat exchange relation with the gases within the catalyst bed, collecting the unreacted gases in a centrally located section below the catalyst bed, directing said collected 10 unreacted gases upwardly through but out of contact with the catalyst bed, reacting said gases in the catalyst bed, directing the reacted gases to a centrally located section below the catalyst bed, passing the gases through said 15 section but out of contact with unreacted gases flowing upwardly, withdrawing the reacted gases from the converter, and, if desired returning the withdrawn gases to the converter, passing said gases in heat exchange relation with 20 unreacted gases and finally withdrawing said returned gases from the converter.

An apparatus for effecting high pressure exothermic catalytic reactions comprising a reactor shell with adjacent circulating plate, a heat 25 exchanger section, a catalyst bed section, a gas collecting and distributing section between the catalyst bed section and the heat exchanger section, means to introduce reactant gas, means to introduce by-pass gas and exit means to 30 conduct reacted gas from the reactor, wherein said apparatus includes two horizontal baffle plates spaced apart from each other in said gas collecting and distributing section and spaced apart from the catalyst section and heat exchanger section respectively, said horizontal baffle plates having an outer perimeter contiguous with the circulating plate adjacent the internal wall of said shell, at least one conduit leading through the two baffle plates to direct unreacted gases which have passed in a flow about catalyst bed cocurrent with the flow of gases in contact with the catalyst and have left the catalyst section to a point adjacent the exchanger section, at least one other conduit defining an opening in the baffle plate adjacent the heat exchanger section and extending from said baffle plate adjacent the heat exchanger section through the baffle plate adjacent the catalyst section and into a space defined in said catalyst section but of contact with the catalyst bed, a concentric outer conduit defining the space within the catalyst bed for further conducting unreacted

gases which have left the heat exchanger in a direction cocurrent to the flow of gases through the catalyst bed, said outer conduit extending through the baffle plate adjacent the catalyst bed and defining an opening in said baffle

plate, and at least one other conduit defining

an opening in the baffle plate adjacent the catalyst bed and extending through said catalyst bed for directing the collected unreacted gases upwardly through the catalyst bed out of contact with the catalyst bed before said unreacted gases contact the catalyst.

3. Apparatus according to Claim 2, in which the conduit leading through the two baffle plates to direct gases leaving the caralyst section to a point adjacent the exchanger section is extended through an additional horizontal baffle smaller than said two baffle plates, whose cuter perimeter is not contiguous with the circulating plate adjacent the internal wall of said shell, said additional horizontal baffle defining a wall of a chamber for the collecting of hot gas prior to utilization of said gas as a hear source.

4. Apparatus according to Claims 2 or 3 in which the means for conveying unreacted gases to the catalyst bed and reacted gases from the catalyst had includes a central block having at least one horizontal opening therein leading to a vertical upward passage for upward gas flow within the block and at least one other vertical opening through the block for downward gas flow, adjacent to but independent of said horizontal opening and associated vertical upward passage, with the horizontal opening in said block leading from said gas collecting space, and the vertical upward passages terminating at an upper opening in said block defined by a conduit for directing gases through said catalyst bed out of contact with the catalyst.

Apparatus according to Claim 4, in which the vertical passage for upward gas flow is centrally located within the block and is coincidental with the central vertical axis of the block.

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Apparatus according to any of Claims 2 to 5, wherein means are provided to conduct hot converted gas to external heat exchange together with means to return said gas to the internal heat exchanger in the converter, with said means being concentrically arranged together with means to admit by-pass synthesis gas to the reactor and exit means to conduct reacted gas from the reactor.

7. A method according to Claim 1 and 110 substantially as hereinbefore described.

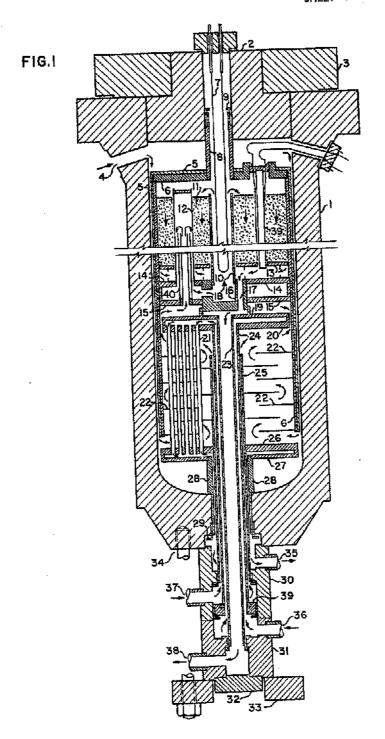
An apparatus substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings for carrying out catalytic exothermic gaseous reactions at high pressures and temperatures.

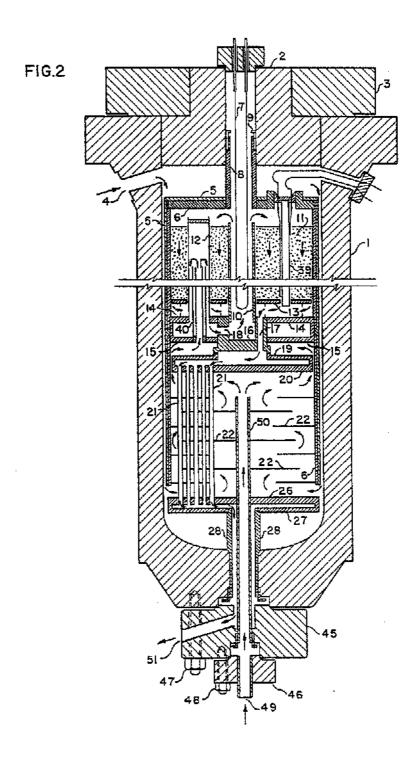
STEVENS, LANGNER, PARRY & ROLLINSON. Chartered Patent Agents, Agents for the Applicants.

Learnington Spa: Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by the Courier Press.—1962.

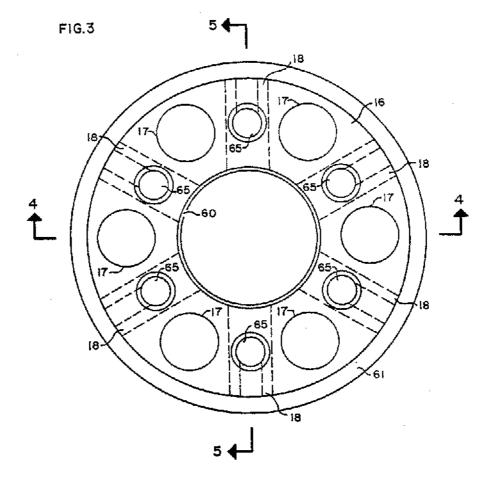
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SHEET I

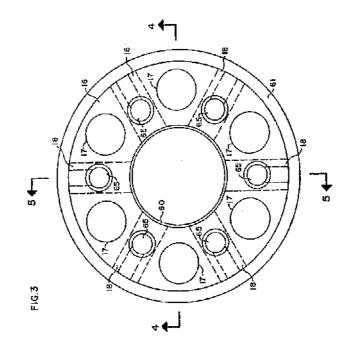


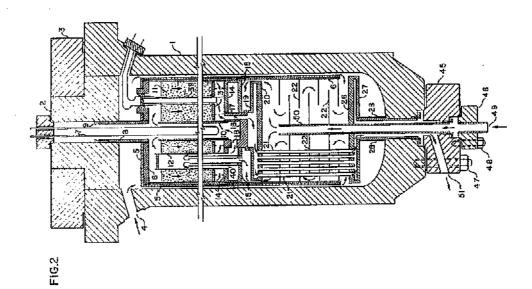


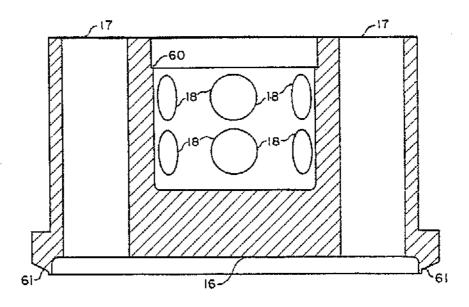
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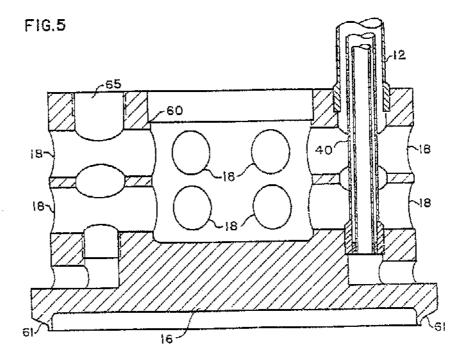


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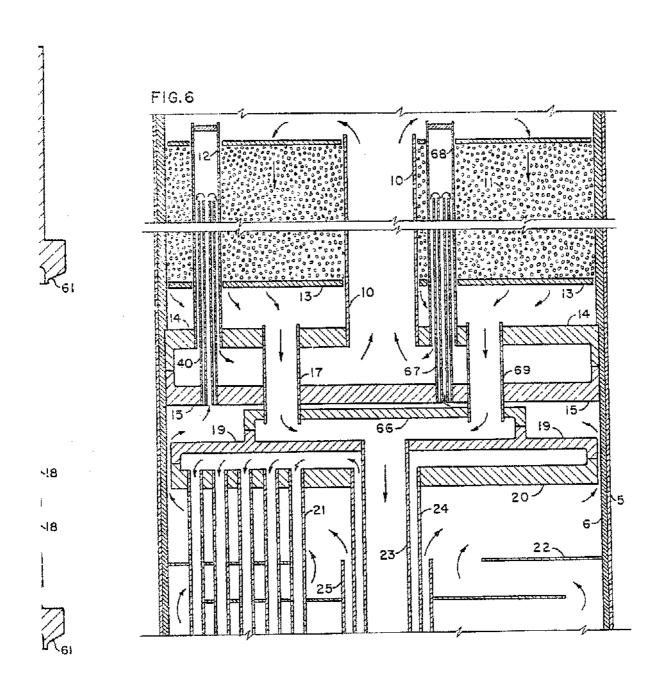


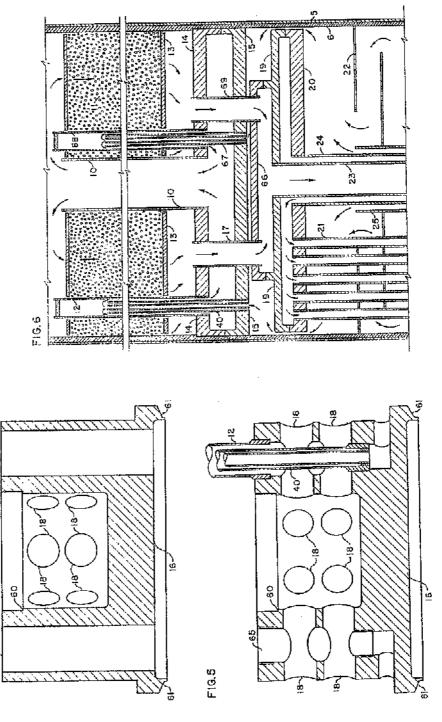






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Method and Apparatus for Catalytic Exothermic Gaseous Reactions

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15	pas page 2, line 14, after "provides" insert "(1f desired)"		
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