

£9,000,000 OIL REFINERY

Twenty million pounds have been spent since the war on the huge petroleum refinery at Stanlow, Cheshire, which covers an area of two-and-a-half square miles. This is where eight millions of it went. It's a new plant where more than two million gallons of high octane fuel are produced weekly by a system called "catalytic cracking." The plant, known as a "cat-cracker, needs only eight men to work it.

Despite a world scarcity of oil, there is a huge output of kerosene, fuel gas, bitumen, and chemicals used in paints, perfume and medicines from this Stanlow plant. And their sulphur production (40 tons of it a day) is doing much to relieve the country's serious shortage of this valuable commodity. Now that the "cat-cracking" plant is in action, this and other refineries are pressing the government to return to the pre-war branded petrols. If they succeed, the days of pool petrol may be numbered.