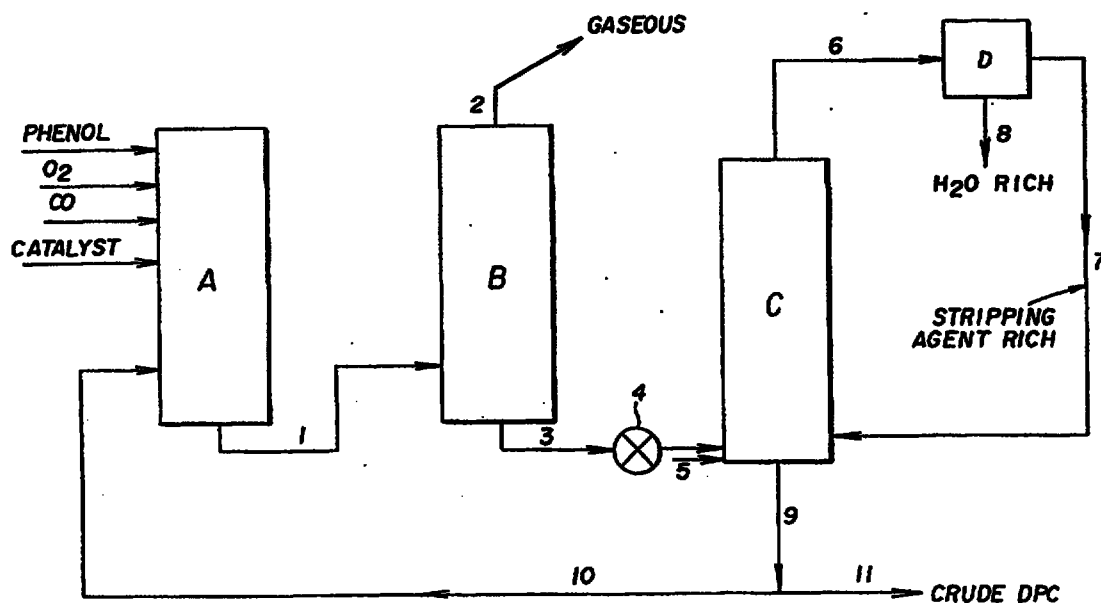




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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE ISOLATION AND REMOVAL OF UNWANTED WATER FROM A CHEMICAL REACTION



(57) Abstract

An improved continuous process for removal of water from a process for producing organic carbonates, particularly diphenyl carbonate, by treating the water containing products of the reaction with a condensable stripping agent in a gaseous state and recycling a major portion of the water poor reaction products back to the reaction for producing the organic carbonate. The stripping agent, preferably n-pentane, is condensed upon removal from the water stripping step and recycled back to the water stripping step.