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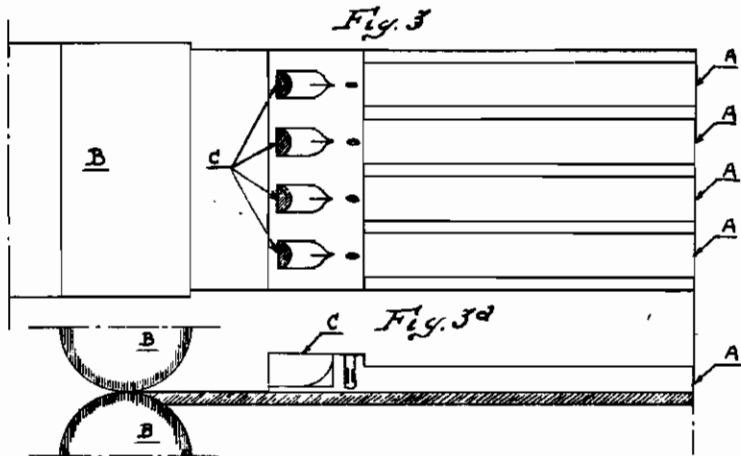
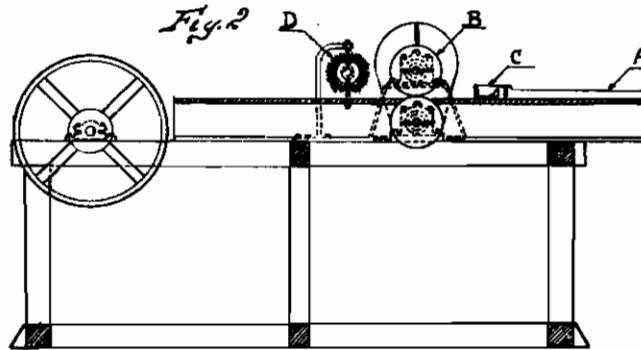
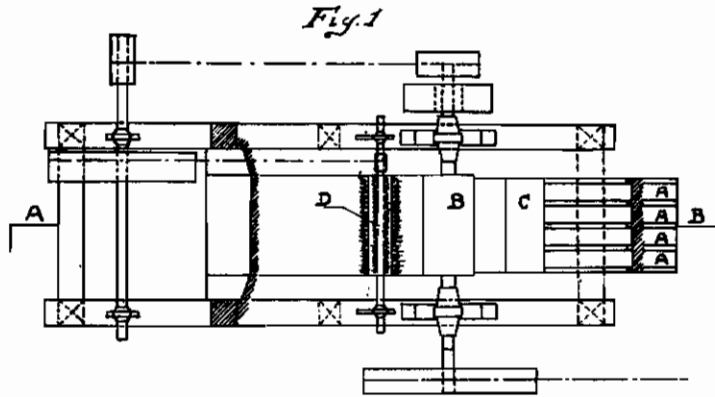
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UTILISING MAIS CANE AND SORGHUM CANE

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ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN

UTILISING MAIS CANE AND SORGHUM CANE

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Our invention relates to an improved process and device for utilising mais cane and sorghum cane by contemporaneously producing cellulose fibres and a medulla forage from these materials. At the present time the mais cane is for the most burned in order to destroy the larvae of *Pyrausta nubilalis* or it is used for shake-down. If used for forage, only the top portion and some residual leaves are utilised, whereas the cane is refused. The sorghum cane is generally entirely abandoned as the countrymen can not convert it, at the present state, into forage. According to the process and with the device forming the object of our invention the great mass of these materials is transformed into cellulose fibres and a medulla forage for the cattle.

According to the invention, from the ligneous portion forming the case of the cane, the cellulose is extracted whereas from the inner portion, viz. from the medulla, an excellent food is obtained which may be given alone or mixed with other foods. Hitherto it is not possible to obtain a clean separation of the two products, but it was only known to extract the fibres from the cane and to separate the two products by means of seaving. In this way it is impossible to obtain pure products; only two masses may be obtained containing the one a predominating portion of cellulose and the other a predominating portion of mark to be used as forage. Of course this was prejudicial for both the products.

The device forming the object of the present invention allows to obtain on the one hand the cellulose fibre completely free from medulla in any part and on the other hand the medulla

ready for use as forage and therefore immediately to be utilised.

A device according to the invention is shown by way of example in the accompanying drawings.

Fig. 1 is a plan view and

Fig. 2 a side view of the said device;

Figs. 3 and 3a show in a larger scale, respectively in plan view and in side view, the slicing, turning and pressing means.

The operation of the device is as follows: The mais or the sorghum cane is introduced in suitable guides A and adduced to special cutting and opening devices C adapted to slice and open the cane so as to orient the whole outside of the cane (fibres of cellulose) downwards and the whole inner part (medulla) upwards before the canes reach a pair of cylinders B. The said cylinders provide for reducing the two sections of the cane to ribbons of a constant thickness adapted to uniformly receive the treatment of a special system of rotating blades and brushes D. The mais cane or the sorghum cane is thus transformed into ribbons of cellulose fibres, whereas the medulla, previously compressed by the cylinders B and then crushed by the rotating blades and the brushes D, is entirely separated and ready for use as an excellent forage.

By the invention are thus obtained contemporaneously three objects, viz.:

- (1) The production of cellulose fibres,
- (2) The production of a forage,
- (3) The destruction of the larvae of *Pyrausta nubilalis*.

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