Patented Sept. 28, 1926. 1,601,501

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FUEL AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SAID FUEL.

No Drawing. Application filed December 16, 1922. Serial No. 607,426.

The object of my invention is to provide a novel heat-producing product or fuel which may be used in conjuction with other fuels, especially with all kinds of coal and thereby saving a large amount of coal; and also reducing the clinker in coal, and providing a freer burning fire which will retain its heat much longer than an ordinary fire. It is of course a prime object of my invention to provide a fuel and process for producing it which will be less expensive than coal.

My product is in the nature of a coke, produced from vegetable deposits obtained on salt water marshes, and from flats or meadows. The method of production consists in taking a considerable amount of this peat, silt, or marsh or meadow mud and muck from flats, and which raw material has a large percentage of decomposed or partly decomposed disintegrated vegetable matter, and mix this raw material with coal in varying or suitable proportions. The compound is then baked or heated in an oven in a manner similar to that in which coke is made. This heating is carried to a point where the materials amalgamate, resulting in chemical and physical changes. The gases are driven off and the resulting product appears similar to ordinary coke or similar to a slag.

In carrying out the process the best results are obtained by mixing the ingredients of the product in proportions approximately of ½ to ⅔ parts of peat to ½ to ⅓ parts of coal.

The product when mixed with coal does not burn rapidly itself. It retains its form under great heat, and when it gradually wastes away and is consumed, it leaves little or no residue. When mixed with soft coal it prevents the coal from accumulating in an incombustible mass, and keeps the mass porous, and allows a circulation of air in the fire, which assists in the burning, and allows a better and freer combustion of the fuel, thereby assisting in producing heat. The fact that the raw materials are cheaply and easily obtained means that the product is an inexpensive one to make.

Applicant's product is not intended to be used as a fuel of itself. It is mixed with coal and then it burns very slowly. Its chief function is that it becomes very hot and thus radiates heat, and it also keeps the mass of coal separated and insures a draft through the entire fire. This eventually creates so hot a fire that the product is finally consumed itself. When burnt with soft coal the grates very seldom require cleaning, and the use of the product saves about one-third of the coal ordinarily used. The mixing of applicant's product with coal is performed by the user.

What I claim is:

1. The process of producing a combustible product of the character and for the purposes described, consisting in mixing salt water peat with coal in the proportions of approximately one part of such peat to one part of coal, carbonizing the mixture in an oven with a degree of heat and during a period of several hours to cause the materials to amalgamate and leave a clinker-like product adapted for use as a fuel to be mixed with coal, whereby to increase the circulation of air through the fuel and obtain a better and freer combustion of the entire mass of fuel.

2. A fuel compound consisting of a clinker-like product comprising substantially equal parts of salt water peat and coal amalgamated by carbonizing the substances together, substantially as described.

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