To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAFAYETTE ROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Lynn, in the county of Wayne, State of West Virginia, have invented a new and useful Rotary Crushing-Mill; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an improved multiple roller crushing mill, and an object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind for crushing or grinding different kinds of cane, preferably sugar cane and the like, whereby it is possible to obtain all the cane juice.

A further object of the invention is to provide a floating frame for carrying the upper series of rollers, so that the upper rollers may yield or move relative to the lower series.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for gearing the upper series of rollers with the lower series.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for preventing the cane from lodging between the rollers of the upper series or those of the lower series.

The invention comprises further features and combination of parts as hereinafter set forth, shown in the drawings and claimed.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of the improved machine constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation of the opposite side of the machine.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 6.

Referring more especially to the drawings 1 designates a frame, which is preferably rectangular, and comprises the side pieces 2 having their upper portions cutaway as shown at 3, thereby forming the upright arms 4, to which the end pieces 5 and 6 are secured by bolts 7. A top piece 8 is secured by bolts 9 to the upright arms, thereby insuring rigidity for the frame as well as providing a cover for the operating or crushing mechanism. Mounted in bearings of the lower edges of the cutaway portions 3 of the side pieces are shafts 10, 11 and 12, there being a holding bearing strip 13 provided with semi-circular bearings or recesses 14, which arch and hold the shafts 10, 11, and 12 in their bearings. The bearing strips 13 are secured in their proper positions by the screw bolts 16 and 17. The bolts or screws 16 are threaded through the bearing strips and into the side pieces, and are provided with nuts 18, for holding the plates 19 and 20 in position. The end pieces 5 and 6 are provided with entrance and discharge openings 21 and 22, through which the plates 19 and 20 extend, whereby the flanges 23 of said plates may extend downwardly on the outer faces of the end pieces. By means of the plates 19 and 20 the cane or other material to be crushed is guided toward and between the crushing rollers, and from said rollers. The bolts or screws 16 are elongated, and have their upper ends fastened in any suitable manner at 24 in the top piece 8, and constitute guides 25. The inner portions of the upstanding arms 4 are provided with guide recesses 26, for the reception of the ends of the floating bars 27, the bottoms 28 of the recesses acting to support the floating bars 27 when in their lowest positions. Arranged adjacent the bottom faces of the floating bars 27 and also guided upon the extension bolts 16 are the clamping or holding bars 29. Suitable bolts 30 pass through the clamping or holding bars and are threaded in the floating bars 27. Shafts 31, 32 and 33 are mounted in bearings between the floating bars 27 and the clamping or holding bars 29. Keyed to the shafts 10, 11 and 12 are corrugated crushing rollers 34, 35 and 36. Keyed upon the shafts 31, 32 and 33 are crushing rollers 37, 38, and 39, which are corrugated longitudinally as shown. These upper and lower series of rollers are spaced for the passage of the cane between them, and are graduated in diameters, so that the spaces between the rollers from the forward ends of the machine to the rear end consecutively diminish, whereby an easy passage of the cane between the rollers may be had. Arranged between the rollers 34, 35 and 36, and secured to the strips 13 by the bolts 17 are metallic guard strips 40, to prevent the cane or other material from finding its way between the 110 rollers 34 to 36 inclusive. Secured by the bolts 30 to the holding or clamping strips
or bars 29, and between the rollers 37 to 39 inclusive are metallic guard strips 41, serving the same purpose, as served by the guard strips 40, that is to prevent cane from passing between the rollers 34, 35 and 36. Mounted upon and rotatable with the shafts 10, 11 and 12 are gears 43, 44 and 45. Mounted upon and keyed to the shafts 31 to 33 inclusive are gears 46, 47 and 48. The upper series of gears 46 to 48 inclusive mesh with the lower series of gears 43 to 45 inclusive, so that the crushing rollers may rotate toward each other, for crushing the cane and carrying the same through the machine.

One end of the shaft 31 is provided with a sprocket 49, and one end of the shaft 32 is provided with a pair of sprockets 50 and 51, about the former of which a sprocket chain 52 passes. This sprocket chain 52 also passes about and engages the sprocket 49. Passing about the sprocket 51 is a sprocket chain 53, which in turn passes about and engages the sprocket 54, which is mounted upon and keyed to the shaft 33. Keyed to and mounted upon the end of the shaft 33 adjacent the sprocket 54 is a pulley 55, which is engaged by the belt 56, to which power (not shown) may be connected, for operating the several geared together shafts and rollers, whereby the feeding and crushing of the cane may be accomplished. A chute 57 is arranged at the forward end of the machine and is provided with sides 58. The bottom of the chute is provided with a stepped surface 59, and arranged adjacent one or two of the steps are rolls 60. This stepped surface and the rolls act to retard the passage of the cane toward and through the opening 21, so as to avoid feeding the machine excessively fast. Supporting rods 61 are connected at 62 to the sides of the chute. The upper ends of the rods 61 terminate in hooks 63 for engagement with the eyes 64. A shoulder 65 is formed on the lower end of the chute to engage the plate 19, to prevent downward movement of the lower end of the chute. A receiving pan or tray 66 is fixed in any suitable manner between the sides of the frame below the rollers 34 to 36 inclusive. This pan or tray is designed for the reception of the cane juice from the cane. The receiving pan or tray 66 is supported upon the flanges 67 of the opposite inner faces of the sides of the frame. The receiving pan or tray has an outlet opening 68 at its forward lower end, through which the cane juice may pass into a suitable receptacle (not shown). It is to be observed that the upper rollers 37 to 39 inclusive may yield or move slightly upwardly as the cane varies in thickness in passing between the rollers. These rollers are so movable owing to the bars 27 being vertically sliding upon the extension guides 16. It is to be noted that the teeth of the gears 43 to 45 inclusive and 46 to 48 inclusive are to be long enough in practice, so as to permit the rollers 37 to 39 to move upwardly, without the teeth of said gears disengaging. The cane is fed to the machine down the chute and in between the upper and lower series of rollers, whereby the cane juice is extracted from the cane so as to drop into the tray or pan, the pulp continuing on and passing out through the opening 22.

The invention having been set forth what is claimed as new and useful is:

In a mill for crushing cane, the combination with a frame of upper and lower series of crushing rollers, the upper series of rollers being carried in a vertically movable frame, gear connections between the upper and lower rollers, gear connections between the rollers of the upper series of rollers, means for driving one of the rollers of the upper series of rollers whereby all of the rollers of both series will be rotated during a crushing operation, means between the rollers of each series for preventing the cane from passing through the vertically disposed spaces between the rollers, the vertically movable frame carrying the upper series of rollers allowing said upper series of rollers to be thrown out of gear connection with the lower series of rollers when an excessive amount of material is fed between the rollers.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LAFAYETTE ROSS.

Witnesses

P. H. NAPIER,
OLGA G. OSBURN.