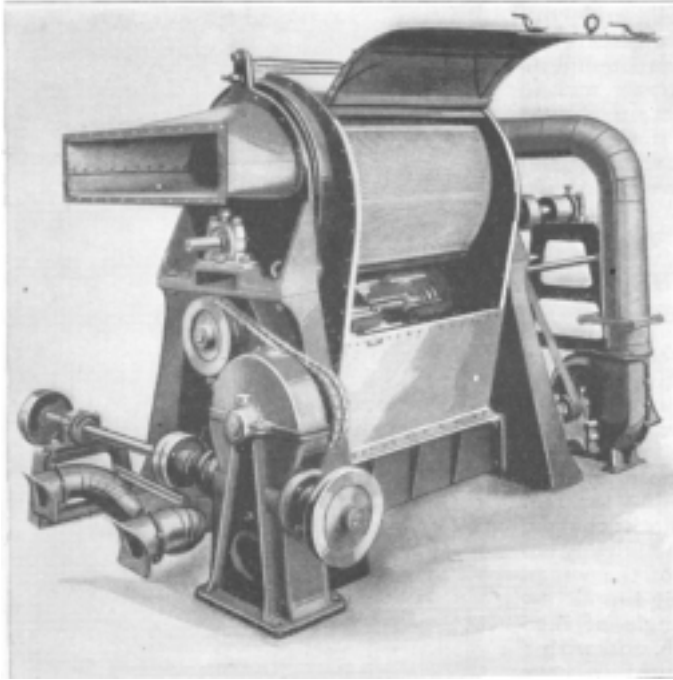


NOVEL METHOD OF OPENING AND CLEANING COTTON

A machine that embodies a novel process of opening and cleaning cotton by subjecting it to extremely rapid vibra-



Machine for Cleaning Cotton, Opened Up So as to Show the Drum and the Rotating Brush beneath It: To the Right is a Blower Which Drives a Current of Air through

tion in a current of air, has been developed in England. The machine consists of a cast-iron base that supports a dust-proof sheet-metal casing with a semi-circular top, inside which a horizontal, perforated drum rests for its whole length upon a small rotating brush, which slowly revolves the drum, keeping its perforations clean. Inside and at the bottom of the drum there is a small and rapidly revolving rotor with a large number of right and left-hand spiraled blades, so that when the cotton fed into the machine falls on this rotor, it is kept in constant motion backward and forward and is thus thoroughly opened up, all dust adhering to it being removed. It then becomes so light that a current of air pumped through a pipe that penetrates one end of the drum blows the cotton through an outlet, at the other end, into a condenser to which the machine is coupled. The dust that is brushed off from the perforations of the drum is drawn from the casing by an exhaust fan.