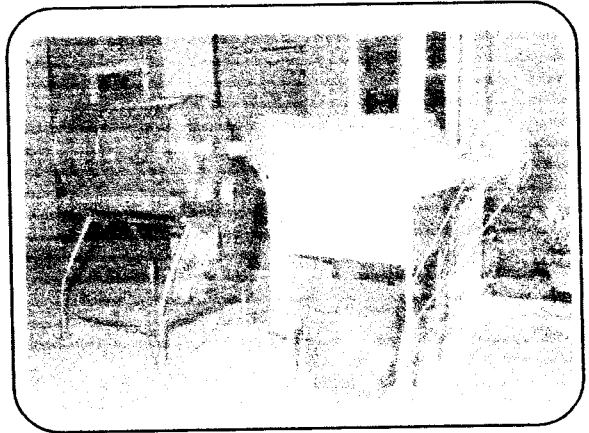


Batch Rotary-Dryer for Grated Coconut

A niche in the development of process to extract cold-pressed, pure, transparent, coconut oil from freshly-grated, sun-dried coconut was identified. The process was initiated towards the development of a small-scale oil expeller, which has been already patented. The quantities of coconut from the open-air sun-drying process was just sufficient for the capacity of the small-scale oil expeller. Subsequently, the need arose to develop a bigger, cottage-level coconut-oil expeller to improve the productivity. However, match the capacity of this oil expeller open-air sun-drying was found to be cumbersome on the grounds of possible non-sunny weather, floor/ground area requirement for coconut drying, and the relatively long critical drying-time of coconut of about 2.5 hours. This necessitated



the development of a biomass-fuelled coconut dryer to get more coconut dried in a shorter time. This dryer overcame the shortcomings in the solar drying process.

