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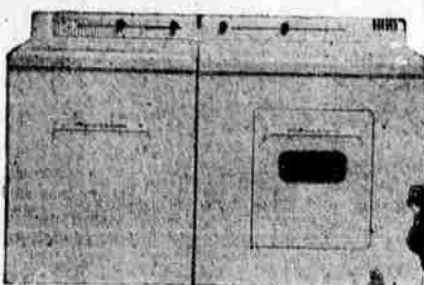


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Pumice Blocks Provide Permanence, Beauty and Economy as a Building Material—Have Had Good Ac- ceptance

These blocks are manufactured, in Bend, by Grimes Pumice Block, Inc., — Lee Grimes, manager and secretary-treasurer, also provides a water well and drain hole drilling service including test-holes and cesspool drilling — Serving all of Central Oregon.

By R. KENNETH EVANS beautiful decorative products, Pumice blocks, a comparatively new building material, which provide beauty, permanency and economy, are available, in Bend, through the Grimes Pumice Blocks, Inc., with a manufacturing plant located at 101 E. Fourth street—just east of the Associated Oil bulk plant.

This is a corporation with R. J. Anliker, president, and Lee Grimes, secretary - treasurer and general manager. R. J. Anliker is general contractor with headquarters in Tumalo. Lee Grimes, in addition to managing the pumice block manufacturing operation and sales, provides a water well and drain hole drilling service, including test holes and cesspool drilling. Headquarters of this operation is Carroll Acres in Bend. Pumice blocks have been manufactured by this company since 1946, and Lee Grimes has been operating his drilling service since 1949.

The basic material for the manufacture of pumice blocks is a natural mineral substance, geologically known as volcanic lava. It was created by the active eruption of volcanoes, and is a solidified froth deposited along the edge of molten lava as it cooled. Originally it was melted rock which expanded with gas pressure, and cooled as it shot into the air, the froth resulting in a mineral substance containing a large number of small hollow cells.

The pumice blocks manufactured by the Grimes Pumice Blocks, Inc., are fire, sound and weather proof, and also make ideal insulation material. Pumice blocks have been well accepted by contractors, individual builders, and are ideal for the construction of homes, industrial plants, barns, silos and commercial buildings.

Large Deposits Near Bend The pumice that is used for the basic material in the manufacture of these blocks by the Grimes Pumice Blocks, Inc., comes from the craters of extinct volcanoes, located in the Bend region, that were in eruption millions of years ago. Laboratory tests, which have been made, show that pumice blocks, manufactured by this Bend industry, meet the rigid specifications set up by both state and federal governments. This is especially true for both strength and absorption.

These blocks are made by the Grimes Pumice Blocks, Inc., with a Columbia block machine, which is the world's best equipment for this purpose. The Columbia block machine is manufactured in Vancouver, Wash., and is used all over the world because of its outstanding efficiency.

The standard size of building block, however, is 8 x 8 x 16 inches, and 1,000 of these blocks will be sufficient for the laying of the outside walls for an average five-room house. This material is approved for insured building loans, by FHA. This Columbia machine has a capacity for the manufacture of 2,160 blocks per 8-hour shift. An estimated 50-thousand of the blocks are maintained in the stock-pile at the Grimes Pumice Block, Inc., plant site.

Many Pumice Block Buildings In addition to being used for the building of homes, in Bend and Central Oregon, these pumice blocks, made by the Grimes Pumice Blocks, Inc., were used for the building of the Wagner grocery store building, Third and Greenwood; the Nazarene church, in Bend; the grade school located at Wall and Georgia streets, and the Kingston school on the west side between 12th and 14th streets. These are just a few of the buildings where these pumice blocks have been used.

One of the most attractive and

Drilling Operation Is Important

The geological structure of the Central Oregon region, in almost all sections, and especially in the Bend area, is such as to make it impractical to use the concrete-pipe drain field for septic tanks. To fill a definite need for the drilling of drain holes, test holes, cesspool drilling and water wells for every purpose Lee Grimes established a drilling service in 1949. He purchased the equipment and business, which had been operated for five or six years by Lawrence Holman, added new facilities, and since that time has drilled some 1,000 drain holes, test holes and cesspools and water wells in Central Oregon. The domestic and commercial water wells, which have been drilled by Lee Grimes, have been largely in the Prineville region and the desert area in the Burns district.

The equipment used by Lee Grimes in this drilling service included three cable-tool rigs. Two of these are known as the Star-drilling rigs which are rated at being able to drill to a depth of 300 feet. One cable-tool rig, known as the Cyclone, has a rated depth for drilling of 1,000 feet. The average drain hole, test hole, cesspool or water well in Central Oregon, ranges from 10 to 300 feet, according to Lee Grimes.

The drain holes, drilled by Lee Grimes, carry off the water from the septic tanks. These drain holes take the place of the drain-field which cannot be used in the Bend region because of the geological structure being largely of volcanic lava. The test holes are used to determine the depth to water-tables, the soil structure, depth for drain holes, or for cesspools.

The septic tank is always full of water, and to render a service required by both the city of Bend and the state, from a sanitary and health standpoint, these tanks must have the proper drainage. These drain holes have been approved for this purpose, Lee Grimes will be pleased to discuss the drilling needs of anyone living in Central Oregon, and make estimates of the cost for drilling and the casing of the holes or wells. All of these drain holes are cased with iron casing, and average 6 inches in diameter.

Another service, supplied by Lee Grimes, in conjunction with his drilling operation, is that of cleaning septic tanks, and even the lines leading to the tanks. A special truck is maintained for this purpose and the charges for cleaning septic tanks, and possible plugged lines leading to the tanks, is economical.

Lee Grimes takes pride in the fact that in every case where he has done a drilling job it has been a satisfactory one.



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