

NEW GRESHAM FACTORY TURNS WASTE PRODUCTS OF THE LAND INTO PROFIT



Old Cheese Factory Turned into a Starch and Dehydrating Plant.

Gresham's starch factory is a conspicuous reality. Starting last spring Messrs. Griffith and Turner secured an option on the old cheese factory building on south Roberts avenue, just off of Powell street, since which time an institution of far-reaching possibilities has been slowly but surely materializing. Why it has seemed slow in developing will be manifest to anyone who will visit the factory and view the extreme complexity of the process of starch making. In fact, when it is considered what had to be done in connection with overhauling the building, making and installing the numberless machines, grinders, conveyors, drying racks, and rooms, from the large boiler and steam engine to the automatic sack filler, some idea may be gained of the hugeness of the undertaking.

And it works. The starch is an exhibit, sack full of it, fine, white, glossy material. The samples show a product absolutely pure, high in percentage of carbohydrates, about 77 per cent, with 8 per cent of protein and 1.23 per cent of fat. In color and quality it is equal to the very best German-made starch and it will keep indefinitely.

The recent unprecedented cold snap checked operations at the factory and necessitated repairs to frozen pipes, the damage amounting to about \$300. In this respect the factory has not been more unfortunate than most other institutions.

The factory is again set for a steady run. Mr. Griffith, the general manager, says it will soon be running two or three shifts a day, handling 16 to 20 tons of cull potatoes during each eight hours. There are on hand at present about 100 tons of cull potatoes. There are said to be 1500 tons in sight besides the extra that are made practically valueless on account of the freeze. Frozen potatoes are just as good for starch, it is said, even if they are thawed and soft, but must not be allowed to rot as this impairs their value.

Three principal products result from the process through which the potatoes are put at this factory. They are, commercial starch, potato flour

and stock food. All of these are highly valuable and will find a ready market.

When it is considered that all of these are made from what is practically a waste material, and that the returns from these marketable products will practically return to the producer enough to pay him the costs of the production of his entire crop, something of the value of an industry of this kind in a locality can be realized. And Mr. Griffith is as determined that the producer shall realize his just share of profit from the manufactured value of this otherwise waste products as he is that the factory shall be a success.

This week the final unit of the starch plant is being installed. This is the refining system. All the other units, the grinding machinery, vats, drying rooms, etc., are located on the main floor or the three stories below ground. This new unit goes in overhead where there is a large, dry, well lighted room. Power conveyors raise the dried starch to this floor where it goes through the refining processes, much as flour is bolted, and goes into the hopper. Sacks are filled on the floor below by an automatic sacker.

In addition to the starch making the factory will be fully equipped by next spring to dehydrate all kinds of fruit and vegetables and expects to take care of large quantities of these products next year. Prunes were dehydrated the past season and the output was of excellent quality. Tons of cull apples were ground up this fall and made into excellent stock food of which a limited quantity is on hand.

The idea the management wishes emphasized above all others is that this factory can take care of the waste. It expects to eliminate this element from the farms and make what has been considered waste almost as valuable as the marketable product which is the first aim of the grower.

The Northwest Potato Starch and Milling company is incorporated with a capitalization of \$30,000, fully subscribed. The officers are as follows: Chas. Cleveland, president; J. F. Griffith, vice president and general manager; J. A. Turner, secretary; Karl Miller, treasurer.

PROMINENT METHODIST DR. T. B. FORD, DEAD

Members of the local Methodist churches were shocked Monday to learn that Dr. T. B. Ford, district superintendent of the Salem district had died of apoplexy at Oregon City Sunday. He was on his way to the home of a son at Oak Grove and died as he was boarding the car.

Dr. Ford had been the superintendent of this district since 1915. Before that time he was pastor of several of the large churches in the conference. Although 74 years old, he accomplished an amount of work that would have severely taxed the strength of a much younger man. Traveling from charge to charge most of the time since he took up the work of the district more than four years ago. A strong man and a tireless worker his death will be a blow to the church.

On his recent tour through this part of the district, the first week in December, he was enthusiastic over plans for the future work of the church.

Funeral services were held in the First Methodist Episcopal church at 1 o'clock, Tuesday with Dr. Joshua Stansfield, the pastor in general charge. Bishop Mathew S. Hughes delivered the chief address but several other ministers and laymen gave short addresses. Many prominent ministers and laymen of Methodism were present to offer a farewell tribute to a beloved member of their conference.

At a quarterly meeting held recently Dr. Ford quoted the following beautiful testimony of Paul which seem peculiarly fitted to his own long life of active service for his master:

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give to me at that day."

Bobsledding and skiing have been favorite sports here for the past week, the long slopes of the butte being favorite places for the unusual sport.

GOOD OL' SANTA CLAUS



ACTIVITY IN BUILDING DURING YEAR INDICATIVE OF SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH

Gresham has been the scene of unusual building activity during the past year in spite of the high cost of all the material used in construction. It has been a case where necessity was the mother of construction. The expansion of all lines of business created a demand for new buildings which was met by progressive business men.

The Ely building on Main street, which was completed this fall for D. C. Ely of St. Johns, is by far the largest and most important piece of construction done in Gresham this year. This building is located on the site of the old Shattuck store which burned several years ago, and is a modern, one-story building 80x100 feet. The building is occupied by the Walrad Mercantile Co., Hessel Machinery Co., and L. L. Kidder Hardware Co., each company having commodious quarters, well equipped for business and has full basements.

The lumber used in this building came from Heiney's Mill and the Jones Lumber company of Gresham. Claude R. Stockton, a local contractor, was the superintendent in charge of the construction. It is estimated that the building cost about \$20,000.

The new building erected by A. W. Metzger on Powell street is another attractive addition to the town. This new building, which is similar in appearance to the store building erected two years ago, is 50x64 feet. The two buildings which face Main street form one of the most attractive business houses in Gresham. These buildings are all of the most modern concrete and hollow tile construction. All of the common brick and hollow tile were obtained from the Columbia Brick yard, a local concern.

W. K. Hamilton and M. M. Squire were in charge of the construction work on the attractive new bungalow on Wallula Heights which is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Will Hessel. A new modern home has just been completed for Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Walrad on First street. This also is of the popular bungalow style, modern in every respect.

W. K. Hamilton, who was formerly in the contracting business in Gresham, has just recently completed a new bungalow and garage for Chas. Caruthers in Whitehead addition.

A most attractive bungalow has been erected in the Davidson addition for E. Davidson. Oscar Thoren was in charge of the building operations.

The Frank C. Jones Co., recently completed a new barn on the Geo. W. Stapleton farm at a cost of about \$1000. One of the most modern chicken houses in the country is being erected by Claude Stockton for Judge Stapleton. There are two wings, each 18x40, with the center room 16x22. It is estimated that when equipped it will be valued at nearly \$1000.

An important piece of construction was the new \$2000 steel garage, erected by Frank C. Jones Co., for the Standard Oil Co.

The Frank C. Jones Co., were contractors for a number of new buildings erected on the Multnomah county fair grounds, the most important of which were the children's club house and the new stock barns.

The shortage of dwellings in Gresham has caused some important improvements in the rebuilding of old dilapidated dwellings. Charles Cleveland rebuilt two of his houses on Main street near the high school and made them into cozy little homes.

The house owned by Mayor Kenney on Main and Third streets is another that has been submitted to a series of operations at the hands of the Frank C. Jones Co., and has blossomed out into an attractive dwelling, a credit to the town. The improvement cost \$1000.

Other new buildings are the Fred Powell home, northeast of Gresham and the new summer home of P. A. Combs in the grove opposite the Beaver State Motor factory, and near the Ralph Miller summer home.

Among other improvements are a number of blocks of new sidewalks and probably a score of septic tanks completed or under construction. A number of homes have been reshingled in spite of the high cost of shingles, among them is the M. E. parsonage, the Thom. Ginder house on Hood avenue, the Mary Cleveland house on Roberts and First and the house on the corner of Main and Fifth, recently purchased by Bert Thomas.

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DAMAGE BY DECEMBER STORM WORST IN HISTORY OF THIS PART OF OREGON



Making Sport out of the Fearful Conditions Incident to the Storm.

December 8, 1919, will long be remembered as the beginning of the earliest winter weather Oregon has ever experienced and just about the worst. All over the state extreme cold weather has prevailed. There were few sections but what registered zero weather and some sections, the eastern part of the state, experiencing 40 and 50 degrees below. Many localities near Gresham reported from 10 to 18 degrees below zero. The Spirit thermometer at the Gresham Drug company's store never registered lower than just a shade above zero, which it did Friday morning at 8 o'clock.

Snow began falling Monday during the night and continued until Wednesday when there was what would have averaged at least a two foot fall if the wind had allowed it to lay where it fell. A strong east wind piled the drifts fence-top high and for several days traffic was suspended. Mail cars began to run at irregular intervals Wednesday afternoon on the O. W. P. car lines. The Bull Run line, which has several deep cuts, was not opened for traffic until late Friday. The first train on the Bull Run went out Saturday morning. Owing to the increased amount of freight and express which the railroads have carried since the storm and especially the handling of the milk which is now being sent to Portland on the cars, they have been unable to run on schedule, some being an hour late.

The dairymen had quite a time caring for their milk the days that the roads were all blocked. One dairyman had 110 gallons per day to care for and every available receptacle was put to use before the roads were opened so that by hauling it a few miles on sleds he could meet the trucks on the main roads. For several days many dairymen living as

far as four or five miles out brought their milk in on sleds to the Gresham depot.

Sleds, sleighs and sleigh bells were brought from storage where they had been resting since the winter of 1915-'16 and put to good use. One felt almost as if the tables of time had turned backward, to see the streets of Gresham lined with teams and the only automobiles in sight staid in a snow bank.

Many crews of men started shoveling snow from roads and walks the last of the week and most of the roads are now open for travel. It will be some time before road conditions are what they were before the storm.

One of the most serious features of the storm blockade was the unexpected manner in which it arrived. Many people were without sufficient supplies and food for the emergency. Frozen water pipes which have burst in every section of the town will keep the plumber busy for some time to come and was the cause of much discomfort and inconvenience during the storm when many families found the water supply cut off.

Wood was another commodity which was much sought after by those who were so unfortunate as to be without a sufficient supply.

Sunday morning, December 14, the weather started to moderate and Tuesday it commenced to rain, making conditions decidedly unpleasant but giving some hopes that the snow would soon be gone.

Many people have feared that this cold snap would end in either a sleet storm or a flood, but reports from the weather bureau in Portland, state that present conditions do not indicate immediate danger of either, although a turn in the weather might bring either one or the other. Indications are very favorable that there will be a gradual return to normal.

TROUTDALE IS HARD HIT BY RECENT SEVERE STORM

Items this week will take the form of storm notes for the weather has surely "got our goat," and holds the center of the stage. The lowest temperature reported was three degrees above zero Friday morning, but the east wind makes it seem much colder and likewise piles the snow in drifts which have stopped all traffic. "It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good," for when you do venture out on foot you surely don't have to be dodging autos and looking out for reckless drivers. Walking is not so very bad, as the drifts are mostly so hard you can walk on top of them, and in many places the roads are bare.

The two main arteries, the Base Line and Sandy roads, are being cleared so as to be passable for trucks, but the crossroads are piled full of drifts. Every effort is being made to get the milk out from the dairy farms to keep up the supply in the city. S. Clark and wife went to town Wednesday with a team and sleigh returning home Thursday.

Mail Route 4 out of Portland is blocked, the carrier leaving the weeks papers for the extreme east-

ern (Troutdale) end of the route at the 12-mile store, whence they were delivered in person on foot by residents of the route, Sunday.

As about half the pupils got to school Tuesday morning, but the day, then dismissed till the storm is over and it is easy going for the children.

The electric car service was stopped for a time and Mrs. Janet Grant, who lives at Fairview, was unable to get home before Friday.

The Parent-Teacher circle did not meet Friday, and the Multnomah County Council of the Parent-Teacher association likewise did not meet here Saturday as scheduled, and for the same reason. In spite of the drifting snow, the roads are being shoveled out, and it is hoped that they will be clear before there is actual suffering from want of fuel for homes and feed for stock. A number of autos were stranded in the roads in this section, getting stuck Tuesday in the snow, and being abandoned by their drivers. Most of them have been towed to the nearest shelter. A storm of this sort happens so seldom we are not prepared for it.

DEATH OF LONG-TIME RESIDENT OF GRESHAM

Mrs. J. N. Mewhirter passed away at her home here on Tuesday noon, after a long and trying illness. On last July 7th Mrs. Mewhirter suffered a stroke of paralysis, from which she partially recovered, but on October 7th a second stroke followed, and since that time she has been a constant sufferer. She is survived by her husband and one daughter, Mrs. Carrie Osburn, of Kalama, Washington, besides five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was 60 years of age.

Funeral services will be held on Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the Methodist Episcopal church.

A more extended obituary will appear in the next issue.

"Now, when you come to think of it, The day is what you make it; And whether good or whether bad, Depends on how you take it."

MISS ESTHER ELFORD WEDS SEATTLE MAN

Cards have been received announcing the wedding at Rescoe, South Dakota, on December 10, of Miss Esther Elford to John Barker of Seattle, Washington. The marriage is the culmination of a friendship formed several months ago when the groom was a soldier stationed at Vancouver Barracks. Miss Elford went East last September to make preparations for the wedding to be solemnized at the home of her parents, Her brother, Paul, was also present at the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Barker left immediately for California, where they expect to spend the greater part of the winter.

Christmas Eve Dance.

A dance will be held in Masonic hall, Gresham, on Christmas eve, December 24. A 7-piece orchestra will furnish the music. Refreshments served at midnight. Admission \$1, including war tax. Ladies free.

POULTRY SHOW ON IN PORTLAND THIS WEEK

The Western Winter show of the Oregon Poultry and Pet Stock association is being held this week at the Portland auditorium, closing Sunday night. The entries are said to be the finest ever and judges of national reputation have been secured to do the judging. An egg contest and demonstration is one of many special features.

Dr. Newell L. Smith, who made such a splendid success of the poultry exhibit at the Multnomah county fair, is manager of the winter show. The admission is very low and all persons interested in poultry should attend.

It pays to advertise.

JUNIORS TO READ BOOK REPORTS DUE JANUARY 5

Miss Morrison, teacher of English at the Union High school, requests that the junior class read one of the following books during their enforced vacation. Reports on the selected book will be due January 5.

- "Mid-summer Night's Dream."
- "As You Like It."
- "Much Ado About Nothing."
- "Love's Labour's Lost."
- "All's Well That Ends Well."
- "The Taming of the Shrew."
- "Merry Wives of Windsor."
- "Twelfth Night."

If book is wished mailed, send 8c for postage to the Gresham library.

A Want Ad costs only a few cents. Dollars in return.