

PACK PRODUCTS COMPANY EQUIPS PLANT FOR MAKING CONFECTION

Within a few weeks the plant of the Pack Products company, located in Gresham near the city hall, will be completely equipped and ready for operation. The company will make ice cream cakes similar to the Polar ice cream cakes which have become so popular. A new formula will be used in making the filling for the Gresham product which will decrease the cost and thus enable it to sell for about one-half the price of the ice cream cakes now on the market. This new formula, as has already been announced, is the discovery of Mr. Pack.

For convenience, the interior of the plant is being divided into several rooms, each of which will be devoted to one particular part of the process. On the south side is the mixing room where the filling will be prepared. It contains only one window and that will be kept covered and an electric light used for lighting purposes to keep the formula from becoming known.

The adjoining room is equipped with a brine freezer operated by electricity, which will freeze 10 gallons of filling every 10 minutes. Besides this there is a special freezing chamber built in the wall which is 10 feet high, six feet wide and seven feet long in which is to be placed 1400 feet of freezing pipe. The walls of this compartment are made of double thicknesses of cork separated by a thickness of wood between. It is heat-proof and is to be kept at 20 degrees below zero when in operation. The filling is taken from the brine freezer and placed in this one. A molding machine near by will convert it into bricks.

When the filling has passed through the second stage of freezing, it is ready to go through the machine which cuts it into squares, dips each piece in chocolate or other covering as the case may be and passes it through a refrigerator to become hardened. This process is done mechanically by the special machine designed for that particular purpose and put out by the Beaver State Motor company. Four girls will stand at the end of the machine and wrap each cake in waxed paper.

A preparation vat is to be placed on the west side of the building just be-

yond the cake machine which will wash the trays as fast as they are emptied. Like all of the other machinery it will be run by electricity.

When complete the equipment will include two ice plants. The five-ton ammonia plant is already installed and will manufacture all of the ice needed for storing the finished product. A two-ton gas plant will keep the special freezing chambers frozen.

A storage refrigerating chamber 16 feet long, seven feet high and six feet wide will provide storage for the completed article until sent to market. The walls of this chamber are also made of cork. An ice storage room has been built at the end of the refrigerating chamber. The ice will be conveyed from the ammonia ice plant into the storage room mechanically. While it is passing through the wall, a stream of water running over it will loosen it from the carrier and it is dumped into the storage room.

The complete cost of equipment will be about \$16,000.

The Pack Products Company will not only make iced cakes at its plant but it will demonstrate the use of the machine put out by the Beaver State Motor Company. Inquiries have already been received for 16 of the machines. One company in Boston wrote regarding them and then promised to send a representative to personally inspect it. So far no advertising has been done. The news of the new machine travels from state to state through various candy and ice cream firms. The wonderful saving of labor and the economy of the filling used, which is sold with each machine, acts as a drawing card.

PRINCIPAL LEGION OFFICERS NAMED

The American Legion has not elected new officers for the coming year. The present officers are as follows: C. G. Schneider, commander; Hugh Smith, vice commander; Chase E. St. Clair, adjutant; Roy E. Gibbs, treasurer.

Present officers of the Woman's Auxiliary are, Mrs. J. H. Metzger, president; Mrs. O. A. Eastman, vice president; Mrs. Albert Camp, secretary; Miss Gertrude Eastman, treasurer; Mrs. John Brown, chairman membership committee.

STARCH FACTORY IS TESTING OUT PROCESS

The Poto Starch factory is conducting a test of the capacity and efficiency of the plant and the cost of production, which will soon be completed. Those in charge are absolutely certain of the excellence of the product and this test is to ascertain the possibilities of manufacturing it in a commercial way.

If this test is satisfactory, as there is every reason to believe it will be, the company will establish factories in various parts of the northwest and will expand the work here.

L. S. Ellerman, general manager of the company, is authority for the statement that the product produced here from potatoes by a carefully guarded chemical process, is superior to any other manufactured in the United States, this being pure crystallized potato starch and containing no fiber or pulp of the potato.

The matter of the dehydrating of fruit during the summer season is being considered by the management.

Seven men have been employed at the factory during the past few weeks.

"GRESHAM" CORDS AND FABRICS MADE HERE

Gresham's newest industry is the tire factory of Fudickar & Son, on South Roberts avenue, where both cord and fabric tires are being made. These are being tried out by several garages and tire shops.

They are made by the most up-to-date machinery for tire making and have in them the very best material to be had. One feature which is said to be found in this tire alone is the "anchor bead" which adds greatly to the life of the tire.

The tire appears to stand all the tests of the standard make tires and go them better in some respects. It is a class appearing tire with a heavy tread of capital Gs and the name of the tire, "The Gresham," on the side.

With his present equipment the factory can make about ten tires a day, size 30 x 3 1/2. As the demand increases it is certain the Fudickars will enlarge their plant to meet it.

The tires are fully guaranteed against defects. Those needing tires of the size now made cannot do better than call on Mr. Fudickar and get his prices and see the tire that it is hoped will make Gresham famous and give this locality another factory of considerable magnitude.

Unbiased Opinion.

Lawyer (examining prospective juror in criminal case)—Mr. Juror, have you any fixed opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused?

Juror (emphatically)—Naw, I ain't no doubt but the guy's guilty, but they ain't nobody fixed me.

The Bank of Gresham pays 5 per cent interest on time deposits.—Adv.

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GRESHAM MAN LOCATED CLAIM THAT INCLUDED NOW FAMOUS OREGON CAVES

Walter C. Burch of Gresham, who was among the first to explore the Oregon caves in Josephine county and who discovered some of the finest of chambers, has many interesting recollections of his experiences there in the early 80s which he has been asked to make public.

Mr. Burch has received from the clerk of Josephine county a certified copy of a notice of location of a claim of 160 acres of land covering the caves in that vicinity, "together with the said caves or anything that may be found within the boundaries of said location." The notice was signed by H. D. Harkness and Walter C. Burch, locators, and was dated May 2, 1885.

The following is Mr. Burch's story of his experiences. He says that dates may not be exact but they are nearly so and the general descriptions are correct.

In the fall of 1884 I first heard of these caves, situated in the Siskiyou mountains about 35 miles southwest of Grants Pass. At that time that was a wild and rough country, filled with all the kinds of wild animals that are found on this coast. I was staying at Grave creek for the winter, and as the caves interested me I organized a party consisting of Charles Johnson, S. E. and F. M. Harkness and myself to explore them. We started in early November, 1884, for the trip in a spring wagon, going by way of Kirbyville. We stopped at Sucker creek and picked up George Briggs to go with us as guide. We went as far as we could with the wagon and then packed in from there. We crossed Sucker creek near its junction with Sucker creek and went five miles up Sucker creek to what is known as Horse mountain and came into the caves from the southwest arriving about 4 o'clock p. m. We had some thing to eat and as we were anxious to see what we could find, started into the caves about dusk. I think we were in there for about five hours and came out at the upper entrance, at that time a very small hole to get through. The next morning I posted a notice of location of the caves; H. D. Harkness and myself as locators, expecting to get our title under the Stone and Timber act but as the country was not surveyed we could not get title then. We held on and worked for three years, 1885, 1886 and 1887 to try and get title later but the government was so slow getting the land surveyed that we were forced to give up. We had already expended

about \$1500 and had nothing but squatter's rights to show for it.

In May, 1885, I left Grave creek with four men to build a trail up Cave creek to the caves. May 14, 1885, the first ax mark was made to improve the caves. We were from May 14 to July 2 getting through the canyon with the trail. I had sent one man out for supplies as we were on short rations when we landed there. We had plenty of venison but little else. The other men and myself commenced to work on clearing camp grounds and making ladders, etc. I let the men go in August and remained alone for the balance of the season, which ended about October 15th. So much for 1885. I have forgotten to mention the names of the men who assisted me with my work in 1885. My father, John Wesley Burch, was with us some of the time, also Robert Ferguson, Perry McDaniels and an old Mexican veteran whose name I have forgotten.

In the spring of 1886 I returned with McDaniels and we cut the trails from the Williams creek side over Meadows mountain, crossed Lake's creek and came to the caves from the northwest. This was a rough country. After we finished the trail I returned home and secured Uncle Jimmie Hopkins from Grave creek and we returned to the caves and built a nice house of shakes and did other work there. Then he returned home and left me alone in the most dismal canyon I ever was in. While going through the caves in 1885 I had noticed a small opening near the Queen's cellar, with a heavy draft of wind coming through it. I had intended, at my earliest convenience, to drill this hole larger and see what was on the other side, so all my spare time I put in at work on it. There was at that time a pool of ice water, about two inches deep, to work in so I had to work hard to keep my teeth from chattering. I used some small shots of powder but I was afraid to use much powder for fear of loosening something and shutting myself in. After working on this opening for some time and sizing it up I came to the conclusion that by removing my outer garments I could squeeze through. This was August 6, 1886. This is what is known as Hell's Gate and I often thought while working at it that it was appropriately named. I put my shoes through the hole and by working and squeezing I got through.

Well, I was in the new discovery. I will attempt to describe some of that trip and tell what happened. I came into a small chamber, turned to the right, went down a 12-foot hole, turned to the left and went down eight feet and came to the largest column in the cave at the entrance to Diamond Hall. At that time it was the most wonderful sight in the caves with stalactites and stalagmites in transparent beauty.

Diamond Hall, from the entrance to the extreme end, is 184 feet long. I was making plenty of exploring marks at that time—a cross with the long end pointing out. I discovered a place to get out, so climbed up and found I was in the Devil's Pass. My candle would not burn on account of the air coming through, so I crawled to be sure I would not fall into a pit. When the wind checked I lighted my candle and took a good survey of where I was. It looked as if I was at the end but over my head a few feet was a hole. I climbed up and looked through. The chamber was dark and all open space except at the right where there were two white columns standing like two ghosts. Well, that is ghost chamber. I wore the crown of a heavy straw hat to protect my head while going through. When I went through the hole I put this over the hole so that I would know the way out. I then heard a water fall and went through ghost chamber and turned to the right—nothing but space.

This is the mammoth chamber 564 feet long. While I stood on an immense boulder which had fallen from the ceiling, my candle burned my fingers. I looked at it and found I had about an inch of candle left. I started to get out and in my hurry got my directions mixed and went down under the boulder. Then I knew I was lost, but I got my faculties together again, got on the boulder and remained there till I saw one of my marks and then the crown of my hat which I had left at the outlet of ghost chamber. I went that mile in about two minutes to where I could see the light from the upper entrance. I was afterwards guide for three seasons in the caves and made it a practice to always carry plenty of matches and candles.

I wrote Mr. Harkness about the new discovery and he came out and we

measured up the caves with a steel tape and compass. The caves run in a south and south-easterly direction from the lower entrance, except three or four short turns which are in a northerly direction. The distance from the lower entrance to the end of the caves is about three and one-eighth miles. The trail which I built up Cave creek is four and one-eighth miles long. I state these facts because it has been printed that the trail is from five to eleven miles long.

In the fall I removed 420 feet of ladders from the caves and put them under shelter for the winter. When we measured the caves the waterfall in the mammoth chamber was 17 1/2 feet high. It has fallen in so much that the last time I saw it it was about three feet high. I am confident that there are more caves or chambers to be discovered.

In 1886 I found a bone in the mammoth chamber which I thought was the forearm of a person, but Dr. Cramer of Grants Pass pronounced it to be the bone of some animal. How it got there is a mystery to me.

There are two different ways of getting into the new discovery. One entrance is 50 or 60 feet from the entrance to the Queen's Palace, to the left. A person can go down about 20 feet or more and be at the large column at the entrance to Diamond Hall. That does away with the Hell's Gate entrance.

About the last of June, 1887, I got the trails and ground around the caves cleared and nothing out of the routine of mountain life happened, so I explored and guided those who came to see these wonders. There were not many sightseers that season so I closed the caves early, I think in September, and came out.

In 1890 a party from California came there and took charge, intending to build roads, hotel, etc., but did not stay long. The place for a hotel is at the lakes about two miles from the caves, in a basin at the head of Lake's creek.

OLD PIONEER GIVES EARLY EXPERIENCES

The changes wrought in a new country during half a century can scarcely be imagined by one unfamiliar with the situation. Some of these changes are brought to the attention of the Outlook in a letter from Mrs. J. A. Stephens of Pleasant Home, in which many reminiscences of early days are given.

More than 50 years ago the forests around Pleasant Home were so dense with huge cedar and fir trees that one had to look up through them to see daylight. Now orchards and fields of grain, well built houses and farm buildings have taken the place of the forests, bespeaking an industrious, home loving people, rearing its majestic form above the clouds gives silent approval of what has been accomplished. All honor is due the pioneers of the '40s and '50s, for to them is much of the prosperity of the present day.

After the Civil War many veterans came west to locate homesteads given them by the government in recognition for their services. Among them were the three Murray brothers and their brother-in-law, I. Stephens, who filed on Section 26, on which is located the present village of Cottrell. In 1871 they blazed their way through the forest to the section line and each laid out his claim. Many times the ax men were lost in the woods and wandered for hours until they heard the signals of their companions, beating on barrels, blowing horns and shooting guns.

The distance to Portland was 20 miles. Here the pioneers took hand-made shingles, or shakes, driving with ox teams over corduroy roads. \$2.50 was the best price for a load and the driver must pay a fare of 40 cents on the ferry, for stable and hotel bills, for the trip could not be made in one day. This left very little for the necessities of life, yet all were happy with the privilege of being in Oregon.

The mothers of those days made shoes for the little ones from father's boot tops, bed linen from flour sacks, bleached snow white, shirts and waists from colored sacks. Rag carpets and rugs adorned the floors. Overalls for the men and calico dresses for the women were considered suitable wear for attending the meetings in the log schoolhouse and those who had a change of apparel of that kind were counted lucky. Home-made furniture was in general use in the homes, peace and plenty abounded and the latch string always hung out to the stranger.

Why She Crowned Him. Wife (with newspaper)—"It says here that men grow bald because of the intense activity of their brains." Hubby—"Exactly. And women have no whiskers because of the intense activity of their chins."

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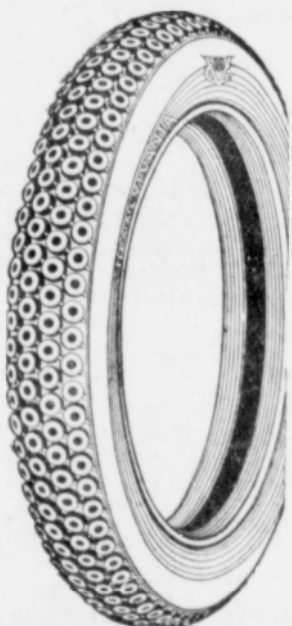


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