

# Development of Dry Ice From Valley Gas Spout May Bring Big Industry

## Well Drilled at Buckhorn Lodge Supplies Large Flow of Carbon Dioxide; Experiments Successful

(By Iva Fennell)

Walking across a little log foot-bridge over Emigrant creek, pausing a moment to see the carbon dioxide gas bubbling incessantly from the tumbling stream, may in time—no too distant—become a mere memory to the hundreds who have visited Buckhorn lodge near the foot of the Greensprings mountain. Human power will probably harness the gas beds beneath the stream and its banks, necessarily removing the quaint bridge and its familiar surroundings.

Wealth, estimated at \$2000 per 24 hours, that has been escaping in the form of gas, may be realized materially if plans are completed for establishing a dry-ice plant at the resort. Active development was started about a month ago, although tests have been made over a two-year period.

Due to the exceptional value of such a product, action has been taken by Medford people interested in the development. A well has been drilled down 100 feet at the side of the creek for "mining" the product to be made into commercial ice.

Plans have been completed, however, for sinking the well 25 feet deeper, according to those in charge, whereby the supply of gas available is expected to be doubled, increasing the daily output from five tons, as now shown by tests, to 10 tons.

Dry ice is compressed or solid carbon dioxide 109.3 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit, said to be 15 times more efficient than ordinary ice. When the gas is "not flowing," it registers about 60 degrees F., but when "flowing," due to expansion from enormous compression in the ground, a sub-zero condition is created.

From the springs at Buckhorn lodge, which is operated by Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McGrew, tests have been made by the natural gas investigations division of the federal bureau of mines, chemists, chemical engineers, and dry ice company officials, showing favorable reports from the samples.

The well, sunk 100 feet, is filled within five feet of the top with water, but the gas bubbles constantly above the opening. Monday morning Mr. and Mrs. McGrew halted the water down 20 feet and the blue gas shot several feet above the ground, making a roaring noise, audible throughout the resort, they reported.

Parties in charge of the work stated that if the water could be removed to a lower depth, the pressure from the gas would probably keep the well free from water. The opening is stopped by an eight-inch gate. The greatest expense in converting the gas supply into the dry-ice product, would be the cost of erecting a compressor, Mr. McGrew stated.

Last Tuesday tests were made in compressing the gas into dry-ice, and the experiment proved successful, even though the tests were made with the 95 feet of water in the well. The flow of gas registered by the meter was 23,000 cubic feet in 24 hours.

Between 10 and 11 cubic feet of the CO<sub>2</sub> gas are required to make one cubic foot of the dry ice, which is now obtained in Medford at a cost of 20 cents per pound from Portland. Mr. McGrew expressed the belief that after the compressor had been installed, the ice could be supplied in Medford at approximately a cent a pound.

Development of such a project in southern Oregon would revolutionize many industries. For so many uses have already been discovered for the gas. As such a small piece of the product (which does not melt, but evaporates) is required to cool a comparatively large area, the new ice has been considered ideal for the shipping of fruit across the continent.

Mr. McGrew related an incident when one carload of pears was shipped from Medford to New York last season, packed in the dry ice, and a saving of 18 hours in transit was recorded, as there were no delays necessitated by icing. Only 600 pounds of the dry ice was used, where ordinarily 3000 pounds of common ice is required, he said. The lesser amount of ice increased the space available for fruit tonnage.

Mr. McGrew carried out a similar test on a smaller scale, whereby six ripe Bartlett pears were placed in the gas for a six months period. He reported them as being in as solid a condition at the end of that time as when stored.

The Associated Press recently car-



Diagram shows how carbon dioxide gas from 3,000 feet underground in Utah forms commercial "ice" as it expands when released from underground pressure at the mouth of the well.

ried a dispatch from Worcester, Mass., telling of a discovery whereby "carbon dioxide gas introduced into clear glass tubes under proper electric current produces a steady white light having all the qualities of daylight so much desired by mercantile houses selling clothing or textiles."

As compressed gas expands, its cooling qualities are noticeable in the room, experiments have proved. Tests, whereby a cube of the product has been placed in radiation systems in homes and buildings, and the gas sent through the ventilators, have shown the rooms were cooled by the process, taking a small slice of the ice for lengthy refrigeration.

Although a large number of such gas supplies as found at Buckhorn lodge are not available, the majority of those already discovered are located in the southwestern territory of the United States, according to the Associated Press science department. They report that in most instances, drilling 3000 feet is required to reach the supply.

Concerning the "ice mines," the Associated Press says: "All these carbon dioxide wells are found in the 'domes' or the 'anticlines' of oil fields. They have been located in Carbonera Dome, western Colorado, Harley Dome near Westwater, Utah, and also in the same state in the Last Chance, the Willow Springs and the Parham structures. They are found in the Wagon Mound area in New Mexico, and in large quantities near Tampico, Mexico."

"One commercial well is in operation near Price, Utah. Another is under construction in western Colorado. The Utah well yields 98 per cent pure carbon dioxide. It is purified in absorbing towers and compressed three times, finally becoming a liquid.

"This liquid is sprayed through nozzles. Part of the spray expands into gas, thereby producing additional cold that solidifies the rest of

the spray into snow. Hydraulic presses squeeze the snow into commercial size ice cakes. These are stored in an insulated pit underground."

## HENRIETTA FREY PASSES, AGED 75

Henrietta Frey, aged 75 years, a well known resident of Lake Creek and Jackson county for the past 60 years, passed away in this city early Tuesday evening, suffering an illness of several months.

She is survived by four sons, Edward, George, Otto and Irvin Frey, all of Lake Creek, six grand children, two half brothers, Herman and Henry Meyer of Lake Creek.

Funeral services will be held from the Conger funeral parlors Friday, July 15th, at 2:30 p. m. Rev. Kabele of the Lutheran church will have charge of services and burial will be made in the Central Point cemetery.

## WHEAT THRESHING AWAITS WARMTH

Threshing of the valley wheat crop will start as soon as the weather becomes warmer and threshing machines are now being put in order and moved to the fields. The first threshing is scheduled to start in the Sams Valley district. The present state of the weather is conducive to "sweating" and the growers will wait until it is again hot and dry. There are many excellent stands of wheat throughout the county.

Recent rises in the price of hogs in the middle west is reflected in local conditions. Hogs were quoted Monday on San Francisco markets at \$5.85 per hundred, about twice the price of two months ago. Valley butcher shops and packing plants, for six weeks, have been putting up lard, bacon, hams and other products of the pig, in anticipation of a rising market. One local butcher shop has prepared between 7000 and 8000 pounds of bacon and hams within the past three months.

Harvesting of the last of the cherry crop will be completed this week, and apricot picking is now in full blast, with scores of housewives in the midst of their annual task of picking, preserving and jellifying them.

## LEACH RELEASED ON KIDNAPING CHARGE

Darwin Leach, arrested last Saturday by the sheriff's office, on a warrant from Milwaukee, Wis., charging him with the kidnaping of his own son, aged three years, was released from the county jail late yesterday, when the Governor of Wisconsin denied extradition papers.

Leach told the local authorities that his arrest was due to the efforts of his divorced wife, who was granted the custody of the boy. Leach asserts that she is not a proper person to care for him. He was arrested at the home of friends on Lozier Lane. He came here with a brother, in an automobile.

## Voters Are Urged To Register Now

The registration books at the county clerk's office are now open, and all unregistered voters are urged to register, in order that they may vote at the general election November 8. The registration books close October 8. The Oregon law provides that no ballot be given an unregistered voter.

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## COURT HOUSE LAWN LAYOUT PLANNED BY GARDEN CLUB GROUP

A delegation from the Medford Garden club, headed by Mrs. A. E. Reames, president, at the invitation of the county court, discussed with that body the care and beautification of the lawn, trees and shrubbery at the new Jackson county courthouse. The suggestions of the Garden club will be mainly followed by the court.

The trees will be trimmed, new shrubbery planted and decorative plant features installed.

The Garden club requested that they be assigned the special care and custody of one of the trees.

Workers are now leveling and preparing the lawn for the first sowing of grass. The lawn will probably be made sloping instead of terraced. The Garden club experts hold that a terraced lawn is hard to keep up, presents something for children to fall off and break arms and legs and that it wears old folks, who have business in the courthouse and are forced to climb the terraced steps.

Some of the trees will be moved and replanted, so as to make a more even distribution, and enhance the landscape beauty.

## SENTENCE NEAR FOR MRS. FINNEY

Final disposition of the case of Mrs. Pluma Finney, 48, well known Jacksonville resident, held in the woman's ward of the county jail on a liquor charge, will be made tomorrow or next day, Frank DeSouza, her attorney, said today.

She has been in state prison, Warrenton held in this county against Spinning will be dismissed. He is alleged to have specialized in the theft of typewriters and check protective machines. He was arrested at Pasco, Wash., 10 days ago.

Ernest M. Young and Charles L. Dakke, "sympathy racketeers," who robbed an aged Selma resident, after he had befriended them, were each sentenced to serve five years in state prison.

Daisy apparel for the very youngest generation may now be selected at Wurts Gifts, North Central avenue, which has installed a baby department on the main floor.

All little garments, pillow cases, sheets and other articles are hand made and attractively embroidered in addition to being exceptionally moderate in price, Jack Wurts said today.

## Mrs. Grieve Has Injured Finger

Mrs. Katie E. Grieve of Prospect, well known resident of the county, is in the city for a few days under treatment for infection of a finger. A small portion of the finger will be removed. The injury is not serious. Mrs. Grieve hit the finger with an axe.

## CRATER TRIP FOR LIONS' CONCLAVE

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., July 13.—(AP)—Lions of Oregon were formally welcomed to Klamath Falls this morning at the first session of their state convention by H. C. Groesbeck, president of the Klamath county chamber of commerce. More than 100 lion delegates from all parts of the state had registered this morning and more delegations were expected throughout the day.

P. W. Walker, Portland, district governor, and J. F. Tate, state treasurer, were among arrivals last night and Walker presided at today's business session. A president and secretaries' breakfast was held this morning, followed by a business session, and this afternoon the visitors were to be taken to Crater Lake national park.

## THREE SENTENCED TO PENITENTIARY TERMS

Clyde C. Spinning, charged with larceny by bailie, and other alleged criminal operations in this and Josephine county, was yesterday at Grants Pass sentenced by Circuit Judge H. D. Norton to serve 13 years in state prison. Warrenton held in this county against Spinning will be dismissed. He is alleged to have specialized in the theft of typewriters and check protective machines. He was arrested at Pasco, Wash., 10 days ago.

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## 1500 BABY CHINKS LEAVE SHELLS AT GAME FARM HERE

Everything's "chirping" at the Jackson county branch of the state game farm these days. Fifteen hundred young pheasant chicks are adapting themselves to the soil, having deserted the "shell of a place" in which they formerly lived.

In the flock of 1500, over which Frank Arzapiger is guardian and keeper, the Chinese pheasants predominate. There are, however, 200 of a cross variety similar to the English black neck pheasant, H. L. Noblitt of the Jackson County Game Protective association announced this morning, naming their correct cognomen, which sounded like a cross between Russian and Portuguese.

The cross variety is a little larger than the Chinese cousin and darker in color. When the shooting season comes along, however, he will be classed as "a China," and reserve the same rights in the rules of the sportsman's bombardment.

The W. H. Gore ranch, on which the game farm is located this year, has proved an ideal home for the little birds, Mr. Noblitt stated today. Blue grass and other farm crops will add greatly to their growth and welfare and the strip of land is apparently outside the skunk and crow belts.

Just one skunk has visited the coops so far this season and no big black kings, accompanied by an unmerciful "caw," have swooped down to fill the young birds with terror.

## BUREAU INSPECTOR VISITS HATCHERY

J. R. Russell, superintendent of the United States bureau of fisheries, arrived here yesterday from Seattle to inspect the new hatchery at Butte Falls. Wooden tanks will be used instead of ponds, as habitat of the fish at the new hatchery, he stated, because of the advantages gained in maintaining the health of the fish. Each tank will be fed separately to avoid the spread of contamination.

The tanks have been tried out at the Bonnevill hatchery, and were found successful. The new hatchery at Butte Falls will have a capacity of between three and four million fish. The tanks have been completed and the workmen are now putting the roof on the main hatchery building. The plant will be ready to care for eggs in early fall, according to present indications.

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## RECREATION CLUB TO HAVE ANNUAL OUTING DEAD INDIAN SPRINGS

The annual outing of the Jackson County Recreation club will be held July 16 and 17 at the Dead Indian Soda Springs. It was announced today by Mabel C. Mack, county home demonstration agent. An invitation was extended the organization by its president, Jack Tyrrell, who operates the Dead Indian resort.

About 12 communities are expected to be represented, Mrs. Mack said. Last year there were 65 in attendance.

The group will gather at the springs early Saturday evening for supper, after which a program of stunts, folk dances and games will be given. Prizes are to be awarded in the competitive events.

Sunday's program will consist of calisthenics, hiking and a baseball game.

Mrs. Mack stated that all club members, their families and invited guests are urged to attend.

When you shop at the Groceteria park your car at the Groceteria parking lot. 127 No. Central.

## BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Silva of 801 North Central avenue are the parents of a girl, weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born July 12 at the Sacred Heart hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Myles W. Randall of route 4 are the parents of a boy, born July 12, weighing 6 1/2 pounds.

## THE DANGEROUS AGE



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