



**John P. Gedney,**

Manufacturer of

.... **PEERLESS BRAND**

**Pickles, Cider Vinegar, Mustard, Sauces, Etc.,**

Corner Como and 16th Aves. S. E.  
TELEPHONE: 775.



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*Minneapolis, Minn. May 18 1896*

The W. P. Gedney & Co.  
Gentlemen

When I bought out this place last December I intended operating it under the name of "America Pickle" and to manuf. jelly, preserves, mince meat, horse radish and fancy pickles but soon found that I could not overcome the stigma attached to the "American" name consequently had to use the name of John P. Gedney & Co. I find that I have contrary to my expectations and desire that I have come in direct competition with you folks and the name being the same it is causing hard feelings and will in the future cause a bitter fight which will probably be continued by our children when we are through. Now in view of this (although

*Minneapolis, Minn. May 18 1896*  
As my books show that I have made money since I started here I make you the following proposition if you wish to take my fixtures, tools & stock of raw material off my hands at right price all of which will amount to less than \$2000.00 including team of horses & cash wagon. At least 75% of this is good such as you are using every day glass, cooperage, spindles &c. &c. Also the factory and a lot at 2000.00. Now can you wish to do this I will turn you over all my contracts including one for 10000 lbs of 100-gal at 20¢ per 100 if you wish it. Also my good will and give you an agreement not to enter into the pickle or vinegar business here again. Also you may have my manuf. stock and account which is about 1000.00 if you wish them.



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I make you this proposition now as my stock at this time is light and my farmers as yet have not planted. I have tried to avoid writing any thing in this letter that would give offence and should there be any thing please overlook it.

Yours truly,  
John P. Gedney

As I do not own any thing there need not be any cash in this deal. And if you do not wish to buy the factory I will rent it to you for any length of time you wish at a year rent say 1800 per month. The accompanying list is about what I have in the way of sundries & fixtures. Jack

John Gedney's three page letter to the company offering to sell his pickle company.

## Scans and camera photos of M.A. Gedney Co. scenes



*Cash wagons in the 1910's and 20's at the old Minneapolis plant on Lowry Avenue and Pacific St.*



*Green Cucumbers fresh from the field at the Isanti, Minnesota, salting station circa 1905*



*In the 1890's cash wagon delivery was slow but payment was fast, usually cash on delivery.*



*1920's and 30's St Paul cash wagons*



*A company-owned semi outside the entrance to the Chanhasen office and warehouse circa 1968*



*New fleet of 1940's St Paul Cash Wagons*



*Grant Callender, Bookkeeper and Minnie McKay, first stenographer*



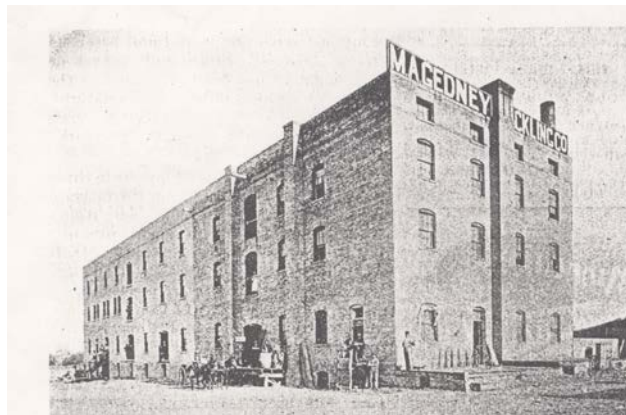
*Dode and his father Matthias in their respective offices circa 1895*



**Pickle and sauerkraut factory at Wabasha and River Streets in St. Paul, Circ. 1890**



**At the turn of the century Pickles and sauces were sealed with corks in narrow necked bottles.**

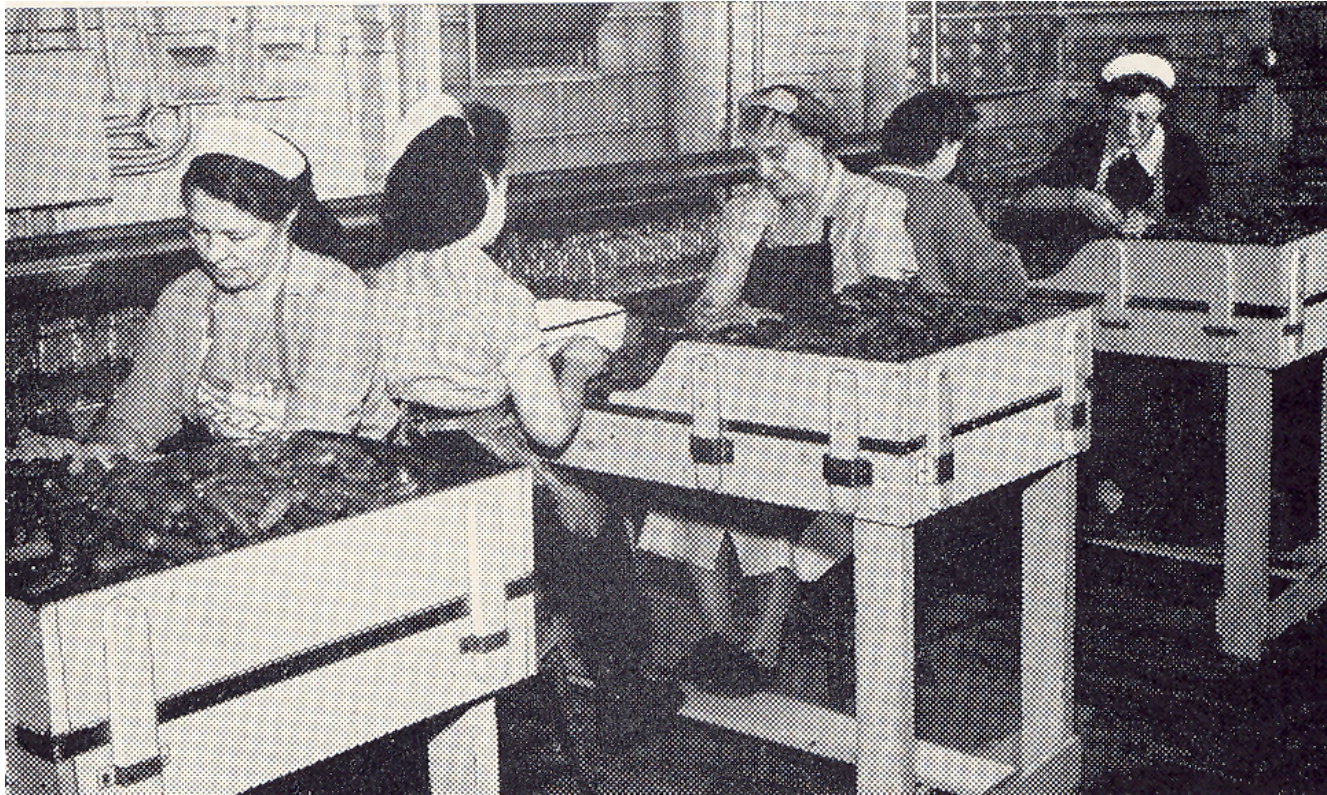


**Pickle and Vinegar factory at Lowry Ave and Pacific St., Minneapolis, Circ. 1885**



**Some employees of the company circa 1928, when Harry was working in the vinegar department. He is fourth from the left in the bottom row next to the man in a tie.**





***Bottling line conveyers in the 1920's at the Minneapolis plant  
Were powered by steam driven overhead belts***



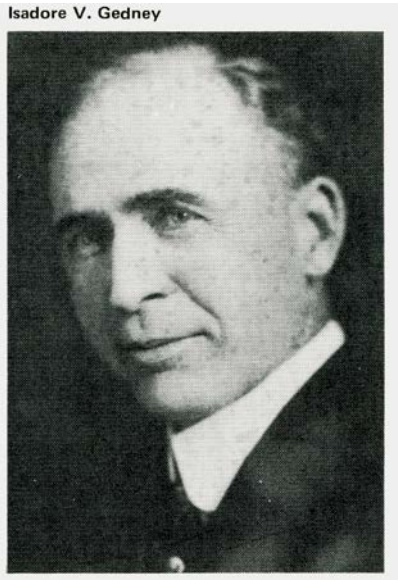
*These generators were eventually moved to Chaska in 1991 and later joined by two even more state-of-the-art "acetators", using high powered oxygenators in small fiberglass tanks that could triple the efficiency of these generators.*



*Hand-packing spears in the Chanhassen plant in 1965*



***Matthias A. Gedney, founder***



**Isadore V. Gedney**

***Isadore V. "Dode" Gedney, 2<sup>nd</sup> president***



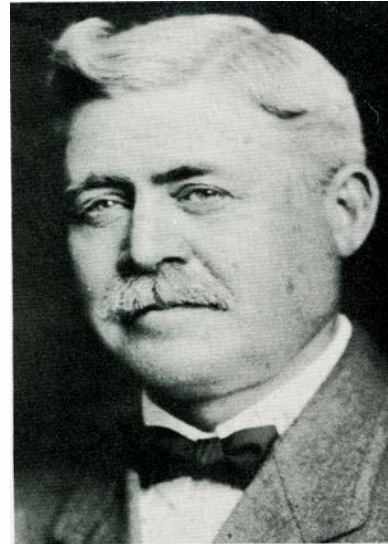
***Harry A. Tuttle, 3<sup>rd</sup> president***



***Gedney Tuttle, 4<sup>th</sup> president***

(To be obtained)

***Jeffrey Turner Tuttle 5<sup>th</sup> president***



***C.B. Gedney***



***Grant Callender***



***Fred Stier***



***William M. Corl***



***Harry in his 60's plays his trombone***



*Following WWII in his late forty's Harry became a proficient pilot of small single engine planes. He and his wife took many flying trips, but in one of them they ran into unexpected bad weather with almost zero visibility. They were lucky enough to find the airport and land, but the experience was so frightening he gave up flying.*





