

S'side egg co-op optimistic over early success of service

A completely modern egg production, collection, grading and packaging service has been developed by the Summerside Co-operative association. A refrigerated truck operated by Elmer Gorriv a former Northam man covers five routes twice a week to collect eggs from the regular suppliers.

There are 150 to 175 producers who supply eggs according to Manager Jerry Richard, who explained they have two men who house 2,500 laying hens, many others have 500 or more laying hens.

"We have found that it is easier to move a volume of eggs than smaller amounts," Charles Yeo, president of the association explained. Asked about continu-

ity of supply, Mr. Yeo explained that it still too early to make definite statements, the operation only got rightly underway last year, but he is optimistic as their suppliers have put in early chicks this spring to form the basis of next season's production capacity.

EQUIPMENT UNIQUE

The equipment the Summerside people have is unique in this province, Borden Douglas, senior inspector poultry products division, Canada department of agriculture, said.

They have a mechanical washer that can handle 20 cases or 600 dozen eggs per hour. The trays of eggs go around a circle that brings them first under a hot water with detergent, and a

then under a spray of hot water with an anti-foam solution which brings them out shining and free of soapy film.

Washing of eggs, incidentally, is a fairly recent development. Back in the days when eggs were being shipped to the United Kingdom, for example — up to 1948 — the theory was that the washing would remove a protective film from the shells, and this would cause a deterioration of the keeping qualities, which would be most undesirable in eggs that had to be stored or shipped long distances.

That objection has been overcome now, though, as eggs to be shipped are oiled, and the film of oil replaces effectively a nat-

ural film which might be removed from the shell by washing.

However the eggs marketed by the Summerside farmers go to market immediately, and the keeping quality is no problem, so they do not have to go through the oiling process.

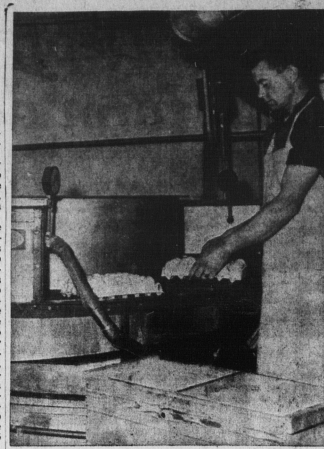
From the washing room the eggs are trucked on hand-trucks — they call them pallets — to the drying room. They go then to the candling and grading machine where two candlers and two ladies can handle 12 to 15 cases — 800 dozen eggs — per hour. The two men candle them — no mechanical device has yet been developed to do that job — and the girls gather there place them in the protective holders and package them, as the eggs come off an automatic grading device which sorts them according to size — it's done by a sensitive weighing device. From there they go to the holding room where the temperature is maintained at 45 to 48 degrees Fahrenheit.

Supplying producers cover a fairly extensive area. One route goes through Lot 16 as far west as Northam. Another goes through the FreeTown - Kimora area and another through Malpeque. A fifth route goes through Wilnot and Bedeque, Mr. Richard explained.

There is a great difference in the way eggs are handled now to the treatment they received in other years. They are brought from the farm in refrigerated trucks, are kept carefully on the farm, and go almost directly to market where they are quickly sold to the consumer.

Mr. Richard can speak from a wealth of experience. He started at 18 years of age and has had almost 25 years in the business. He worked in Summerside with Gunn and Langlois, a Montreal firm that was bought out by Canada Packers, went from there to O'Leary and later to Wellington in 1940 where he was in business for himself for 14 years.

Looking back over the years he recalls that eggs were graded at one time as extras, firsts and mediums, and brought only 12, 10 and eight cents per dozen. That would be in the 1930's, he added.



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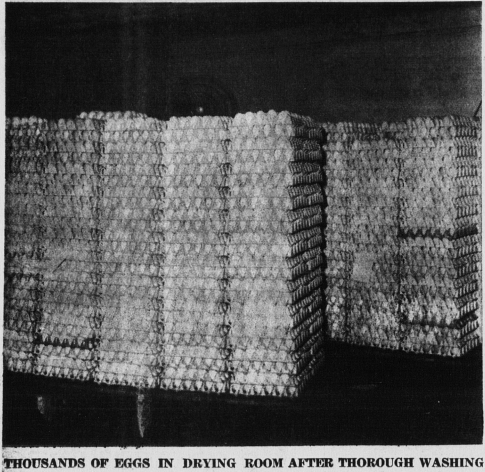
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THOUSANDS OF EGGS IN DRYING ROOM AFTER THOROUGH WASHING

Milk output has decline

OTTAWA (CP) — Milk production in March declined 0.8 per cent to 1,302,000,000 pounds compared with the corresponding period last year, the bureau of statistics said today.

In the first three months of the year output rose 0.5 per cent to 3,503,000,000 from a year earlier. Revised figures show that production in February increased to 1,028,967,000 pounds from 1,036,209,000 last year and in the three months to 2,291,003,000 pounds from 2,174,712,000.

February milk production by provinces in pounds, with last year's figures in brackets, included: Prince Edward Island 7,372,000 (8,433,000), Nova Scotia 25,182,000 (26,139,000), New Brunswick 21,303,000 (22,281,000) and Quebec 355,943,000 (348,463,000).

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Rapid strides are being made by our farmers towards progress in the agricultural industry by keeping abreast with latest scientific developments with the use of modern machinery and the adaptation of newest farming methods.

The Town of Summerside situated in a rich agricultural belt of Prince Edward Island is proud to salute our farmers, and express its appreciation for the tremendous contribution made by our Island farmers, not only to the welfare of this province but also for the benefit of the hungry nations of the world.

TOWN OF SUMMERSIDE

Mayor and Councillors

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Today, to most of us, the price of everything seems too high. Inflation has cut the buying power of the 1939 dollar to 40c. More than ever we must spend each dollar wisely. For food value, your dollar buys most when it buys milk. Today the average Canadian need work only seven minutes to earn a quart of milk.

How Much Profit Goes To The Dairy?

What do you think? More than two cents? A fraction of a cent? After all, bringing you milk—Good and pure—as much as you want, whenever and wherever you want it—is a complicated job. The average Canadian Dairy makes but a fraction of a cent per quart of milk. Cutting out the dairy's entire profit would not cut the price of milk a penny.

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