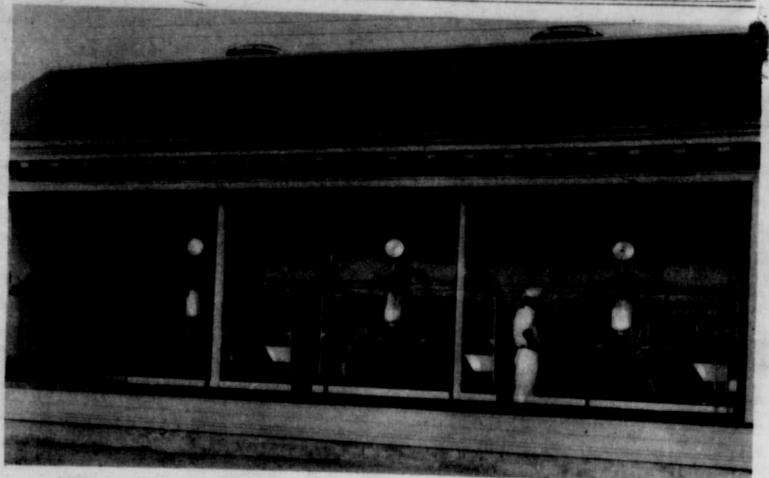




Milking time at Springdale Farm near Spartanburg, S. C. Milk is carried through sanitary pipes to the milk bottling room adjoining, shown in illustration to the left. Within a few minutes, from the time the milk leaves the cow, it is cooled and bottled. When a cow is milked, the gate in front is opened by the operator by means of a lever, the cow walks forward and out to her barn or feed lot and the gate closes. The rear gate opens and a cow coming in to be milked takes her place in the stall. One operator can handle from three to five stalls and milker units, and milk from 30 to 50 cows per hour.



Milking parlor of Col. T. L. Huston, Butler Island Dairy near Brunswick, Ga., located alongside the Coastal Highway to Florida and passed every year by thousands of motorists. The business of this dairy has grown steadily. An attractive roadside stand at which products of the dairy are sold is run in connection with it.

Milking Cows in a Parlor

BY C. L. REISNER

WHOEVER heard of cows being milked in a parlor! Well, it's being done in a big way by some of the finest dairies in the country.

Several years ago at the dairy farm owned and operated by the Bureau of Dairying of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Md., a room for milking cows was built and equipped with special run-through stalls and a special type of milking machine designed by the De Laval Separator Company.

Fast Milking

Cows were brought into this room and the milk was withdrawn by the milking machine into glass jars suspended on a scale attached to each stall. Sanitary pipes conveyed the milk by vacuum to the milk bottling room.

Dr. Harris Moak, then secretary of the Certified Milk Producers Association of America, called the room in which the cows were milked the "milking parlor." That name stuck.

One man can operate three to five milker units and milk from 30 to 50 cows per hour. Only a few minutes elapse from the time the milk leaves the cow until it is bottled.

Help Sell Milk

Milking parlors help sell milk. People like to watch the cows being milked in this way. This provides advertising of inestimable value.

Some progressive milk producers capitalized upon this idea and as a result constructed attractive milking parlors

with large windows, so that the milking and bottling operations would be visible to the public. This feature has proven so effective that already substantial businesses have been built around it and existing dairies who have installed this system have almost invariably increased their milk sales. Some dairies having milking parlors report thousands of visitors during the course of the year.

Use Increases

More dairies are using milking parlors and combine milkers in the Southeastern States than in any other section of the country.

Among prominent users are the Biltmore Farms, Asheville, N. C.; Springdale Farm, Spartanburg, S. C.; Dr. F. H. McLeod, Florence, S. C.; B. H. Darden & Son, Norfolk, Va.; Yoder Bros., Newport News, Va.; Lickingview Farms, Newport, Ky.; Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C.; Clemson College, S. C., and University of Tennessee.

The milking parlor idea and the combine milking system have done much to elevate and dignify the milking of cows and to attract the attention and interest of the milk consuming public, which undoubtedly should result in a larger consumption of milk.

Just how extensively this system will be used, of course, cannot be known at this time. It does seem, however, there is a place near every city and good-sized town for at least one milk production plant of this kind.

In the milking parlor of the Lakeside Dairy, owned by B. H. Darden & Son, near Norfolk, Va., shown above, are two rows of stalls and milker units. Observation room for visitors is shown, upper left. Exterior view of the building in which are located the milking parlor, observation room and milk bottling plant.



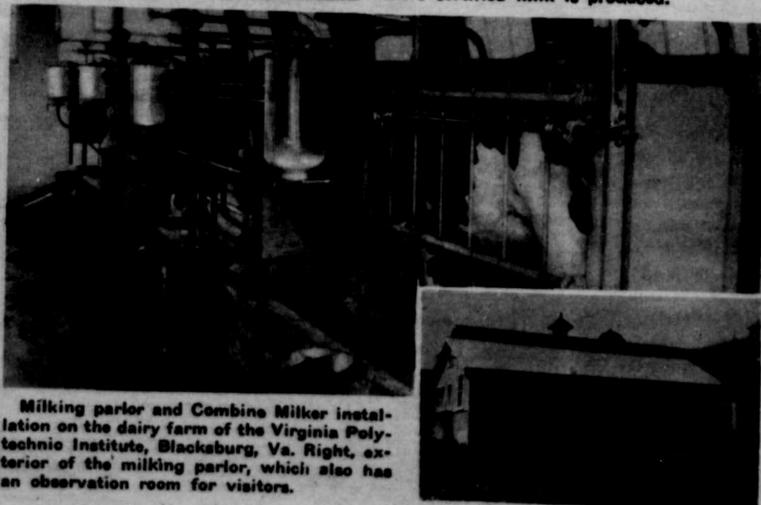
This attractive milking parlor is on the Suwannee Farm, owned by the Florida Milk Co., St. Petersburg, Fla. In 15 months more than 75,000 visitors came to the farm to see this novel method of milking. Right, the milk bottling room.



Milking parlor of John W. Berryhill, progressive dairyman near Charlotte, N. C. The three-unit combine milker can be seen through the windows above. Right, milk bottling room, which directly adjoins the milking parlor.



Milking parlor and Combine Milking System of Lickingview Farms, Newport, Ky., where certified milk is produced.



Milking parlor and Combine Milker installation on the dairy farm of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Va. Right, exterior of the milking parlor, which also has an observation room for visitors.

