

# STUDY ISLAND'S DAIRY PROBLEM

Wm. Pierson Hamilton and Others  
Considering Establishing Central  
Plant for Distribution of Dairy  
Products

Under the leadership of William Pierson Hamilton, president and owner of Thirstane Ranch, Inc., a survey of the production and distribution of dairy products on Mount Desert Island is being made. Associated with Mr. Hamilton in this survey are Dr. L. Sherman Cleaves, Bar Harbor's health officer, and Charles L. Shand, long prominent in agricultural interests in Hancock County.

The survey is being made with the idea of possibly establishing in Bar Harbor a central distributing plant for all the Island's dairy products. This plan would include the construction of a modern building with the latest equipment for receiving and handling milk from the majority of the Island's dairy farms. The producers would be credited on the basis of the quantity and quality of their milk, and a small number of trucks would distribute the milk and cream from this central plant to hotels and private residences.

A representative of THE TIMES discussed the project generally with Mr. Hamilton this week. Mr. Hamilton

Hamilton this week. Mr. Hamilton has had many years of experience in raising cattle and conducting dairy farms. He pointed out the fact that there were scores of farmers on this Island who keep from two to twenty cows. Each of these farmers must produce and market his own product. The result is that a dozen or more trucks are coming into Bar Harbor each morning with milk and covering much the same routes in delivery. The farmer works from early morning until late at night in order to care for his cattle and deliver the product.

Under the proposed plan two large trucks from the dairy company would collect the milk from all farms, bring it to the central plant and there it would be placed in small containers and delivered to hundreds of consumers.

Mr. Hamilton expressed the opinion that more than a few of the local farms were inefficiently managed and that a certain percentage of cows are not profitable producers. The dairy company would have on its staff an expert to