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OF DEVELOPMENT

*State Chamber of Commerce*



On the Trail to Sacramento

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# Dairying in the Sacramento Area

By  
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Agricultural Engineer, Agricultural  
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**Supply and demand for dairy products focuses attention to dairying as a profitable addition to general farming in the Sacramento Area**

**T**HE time is ripe for the farmers of the Sacramento area to add dairying to their program of general agriculture.

California is on a dairy products importing basis. It imports from 20 to 25 per cent of the total dairy products it consumes.

Our dairy plant facilities are way ahead of our production. There are twenty-eight plants handling dairy products in various forms and producing a variety of products. Chief among these is the Sego Milk Company's big condensary at Galt, Sacramento County. In Woodland, Yolo County, the Sanitary Dairy operates a large plant for making ice cream and pasteurizing milk. The Crystal Cream and Butter Company of Sacramento also has a plant in Woodland which is devoted to the manufacture of casein. In Sacramento proper the Crystal Cream and Butter Company has a plant for making butter, ice cream and pasteurizing milk. The Golden State Milk Products Company maintains a large plant for the manufacture of butter and distribution of sweet cream. Blake's Dairy, a subsidiary of the Golden State Milk Products Company, is engaged in the manufacture of ice cream and

the distribution of pasteurized milk. The Consolidated Products Company maintains a plant alongside the Golden State Milk Products plant to utilize the butter milk and skim milk in the manufacture of semi-solid buttermilk for use in the poultry and livestock industries. The Borden Company has three plants here. The largest is the Capital Dairy, which is engaged in the distribution of pasteurized milk and in the manufacture of ice cream. The Peerless Ice Cream Company, which is the largest exclusive ice cream factory in this area, is also owned by Borden's. Construction is now under way for another Borden's subsidiary, the Lakeshire Cheese Company. This plant will not use any of the milk products in the area but will be a processing and distributing plant for cheese.

The Federal Milk Company of San Francisco has just completed the construction of a large plant for making powdered ice cream mixes.

In addition to the above there are five other dairies engaged in the pasteurizing and distributing of market milk. There are six additional concerns engaged in the distribution of raw milk and three additional plants engaged in the manufacture of ice cream.

(Continued on Page 42)



Chamber of Commerce Building,  
Sacramento,  
California

# The CANNING CENTER of the WEST

By

A. S. DUDLEY

Secretary-Manager, Sacramento  
Chamber of Commerce

CALIFORNIA'S capital city centers a region which produces more than 35 per cent of the state's total agricultural output—and California is exceeded in the value of its agricultural products by only two other states in the Union: Texas, largely by reason of the tremendous annual value of its cotton crop, and Iowa, in the heart of the corn belt.

This is according to 1926 figures of the United States Department of Commerce, which credited Texas with a total of \$631,600,000, Iowa with \$428,600,000, and California with \$425,700,000, as the hypothetical value of all crops. Figures just issued by the Department of Agriculture for 1928 give California a record total of \$498,550,000, which may mean that the Golden State may have overtaken Iowa to take its place second only to Texas. These totals, it is explained by the Crop Reporting Service, are based on averages received by the farmer at the farm or shipping point—and do not include the cost of container and the cost of packing and selling.

That's the state picture.

But, it is the thirteen counties directly tributary to Sacramento, by reason of short-haul water, rail and highway transportation to local canneries, that is of immediate concern. These thirteen counties—Amador, Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, San Joaquin, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba—produce more than 50 per cent of the canning cling peaches grown in California; 25 per cent of the free-stone peaches; more than 50 per cent of the pears;

nearly 60 per cent of the plums; 25 per cent of the cherries; 12 per cent of the strawberries. These are only headlines among the fruit crops.

These counties produce more than 98 per cent of the world's supply of canning asparagus; more than 30 per cent of the spinach, and 10 per cent of the canning tomatoes raised in California. And these are simply headlines among the vegetable products, for every known vegetable is grown in this district, largely and successfully.

Even with this production, only the surface of the ultimate possibilities of this section has been scratched. Considerably less than 10 per cent of its land suitable for fruit and vegetable production is now planted to these crops.

More than 75 per cent of California's total water resources, as measured in annual season runoff, is available for irrigation of this northern tier of fertile counties. The rich bottom lands of the great Sacramento River and its tributaries, made waste in past years by wide-spreading flood waters, are now safely and securely reclaimed from overflow by a gigantic and proven system of levees and by-passes, and no section of the earth's surface produces finer fruits and vegetables, in greater variety or with heavier yield per acre.

It is inevitable that the canning business in this part of California will grow, that Sacramento will tighten its claim to the title, "The Canning Center of the West."

(Continued on Page 43)

# Dairy Production by Counties

Production of California Dairy Products and Number of Manufacturing Plants\* by Counties—1929

Prepared by Research Department, California State Chamber of Commerce, Economic Survey Report No. 8, Series 1930-1931

County	Production of Dairy Products					Number of Plants (*)				Milk and Cream†
	Milk Fat (Pounds)	Market Milk (Gallons)	Butter (Pounds)	Cheese (Pounds)	Ice Cream (Gallons)	Creameries	Cottage Cheese	Ice Cream	Ice Milk	
Alameda	2,521,123	12,056,556	3,003,602	639,786	1,602,247	7	5	3	18	17
Alpine	17,078									
Amador	157,239	182,205	5,734		16,012				3	
Butte	1,528,431	829,347	924,048		18,257	3		1	7	6
Calaveras	86,523	87,965								1
Colusa	842,412	166,935	441,199		5,558	1	1		2	1
Contra Costa	1,352,470	1,541,257			73,456			2	3	8
Del Norte	915,530	93,632	1,122,092	77,751	2,190	1	1		2	1
El Dorado	329,838	143,471	1,622		618	1			1	2
Fresno	5,894,819	2,645,030	6,305,169	2,153	594,390	4	1	1	13	12
Glenn	2,094,347	220,760	2,270,048	652,387	20,987	3	1		4	1
Humboldt	7,202,209	808,682	7,087,682	458,583	56,433	7	2	1	13	6
Imperial	5,424,919	796,550	4,492,949	432,340	13,190	3	4	2	5	11
Inyo	196,764	102,000	192,716		2,535	1			3	
Kern	2,426,448	1,997,388	395,984		169,097	2	1	3	6	12
Kings	4,717,857	412,725	7,870,077	204,237	1,115	4	1		2	5
Lake	251,924	108,810	83,065		18,486	1			3	
Lassen	788,550	724,329	335,867	76,145	28,457	1	1		1	3
Los Angeles	16,015,374	53,834,316	1,011,766	282,185	7,248,707	34	7	14	120	58
Madera	2,036,143	225,458								3
Marin	4,610,678	1,407,077	1,189,371	1,276,990	5,443	1	4		3	4
Mariposa	8,789	25,550								
Mendocino	1,212,729	454,242	302,652	221,382	33,950	3	1		4	2
Merced	11,080,597	587,878	1,663,064	748,261	2,510	1	1		2	10
Modoc	698,765	112,148	649,665	61,818	6,580	2	2		1	1
Mono	53,385	27,000								
Monterey	5,125,589	1,000,089	300,781	325,652	84,578	3	14	1	12	8
Napa	898,585	770,574	131,761		56,553	2		3	6	5
Nevada	243,490	156,240			7,410				4	2
Orange	2,641,941	2,291,471			176,315			2	10	6
Placer	312,015	325,809			4,603				2	5
Plumas	388,608	101,075	136,822		1,065	1			1	1
Riverside	2,190,189	1,979,632	112,501		139,565	2		1	10	7
Sacramento	1,628,897	3,320,397	2,785,650		605,442	3		3	13	9
San Benito	672,539	109,102	158,946	489,569	4,400	1	1		1	2
San Bernar- dino	4,438,433	3,132,888	5,590	47,964	169,761	1	3	1	11	6
San Diego	1,937,186	4,746,476	759,229	2,700	699,704	4	1	4	12	14
San Francisco	66,901	16,076,577	5,798,869		1,927,353	11		3	37	21
San Joaquin	8,096,137	2,359,705	1,014,678	58,859	356,632	3	1		8	6
San Luis Obispo	3,666,052	555,250	4,389,923	32,642	103,225	5	1		6	6
San Mateo	1,837,965	1,386,203		86,861	85,734		2		5	8
Santa Barbara	2,263,390	1,648,005	297,865		65,624	3		2	12	5
Santa Clara	3,564,352	3,650,106	234,296	304,034	502,117	3	14		21	23
Santa Cruz	397,392	742,101	194,183	22,234	60,796	1	1		6	8
Shasta	516,780	297,466	294,379		31,140	4			6	2
Sierra	293,792	36,500	106,287			1				
Siskiyou	1,925,162	384,167	1,651,733	865,618	42,436	5	1	1	5	8
Solano	1,636,061	847,974	90,972	443	66,270	1	1	2	3	8
Sonoma	4,703,307	1,458,298	6,043,305	526,052	59,530	3	4		18	12
Stanislaus	11,718,107	1,029,570	6,611,375	1,295,438	47,896	2	1		5	16
Sutter	1,369,967	153,263			2,380				1	
Tehama	506,503	229,709								2
Trinity	79,482	22,500								
Tulare	9,714,046	1,675,318	1,937,339		21,131	3	2	1	6	16
Tuolumne	102,451	233,600			13,169				1	
Ventura	646,647	1,163,654			18,833			1	9	6
Yolo	1,781,707	315,655	83,423	37,028	60,197	1	1	1	4	4
Yuba	479,133	209,722	317,281		43,953	1		1	2	3
Total	148,307,747	132,000,407	72,805,560	9,229,112	15,378,030	144	81	54	453	383

† Market milk and cream distributors.

\* In this tabulation the term "plant" designates each single factory or processing unit listed regardless of ownership. It is not synonymous with the term "establishment" as used by the United States Bureau of Census, since one "establishment" may own and operate several "plants" in a city or county where reported. Consequently the number of "plants" shown above is larger than the number of "establishments" which will be shown in the 1929 Census of Manufactures.

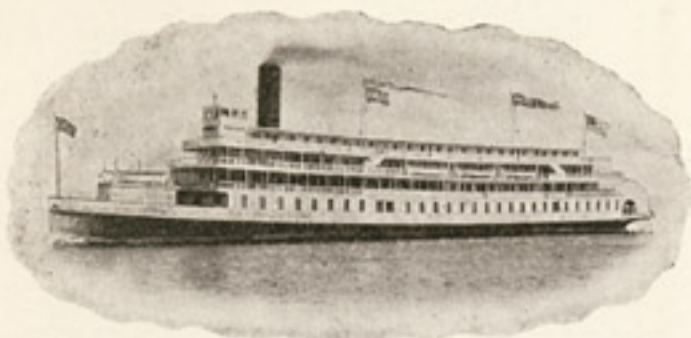
Source: Bureau of Dairy Control, California State Department of Agriculture.

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## Dairying in the Sacramento Area

(Continued from Page 16)

The total capacity of all of these plants is several times the available supply of our local area. The Golden State Milk Products Company, the Crystal Cream and Butter Company and the Capital Dairy are now importing butter fat from counties far to the north of us and from the state of Nevada in order to keep their plants in operation.

Sacramento and its surrounding territory is peculiarly adapted to dairying. Unfortunately it has suffered a decline in this industry over the past ten years which amounts to approximately 50 per cent.

There has been a general depression in the dairy industry throughout the United States. The bulk of the increase in production has taken place in the Eastern states and the industry as a whole is now making rapid strides to open up new markets and new uses for dairy products which will take care of the increased production.

In the Sacramento area, which is composed essentially of Sacramento and Yolo Counties, we now have about 330 dairy farms with between 10,000 and 12,000 milk cows, a decline since 1920 of about 10,000 cows or approximately 50 per cent. This decline has been caused by a number of things. First, in the after-war boom the fruit and grain industries held out such promises that many of our dairies were closed and land set out to fruit and grain. Secondly, the heavy demand for California alfalfa in the southern portion of our own state and on the eastern seaboard resulted in many of our dairies disposing of their cows and devoting all of their time and land to the production of alfalfa hay for sale. This tended to throw the agricultural industry of the Sacramento Valley out of balance, as it is a well known fact that dairying is an essential industry in every community for the purpose of maintaining a well-rounded agricultural enterprise. The district is now faced with the problem of correcting this situation and taking the dairy industry out of reverse and heading it back to its normal place in the community. This can, and no doubt will be done, because the facilities for producing dairy products in this area are ideal.

First, we have the land and water available and there is a variety of methods which can be followed by dairymen in maintaining their enterprise. In the eastern portion of Sacramento County there is available many hundreds of acres of land suitable for pasture and in this district it is the practice of dairymen to make use of this land in the spring and early summer for pasture without feeding their cattle any hay or concentrates. This method does not tend to make high production per cow but the low cost of this pasture land and its maintenance justify this type of dairying. Later in the summer and well into the fall these cattle are driven into the Sierra Nevada Mountains, where nature has provided green valleys and meadows. In the fall the cattle are returned to the valley and the cycle repeated again the following year.

In the central portions of Sacramento and Yolo counties alfalfa hay can be profitably raised and artificial pastures maintained. Under these conditions our dairymen find it profitable to operate simply by feeding the produce grown on their own lands.

A third and most efficient method is the one we find largely in our big market milk dairies and on the more valuable lands of these counties. This method is the

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intensified farming of the land to alfalfa and silage crops with additional feedings of grain mixtures to the cows. The feeding cost under this method is obviously much higher than the other two methods but the production per cow is so materially increased that this procedure is justified.

Butter fat is being produced by our practical dairymen at a profit. Hog raising, which should be carried on in conjunction with dairying, in the past has been almost entirely left out of the picture in the Sacramento area. With its addition as a stabilizer to the industry even greater profits could be expected.

Experience has taught us that greater efficiency and profits in the handling of dairy cows has been made possible through our California cow testing associations and through the research of our universities.

### The Canning Center of the West

(Continued from Page 17)

As the market for canned fruits and vegetables is expanded, greater acreages will be harvested to meet the demand. There is ample room for growth both industrially and agriculturally.

There are 15,000 acres of new plantings and trees not yet in bearing that will almost double, within the next few years, the total annual marketable tonnage of canning cling peaches now produced in these thirteen adjacent counties.

There are 6000 acres of non-bearing plums, 27,500 acres of non-bearing pears, 5000 acres of non-bearing cherries soon to be heard from. And new plantings in almost every one of the fruit and vegetable crops of this great central valley of California are being made in increasing quantities each year.

Markets *must* be found, and *will* be, to demand this increased production; new canneries *must* be built, and *will* be, or old canneries enlarged to meet the situation.

But, that is for the future.

Sacramento's opportunity today in the canning industry is for the plants that will engage in the manufacture of soups, jams, jellies, preserves and specialized fruit products; and in cereal, rice and livestock by-products.

Thousands of tons of fruit, unsuited for fresh shipment because of ripeness; or for choice and fancy canning packs because of under size and other disqualifications, are available today for profitable processing into jams, jellies and preserves. It is fruit every bit as good as that now marketed, but it now represents only an annual economic loss—to growers, canners and the consuming public.

In addition to the great acreage in strawberries are already extensive plantings of blackberries, loganberries and raspberries, for all of which this region is peculiarly adapted, and which can be increased to meet almost any demand.

For the manufacturer of soups all the ingredients are at hand, from meats to vegetables.

For the manufacturer of cereal foods, there is raw material almost unlimited.

The acreage in rice in this Sacramento region, according to 1928 crop reports, of state and federal authorities, is 115,710 acres; in wheat 429,000 acres; in oats, 56,980 acres. The total estimated value of all grain and field crops produced in 1928 is placed at the commendable total of \$54,414,001.

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Sacramento is the canning center of the West. Its canneries process 21 per cent of all of California's canned fruits and vegetables. The American Can Company's plant is the largest individual unit operated by this National organization. The recent installation of natural gas, together with exceptional rail, water, air and highway transportation, with ideal labor conditions, makes Sacramento a logical industrial as well as wholesale and distributing center. In addition to possessing the second largest railroad shops in the United States and numerous canneries of National repute, there are approximately five hundred smaller industries in Sacramento. Above are shown: Aerial view of Sacramento with Capitol Park and Buildings in the center,



residences to the left and the business district on the right, with the waterfront and truck gardening district in the distance; plant of Libby, McNeill & Libby; interior of California Packing Corporation plant; interior view of Phillips' Flour Mill; interior of orange packing plant; a scene along the Sacramento waterfront with the "Delta King" (insert); interior view of the California Almond Growers' Plant, where 65% of the almonds of the state are handled; sorting asparagus; interior of rice mill. The Sacramento River is the fourth largest inland waterway in America from the standpoint of tonnage and ranks first in per ton value of cargo carried.

80 years of progress. California's State Fair is unexcelled by any event of its kind in the world. The State Fair Horse Show brings the best specimens of horse flesh in America in competition. It is the world's greatest fresh fruit show in point of variety, quantity, quality and attractiveness. From North to South, California's golden bounty is displayed through county exhibits.





430,000 people crowded the State Fair Grounds in 1929. Above is pictured the Fish and Game Exhibit of last year; A Part of State Fair Stock Parade, a \$2,000,000 Turn-out; Modern California Farm Girls; and a scene during a Milking Contest.



Farmers of the Sacramento Valley find it profitable to add dairying to their general agriculture. California imports from twenty to twenty-five per cent of the dairy products it consumes. Dairy plant facilities in Sacramento are far ahead of butter fat production. Slaughtering and meat packing rank third among Sacramento's industries. Cattle, sheep and hogs add materially to the farm income. Sacramento County holds the poultry record for the State for high yields at lowest cost per hen.

