Chapter 00612 **1856**

MARY LOUISE PIERCE

9/28/1856—6/11/1926 (69)

and

Gilbert O. Van Ness

11/3/1854—9/21/1936 (81)

Fairfield NJ

Edward Pearce branch #3, generation #4.

7/2/2025

Relationship: Henry PEARCE to Mary Louise PIERCE

Mary Louise PIERCE is the great granddaughter of Henry PEARCE

Henry PEARCE
b: 25 Jul 1725 England
d: 08 Jul 1788 Fairfield, NJ
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Elizabeth Lucinda SPEAR
b: 06 May 1737 England
d: 16 Oct 1814 Fairfield, NJ
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Son

Edward PEARCE
b: 02 Dec 1773 England
d: 26 Jul 1834
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Hannah STAGG
b: 13 Apr 1778 Hanover, NJ
d: 26 Aug 1846 NJ
M-9/3/1796
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Grandson

Joseph PIERCE
b: 02 Jul 1814 Fairfield, NJ
d: 04 Feb 1885 Fairfield, NJ
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Nancy JACOBUS
b: 01 Feb 1821 Fairfield, NJ
d: 04 Jun 1893
M-7/3/1839
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Gilbert O. VAN NESS
b: 03 Nov 1854 Fairfield, NJ
d: 21 Sep 1936 Fairfield, NJ
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Mary Louise PIERCE
b: 28 Sep 1856 Fairfield, NJ
d: 11 Jun 1926 Fairfield, NJ
Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ

Jacob Fredericks & Margaret M.

Gilbert O. VAN NESS 1
Born: 03 Nov 1854
Fairfield, NJ
Died: 21 Sep 1936
Fairfield, NJ

Joseph & Nancy

Mary Louise PIERCE
Born: 28 Sep 1856
Fairfield, NJ
Died: 11 Jun 1926
Fairfield, NJ

Marriage: 29 Dec 1878 in Fairfield, NJ

Go	Children: 2	Sex	Birth	Death
◀	Joseph J. 'Joe' VAN NESS	M	08 Aug 1883 in Montclair, NJ	21 Jun 1962 in Hillside Cem, Fairfield, NJ
◀	Bertha Frances VAN NESS	F	05 Jul 1889 in NJ	22 May 1965

All rest at Hillside Cemetery, Fairfield, NJ.

They married **12/29/1878** at the Fairfield Methodist Church, Fairfield, Essex County, NJ.

Their home was to the left of the cemetery, maybe 80 feet back into those woods and about 30 feet from the road. The house burned down around 1975.

Per Tues **9/6/1910** Newark Advertiser newspaper, page 9 :

"Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pierce and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Van Ness of Caldwell Township (Fairfield) are spending a week at Split Rock pond." Mrs. Van Ness is our **Mary Louise Pierce**, sister to Albert Pierce. The pond is at Rockaway, NJ. People hiked and fished at this pond.

Gilbert was the 1930s Treasurer for Hillside Cemetery.

Gilbert worked as a Carpenter in 1880.

Gilbert worked 1890's-1906 at the Francisco Fairfield Dairy Farm which is now the Fairfield Airport. There were 200 to 300 cows. Gilbert was a manager.

In 3/1926, the Company sold their herd of 300 cows. An airport was built on the site.

Newark evening star and
Newark advertiser.
Wed, 5/14/1913

1913

350 CHICKENS DESTROYED IN FIRE IN FAIRFIELD

Three hundred and fifty young chickens were destroyed in a fire of unknown origin that occurred late yesterday afternoon on the farm of Gilbert Van Ness, of Fairfield. There was no one at home at the time. Thomas Pier, a neighbor, saw smoke issuing from the brooder in which the chicks were kept, but by the time he reached the place it was totally destroyed.

On this date 5/14/1913, Gilbert was age 59 and Mary age 57.

The 1913 fire was a financial blow.

Gilbert and Mary were members of the Fairfield Dutch Reformed Church. Gilbert was an Elder.

Newark Evening Star and Newark Advertiser. Friday, **1/21/1916**, page 5. Refers to the FDRC.

> The present officers of the church are: Elders, J. Stiles Van Ness, Lyman Demarest and Gilbert O. Van Ness; deacons, Cornelius Dey, Thomas Sanderson, Augustus Demarest and Wesley DeBaum; clerk of consistory, Lyman Demarest; superintendent of Sunday school, Cornelius Dey, jr.; organist, Miss Grace Dey.

Per Glen in 2025, Just about everyone noted is in the extended Pearce tree. I remember Mrs. Grace Dey Smith playing the FDRC organ in the 1950-60s.

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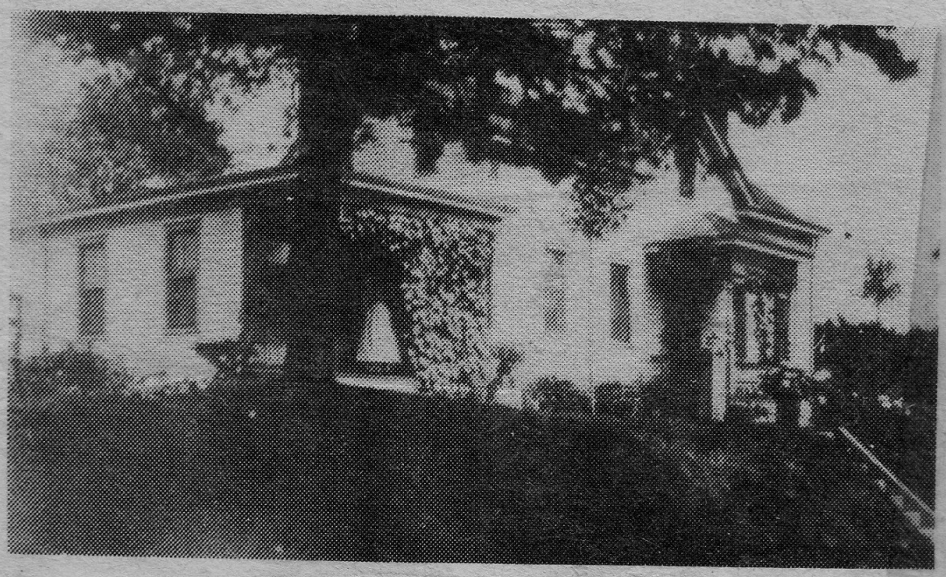
LOOKING BACK

By Mrs. Morris Collerd



Pearce-Van Ness Homestead

Shown above is the Pearce-Van Ness Homestead, probably most often referred to as the Gilbert Van Ness House, although the property was originally owned by Hans Pearce who was born in 1793.

Located at 100 Horseneck Road in Fairfield the property can not be seen today as clearly as it is in the above picture, because of the bushes and trees which have grown up in front of it.

The exact date of the building's origin is not known, but it is thought to have been built in the early 1800's by Hans Pearce and the next owner was his son Henry H. Pearce.

Gilbert Van Ness and his wife Mary Louise Pearce lived here for many years and had two children born here, Joseph J. Van Ness and Bertha Van Ness Zeek.

The property then passed to Mrs. Van Etta, now deceased and is presently unoccupied.

Caldwell Progress

The writer was Mrs. Adelia Van Ness Collerd.

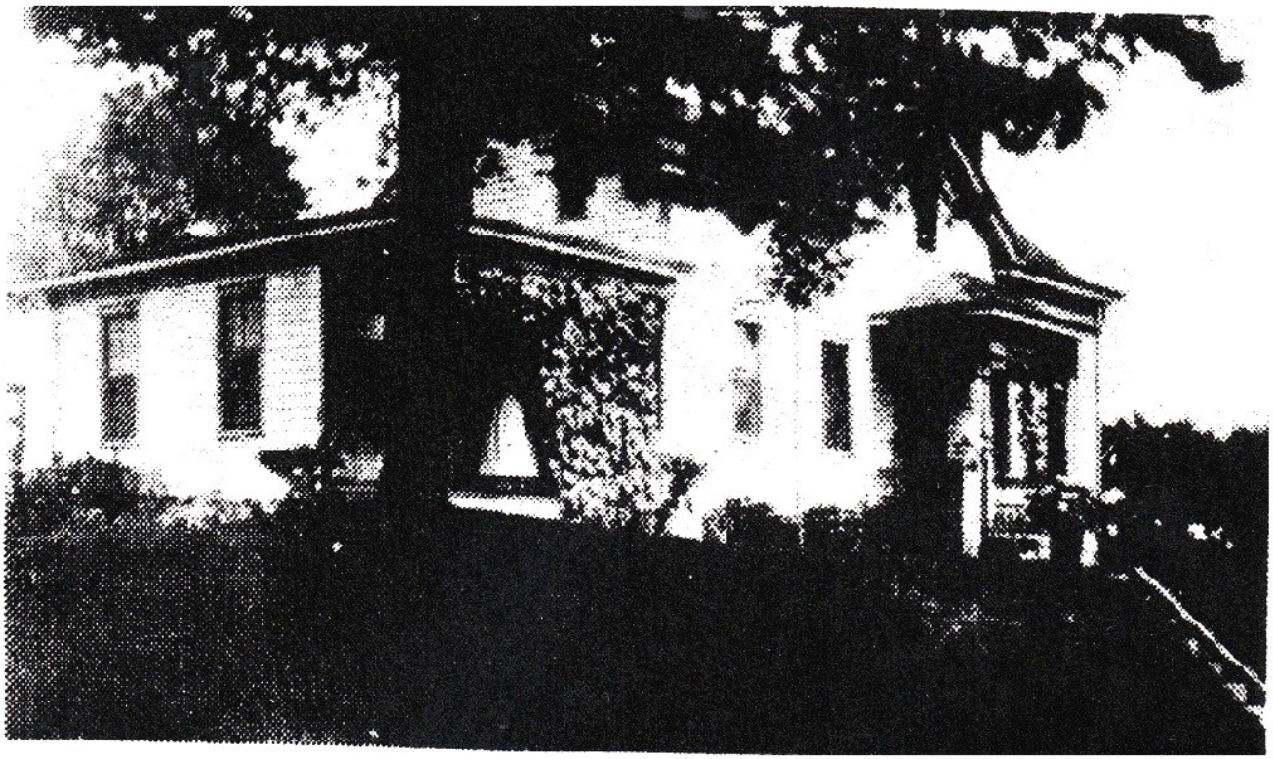
She lived by the cemetery.

Glen questions the prior owners names.

Henry (Hans) James Pearce was 2nd generation.

Henry Harrison Pearce was 3rd generation.

Mary was the 4th generation daughter of Joseph Pierce and Nancy Jacobus.



100 Horseneck Road, Fairfield, NJ. Home of Mary Louise Pierce and her 1878 husband Gilbert O. Van Ness. It burned down around 1970's. It was located to the left of the cemetery entrance, about 100 feet from the road. In 2013, that land is known as the Katz property.

F F D "Certified Milk"

(TRADEMARK)

The Standard of Milk Production

FAIRFIELD DAIRY CO.

483 Bloomfield Avenue

Montclair, N. J.

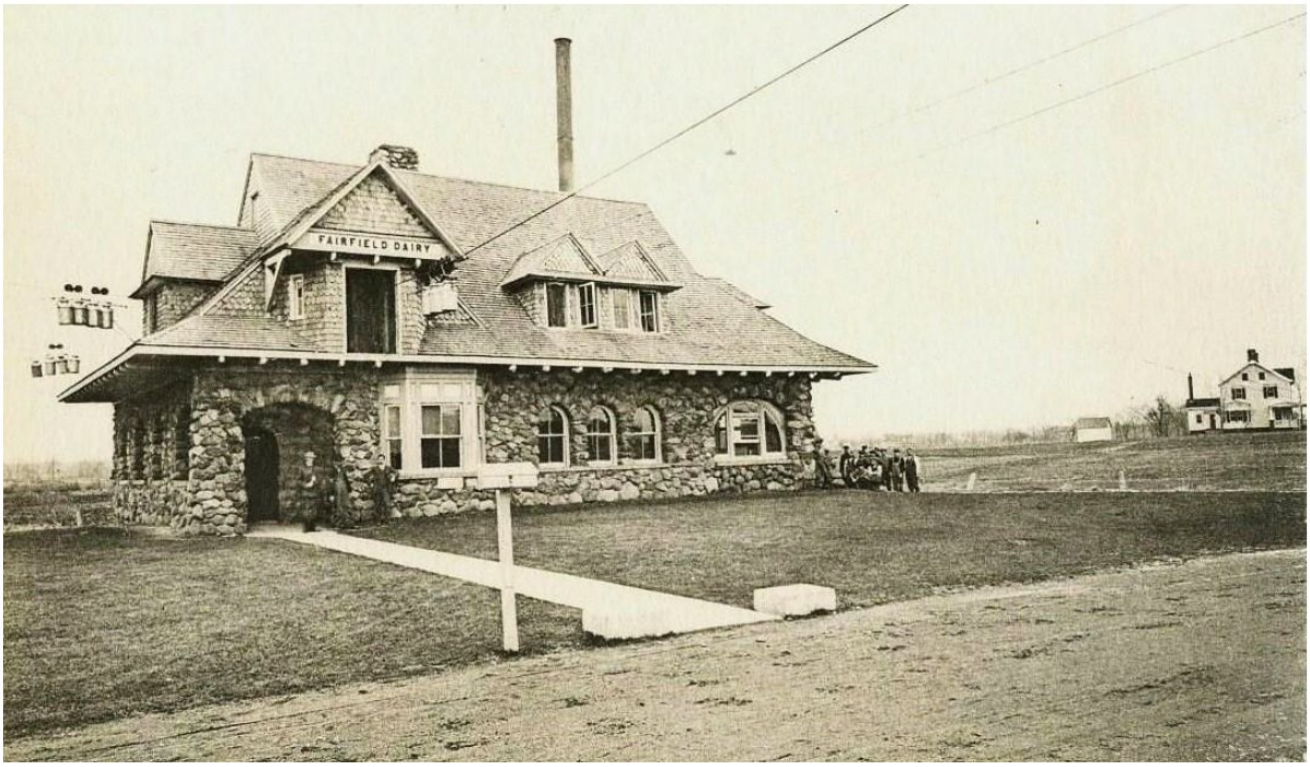
Producers of F. F. D. "Certified Milk," F. F. D. Nursery Milk, F. F. D. Cream, and F. F. D. Certified Milk Kumyss.

LABORATORY DEPARTMENT

F. F. D. Certified Milk Adjusted to Prescription for Infant Feeding.
F. F. D. Percentage Cream.
F. F. D. Cereal Jellies.
F F. D. Porridge.

1907 Advertisement

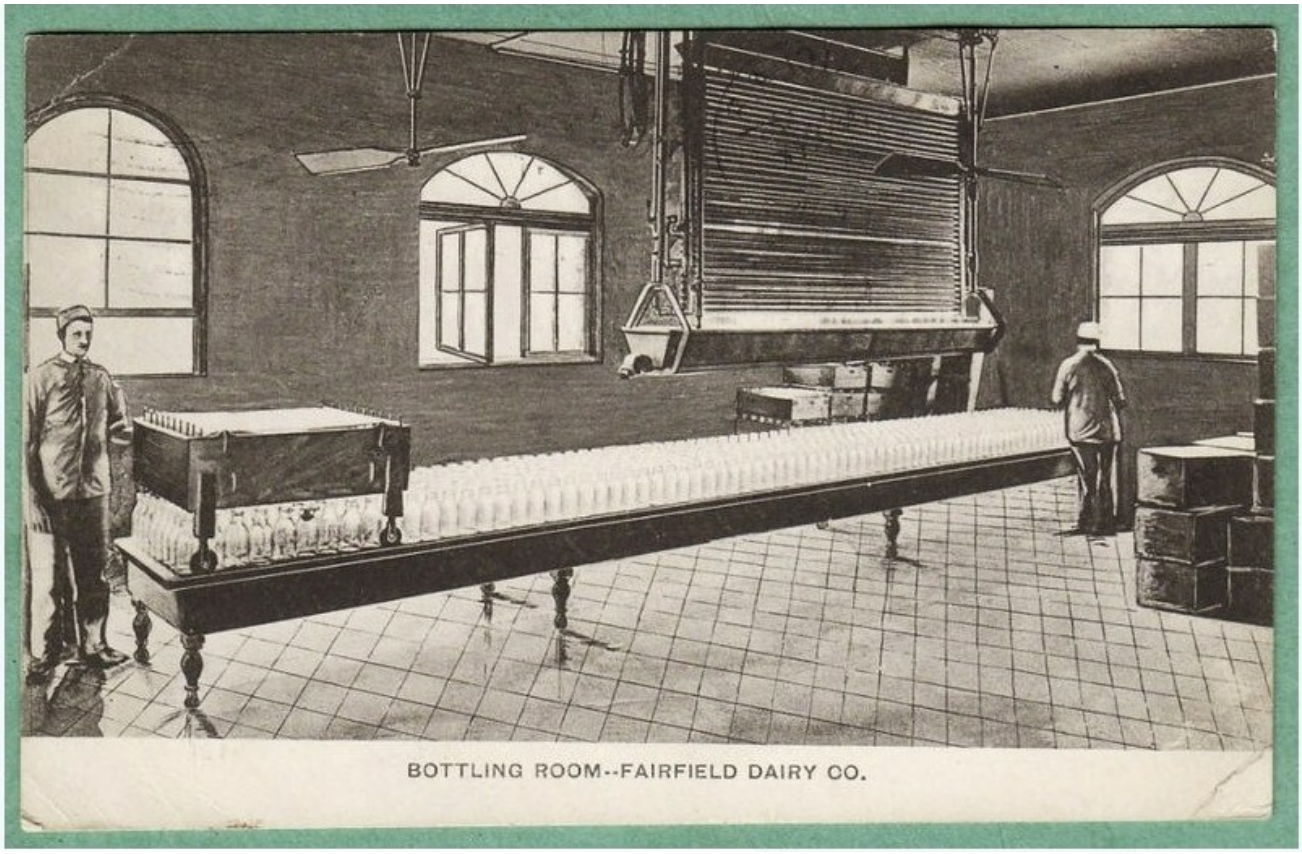
Special Attention Given to Orders for Ocean Voyages.

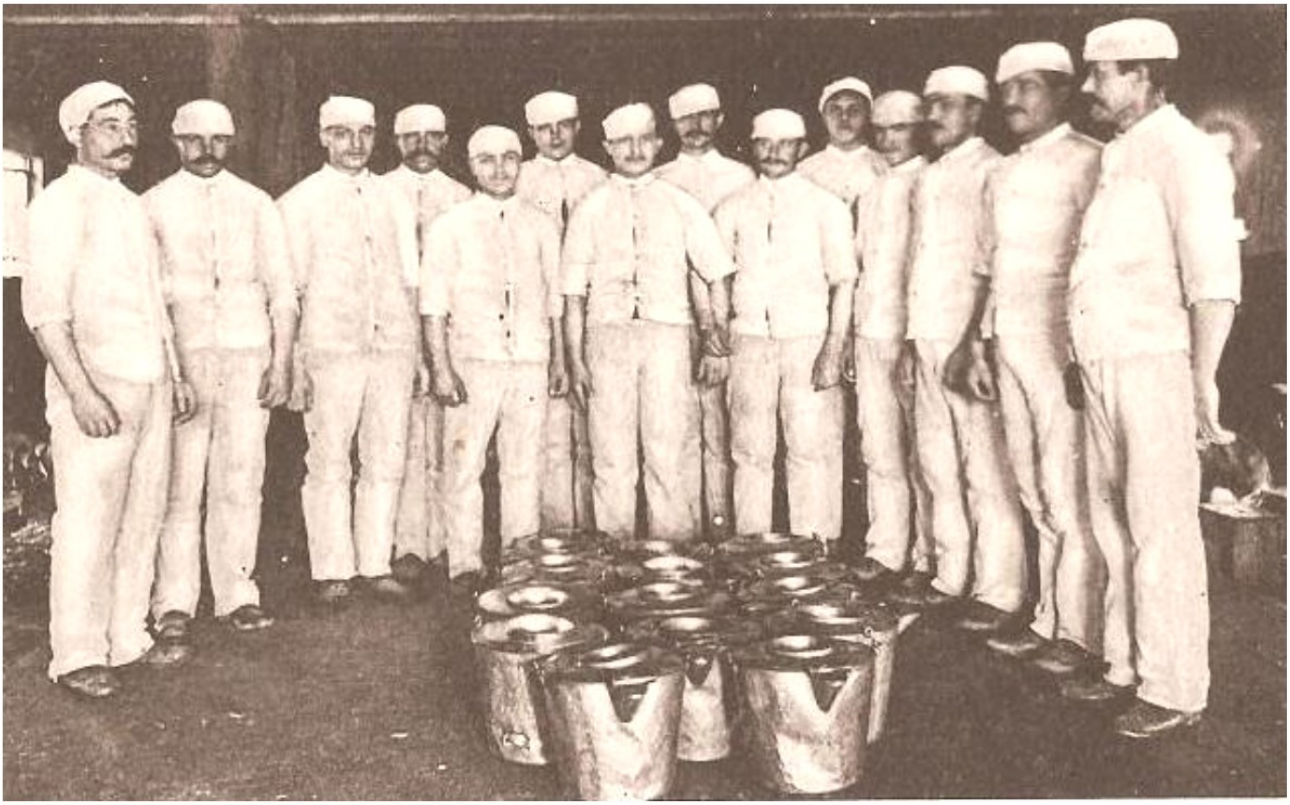


The Fairfield Dairy was located on today's airport.

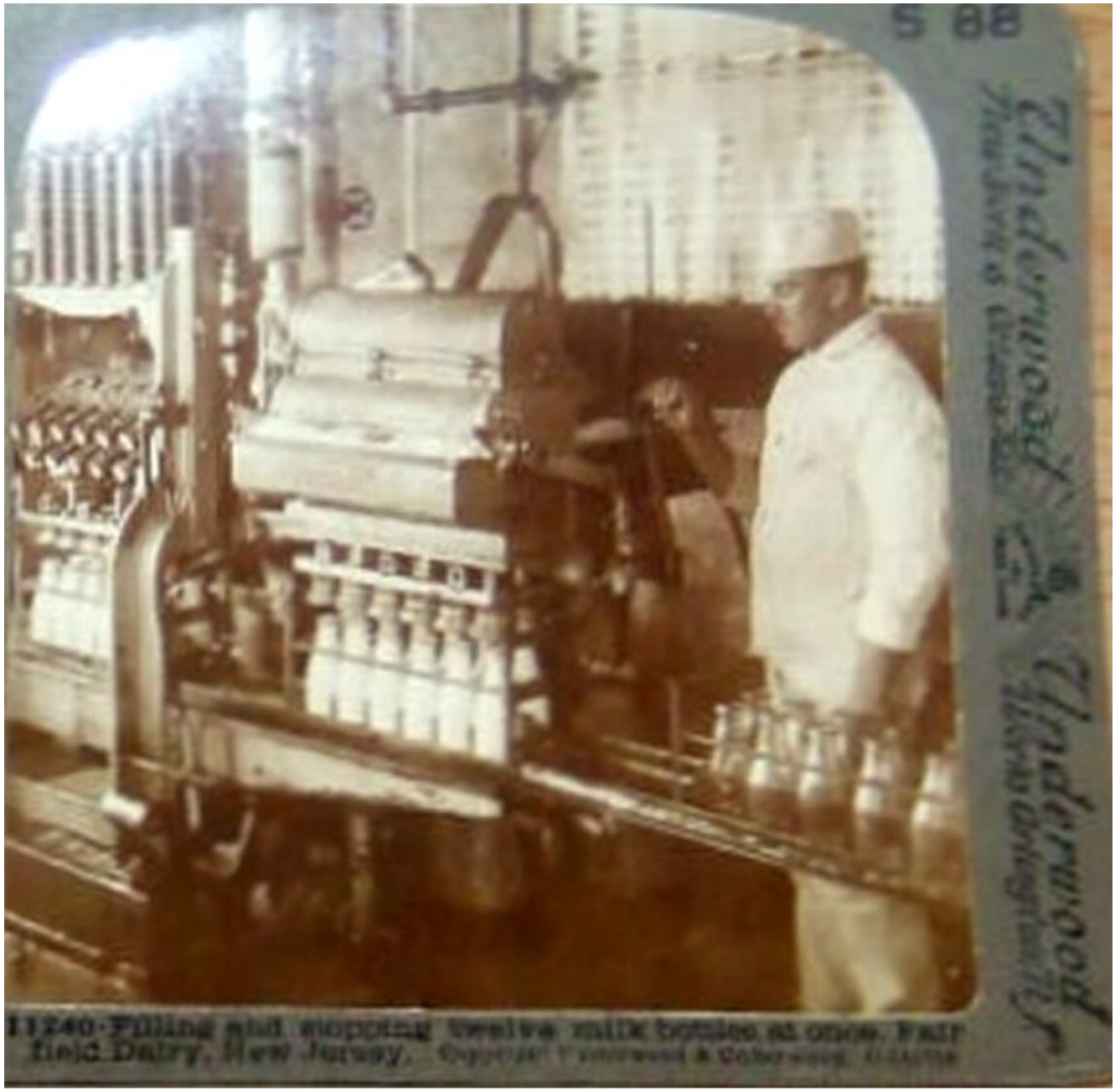
DELIVERY SYSTEM--FAIRFIELD DAIRY CO.

ca 1905 Fairfield Dairy bottle **Quart**



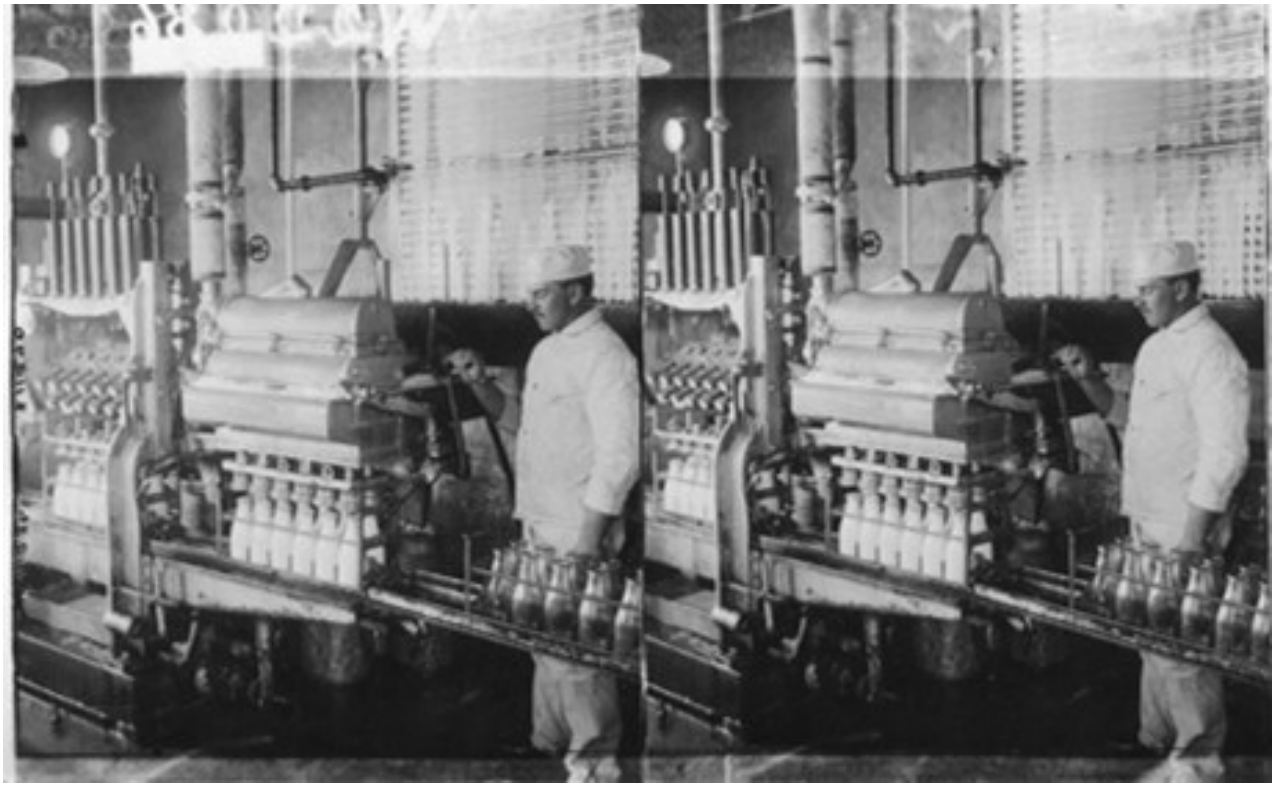


Mostly Polish workers.



Milk bottle sterilization and filling operations for **4,000 quarts** of daily output.

11239-Milk bottles in great steam sterilizer, Fairfield Dairy, New Jersey. Copyright Underwood & Underwood, U-115701



SPEAK SOFTLY, BOSSY IS NEAR

10/6/1914

New Brunswick Times, NJ

VERONA, May 6.—Employees of the big dairy of the Fairfield Dairy Company at Fairfield, near here, have been instructed not to use harsh language in addressing the cows.

Stephen Francisco, the head of the company, believes that if the cows are spoken to kindly and are given to believe that their keepers have affection for them they will give more milk than if the attendants are rough spoken.

The anmimals at the Fairfield dairy are otherwise coddled. Instead of being roughly curried their coats are cleaned by the vacum process.

Stephen 'Dutch' Francisco, pioneer of Pure Certified Milk. Founder and President.

1891 milk sold for about 8 cents per bottle.

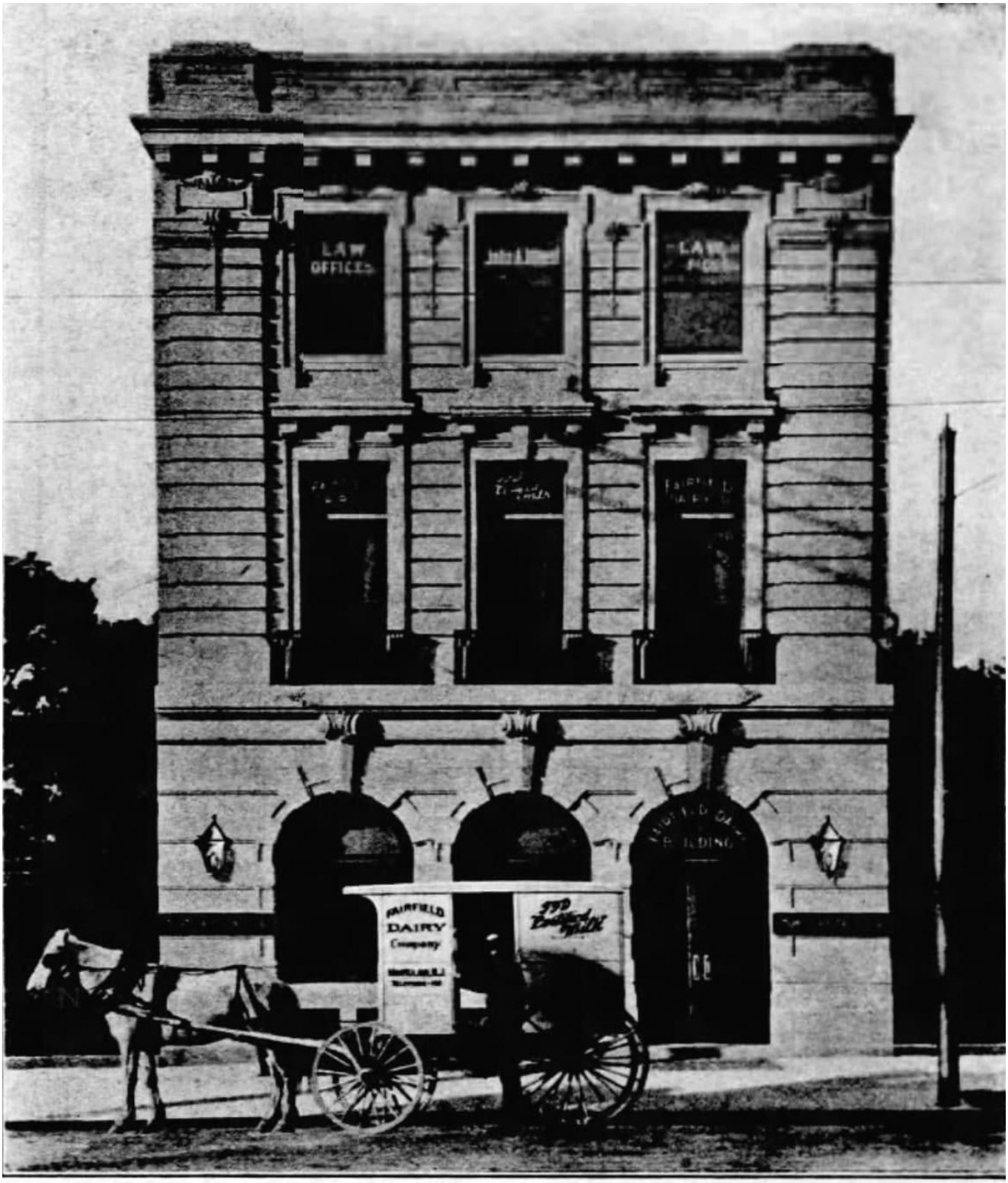
Headquarters in Montclair, NJ

Pursuit of the Ideal

Forty years of the progressive effort in the pursuit of the ideal in milk production; that is the record of the Fairfield Dairy Company. It has not been an easy path but our courage and enthusiasm are unflagging and we take pleasure in bringing to our patrons to-day the consummate result of our mature experience and our untiring service. Ask us about our milk at any time or order a supply to-day.

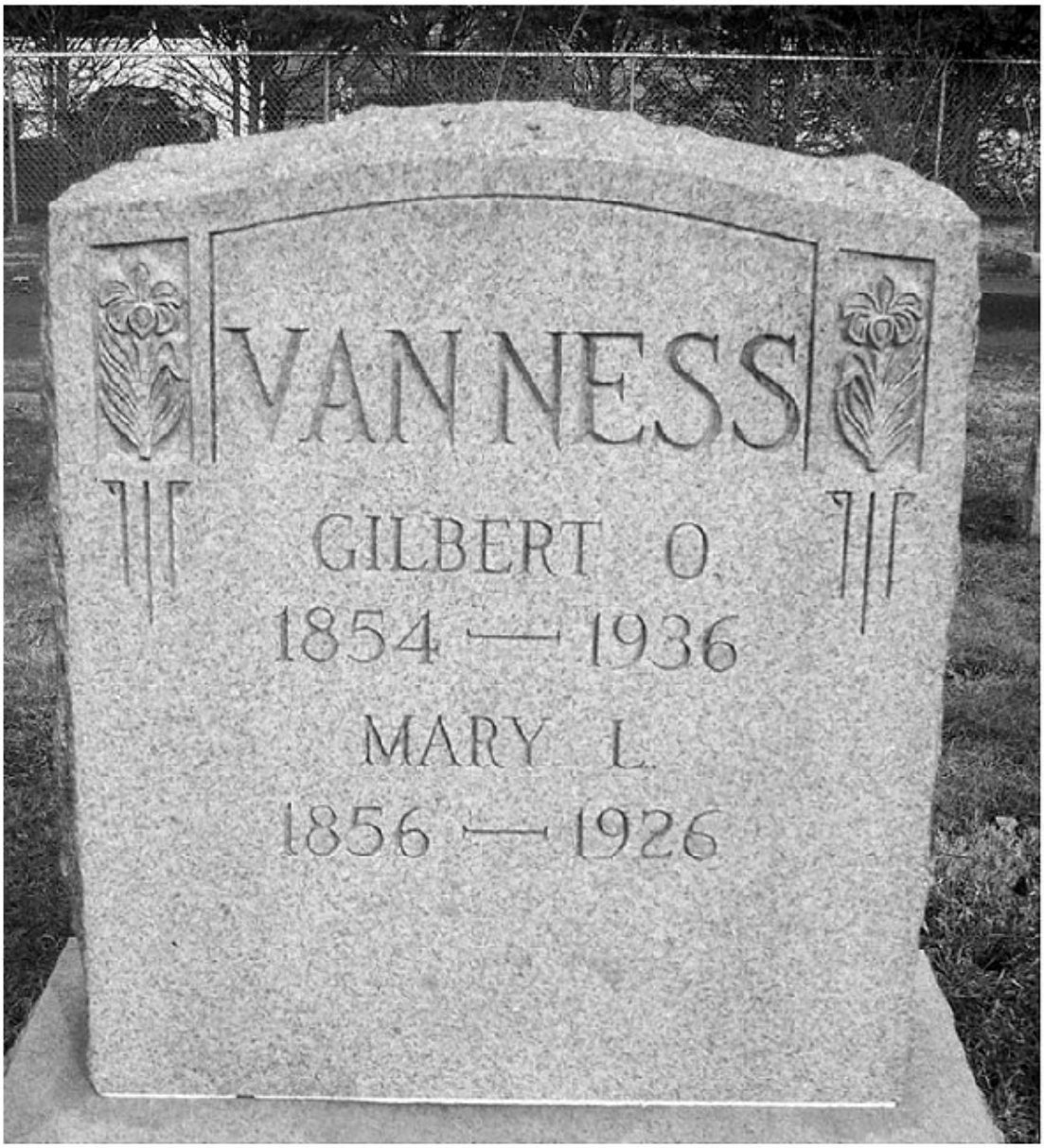
FAIRFIELD DAIRY COMPANY

14-16 Church St, Telephone 940 Montclair Montclair, N. J.



FAIRFIELD DAIRY BUILDING.
NO. 430 BLOOMFIELD AVENUE, MONTCLAIR, N. J.

Hillside Cemetery, 70 Horseneck Road, Fairfield, NJ



Married on 12/29/1878 in Fairfield NJ. Married 47 years.

Mary died of cerebral hemoraging; no prior operation.

Her death certif incorrectly notes her mother as Nancy Bush but it is really Nancy Jacobus.