

Newsletter262

Keith's Corner/McGill News

May 17, 2024

M Gill Dairy Co.



I don't know what year this photo was taken. The man in the wagon could be George Changos, who owned the McGill Dairy for 3 years. It would be interesting to figure out the location of the photo.

A note from your humble author---Last NL I made a serious mistake. I had a teenage moment and some rusting of what few brain cells I have left and spelled our milk man's name wrong. It should have been Mr. Picollo instead of Pickens. Another McGillite that lived across the slag ditch from me back in the day, James Reed sent me an email with the correct name. Thanks James. So please correct your copies. I want to be accurate, so feel free to let me know if you spot an error.

James also informed me that Mr. Picollo had a daughter that was close friends with James' mother. I did know that another daughter, Renee, married Jack Smith. James also said that Mr. Picollos had a son, Marvin, that obtained a Phd and was head of the Washoe school district and had a school named after him.

The dairy in McGill has gone through a lot of changes over the years. I don't know when it started and am not sure when it ended, but it has been called several names. McGill Dairy, McGill Dairy Co. and Kennecott Dairy, that I know about.

The first item I could find was about an inspection by the health department in November 1916. It was found to have clean milking machines, barns and corrals.

November 15 1920, George Changos sold his dairy to the McGill Dairy. He had operated the dairy(name ???) for 3 years.

February 24, 2021. McGill Dairy was rated by the Nevada Health Dept. as the cleanest and best dairy in the area.

November 9, 1923. Dr. G. W. Green of the Nevada health Dept. reported that the McGill Dairy was an excellent dairy and had a healthy herd of cows.

1923. Nick Yiuntukis was listed as manager and part owner of the McGill Dairy. He made several trips to Utah to buy some good Holstein milk cows.

I don't know when the McGill Dairyu became the McGill Dairy Co., but on June 10, 1925, the McGill Dairy Co. reduced the price of a quart of milk from 15 cents to 10 cents and on June 25, 1925 began delivering milk to Ely.

1926—new milking machines were installed.

July 1, 1927 Nevada Consolidated Copper Co. (NCC) bought the McGill Dairy. Their goal was to run the dairy along with the boarding house and commissary on a non-profit basis to to provide low prices to the McGill and Ruth workers.

July 12, 1927. O. G. Bates won a decree against the McGill Dairy for a \$5,100 chattel mortgage.

February 6, 1930 A new milking barn of brick was erected at the dairy. They were milking 120 cows at that point.

The milk from the milking machines was pooled and then pasteurized and then cooled before bottling. The milk was pooled to make sure that each quart of milk was the same.



The bottling area was in the front part of this building.

My Mom took my brother Paul and myself to the milking shed one time and Mr. piccolo shows us how they bottled the milk and cream. We got to see the cows being hooked up to the milking machines.

Years later, I was a Nevada Dept. of Health Inspector and inspected the dairies in Lund.

Many years later I wrote an article that ended up in the Bristlecone Newspaper in November, 2023, about the wonderful McGill dairy cream.

Maybe I can pen an article about the various folks that worked the McGill Dairy.

Old Photo



The milk bottling building can be seen just over the heads of the two middle boys sitting on a homemade diving board.

That was the start of McGill's world famous swimming pool.