

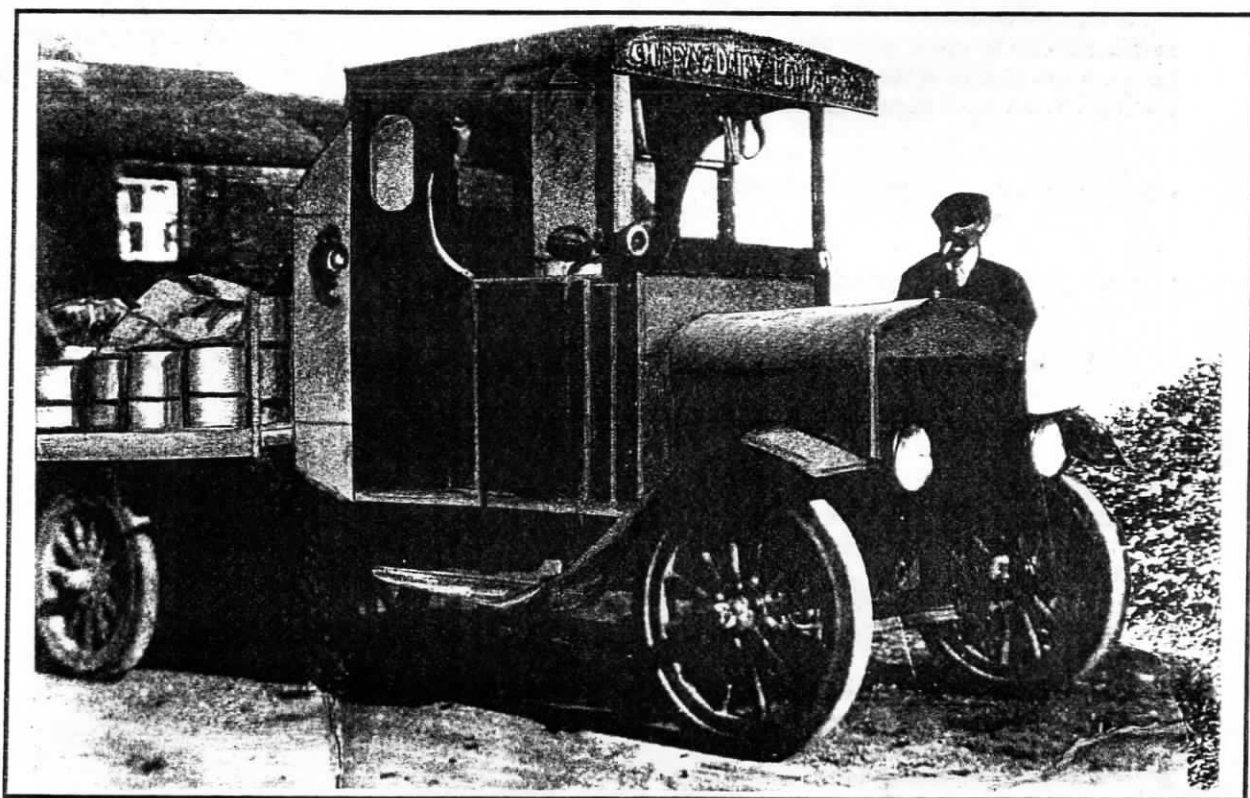
# MISS KNOWLES AND

Miss Margaret Knowles (1872-1943), was a daughter of William and Alice Knowles of Latus Hall, Goosnargh. William was a noted cheesemaker and prizewinner, and his daughter followed the family tradition.

According to family knowledge, Miss Knowles went to Reading University. Then she obtained a post at the County Council Farm at Hutton from when it opened in 1894 until 1913. There she was a highly respected teacher of cheesemaking and lived on site being also deputy matron to the girl students in residence. The agricultural press regarded Miss M. Knowles and her colleague Miss M. Macqueen (matron and head of the dairy school) as "two of the most accomplished teachers in the Kingdom, scientifically skilled, and the most accurate, with the faculty of imparting knowledge..." The County Council also employed Mr Joseph Gornall, of Pilling and later Cabus, as a mobile teacher of cheesemaking, who gave instruction on farm, staying a couple of days or so and travelling around on his bike. Miss Knowles and Mr Joseph Gornall were regularly praised by the press before the First War for making a major contribution to the profitability of Lancashire dairy farms and giving Lancashire cheese a great reputation.

In the early years of the First War Miss Knowles was employed at the Warrington Labour Exchange and one of her duties seems to have been organising the training and placing of women in dairy farm work.

A dairy in the former Goose Lane iron foundry, was being run by a Miss Eva Morley in 1913. Miss Knowles was there by 1916, when she obtained a lease of the premises from the Brabin's Trustees. She lived just across the fields at Radcliffe Cottage. By 1920 she was also running the Goose Lane Dairy Farm. As a member of the first Chipping Show Committee in 1920, she provided the show field on her farm adjoining the Chipping Dairy.



A Chipping Dairy lorry loaded with cheese. The driver, Jack Fawell, is on the right.

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Cheesemaking at "Chipping Dairy" on Goose Lane ended about 1935, though the buildings were used for storage after that date. A cheese dairy was established about 1934 (by Jack Ellison and Tim Procter) in the former Spindle and Fly factory at Wolfen Mill. In 1968 this Wolfen Mill Dairy Co. moved into the premises on Goose Lane formerly used by Miss Knowles.