Mr. H. M. Lister retires

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Mr. Harold Montgomery Lister who retired from the Dairy Division of the Department of Agriculture in July of this year, was born in the city of Leeds in 1895 and received his primary and secondary education at the Leeds Modern School. He attended the Leeds University before coming to Australia, where he gained considerable experience in various dairy produce factories in Victoria, ultimately becoming foreman and assistant manager of a large dairy company at Foster, and manager of the Bradford Dairy Company.

In 1929 he came to Western Australia as manager of the Bunbury factory of the South-West Co-operative Dairy Farmers' Ltd. On the erection of the small dairy produce factory at Muresk Agricultural College and the inauguration of the course for the Diploma in Dairying, Mr. Lister was selected to occupy the post of superintendent. In this position he was responsible for the training of a number of young men who are now making their contributions to the dairy industry in dairy produce factories and in various administrative posts.

Owing to the exigencies of wartime no students were available for the dairy course in 1942 and when a crisis arose regarding the export of surplus eggs, the Commonwealth Government decided to erect an egg-drying plant in West Perth. Mr. Lister was transferred to undertake the organisation of the installation of equipment and the operation of the plant and continued in this position until 1946 when he returned to the Muresk College to recommence the Dairy Course.

In 1954 he was transferred to the headquarters of the Department of Agriculture in Perth as the Officer-in-Charge of Dairy Factory and Produce Supervision. His duties included the administration of the Dairy Industry and Margarine Acts, the direction of the operations of the Dairy Laboratory, and the activities of Dairy Instructors, responsible for farm dairy inspection.
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