

Agriculture

Le savant professeur H. Georges, dans le Journal d'Agriculture pratique, s'exprime ainsi au sujet des odeurs respirées par les vaches et de leur influence sur la qualité de leur lait :

"On sait avec quelle facilité le lait absorbe les odeur et les substances volatiles répandues dans le milieu ambiant. Du lait que l'on laisse dans le voisinage d'une substance odorante pendant quelques heures, s'en imprègne d'une façon très marquée et devient souvent impossible à boire.

"L'expérience a été faite avec les substances suivantes ; eau de goudron, essence de térébenthine, gaz de houille, oignons, fumée et tabac, musc, assa fétida, camphre, poisson pourri, etc. Les échantillons de lait sont complètement imprégnés de ces odeurs au bout de huit heures, et ils les conservent pendant quatorze heures.

"Or, même dans le pis de la vache, le lait peut contracter une mauvaise odeur par suite des influences extérieures. Sous ce rapport, l'action des aliments consommés est trop connue pour qu'il faille y insister. Mais, ce que l'on connaît moins, c'est l'influence des odeurs respirées par la vache.

"Le journal de la Société royale d'agriculture d'Angleterre a publié sur ce sujet un travail intéressant du Docteur Vieth, où sont relatés des faits très curieux.

"Douze vaches du troupeau d'une ferme passaient à une certaine distance du cadavre d'un veau abandonné au bord du chemin, pour se rendre à l'endroit où s'effectuait la traite. Elles respiraient donc, chaque fois, pendant quelques instants, un air infect, provenant de la putréfaction. Or, cela suffit pour gâter non seulement le lait de ces douze vaches, mais encore celui de toutes les autres vaches du troupeau au nombre de 80, avec lesquelles les premières se trouvaient en contact au moment de la traite. L'enfouissement du cadavre en question fit disparaître immédiatement l'altération du lait.

"Voici un autre fait analogue :

"Le lait d'un troupeau de 25 vaches dégageait une odeur intolérable. On en chercha la cause et on finit par découvrir, dans un bois voisin où les vaches pénétraient souvent, la carcasse d'un cheval qu'on avait jeté là au printemps. On enterra ce cadavre, et aussitôt le lait reprit ses qualités normales.

"Ce n'est donc pas sans raison que l'on recommande une extrême propreté dans les étables, une très grande pureté de l'air, le renouvellement de cet air dès qu'il est vicié. Ces précautions sont indispensables pour la bonne qualité du lait.

"C'est pour la même raison que, lorsqu'on a désinfecté une étable à l'acide phénique, il faut bien se garder d'y replacer sur-le-champ des vaches laitières, parce qu'alors, leur lait consommé cru ou cuit, provoque des nausées et même des vomissements. Il faut attendre la disparition complète des vapeurs phéniques."

LES BONNES PRAIRIES

Un bon cultivateur disait, l'autre jour, que les belles et bonnes prairies se faisaient les printemps et l'automne.

"Voyez vous, disait-il, beaucoup de cultivateurs ne se doutent pas du dommage qu'ils font à leurs prairies, en les faisant pâturer de bonne heure au printemps et aussitôt que le foin est enlevé, jusque tard à l'automne.

C'est une des plus mauvaises pratiques que je connaisse ; comment voulez vous qu'une prairie ainsi rasée puisse donner un bon rendement ? Je ne suis pas contre l'usage de faire pâturer les prairies ; mais il faut le faire avec discernement et empêcher le bétail de raser l'herbe de la prairie jusqu'à la racine. Je ne permets jamais la chose, et quand l'hiver prend mes prairies trouvent toujours contre les grands froids une certaine protection dans le regain que je laisse d'une certaine hauteur ; le trèfle surtout a besoin de cette protection.

LES FEUILLES MORTES

C'est maintenant le temps pour le cultivateur qui veut augmenter son tas du fumier de recueillir une ample provision de feuilles mortes. Il ne faut pas oublier que les feuilles sèches constituent la meilleure litière que l'on puisse trouver ; c'est la litière par excellence. Pourquoi les cultivateurs qui le peuvent facilement, et ils sont nombreux, ne feraient-ils pas une ample moisson de feuilles sèches ; ils y trouveraient des avantages sous tous les rapports.

A HEALTHY WOMAN.



Nine-tenths of all the suffering and disease in the world comes from the kidneys. Yet how few people there are who take any care of these delicate little organs. Backache, lame back, headaches, listlessness, all signs of kidney trouble, are almost universal.

Doan's Kidney Pills

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Mrs. A. Brown, P. O. Box 200, Dresden, Ont., says: "For years I suffered from dropsical trouble which caused me much distress. I heard of Doan's Kidney Pills and got a box of them at Switzer's Drug Store. Before commencing to take them I was unable to button my shoes on account of my swollen condition, but by the time I had finished the first box I could do this without inconvenience. I have now taken a second box and have no hesitation in recommending Doan's Kidney Pills for any kidney or dropsical trouble."
Price 50c a box, 3 for \$1.25, all Druggists. The Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.

Making Talking Machines

A big Factory that turns out a thousand a day

The talking machine is coming into such general use for home entertainment and for business purposes, that the making of talking machines is now counted as a permanent industry. The extent of this industry and its rapid growth are among the most interesting features of recent industrial progress in America. The great improvement in the talking machines has made it a much to be desired musical instrument for the home. In fact a Graphophone is all instruments in one as it will reproduce the music of any instrument as well as the human voice.

One of the largest factory buildings in the great manufacturing city of Bridgeport, Connecticut, is devoted exclusively to the making of Graphophones and Graphophone supplies. It may be well to explain here that the perfected talking machine manufactured under the patents of Alexander Graham Bell and his associates is known as the Graphophone. In common parlance the talking machine is generally spoken of as the phonograph, but in the patent office vocabulary the name of the original invention of Edison, an invention which demonstrated the possibility of recording and reproducing sound but was not developed to a point that gave the instrument commercial value.

The American Graphophone

Company's manufacturing plant at Bridgeport covers an entire square of ground and its large buildings are among the most conspicuous that meet the view of the passengers on the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R., as they enter the city going eastward. There are two long factory buildings connected by an "ell"; these buildings are each 60 feet wide by 400 feet in depth, and together with the "L" provide more than 160,000 feet of floor space devoted to the manufacture of Graphophones and appurtenances. The active and prosperous career of the American Graphophone Company may really be dated from its reorganization in 1895 and its alliance, made soon after that time, with the Columbia Phonograph Company. Now the two companies are practically under the same management, the American Graphophone Company being the manufacturer and the Columbia Phonograph Company the salesman. Through this arrangement the Graphophone industry is represented in many of the American cities, as well as in Europe, by large establishments fitted up as exhibition and sales Headquarters. In New York city where the Executive Offices are located in the Bowling Green Buildings, there are also two large stores or places. There are also handsome stores and exhibition rooms in Paris, St. Louis, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore, Buffalo and San Francisco.

The factory owing to the nature of its product, for the invention of the talking machine is so little understood that it has not lost the fascination of mystery, is one of the most interesting establishments that a person attracted by curious manufacturing processes could visit. A large part of the factory of course is devoted to the metal work involved in the making of Graphophone frames and which does not differ from the metal work of other factories. The peculiar processes are those required to make the recorders and reproducers and the wax-like cylinders employed to receive the engraved records of sound. The recorders and reproducers are made of aluminium, glass and sapphire. The case is of aluminium, the diaphragm of French plate glass rolled to an almost inconceivable thinness, and the cutting style of the recorder as well as the reproducing point of the reproducer is fashioned of sapphire. Several lapidaries are engaged constantly in the work of cutting and polishing the little sapphire jewels. Machinery for the rapid production of the wax-like cylinders has been especially devised by the superintendent of the factory, as this was practically a new industry when the factory was established.

Much attention is given at the factory to the possible development of the talking machine art and a spacious laboratory is maintained where draughtsmen and skilled workmen are employed working out new ideas. In this laboratory about all of the improvements that have brought the talking machine to its present efficient state, have had their origin.

The present capacity of the factory is about 1,000 machines a day, but in the busiest times of the year even this output is insufficient to meet the demand.

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