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? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed April 20, 1934

AIR CONDITIONING AND STOCK-RAISING

By Charles Fitzhugh Talman,  
Authority on Meteorology.

In the April, 1934, number of the journal Heating, Piping and Air Conditioning, Dr. C.A. Mills, of the University of Cincinnati, traces some of the limitations and handicaps that natural climates now impose upon mankind, including the climatic factor in the prevalence of various diseases, and points out some of the revolutionary possibilities opened up by the substitution of artificial for natural climates incident to the spread of air-conditioning and air-cooling. Not only will these new arts promote human health and energy in the tropics and elsewhere, but they can also be turned to account in the raising of domestic animals.

Experimental studies show, says Dr. Mills, that animals raised under optimal climatic conditions are more fertile, mature earlier and are in all ways more vigorous than those subjected to warm and humid climates. In the southern United States from Louisiana eastward the natural climate makes stock-raising difficult. Breeders have introduced vigorous strains from more stimulating regions, only to find them soon sinking to the lean, stringy type so common in that region. It is almost impossible to keep a herd of good milk cows there, principally because of the toll taken by tuberculosis and the climatic suppression of metabolism. An artificially cooled environment during periods when the animals would, in any case, be indoors, should prove very beneficial in the raising not only of cattle, but also of race horses, dogs, poultry, etc.

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