ed at any of the fairs though taking the same pains to keep up the standard of his herd as formerly.

We have said that Mr. Fisher began to make fancy butter. In this line he has been most successful, disposing of his butter at fancy prices to the grocers of Montreal. He has also been very successful as a prize-winner for fancy butter at the various Eastern Townships and Montreal exhibitions. He very early became a believer in the silo as a means of preserving succulent food for the winter feeding of stock, and was the first farmer in Canada, if not the first in America, to build a wooden silo. He recognized that the stone or cement silos which were then being built were beyond the means of the ordinary farmer, and that wood would serve the purpose just as well.

By his skill and ability and the practical experience acquired after a few years, Mr. Fisher soon succeeded in making Alva Farm one of the very best in the Eastern Townships, the banner agricultural district of the Province of Quebec. He made a thorough study of the best methods of agriculture, and by applying them in a practical way to his own farm and his own conditions, was able to make his chosen vocation a success and to fit himself for the position he now fills so ably.

As might be expected in a farmer of Mr. Fisher's education and ability his services were in frequent demand in a public way in his own province. He became a justice of the peace, vice-president of the Quebec Provincial Dairy Association and vice-president of the Quebec Fruit Growers' Association. He was always in demand at dairy and agricultural conventions in his own province to speak on all sorts of agricultural topics. When the dairymen of Quebec were desirous of establishing a scheme of factory inspection, Mr. Fisher was deputed by the committee in charge of the matter to draw up for the use of the Government a memorandum embodying his views as to what the proposed scheme should be. On this memorandum was based the present system of factory syndicates and factory inspection which has revolutionized the dairy system of Quebec.—"Farming."

FERMENTED vs. FRESH MANURE.

Should manure be applied to the soil only when it is well rotted, or should it be used when fresh? The chief reasons given by the advocates of the first method are as follows:

Fermented manure contains more available plant food.

It is more suitable for light soils than fresh strawy manure.

Weed seeds are destroyed in well rotted manure. (Quite right. Ed.)

It is a well known fact that in fermented manure the plant food contained is more available than in fresh manure, but this change has not been obtained without a considerable loss of the original plant food. Ton for ton, fermented manure is richer, but it should not be forgotten that it takes two tons of fresh manure to make one of fermented, as the following experiment carried on at Cornell conclusively proves: 10,000 lbs. of fresh cow manure were exposed in a compact heap during 8 months. At the beginning of the experiment, the manure contained 47 lbs. of nitrogen, at the end, 28 lbs., showing a loss of 45 per cent. of the original nitrogen. But at the end of the experiment the manure weighed only 5,125 lbs. Therefore the 10,000 lbs. of fresh manure contained 47 lbs. of nitrogen, or 9.41 per ton, while the resulting 5,125 lbs. of rotted manure contained 28 lbs., or 10.9 per ton. Rotted manure is then richer owing to the reduction of its volume, while in fact it has lost a large part of the plant food it originally contained. Is this loss compensated by the greater availability of the plant food remaining? It cannot be denied that when manure is applied to the soil shortly before the seeding of a cereal in the spring it should at least be partially fermented so as to supply the first needs of the growing plant.

Advocates of fresh manure claim, how-