Nothing has here been said about the part which the care of the cows plays in determining the quality of the butter. It is fully as important that they be fed upon good food and well cared for in every respect as it is that the milk and cream he properly attended to and the churning done in the right way. The best butter maker in the world cannot take such milk as is brought into some farm-houses and from it evolve a high-grade product. Filth of every description should be avoided in the stable and in handling the nullk therein. Many milkers are careless and do not take sufficient pains to keep foreign particles out of the pail. Milk once tainted in this manner will carry stable odors to the churn and the butter-tub.

There must be co-operation between the workers out of doors and those within if the butter is to rank as first quality upon the market.

There is a satisfaction which comes as a result of work well done in any direction. In nothing is this more true than in regard to making butter. Farm butter at present ranks as inferior to creamery; yet, were all farm butter made as it should be, and as it might be, this distinction would quickly disappear.

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Fertilizers in Cold Climates

Written for Farming by R. Garwood.

It is well known that quick growing crops, or crops grown in countries which from their high latitudes or other causes, have a comparatively short season of growth, require • plant food in a form very readily assimilated by the plant. An important matter in relation to this point is that, with a shortened growing season, maturity closely follows actual growth.

If a crop of potatoes, for example, is grown in a northern latitude to be used as seed for more southern sections, it is very important that ample supplies of the mineral manures, potash and phosphate should be assimilated early in the growing season. Only a fully matured potato gives satisfactory results as seed, and a dwindling supply of mineral fertilizer during the latter stages of growth is pretty sure to result in a crop of immature potatoes; of lessened value as food and of little value as seed.

Canada-grown seed potatoes have for a long time been used in the United States for early potatoes, but of late years have only too frequently failed to give satisfactory results. It is very common for the "eyes" to fail to germinate, though the fuber is fair and plump so far as out-ward appearance goes. This is very probably due to the exhaustion of potash in many of the Canadian soils, from constant cropping without adequate restitution. Where wood-ushes are used freely, the same result happens very commonly; wood ashes are a good source of fertilizer potash, but they also carry large quantities of lime which acts to liberate the supplies of potash existing naturally in the soil; as a consequence, the soil rapidly becomes deficient in potash. In the United States farmers have a common "saying" to the effect that lime enriches the father at the expense of the son, meaning that the use of lime tends to exhaust potash quickly. If sufficient supplies of wood-ashes were used to keep up the supply of potash, there could be no damage from the free use of lime, but to properly supply the potash needed yearly would require more wood ashes than the Dominion can supply in ten years.

Potatoes are an exhaustive crop. They are largely water and starch, it is true, but a good crop of potatoes remove from the soil 109 pounds of potash for every 20 pounds of phosphoric acid. Unlike most other annual crops, potatoes remove more potash than nitrogen. Wheat removes only a little more potash than phosphoric acid, but oats much more closely resemble potatoes. An acre of oats will require more than twice the potash of an acre of wheat. What has been said of the influence of an ample supply of fertilizer minerals for the proper maturity of potatoes applies with equal force to wheat and oats, or other crops.

As seed their condition for use in the Dominion is just as important as it is in the United States.

To insure a supply of fertilizers at the proper time, use them early as well as in ample quantities. The mineral fertilizers, that is, phosphoric acid and potash, will lose little or nothing by being applied weeks or months before plant growth begins, so long as surface washing can be prevented. With nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia, the application must be made only shortly before seeding. With minerals, apply enough and apply it early is a safe maxim.

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Prince Edward Island Farmers' and Dairymen's Association

(Specially Reported by J. A. M.)

The semi annual meeting took place on January 5th and 6th last at Wilmot Valley. The attendance of delegates from all over the province was large. A remarkable and pleasing feature of the meetings was the number of newspaper men present. All were in a happy mood, and were bent on doing something good.

At I p.m. on Thursday the meeting was called to order by Vice-President John R. Edwards, of North Wiltshire. Joseph Rogers spoke of the advantages of mixed farming, which was, in his opinion, the most profitable line to follow. Special farming might do very well when prices were good, but, from his opinion in swine-breeding, dairying, etc., mixed farming paid the best.

William Thompson read a paper on general farming, and how to make it pay, closing by asking a series of questions in reference to paying lines of farming. Mr. Brown spoke of the Rattenbury pork-packing estab-

Mr. Brown spoke of the Rattenbury pork-packing establishment, and suggested appointing a delegation to wait on the proprietors with a view of ascertaining the quality of hog best suited to their requirements.

Mr. Pond was of the opinion that the proposed factory at Summerside should be built forthwith.

The hog was the next subject placed before the meeting for discussion. Mr. Crockett gave his experience of feeding a bunch of young pigs last summer. The litter had remained on the sow for about two months, when he turned them into a field of clover, feeding some skim-milk and whey, and all the raw mangels they would eat. At abov' six months old they netted him (the litter) \$130. He thought this was the cheapest, best, and most profitable method of feeding he had ever tried.

Mr. Anderson spoke commendatory of Mr. C.'s management. He did not approve of boiling for pigs, and they would grow and thrive without a drop of milk. Peas, oats and vetches were the best feed, and daily exercise for an hour or two was quite necessary.

Mr. Turner deprecated the idea of purchasing the pigs, even at \$1.50 each; could raise them for 50c. Something should be done to create a better under-

Something should be done to create a better understanding between the pork-factory and the farmers. The factory docked too much of the weight of the hog, and the farmers lacked confidence, for very good reasons, in the factory. The hog, like every other animal, would pay in proportion to the time and care given him, and, with the prices that should be obtained from the factory, would pay best of all.

Mr. Craig thought intelligence in feeding a most important consideration. He raised two litters per year; he boiled for bcth, but the winter pigs cost him more than the summer pigs He had never heard of anyone feeding the way Mr. Crockett did, but believed more economy should be exercised in feeding. He considered turnips worthless to feed hogs. Young pigs should have more soft feed and less grain.

Some discussion arose as to the best breed of hogs, and pros and cons of each were taken up.

Mr. Rogers wished to convey the impression that hogs did not pay on a large scale. It did not pay to feed polatoes when worth 48c. a bushel. It was all right to feed a small amount of potatoes—unmerchantable ones that would otherwise go to waste.