

from the kilns. It is in lumps averaging about the size of a tea-cup. The present cost of this lime is 15s. per ton in bulk on trucks, in truck-load lots. The railways carry lime free of cost for distances not exceeding 100 miles, and as every railway-station in Southland and south Otago has a lime-kiln within 100 miles, it means that farmers can buy shell lime at 15s. per ton at their nearest station.

The lime must be carried straight from the trucks to the paddock in which it is to be used. It is applied to the land after the latter is ploughed, generally at the rate of 2 tons per acre. The best method of doing this is to mark the paddock off in lines 8 yards apart. The lines are poled off just as one would do in laying off a paddock for ploughing in lands. A horse drawing a light plough, a log of wood, or anything that will make a good clear mark is driven along the lines. The man carting the lime then takes his dray along these lines, and every 8 yards stops and puts out three shovelfuls of the shell lime in a heap. The shovels used are the short-handled, square-nosed shovels commonly known in the South as lime-shovels. When the carting is finished the paddock will be dotted with heaps of lime 8 yards apart every way. Heaps this distance apart each containing three shovelfuls will equal approximately 2 tons per acre. The lime is then left until it has air-slacked. In this process it increases enormously in bulk and forms into a fine powder. Directly it is in this state it should be spread. The spreading is done with a shovel, and with a little practice and care a man can spread it in this way very evenly over the paddock. If it is desired to use less than 2 tons per acre, as little as 1 ton of shell lime can be used. When using this quantity about a shovel and a half is put in each heap, and then, in order to increase the bulk, three or four shovelfuls of earth should be thrown on each heap. In slacking, the lime will rise right through the soil, and the two will be thoroughly mixed together, and then can be spread. Unless the bulk is increased in this way as small a quantity as 1 ton per acre cannot be spread evenly with a shovel. Even though mixed with soil as stated, a smaller quantity of shell lime cannot be spread evenly. After being spread, the lime should be well worked into the soil by cultivation.

#### GROUND BURNT LIME.

This is merely the shell lime put into a grinder and ground to a coarse powder. It is put up in sacks, and is railed in truck lots free in the same way as shell lime. It is sold at £1 per ton; the sacks are charged for, and, if returned, are allowed for, generally