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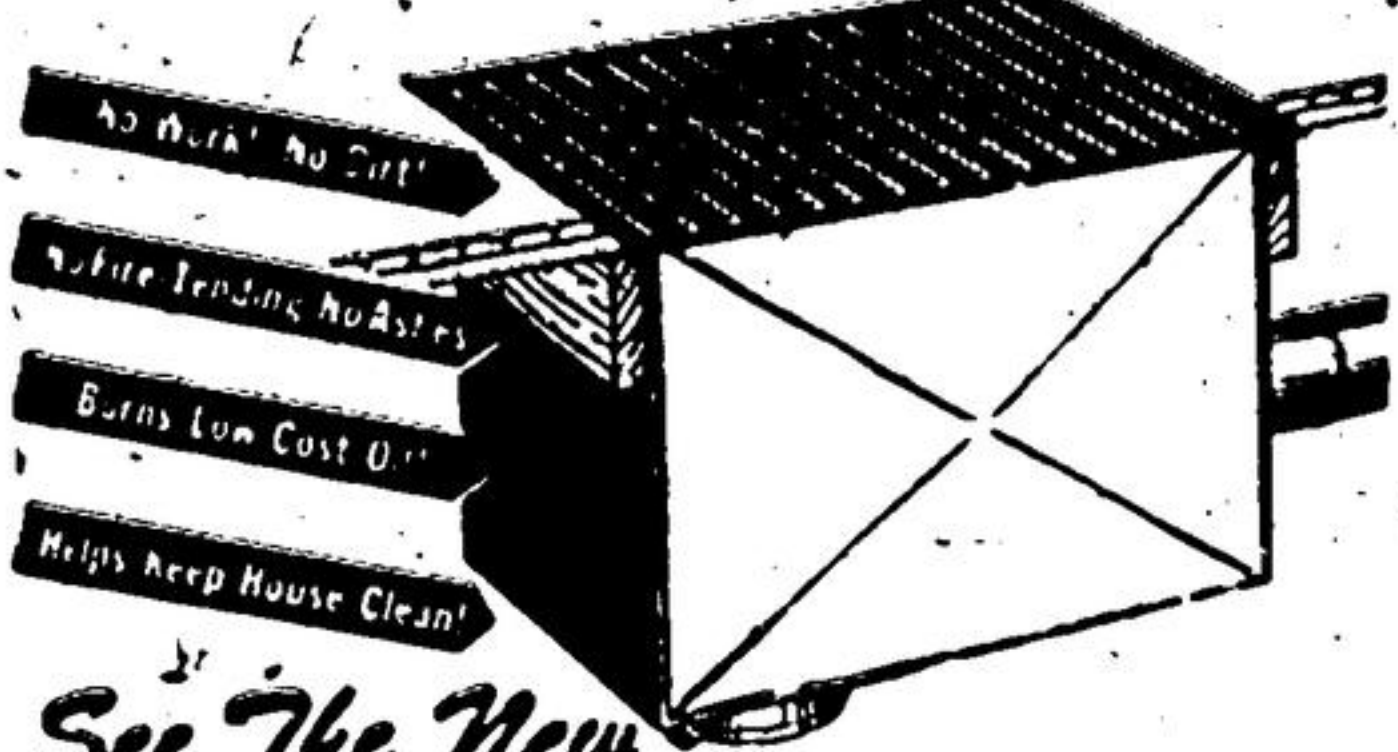
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FARM NEWS

**HALTON SOILS
NEED LIME**

J. E. W.

Reports on soil samples tested by the Soils Dept. at the Ontario Agricultural College reveal that in 1953, of the 312 Halton soil samples tested 66 per cent were acid in reaction. While we have not summarized the reports on Halton soils tested in 1954, we note in a goodly percentage of cases that applications of agricultural lime are recommended. Certainly any soil that shows a PIF of below 6 definitely requires lime if that soil is to produce a satisfactory crop of alfalfa.

Lime Is Not A Fertilizer

Agricultural limestone should not be confused with commercial fertilizer. The first step in our opinion is to submit a soil sample to the Soils Dept. at the Ont. Agricultural College. Soil sample boxes and instructions re-taking of the soil samples can be had for the asking, at the agricultural office in Milton. The testing service at Guelph is performed free of charge, so all that it costs to get a report on your soil, is a few cents postage on the soil sample.

Now Is The Time

This is the time of year to get your samples gathered. Furthermore, if submitted now there will be no delay in four or five months time when you may wish to place an order for your fertilizer requirements. This is the time of year when personally we would want to get the lime spread on the fields. While some folk order and apply lime without bothering with a soil test — we personally would want a soil test before purchasing something we are not sure we need — that may be due to some remote Scottish ancestor but in any event, money is a scarce enough article on most farms without using it to buy an article which may not be needed.

Subsidy on Transportation
The Ontario Department of Agri-

FARM NEWS

**Hog Marketings Below
Those of Last September**

J. E. W.

The Livestock and Meat Trade Report issued weekly by the Canada Department of Agriculture contains a fund of interesting and valuable information.

At the end of September these reports reveal that hog marketings in 1954 for Canada were down 3.6 per cent below the same time a year ago. It was not until around June 1st that the weekly marketings caught up and passed the number being marketed a year ago. It is still anticipated that in the final quarter of the year, our hog marketings for Canada will catch up and surpass those of a year ago.

The final report we have is for the week of Sept. 25, when hog marketings for Canada hit 90,752, which means Canada is now marketing hogs in excess of domestic requirements. We can't help but wonder however, if Canada's hog production for 1954 will reach the point originally anticipated. With lower prices for hogs now prevailing, and with poorer crops in many parts of Western Canada, and bad harvesting conditions not only in the west but also in some parts of Eastern Canada, it may well be that the next month or two might be a good time to pick up some weaning pigs — providing one can be sure they are free of rhinitis.

Alberta Price vs. Ontario

In 1953 Alberta was from the

culture pays a subsidy on transportation of lime. Agricultural lime can be purchased at a very nominal price. Furthermore, there are folks who provide a service of trucking and spreading the lime where required. For further details may we suggest that if interested, you contact the Agricultural Office in Milton, but don't wait until winter sets in.

standpoint of hog marketings, surpassed only by Ontario. At the end of September this year Alberta had marketed 979,195 hogs in comparison with 1,008,990 hogs at the same time a year ago. The comparative figures for Ontario were 1,254,053 in 1954, and 1,368,985 in 1953.

In short, all four western provinces at the end of September were below their marketings of a year ago at the same date. Here in Eastern Canada, Quebec and the Maritimes are above their 1953 output, with Ontario only showing decreased marketings of approximately 85 per cent.

We were somewhat surprised when we compared hog prices in Toronto with the Alberta markets of Edmonton and Calgary. In Toronto hog prices have ranged from around \$25.50 at the end of September to \$28.50 during the first week in August, or for the 9 weeks period, the average price in Toronto is around \$27.44. At the Edmonton market the price range for the same period is given as \$24.50 at the end of September, and \$26.75 on August 1st or an average price of \$26.40 for the period. At Calgary, the average price for the nine weeks period works out at \$25.91 per cwt. According to our information the freight rate on hogs from Edmonton and Calgary to Toronto is around \$2.20 per cwt. This would appear to indicate that Alberta hogs when laid down in Toronto, were costing on the average for the period in question around \$21.50 per cwt. live weight, against \$20.58 per cwt. live weight for Ontario hogs purchased at the Toronto market. Incidentally, we have been using Grade A prices in all cases.

British Still Interested

It is encouraging to learn from Edwin Harrop, well known Equestrian Township farmer, that the British people are still interested in Canadian Bacon. Mr. Harrop spent several weeks in the British Isles this past summer. While there he revisited the bacon plant formerly owned by his late father, and now being operated by a cousin — also went through a packing plant which processes 120 hogs per hour and in addition contacted others engaged in the bacon business. All spoke highly of the quality of bacon Canada shipped overseas during the war years, and expressed the desire for more of it when trade difficulties now existing are eliminated. "Your best Canadian bacon is equal to the top Danish," they stated. On the other hand they were very critical of their own English bacon hogs — too fat. As we interpreted Mr. Harrop's comments, the only good hogs they get in England aside from Danish, are from Southern Ireland.

Grade A's Less Than 26%

We can't help but wonder as we look over Canada's hog marketing picture for 1954, what our British cousins would think if they knew that of the 3,457,888 hogs marketed in Canada for the first nine months of the year, that less than 26 per cent were Grade A's. One would almost be justified in concluding that a lot of our hog producers aren't very much concerned as to whether or not they have a market for their product. We should all realize that when all is said and done, Canada is our best market. We were consuming even in 1953 in Canada, over 90,000 hogs per week — that isn't true today. In part that is due to lower beef prices, but in part, the swing to increased beef consumption is also due to lower quality pork products. Surely we haven't got to go back to \$10.00 per cwt. for hogs before we waken up to the importance of a quality produce whether for the domestic or export market.

As we have stated on more than one occasion, Halton producers could have 60 per cent A's at least, if they would do nothing more than market their hogs at the proper weights. What was Halton's percentage A's in 1953? 34.4 per cent and our guess is it will be still lower at the end of 1954!

STEWARTTOWN

(last week)

Mrs. Joseph Hunter of Norval, Mr. and Mrs. Will Lawson and daughter Beth of Toronto were visitors with Mrs. Lawson on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson of Toronto spent the holiday week-end with Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Grant.

At the Junior W.A. meeting held last week, Ineka Kouslak, chose the hymn and conducted the worship service. The hymn was Jesus Loves Me. Grutha Kouslak sang the chorus in Dutch. Judy Walker presented the Wednesday Pledge. The support of a cot in St. Luke's Hospital, Hebrow, Palestine. Roll Call answered by the text "Blessed Are the pure in heart for they shall see God."

Happy-birthday wishes to Lillian Lawson 8 years old on Sunday, September 17th.

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Modern processing of bauxite ore to make low-cost aluminum uses fantastic quantities of power. That is why Canada is one of the world's major aluminum suppliers. In Quebec province, smelters at Arvida, Shawinigan Falls, Isle Maligne and Beauharnois last year used nearly one-fifth of the country's total electrical output. And in British Columbia new sources of water power are feeding the pot lines of the new smelter at Kitimat. Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. (Alcan).



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