

SALE AND PURCHASE OF WHEAT.

REGULATIONS as to the sale and purchase of wheat of the current season were gazetted on 25th February. With the exception of amended prices, and added provisions regarding the sale of old wheat, the scheme of Government control is similar in general to that of last year, a descriptive summary of which was published in the *Journal* for February, 1918. The clauses of the present regulations embodying new matter of chief concern to farmers are extracted as follows :—

PURCHASES OF WHEAT BY THE GOVERNMENT.

16. Government brokers will buy good milling-wheat on account of the Government at the following prices :—

A. Good milling-wheat grown in the South Island elsewhere than in the Provincial Districts of Nelson and Marlborough :—

(1.) Sold for delivery free on board at the nearest port—

(a.) In January, February, March, April, May, or June, 1919, 6s. 6d. per bushel.

(b.) In July, 1919, 6s. 6½d. per bushel.

(c.) In August, 1919, 6s. 7d. per bushel.

(d.) In September, 1919, 6s. 7½d. per bushel.

(e.) In or after October, 1919, 6s. 8d. per bushel.

(2.) Sold for delivery otherwise than free on board at the nearest port, a price equivalent as regards the seller to the prices aforesaid.

B. Good milling-wheat grown in the North Island or in the Provincial Districts of Nelson or Marlborough :—

(1.) Sold for delivery free on rail at the nearest railway-station—

The same price as that fixed by subclause A hereof for good milling-wheat grown in the South Island (elsewhere than in Nelson or Marlborough) and sold for delivery free on board at the nearest port, with an addition of 4d. per bushel.

(2.) Sold for delivery otherwise than free on rail at the nearest railway-station—

A price equivalent as regards the seller to the price aforesaid.

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19. Sacks will be paid for, in addition to the above prices, at the fair market value, not exceeding an amount less by 2d. than the maximum prices of sacks as fixed by an Order in Council of the 21st January, 1919, made under the authority of section 2 of the Regulation of Trade and Commerce Act, 1914.

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SALE OF OLD WHEAT.

74. Nothing in the foregoing regulations shall apply to wheat of the season 1917-18 (hereinafter referred to as old wheat), and, save as herein otherwise provided, all such wheat that has not been disposed of before the date of the making of these regulations shall remain subject to the Wheat Trade Regulations, 1917.

75. (1.) Old wheat will be purchased by Government brokers at the prices fixed by clause 16 of the Wheat Trade Regulations, 1917, for wheat to be delivered in or after the month of September, 1918. Sacks will be paid for at the price fixed by clause 19 of these regulations in lieu of the price fixed by clause 19 of the Wheat Trade Regulations, 1917.

(2.) All old wheat so purchased shall be sold by Government brokers as if it were wheat of the season 1918-19 sold to the Government for delivery during the month in which it is sold by the Government. Clause 33 of the Wheat Trade Regulations, 1917, is hereby modified in so far as it is inconsistent with this clause.

76. Every person who sells old wheat to the Government shall disclose in writing to the Government broker the fact that it is old wheat, and every seller of old wheat who fails to make such disclosure commits an offence against these regulations, and shall be liable under the War Regulations Act, 1914, accordingly.

77. Every person who is knowingly concerned in the sale to or purchase by the Government of any old wheat at a price in excess of the prices fixed by the Wheat Trade Regulations, 1917, for wheat to be delivered in the month of September, 1918, commits an offence against these regulations, and shall be liable under the War Regulations Act, 1914, accordingly.