

Commercial.

THE NEW ZEALAND LOAN AND MERCANTILE AGENCY CO., LIMITED, report for week ending September 9 as follows:—

Store Cattle—A few lots are occasionally being placed, chiefly grown bullocks. With a continuation of favourable weather, an improvement will doubtless be experienced.

Store Sheep—The demand now is only to a very moderate extent, chiefly confined to good lines of crossbred and half-bred hoggets, which are not offering freely.

Wool—Telegrams report the Antwerp wool sales having closed flat, 8000 bales Australian being sold at from $\frac{1}{2}$ d to $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb below prices at close of last sales in London.

Sheepskins—A very active demand continues to be experienced for these, and although the supply is pretty considerable there is no lack of buyers in the market. Country dry crossbreds, inferior to medium, brought 2s 2½ to 4s 2d; do do merino, 1s 10½ to 3s 10d; full-wooled crossbreds, 4s 1½ to 7s 6d; do do merino, 4s 4d to 6s 1d; dry pelts, 4½ to 1½; butchers' green crossbreds, extra large pelted, 6s 6d to 7s; best do half-breds and fine crossbreds, 5s 10d to 6s 3d; good to medium, 5s 3d to 5s 9½; coarse-wooled and small, 4s 6d to 5s 2d; green merinos, 2s 8d to 4s 8d.

Rabbitskins—The demand continues strong, resulting in keen competition. Prices ruling this week showing but little difference compared with those of last week. We had a very satisfactory sale on Monday, when we disposed of a lengthy catalogue. We quote—Best skins, 1s 5½ to 1s 6½; medium to good, 1s 2½ to 1s 4½; autumn skins, 9d to 1s 1d; summer do, 5d to 8d; suckers and half-grown, 3d to 4½; black and fawn (best), 1s to 1s 1½; medium, 6d to 10½ per lb.

Hides—The market is unchanged, demand and value remaining the same for months past. We quote—60lb hides, 2½d to 3d; medium weights, 2d to 2½; light do, 1½d to 1¾d; inferior do, 1d to 1½d per lb.

Tallow—The regular demand for local consumption continues unabated, but there is very little doing in shipping lines. We quote—Medium to good rendered tallow, 16s to 18s; inferior and mixed, 12s to 15s; best rough fat, 12s 9d to 13s 6d; inferior to medium and good, 9s to 12s 6d per cwt.

Grain—Wheat: Telegrams to hand this week are less favourable, advising that the English wheat market has a downward tendency, while the Continental is declining, and the American changing for the worse. Meantime, this report will, no doubt, check any inclination for purchase except of actual requirements which are becoming more pronounced. A few sales are being effected, principally prime. We quote—for prime milling (Northern, velvet and Tuscan), 4s 9d to 4s 10½; medium to good (Southern), 4s 2½ to 4s 6d; inferior, 3s 9d to 4s; ex store, sacks weighed in, terms. Oats: The market continues steady. We quote—for best milling, 1s 6½d to 1s 7d; best short bright feed, 1s 6d to 1s 6½d; medium, 1s 4½ to 1s 5½; inferior, 1s to 1s 3d; small lots for seed occasionally from 1s 8d to 1s 10½; ex store, sacks extra, net cash; $\frac{3}{4}$ d per bushel more f.o.b. Dunedin. Barley: There is no business of any consequence being done in malting lines. We quote—for malting, nominal, say for prime, 2s 9d to 3s; medium, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; feed and milling, 2s to 2s 4d; ex store, sacks extra, terms.

Grass Seed—Moderate demand for ryegrass seed. Best machine-dressed, off old pasture, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; Pacey's imported, 5s 3d to 5s 6½; Poverty Bay, 6s 6d to 6s 9½. Less demand for cocksfoot seed. Best: dressed, 5½d to 6d; medium, 2½d to 5½ per lb.

Potatoes—There is no improvement to report. Best Derwents, 27s 6d to 30s; others, 20s to 25s per ton; sacks weighed in.

Chaff—Quotations for best, 47s 6d to 50s; medium, 42s 6d to 45s; inferior, 25s to 35s per ton.

Dairy Produce—The market is quite bare of prime salt butter, and would realise 9d to 10d per lb; medium plentiful and no demand. Factory made cheese has a slightly better demand, principally for intercolonial orders, but prices do not show much improvement, say 4½d to 5d for medium and 5d to 5½d per lb for best.

Flax—The position of the market at Home seems to be less satisfactory, prices slightly declining, but at the moment the small business done locally will not be much affected in consequence.

MESSRS. DONALD STRONACH AND SONS report for week ending September 2:—

Fat Cattle were in full supply at Burnside to-day, there being 265 head yarded—a large proportion being medium and inferior, which were difficult of sale; while anything prime was in good demand, and sold at about equal to last week's rates. Best bullocks brought £8 5s to £9 10s; medium, £5 15s to £7 10s; inferior, £4 10s to £2 10s.

Fat Sheep—A total of 3174 were penned, 200 being merinos, the balance crossbreds. Best crossbred wethers brought 18s 6d to 19s 6d; good, 16s to 17s 6d; medium, 13s to 15s; ewes (best), 14s to 15s 6d; medium, 12s 6d to 13s 6d; merinos, 10s to 15s.

Pigs—258 of all sorts were penned, including a large proportion of porkers. The demand was slack. Baconers sold from 30s to 37s 6d; porkers, 20s to 27s 6d; stores, 15s to 20s; slips, 12s to 15s; and suckers from 6s to 11s.

Store Sheep—There are numerous inquiries for good lines of hoggets and ewes in lamb.

Sheepskins—Large catalogues were submitted at the usual weekly sale on Tuesday last, when there was a full attendance of buyers. Country dry crossbreds, inferior to medium, brought 2s 3d to 4s 3d; do do merino, 1s 1½ to 3s 1½; full-wooled crossbreds, 4s 10d to 7s 9½; do do merino, 4s 3d to 6s 6d; dry pelts, 3d to 1s 10d; butchers' green crossbreds, extra large pelted, 7s 1d to 6d 8d; best do half-breds and fine crossbreds, 6s 6d to 6s; good to medium, 5s 1½ to 5s 3d; coarse-wooled and small, 5s 2d to 4s 6d; green merinos, 4s 9d to 2s 9d.

Rabbitskins—Although coming to hand in large quantities, are far short of requirements. Best greys, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; medium to good, 1s 2½d to 1s 4½d; autumn skins, 9d to 1s 1d; summer, 5d to 8d; suckers and half-grown, 3d to 4½d; black and fawn, 10d to 1s 2d.

Hides—No alteration in market. 60lb, 2½d to 3d; medium, 2d; light, 1½d to 1¾d.

Tallow also remains unaltered. Medium and good, 16s to 18s; inferior, 12s to 15s; rough fat, 12s 9d to 13s 6d; inferior to good, 9s to 12s 6d per cwt.

Grain—Wheat: Fair amount of business being done, principally prime milling and fowl wheat.—Oats: All qualities coming to hand are readily placed.

Chaff—Steady supply coming forward; values unchanged.

MESSRS DONALD BEID & Co. report for week ending September 9 as follows:—

Rabbitskins—There has been no decrease in the quantity of skins coming forward, and the quality, as yet, has not deteriorated. We offered a moderate catalogue, consisting mostly of winter skins, which were cleared under spirited competition. Prime winters, 17½d to 18½; medium, 16d to 17d; inferior, 13d to 15½d; coloured, 12d to 14½d; suckers, 2d to 4½d.

Sheepskins—We submitted a large catalogue at our sale on Tuesday, consisting principally of dry skins. There was brisk competition, at last week's prices. Green crossbreds, 4s 3d to 6s 9d; green merinos, 3s 8d to 4s 7d; dry crossbreds, 2s 3d to 6s 1d; dry merinos, 1s 5d to 5s 4d; dry pelts and lambs, 6d to 3s 1d.

Hides—There is nothing of consequence to report. Late quotations remain unaltered.

Tallow—The local market is very scantily supplied, and buyers complain of the small quantities obtainable from the various agencies. For all grades there is a ready sale at for—Prime rendered, 19s to 20s; medium, 16s to 18s; inferior, 13s to 15s; rough fat, 10s to 13s 6d per cwt.

Wheat—Business in this cereal continues much the same as when we last reported. Although stocks are not heavy, millers appear to have sufficient on hand to meet immediate requirements. We quote—Milling, prime to extra prime, 4s 7d to 4s 9½; medium, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; inferior, 4s to 4s 3d; fowl wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 1½d.

Oats—There is a good demand, although the market is scarcely so buoyant as when last reporting. We quote—Milling, 1s 6½d to 1s 7d; bright feed, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; discoloured feed, 1s 3d to 1s 5d.

Barley—There is a moderate demand for milling samples, at from 2s 1d to 2s 5d per bushel, and for malting, at from 2s 6d to 2s 10d (sacks extra).

Potatoes—The market is still very heavily stocked. Prime, 30s to 35s per ton; inferior, 20s to 27s 6d per ton.

Chaff—There is a strong demand for chaff of all sorts, there being a large consumption at this season. We quote—Prime heavy oat-chaff, £2 5d to £2 13s 6d; inferior, £1 17s 6d to £2 2s 6d; straw chaff, £1 10s to £1 15s.

Grass Seed—We quote—best Poverty Bay ryegrass, 6s 9d per bushel; Pacey's imported do, 5s 6d per bushel; machine-dressed colonial do, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per bushel; farmers' dressed, 4s 3d to 5s per bushel; Italian ryegrass (imported), 5s 6d to 6s 6d per bushel; cocksfoot, 5d to 5½d per lb; Timothy, 38s to 42s 6d per cwt.

RABBITSKIN MARKET.

MESSRS ARTHUR McDONALD AND Co. report under date 9th inst:—

We have nothing of much importance to record since our last report. The quantity coming forward is not so large as previous week and the quality is not so good. There are still some prime lines of winters offering, but a great many of our consignments are going off season very fast. We quote prime winters from 17½d to 18d (other descriptions in proportion), prompt net cash, free of any commission charges.

MESSRS. ROBERT CLELAND AND Co., Crawford street, Dunedin (next Pier Hotel) report as follows:—

Large quantities of skins are now coming forward and buyers are very unwilling to pay prices lately ruling. We still quote selected does, 1s 6d; other qualities in proportion. No commission or other charges.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

MESSRS. WRIGHT, STEPHENSON AND Co. report as follows:—The horses offered to day, with the exception of one of two very nice draught geldings, were of a mixed description, and as there had been no good horses advertised to draw country buyers, the attendance was unusually small. For the few really good draughts offered there was a brisk demand. We noticed a rather better demand for the cheaper classes of hacks than has been experienced for some time past, and we have no doubt that now the summer is drawing near more business will be done in this description of horses. Next Saturday being the day on which the Hunt Club races will be held, our usual weekly sale will take place on Monday, 14th inst., instead. We quote—First-class draughts (extra heavy), £25 to £30; good ordinary draughts (young), £18 to £22; medium draughts, £12 to £16; aged draughts, £6 to £10; good hacks and harness horses, £12 to £16; medium hacks and harness horses, £7 to £9; light and inferior hacks and harness horses, £2 10s to £5.

Mr. F. MENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices—Oats: 1s 4½d to 1s 7d (bags extra), good demand. Wheat: milling, 4s 6d to 4s 9d; fowls, 3s 6d to 4s; sacks included. Chaff: Market bare—£2 to £2 10s; bay, oaten, £3; best rye-grass, £3 5s. Bran £3 10s. Pollard, £4 10s. Potatoes, kidneys, £2 0s to £2 5s; derwents, £1 5s to £1 10s. Flour: roller, £12 to £12 15s; stone, £11 5s to £11 15s, firm. Fresh butter, 1s to 1s 4d; salt, nominal, for prime, 7½d. Eggs, 7d. Oatmeal, £9 0s.