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Commercial

PRODUCE.

Invercargill Prices Current.—Wholesale—Butter (farm), 6d; separator, 7d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 0½d. Eggs, 8d per dozen. Cheese, 6d. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 5s per ton. Flour, £10 to £11. Oatmeal, £10 to £11. Bran, £4. Pollard, £5 10s. Potatoes, £12 per ton Retail—Farm butter, 8d; separator, 9d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 2d. Cheese, 8d. Eggs, 10d per dozen. Bacon, 9d. Hams, 10d. Flour: 200lb, 22s; 50lb, 6s, 25lb, 3s 3d. Oatmeal: 50lb, 7s; 25lb 3s 6d. Pollard, 9s 6d per bag. Bran, 5s. Chaff, 2s. Potatoes, 13s per cwt.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co., (Limited), report as follows:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. The attendance of buyers was not so large as usual, and as some of the lines on offer were not competed for up to market value, these had to be passed in, and are now for sale privately. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—Although values show no quotable change, there are a few inquiries from exporters, and with practically no sales for shipment during the past week, nearly all lines coming forward have gone into local consumption. Sales of oatmeal are on a small scale, and in consequence millers' requirements are much restricted. We quote: Prime milling, 2s 2d to 2s 3d, good to best feed, 2s 1d to 2s 1½d, medium, 1s 10d to 2s per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat—Local stocks are small, and are being gradually taken up by local millers, whose present requirements are confined for the most part to prime samples. Medium quality is more saleable, and fowl wheat continues to have fair demand. We quote: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 7d, medium, 3s 3d to 3s 1d, whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d, broken and damaged, 2s 10d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes—Supplies of last season's Derwents are still coming forward in small quantities, but in view of the competition now being experienced, both with late importations and new season's crop, values have suffered a decided decline. We quote: Best Derwents, £10 to £10 10s, others, £9 to £9 15s per ton (sacks m).

Chaff—The market has been more fully supplied this week with prime oaten sheaf. The local demand is still confined almost entirely to this quality, but the supply to hand has gone a long way towards fulfilling immediate requirements, and at the sale competition was not quite so keen. Medium and inferior lines have little attention. We quote: Prime oaten sheaf, £1 2s 6d to £1 5s; medium to good, £3 15s to £1, light and inferior, £3 5s to £3 10s per ton (bags extra).

Straw—Oaten is scarce, and has good inquiry at 45s to 50s; wheaten more difficult to quit at 37s 6d to 40s per ton (pressed).

Messrs Stronach, Morris, and Co. report:—

Oats—Business passing is small, and prices remain practically the same, viz., prime milling, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s 1d to 2s 1½d, medium, 1s 10d to 2s per bushel.

Wheat—There is a fair demand for all samples, and prices are as follows: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; medium, 3s 3d to 3s 1d, whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 10d to 3s per bushel.

Chaff—The market is pretty well supplied, and the chief demand is for prime quality. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £1 2s 6d to £1 5s, medium to good, £3 15s to £1; light and inferior, £3 5s to £3 10s per ton.

Potatoes.—The market is pretty well supplied with both old and new season's potatoes, and prices have declined somewhat. Quotations: Best Derwents, £10 to £10 10s; others, £9 to £9 15s.

Messrs, Nimmo and Blair report as follows:—

Wheat.—The market remains firm at late quotations. millers' purchases are, for the most part, confined to prime samples. Fowl wheat is meeting with a great deal of attention from buyers. We quote: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; medium, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d per bushel (sacks extra).

Oats.—The bulk of consignments coming forward have been taken over for local consumption. The demand for feed oats is firm. We quote: Prime milling, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s 1d to 2s 1½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—Supplies coming forward are heavier than has been the case for some time past, and although values show no marked decline the demand is not quite so brisk. We quote: Prime oaten sheaf, from £4 2s 6d to £4 5s; medium to good, £3 15s to £4 per ton (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—In addition to importations of new season's from Australia and Auckland, the local crop is now coming on to the market and meeting with strong competition. This has had the effect of practically stopping the sale of old potatoes, and values in consequence have fallen considerably. We quote: Derwents, £10 to £10 10s, new crop 2½lb.

Eggs.—10d per dozen. Butter.—Dairy, 7½d per lb; milled, 9d to 9½d; separator in prints, 9½d to 10½d per lb.

Poultry.—Hens, 2s 6d to 3s; roosters, old, 3s to 3s 9d, young, 4s 3d to 4s 9d; ducks, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; ducklings, 1s 9d to 5s 6d per pair; turkeys, gobblers, 8d to 9d; hens, 5d to 6d per lb.

WOOL.

London, December 7.—At the wool auctions there were brisk sales for all sorts, prices being well maintained.

London, December 10.—The wool sales closed firm. Merinos and fine medium crossbred were well maintained at opening rates; coarse greasy crossbreds were about 5 per cent. below the opening rates. While the trade was cautious, there was greater activity and confidence. A serious drop in the near future is not improbable. The sales totalled 49,500 bales for home consumption, 51,500 for the Continent, 1500 for America, while 1700 were held over. The average price realised for the fleece-portion of the Petane clip was 12½d.

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report:—

Sheepskins—We offered a large catalogue at our sale on Tuesday to a large attendance of buyers, prices being slightly easier than last week, especially for dead skins. Pelts sold up to 2s 6d and lamb-skins to 2s 8d.

Tallow and Fat—No change to report, all coming forward being readily disposed of at late rates.

PALMERSTON NORTH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 10.

The devotion of the Forty Hours' Adoration, which was unavoidably postponed from the 27th ult., was begun after the 11 o'clock Mass to-day, and will continue until Tuesday morning.

The Rev. Father Alfred Herring, who was ordained last Sunday by his Grace the Archbishop, is at present on a visit to his mother, Mrs F Herring, of Andrew Young street. Father Herring celebrated his first Mass in St Patrick's to-day at 11 o'clock. The choir, under the able conductorship of Mr. P Tombs, sang Farmer's in G for the occasion. After Mass there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Father Herring also officiated at Vespers at 7 o'clock, a sermon on the Holy Eucharist being preached by the Rev. Father Bowden. The Rev. Father Quinn was master of ceremonies both morning and evening. The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy will preach on Monday evening.

The pupils of the local convent will give a concert on Friday evening in the Opera House in aid of the local hospital.

I regret to announce the death of Mrs. J. L. Devlin, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs. McDonald, of Bunnythorpe, which occurred at her residence, Fergusson street, on the 3rd inst. at the early age of 29 years. Great sympathy is felt for her husband, a prominent member of the local branch of the H.A.C.B. Society. The funeral took place on Tuesday last, and was largely attended, the pall-bearers being members of the Hibernian Society, who also sent a beautiful wreath.—R.I.P.