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Commercial

PRODUCE.

Wellington, July 30.—The Department of Industries and Commerce has received the following cable from the High Commissioner, dated London, July 28:—The mutton market is dull, and trade of all classes is very slow, prices being barely maintained. Average price, light weight Canterbury brands, 3½d; heavy weights, 3¼d. Best quality North Island mutton is quoted at 3½d, while second class quality is selling at 3¼d. Lambs: The market is steady, and is likely to remain so. There is a good demand for all brands. Average price. Canterbury lamb, 5d, other than Canterbury, 1½d. There is a better demand for beef. Supplies of American chilled beef are small. Hindquarters are quoted at 3½d; forequarters, 2½d. The butter market is firm, and prices continue to advance. The prospect for next season's market are more favorable than last year. There is only a small supply of best quality on hand. Choice New Zealand brands to-day are worth 108s per cwt. The cheese market is steady, with a very good demand. White make 61s, colored 60s per cwt. The hemp market is not quite firm.

Invercargill Prices Current — Wholesale — Butter, (farm), 9d, separator, 10d. Butter (factory), pats 1s 1½d. Eggs, 1s per dozen. Cheese, Cd. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 5s per ton. Flour, £9 10s to £10. Oatmeal, £12 10s to £13. Bran, £4. Pollard, £5 10s. Potatoes, £9. Retail—Farm butter, 11d; separator, 1s. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 3d. Cheese, 8d. Eggs, 1s 3d per dozen. Bacon, 9d. Hams, 10d. Flour—200lb, 21s; 50lb, 5s 9d; 25lb, 3s. Oatmeal—50lb, 7s 3d; 25lb, 3s 9d. Pollard, 9s 6d per bag. Bran, 5s. Chaff, 2s. Potatoes 11s per cwt.

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

Oats—The market continues very quiet, there being practically no outside demand. Quotations: Prime milling, 2s 3½d to 2s 4d, good to best feed, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; inferior, 2s to 2s 1d per bushel.

Wheat.—The market is quiet, but firm at late quotations, which are as follows:—Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; prime Tuscan, 3s 7d; medium milling, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 9d to 3s per bushel.

Potatoes.—The market continues very firm, there being a good enquiry for seed lines, especially 'Up-to-dates' and 'British Queens.' Quotations: Seed lots, £11 10s to £12 10s; extra choice picked, £13; prime Derwents, £10 15s to £11 10s; medium to good, £9 5s to £10 10s; inferior and faulty, £7 to £9 per ton.

Chaff.—The market is fairly well supplied, medium and inferior being much harder to place than prime samples. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 15s to £4; choice, to £1 5s; inferior to medium, £3 to £3 12s 6d per ton.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. (Ltd.) report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. Our catalogue was a

large one, but with good competition from local buyers, a fair proportion of the lots forward changed hands at satisfactory prices. Values ruled as under:—

Cats.—So far as the export trade is concerned, the past week has been exceptionally quiet, and sales have been confined to small quantities, for coastal orders. These have been supplied on the basis of late quotations. Consignments coming forward are on a smaller scale, and owners are not readily disposed to reduce reserves. Quotations: Prime milling, 2s 3½d to 2s 4d, good to best feed, 2s 2½d to 2s 3d; inferior to medium, 2s to 2s 2d; seed lines, 2s 5d to 2s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Prime to choice milling samples are readily taken by millers at late quotations. Medium qualities are not so readily dealt with, although buyers are more disposed to make an exception in the case of Tuscan if in fairly sound condition. Fowl wheat continues to meet with good demand locally. Quotations: Prime milling, 2s 5d to 3s 6d; choice Tuscan, to 3s 7½d; medium to good, 3s 3d to 3s 4½d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 9d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Prime seed lines meet with ready sale on arrival at prices fully equal to late values. Good to prime Derwents and other table sorts are also in request. Lines in indifferent condition or badly mixed as regards size have not nearly the same attention. Quotations: Good to prime seed lines, £12 to £13; best table sorts, £11 to £11 10s; medium to good, £10 to £10 15s, inferior and mixed, £8 to £9 10s per ton (sacks included).

Chaff.—Heavier supplies of good to prime quality have come forward, and are being taken up at prices which show little alteration on those of last week. Medium and lower grades are without attention. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £1 to £4 2s 6d; medium to good, £3 to £3 15s; inferior and light, £3 to £3 7s 6d; straw chaff, £2 7s 6d to £2 12s 6d per ton (sacks extra).

Turnips.—The market is fully supplied, and best swedes have slow sale at about 18s per ton, loose, ex truck.

Pressed Straw—Oaten, 12s 6d to 17s 6d; wheat-en, 30s to 32s 6d per ton.

WOOL

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co report:—

Rabbitskins.—We offered a large catalogue at Monday's sale, when prices, if anything, were a shade easier. We quote: Small, up to 7d; summers, to 11½d, springs, to 12d, autumns, to 17d; winter bucks, to 19d; winter does, to 21½d; winters (mixed), to 19½d; fawn, to 13½d; and black, to 21½d per lb.

Sheepskins.—Our catalogue for Tuesday's sale was a fairly large one, competition as usual being keen, and prices quite up to last week's. Merino made up to 8½d; crossbreds to 9½d; halfbreds to 10d, fine crossbreds to 10d, and lambskins to 10d.

Hides.—We submitted a catalogue of 325 at our sale on Thursday last, when prices showed a rise on those ruling at the previous sale. Our top price for ox was 6½d, and for cow 5½d per lb.

Tallow and Fat.—No change to report.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson, and Co., report as follows:—

We had a very fair entry of horses forward for this week's sale, about two-thirds of them being draughts, mostly inferior, and one-third hacks and harness horses. The attendance was all that could be desired, both town contractors and farmers being well represented, and amongst them were a number of buyers for really first-class draughts and strong upstanding light harness sorts. The demand, both privately and at auction, for young, useful draughts is very keen, and horses of this description find ready sale at the present time. We quote: Superior young draught geldings at from £45 to £52; extra good do (prize-takers), £55 to £60, superior young draught mares, £55 to £65; medium draught mares and geldings, £30 to £40; aged do, £15 to £25; well-matched carriage pairs, £75 to £100; strong spring-van horses, £25 to £35; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £18 to £25; light hacks, £10 to £15; extra good hacks and harness horses, £20 to £25; weedy and aged do £5 to £8.

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