

# Commercial

## PRODUCE

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co., Ltd., report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. A large quantity of produce was catalogued and sold under good competition at prices generally equal to and in some cases in advance of late quotations. Values ruled as under:—

**Oats.**—The quantity on offer locally is small, as most farmers who have grain in stores are not disposed to sell at present. Buyers, on the other hand, are not eager to stock heavily, but are meantime only filling actual orders. This hand-to-mouth demand pretty well absorbs all available offerings. Prime seed lines are beginning to have some attention at prices 2d to 3d per bushel above those offering for other purposes. We quote: Prime milling, 1s 11½d to 2s; good best feed, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; inferior to medium, 1s 8d to 1s 9½d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Wheat.**—The past week has been one of the quietest of the season. Millers are not anxious to increase their present stock, and in most cases confine their purchases exclusively to prime velvet, which is offering sparingly. Fowl wheat is plentiful, and has moderate demand at late values. We quote: Prime milling (nominally), 3s 10d to 3s 11d; medium to good, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; medium, 3s to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 3d to 2s 10d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Potatoes.**—The market is poorly supplied, and in face of a keen demand prices show a considerable advance. Choice table lots have most inquiry, and any samples suitable for seed are readily taken at full rates. We quote: Prime Up-to-dates, £4 15s to £5; medium to good, £4 5s to £4 12s 6d; inferior and small, £3 to £4 per ton (bags included).

**Chaff.**—During the week consignments have not been quite so heavy, and sales are more easily made. Large stocks of chaff are still held in store, and there is no change in prices to report. Prime oaten sheaf has most inquiry, while straw chaff has ready sale at late values. We quote: Good to prime, £3 10s to £3 15s; choice, to £3 17s 6d; medium, £3 to £3 7s 6d; inferior and straw chaff, £2 to £2 10s per ton (sacks extra).

**Straw.**—We quote: Wheat, 23s; oats, 35s to 40s per ton (pressed).

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ending May 17 as follows:—

**Oats.**—There is very little change to report since last week, there being very few sellers in the market. Buyers will not raise their limits, and there is very little business passing. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 11d to 2s; good to best feed, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 7½d to 1s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Wheat.**—There is very little business passing owing to the millers holding fairly large stocks and owners not being inclined to accept lower prices. Fowl wheat is plentiful, and is not very much in demand. Quotations (nominal): Prime milling, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; medium milling, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; medium, 3s to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s to 2s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Chaff.**—Consignments are not coming to hand so quickly, but as there is a large quantity of chaff stored prices do not show any material change. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 12s 6d to £3 15s; choice, to £3 17s 6d; medium to good, £3 5s to £3 10s; inferior, £2 to £2 10s per ton (bags extra).

**Potatoes.**—Potatoes are in short supply, and during the last few days they have risen considerably. Medium and inferior samples are not inquired for. Prime Up-to-Dates, £4 15s to £5; medium to good, £4 5s to £4 12s 6d; inferior, £3 to £4 per ton (sacks in).

**Straw.**—Oats, 30s to 32s 6d; wheat, 22s 6d to 25s per ton (ex truck, pressed).

Messrs. Dalgety and Co., Ltd., report as follows:—

We held our usual weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we offered a large catalogue to a full attendance of buyers. Competition was keen, and we cleared our catalogue at auction and privately at satisfactory prices.

**Oats.**—The oat market shows little change from last week. The demand for immediate delivery is not so keen, and as farmers are holding firmly to their ideas of values, not a great deal of business is passing. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 11d to 2s; good to best feed, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 7½d to 1s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Wheat.**—The market is quiet. Farmers are not inclined to accept lower prices for their wheat, preferring to send it into store on the chance of the market hardening again. Millers hold fairly large stocks, and meantime are content to await developments. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; medium milling, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; medium fowl wheat, 3s to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s to 2s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

**Potatoes.**—The potato market has experienced a sharp rise during the last few days, and thoroughly sound samples meet ready sale at top quotations. Quotations: Prime Up-to-dates, £4 15s to £5; medium to good, £4 5s to £4 12s 6d; inferior, £3 to £4 per ton (sacks included).

**Chaff.**—Consignments have slackened off somewhat, but as fairly large stocks are held, prices do not show much change. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 12s 6d to £3 15s; choice, to £3 17s 6d; medium to good, £3 5s to £3 10s; inferior, £2 to £2 13s per ton (bags extra).

**Straw.**—Oats, 30s to 32s 6d; wheat, 22s 6d to 25s (pressed, ex truck).

## WOOL

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

**Rabbitskins.**—We held our weekly sale yesterday, when we offered an exceptionally large catalogue. Bidding was brisk, and prices showed a slight improvement on last week's rates. Early winter does brought up to 37d; early winters, bucks and does, 19d to 23½d; best autumns, 17½d to 20d; good, 16d to 17d; spring bucks, 17d to 18½d; medium to good, 15d to 16d; spring does, 13d to 14d; best racks, 13½d to 14½d; light, 11½d to 13½d; milky does, 10d to 11½d; small, 7d to 9½d; hawk torn, 10d to 14d; autumn blacks, 19d to 25½d; horse hair, to 18½d; cat skins, 3d to 4d each.

**Sheepskins.**—At to-day sale competition was very dull, and prices, except for lambskins, showed no improvement on last week's rates. Lambskins were about ½d per lb better. Best halfbred, 8½d to 9d; medium, 7½d to 8d; best fine crossbred, 7d to 7½d; coarse crossbred, 7d to 7½d; best pelts, 5d to 6½d; medium do., 4d to 5d; inferior, 1d to 3d; best merino, 7d to 7½d; medium to good, 5½d to 6d; best lambskins, 5½d to 7½d.

**Hides.**—At our sale on Thursday last we offered a medium catalogue. Prices as compared with last sale showed a decline of from ½d to ¾d on almost all lines, cow hides showing the greatest drop. Bidding was not at all keen except for a few lines of extra stout ox. Quotations: Prime stout heavy ox, 8d to 8½d; good heavy do., 7½d to 7¾d; medium, 6¾d to 7¾d; light, 6½d to 7d; prime heavy cow hides, 6¾d to 7½d; medium, 6¾d to 6¾d; light, 6½d to 6¾d; inferior, 3½d to 5½d; bull hides, 5½d to 6d; yearlings, 6½d to 7½d; calfskins, 6d to 9d.

**Tallow and Fat.**—There is practically no change to report, all coming forward being readily sold.

## LIVE STOCK

### DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

The entry for last Saturday's sale was not a large one, but the whole lot was composed of really first-class mares and geldings. The attendance of the public was fair, and included a number of buyers, but as the owners' ideas of values were on the high side for those present, sales were very hard to effect. There is a good demand for high-class heavy, powerful geldings from four to six-years-old; also for first-class pedigreed mare and ordinary farm sorts, and any of these coming forward are easily placed. Old and done horses are neglected, and to make sales of this class low prices have to be accepted. We have orders on hand for a few high-class buggy horses, but they must be young and reliable, and fit for a show ring. For such good prices could be obtained. We quote:—

Superior young draught geldings, at from £40 to £45; extra good ditto (prize-winners), at from £45 to £50; superior young draught mares, at from £50 to £60; medium draught mares and geldings, at from £30 to £40; aged, at from £10 to £15; strong spring-van horses, at from £25 to £30; strong spring-carters, at from £18 to £25; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, at from £15 to £25; light hacks, at from £8 to £13; extra good hacks and harness horses, at from £13 to £25; weedy and aged, at from £5 to £7.

## Wanganui

After the 10.30 o'clock Mass on Sunday, May 1 (says the *Wanganui Chronicle*) the Very Rev. Father O'Shea, V.G., addressed the parishioners of St. Mary's concerning the new ecclesiastical buildings which it is proposed to erect soon in Wanganui. A new church, presbytery, and convent would be required, but the convent was the most needed. Speaking of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Father O'Shea said that they were amongst the most successful teachers in this diocese, a statement which will be endorsed by all parents who have sent children to their schools. In St. Mary's Hall in the afternoon a meeting of the members of the congregation was held to elect a building committee. The Very Rev. Father O'Shea presided. The following gentlemen were elected:—Messrs. E. Wilson, D. Cullinane, T. Lloyd, D. Gellatly, F. Neylon, Jas. Dempsey, W. McTubbs, J. O'Leary, F. D. Gaffaney, and J. M. Murphy. Mr. T. Lloyd was elected secretary, and the committee resolved to meet next evening, when the plans for the new convent, which have been prepared by Mr. J. S. Swan, of Wellington, will be considered.