

THERE IS NOTHING PURER

Than "Mosgiel" Flannel. It is made from soft, fleecy New Zealand Wool, without a shred of cotton. "Mosgiel" Flannel should be insisted upon for Infants', Invalids', and Children's Wear. It is absolutely hygienic, thoroughly shrunk, and in every detail a perfect fabric.

Commercial

PRODUCE

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. Our catalogue comprised a good selection of grain and produce, and was well competed for by a large gathering of local buyers. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—The position is unchanged. Prices asked are too high to allow of shippers operating freely, and holders are content in the meantime to do a small local trade at quotations, believing that better values will rule later in the season, consequently the amount of business passing is very limited. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 10½d to 1s 11d; good to best feed, 1s 9d to 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 7d to 1s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Owing chiefly to unfavorable reports of the Canadian crop, prices have made a further advance in London. The improvement has been reflected strongly in Australia, and also to some extent in this market. Millers are again operating more freely. They are keen buyers of prime velvet, which is not offering freely, and readily commands 4s per bushel. Prime Tuscan and red wheat are also more favorably looked on, choice lots being now worth 3s 8d to 3s 9d; medium to good, 3s 5d to 3s 7d. For fowl wheat the market has not yet responded to the advance in other classes. Best whole wheat sells at 3s 2d to 3s 4d; medium to good, 2s 9d to 3s; broken and damaged, 2s 3d to 2s 8d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Very few consignments are coming to hand, and, as stocks in store are now light, prices, particularly for prime quality, show a rise on those ruling a week ago. Medium and inferior lots, although meeting a firmer market, do not show the same increase in values as prime quality. Quotations: Prime Up-to-Dates, £6 5s to £6 10s; medium to good, £5 10s to £6 2s 6d; inferior and small, £3 to £5 per ton (sacks in).

Chaff.—Moderate consignments of prime quality are offering, and prices show no alteration. Medium and discolored lots are plentiful, and are difficult to quit even at reduced rates. Straw chaff has fair inquiry at quotations. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 15s to £3 17s 6d; choice, to £4; medium, £3 to £3 12s 6d; inferior and discolored, £2 10s to £2 17s 6d; straw chaff, £1 17s 6d to £2 7s 6d per ton (sacks extra).

Straw.—Oaten, £1 12s 6d to £1 15s; wheaten, £1 to £1 4s per ton (pressed).

Turnips, £1 per ton (loose).

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we offered a smaller catalogue than usual to a fair attendance of those interested. The following shows range of prices obtained:—

Oats.—The market is dull and little business passing. There is some demand for seed Gartons, but the prices asked keep buyers from operating freely. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 10½d to 1s 11d; good to best feed, 1s 9d to 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 7d to 1s 8½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The last week has shown a sharp rise in this market following on the more favorable prices obtainable in London. Millers are keen buyers of prime velvet, which is in short supply. The demand for whole fowl wheat is rather stronger, but there is little change in price to report. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; choice velvet, to 4s; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 4d; medium fowl wheat, 2s 9d to 3s; broken and damaged, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Offerings of prime table sorts have been light during this last week, and those arriving, if in good condition and well picked, have met with ready sale. Inferior and medium sorts do not command the same attention. Quotations: Prime Up-to-Dates, £6 5s to £6 10s; medium to good, £5 10s to £6; inferior and blighted, £3 to £4 5s per ton (sacks in).

Chaff.—Fairly heavy consignments coming forward have kept the market well supplied, and last week's prices still hold. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 5s to £3 17s 6d; choice, to £4; medium to good, £3 5s to £3 10s; inferior,

£2 5s to £2 15s; straw chaff, £2 to £2 5s per ton (sacks extra).

Straw.—Oaten, 32s 6d to 35s (pressed, ex truck); wheaten, 20s to 22s 6d (pressed, ex truck).

OAMARU MARKETS.

The wheat market (says the *Otago Daily Times*) has revived considerably, and during the week there was more activity than has been experienced for a considerable time. The steady rise in the London, Australian, and other markets has had the effect of firming prices here. Sales of velvet have been made at 3s 11d ex store (less commission), and on Saturday growers were asking 4s per bushel for prime velvet, which is considerably above the market values. Prices fluctuated during the period under review. In the early part of the week sales were registered at 3s 7d to 3s 8d per bushel. The middle saw a rise to 3s 9d to 3s 10d (less commission), and now, as previously stated, growers are asking 4s per bushel for prime velvet. There has been inquiry for red wheat, sales of which were made at 3s 6d to 3s 8d on trucks at country stations, the former figure representing the price given for a line of mixed Tuscan and red chaff.

Business in oats is still restricted, and beyond a few inquiries for seed there has been little doing. Nominally Gartons are worth 1s 9d to 1s 10d net to farmers.

Potatoes have firmed since the beginning of the week. Sales were made at prices ranging from £5 10s to £5 15s net on trucks, while forward sales at £6 2s 6d have been made with Auckland for August delivery f.o.b., s.i., Lyttelton. Seed potatoes are not in request, and are worth from £4 to £5, according to quality.

New Zealand General

In Auckland there are 1539 factories and 1222 shops, in Wellington 1047 factories and 1538 shops, in Christchurch 1310 factories and 1213 shops, and in Dunedin 1174 factories and 1244 shops.

'It is essential,' said Mr. F. G. Bolton, of Wellington, in speaking of his visit to America, 'that all passenger steamers of a certain capacity should be equipped with wireless telegraphy, and I sincerely believe that legislation should be passed in New Zealand and by the Australian States making it compulsory as soon as the land stations are erected. Only the other day H.M.S. Powerful, lying in Sydney, was able to flash the news of the Jeffries-Johnson fight to a warship at Nukualofa, over 2000 miles away, and it was whilst we were travelling a lonely sea, on the old Mariposa, between Tahiti and San Francisco, that we received the news of the King's death from a vessel hundreds of miles away.'

The following novel letter has been received by the secretary of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce from a resident of Treadwell, Texas:—'Will you kindly inform me as to the requirements necessary for a man entering your country with the idea of becoming a citizen there. Also will you send some literature describing the country. I am a mechanic. Mostly in the saw mill line. But I want to locate myself on some land, as a permanent home, for myself and family, and having heard a grate-eal of favorable reports from your country, as to health and good government I have about decided to investigate the subject and to come to your country if the investigation turns out so good as I have heard thus far.' The letter is addressed to the Chamber of Commerce, Wilmington, New Zealand.

A very exhaustive inquiry has been made (states the annual report of the Labor Department) into the question of the rents of houses occupied by workers in the four chief centres of the Dominion. This report is now being prepared, and will be submitted whilst Parliament is sitting. From information supplied to the department, there is undoubted proof that during the year just ended the cost of commodities in general use, and even house rents, were somewhat cheaper than for several years past. There has been a decline of from 5 to 10 per cent. in the rents of houses in Wellington City, and although the drop was not a general one, still the evidence before the department shows that there was a widespread disposition on the part of landlords in most centres—with perhaps the sole exception of Auckland—to reduce rents. Exactly how long this state of affairs will last it is difficult to say. In regard to commodities, there was a very decided drop in the price of meat, which had maintained an even price for 17 years. This drop was experienced right throughout the Dominion, and the result is that meat can be purchased at a cheaper rate than for many years past. Other foodstuffs have also generally been lower in price than during the previous five years. Potatoes, bread, and eggs have been generally cheaper than in previous years; butter, flour, and oatmeal have remained much the same as during past years, and have been subject to the usual variations in price during the twelve months. However, taken all round, fruit, meat, breadstuffs, and rents have shown an appreciable decline over the prices ruling during the last few years.