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Commercial

PRODUCE.

London, June 15.—Wheat: The English and American markets are steady, and the Continental markets are rather easy. French crop reports are very favorable. Australian wheat—Spot, 33/-; cargoes quiet; quotations, afloat, 31/6 to 32/6. 'A cargo sold at 31/4.

The butter market is quiet and unchanged. There is little colonial offering.

Wellington, June 19.—The Department of Industries and Commerce has received the following cablegram from the Agent-general, dated London, 17th inst.:— 'There is a better demand for mutton, of which there is a scarcity of prime quality. The average price for Canterbury mutton to-day is 4½d per lb for light-weights, and 4d per lb for heavy-weights; for North Island mutton, 4d per lb for light-weights, and 3½d per lb for heavy-weights; for Australian mutton, 3½d per lb; and for River Plate mutton, 3½d. The lamb market is quiet, but holders are firm. The market is over-supplied with heavy cargoes of lamb. The price to-day for New Zealand lamb, Canterbury brand, is 5½d per lb; River Plate, 4½d per lb. The butter market is firm. New Zealand offerings are very small, and the average price of choicest New Zealand butter to-day is 98/- per cwt. The cheese market is steady, there being good demand. The average price of finest new New Zealand cheese to-day is 53/- per cwt for white and 51/- for coloured. The hemp market is lifeless, and the stock is accumulating. The price of New Zealand hemp, good fair Wellington grade, on spot, to-day per ton is £26, and for July and August shipments £27. The cocksfoot seed market is steady, but buyers are not keen to do business. The average price for bright, clean New Zealand cocksfoot seed, weighing 17lb per bushel on spot, is 52/- per cwt.

Invercargill prices current.—Wholesale—Butter, farm, 8d; separator, 10d; butter factory, pats, 1½. Eggs, 1/6 per dozen. Cheese, factory, 6½d. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2/- to 2/6. Chaff, £2/10/- per ton. Flour, £9 to £10. Oatmeal, £9/10/- to £10. Bran, £4/5/-. Pollard, £6. Potatoes, 4/- per cwt. Retail—Farm butter, 10d; separator, 1/-; butter, factory, pats, 1/2. Cheese, 6d to 8d. Eggs, 1/9 per dozen. Bacon, 9d. Hams, 10d. Flour: 200lb, 20/-; 50lb, 5/9; 25lb, 3/-. Oatmeal, 50lb, 6/-; 25lb, 3/-. Pollard, 10/6 per bag. Bran, 5/-. Chaff, 1/9. Potatoes, 6/- per cwt.

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

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. There was a good attendance of buyers, and, with the exception of chaff, which was not quite of the quality wanted, and turnips, which were in over supply, most of the lots on offer were quitted at satisfactory value. Prices ruled as under:—

Oats.—Nearly all classes are in better demand, and, although prices cannot be said to have advanced, sales are more readily effected at late quotations. Seed lines have more inquiry, while in milling quality Sutherlands are most in favor. There is a steady export demand for Sparrowbills and Gartons, the latter being, in most cases, preferred. Quotations: Special seed lines, 2/- to 2/3; ordinary sorts, 1/10 to 2/-; prime mill-limb, 1/8½ to 1/9; good to best feed, 1/7½ to 1/8; inferior to medium, 1/5 to 1/6½ per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The market is quiet at late quotations, with little business passing. Millers are only buying the best of quality, and medium samples are therefore neglected. Fowl wheat is in fair demand. Quotations: Prime milling, 3/- to 3/1; medium, 2/10 to 2/11; whole fowl wheat, 2/8 to 2/9; broken and damaged, 2/6 to 2/7 per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Only moderate supplies have been coming forward, and prices have advanced steadily during the past week. At Monday's sale we quitted a line of specially good Derwents at £7/7/6 per ton. This class is now preferred to white sorts. Quotations: Prime Derwents, £6/15/- to £7/5/-; medium, £6/5/- to £6/10/-; best white potatoes, £6/15/- to £7; others, £6 to £6/10/- per ton (sacks in).

Chaff.—Prime bright heavy oaten sheaf is readily saleable, but medium and discolored lines are out of favor, and difficult to quit. Quotations: Best oaten sheaf, £2/15/- to £3; medium to good, £2/7/6 to £2/12/6; inferior and light, £2 to £2/5/- per ton (bags extra).

Straw.—This is scarce, and in good demand at, for oaten, 37/6 to 40/-; wheaten, 35/- per ton (pressed).

Hay.—The market is well supplied with good to prime clover and ryegrass, which is selling at £2/10/- to £3 per ton. Inferior hay, suitable for cow feeding, is inquired for at £2 to £2/5/-, but not offering freely.

Turnips.—During the past week the market has been completely gutted, and in order to clear consignments and avoid railway demurrage charges it has been necessary to accept much lower prices. About 50 tons were to-day disposed of at 10/- per ton (loose, ex truck).

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

Wheat.—The demand has been rather better lately, but prices have so far not improved. Quotations: Prime milling, 3/- to 3/1; medium, 2/10 to 2/11; best whole fowl wheat, 2/8 to 2/9; broken and damaged, 2/6 to 2/7.

Oats.—There has been a fair business passing lately, and prices although no higher are a shade firmer. Prime seed lines are worth 2/- to 2/3; good seed, 1/10 to 2/-; prime milling, 1/8½ to 1/9; good to best feed, 1/7 to 1/8; inferior and medium, 1/5 to 1/6½.

Potatoes have advanced very much lately, and Derwents are worth from £6/15/- to £7/5/-; best white potatoes, £6/15/- to £7; medium, £6 to £6/10/-.

Chaff.—Best oaten sheaf, £2/15/- to £3; medium to good, £2/7/6 to £2/12/6; inferior, £2 to £2/5/-.

Messrs. Nimmo and Blair report as follows:—

Wheat.—Holders of prime samples are inclined to ask prices above what local millers are prepared to give, but there is a fair inquiry for good lines at late rates. We quote: Prime milling, 3/- to 3/1; fowl wheat (whole), 2/8 to 2/9 per bushel (sacks extra).

Oats.—A better feeling exists in the local oat market, although no advance in price can be recorded. We quote: Prime milling, 1/8½ to 1/9; good feed, 1/7½ to 1/8 per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—The demand is entirely for prime oaten sheaf, which is in moderate supply. We quote: Prime oaten sheaf, 55/- to 60/- per ton.

Potatoes.—Owing to scarcity of supplies the market has again advanced. We quote: Prime Derwents, £6/15 to £7/5/- per ton.

Butter.—In short supply. Dairy prints, 8d; first grade milled, 8d to 9d; separator in half and one-pound pats, 9d to 9½d per lb.

Eggs.—In plentiful supply. Fresh, 1/4 to 1/5; preserved, 1/1 per dozen.

Pigs.—Firm demand. Prime baconers, 4d to 4½d; porkers, 3½d to 4d per lb.

Poultry.—We have unlimited demand for birds fit for killing on arrival. Hens, 2/8 to 3/-; roosters, 3/- to 4/- per pair; turkeys, hens, 6d, cocks, 8d per lb (live weight).

We receive consignments of all produce for sale on commission, which has our best attention at all times.

WOOL.

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

Rabbitskins.—We offered a fair sized catalogue at our last sale on Monday, but found competition slightly easier owing to a late fall in the London markets. This was most noticeable in Autumns and Early Winters, which are at present easier by ½d to 1d, as compared with prices ruling a fortnight ago.

Sheepskins.—We offered a medium sized catalogue on Tuesday, and the demand for these continues very firm. Shipping skins were again in great demand, and we confidently recommend consignments being forwarded.