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Commercial

PRODUCE.

London, June 23.—The English and American wheat markets are quiet. The less favorable crop reports from America increased the steadiness; Continental steady. The French official report indicates a crop the same as 1904. Australian afloat is quoted at 31/6 to 32/-; Victorian parcels afloat, 31/7½.

Butter (firm); Danish has risen three kromers. There is but little colonial, which is selling rapidly.

New Zealand cheese, 52/- to 54/-; colored, 1/- less.

Invercargill prices current.—Wholesale—Butter, farm, 8d; separator, 10d; butter factory, pats, 1½. Eggs, 1/6 per dozen. Cheese, factory, 6d. 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, 5/- per cwt. Retail—Farm butter, 10d; separator, 1/-; butter, factory, pats, 1½. Cheese, 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, 1/6. Potatoes, 6/6 per cwt; 14lbs for 14-.

Messrs. Nimmo and Blair report as follows:—

Wheat.—The market remains steady, any good lots being readily disposed of. Fowl wheat is in fair demand. We quote Prime milling, 3/- to 3/1; whole fowl wheat, 2/8½ to 2/9 per bushel (sacks extra).

Oats.—The market is firm, but business is checked in many cases by farmers being disinclined to accept millers' offers. We quote Prime milling, 1/8½ to 1/9; good feed, 1/7 to 1/8 per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—Consignments coming forward are about equal to the demand. We quote: Prime oaten sheaf, £2/17/6 to £3 per ton (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Notwithstanding the increased supplies the market has not suffered to any great extent. At quotations the demand is good. We quote: Prime Derwents, £6/15/- to £7/2/6 per ton (sacks in).

Butter—Good inquiry. Dairy prints, 8d; First grade milked, 8d to 9d; separator in half and one-pound pats, 9d to 9½d.

Eggs.—The supply is quite equal to the demand. Fresh, 1/4; preserved, 1/- to 1/1 per dozen.

Pigs.—In short supply. Prime baconers, 4d to 4½d; porkers, 3½d to 4d per lb.

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

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

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we submitted a full catalogue to a good attendance of the local trade. With fair competition, nearly all the lots offered, except chaff, were quoted at satisfactory prices. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—The quantity coming forward is small, and any lots of good feed Gartons and sparrowbills are readily disposed of. Sellers are not inclined to force sales, and, with orders coming to hand more freely, the tendency of the market is towards improvement. We quote: Seed lines, 1/10 to 2/3; prime milling, 1/8½ to 1/9; good to best feed, 1/7½ to 1/8; inferior to medium, 1/5 to 1/7 per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—No sales of any importance are passing. Millers' purchases are confined to choice lots, and holders are not disposed to sell freely at current prices.

Fowl wheat continues to meet with good local demand in moderate quantities. We quote: Prime milling, 3/- to 3/1; medium to good, 2/10 to 2/11½; whole fowl wheat, 2/8 to 2/9; broken and damaged, 2/5 to 2/7 per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Since our last report deliveries have been heavier, but as the demand is good, prices have not suffered to any great extent. We quote: Seed lines, £7 to £7/10/-; best Derwents, £6/17/6 to £7/2/6; medium, £6/10/- to £6/15/-; white sorts, £6/5/- to £6/10/- per ton (sacks included).

Chaff.—The market is well supplied with chaff of ordinary quality, for which there is limited demand. Prime, blight oaten sheaf has good inquiry, and is readily taken on arrival. We quote: Best oaten sheaf, £2/17/6 to £3; medium to good, £2/10/- to £2/15/-; light and discolored, £2 to £2/7/6 per ton (bags extra).

Hay.—There is a full supply of good to prime clover and ryegrass hay in stores, which moves off slowly at £2/10/- to £3, according to quality.

Turnips.—Last week's slump in values had the effect of restricting consignments, and prices have recovered to some extent, best swedes selling on Monday at 11/6 to 12/- per ton (loose, ex truck).

Straw.—This is in better supply, and prices are slightly easier. We quote: Best oaten, 32/6 to 35/-; wheaten, 30/- to 32/6 per ton (pressed).

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

Wheat.—There is not much business passing, and millers are fairly well supplied and are not keen to do business. Quotations: Prime milling, 3/- to 3/1; medium do, 2/10 to 2/11; best whole fowl wheat, 2/8 to 2/9; broken and inferior, 2/3 to 2/7.

Oats.—The market continues firm at late rates, which are as follow: Seed lines, 1/9 to 2/3; prime milling, 1/8½ to 1/9; good to best feed, 1/7½ to 1/8; inferior and medium, 1/5 to 1/7.

Potatoes.—Best Derwents, £6/15/- to £7/5/-; others, £6 to £6/10/-.

Chaff.—Prime oaten sheaf, £2/17/6 to £3/2/6; medium, £2/7/6 to £2/12/6; light and inferior, £2 to £2/5/-.

WOOL.

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

Rabbitskins.—We offered a large catalogue on Monday, when competition was very good, and prices were decidedly better than those ruling at previous sale. Best winters (mixed bcs and does) brought 16½d to 17½d, early winters 14½d to 15½d, autumns 12½d to 14½d, summers 7½d to 8½d, spring 5½d to 10½d, blacks 12½d to 34d, and fawns 15d. Horse hair brought 16d.

Sheepskins.—We offered a large catalogue on Tuesday, when competition was again very good, and all forward brought full prices. We can confidently recommend consignments at present, as returns are sure to give satisfaction.

Hides.—No sale since last report.

Tallow and Fat.—The market continues as last advised, and we regret to say there is no sign at present of a revival.

LIVE STOCK

OTAGO FARMERS' HORSE BAZAAR.

The Otago Farmers' Co-operative Association of New Zealand (Limited) report:—

We held our weekly sale of horses at our bazaar, Crawford and Vogel streets, on Saturday last, when we had an entry of heavy draughts, geldings, plough mares and geldings, van, horses, buggy and hackneys geldings, altogether 37 coming under the auctioneer's notice. Bidding was on the whole rather slow, especially for aged horses, and only a few changed hands. Young van geldings were scarce, and the demand, even for this class was not over brisk. Geldings suitable for order-carts and express work had a fair amount of attention, and several transactions took place. Buggy sorts were not much in demand, and very few sales were effected. We quote: Heavy draught mares and geldings, £50 to £60; plough mares, suitable for four-horse teams, £10 to £15; van geldings, £40 to £50; order-cart horses, £22 to £30; heavy spring-carters, £25 to £32.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

At Addington yards on Wednesday last, with the exception of fat sheep and fat cattle, the entries of stock were small, but there was a good attendance. There was an improved demand for store sheep, and fat lambs were very firm. Beef again met with a