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Commercial

PRODUCE.

Wellington, September 4.—The Department of Industries and Commerce has received the following cablegram from the High Commissioner, dated London, September 2:—Mutton: The market is steady, but the demand is only moderate. Holders of lightweights are firm. Average price to-day: Canterbury mutton, 4½d; and for North Island mutton, 4½d for lightweights. For heavyweights the average price for Canterbury mutton is 4d, and for North Island mutton, 3½d. Lamb: The market is quiet, and the demand has considerably fallen off. Average prices to-day for New Zealand lamb: Canterbury brand, 5½d; and for brands other than Canterbury, 5½d lightweight, and for heavyweights, 5½d and 4½d respectively. There is a better demand for beef. Supplies of American chilled beef are small. Average price to-day for hindquarters New Zealand beef is 3½d, and for forequarters 2½d. There is general and active demand for butter. Danish, 12s; Canadian, 10s; Australian small arrivals (new season's), 11s. The cheese market remains firm. Canadian is quoted at 55s per cwt. There is a better demand for hemp. New Zealand hemp, 'good fair Wellington' grade, on spot to-day is £28 10s per ton; October-December shipments, £29.

Invercargill prices current.—Wholesale—Butter, (factory), pats 1/0½; butter (factory) 1/-. Eggs, 10d per dozen. Cheese, 6d. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2/- to 2/6. Chaff, £2/15/- per ton. Flour, £9 to £10. Oatmeal, £9/10/- to £10. Bran, £4/5/-. Pollard, £7. Potatoes, £10 per ton. Retail—Farm butter, 10d; separator, 1/-; butter, factory, pats, 1/2. Cheese, 8d. Eggs, 1/- 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, 10/- to 11/- per cwt.

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

Oats.—The market is firm, and prices are a shade better, viz:—Seed lines, 1s 10d to 2s 3d; prime milling, 1s 9d to 1s 9½d; good to best feed, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; inferior and medium, 1s 6d to 1s 7½d per bushel.

Wheat.—Business passing is not great, and prices remain the same, viz:—Prime milling, 3s 1d to 3s 2d, good do, 3s; best whole fowl wheat, 2s 10d to 2s 11½d, broken and damaged, 2s 5d to 2s 9d per bushel.

Potatoes.—There is a very strong demand, and prices show a considerable advance, viz:—Good to best Derwents, £11 to £11 10s; special seed lines, £11 10s to £12; good to best kidneys and other white sorts, £10 10s to £11 5s; medium quality and small, £9 to £10 per ton.

Chaff.—Prices show no change, but prime samples are readily disposed of. Quotations: Best oaten, £3 5s to £3 10; medium to good, £2 15s to £3 per ton.

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

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. Our catalogue consisted of good to best feed oats, fowl wheat, and feed barley, with a fair selection of potatoes, chaff, and hay. There was fair competition throughout, and for most classes of produce sales were effected at prices fully equal to late quotations. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—With better inquiry for shipments, and only moderate quantities offering for sale, the market is

firm at a slight advance in prices. Millers are not disposed to operate freely on account of the reduced price of oatmeal, but for all good to prime shipping lines there is keen demand and ready sale. Quotations: Choice seed lines, 2s 1d to 2s 3d; good do, 1s 10d to 2s; prime milling, 1s 9d to 1s 9½; good to best feed, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; inferior and medium, 1s 6d to 1s 7½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—There is no alteration in values to report. Millers' purchases during the week have been confined chiefly to small lines for mixing purposes, and the demand is by no means general. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; good do, 3s; best whole fowl wheat, 2s 10d to 2s 11½d; broken and damaged, 2s 5d to 2s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—At Monday's sale there was strong demand at prices somewhat in advance of last week's rates. Supplies last week were heavier than usual, and despite this fact values were more than maintained. Under these circumstances the tendency is undoubtedly towards still higher prices being reached. Quotations: Good to best Derwents, £11 to £11 10s; special seed lines, £11 10s to £12; good to best kidneys and other white sorts, £10 10s to £11 5s; medium quality and small, £9 to £10 per ton (sacks in).

Chaff.—Last week's rain had the effect of retarding consignments, but no improvement in prices resulted. Only a few trucks of prime quality were quitted at auction, while most of the medium chaff on offer was withdrawn owing to competition not being up to valuations. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 5s to £3 10s; medium to good, £2 15s to £3; inferior, light, and discolored, £2 7s 6d to £2 12s 6d per ton (bags extra).

Turnips.—Supplies are not so heavy, and best swedes are in fair demand at 12s per ton (loose, ex truck).

Pressed Straw.—Quotations: Oaten, 35s; wheat, 30s per ton.

Hay.—Quotations: Best clover and ryegrass, £2 15s to £3; medium, £2 10s to £2 12s 6d per ton.

WOOL.

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

Rabbitskins.—We offered a fair sized catalogue on Monday, prices being much the same as those lately ruling, viz:—Winter does, to 20½d; winters (mixed bucks and does), 16½d; Fawns, to 15d; and blacks to 31½d.

Sheepskins.—We submitted a fairly large catalogue on Tuesday to a good attendance of buyers, prices again being very good. Of an ordinary catalogue, we obtain up to 9½d for halfbreds, 8½d for crossbreds, 8d for fine crossbreds.

Hides.—No sale since last report.

Tallow and Fat.—No change to report.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

As was to be expected, after the previous two days' sale, the entry for Saturday was small, and the quality very poor, on the whole. There was a fairly good attendance of the public, and a few buyers were on hand, but as most of the horses forward were not of the class in request, very little business resulted. We quote: Superior young draught geldings, at from £50 to £55; extra good do (prize horses), £56 to £65; superior young draught mares, £60 to £75; medium draught mares and geldings, £30 to £45; aged do, £17 to £30; upstanding carriage horses, £25 to £35; well-matched carriage pairs, £80 to £100; strong spring-van horses, £30 to £35; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £20 to £28; light hacks, £10 to £18; extra good hacks, £20 to £30; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, £5 to £8.

The allegations of wholesale murders of whites by aboriginals in North-west Australia have all broken down on investigation at Marble Bar. They appear to have been part of an attempt to discount Dr. Roth's report on the treatment of aborigines.

SLIGO BROS.,

MEMBERS DUNEDIN STOCK EXCHANGE,

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