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Commercial

PRODUCE.

Wellington, October 15.—The Department of Industries and Commerce has received the following cable from the High Commissioner, dated London, 13th inst.:—The mutton market is firm for both Canterbury and North Island brands, which are quoted at 3½d for light-weights, and at 3¼d for heavy weights. The lamb market is quiet. There is no change in price since last week. The stocks of New Zealand beef on hand are light. The market is firm at the present quotation, 3¼d and 2¾d for hind and forequarters respectively. The butter market is quiet. Prices are slightly weaker. Buyers of butter are holding back, expecting prices to go lower. Choice New Zealand brands are quoted nominally at 116s per cwt. New season's Australian makes are quoted at 118s, Danish at 122s, and Siberian at 108s per cwt. The cheese market is firm, though quiet. Canadian makes are quoted at 63s per cwt. The hemp market is very firm. There is a great demand in the market for g.f.a.q., Wellington. Both on spot and October-December shipments are quoted at £35 5s per ton.

Invercargill Prices Current:—Wholesale—Butter, (farm), 9d; separator, 11d. Butter (factory), pats 1s 1½. Eggs, 10d per dozen. Cheese, 7d. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 5s per ton. Flour, £9 10s to £10. Oatmeal, £11 to £11 10s. Bran, £4. Pollard, £4 10s. Potatoes, £10. Retail—Farm butter, 11d; separator 1s 1d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 4d. Cheese, 9d. Eggs, 1s per dozen. Bacon, 10d. Hams, 9d. Flour—200lb, 21s; 50lb, 6s 9d; 25lb, 3s. Oatmeal—50lb 6d 6d; 25lb, 3s 6d. Pollard, 8s per bag. Bran, 5s. Chaff 2s. Potatoes, 12s per cwt.

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

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. There was a fair attendance of buyers, to whom we submitted an average catalogue. Competition was not strong, and many of the lines on offer had to be passed in. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—The demand for seed is practically over, and millers' requirements at this season are very limited. Shippers are only getting occasional orders, and are not really disposed to make purchases on the basis of late quotations. Under these circumstances only moderate business is being done. Quotations: Prime milling, 2s 2d to 2s 2½d; good to best feed, 2s 1d to 2s 2s; inferior to medium, 1s 11s to 2s per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Although the question of the intercolonial tariff has now been settled, millers are not buying freely, but are confining their attention chiefly to prime milling lines. Medium quality is therefore neglected. Fowl wheat continues to be well supported at late quotations. Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; medium to good, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Seed requirements have now been practically filled, and in this respect only small orders are coming to hand. Prime Derwents and best table sorts have not been plentiful, and have improved somewhat in value. Medium, small sorts, and all potatoes of indifferent quality are not so readily dealt with even at a reduction in prices. Quotations: Best seed lines, £11 10s to £12; best table sorts, £10 to £11; medium, £9 to £9 15; small and inferior, £8 to £8 per ton (sacks included).

Chaff.—The market is well supplied with chaff of ordinary quality, for which there is limited inquiry. Prime, bright, oaten sheaf sells readily on arrival, and is the only class in demand locally. Light and inferior sorts are neglected. Quotations: Best oaten sheaf, £3 15s to £4; choice to £4 2s 6d; medium to good, £3 7s 6d to £3 12s 6d; light and inferior, £3 to £3 5s per ton (bags extra).

Straw.—The market has been fairly well supplied with oaten straw, which sells at 40s to 42s 6d. Wheat straw is scarce, and can be readily placed at 32s 6d to 35s per ton (pressed).

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

Oats.—No change to report, present quotations being as follow: Prime milling, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; inferior, 1s 10½d to 2s per bushel.

Wheat.—Business continues quiet, although fowl wheat meets with a ready sale. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; medium, 3s 3d to 3s 4½d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 7d to 3s per bushel.

Potatoes.—Seed lines have not so much inquiry, but prime table sorts meet with a ready sale. Quotations: Seed lines, £11 10s to £12s 10s; prime table sorts, £10 10s to £10 15s; medium, £8 10s to £9 10s; inferior and small, £3 to £8 per ton.

Chaff.—Supplies are plentiful, and business is confined principally to prime oaten sheaf. Quotations: Prime oaten, £4 to £4 2s 6d; medium, £3 10s to £3 17s 6d; discolored and light, £3 to £3 5s per ton.

WOOL

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

Rabbitskins.—We offered a large catalogue at our sale on Monday, when prices, in sympathy with the London market, showed a rise. Small made up to 6½d, hawk torn to 10½d, springs to 6½d, summers to 7½d, autumns to 14d, second winters (does) to 14½d, winter bucks to 16½d; winter does to 20d, and blacks to 15½d. Horsehair made up to 18½d per lb.

Sheepskins.—For Tuesday's sale we submitted a large catalogue, for which there was keen competition. Merinos made up to 8d, crossbred to 8½d, fine do to 9½d, and halfbreds to 10d per lb. We can confidently recommend consignments to be sent in at the present time.

Tallow and Fat.—No change to report, all coming forward being readily quitted at late rates.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

The horses entered for last Saturday's sale were, with a few exceptions in the light sorts, all of fairly good quality. For a race day the attendance was first-class, a good number of country clients and most of the town contractors being present on the look-out for suitable horses; and in consequence a very good sale resulted. The principal feature of the sale was the waggon team from Kaitangata, which were a real good, useful lot, and every horse changed hands at up to £47 10s. For other vendors we sold draughts at up to £49, and light harness horses at up to £33. The following are a few of our principal transactions for the week:—Bay gelding at £49, brown gelding at £47 10s, bay gelding at £46, chestnut gelding at £45, bay gelding at £45, brown mare at £43, brown gelding at £33, bay buggy mare at £33, bay buggy mare at £25, chestnut buggy mare at £23, and several old and stale animals at up to £15. We quote: Superior young draught geldings at from £45 to £52; extra good do (prize takers), £55 to £60; superior young draught mares, £55 to £65; medium draught mares and geldings, £30 to £40; aged do, £15 to £25; well-matched carriage pairs, £75 to £100; strong spring-van horses £25 to £30; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £18 to £25; light hacks, £10 to £15; extra good hacks and harness horses, £20 to £25; weedy and aged do, £5 to £8.

SLIGO BROS.,

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