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Commercial

PRODUCE.

Wellington, October 22.—The Department of Industries and Commerce has received the following cablegram from the High Commissioner, dated London, 20th inst.:—The mutton market is very firm. Stocks on hand are light, and are firmly held in a few hands. Light-weight Canterbury is quoted at 4d and light North Island brand at 3½d per lb; heavy-weights average 3½d and 3½d per lb for Canterbury and North Island brands respectively. There is a better demand for lamb. Stocks on hand are light. A small shipment of Australian new season lamb has arrived. Canterbury lamb is quoted at 4½d, and other than Canterbury at 4½d per lb. There is no alteration in the beef market to report since last week. The butter market is steady, but without animation, and buyers are operating with caution. New season's Australian is offering at 116s, and Danish is quoted at 120s per cwt. The cheese market is quiet, but firm. Canadian makes are selling at 63s per cwt. The hemp market is very firm. There is a large business doing, and prices are strong on the London market. G.f.a.q. Wellington, on spot, is worth £36 per ton, and October-December shipments, £35 15s.

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 moderate attendance of buyers, to whom we submitted a full catalogue. With the exception of chaff of medium quality, which was in full supply, most of the lines on offer met with fair competition up to quotations. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—There is no change to report either in values or demand. Shippers are not operating freely, their purchases being confined chiefly to small lots for the supply of coastal orders. Stocks in stores are now small and only few consignments are coming forward. We quote: Prime milling, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; inferior to medium, 1s 11d to 2s per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Millers are more disposed to make purchases of prime milling lines, Tuscan being preferred. Medium milling qualities are not in request, and are practically only saleable at present as fowl wheat. For the latter there is fair local demand at quotations. We quote: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; medium to good, 3s 2½d to 3s 4d; good whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 8d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Consignments have not been arriving so freely, and all prime lines of table potatoes have ready sale on arrival at prices fully equal to late quotations. The demand for seed lines is now practically over. Inferior and small sorts have little inquiry, and are difficult to place at late values. We quote: Best table sorts, £10. 10s to £11 5s; medium to good, £9 to £10; small and inferior, £2 to £7 per ton, according to condition.

Chaff.—The market is well supplied with chaff of medium quality, for which there is poor demand, and which is difficult to place even at a reduction on late quotations. Prime bright oat sheaf is the only

class in favor with buyers, and in most cases is readily quitted ex truck. Light and inferior samples are unsaleable. We quote: Prime oat sheaf, £3 17s 6d to £4; choice to £4 2s 6d; fair to good, £3 10s to £3 15s; light and medium, £3 to £3 7s 6d per ton. (bags extra).

Pressed Straw.—We quote: Oaten (fairly plentiful), 40s to 45s; wheaten (scarce), 32s 6d to 35s per ton.

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

Oats.—No alteration to report in the market, which continues very quiet. Quotations: Prime milling, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s 1d to 2s 2½; inferior, 1s 10½d to 2s per bushel.

Wheat.—There is a good inquiry for fowl wheat, but other qualities are somewhat difficult to place at late rates. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 5d to 3s 6d; medium to good, 3s 2½d to 3s 4d; good whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; broken and damaged, 2s 7d to 3s per bushel.

Potatoes.—Stocks of table sorts are somewhat light, and in consequence prices have hardened somewhat. Quotations: Seed lines, £11 10s to £12 10s; prime table sorts, £10 to £11 15s; medium table sorts, £8 10s to £9 10s; inferior and small, £3 to £8 per ton.

Chaff.—Supplies are plentiful, prime being saleable at up to £4, while inferior qualities are very difficult to place.

WOOL.

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

Rabbitskins.—We offered a fair-sized catalogue at Monday's sale, prices being much the same as those ruling at the previous sale. Small made up to 4½d, summers to 8½d, autumns to 13d, second winters, to 14½d, winter bucks to 16½d, winter does to 19½d, fawn to 12½d, and black to 14½d. Horsehair sold up to 19½d per lb.

Sheepskins.—We offered at Tuesday's sale a very large catalogue, competition as usual being keen, and prices being much the same as last week's. Merinos sold up to 8s 3d; crossbreds, to 8s 10d; fine do, 11s 6d, and halfbreds to 11s 3d.

Hides.—We submitted a catalogue of 212 to a good attendance of buyers, and competition was again very spirited. We had a most successful sale, our top price for ox being 7½d, and for cow 6½d per lb. We have every confidence in recommending consignments at the present time.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

For last Saturday's sale there was a very good entry, draughts especially being well represented, both as regards quality and numbers, but light harness horses were not so numerous, although among them were a few useful animals. The attendance was large, and as a good proportion of those present were actual buyers, we are pleased to report an excellent sale. The main feature of the entry was the consignment from Mr. James Malcolm, Papakaio, and although the horses were just out of hard work and rather thin, every animal as offered changed hands after keen competition at up to £49. In the light harness section there was nothing of special merit in the yard, consequently in this class we have no high prices to report; still, several found new owners at up to £19 10s. The following include a few of our principal transactions for the week:—Bay gelding at £55, bay gelding at £49, brown gelding at £49, bay gelding at £47, bay gelding at £44 10s, grey gelding at £41 10s, bay gelding at £33, bay mare at £32 10s, brown gelding at £31, bay gelding (aged) at £25, bay mare (light) at £22 10s, bay cob at £19 10s, bay gelding at £17, boy's pony at £13, and several aged sorts at up to £13. 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.

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