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Commercial**PRODUCE**

Wellington, January 28.—The following cable has been received from the High Commissioner, dated London, January 26:—Mutton.—Market steady. Average prices: Canterbury brand 4½d and North Island 4½d per lb. Lamb.—Market overstocked and depressed, and affected by expected heavy arrivals. New season's New Zealand lamb quoted nominally 6d per lb. The average price of Australian lamb is 4½d per lb. Beef.—Market weak. The average price of New Zealand beef is 3½d and 2½d per lb for hind and forequarters respectively. Butter.—Market dull on account of heavy arrivals. There is a general and active demand, however, for the shilling trade, and some holders of butter are forcing sales. The choicest New Zealand brands are quoted at 105s; Argentine, 104s; Australian, 100s; and Danish, 111s per cwt. Cheese.—Market very firm. There is a general demand for New Zealand makes at 63s per cwt. Hemp.—The market is firm, and prices have advanced. Good fair grade on the spot is quoted at £40; January-March shipments, £39 per ton; fair current Manila on the spot is worth £43 per ton. Cocksfoot seed is quiet but firm. Bright clean dressed, 18lb to the bushel, is quoted at 48s per cwt.

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

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

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we submitted a representative catalogue to a large attendance of buyers. Bidding was spirited, and almost every lot offered was disposed of at full value. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—There is no change to report in this market. Consignments during the past week have been very light, and are barely sufficient to supply local requirements. Any lots coming forward have been quitted on arrival at prices on a par with those ruling last week. Quotations: Good to best feed and milling, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; medium and inferior, 2s to 2s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Business is quiet, there being very little offering on this market. Fowl wheat is more plentiful, but as the demand is good prices remain unchanged. Any prime lots offering are readily taken up by millers. New season's wheat has been on offer at northern stations during the week at prices below late quotations, and this fact has some effect on values here. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 6d to 3s 6½d; medium, 3s 4½d to 3s 5½d; whole fowl wheat, 3s to 3s 4½d; broken and damaged, 3s to 3s 2d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Consignments continue to come forward steadily, and as the demand is slack prices have eased to some extent. A large proportion of locally-grown potatoes are still too green for keeping, and consequently have to be disposed of at once. Oamaru-grown potatoes, however, are much riper, and command top ruling prices. Quotations: Best freshly-dug lots, £7 to £7 10s; medium, £5 10s to £6 10s; stale, £4 10s to £5 per ton (sacks included).

Chaff.—The demand for all classes of chaff still continues good, and all coming forward meets a ready sale on arrival. Prime heavy-oaten sheaf is in most demand, and at our auction sale we sold several trucks at prices equal to those obtained last week. Quotations: Choice, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; good to prime, £5 to £5 5s; medium, £4 10s to £4 15s per ton (bags extra).

Pressed Straw.—This is in short supply, and would sell readily at—for wheat, from 35s to 37s 6d; oats, £2 to £2 5s per ton.

WOOL**DUNEDIN WOOL SALES.**

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

The second wool sale of the season's series was held at the Victoria Hall on Wednesday, January 23; the total number of bales catalogued being 16,409. There was again a very full attendance of buyers, English, foreign, and colonial manufacturers being well represented. Representatives of the Mosgiel, Roslyn, Bruce, Oamaru, and Kaiapoi Woollen Mills were all in attendance, and their well-sustained bidding gave good support to the sales. The English and foreign buyers were also strong competitors for all wools suiting their requirements, and they bid freely up to full values. The wools catalogued by us were on the whole well grown, bright, and clean, and several of the finer sorts evoked very keen competition. The prices realised for all light and bright wools were quite on a par with those ruling at our last sale, while merinos, medium halfbreds, and all wools in heavy condition met a somewhat slow and irregular sale, and prices for these sorts ruled rather in favor of buyers. The sale may, however, be characterised as a successful one throughout, and although somewhat irregular, except in a few cases where bidding did not reach valuations, the bulk of the catalogue was sold under satisfactory competition. Our catalogue comprised 2600 bales, of which 2483 bales were disposed of at auction, and 117 bales passed in, prices not reaching valuations or owners' reserves.

LIVE STOCK**DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.**

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

The number of horses forward on Saturday last was very small, and the quality all through was poor. There were a few buyers present requiring good, sound, active shafters, but as none of our entries corresponded with the classes in demand very little business was done. We found it very difficult indeed to elicit a bid for some of the aged draughts, and old and broken-down harness horses are a drag in the market. There is still, however, a good inquiry for sound young draught mares, and geldings and strong upstanding light harness horses are readily saleable at prices slightly in favor of buyers. 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.

Classes will be resumed at St. Dominick's College, Dunedin, on Tuesday, February 5, and boarders are notified to be in residence on the evening of Monday. Immediately on the re-opening of the college, studies in preparation for Oxford Local, Matriculation, and Civil Service examinations will be taken up. In the music school work will also be resumed in connection with the usual examinations under the auspices of the Associated Board and Trinity College, and the usual classes in the art studio will commence. Further particulars can be obtained on application to the Rev. Mother Prioress.

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