

Commercial

For week ending July 29.

PRODUCE.

London, July 23.—Wheat: Manitoba, 3s 9d; San Francisco, 141½c. Barley, 115c. La Plata wheat, 28s. Maize (July-August shipment), 20s 5d.

London, July 26.—Frozen Meat—Lamb: Canterbury (light), 5 5-16d, heavy, 5½d, Dunedin and Southland, 5 1-16d; North Island, 5d. New Zealand beef, 180lb to 220lb, fair average quality: Ox fores, 2½d; the rest are unchanged.

Wellington, July 27.—The Department of Industries and Commerce has received the following cablegram from the Agent-General, dated London, 25th inst.:—Mutton—Market rising. Average prices to-day: Canterbury brands, 3½d per lb; Dunedin, Southland, and W.M.E. Company's brands, 3½d; other North Island brands, 3½d; ewes, 3½d; River Plate, 3½d. The lamb market is slightly weaker, with less demand. Average price to-day: Canterbury brands, 5½d; other brands, 5½d. The beef market is overstocked and depressed. Average prices to-day: Hindquarters New Zealand beef, 4½d; fores, 2½d. There is no alteration in the butter market, and transactions in cheese are very limited. Prices are irregular. Average price finest New Zealand cheese to-day, 52s per cwt.

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current.—Wholesale—Butter (farm), 8d; butter (factory), bulk, 9½d cash, 10d booked. Eggs, 1s 3d per dozen. Cheese (factory), 6½d. Hams 9d. Potatoes, £4 per ton (bags weighed in). Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 per ton. Flour, £10 to £11. Oatmeal, £10 10s to £11. Bran £4 10s. Pollard, £6 10s. Retail—Fresh butter, 10d; butter (factory), pats, 1s. Eggs, 1s 6d per dozen. Cheese, 8d. Bacon, 11d. Hams, 10d. Potatoes, 5s 6d per cwt. Flour, 200lb, 22s; 50lb, 6s 3d. Oatmeal, 50lb, 6s 6d; 25lb, 3s 6d. Pollard, 10s per bag. Bran 5s 6d. Chaff, 2s.

Mr. F. Meenan, King street, Dunedin, reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Milling, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; feed, 1s 6d to 1s 9½d. Wheat: Milling, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; fowls' wheat, 3s to 3s 3d. Potatoes: Derwents, £4 5s; seed kidneys, £3 10s to £4 10s. Chaff, £2 15s to £3 7s 6d. Straw. Pressed wheat, 30s; oats, 35s; loose, £2. Flour: Sacks, £10; 50lb, £10 15s; 25lb, £11. Oatmeal, £9 10s. Pollard, £5. Bran, £3 10s. Butter: Dairy, 8d to 10d; factory, 11d. Cheese: Factory, 6d; dairy, 5½d. Eggs, 1s 3d. Onions: Melbourne, £5; Christchurch, £4.

Messrs Stronach, Morris, and Co. report as follows:—Wheat—The only change is an improved demand for fowl wheat, which is in short supply. Quotations: Prime milling, 4s to 4s 2d, medium to good, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; best fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 3d.

Oats—The market is unchanged since last report. We quote: Seed lines, 1s 11d to 2s 3d; prime milling, 1s 8½d to 1s 10d; good to best feed, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; inferior and medium, 1s 2d to 1s 6d.

Potatoes—The market has held its own during the week, best Derwents being worth £4 5s to £4 10s; medium, £3 10s to £4; seed lines, to £5 10s.

Chaff—Prime oats sheaf is somewhat scarce, and is readily placed at £3 2s 6d to £3 10s; medium is more plentiful, and hard to quit at £2 10s to £3.

Straw.—Best oats straw, 27s 6d to 30s.

Turnips.—14s 6d to 15s loose.

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

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. The catalogue submitted was a large one, but fowl wheat, potatoes, and prime chaff were the only lines which met with good competition, and most of the other lines on offer had to be passed in. Values ruled as under:—

Oats—Prime milling and seed lines have fair inquiry at late quotations. There has been a rather better demand for both A and B grade during the past week, but any orders have been readily supplied at last week's prices. Inferior and damaged oats are more plentiful, and not readily placed. We quote: Seed lines, 1s 11d to 2s 3d; prime milling, 1s 8½d to 1s 10d; good to best feed, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; inferior and medium, 1s to 1s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat—Prime velvet has most attention from millers, red wheat and Tuscan not being so strongly inquired for, while medium milling is almost neglected.

Fowl wheat, which has been moving off freely for export, is in shorter supply, and has advanced slightly in value. We quote: Prime milling, 4s to 4s 2d; medium to good, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 1d to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—There is a good inquiry for prime Oamaru Derwents, but only a limited supply. Good Derwents from other districts are in fair supply, but late values are well maintained. We quote: Best Oamaru Derwents, £4 5s to £4 10s; others, £4 to £4 5s; medium, £3 10s to £3 17s 6d; seed sorts, £4 10s to £5 10s per ton (bags in).

Chaff.—Local stocks still consist chiefly of medium quality, for which there is poor demand. Prime oats sheaf continues to arrive slowly, and finds ready buyers at quotations. Inferior sorts are not in favor. We quote: Best oats sheaf, £3 2s 6d to £3 7s 6d; choice to £3 10s; medium to good, £2 10s to £3; inferior and straw chaff, £1 15s to £2 5s per ton (bags extra).

Straw.—Oats straw (pressed), 27s 6d to 30s; wheat 25s to 27s 6d per ton.

Turnips.—We quote: Best swedes, 15s to 15s 6d per ton (loose, ex truck).

WOOL.

London, July 23.—The wool sales closed firm all round. During the series 80,000 bales were sold to Home buyers, 63,000 to Continental, 5000 to American, and 15,000 were held over. Compared with the May series, closing prices for fine crossbreds were 5 per cent., medium 10 per cent., and coarse 12½ per cent. higher. Lambs were unchanged; good greasies and merinos unchanged; and faulty and inferior greasies ½d cheaper.

The Bradford wool market is very firm, with an improved demand, but prices are unchanged.

At the sheepskin sales there was a large attendance and keen competition. Prices were fully equal to those at the June sales. Crossbreds were in sellers' favor. Rabbitskins are slightly firmer. Best, 8½d.

Sydney, July 24.—The first series of wool sales is concluded. The good sorts were more readily taken towards the close; mediums and inferiors declined fully 5 per cent. compared with the previous sales.

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report as follows:

Rabbitskins.—We offered a medium-sized catalogue on Monday, when there was a good demand for all forward. Greys were fully higher than last week, but blacks and silver greys do not command the extreme prices of a few weeks ago. We sold: Winter greys (mixed), at 15d to 15½d; second winters, at 1s to 1¼d; autumns, 9d to 12½d; summers, 5½d to 8d; small, 5½d to 5¾d; blacks, and silver greys, 9½d to 27¾d.

Sheepskins.—At to-day's sale we submitted a moderate catalogue, competition for which was keen, although prices were not equal to those ruling last week. Best merino may be quoted at 6d to 6½d; best halfbreds, 5½d to 6d; and best crossbreds, 4½d to 5½d.

Hides.—At our sale last Thursday we offered 207 to a good attendance of buyers, and we are pleased to report that the sale was much the best experienced since the recent slump. Medium and light weight hides were in very keen demand, one line of cows, weighing only 40lb, bringing the extreme price of 4½d. We quote:—Prime ox hides, 5½d to 5¾d; medium to good, 4½d to 5½d; prime cow hides, 5d to 5¾d; medium to good, 4½d to 4¾d; yearlings, 2s 6d to 5s; calfskins, 6d to 2s 10d.

Tallow and Fat.—There is no change to report in this, prices keeping level at late quotations, viz.: Best tallow, 22s to 24s; best rough fat, 16s 6d.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

There was a fair yarding and attendance at the Addington market.

Fat Cattle.—188 head came forward, and met with spirited competition, with the result that prices showed a marked rise. The price of beef ruled at from 29s to 32s 6d per 100lb; steers, £7 10s to £14 5s; heifers, £6 to £11 5s; cows, £5 15s to £13 5s.

Fat Sheep.—There was a large yarding, including a good proportion of prime wethers and young ewes. For these competition was very brisk, and the high prices ruling recently were again exceeded. Freezing buyers bought very few ewes, but competed keenly for wethers. The firmness of the market was apparent in all classes, and even unfinished ewes were eagerly snapped up by butchers at from 13s to 16s, whilst for prime quality auctioneers had no difficulty in getting over 20s. The following was the range of prices:—Prime crossbred wethers, 21s to 27s 3d; lighter, 17s 3d to 20s; prime merino wethers, 17s 6d to 22s 3d; lighter, 15s; prime wethers and ewes, 18s 9d to 23s 9d; unfinished do, 16s