

Commercial

(For week ending October 7.)

PRODUCE.

London, October 2.—Butter: Danish, 120s; Australian and New Zealand, stored, 98s to 102s.

Wellington, October 4.—The Agent-General cables under date London, October 3, that the mutton market continues dull, and prices are not quite as firm. The average price for Canterbury brands is 4½d to 4½d; Dunedin, Southland, and W.M.E. Company, 4d to 4½d; other North Island brands, 4d; ewes, 3½d; River Plate mutton, 3½d. Lamb is firmer, the average price for Canterbury being 4½d; brands other than Canterbury, 4½d; tegs, 4½d; River Plate, 4½d. Beef is overstocked, and the market is depressed. The average price for hind-quarters, New Zealand, is 4d, and lores, 2½d. The butter market is rather unsettled on account of the rapid advance of Danish. Stored New Zealand is somewhat irregular in quality, and sound is quoted at 100s per cwt; Danish, 118s; Canadian, 98s; Irish, 108s; Siberian, 90s; Argentine, 96s. Cheese is steady, and the average price for finest Canadian is 55s to 56s.

Invercargill prices current.—Wholesale—Butter farm, 8d; butter (factory), bulk, 10½d to 10½d; pats, 11d cash. Eggs, 8d per doz. Cheese, factory, 6½d. Hams, 9d. Potatoes, £4 per ton (bags weighed in). Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 per ton. Flour, £10 10s to £11. Oatmeal, £8 10s to £9. Bran, £3 10s. Pollard, £4. Retail.—Fresh Butter, 10d; butter (factory), pats, 1s 1½d. Eggs, 10d per dozen. Cheese, 8d. Bacon, 11d. Hams, 10d. Potatoes, 5s 6d per cwt. Flour: 200lb, 23s; 50lb, 6s 6d. Oatmeal: 50lb, 5s 6d; 25lb, 2s 9d. Pollard, 7s per bag. Bran, 4s 6d. Chaff, 1s 9d.

Mr. F. Meenan, King street, Dunedin, reports:—Wholesale prices only.—Oats: Seed, 1s 10d to 2s 3d; milling, 1s 8d to 1s 9½d; feed, 1s 3d to 1s 7d. Wheat: Milling, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; fowls' wheat, 3s to 3s 6d. Potatoes: Derwents, £3 15s to £4 5s; seed kidneys, £3 10s to £4 10s. Chaff, £2 10s to £3 10s. Straw: Pressed wheat, 27s 6d; oatens, 30s; loose, 35s. Flour: Sacks, £10; 50lb, £10 15s; 25lb, £11. Oatmeal, £9. Pollard, £4. Bran, £3. Butter: Dairy, 8d to 10d; factory, 11d. Cheese: Factory, 6½d; dairy, 6d. Eggs, 11d. Onions: Melbourne, £5.

Messrs Donald Reid and Co. (Limited) report:—We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we submitted a fair catalogue to a good attendance of buyers. There was fair competition up to late values, and most of the lots on offer were disposed of. Prices ruled as under:—

Oats.—The demand for milling qualities has been quiet. Good to best feed continues to move off slowly for export, but in the face of quotations from other ports late values are difficult to maintain. Medium and inferior sorts are offering more plentifully at lower rates. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 6½d to 1s 7d; good to best feed, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; inferior and medium, 1s to 1s 4½d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Prime milling is offering sparingly, and local business is chiefly confined to medium sorts, for which there has been fair inquiry. Fowl wheat, which has been offering freely, finds buyers at prices a shade below late quotations. Quotations: Prime milling, 4s to 4s 2d; medium, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; broken and damaged, 2s to 3s per bushel (bags extra).

Potatoes.—Fair supplies of northern Derwents have come forward, and the local demand continues to absorb these at prices on a par with late quotations. Special seed lines (more particularly Up-to-dates) have good inquiry, and are in short supply. Quotations: Prime Derwents, £4 to £4 5s; medium to good, £3 10s to £3 17s 6d; seed lines, £4 to £6 per ton (bags in).

Chaff.—Medium quality is still in over supply and difficult to place at late values. Prime oatens sheaf meets fair demand at prices fully equal to late quotations. Quotations: Best oatens sheaf, £3 to £3 5s; choice, £3 7s 6d; medium to good, £2 7s 6d to £2 15s; inferior and light, £1 10s to £2 5s per ton (bags extra).

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co report as follows:—Wheat.—The increased demand lately reported has fallen away, and millers are not prepared to give full rates except in small lines. Prime milling is nominally worth 3s 11d to 4s 2d; medium to good do, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 4d.

Oats.—The market continues dull and buyers are scarce at late quotations.

Chaff.—Best oatens sheaf, £3 to £3 5s; extra, £3 7s 6d; medium to good, £2 10s to £2 15s.

Potatoes.—Best Derwents, £4 to £4 5s.

WOOL.

London, September 29.—The wool sales closed firm. Prices for crossbreds were the highest of the series. An inferior selection was offered to-day, but prices were well maintained. New Zealand clips showed a further upward tendency.

London, September 30.—For the wool sales just closed 158,000 bales were catalogued, and 80,000 sold for the Home markets, 70,000 for the Continent, 1000 for America, and 7000 were held over. Compared with the closing rates for the July series, fine medium crossbreds were fully 5 per cent. higher, while coarse were 15 per cent., and medium scoured merinos 5 per cent. lower. All other classes were unchanged. Crossbred lambs were from par to 5 per cent. higher. Merinos are unchanged. The sales included the following clips:—Peninsular, 9½d; Takaka, 9½d; Malvern, 20½d; Lockwood, 22½d.

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

Rabbitskins.—London sales last week showed a rise of ½d to 1d according to quality, and in consequence prices at yesterday's sale were higher in sympathy, the principal advance being in poor qualities. We sold winter greys mixed bucks and does at 15½d to 16½d; second winters, 9½d to 14½d; autumns, 11½d to 12½d; summers, 8d to 8½d; milky does, 6½d to 7½d; blacks, 9½d to 24d.

Sheepskins.—We offered a very large catalogue to-day and competition for all classes was good. There was, however, a tendency to stop short of the very extreme prices ruling lately. Merinos, best, sold at 4s to 6s 9d; halfbreds, 3s 7d to 5s 8d; fine crossbreds, 3s 6d to 5s 1d; crossbreds, 3s to 5s 1d; butchers' skins sold up to 5s 9d.

Tallow and Fat.—There is no change to report. Supplies have been small lately and late prices maintained.

Hides.—Last Thursday we offered 320 and sold these at prices on a par with late quotations, medium weight hides being a shade better. We sold prime ox hides at 5½d to 6½d; medium to good do, 4½d to 5½d; light and inferior do, 1½d to 4½d; prime low hides, 4½d to 4½d; medium to good do, 4d to 4½d; light and inferior do, 2d to 3½d; calfskins, 9d to 2s.

LIVE STOCK.

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report having held a clearing sale on the farm near Palmerston for the executors of the late Wm. Whiteside on Saturday last, 3rd inst. The weather was all that could be desired, and the attendance being large a most satisfactory sale resulted. The stock, etc., were not many in numbers, but everything brought full values, the following being the principal lots: Full-mouthed crossbred ewes, with lambs at foot, 21s 3d. Dairy cows, £6. Calves and yearlings, £3 8s to £3 12s 6d. One draught mare, £35 10s. One draught yearling, £16 10s. Implements and household furniture all at full market rates.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

At this week's sale the main attraction was a consignment of draught and light harness horses, 34 in number, from Mr. Edward Stephenson, of Palmerston North. The shipment comprised 28 draught colts and fillies and six hacks and harness horses, and it may safely be asserted in the case of the draughts that a more useful or apparently sound lot of horses has not been offered in the Dunedin Saleyards for many years. They were all four and five years old, horses of great substance; but unfortunately most of them were only just broken to lead, and this somewhat militated against their sale. The consignment sold well, realising prices ranging from £34 to £57 10s. The light horses also were of good stamp, and sold at from £17 to £34. To-day one exceptionally good cob dog-cart horse was sold for £34, and several good harness horses changed hands at from £19 to £27. We quote: Superior young draught geldings, £50 to £60; extra good, prize horses, £62 to £70; medium draught mares and geldings, £35 to £48; aged do, £24 to £34; upstanding carriage horses, £35 to £40; well-matched carriage pairs, £80 to £120; strong spring-van horses, £28 to £38; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £22 to £30; tram horses, £16 to £27; light hacks, £12 to £20; extra good hacks, £22 to £30; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, £5 to £10.

The train arrangements on Labor Day and October 17 are advertised elsewhere in this issue.