

# Commercial

## PRODUCE

Wellington, April 29.—The High Commissioner cabled from London on the 27th inst. (the quotations, unless otherwise specified, are the average market prices on spot):—

Mutton.—Market quiet; prices slightly weaker. Nominal quotations: Canterbury, 4½d; North Island—light-weight 3¾d, heavy-weight 3½d.

Lamb.—There is a firm demand for all lamb. Canterbury, 5¾d; other than Canterbury, 5½d.

Beef.—Market firm. The stocks of New Zealand beef on hand are light. New Zealand hinds, 4½d; fores, 3½d.

Butter.—Market dull and unsettled. Lower prices are encouraging business. The average prices for the week were: Choicest New Zealand butter, 109/-; Australian, 105/-; Argentine, 105/-; Danish, 119/-; Siberian, 107/-.

Cheese.—Market slightly weaker; less demand. The average price for the week for choicest New Zealand cheese was 70/-.

Hemp.—Market quiet and steady. New Zealand quotations unchanged for all positions. Good fair, £21 10s to £21 15s; fair grade, £20. The market is firmer for Manila. Fair current Manila on spot is quoted at £21 15s; forward for the week, 24,000 bales.

Wool.—Market remains firm.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report:—

Oats.—There is strong demand for prime Gartons and sparrowbills at quotations. Discoloured lines, if sound, are also readily saleable. Prime milling, 2/2½; good to best feed, 2/1½ to 2/2; inferior to medium, 1/11 to 2/- per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Prime milling lines are in better demand, and any lines of this class are readily placed at improved values. Fowl wheat is offering more freely, and meets a fair shipping demand. Prime milling, 3/10 to 3/11; Tuscan, etc., 3/9 to 3/10; medium, 3/6 to 3/8; best whole fowl wheat, 3/4 to 3/6; medium, 3/1 to 3/3; broken and damaged, 2/9 to 3/- per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The demand for shipment continues fairly strong, and sales are being at £5 to £5 2s 6d at country stations. Locally there is ready sale for prime lots at £5 5s to £5 7s 6d, while at our sale one specially choice lot realised £5 13s per ton (sacks included).

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. report as follows:—

Oats.—During the past week a large quantity of oats has changed hands, although towards the end of last week offerings from the country were lighter, and all bright heavy samples were readily placed at an advance on late ruling rates. Prime milling, 2/2 to 2/2½; good to best feed, 2/1 to 2/2; inferior and medium, 1/11 to 2/- per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—A good demand exists for all lines of wheat fit for milling purposes. At prices fully up to late ruling rates, good whole fowl wheat meets with ready sale, while inferior samples are hard to quit. Prime milling velvet, 3/10 to 3/11; Tuscan and red wheats, 3/9 to 3/10; medium milling, 3/7 to 3/8; best whole fowl wheat, 3/5 to 3/6; broken and damaged, 2/6 to 3/- per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The market is moderately supplied. Prime Up-to-Dates meet with a ready sale at prices fully up to last week's prices, while stale, inferior, and diseased lots are hard to quit. Choice, £5 7s 6d; good, £5 to £5 5s; inferior, diseased, and scabby, £3 to £3 10s.

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ended Tuesday, April 30, as follows:—

Oats.—There is good demand for prime Gartons and Sparrowbills. Large numbers have changed hands during the last week at slightly increased rates. There

is also good demand for B grade. Quotations: Prime milling, 2/2 to 2/2½; good to best feed, 2/1½ to 2/2; inferior to medium, 1/11 to 2/- per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—There is good inquiry from millers for prime lines, and the wheat offered is mostly of medium quality. There is good inquiry for fowl wheat. Quotations: Prime milling, 3/10 to 3/11; red wheats, 3/9 to 3/10; medium, 3/6 to 3/8; best whole fowl wheat, 3/4 to 3/6; medium, 3/1 to 3/3; broken and damaged, 3/- to 3/6 per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—The market is flooded with medium and inferior lots, which are very hard to sell. There is good demand for prime quality. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 10s to £3 15s; medium to good, £3 to £3 10s; light and discoloured, £2 5s to £2 15s per ton (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—There is good demand for shipments, and sales have been made from £5 to £5 2s 6d on trucks country stations. Prime lines are worth £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton (sacks in).

## WOOL

Mr. M. T. Kennelly, 217 Crawford street, Dunedin, reports as follows:—

Rabbitskins.—Prime winter does, 17d to 18d; second does, to 16½d; prime bucks, to 16d; incoming and early winter, 14d to 15d; autumn, 12d to 13d; racks, 7½d to 9d. Horsehair, 16d to 19d; catskins, 4d to 6d each.

Sheepskins.—Halfbred, 6d to 8d per lb; fine crossbred, 5½ to 7d; coarse do., 5d to 6½d; pelts, 3d to 5d.

Hides.—Sound ox, 6d to 8d; do. cow, 5d to 6½d; damaged ox and cow, 3d to 4½d; calfskins and yearlings (sound), 6½d to 9d. Horsehides, 8s to 14s each.

Tallow.—Best in casks, to 26s per cwt; do., 24s; mixed, 18s to 20s; rough fat, 16s to 20s.

Prompt returns. No commission.

Stronach, Morris and Co. report as follow:—

Rabbitskins.—We held our fortnightly sale on Monday, 29th inst., when we offered an exceptionally large catalogue. There was a large attendance of buyers, and we cleared every lot under very keen competition. New season's skins are now coming to hand, and we anticipate a very good market. Quotations: Winter bucks and does, none forward; early winters, 16d to 17d; autumns and incoming, 16d to 16½d; early autumns, 12d to 14d; racks, 10d to 11d; light racks, 9½d to 10½d; spring bucks, 9d to 12d; spring does, 8½d to 9d; milky does, 7d to 7½d; hawk torn, 8d to 8½d; small, 4½d to 5½d; catskins, 4d to 6d; horse hair, 12d to 18½d; hare skins, to 7½d.

Sheepskins.—We held our fortnightly sale to-day, when we offered a medium catalogue. As the monthly wool sale was held to-day there was a very large attendance of buyers and bidding was very brisk. Prices were fully up to last week's high rates. Quotations: Best halfbred, 7½d to 8d; medium, 6½d to 7½d; inferior, 6½d to 6¾d; best fine crossbred, 7d to 7½d; best crossbred, 7d to 7¾d; medium, 6½d to 6¾d; inferior, 5½d to 6d; dead halfbred, 6d to 6¾d; dead crossbred, 5½d to 6d; best halfbred pelts, 6½d to 7½d; medium, 5½d to 6½d; best crossbred pelts, 6d to 6¾d; medium, 5½d to 5¾d; inferior, 3d to 4½d; best merino, 6½d to 7¾d; medium to good, 5½d to 6½d; best lambskins, 6½d to 7¾d.

Hides.—At our sale on Thursday last we offered a medium size catalogue. Competition was hardly so keen as at last sale, and medium weight hides showed a drop of about ¾d per lb. All stout heavy hides were eagerly competed for. Calfskins sold at about last sale's rates. Quotations: Prime stout heavy ox hides, to 8½d; heavy weight do, 7d to 7½d; medium weight, 6½d to 7d; light weight, 6½d to 6¾d; inferior, 5d to 6d; heavy weight cow hides, 6½d to 6¾d; medium and light weight, 6d to 6¾d; inferior, 3½d to 5d; yearlings, to 6¾d; calfskins, to 10½d.

Tallow and Fat.—Very small consignments are coming to hand and prices rule much the same as at last report. There is good inquiry.