

Commercial

PRODUCE

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce on Monday, when values ruled as under:—

Oats.—Sales are still restricted so far as export business is concerned. Millers are buyers of prime Gartons, but want nothing but the best. Medium qualities are only saleable locally in reduced quantities. The demand for seed continues to take a fair proportion of the choice lines on offer. Prime milling, 2s 2½d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s 1½d to 2s 2½d; inferior to medium, 1s 9d to 2s 1d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—There is no change to report either in demand or value. Millers' requirements are confined to prime samples, medium qualities being quitted chiefly to supply orders for fowl wheat. Prime milling velvet, 4s to 4s 2d; velvet ear, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; Tuscan, etc., 3s 7d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; medium, 3s 1d to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s 3d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The market is well supplied, and only best quality has any demand. There is little or no inquiry from outside markets, and values show no improvement. Best table potatoes, £2 5s to £2 10s; choice, to £2 12s 6d; medium, £1 15s to £2 2s 6d per ton (sacks included).

Chaff.—Moderate supplies are coming forward, and as the quality in most cases is good to prime, the bulk of it is quitted ex truck on arrival. Lower grades have little attention. Best oaten sheaf, £4 to £4 5s; choice black oat, to £4 7s 6d; medium to good, £3 10s to £3 15s; light and discolored, £3 to £3 7s 6d per ton (bags extra).

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ended Tuesday, September 9, 1913, as follows:—

Oats.—There is very little business being done as prices are too high to allow shipments being made. Local trade is also very quiet. Quotations: Prime milling, 2s 2½d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 2s to 2s 2d; inferior to medium, 1s 9d to 2s per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The wheat business is also very quiet, millers being buyers of only the primest lines. Good fowl wheat is in fair demand. Quotations: Prime milling velvet, 4s to 4s 2d; velvet ear, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; Tuscan, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; medium, 3s 1d to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s 3d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—The market is fairly well supplied, but there is a good demand for prime quality. Inferior lots are hard to sell. Quotations: Best oaten sheaf, £4 to £4 5s; medium to good, £3 10s to £3 15s; light and discolored, £3 to £3 7s 6d per ton (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Consignments are still fairly heavy, but there is practically no demand. Only prime quality is saleable. Quotations: Best potatoes, £2 5s to £2 10s; medium, £1 15s to £2 per ton (sacks in).

WOOL

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

Rabbitskins.—We held our weekly sale yesterday when we offered a very large catalogue. Competition was very keen and prices were very firm at last week's rates. Quotations: Selected winter does, to 39½d; good, 36d to 38½d; second winter does, 26½d to 30½d; prime winter bucks, to 27d; second winter bucks, 21½d to 24d; medium, 18½d to 20½d; best autumn and incoming, 18½d to 20½d; outgoing, 16½d to 18d; early autumns, 15½d to 16½d; prime racks, to 13½d; light racks, to 12½d; best hawk torn, 16d to 17d; inferior, 9½d to 1s; spring does, to 12d; spring bucks, to 12½d; milky does, to 11d; weevilly, to 9½d; prime silver greys, to 52½d; best winter blacks, 46d to 48½d; second winter blacks, to 32d; best hareskins, to 25d; small, 7d to 9½d; shocks, to 6d per lb. Best catskins, 12d to 15d; medium, 4d to 8d each. Horse hair, to 10d per lb.

Opossum Skins.—We had again a large number of opossum skins forward and prices were very high. Bidding was very brisk and all prime lines were eagerly sought after. Quotations: First blacks, 9s 8d to 10s 5d; second blacks, 5s 6d to 7s 9d; first greys, 6s 6d to 7s 7d; second greys, 5s 3d to 6s; small and damaged greys and blacks, 2s 10d to 4s 11d each.

Sheepskins.—We offered a medium catalogue at to-day's sale and prices ruled about the same at last week. Quotations: Best halfbred, 8d to 8½d; medium to good, 7d to 7½d; inferior, 5½d to 6½d; best fine crossbred, 7½d to 8½d; best coarse crossbred, 7½d to 8½d; medium to good, 5½d to 6½d; best merino, 6½d to 7½d; medium, 4½d to 6d; pelts, 4½d to 5½d for best; inferior, 2d to 3d per lb.

Hides.—Our next hide sale will be held on Thursday, 11th inst., when we anticipate a good sale.

CATHOLIC FEDERATION

WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

At the next meeting of the Dominion Executive the matter of the appointment of a paid permanent secretary and the establishment and the equipment of an office will be discussed and probably settled.

The signed petitions have been called in, but in view of recent happenings we must be ready to present them at any moment, and parish committees are urged to see that every Catholic in their respective parishes signs the forms. For that reason, if any spare forms are left and if there is any chance of securing fresh signatures they should be retained and used forthwith, if not they should be returned to the secretary, P.O. Box 958, Wellington. Any parishes requiring more forms should apply to the secretary of the Federation. Parish committees are urged to see that the *Tablet* is filed for reference in the local library, and any objectionable books or periodicals filed there should be brought under notice. Reports of the formation of new branches and the strengthening of existing ones have been received and are most encouraging. Diocesan councils have been supplied with copies of the amended constitution, and the report of the first meeting of the Dominion Council. The executive is keeping in touch with the Australian and English Federations, and will co-operate with the latter in the matter of immigration and securing justice at the other end for Catholic immigrants who wish to come to New Zealand.

On the establishment of an office and the appointment of a permanent secretary the executive intend establishing a labor bureau, and parish committees knowing of any employment offering in their districts will be able to communicate with the secretary of the Federation, who will register it, and any Catholic or Catholic immigrant requiring employment will be directed to it. Similarly Catholic employers in search of Catholic employees will be able to communicate with the secretary, and if possible their wants will be attended to.

A meeting of the Catholic immigration committee was held at the presbytery, Boulcott street, on August 22, eight members being present. In the absence of the president, the chair was occupied by Mr. Ellis, who referred to the recent conference with the hierarchy, during which immigration work was considered. The C.I.C. is much encouraged to hear of the interest shown, especially by Bishop Cleary, who apparently intends advocating the formation of a branch in Auckland. Reports were received from members of visits to the Waimana and Rotorua. The quarantine regulations still hamper the work, and the C.I.C. notes the extraordinarily low percentage of Catholic immigrants. A resolution was passed calling the attention of the Catholic Federation to this matter, and suggesting that enquiries be made as to the cause. Correspondence was read from the men's and the newly formed ladies' branches of the St. Vincent de Paul Conferences at Wanganui. The C.I.C. appreciates the co-operation of these branches, and hopes to have the assistance of other branches throughout the Dominion.