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Supplies of field-grown fruit from Metropolitan sources showed an increase and choice packs were selling to 30/- at the close of November.

Consignments from the North Coast continued to come forward. The largest single consignment approximated 21,000 half-cases but following heavy rains in the growing areas supplies declined appreciably. The quality of offerings showed considerable variation ranging from choice to low grade. Realisations for good quality packs were in the main very satisfactory but low prices had to be accepted for some poor quality supplies. Light to moderate consignments came to hand from the Monindee district and also from Queensland.

Root vegetables in short supply.

Carrots were in short supply and any reasonably good quality lines realised the maximum of 25/-. Small consignments received from Queensland opened up well and were quickly sold. Swede turnips were also scarce and choice parsnips were in very short supply.

(R.D. Meaker).

ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD AND SUSSEX STREET SALES.

New season's potatoes arrive.

Tasmanian potatoes were again in fairly heavy supply, 199,766 bags and 2,567 crates being received in Sussex Street. The tubers mainly consisted of Brownells, Bismarcks, Snowflakes and Up-to-Dates. In the early part of the period, there was a good demand but later inquiry showed a falling off. A large percentage was available for the trade; the remainder went to essential services and a quantity was stored.

The first supplies of new season's potatoes were received at Alexandria Goods Yard on the 5th November and from that date forward supplies continued to increase. An aggregate of 37,490 bags came to hand. The tubers, mostly new grade Factors, opened up in very good condition. All lots were disposed of readily. It was necessary to regrade only about 150 bags, owing to mechanical injury, greening and second growth. The bulk of the arrivals were from North Coast districts.

During the period, consignments arriving at Alexandria from Tasmania via Victoria amounted to 645 bags (mostly Brownells)

which sold to the trade at ruling rates. From the North Coast, 130 bags of new grade Factors were received in Sussex Street. There were no alterations in rates, which were as follows:- Wholesalers' rates to retailers - Local and Interstate No. 1 Grade £7.17.6, Undergrades £6.7.6 per ton. Rates for N.S.W. grown potatoes for delivery to country areas are as quoted, plus freight from loading station. Prices for Interstate potatoes to N.S.W. country areas are as quoted, plus freight from Sydney or loading station, whichever is the lower. Primary merchants' prices to wholesalers are £1.5.0 per ton less than figures quoted.

Swedes very scarce.

There was a marked falling off in the quantity of swedes available at Alexandria, which amounted to 162 bags of local lots as against last month's total of 2,824 bags. Clearances were made at £8 per ton. No Tasmanian consignments arrived during the month.

Other root vegetables again exceptionally scarce.

The only consignments comprised 34 bags of local carrots at Alexandria in respect of which no rates were disclosed.

New season's pumpkins in request.

Arrivals at Alexandria during November amounted to 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ trucks. Rates showed a marked variation. Old season's lots were disposed of at £5 to £8, while new season's, which consisted of about 55 trucks, met good enquiry at £13.10.0 to £16.10.0, with a few sales early at £12.10.0 to £13 per ton.

At Darling Harbor, consignments were restricted to 2 trucks of old season's which realised £8 per ton.

Queensland onions fairly plentiful.

Arrivals at Alexandria from Queensland totalled 20,172 bags. There were 16,390 bags of brown table lots and 3,782 bags of white. Owing to continued heavy supplies, rates during the period showed a decided fall. The bulk of the brown Globes sold at approximately £10 to £12 (with a few at £9 to £9.10.0), while white realised £11.10.0 to £14, with odd sales at £11 per ton. The following consignments also arrived at Alexandria:- From local centres, 703 bags of white table lots which brought £10 to £11, with a few at £15; from Victoria, 410 bags of white which realised £9 to £10, and 400 bags of brown pickling which were not offered.

Oaten chaff consignments continue to increase.

Supplies of oaten chaff were the largest since January last but stocks were still insufficient for requirements and prices remained firm. During the period, there were 62 trucks available for

trading compared with 46½ trucks last month. Sales were recorded at the maximum ceiling rate of £10.5.0 with the exception of a few trucks, which included inferior lines, which brought £7.10.0 to £9 per ton.

Wheaton chaff plentiful.

Supplies, which continued to increase, amounted to 142 trucks. In the first 3 weeks of November, prime lots sold at ceiling rates, with other lines as follows: a few inferior lots £2.10.0; heated £6; medium £8.12.6 to £9; good sound £9.5.0 to £10 per ton. In the latter part of the month good sound realised £8.10.0 and prime £9 to £9.10.0 per ton. Four trucks were submitted at auction, good sound realising £8.13.4 to £9.10.0 per ton.

Lucerne chaff supplies fairly heavy.

Receivals of lucerne chaff also showed a marked increase, supplies being the largest since July of last year. Stocks amounted to 59½ trucks. Demand was fairly good for prime and choice lots, but other grades sold slowly at times and rates varied considerably. Medium grassy lots brought £7.10.0, grassy £9 to £10.10.0, medium £10.10.0, good sound £9 to £11.15.0 with a few £12 per ton. Prime and choice lines realised £13.5.0 to the maximum of £13.10.0 per ton. At auction, 1 truck of medium sold at £9 per ton.

Reduced supplies of Maitland lucerne hay.

Arrivals from the Maitland district showed a falling off, supplies totalling 116 trucks. No difficulty was experienced in disposing of all lines on offer at the following rates: New soft green £5 to £6.10.0 with a few early sales at £4; well made new green lines £6.10.0 to £7.15.0 with some at £8 per ton. Also on offer were 5½ trucks of derrick pressed which included new green lines which sold at £7 to £8.10.0 per ton.

Arrivals from other centres comprised 64 trucks which included 21 trucks of derrick-pressed. Prime lines met good inquiry but other grades sold slowly at times. Sales included: Grassy £8.10.0 to £9, good sound £9 to £10.10.0 (a few £8 to £8.10.0), prime £11 to £12.5.0 per ton.

Oaten and wheaton hay scarcer.

Receivals, which totalled 71 trucks, were much lighter and included 33½ trucks of derrick pressed oaten and 37½ trucks of wheaton. Demand for oaten hay was restricted early in the period but later grades improved and good sound lots sold at £7 to £7.10.0, with prime at £8 and a few special lots at £8.10.0 to £9 per ton. Sales by auction included 4 trucks which brought £5.10.0 to £7.10.0 per ton. Sales were made of wheaton lines at £5.5.0 to £6.5.0, while 2 trucks brought £5.15.0 to £6 per ton at auction.

Straw in light supply.

Supplies consisted of 6 trucks of oat, 2 trucks of wheaten and 2 trucks of rye straw. Oat was in demand at £6 to £7.10.0 per ton. No rates were disclosed for damaged wheaten and rye straw.

Wheat scarce.

Supplies at Alexandria were restricted, only 2 trucks being received. These were not offered for general trading.

Restricted supplies of maize.

Receivals of maize were limited at Alexandria to 596 bags from local centres, comprising 506 bags of yellow and 90 bags of white and 136 bags of yellow from Queensland. These supplies were taken to store. The only arrivals from the North Coast consisted of 142 bags of yellow seed lots in Sussex Street which were disposed of privately.

New season's oats plentiful.

At Alexandria, there were 75 trucks of new season's oats and 2 trucks of old season's. A large percentage was consigned to private buyers. Seed lots brought 4/4 and auctions included 7 trucks which sold as follows:- Feed lots 3/3 to 3/6, milling 3/8 to 3/9 per bushel.

Prices for oats have been gazetted as follows from 2nd November:

	<u>Feed</u>	<u>Milling</u>	<u>Seed</u>
Grower's prices ..	3/-	3/4d	3/10d
Country siding f.o.r.	3/2d	3/6d	4/-
Alexandria Railway			
Goods Yard ..	3/6d	3/10d	4/4d

(C.H. Ferry)