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MONTHLY MARKETING

REVIEW



ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND PREPARED
UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, SYDNEY.

Vol. 4

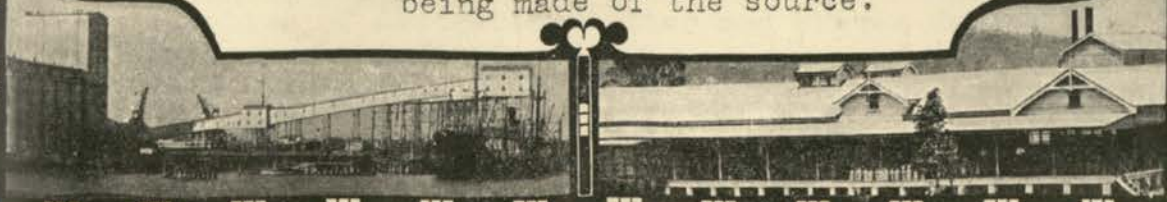
OCTOBER, 1939

No. 6

| | Page |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Highlights | 141 |
| Canned Fruit Juices - Some Notes on the probable effects of Marketing. .. | 142 |
| The Alberta (Canada) Marketing Act, 1939. | 146 |
| Amendment of Tariff Rates, India. .. | 150 |
| Stock Sales at Homebush. .. | 152 |
| Farm Produce - Sales of | 157 |
| Fruit and Vegetables - Sales at City Markets | 161 |
| Commodity Prices in Sydney. .. | 164 |
| Imports of Fruit and Vegetables into New South Wales. | 165 |
| Graph - Sheepskins, Channels of Distribution | 166 |

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MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

A miscellany of matters relating to the marketing of primary products, at home and abroad

Released during the second week of each month
Issued by authority of the Minister for Agriculture
and prepared under the direction of the Director of Marketing
in the State Marketing Bureau, Department of Agriculture,
New South Wales, Australia.

HIGHLIGHTS.

Commonwealth Government will control marketing all Australian wool during the war. Surplus production to be purchased by British Government.

Australian Wheat Board appointed to arrange marketing wheat. Negotiations in progress with British Government for supply of its requirements.

Hides and skins placed on list of price-controlled commodities and export prohibited except under licence.

Arrangements completed by Commonwealth Government for sale of surplus eggs - about 340,000 cases - to Britain. It is estimated that this will return more than £600,000.

Sale of 50,000 tons of flour for export announced by Minister for Commerce.

Payment of annual bounty not exceeding £130,000 per annum for cotton lint produced in Australia recommended by Tariff Board. It is proposed that this shall operate for 5 years from 1st December, 1939.

British Government has agreed to purchase available supplies of Australian butter and cheese during war. Price not yet disclosed.

SOME NOTES ON THE PROBABLE EFFECT OF MARKETING
CANNED FRUIT JUICES ON THE SALES OF FRESH FRUIT.

In a recent discussion concerning the possibilities of expanding the canned fruit juice industry in New South Wales, the following question was raised:-

"Assuming that a substantial quantity of canned orange juice is held in store at the time when fresh oranges are out of season or only available in relatively small quantities, would that canned juice tend to be used in the interval between the two seasons' crops or would there be any serious risk of it being carried forward to the second season and, if this did occur, would its presence on the market necessarily prove detrimental to sales of fresh fruit?"

The State Marketing Bureau has made inquiries and investigations as to the experience in other countries, particularly the United States of America, and the pertinent information is appended.

Rapid development of industry in the United States.

The position in the United States of America has been concisely summed up by the Imperial Economic Committee in its Thirty-second Report - "A Survey of the Trade in Canned Food", relevant portions of which are as follow:-

Canned Fruit Juices.

"The use of (unfermented) preserved fruit juice is by no means new, for the bottling of unfermented grape juice is said to go back at least to 1869. What is new is the great expansion in the demand for the canned article in the United States in the last ten years. The present vogue may be said to have developed from the use of fresh fruit and fresh fruit juice as a regular feature of the American breakfast table, which in its turn is not unconnected with the interest in 'slimming' diets and dieting generally. To a public already accustomed to the daily use of fruit (and particularly citrus fruit) and therewith to the daily draft of squeezed orange juice at breakfast time, the canning industry offered the additional convenience of prepared, but natural fruit juices, ready for immediate consumption, together with the new experience of variety in fruit and flavour. The rapid rise to popularity of canned tomato juice (itself strongly advertised on dietetic grounds) played a part in preparing the way."

(A schedule published in the Report shows that the output of canned fruit juices in the United States increased from 1,550,000 cases of all sizes in 1933 to 19,040,000 cases in 1937, and that of canned tomato juice from 4,171,000 cases in 1933 to 13,445,000 cases in 1937).

"So far the popularity of the new product in the United States appears to have been an unmixed blessing for the industries concerned. It is not regarded as competing with ordinary canned fruit,
/and

and though it may affect the sale of fresh citrus fruit such as grapefruit and oranges, for consumption at the breakfast table, the citrus fruit growers welcome the canned product, since it is found from experience that, while the consumer normally will take not more than one whole fruit (either solid or squeezed) in the ordinary way, he will, in the canned form easily consume the juice of two or more oranges in the usual eight-ounce glass".

Benefits of the canned juice trade:

The beneficial effect of the canned juice trade is also shown in the Introduction to "Utilization of Fruit in Commercial Production of Fruit Juices" by M.A. Joslyn and G.L. Marsh, issued in November, 1937, by the University of California, wherein the authors state:-

"The great increase in commercial production of fruit juices has provided a market for much off-size, off-grade, and otherwise unsaleable fruit, and to this extent has improved the market for better fruit. Present trends indicate that for some fruits not only the culls but also fruit of the better grades will be converted into juice."

Another extract from this publication is of interest also:-

"A recent survey has shown that most of the fruit juices served in the home are used at breakfast, the next largest use being as a between meals drink, especially for children. The use of juice in fruit-juice beverages, such as punches and ades and in mixed drinks is least important in the home. However, certain prepared juices, such as lemon juice, are used largely for mixed drinks and in bakery products. The common use of fruit juices at breakfast has resulted in the increased production of still and somewhat tart juices rather than of carbonated fruit juice beverages so popular less than a decade ago."

Cans are said to have largely replaced bottles.

Increased outlet for orchard and farm products:

In an article on "The Growth of the Juice Industry" published in the "California Cultivator" on 16th January, 1937, Mr. H. Kenyon said:- "Improved methods of preservation have permitted a more widespread use of fruit juices because in this form they can be transported and sold in more remote markets than was ever possible with fresh fruit. In other words, the canning and preservation of juice of all sorts has served to expand and increase the market outlets for the products of our California and Arizona orchards and farms, so that up to this time at least juice in these new forms has not been a serious competitor to fresh fruit in most of our markets. This is not to deny that there will soon come a time when canned juice may invade the markets we have thought always would stand by the fresh product, delivered to the consumer in its own skin - the original package."

Survey of citrus fruit consumption in Baltimore and St. Louis:

In 1936 the Consumers' Council Division of the United States Agricultural Adjustment Department made a survey of citrus fruit consumption in the cities of Baltimore (selected as typical of the East) and St. Louis (typical of the Mid-West), visiting 1,000 housewives in each city. The section of the report of this survey pertinent to the matter under review is contained in the following extract from the "Consumers' Guide" of November 30th, 1936:-

"Drinking the juice at breakfast was the most frequently encountered use for oranges in both cities. In Baltimore, the second most important use was eating between meals and third, eating oranges as whole fruit at breakfast. The second most important use as indicated by St. Louis housewives was eating oranges as a whole fruit at breakfast. Third was eating between meals. Other major uses in both cities was feeding the juice to children and infants, put-up lunches, and feeding to ill persons."

Of importance to Australian fruit-growers:

Turning to Australia, an interesting commentary from the viewpoint of the apple grower is contained in an article on "Production of Apple Juice" by F.M. Read, M.Ag. Sc., Acting Superintendent of Horticulture, Victoria, published in "The Fruit World and Market Grower", 5/9/1939. Mr. Read considers that the fruit juice industry is a matter of great importance to Australian fruit-growers, as it would probably offer not merely an outlet for some surplus production, but would also enable sound fruit culled for blemish or unfavourable size to be disposed of profitably, and in this way permit of an increase in the attractiveness of the pack of fresh fruit, particularly for export. He states:-

"In Germany, from 1926-1937, the production of apple juice increased from half a million gallons to 15 million gallons and this gallonage in 1937 is equivalent to about $4\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels of fruit or approximately the quantity exported from Australia to overseas destinations each year.

On a population ratio basis this would be equivalent to a consumption of, say, nearly one and a half million gallons a year in Australia, requiring 400,000 to 500,000 bushels of apples.

The German experience, however, shows that the cost of production and the price of such juice must be very reasonable if a wide demand is to be created, and that the home market must be depended upon for this reason."

Conditions in New South Wales:

The foregoing extracts are valuable as indicative of the United States position particularly. Conditions in New South Wales, however, are notably different, in that the drinking of fruit juices at breakfast is not extensively practised; whether it will

/develop

develop as the supply of canned juices increases remains to be proved, though indications may be regarded as definitely favourable. Greater consumption of fruit juices as 'soft drinks' in lieu of synthetic cordials or juices, and for dietetic purposes - children and invalids - may be expected, while exploitation of centres where fresh fruits are not readily available or, if available, are dear, should be another means of increasing the sale. Judicious advertising may also be expected to assist, the recent campaign to popularise the Queensland produced pineapple juice being an example of this.

Important sidelines to the citrus fruit juice manufacture are the extraction of essential oils from lemons unsuitable for other purposes, and the preparation of peels.

An aspect of the canned orange juice industry that must receive consideration is the tendency, noticeable during recent years, of citrus growers to eliminate 'common' oranges from their groves owing to the poor returns from the marketing of such varieties. The reports received by the Forecasting Section of this Bureau indicate that the acreage of 'common' oranges has decreased considerably over the past few years, and thus there would be only a limited supply of oranges suitable for juice manufacture during the winter months. Presumably during the spring and summer the smaller sizes and the lower grades of 'Valencias' would be utilised for this purpose.

Local market not yet determined:

Apparently the chief break between orange seasons is that from the end of March, when the bulk of the 'Valencia' crop has been marketed, and the beginning of May, when the 'Navel' and 'Common' varieties come on to the market in appreciable quantities. There is an increasing tendency for the commencement of the 'Valencia' to overlap the termination of the 'Navel' season (end of August / early September). Although not to be expected to be as favourable for juice consumption as the summer months, the period March/May should still be sufficiently warm for sale of appreciable quantities of fruit juices, especially considering the limited supply of quality fresh oranges and also the Easter holiday season. The question of whether a substantial quantity of canned orange juice held in store at this period would be used in the interval between the two crops or be carried forward to the second season with detrimental effects on the sales of fresh fruit is difficult to answer, in that the local market for this product has not been determined as yet; moreover, there may be an export outlet in the more northerly portions of Australia and in the Islands, as well as New Zealand. The experience in the United States of America apparently has been that the juice trade has assisted the fruit industry although there is a possibility of a saturation point being reached in the future. It appears that the New South Wales production of fruit juices should be expanded gradually, the demand being promoted by judicious advertising and that the possibilities of developing markets outside the metropolis of Sydney, as well as in other States and outside the Commonwealth, should be explored.

C.K.

THE ALBERTA MARKETING ACT, 1939.

Through the courtesy of Mr. R.R. Ellen, Assistant Australian Trade Commissioner in Canada, the State Marketing Bureau has received a copy of an Act passed by the Parliament of the Province of Alberta, Canada, and assented to on 3rd April, 1939, entitled "The Alberta Marketing Act".

Repeals.

The above-mentioned measure repealed the following Acts:- "The Alberta Natural Products Marketing Act" 1934, "The Control and Marketing of Wheat Act" (1935), and "The Alberta Natural Products Marketing Act, Amendment Act, 1935".

Objective.

"The Alberta Marketing Act" makes provision for the marketing of natural products and other commodities, and for the regulation thereof within the Province of Alberta.

It is divided into three Parts:-

Part I relating to the marketing of natural products (which have a very comprehensive definition).

Part II relating to the Provincial Marketing Board.

Part III containing provisions of general application.

The principal provisions of the Act are set out in a synopsis also forwarded by Mr. Ellen, and are as follow:-

Constitution of Marketing Boards.

By Part I provision is made for the constitution by the Lieutenant Governor in Council of marketing boards for the marketing or the regulation or control of the marketing of any specified kind or kinds of natural products; such boards are declared to be corporate bodies and are to consist of not more than five members, including the chairman, who hold office during the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and whose remuneration is such as may be prescribed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. (Section 3.). The majority of the members of any marketing board are to be persons engaged in the production of the products to be marketed or regulated by such board.

Establishment of Marketing Schemes.

The Lieutenant Governor in Council is empowered to establish marketing schemes for the control and regulation within the Province of the transportation, packing, distribution and marketing of any kind or kinds of natural produce and for the promotion of the sale and use thereof and to assign the administration of any such schemes to any marketing board and to vest in such boards any necessary powers. (Section 4.).

/Co-operation

Co-operation with Marketing Boards in other Provinces.

With the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, every board is empowered to co-operate with marketing boards or agencies established by statute in other Provinces for the marketing of any natural product which is marketed by the first mentioned board. (Section 5.).

Specific Powers and Regulations.

Section 6 sets out a number of specific powers which may be conferred by the Lieutenant Governor in Council upon marketing boards.

Section 7 confers upon the Lieutenant Governor in Council power to make regulations as to the marketing within the Province of natural products.

Section 8 confers upon the Lieutenant Governor in Council power to make regulations governing the operation of marketing boards.

Penalties.

Section 9 makes any failure to comply with any determinations or orders of a board or any regulations made pursuant to the Act an offence punishable by fine or imprisonment or both.

"The Provincial Marketing Board".

Part II makes provision for the constitution of a board with the title of "The Provincial Marketing Board" consisting of not more than five members, including the chairman, who hold office at the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and receives such remuneration as may be prescribed by him.

The Provincial Marketing Board is declared to be a body corporate and is empowered to deal in any goods, wares, merchandise and natural products by wholesale or retail, and to act as a broker, factor or agent in buying or selling any such goods, wares, merchandise and natural products.

The Board, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, is empowered to engage in the businesses of manufacturing, producing, processing, handling or distributing any goods, wares, merchandise or natural products. (Sections 10 and 11).

Loans to Provincial Marketing Board.

Section 13 authorises the Provincial Treasurer, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, to lend from time to time to the Provincial Marketing Board sums required for the carrying on of its business to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars.

The Lieutenant Governor in Council is empowered to make regulations as to the activities of the Provincial Marketing Board.

Administration of Act.

Part III provides that the administration of the Act is to be subject to the direction and supervision of the Minister of Trade and Industry, who is authorised with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make and carry out agreements with producers, manufacturers or distributors of or dealers in any goods, wares, merchandise or natural products within the Province whereby the Government agrees to promote the sale thereof.

Mode of interpretation of Act.

Section 21 provides for the construction of the Act in such a way as to confirm the provisions thereof within the competence of the Legislature and that in case any provision or section is held or found to be beyond the powers of the Legislature, such provision or section shall be read separately from the remainder, and shall be acted on so far as it deals with matters within the powers of the Province and the remaining provisions or sections shall remain in force and effect notwithstanding that some provisions are held to be ultra vires.

Perusal of the Act, however, reveals a number of additional particulars of special interest, and some of these are set out hereunder:

Mode of appointment of Members of a Marketing Board.

The Act does not stipulate the method by which the members of any marketing board are to be chosen, but states that this, whether by appointment or election, or partly the one and partly the other, may be set out in the scheme the Board is authorised to administer.

Submission of a proposed Scheme to a Poll of Producers.

Under Section 7(2) the power of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make regulations extends to (inter alia): "The providing for the submission of any scheme for the regulation of the marketing of any natural products to a plebiscite within the area of the Province covered by the scheme".

Expenses of Marketing Boards.

The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations authorising and empowering any board to provide for the expenses of its operations by the imposition of direct charges or tolls in respect of the whole or any part of the products marketed by it.

/Purpose

Purpose of Provincial Marketing Board.

The purpose of the Provincial Marketing Board is set out as "providing producers, manufacturers, distributors and consumers in the Province with the means of buying and selling goods, wares, merchandise and natural products at a price which is fair and equitable".

Appointments under the Act.

Mr. Ellen advised that under the Act the Alberta Government had appointed a Director of the Central Purchasing Board and also a Chairman of the Provincial Marketing Board. These two appointments, together with a third person to be named by the Department or Board making the purchase will comprise an Advisory Purchasing Committee for each Government Department. The Provincial Treasurer had announced that the Central Purchasing Board would commence its operations immediately and that it was anticipated large savings would be effected in Provincial purchases.

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CHILLED BEEF INDUSTRY - NEW ZEALAND.

The following extract taken from the Seventeenth Annual Report of the New Zealand Meat Producers Board gives an interesting survey of the development of the chilled beef industry in New Zealand:-

"The rapid development of the chilled beef industry which only commenced in the 1933-34 season is shown by the following figures:-

Shipments of New Zealand Chilled Beef to United Kingdom, etc.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|---------|----------|
| Season 1933-34 | .. | 19,576 | quarters |
| " 1934-35 | .. | 64,514 | " |
| " 1935-36 | .. | 144,169 | " |
| " 1936-37 | .. | 201,105 | " |
| " 1937-38 | .. | 237,186 | " |
| " 1938-39 (to 31st May) | | 192,938 | " |

It is anticipated that the total shipments for this season will reach the figure of 280,000 quarters. The f.o.b. value of chilled beef exported from New Zealand, according to the official statistics, for the 12 months ended 31st March, 1939, was £708,069.

Now that our export of chilled beef has become such an important part of our meat trade, and also having regard to its further great potentialities, the Board would again stress to farmers the importance of continued efforts being made to still further improve the quality of the chiller cattle they are breeding. Improved breeding, and well-finished cattle, together with more regular monthly supplies, will greatly assist in developing this trade along the right lines."

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AMENDMENT OF TARIFF RATES - INDIA.

In the course of an address to the South Australian Advisory Committee on Eastern Trade, delivered on 6th July, 1939, Mr. J.A. Tonkin, Department of Commerce, stated that a number of recent alterations in the Tariff Rates in India are of interest to Australian exporters.

In 1932, as a result of the Ottawa discussions, the United Kingdom entered into an agreement with the Government of India, but Australia did not. Under this agreement, the Indian Government, in exchange for certain preferences, gave preferential treatment to United Kingdom products in the Indian market. The extent of the preference was 10% in favour of the United Kingdom, making it difficult for Australian exporters to compete in that market.

Towards the end of 1938, the Indian Government notified the United Kingdom that the agreement was to be reviewed. A new agreement was negotiated and became operative from March, 1939. Under this, the United Kingdom agreed to forego a number of preferences obtained previously; while the United Kingdom retained certain preferences, these are mainly on commodities in which Australia is not interested. Australia has therefore been placed on a basis of equality with the United Kingdom and other countries in the Indian markets. Also, the Indian Government has reduced the rate of duty on a range of articles in which Australia is interested.

Under the former agreement, preference (usually 10% ad valorem) was extended to over 140 items of United Kingdom origin. The new treaty reduces this number to 20, but provides that any preferences which may be extended in the future to any Dominion shall also be granted to the United Kingdom.

The Standard rate of duty of 30% has, in most cases, been reduced to 25% ad valorem. The main items of interest to Australia where the duty has been reduced to 25% and preference to the United Kingdom has been removed are:-

- Condensed Milk.
- Canned and bottled foods (excluding fruit, jams, sauces, cakes, confectionery, etc.).
- Glue.
- Tanned and Dressed Skins (other than fur skins), and Undressed Leather.
- Woollen Yarn.
- Brushes - all sorts.
- Ale and Beer (specific duties in lieu of ad valorem).
- Portland Cement (excluding White Portland Cement).

The main items where the preference to the United Kingdom has been removed, but no change made in the Standard rate of duty, are:-

| | <u>Rate</u> |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Confectionery .. | 50% |
| Fruit Juices .. | 30% |
| Canned Fruits and Vegetables | 30% |
| Perfumed Spirits .. | Rs. 60 per gall. |
| Paper - printing and cardboard, etc. | 30% |
| Stationery ... | 30% |
| Boots and Shoes .. | 30% |

In the case of steel, the preference on certain lines has been removed and the Standard duty raised in some lines and lowered in others.

So far as the new agreement may be expected to confer benefits on Australian trade, the following items would seem to be those in which trade may be expanded:-

Condensed Milk
Confectionery
Fruit Juices
Canned Fruit and Vegetables
Canned and Bottled Provisions
Ale and Beer
Tanned Skins and Undressed Leather
Woollen Yarn
Pig Iron
Steel

It is suggested that, as a result of the new agreement, importers in India are already looking to Australia as an additional source of supply.

Mr. Tonkin also mentioned that the unsettled political conditions in Europe were causing importers in certain Eastern countries to look more and more to Australia as a source of supply in the event of trouble, and that this was particularly so in the cases of India, Netherlands India and British Malaya.

SHEEP AND CATTLE SALES AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

Heavier yardings of sheep and lambs.

There was a substantial increase in the numbers of sheep and lambs marketed at the Homebush Saleyards during September, 336,292 or 37,561 head more than during the previous month being disposed of. Such an increase is to be expected at this time of the year and is due principally to the commencement of the main portion of the sucker lamb season. This view is supported by the fact that 193,552 lambs and suckers comprised about 58% of the total penning, the number being about 54,000 more than in August. The early part of the month was marked by light to moderate yardings. Towards mid-September, however, heavier supplies were received, a substantial proportion of which comprised suckers, a definite falling off in the consignments of grown sheep being in evidence. The last sale held in September saw a record total of 64,647 head of sheep and lambs, of which 39,000 head were lambs and suckers, the latter being particularly well represented. The number quoted constituted perhaps one of the heaviest yardings dealt with at Homebush for many years.

Shorn sheep more numerous.

Although shearing operations in a number of country districts were later than usual, there was a marked increase in the shorn wethers and ewes offering at Homebush, chiefly towards the latter part of the period. It is to be expected that this class of sheep will comprise a good proportion of the supplies during ensuing months.

Heavy sheep very plentiful.

The exceptionally good season with ample supplies of feed available during the winter has tended to produce sheep far too heavy for local trade requirements. Many lines of splendid quality have been received which it was estimated would dress out at from 50 to 60 lb. of mutton and in many instances the latter weight would be exceeded. In this category, several drafts of full-woolled merino wethers are worthy of comment. They were as good as could be desired but had the common fault of being far too heavy. There was a continued shortage of good quality light trade mutton, fair to medium sheep chiefly being available. A slight increase in the number of ewes coming forward was also apparent and a further improvement as to supplies may be expected in the near future.

Strong market for sheep.

All classes of grown sheep sold exceptionally well, a very strong demand being in evidence from all sections of the trade, more particularly from those associated with export. Woolly wethers and ewes and, to a lesser extent, shorn sheep showed a continuous, steady rise for the greater part of the month. The international crisis was largely responsible for the firm state of the market

/which

which was further strengthened by the appraisalment of skin values on a substantially higher basis. There were no skin auctions held after the 1st September and there was a good deal of speculation as to the ultimate price to be paid for wool purchased by the British Government which would largely determine the value of the skins. Operators at Homebush, in anticipation of a fairly substantial increase in wool prices, advanced their assessment of skin values by from 6d to 3/- and in places more per skin, the increase, of course, depending largely on the quality and weight of the fleece. The absence of a definite basis of valuation for skin made somewhat difficult the task of determining the actual amount of increase in respect of grown sheep, nevertheless it could be set down at approximately 3/- to 6/- per head. Portion of that amount must be allotted to skins and the other to mutton. Some indication of the extent to which values for sheep advanced is given in the following actual sales. A line of wethers weighing 48 lb. sold early in September at 21/4 per head or the equivalent of 3d per lb.; a week later similar sheep dressing 48 lb. of mutton made 3½d per lb. or 23/2 per head. Towards the close of the period, 56 lb. wethers in full wool realised the very satisfactory price of 27/2 per head, or 3d per lb.

The rise in light weight mutton was even more pronounced. A consignment of 44 lb. wethers with a skin valued at 8/- sold about the first week in September at 20/9 each or 3½d per lb. Towards the close of the month, 44 lb. trade sheep cost 4d per lb. This lot of wethers had a considerably shorter skin valued at 6/-, yet they sold at 20/8 per head.

On other weights and grades of mutton the advance was just as much in evidence.

Reviewing the operations generally and making due allowance for the uncertain position in regard to skins, it may safely be said that mutton prices were, on an average, ¼d to ½d per lb. higher than at the close of August, heavy sheep making to 3½d and light to 4d per lb. On some of the medium to plain grades of mutton the advance was very close to 1d per lb. All grades of sheep were substantially dearer during September, up to 27/9 per head being paid for wethers and 21/9 for ewes, as compared with 22/- and 17/-, respectively, in August. A fair average ruling for good quality wethers in wool was from 20/- to 25/- and from 16/- to 20/- each for ewes. Shorn sheep, of course, sold at relatively lower prices at from 12/- to 20/- per head.

Further heavy yardings of sucker lambs.

There was a continuation in the heavy supplies of lambs and suckers during September, the previous month's total being exceeded by some 54,000 head. Suckers, which comprised a large proportion of the supply, were for the most part of excellent quality but were chiefly heavy. Fortunately, there was a particularly good demand for all heavy as well as light lambs. The factors responsible for the increased prices of grown sheep operated in the lamb section and prices were much better than

/under

under normal conditions. Towards the close of the period quite a few suckers were noticed which were somewhat on the plain side and were also slightly affected by grass seed. Generally, however, the bulk of the pennings, having regard to quality and finish, showed many characteristics in common with those yarded during August. The sucker lamb season is advancing and continued heavy supplies must be expected over the next few months.

Improved realisations for suckers and lambs.

With the heavier supplies of lambs and suckers, it would be quite rational to expect a decline in prices, but so good was the demand that values for all classes were substantially higher. Here, too, the increased skin values had a considerable effect on prices, good quality light suckers advancing by about $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. The most noticeable improvement, however, was manifest in prices paid for heavy suckers and to an even greater extent for old or summer lambs. A good indication as to the extent of the advance may be gained from the fact that early in September old lambs weighing 50 lb. made little better than $3\frac{1}{4}$ d per lb. but by the close of the month were making $4\frac{3}{4}$ d. Heavy suckers also realised as much as $1\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. more towards the latter part of the period. On the light to medium weight suckers, the increase in rates was not so great (approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ d to $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. would cover it); nevertheless, the prices paid were remarkably good considering the heavy supplies available. Some of the best quality suckers realised the equivalent of $6\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. Some of the actual sales may better serve to illustrate the trend of the market. At the opening sales in September, 33 lb. suckers made 18/5 each or $5\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb., while good quality heavy lambs dressing 46 lb. sold at 20/4 per head or $4\frac{1}{4}$ d per lb. At the sale held on 18th September, prices were substantially higher, a line of 34 lb. suckers selling at 21/3 per head or the equivalent of $6\frac{1}{4}$ d per lb., while a consignment of good quality heavy lambs made 24/1 each. The latter draft of lambs weighed 46 lb. and were worth $4\frac{5}{8}$ d per lb. A feature of the market was that, although heavy lambs and suckers maintained the improved values throughout, the closing auctions saw a decline of about 1/- per head on suckers dressing from 26 lb. to 32 lb. The factor responsible for the fall in prices was the Eight Hour Day holiday week-end. That is to say, many of the suckers bought on Thursday (28th September) would have had to be held some four days before killing and would have lost weight as a consequence. Buyers, therefore, did not pay quite so much, making due allowance for this loss in weight when bidding.

There were some very good prices paid for lambs, up to 27/- being obtained, while average realisations for good quality lots ranged from 18/- to 24/-; it should be noted in this instance that prices of the plainer grades were relatively lower. Prime light suckers ranged in price from $5\frac{3}{4}$ d to $6\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. and other grades from 5d to $5\frac{1}{2}$ d

/Cattle

Cattle supplies maintained.

Consignments of cattle which arrived at Homebush during the past four months have been remarkably consistent insofar as numbers have been concerned and they were considerably heavier than those forwarded during the corresponding period of last year. Supplies during September aggregated 22,675 head, of which only 1,545 were sold in the store section. The total yarding during September, 1938, was 14,354 head. Quality on the whole continued to be fairly good, whilst the percentage of prime grade cattle on offer towards the close of the month was exceptionally high. Such quality, however, could reasonably be expected in view of the present satisfactory seasonal conditions. Prospects for the greater part of the State continue very bright although conditions have been unfavourable in coastal areas, especially in the Hunter-Manning district.

Increased supplies of prime bullocks.

There was an increased representation of bullocks and in contrast with the previous month the percentage of medium to heavy weight descriptions was fairly high. Quality for the most part was excellent. Heavy bullocks were in strong demand and prices advanced up to 15/- per head, bringing the dressed weight equivalent rate of this class of bullocks on par with that prevailing for light weight sorts. Prices generally during the month remained fairly constant and ranged from 29/- to 33/- per 100 lb. dressed weight. Values of heavy bullocks were inclined to ease at the close of the period. Amongst the sales was a draft of prime Shorthorn bullocks from Narrabri weighing approximately 775 lb. which sold at £12.9.0 per head, realising the equivalent of 32/- per 100 lb.

Prime steers well supplied.

Steers were well supplied throughout the month and on each sale day prime grade descriptions predominated. Demand was always good and prices showed little variation ranging generally from 31/- to 35/- per 100 lb. These values were approximately equal to those ruling last month.

Heavy cows plentiful.

Cows continued in heavy supply and consignments comprised chiefly heavy weight descriptions in good to prime condition. The percentage of light cows now available is very small. Despite the large quantity of cow beef available demand was always good and prices for the most part were equal to best rates ruling last month. Closing quotations were 27/- to 30/- per 100 lb.

Smaller consignments of heifers.

Consignments of heifers, which at best were only moderate, declined progressively. Quality, however, was always very good. This class of beef met a strong enquiry, especially light weight

/sorts

sorts, and prices ranged generally from 30/- to 33/- per 100 lb. with some sales to 34/-.

Light weight vealers scarce.

A moderate supply of vealers was noticed each sale day and on every occasion medium weight sorts represented the bulk of the offerings. Prime light weights were difficult to secure but the quality of the heavier descriptions was generally satisfactory. A steady demand was in evidence and values were at approximately the same levels as those obtaining throughout the previous month. Prices ranged generally from 37/- to 42/- per 100 lb. On a few occasions, however, prices were slightly lower.

Compared with values prevailing during the previous month, it may be said that the market continued very firm which is most satisfactory from the producer's point of view, especially when it is considered that the bulk of the consignments was of good to prime grade. The producer is rather fortunate, of course, in securing rates for heavy cattle which were probably higher than those which would have been secured under normal conditions. Indications point to the continuance of satisfactory prices, although those for heavy bullocks were slightly easier during the first sale day in October. On this occasion, however, the yarding was a very heavy one.

G.C. & J.W.

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The August report of the Australian Trade Commissioner in New Zealand contains the following interesting observations:-

Apple Juice.

The development of the production of apple juice in New Zealand is receiving the attention of the New Zealand Fruit Board. The intention is that it should be secondary and supplementary to the apple growing industry in the Dominion and that it should foster a market for that grade of fruit which by reason of certain external blemishes is not altogether suitable for the export trade. With a view to ascertaining the latest methods of production, investigations are being made at the Ashton Research Station at Bristol.

Potatoes.

The control of prices and local marketing of potatoes have now been vested in the Internal Marketing Division pursuant to the provisions of the Primary Products Marketing Amendment Act, 1937. A complete survey of the New Zealand stocks has been made and the Government has agreed to the importation of quantities of potatoes to augment the supply between the end of the old season and the harvesting of the new crop. The first overseas supply will arrive in New Zealand on 1st September and shipments will be arriving periodically from then on to ease the position.

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SALES OF FARM PRODUCE AT THE ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY
GOODS YARD AND IN SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

High prices obtained for Tasmanian potatoes.

Although the total arrivals of Tasmanian potatoes in Sussex Street during September approximated the same total as that received during the previous month, prices obtained were at times as much as £3.0.0 per ton higher than ruling rates in August. The 56,683 bags on offer were at all times in keen request and agents found no difficulty in clearing supplies shortly after receipt. On the opening of trading activities, prices fixed for No.1 Grade Brownells remained the same as those paid at the end of August. Following an excellent demand, agents deemed it necessary in the next week to increase rates by £2.0.0 per ton, the increased price operating also during the following week. The heaviest increase in price took place at the close of the September sales, when the fixed market rate for the No.1 Grade Brownells was set at £24.0.0 per ton, representing an increase of £3.0.0 per ton over the previous quotation. Inquiry for all other varieties of Tasmanian tubers was identical with that for Brownells and sales were made at the following prices:- Brownells No.1 Grade £19.0.0 to £24.0.0, No.2 Grade £13.0.0 to £20.0.0; Snowflakes £17.10.0 to £23.0.0; Arranchiefs £16.10.0 to £23.0.0 per ton. Following the procedure adopted last month, agents offered large amounts of "Stock Feed" tubers at public auction on the Sussex Street wharves. In addition to the Stock Feed, inferior quality No.1 Grade tubers which were difficult to clear by private treaty were also submitted. The general demand was good and rapid disposals were reported at the following rates:- No.1 Grade £20.15.0 to £22.0.0, Stock Feed £14.0.0 to £23.0.0 per ton.

In addition to the Tasmanian shipments to Sussex Street, Queensland growers forwarded a larger offering of 5,981 bags. The stock was found to be generally of good to prime quality and little difficulty was experienced in selling out at rates ranging from £18.0.0 to £24.0.0 per ton.

Arrivals of all potatoes at Alexandria were as follow:- New South Wales - Tablelands 9,904 bags, Coastal - 426 bags; Queensland 306 bags. A comparison of the above figures with those for August shows that supplies available for sale at this selling centre in September were much lighter than offerings in August, with the exception of the Coastal consignments. The outstanding feature of trading at Alexandria was the arrival of the first of this season's crop of new tubers and the extraordinarily high prices paid at the initial sales. "New Grade" potatoes from a small consignment of 8 bags from Urunga realised £28.10.0 and on the receipt of a larger quantity the following day up to £29.15.0 per ton was obtained. It may be pointed out in passing that the price mentioned above is the highest that has ever been recorded by the Bureau, the previous record rate being obtained in 1929, when £29.0.0 per ton was paid. The Old variety from the Tableland

/districts

districts met with keen inquiry and sales were rapid at generally higher rates. It was seen that on the whole the quality was slightly inferior to that of last month and large supplies of Stock Feed tubers continued to come to hand. Queensland factors sold well at good rates. The following prices were obtained by public auction at Alexandria:- New South Wales - Tableland, No.1 Grade £14.0.0 to £25.15.0, No.2 Grade £8.0.0 to £22.0.0 per ton and 17/2 to 23/- per bag; Seed Grade £5.0.0 to £20.15.0 (according to size and quality), Chat Grade £2.10.0 to £14.10.0 per ton, and 4/- to 8/- per bag, Second Growth Grade £8.0.0 to £21.10.0 per ton and 10/- to 17/3 per bag, Stock Feed £4.0.0 to £22.10.0 per ton and 4/6 to 19/3 per bag; Coastal - No.1 Grade £16.3.4 to £29.15.0, No.2 Grade £13.5.0 to £27.0.0, Chat Grade £7.0.0 to £18.15.0, Stock Feed £8.5.0 to £10.0.0 per ton and 6/- to 17/6 per bag; Queensland - Factors No.1 Grade £18.0.0 to £24.15.0 per ton.

American onions available in Sussex Street.

The outstanding feature of trading in September was the arrival from America of 50 tons of Brown onions. Agents reported that the quality of this shipment was excellent and the market was very firm at £28.0.0 per ton plus sales tax. Arrivals from other countries comprised 8,200 bags from Egypt, whilst Victorian growers forwarded only 10 tons. The market for the Egyptian offering was steady and clearances were made at from £23.0.0 to £24.0.0 per ton plus sales tax. In addition to the fresh stocks of Egyptian produce sold in Sussex Street, supplies were sold from the stores at from £20.0.0 to £26.0.0 per ton plus sales tax. The Victorian consignments were of satisfactory quality and agents experienced no difficulty in clearing the stocks at £28.0.0 per ton.

The first of this season's local White onions were railed to Alexandria when 65 bags came to hand. Demand at auction was steady, although buyers were a little uncertain as to the value, but deliveries were taken at from £18.0.0 to £18.5.0 per ton.

Heavier deliveries of Queensland pumpkins.

Queensland growers forwarded substantially heavier quantities of pumpkins to Sydney this month. Arrivals comprised 1,740 bags shipped to Sussex Street and 74 trucks railed to Alexandria. Inquiries for this class of produce were at times limited but towards the end of September demand brightened and clearances were firmer. Sales were reported at the following rates:- In Sussex Street £5.0.0 to £7.0.0, at Alexandria £4.0.0 to £6.10.0 per ton. The 91 bags of local origin shipped to Sussex Street were of mixed quality and disposals were accordingly effected at from £2.10.0 to £5.10.0 per ton. Request for the 10 trucks of local pumpkins at rail at Alexandria was satisfactory and clearances were made at the following rates:- Small and Inferior £3.10.0, Medium £4.0.0, Prime to £6.0.0 per ton.

/Sharp

Sharp decline in prices of Tasmanian parsnips.

Tasmanian growers forwarded 1,696 bags of swedes, 628 bags of carrots and 1,008 bags of parsnips to Sussex Street during September. Rates for swedes and carrots remained fairly steady throughout the month at from £4.0.0 to £5.0.0 for the former and from £9.0.0 to £11.0.0 per ton for the latter but a marked variation was seen for parsnips. Sales at the opening of the month's trading were good at £10.0.0, but on receipt of heavy supplies later in the month agents were obliged to reduce rates sharply to £4.0.0 per ton, at which price they were selling at the close.

Receivals of locally-produced vegetables at Alexandria were as follow:- swedes 1,323 bags, carrots 34 bags, parsnips 177 bags. These were offered at public auction and sales were fairly good at the following prices:- swedes £1.13.4 to £5.10.0, carrots £4.15.0 to £9.0.0, parsnips £4.10.0 to £11.0.0 per ton.

Inquiry for Tasmanian Dry peas remained very firm throughout and stocks were cleared at the following prices:- Blue 24/-, Grey 11/- to 11/6 per bushel. Supplies of Blue peas ~~is~~ at the present time exhausted and agents anticipate that the market will be bare until the receipt of fresh supplies next season.

Heavier stocks of White chaff.

Arrivals of White chaff at the Alexandria Railway Goods Yard this period were heavier than those during August. The 296 trucks of Oaten chaff in position were in excess of buyers' immediate requirements and, as a consequence, rates were lower and clearances at times were very difficult to effect. Agents reported sales at the following rates:- Medium £3.10.0 to £4.0.0, Good £4.5.0 to £4.10.0 and, occasionally, £4.15.0, Prime £5.0.0 with odd small lots to £5.5.0 per ton. Demand for the 40 trucks of Wheaten chaff was slightly better than that for Oaten, although at times the market was dull. Sales were reported at from £3.0.0 to £4.10.0 per ton according to quality.

Quiet demand for lucerne.

The inquiry throughout the month was somewhat easier for all lucerne commodities. The 96 trucks of lucerne chaff which came to hand were of mixed quality and agents experienced difficulty in clearing a portion of the medium and inferior lots at from £3.10.0 to £5.0.0 per ton. Good to prime chaff had a little firmer request at from £5.10.0 to £7.0.0 per ton. Receivals of lucerne hay at the Alexandria Railway Goods Yard comprised 90 trucks from Maitland and 56 from other centres. Maitland new green was in demand, the market being steady at £3.15.0 for medium to £7.0.0 per ton for prime. Maitland dry hay was difficult to clear and only a small portion was sold at £5.10.0 per ton. Request for other hay was dull for the most part and substantial quantities were carried-over from day to day. Sales were made at the following rates:- Inferior and

/medium

medium £2.15.0 to £4.10.0, good £5.0.0 to £6.0.0, prime £6.5.0 to £6.10.0, extra prime £6.15.0 to £7.5.0 per ton. The 364 bales of Hunter River lucerne hay shipped to Sussex Street were of the New Green variety and disposals were good at from £4.10.0 to £5.15.0 per ton.

Only a portion of the 55 trucks of oaten hay railed to Alexandria was available for sale. Demand was poor and only a part sold, from £4.0.0 to £5.10.0 per ton being realised. Rates for the 120 bales of Victorian special oaten hay on offer in Sussex Street remained steady at £8.10.0 to £9.0.0 per ton. Supplies of Tasmanian straw, totalling 625 bales were smaller than during last month and the market was firmer at £5.0.0 to £5.15.0 per ton. Local growers forwarded 58 trucks of straw to Alexandria; sales for the most part were satisfactory at £2.10.0 for damaged to £5.0.0 per ton for prime lots.

Higher prices for grain.

There was an improvement in the market for all kinds of grain at Alexandria. The 63 trucks of wheat received met a steady inquiry and clearances were effected at the following higher rates:- By auction 2/1 to 3/2; By private treaty 2/8 to 3/3 per bushel. Disposals of 43 trucks of oats were good, agents clearing their supplies at the following generally increased prices:- By auction 1/7½ to 2/8½; By private treaty 2/8 per bushel.

Local growers forwarded 3,535 bags of maize to Alexandria and 794 to Sussex Street. Demand at both selling centres was active throughout September and sellers had no difficulty in clearing supplies at the following rates:- In Sussex Street - yellow 4/- to 4/6, white 4/2 to 4/5; At Alexandria - yellow 4/- to 4/7 per bushel. Queensland growers consigned 1,897 bags of yellow maize to Alexandria. The general quality was satisfactory and the stocks passed out at prices ranging from 4/- to 4/8 per bushel.

E.A.G.

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MEAT EXPORTS SUBSIDIZED IN SOUTH AFRICA.

In order to encourage a regular export trade in meat, the Government of the Union of South Africa has declared its intention of subsidizing meat to enable breeders to embark on breeding policies which would ensure the production of the right type of exportable steers and lambs. ("Foodstuffs Round the World - 18/8/1939).

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TRADING IN FRUIT AND VEGETABLES AT THE
CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

A review of the fruit trade during the month of September reveals that clearances of quality lines of most kinds of fruit were very satisfactory and that values generally were well maintained, although fluctuations were apparent in some instances.

Bananas cheaper.

Arrivals of bananas for the month from New South Wales districts totalled approximately 36,000 cases and, in addition, a little over 11,000 cases were received from Queensland. A considerable proportion of this fruit was lacking in quality and ripe and inferior lines were offered at relatively low prices to facilitate sales. A weaker demand was experienced for even the better quality descriptions early in the month and this resulted in a decline in values of about 2/- per case during the first week of the period. From then onwards, however, values of choice lines were evenly maintained.

Pineapples in heavier supply.

There was a considerable increase in the quantities of pineapples forwarded from Queensland, the weekly average arrivals being approximately 5,000 tropical cases, whereas the heaviest weekly arrivals last month totalled in the vicinity of 4,000 cases. The condition and pack of this fruit generally was good while the colour standard was also satisfactory. There was a preponderance of large fruit but sizes on the whole were within the limits of general trade requirements. Demand was rather dull early in the period and realisations showed a slight decline. Later in the month warmer weather conditions stimulated sales and values improved but at closing an easier tendency was again evident.

Good inquiry for quality apples.

There was a good inquiry for quality lines of most kinds of apples, particularly coloured dessert varieties, and an improvement in prices was noticeable. Local Granny Smiths provided an outstanding exception. This variety was more plentiful owing to the release of fairly large quantities from country cool stores, notably Orange, and vendors found it difficult to maintain values. The limited quantities of New South Wales grown Delicious, however, were sought after by retailers with shops in selected centres where high class fruit is demanded, and up to 20/- per case was realised. Local Yates and Doherty's also met a ready sale. Shipments received from Tasmania weekly varied from 25,094 to 31,312 cases, the aggregate for the month being approximately 110,000. Owing to the sustained demand, however, clearances of choice lots were very satisfactory, with values of most kinds showing an upward trend. Croftons were the first preference of most retailers owing to their better condition at this time of the year, replacing the

/Jonathan

Jonathan which is more popular earlier in the season. Coloured French Crabs were difficult to sell but green descriptions were in request while choice Sturmers cleared readily at satisfactory prices, particularly towards the end of the month.

Only limited quantities of pears available.

Pears were available in limited quantities only and supplies were drawn principally from Victoria. Choice lots were sought after and some Packham's Triumph realised to 18/-, while sales of Josephines and Winter Nelis were recorded to 16/- per case.

End of Navel orange season in sight.

Fairly plentiful supplies of Navel oranges were available early in the period but deliveries steadily decreased and at the end of the month it was evident that the end of the season was at hand. A good demand was maintained for quality fruit and values showed a steady improvement.

Owing to their suitability for the popular retail prices of 6d and 1/- per dozen, Valencias were inquired for by the trade early in the month and realisations to 10/- per case were noted for selected sizes. Counts per case of 150 to 163 were most suitable for retailing at 1/- per dozen, while those ranging from 198 to 216 were most in request for the 6d per dozen sizes. Towards the end of the month more plentiful supplies were available and a decline in values took place, particularly in respect of larger fruit, the medium sizes being still more in favour with buyers.

Lemons moderately stocked.

Quantities of lemons available were considerably less than is usual at this time of the year. This, no doubt, can be attributed mainly to the abnormality of the season. Demand was somewhat quiet early but later with lessening supplies coming forward clearances were more easily effected and values of choice coloured descriptions showed a steady improvement.

Upward trend in values of choice passion-fruit.

Passion-fruit was fairly plentiful during the first half of September but the greater proportion of the offerings was of only poor to medium quality. There was a steady inquiry for choice lines at prices ranging to 12/- per half-case but lower grade descriptions were practically unsaleable. During the latter half of the period only comparatively light supplies were available and there was a sharp upward trend in values, some sales of special lots being recorded to 18/- per half-case. Inferior lines, however, were still difficult to dispose of.

Fairly active trading in vegetables.

There was fairly active trading in the vegetable section of the City Municipal Markets, particularly in respect of greens,

/such

such as peas, beans, cauliflowers and cabbages. Bunched vegetables such as carrots, parsnips and spinach also cleared well while exceptionally high prices were realised for rhubarb, with sales up to 6/- and odd lots to 7/- per dozen bunches.

Satisfactory clearances of choice peas.

Although peas were for the most part fairly heavily stocked, only a relatively small proportion was of choice grade. Early in the period a downward movement in prices was apparent but was most noticeable in respect of poor to medium quality descriptions. Choice lines cleared satisfactorily throughout the period, this being most evident towards the end of the month when an improved demand was experienced which resulted in a corresponding rise in prices.

Beans show effects of dry weather.

The bulk of the beans received from Queensland and the North Coast was lacking in quality generally owing to the dry weather conditions which prevailed in the producing areas and fairly low prices were accepted in order to clear stocks. Choice lots were sought after at satisfactory prices but few lines were crisp enough to command the higher rates. Towards the end of the month small consignments were received from the Gosford district and realisations for special lines ranged to 18/-, but the greater volume of sales was effected at from 12/- to 17/- per bushel as most lots were showing the effects of the dry weather.

Prices of cabbages and cauliflowers fluctuate.

For the most part, cabbages and cauliflowers were moderately stocked. The period opened with choice lines selling well at prices ranging to 7/- and 12/- per dozen, respectively. Hot weather experienced later in the month retarded sales to some extent and a recession of values was evident. Subsequently demand improved and prices of cauliflowers fully recovered while clearances of cabbages were readily made at enhanced rates.

Heavy supplies of tomatoes from interstate sources.

Large quantities of tomatoes were received from Queensland during the month, the aggregate being just on 63,000 half-cases or a weekly average of approximately 15,750 half-cases. Several thousand half-cases per week also came to hand from Western Australia in addition to steadily increasing supplies from local glasshouses. During the first week, heavy consignments came to hand and this, in conjunction with the prevalence of cold weather which had an adverse effect on sales and made it impossible for vendors to clear stocks, caused values to decline sharply. Subsequently, prices fluctuated within narrow margins until towards the end of the month, when choice lines met an improved inquiry and rates showed a steady upward movement.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES IN
SYDNEY (N.S.W.) DURING SEPTEMBER, 1939.

The following table gives particulars of the range of wholesale prices in Sydney as collected and recorded by the State Marketing Bureau in respect of various commodities during the month of September, 1939:-

| <u>Commodity</u> | <u>From</u> | <u>To</u> | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Wheat: | | | |
| Bulk | 2/5 | 2/11 | per bushel |
| Bagged | 2/6 | 3/2 | " " |
| | (Wheat quotations were mostly nominal) | | |
| Flour: | £7.0.3 | £7.12.3 | per ton |
| | (plus £5.14.9 tax) | (plus £5.2.9 tax) | |
| Bran: | £4.5.0 | £4.10.0 | " " |
| Pollard: | £4.5.0 | £4.10.0 | " " |
| Eggs (Hen): | 1/- per dozen (no variation) | | |
| Butter: | | | |
| Choice | 161/2 | | per cwt.) |
| First Quality | 156/6 | | " ") |
| Second Quality | 151/10 | | " ") |
| | no variation | | |
| Cheese: | | | |
| Loaf 11d | per lb.) | | no variation |
| Large 10½d | " " | |) |
| Special Brands | 1/- | 1/2 | per lb. |
| Pigs (Abattoir Sales): | | | |
| Prime extra light porkers | 30/6 | 40/6 | per head |
| " light porkers | 38/6 | 45/6 | " " |
| " med.wgt. " | 43/6 | 53/6 | " " |
| " heavy " | 51/6 | 56/6 | " " |
| " baconers | 62/6 | 84/6 | " " |
| Backfatters | £4.5.0 | £10.10.0 | " " |

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SYDNEY WOOL SALES - SEPTEMBER, 1939.

The Sydney Wool Selling Brokers' Association advises that there was no wool sold by auction in Sydney during September, but that disposals by private treaty totalled 3,724 bales scoured and 213 greasy. The average prices realised were as follow:-

| <u>Class of Wool</u> | <u>Per bale</u> | <u>Per lb.</u> |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Greasy | £12. 0. 6 | 9.1d |
| Scoured | £21.15. 6 | 10.7d |
| Greasy and Scoured | £21. 4.11 | 9.7d |

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RETURN OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IMPORTED INTO NEW SOUTH WALES
BY LAND AND SEA - AUGUST, 1939.

F R U I T.

| STATE | Pineapples tropical cases | Bananas tropical cases | Other Fruit cases | Tomatoes half-bushel cases | TOTALS packages |
|------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Queensland | 19,777 | 14,486 | 10,981 ^x | 79,457 | 124,701 |
| Victoria | 12 | 76 | 7,500 | 1,277 | 8,865 |
| Tasmania | - | - | 128,638 | - | 128,638 |
| Sth. Aust. | - | - | 1,833 | - | 1,833 |
| West Aust. | - | - | 2,163 | 29 | 2,192 |
| TOTALS: | 19,789 | 14,562 | 151,115 | 80,763 | 266,229 |

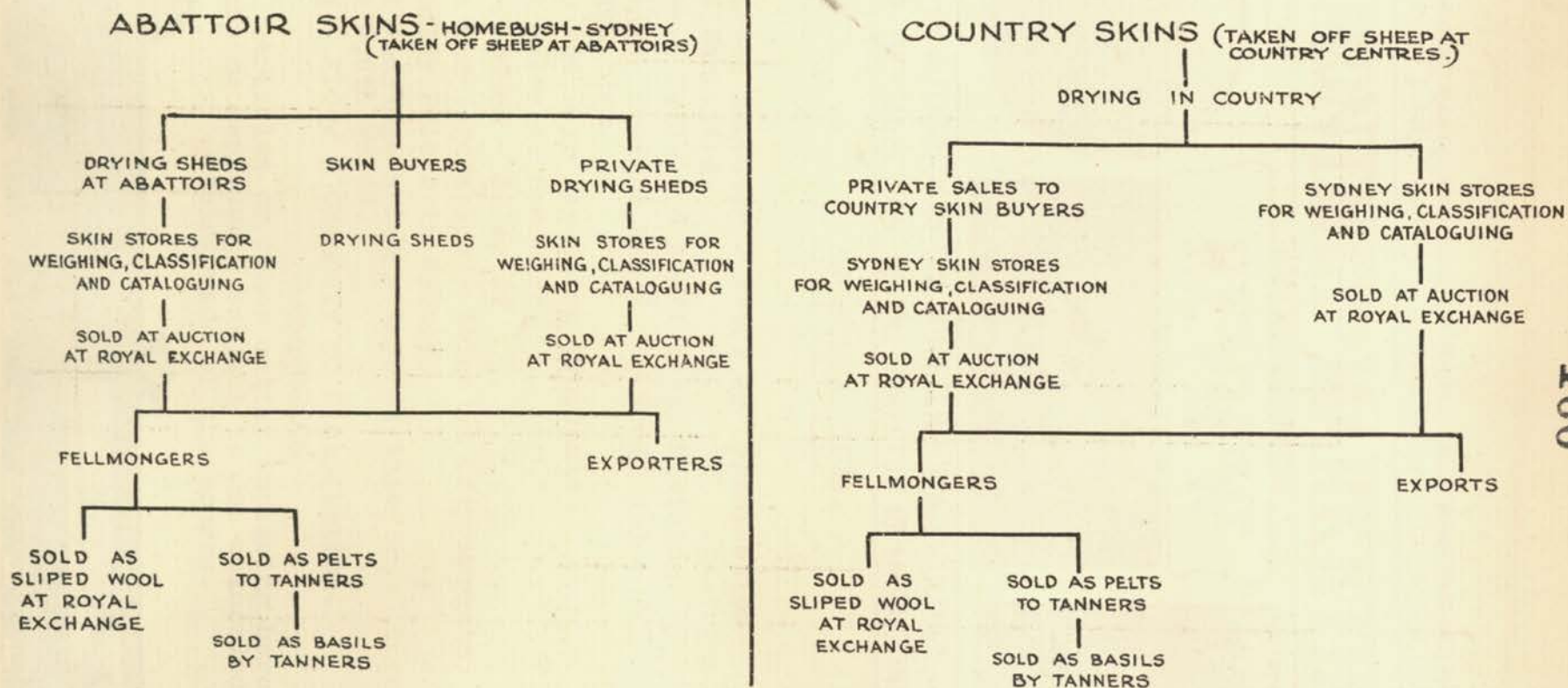
x Also 15,578 trays Strawberries.

V E G E T A B L E S.

| STATE | Potatoes | Onions | Swedes | Pumpkins | | Cucs. & Chillies | Other Veggies. | | TOTALS | |
|------------|----------|--------|--------|----------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|---------|------|
| | bags | bags | bags | bags | tons | cases | Pkgs. | tons | Pkgs. | tons |
| Queensland | 19,745 | 142 | 2 | 11,546 | 449 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 328 | 13,229 | 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 44,992 | 460 |
| Victoria | 11,673 | 2,717 | 204 | 16 | - | - | 14,986 | - | 29,596 | - |
| Tasmania | 58,913 | - | 2,357 | - | - | - | 2,710 | - | 63,980 | - |
| Sth. Aust. | 883 | 369 | - | - | - | - | 10,574 | - | 11,826 | - |
| West Aust. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS: | 91,214 | 3,228 | 2,563 | 11,562 | 449 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 328 | 41,499 | 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 150,394 | 460 |

SHEEPSKINS

CHANNELS OF DISTRIBUTION



NOTE: PROCLAMATION PROHIBITING EXPORT OF HIDES AND SKINS GAZETTED 20. 9. 1939. (FURRED SKINS AND WOOLED SHEEPSKINS MAY BE EXPORTED UNDER PERMIT.)

COMPILED: G.C.
DRAWN: E.H.S. 5.10.39
CHECKED: G.J.

A. A. WATSON
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING