



**AgEcon** SEARCH  
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

*The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library*

**This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.**

**Help ensure our sustainability.**

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search  
<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>  
[aesearch@umn.edu](mailto:aesearch@umn.edu)

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

604

STATE MARKETING BUREAU - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. N.S.W

# MONTHLY MARKETING

## REVIEW



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

Vol. 6

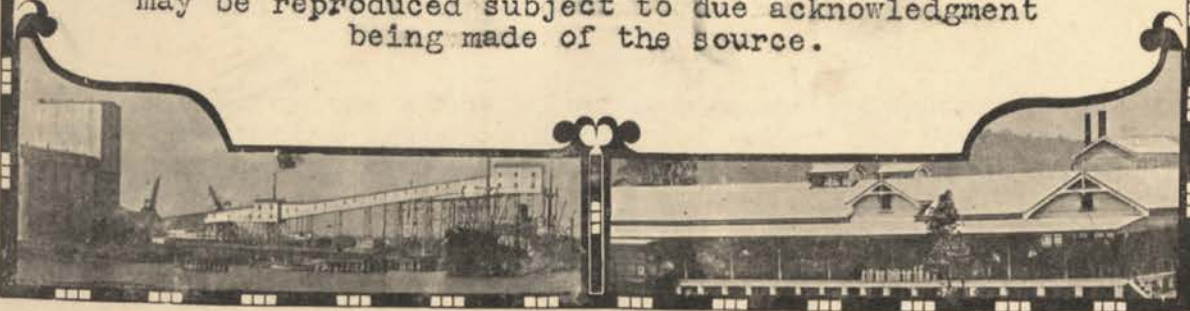
SEPTEMBER, 1940.

No. 1  
Page

Highlights .. .. .	1
Marketing Legislation - Canada ..	2
Central Western Slope Statistical Division	6
Sheep, Cattle and Pig Sales at Homebush	14
Fruit and Vegetable Sales at City Markets	20
Alexandria and Sussex Street Sales	23
Commodity Prices in Sydney ..	26
Fruit and Vegetables - Imports into New South Wales .. .. .	27

@@@@@@@@@

Articles or other matter appearing herein may be reproduced subject to due acknowledgment being made of the source.





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

At poll, under the Marketing of Primary Products Act, 1927-1938, held on 27th August, 1940, to decide whether egg producers in those parts of New South Wales outside the Counties of Cumberland and Northumberland and the Shires of Nattai and Wollondilly should be brought under the control of the Egg Marketing Board, 525 votes were in favour and 525 votes were against the proposal. As the Act requires that "more than one-half of the votes polled" shall be in favour before an area can be added to the area already controlled by a Board, the proposal was not adopted.

For a trial period of three months commencing 30th August, 1940, opening hours of the Queen Victoria Markets, Melbourne, will be:-

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays	-	5 a.m.
Fridays	..	6 a.m.
Mondays and Wednesdays	..	7 a.m.

The City Municipal Fruit and Vegetable Markets, Sydney, open for business at 7 a.m. Monday to Saturday, inclusive.

Director of Marketing's Review of New South Wales wheat crop conditions as at 28th August, 1940, shows that extremely dry weather has prevailed throughout the wheat belt for an extended period. Most crops are at a critical stage. Even with favourable conditions from now on, it seems clear that the State's 1940/41 wheat yield will be appreciably less than average.

Polls for the election of producers' representatives to Marketing Boards, constituted under the New South Wales Marketing of Primary Products Act, will take place as follow:-

Rice Marketing Board	-	25th October, 1940.
Egg Marketing Board	-	1st November, 1940.



CANADIAN MARKETING LEGISLATION.

ACTS TO ENCOURAGE CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING.

The Natural Products Marketing Act, 1934.

Comprehensive marketing legislation in Canada was first enacted in 1934 when the Dominion Parliament passed the Natural Products Marketing Act. The Act made possible the organised control of the marketing of Canadian natural products and provided for the setting up of a Dominion Marketing Board to administer approved marketing schemes. In the case of intra-provincial marketing schemes, the Canadian Constitution gives the individual provincial governments sole control over trade and commerce within their respective borders, so that they were required to enact supplementary legislation, on lines similar to the Natural Products Marketing Act, to enable the Dominion Marketing Board to function in intra-provincial marketing activities.

Privy Council decision.

Following the passing of the aforementioned Act quite a number of marketing schemes were put into operation during 1934 and 1935, including those for which supplementary provincial legislation was necessary, the Province of British Columbia being outstanding in this regard. The Dominion legislation, however, operated for but a comparatively short period, being declared invalid by the Supreme Court of Canada. In brief the judiciary held the view that it was beyond the jurisdiction of the Dominion Parliament to legislate on matters which in substance related to local and provincial matters. The case was taken to the Privy Council which, in judgment delivered on 28th January, 1937, concurred with the view of the Supreme Court. Since that date most of the Provincial Governments have either amended acts already in existence to bring them into line with this judgment, or brought into being new enactments designed for the purpose of controlling the marketing of primary products within the Provinces concerned. Mention of some of these provincial enactments has already been made in previous issues of the Monthly Marketing Review.

Co-operative marketing of agricultural products.

Although the Dominion Government of Canada at present has no power to legislate for compulsory marketing control, it has not ceased to take interest in such matters, which are doubtless of vital concern to itself as well as to the legislatures of the various provinces wherein the primary products are produced. As an illustration of this attitude, one may cite certain Acts which the Dominion Government passed last year for the purpose of assisting and encouraging co-operative marketing of agricultural products.



The Wheat Co-operative Marketing Act, 1939.

The Wheat Co-operative Marketing Act, 1939, is designed to provide that returns received by producers of wheat, who enter into an agreement to market on a collective basis the whole or any part of the wheat grown in any one year, shall not fall below a certain level. The Act states that the Minister for Agriculture, with the approval of the Governor-in-Council, may enter into an agreement with any selling agency, (that is, a person authorised by one or more co-operative associations or elevator companies to market wheat under one or more co-operative plans). In this agreement the Minister undertakes to pay to any such selling agency the amount, if any, by which the initial payment together with storage, carrying and transportation charges and operating expenses exceeds the average sale price of all wheat of any grade grown in any one year. The initial payment refers to the sum paid by a selling agency to primary producers at the time of delivery by them of wheat, pursuant to a co-operative plan. Payment as aforesaid is only made when the average sale price is less than a certain sum per bushel to be fixed in the agreement in the case of each grade of wheat, or when the initial payment does not exceed the fixed sum per bushel as agreed upon. It is further provided that the maximum amount payable shall not exceed the difference between the average sale price and the fixed sum per bushel. The average sale price is computed after the sale realisations by the selling agency have been adjusted in a manner to be prescribed by regulation, as if the wheat had been sold in store at Fort William.

Under the definitions outlined in the Act, the provisions are applicable to the producers of spring wheat in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

In connection with the fixed price agreed upon, the Act states that in respect of wheat of grade No.1 Manitoba Northern, in store at Fort William, the sum shall be sixty cents. Regulations are to prescribe the variations from the initial payment to be made in the case of wheat of the grade just mentioned applicable to the several other grades of wheat. Regulations also are to prescribe the fixed sums per bushel in the case of the several grades of wheat; the terms and conditions incidental to the establishment and maintenance by the selling agency of a reserve fund; any other term or condition of the agreement deemed advisable or expedient for the purposes of the Act; such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the efficient administration of the Act and for the carrying out of its provisions, according to their true intent and meaning, and for the better attainment of its objects.

Regarding payment to producers, the Act states that disbursements subsequent to the initial payment shall not be made by a selling agency without the approval of the Governor-in-Council. The latter is also responsible for the appointment of the staff deemed necessary for administration purposes. The books and accounts

/of .....



of the selling agencies, co-operative associations or elevator companies are subject to audit by a chartered accountant approved by the Governor-in-Council, and his reports shall be submitted to the Minister as required.

The Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act, 1939.

The Agricultural Products Co-operative Marketing Act, 1939, is somewhat similar in its provisions to the Act just described and covers any kind of grain other than wheat, milk and milk products, vegetables and vegetable products, livestock and livestock products, fruit and fruit products, poultry and poultry products, honey, maple syrup, tobacco, and any other product of agriculture designated by the Governor-in-Council: The principal provision of the Act, Section 3(1), is quoted in full -

"The Minister may, with the approval of the Governor-in-Council, by agreement with a selling agency, undertake that if the average sale price of an agricultural product of any grade or quality produced during the year delivered to the selling agency under one or more co-operative plans is less than a sum certain to be fixed by the agreement in the case of each grade of the agricultural product, there shall be paid to such selling agency the amount, if any, by which the initial payment exceeds the average sale price aforesaid".

The Act contains an interesting provision, not included in the Wheat Co-operative Marketing Act, which states that no agreement shall be entered into unless the co-operative plan applies to such proportion of the primary producers within a certain geographical area or to such a proportion of an agricultural product produced in such area, that the Minister is of opinion that the marketing of the aforesaid agricultural product under the co-operative plan will benefit the primary producers. Regulations are to prescribe the manner of ascertaining the proportion of primary producers in a designated geographical area, whose agricultural product is to be marketed under a co-operative plan, and the proportion of an agricultural product produced in a designated area, which is to be marketed under a co-operative plan. The amount that may be charged against any agricultural product for processing, carrying or selling charges is also to be fixed by regulation.

The Act defines a "co-operative plan" as "an agreement or arrangement for the marketing of agricultural products which provides:-

- (i) for equal returns to primary producers for agricultural products of the like grade and quality;
- (ii) for the return to primary producers of the proceeds of the sale of all agricultural products delivered thereunder produced during the year, after the deduction of processing, carrying and selling charges;

/(iii) .....



- (iii) for an initial payment to primary producers of a percentage, not exceeding eighty per centum, approved by the Governor-in-Council on the recommendation of the Minister, of the average wholesale price for an agricultural product over the period of three years immediately preceding the year of production."

"The Grain Futures Act, 1939", and "The Prairie Farm Assistance Act, 1939".

The Dominion Government also passed two other Acts in 1939 which have reference to the marketing of grain but their provisions are especially applicable to conditions obtaining in Canada. The Acts referred to are "The Grain Futures Act, 1939", and "The Prairie Farm Assistance Act, 1939".

"The Grain Futures Act, 1939" provides for the supervision and regulation of trading in Grain Futures in the Dominion by the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

The purpose of "The Prairie Farm Assistance Act, 1939" is to provide assistance on an acreage basis, in any year declared an emergency year, to those wheat-growers in the four Prairie Provinces whose average yields are twelve bushels per acre or less; the assistance shall not be in respect of more than one-half of a farmer's cultivated land nor of more than two hundred acres of a farmer's cultivated land. Further, areas may be declared "crop failure" areas, and a farmer therein may be granted "crop failure assistance" of two hundred dollars or a sum not exceeding 2½ dollars per acre with respect to half his cultivated acreage not to exceed two hundred acres, whichever is the greater. A levy of one per centum on the purchase price of all grain is to be paid to the Prairie Farm Emergency Fund, for the purposes of the Act.

-----oooOooo-----

A recent issue of "Ice and Refrigeration" states that a company has been formed in Yakima, Washington (U.S.A.), in the midst of the fertile fruit region, with a plan of more widespread distribution and consumption of the enormous apple crop by means of unique slot-vending machines. Through vending machines equipped for the first time with a means of refrigeration, and provision for daily supply of ice as well as replenishment of apples, people will be able to secure a chilled apple from numerous spots where the slot machines will be placed. Hundreds of well-frequented locations will be chosen and ice servicing will be maintained.

-----oooOooo-----



113

PHYSICAL FEATURES, PRODUCTION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
CENTRAL WESTERN SLOPE STATISTICAL DIVISION NO.9  
NEW SOUTH WALES.

In continuation of the series of articles dealing with the various Statistical Divisions of New South Wales, attention is now given to the second section of the Slopes, that is, the Central Western Slope or Statistical Division No.9. It should be noted that the Slopes occur between Tablelands and Plains.

General description.

Covering an area of 9,770 square miles, the Central Western Slope Division includes fourteen local government areas, namely the six Municipalities of Dubbo, Forbes, Molong, Narromine, Parkes and Peak Hill, and the eight Shires of Amaroo, Boree, Cobbora, Gilgandra, Goobang, Jemalong, Talbragar and Timbregongio. On the south-east and east, the Central Western Slope adjoins the Central Tableland; the dividing line passes through Goolagong and Canowindra to just north of Malongulli, and then goes generally northward to the east of Molong through Yeoval, Wellington and Dunedoo to Neilrex. Thence the boundary - which now skirts the south-westerly portion of the North Central Plain, proceeds in a north-westerly direction to a point south of the Naman Mountain. In the north and west, the subject division adjoins the Central Plain, the dividing line running from slightly south of Naman Mountain almost west to just south of Gular (in the Central Plain), and then mostly southward through Collie, Dandaloo and Tullamore to Lake Cowal. From Lake Cowal the southern boundary, which borders on the South Western Slope division, goes in an easterly direction en route to Goolagong, mentioned earlier in this description.

As its name (Central Western Slope) denotes, this division, although containing some hilly and mountainous country, mainly consists of the slope from the plateau of the Great Dividing Range on the east to the plain on the west. In the southern portion (around the Forbes district) the country is of a fairly uniform nature, being undulating to flat, especially to the west and south. The soil varies from rich red loams, chocolate, clayey and sandy loams to black alluvial soils on the river flats. In the northern part of this division, hilly country is found towards Wellington and Tomingley, while north-west of Dubbo is undulating to flat. Here the soils range from rich red loams, chalky loams and sandy loams in the hill country to the well-known black soil plains of the West.

Climate and rainfall.

The climate of this division is considered to be very healthy. It is fairly uniform over the whole section, though, as may be expected, it becomes more hot and dry in the western areas.

/In .....



In the Forbes or southern portion, the average summer temperature is about 76° Fahrenheit, with a winter mean of 56°, and here the average rainfall ranges from 24 inches on the higher lands in the east to 17½ inches in the west. The mean summer temperature of the Dubbo district, in the northern end, is 74° and the winter 49°, while the annual rainfall is about 22 inches.

#### Particulars of area and population.

According to the New South Wales Statistical Register, the Central Western Slope has a total area of 7,723,425 acres. In the year ended 30th June, 1938, there were 4,435 holdings of one acre or more, aggregating 7,062,926 acres, of which 6,318,152 acres were alienated, or virtually so, and the remainder unalienated Crown lands. Within these holdings, 4,480,754 acres were regarded as suitable for cultivation. Thus approximately 91% of the total area of the Division was occupied, whilst 58% was classed as suitable for cultivation. In the year under review (1937-38) the area under crop totalled 1,226,606 acres, while 96,162 acres were under sown grass and 64,034 acres of new land were prepared for ploughing; in addition, 506,844 acres of fallowed land were ploughed and worked.

The estimated population of the entire division is given by the Government Statistician as 66,940 at 31st December, 1939. The more important towns, in order of population, are:- Dubbo (8,820), Parkes (6,340), Forbes (5,790), Narromine (1,740), Molong (1,690) and Peak Hill (1,300); thus the total town population of the Division was 25,680.

#### Wheat-growing the main agricultural activity.

The Central Western Slope is an area characterised by first-class agricultural land. The rainfall of most years and good railway facilities contribute to successful production. The New South Wales Official Year Book for 1937/38 gives the uses of holdings as:- Agriculture only 285; Dairying only 55; Grazing only 736; Agriculture and Dairying 52; Agriculture and Grazing 3,041; Dairying and Grazing 12; Agriculture, Dairying and Grazing 137; Poultry, Bees, Pigs, etc. 11; Unoccupied or used for other purposes 106; Total 4,435. Thus holdings under the classification "Agriculture and Grazing" constitute over two-thirds the total number; wheat-growing and sheep-raising are the principal pursuits, followed on these mixed holdings.

The Central-Western Slope ranks third in the wheat-producing divisions of New South Wales, surpassed only by the Riverina and South-Western Slope (both much larger in total area), and produces approximately one-fifth of the entire wheat crop of the State. Wheat is grown most extensively in the Goobang, Jemalong, Boree, Cobbora and Timbreebongie Shires. Grain Elevators at various railway centres throughout the division facilitate the marketing of the crop. The New South Wales Statistical Register gives the wheat

/production .....



production of the Central Western Slope for 1937-38 as 11,397,366 bushels from 965,125 acres, representing an average yield of 11.8 bushels per acre; this average is, of course, purely mathematical and doubtless appreciably less than one which ignored extremes. In addition, 84,058 acres of wheat were grown for hay, yielding 73,489 tons and 4,924 acres were utilised for green feed.

The cultivation of other cereals is of comparatively minor importance, the 1937-38 figures being:-

Maize, for grain	..	306	acres	yielding	2,076	bushels.
" " green food		197	"	"		
Barley (all purposes)		2,188	"	"	25,422	" grain and 96 tons hay.
Oats, for grain	..	29,593	"	"	373,944	bushels
" " hay		16,356	"	"	15,235	tons
" " green feed		33,701	"	"		
Rye (all purposes)	..	1,247	"	"	12,822	bushels and 34 tons hay.

Lucerne is grown in considerable quantities along the river flats, 9,114 acres being cut for hay with a production of 13,593 tons and 77,318 acres being utilised for green fodder; this latter acreage was approximately one-quarter of the total for the State. Some 449 acres of rape, sorghum and millet were used for green food.

Sheep-raising the chief pastoral pursuit.

As already stated, approximately two-thirds of the holdings are given over to mixed farming, mainly wheat-growing and sheep-raising; in addition, nearly one-sixth is utilised for grazing only. Thus the importance of the sheep-raising industry is evident. According to the New South Wales Statistical Register this division carries roughly one-thirteenth of the State's sheep population. Flocks are numerous and for the year 1937/38, sheep in the Central Western Slope totalled 4,082,561, of which 831,572 were lambs under a year old. Whilst the merino is the dominant breed, there are many prominent studs of British breeds for the supply of sires for mating with crossbred and comeback ewes in connection with the raising of fat lambs.

Renowned for fat lambs.

The Central Western Slope contains some of the State's best fat lamb raising country, especially the southern portions within the belt where the winter rains are more assured. Under favourable conditions the western edge of the division also produces good results, but, owing to the more erratic nature of the seasons, it cannot be included in the recognised "lamb belt". Mr. J.M. Coleman, Senior Sheep and Wool Instructor of the New South Wales Department of Agriculture, in "A Survey of the Lamb-raising Industry in Australia", says that the country will carry  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 sheep ....



$\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 sheep to the acre undeveloped, and 2 to 3 sheep when developed. There are good natural grasses of high fattening quality, including spear, danthonias, barley, trefoil and others. Many areas are suitable for the sowing of perennial rye grass, *Phalaris tuberosa* and white clover, and in other parts the sowing of subterranean clover, lucerne and Wimmera rye grass is recommended. The opinion is held in competent quarters that the present lamb production could be considerably increased by the top-dressing of natural pastures and the planting of approved grasses.

Other livestock.

Cattle-raising and dairying are only of minor importance among the industries of the Central-Western Slope, which carried 69,021 head of cattle, including 6,329 cows in registered dairies, in the year 1937/38. The dairies were mainly situated in the vicinity of towns, having the supply of fresh milk as their primary object.

The Department of Agriculture has an important herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle at the Experiment Farm at Trangie, from which pure-bred animals are sold to beef breeders in various parts of the State. This Experiment Farm also provides facilities for sheep educational work, and rears numbers of stud and flock rams for sale to graziers.

Other livestock in this division in 1937/38 were 44,417 head of horses and 5,124 pigs.

Limited fruit and vegetable growing.

Production of fruit and vegetables in the Central Western Slope does not in any way approach the importance of these industries in the adjoining Central Tableland division, although the river flats are ominently suitable for more intensive farming and are well adapted for irrigation. To quote "The Farmers' Handbook":- "further development depends largely on closer settlement of these lands, which are capable of carrying a large farming population."

According to the New South Wales Statistical Register, the areas in the subject division devoted to fruit and vegetables in 1937/38 were:-

	Acres
Grapes - For Wine-making	53
"    - " Table use	303
"    - Young Vines not bearing	30
Citrus Fruit - Productive	181
"    "    - Young trees not bearing	53
Other Orchard Fruits - Productive	624
"    "    "    - Young trees not bearing	213

/Market .....



	Acres
Market Gardens	182
Pumpkins and Melons	50
Tomatoes	8
Peas and Beans	285

The district of which Molong is the centre is the principal region in which table grapes, "other fruits", peas and beans are cultivated. Narromine is prominent in the growing of citrus, whilst moderate acreages of "other fruits" are to be found in the Dubbo and Forbes localities.

The chief items of officially recorded production in the year mentioned were:-

Oranges	29,288 bushols.
Apples	20,529 "
Pears	10,894 "
Peaches	5,248 "
Wine (made)	9,760 gallons
Table Grapes	391 tons
Market Gardens (Value of production)	£8,384
Peas and Beans (Value)	£1,792
Pumpkins and Melons	253 tons

The cultivation of potatoes and other root crops is negligible.

#### Valuable Cypress pine forests.

The forests of the Central-Western Slope, although scattered, are of considerable importance. In the Forbes Forestry District the Warraderry, Backyamma, Bimbi and Weddin National Forests contain the remnants of the division's Cypress pine forests, and cover an area of 29,535 acres. State forests in the same district contain 178,272 acres, and in the Dubbo region there are also 375,240 acres of State forests. The Central-Western Slope is one of the largest producers of Cypress pine in the State, and also yields quantities of inland hardwoods. There are over a hundred sawmills in the Dubbo and Forbes Forestry Districts, employing 1,593 workmen. The New South Wales Forestry Commission's report for year ending 30th June, 1937, estimates gross consumption of timber in the Forbes and Dubbo Forestry Districts at over 90,000,000 super feet, including hardwood, cypress pine and a large quantity of fuel. It should be borne in mind that the Forestry Districts mentioned are situated substantially but not wholly within the Central Western Slope Statistical Division. Timbers found in the division include eucalypts (such as box, redgum, ironbark, coolabah and mallee), Cypress pines, acacias (such as yarran, myall and currawang), kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*) and miscellaneous types such as budda, wilga, white-wood and belah.



## Rivers and irrigation.

The southern portion of the Central-Western Slope is watered by the Lachlan River, while through the north run various tributary rivers of the Darling, notably the Bogan, Macquarie and Castlereagh Rivers, and their tributaries and creeks. The Lachlan River contains permanent water, and in most districts adjacent to this river good water can be obtained from wells at depths up to about 40 feet. Though some sub-artesian bores have been sunk, it is generally found that the water is too brackish for general use. There are occasional springs, but, excluding country with river frontages, tanks and dams are mostly utilised for water supply. Lake Cowal, about 40 miles from Forbes, is the most important lake along the basin of the Lachlan, and receives the drainage of the Bland Plain and the overflow of floodwaters from the Lachlan River.

As before mentioned, there are many districts well adapted for irrigation purposes, and the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission has made a start with the Jemalong and Wyldes Plains Domestic and Stock Water Supply and Irrigation districts scheme. A diversion weir on the Lachlan River, 15 miles west of Forbes, is in course of construction, as well as a channel reticulation system, intended to supply an area of 215,491 acres with water for stock or fodder crops or sown pastures. It is stated that general resumption and subdivision of land for closer settlement are not contemplated at present.

## Mining.

Gold and copper deposits and small quantities of iron occur in the Central Western Slope, the central declivity of which marks the edge of the gold-bearing region so famous and profitable in the adjoining Central Tableland. Gold is still worked at many places, including Forbes, Parkes, Peak Hill, Tomingley, Canowindra and Cargo, and was the original reason for the settlement of those now prosperous agricultural centres. It is noteworthy that gold was discovered at Forbes in 1861, and that this town reached a population of 28,000 in a very short time; today its population of rather less than 6,000 represents the permanence of pastoral and agricultural pursuits. According to the annual report of the Department of Mines for the year 1938 comparatively small quantities of gold were taken from the division, and then mostly from the treatment of tailings, although a little alluvial gold was won.

Marble, mainly for terrazo work, is quarried in the Molong Mining Division. Clays for pottery, brick and tiles are found at Dubbo and white clays at Parkes. The Euchareena-Geurie limestone belt - said to be one of the largest in New South Wales - lies partly within the subject division, whilst two extensive parallel belts of limestone occur in the vicinity of Molong. Dolomite deposits have been recorded near Molong also.

/Railway .....



Railway and roads.

The division is well served by roads. They are generally level and of easy gradients and mostly good, except some of the minor roads during wet weather. A considerable amount of permanent formation work has been done on the main roads. The Mitchell Highway from Orange (and Sydney) passes through Molong, Wellington (in the Central Tableland), Dubbo and Narromine, en route to Bourke and the Queensland border at Berrington. A network of main and subsidiary roads, maintained by the local government authorities, links the principal towns and outlying centres.

Railway facilities are good and the relative nearness to Sydney markets (150 to 280 miles) contributes to the division's prosperity. The main Western railway from Sydney to Bourke (Western Division) passes through Dubbo, Narromine and Trangie, whilst a loop from Orange (Central Tableland) through Molong to Dubbo provides an alternative route. From Molong to Parkes and Bogan Gate, the mid-western railway to Broken Hill (Western Division) traverses the southern portion. Connecting lines from Parkes pass southwards through Forbes to Stockinbingal (South-Western Slope) and north to Narromine on the main western line. From Dubbo, branch lines travel north-west through the division through Gilgandra and Gular (Central Plain) en route to Coonamble (Central Plain) and north-east through Mendooran and Merrygoen to Binnaway (North Central Plain). From Bogan Gate, on the mid-western line, a branch goes in northerly direction through Trundle and Tullamore to Tottenham (Central Plain). A glance at the railway map of New South Wales readily illustrates the favourable position of the Central Western Slope as regards railway facilities, which reach out to every corner of the area.

Schedules of Production and Livestock.

The following schedules compiled from figures published in the New South Wales Statistical Register give the average annual quantities of the principal primary products produced and the average annual number of livestock in the Central Western Slope Division for the five-year period ended 30th June, 1938:-

Central Western Slope Statistical Division  
No. 9  
Average Annual Production - Five Years ended  
30th June, 1938.

Wool	...	35,366,480 lb.
Wheat - Grain	...	10,790,975 bushels
" - Hay	...	69,935 tons
Maize	...	4,878 bushels
Barley	...	28,766 "
Oats - Grain	...	446,462 "
" - Hay	...	22,310 tons
Lucerne Hay	...	17,221 "
Rye - Grain	...	13,121 bushels

/Oranges .....



Oranges	...	23,803	bushels
Apples	...	20,061	"
Pears	...	8,976	"
Peaches	...	6,381	"
Apricots	...	1,284	"
Grapes - Wine	...	11,478	gallons
" - Table Fruit	...	421	tons
Peas and Beans (value)	...	£1,366	
Honey	...	212,646	lbs.
Pumpkins and Melons	...	170	tons
Tomatoes	...	4,625	half-cases.

Applying the 1938 annual average wholesale prices in Sydney for the commodities previously mentioned, with timber added, a total value of £5,112,000 is suggested as a possible approximation.

Average Annual Number of Livestock in  
Central Western Slope, Statistical Division No.9

		Head
Horses	...	47,885
Cattle - Cows in registered dairies		10,242
All Other		81,919
Sheep	...	4,420,810
Pigs	...	11,923

C.M.P.

-----oooOooo-----

CANADIAN WHEAT POLICY.

In connection with the article on "Canadian Marketing Legislation" appearing in this issue, it is of interest to note that on 24th July, 1940, the Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce made a statement in the Dominion House of Commons outlining the present wheat policy recommended by his Government.

According to a summary published in the "Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation" issued by the Agricultural Branch of the Canadian Bureau of Statistics on 30th July, 1940, the policy contemplates a quota system of farm deliveries to facilitate the handling of the 1940 crop in the western provinces. Each producer, by regulation of the Canadian Wheat Board, will be given a delivery quota "designed to permit the equitable use of available storage space by all the producers". As this quota system will necessitate the storing on farms of considerable quantities of wheat which would normally be delivered in the early autumn, the Government has recommended an allowance (at a rate to be announced later) to the producer in addition to the Wheat Board's initial payment. The initial payment is 70 cents for No.1 Northern, basis in store at Fort William.

-----oooOooo-----



LIVESTOCK MARKETS AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

SMALLER YARDINGS OF SHEEP AND CATTLE, BUT  
MORE PIGS MARKETED.

Slight reduction in aggregate penning of sheep and lambs.

Although yardings of sheep and lambs at the Homebush markets continued to be heavy throughout August, the aggregate was slightly below that of the previous month. Spread over the nine sale days of the period, a total of 429,121 head of sheep and lambs passed through the Saleyards, or some 11,000 less than the July receipts. The smallest number offered on any one day was 37,752 head, while the largest penning comprised 59,296 head. The State as a whole is experiencing a very trying time and rain is urgently needed to relieve the critical position of pastures. August was perhaps one of the driest months experienced in New South Wales for many years and natural feed is particularly scarce. Hand feeding is being carried out in many centres but despite such adverse circumstances the general condition of the stock reaching Homebush is surprisingly good. That the unfavourable season is prompting increased marketings is shown by the fact that the aggregate of yardings of sheep and lambs during August, 1940, was some 131,000 greater than that for the corresponding month of 1939, when 298,731 head were auctioned.

Shortage of quality heavy sheep.

Although at times operators at Homebush found it difficult to secure sufficient prime heavy wethers to meet their needs, it could be said that a number of exceptionally nice quality lines of this class of sheep was available. Shorn sheep were by far the more numerous and generally were in better condition than the full woolled descriptions. Light to medium weight wethers were fairly well supplied and included quite a few well suited to trade requirements. Ewes were again scarce, those available being mostly aged animals of fair to medium grade, while light weight sorts predominated. Supplies of grown sheep were variable, ranging from 20,227 head to 8,100; this latter yarding represented only 19% of the total for the day. Shearing operations are, no doubt, largely responsible for the reduced penning of grown sheep, which in August totalled 125,078 or about 56,000 less than the number received for sale in July. Some improvement is expected in the near future when larger quotas of shorn animals should be available.

Fluctuating market for sheep.

The variable size of the offerings during August was perhaps the main cause of the fluctuating values of grown sheep. Generally, however, the average rates for wethers were slightly better than during July, while no marked difference was apparent in the average prices for ewes. A brief review of the market shows that it opened up to 1/- per head cheaper for good sheep and from 1/- to 2/- per head lower for other grades, but subsequently

/advanced .....



advanced by 1/- per head. This gain was lost on the next day. For the remainder of the period prices as a whole did not alter very much, although some improvement on good quality sheep was manifest towards the end of August.

Some representative sales, which illustrate the trend of the market, were as follow.

Early in August a line of good trade wethers, dressing approximately 40 lb. of mutton, sold at 19/1 each or  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb., while recently shorn heavier wethers, weighing approximately 56 lb. brought 16/6 per head or  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. On the same day nice quality ewes of about 40 lb. dressed weight were disposed of at 17/11 each or  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. On the ensuing sale day values improved, and 42 lb. wethers cost 4d per lb., realising 21/10 per head, while a draft of heavier wethers, weighing approximately 50 lb., sold at 24/8 each and made the equivalent of  $3\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. Following the downward trend in prices, operators secured 42 lb. of good trade shorn wethers for  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb., the sheep realising 13/4 each, and a lot of good heavy wethers, estimated to dress 54 lb., made 17/10 each, equivalent to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.

Realisations for grown sheep generally were satisfactory, up to 27/- per head being paid for wethers. For the most part, however, woolly wethers sold at from 20/- to 25/- each and shorn descriptions brought from 12/- to 17/- each, according to weight. Medium to plain descriptions realised relatively lower prices. Although at times ewes made as much as 21/- per head, by far the greater proportion of quality descriptions was secured at rates ranging from 14/- to 18/- each, with other grades selling at from 8/- to 12/- per head.

At the period of peak prices, operators paid up to 4d per lb. for light mutton, and to  $3\frac{3}{4}$ d for heavy; generally, however, good light mutton cost from 3d to  $3\frac{3}{4}$ d with a large percentage making from  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. Heavy wethers mostly were obtained at from  $2\frac{3}{4}$ d to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb., while some lots of extra heavy descriptions brought as low as  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. Up to  $3\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. was secured for nice quality light ewes and up to  $2\frac{3}{4}$ d for heavy, but average realisations were from 2d to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. for heavy and  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d to  $3\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. for light sorts.

#### Increased consignments of lambs.

Large numbers of suckers and lambs arrived throughout August, the aggregate being 304,043 head, as compared with 259,424 for July. Some indication of the preponderance of lambs in the yards may be gained from the fact that on one sale day 81% of the total consisted of lambs and suckers. New season's sucker lambs were forward in larger numbers but the old or summer lambs were not nearly as numerous as in recent months. Although seasonal conditions have not been favourable for the production of fat lambs, there was a reasonably good proportion of attractive well finished suckers on offer, while odd consignments of good heavy old lambs

/were .....



were to be seen. A fair percentage of the yarding comprised medium to plain lambs, which were "dry" and of dull appearance.

Further decline in lamb prices.

With the increased offerings of lambs, the market was not quite as good as that of the previous month. The opening sales were from 1/- to 2/- per head cheaper, medium grades being most adversely affected. Later on, a further fall of 1/- per head for quality lambs took place, while rates for other descriptions showed a still further decline. Subsequently values improved and remained fairly steady until the end of the period, when a firmer tendency was apparent.

Some realisations are quoted below as illustrating the trend in prices. At the early sales, a consignment of nice quality suckers weighing approximately 32 lb. sold at 20/4 each or 6½d per lb. On the same day, heavier lambs dressing approximately 40 lb. realised 25/11 per head and were worth 5¾d per lb. Subsequent to the fall in prices, a line of 28 lb. suckers was obtained for 6¼d per lb., being disposed of at 17/1 each. Towards the end of August, a consignment of attractive suckers, weighing approximately 30 lb., brought 19/8 per head, equivalent to 6½d per lb.

Some of the better grades of lambs made as much as from 25/- to 27/- each, according to weight and finish, but by far the larger proportion was sold at prices ranging from 17/- to 24/- per head. Medium to plain lambs realised from 9/- to 16/- per head and in places very plain sorts were disposed of at still lower rates.

Although up to 6¾d per lb. was paid for choice light suckers, the greater percentage made from 6d to 6½d per lb. For the most part, good heavy lambs and suckers were obtained at from 5½d to 6d per lb. but some of the very heavy summer lambs only realised from 5d to 5¼d per lb. Medium to plain quality descriptions sold at from 5d to 5½d per lb., according to weight and finish.

Cattle supplies limited.

The increased truckings of cattle noted during July were not maintained during August, 1940, when the aggregate for the nine sale days was only 15,009 head. Auctions in the store section accounted for 1,294 head, a rather small number. In August, 1939, when seasonal conditions were considerably better than those prevailing at present, a total of 22,950 head of generally fairly good quality cattle was yarded. By way of contrast, the standard of the bulk of the supplies to hand during August, 1940, was disappointing and at best the general quality of the yardings could only be described as fair. However, some fluctuation was

/noticeable .....



noticeable, as on occasions quite a number of surprisingly well conditioned stock was submitted.

Queensland bullocks augment light pennings.

Bullocks again were in very light supply, except on one or two sale days when the pennings were augmented by substantial consignments from Queensland; altogether 1,200 head were received from that State. Lightweight descriptions of fair to good trade quality predominated and frequently it was difficult to secure prime beasts. On the other hand, drafts of heavy to very heavy bullocks in prime condition were noticed at intervals throughout the month. High prices prevailed and average rates showed a considerable increase over the July quotations. During the first half of the period, prime bullocks chiefly realised up to about 44/- per 100 lb. dressed weight, but this price was exceeded subsequently, and on the final sale day both medium and light descriptions were worth up to 46/- per 100 lb., while heavy sorts brought up to 43/-. A very unusual feature of a sale day towards the close of the month, was that both heavy and medium weight beasts were worth up to 45/- per 100 lb., whereas lighter and younger animals realised only up to 44/-; heavy Queensland supplies of the last-mentioned class accounted for this. An interesting disposal on the day just referred to was that of a draft of prime Shorthorn bullocks which realised £18 per head; they were estimated to weigh 800 lb. dressed and made the equivalent of 45/- per 100 lb.

Prime steers scarce.

The representation of steers was much better than that of bullocks, but quality generally was disappointing. Fair to good trade sorts were most in evidence and the number of prime descriptions was insufficient for buyers' requirements. Quality steers were always in keen demand, and values showed a further advance on the previous month's level. Prime light animals, for the most part, were worth up to 48/- per 100 lb., whilst realisations for good quality heavy steers ranged from 42/-. On three occasions, quotations were as high as 50/- per 100 lb.

Cows sell well.

The numbers of cows yarded fluctuated from sale day to sale day and the quality of the offerings varied considerably. At times this class was comparatively plentiful, but generally the bulk was of plain to medium grade. On occasions, however, there was a fair showing of quality animals, especially heavyweights. Cows sold particularly well and, for the most part, both light and heavy weights of prime grade realised up to 42/- per 100 lb. Rates for good quality ranged from 36/- for heavy animals. Enhanced prices for plain and medium lots were obtained, also.

/Fair .....



Fair trade heifers well represented.

Heifers were fairly well represented throughout the month, but the greater part consisted of lightweight sorts of fair trade quality only. Prime descriptions generally were difficult to secure, especially where full pens were desired. During the first half of the period, prime light heifers realised up to 46/- per 100 lb., but subsequently were worth up to 47/- and 48/-, with good quality heavy sorts ranging in value from 42/- per 100 lb. These prices mostly were higher than those obtained during July.

Limited offerings of prime vealers.

For the most part, moderate numbers of vealers were yarded with medium weights most numerous. Fair to good trade lines predominated, and the percentage of prime animals was small. Early in August good to prime vealers were quoted at 47/- to 52/- per 100 lb. Later realisations, however, were higher and reached the peak of 50/- to 57/- per 100 lb. just prior to the close of the month.

Cattle values reach high level.

During August, cattle prices generally continued to rise, and, in many instances, reached the highest level recorded for the past year. To those fortunate enough, despite the drought, to possess quality stock, the market was a very satisfactory one. There are no present indications of any material decline in values.

Increased pennings of country pigs.

Consignments of pigs for auction during August, 1940, continued to increase and totalled 7,150 head, including 4,167 received by rail. There was also a greater number of pigs sold privately in the Metropolitan Area, and all sales during the period aggregated 10,304 head.

Improved quality of porkers not sustained.

Porkers were heavily supplied throughout, but the improved standard noticeable at the close of July was sustained for one sale day only. Subsequent yardings saw an increase in the percentage of medium grades and stores available, and towards the end of August quality generally was disappointing. On the whole, all weights were represented but the proportion of the various classes varied from sale day to sale day. Values of porkers fluctuated somewhat, but on the average were higher than those ruling in July. Prices were best during the first half of August, when prime pigs dressing 60 lb. sold to 44/6 per head and heavy (90 lb.) to 59/6. On the final sale day the corresponding



rates were 41/6 and 57/6, respectively. On a per lb. basis, the extreme range of rates covering good to prime porkers of all weights (35 to 90 lb.) was 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ d to 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

Moderate offerings of good trade baconers.

Except on one occasion, generally only moderate numbers of baconers were available and the offerings consisted chiefly of good trade sorts. On one or two sale days, a fair percentage of the pennings could only be classed as fair trade; usually the proportion of prime descriptions submitted was small. Whilst all grades of weight were represented, lightweights predominated. A steady but firm demand prevailed throughout, and the increased values noted during the **previous** month were maintained; 87/6 per head (or 7d per lb.) was obtained for prime pigs dressing 150 lb. and 63/6 (7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb.) for good quality animals dressing 100 lb.

Limited consignments of backfatters.

Pennings of backfatters were much smaller than usual, and quality animals were difficult to secure, especially on the final sale day. The greater proportion of those yarded was of lightweight description. Values on the first sale day showed a small advance, and prices of good to prime pigs dressing 200 to 350 lb. ranged from 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d to 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. Notwithstanding the decreased consignments, rates were not maintained but by the third week had fallen  $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. The reason for this fall is not readily apparent. Closing quotations for good to prime backfatters were from 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d to 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d for animals dressing 200 to 350 lb. and 4d to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d for pigs of 350 lb. and over. Average values for August were slightly below those of the previous month.

Market values mostly maintained.

On the whole, the market during the month may be considered very satisfactory from the producer's viewpoint, as only in the case of backfatters was there any fall in prices.

G.C. & J.W.

-----oooOooo-----

According to press reports, early in August the Victorian Minister of Agriculture introduced into the Legislative Assembly of that State a Bill to amend certain provisions of the Marketing of Primary Products Act of Victoria. Apparently one of the main objects of the Bill is to remedy certain alleged defects in the Act, and thus facilitate the operations of marketing boards constituted thereunder. The proposed amendments include provisions:- (1) Enabling a Board to create a reserve fund:  
(2) Specifically authorising the producer-agency system:  
(3) Reducing the qualifications required to entitle an egg producer to vote under the Act.

-----oooOooo-----



CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

STEADY SALES OF FRUIT; ABUNDANT SUPPLIES OF VEGETABLES.

Steady trading in the fruit section.

Generally speaking, trading in fruit was of a steady nature, as the range of varieties at this time of the year is limited. Choice coloured apples of sizes suitable for retailing at 1/- to 1/6 per dozen sold readily, but small and over-mature lines, noticeably interstate Jonathan and Delicious, were slow to clear. Local Granny Smiths met competition from Western Australia and Tasmanian supplies, but values were maintained. Some Dougherty apples from the Batlow district were on offer and were in request at up to 12/- per bushel. More Democrats were noticeable but generally slow sales were reported.

Choice pears scarce.

Choice pears were scarce, and any quality lines of Packham's Triumph available, as well as the few Josephine on offer, were readily disposed of at fairly high rates. Small fruit was obtainable but, lacking quality, was difficult to sell.

Values of navel oranges mostly firm.

Trading in citrus was principally confined to navels, and supplies of Coastal, Irrigation Area and South Australian oranges were forward. For the greater part of the month, values were firm, particularly for "locals", up to 10/- per bushel being paid for choice packs, but at the close a weaker tone was evident. Consignments from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area were heavy, including both crates and cases; some lines opened up in poor condition and agents experienced difficulty in clearing stocks of such fruit. Supplies from South Australia comprised special packs which realised to 16/- per bushel, although some lots were obtainable at 10/-.

Small mandarins and lemons sell slowly.

There was an over supply of small and inferior quality mandarins, which were offered at extremely low prices in an endeavour to effect sales, but little business resulted. On the other hand, choice fruit was fairly scarce and brought up to 15/- per bushel.

While coloured lemons of suitable trade size sold satisfactorily, the many lots of very small fruit coming forward from coastal areas met with a restricted demand. This small fruit is the result of the prolonged dry weather experienced in those coastal districts of New South Wales where citrus is grown; in many instances counts of over 500 to a bushel case were to be seen.

/Supplies .....



Supplies of grapefruit were only moderate, but there was no marked inquiry except for special packs from inland areas and for some local Wheeneys.

Gradual improvement in disposals of bananas.

A gradual improvement in disposals of bananas was noticeable; this could be attributed largely to warmer weather and the lower rates ruling, which enabled retailers to sell sixes to eights at from 6d to 1/- per dozen.

Pineapples well supplied.

Fairly heavy consignments of pineapples were received throughout August. Demand mostly was only fair and at times clearances were slow. Early values ranged from 7/- to 10/-, but as low as from 6/- to 8/- was accepted at different periods in the month. At closing, however, choice pines were again bringing up to 10/- per tropical case.

Upward trend in passionfruit prices.

Values of passionfruit were well maintained and tended upward towards the close of August, when choice lots realised to 13/- per half-case. Supplies principally were from the North Coast of New South Wales and Queensland districts. There was a good demand at all times, especially for quality fruit.

Choice strawberries in request.

Fair quantities of strawberries continued to come forward from Queensland, but on a number of occasions considerable "break-down" was apparent, necessitating repacking. Choice berries sold well, particularly for the week-end trade, but surplus small fruit was disposed of to jam manufacturers. Only a very small offering of New South Wales strawberries was available and sold at rates ranging from 10/- to 15/- per dozen punnets.

Green vegetables plentiful.

Extremely dry weather continued to prevail throughout most of New South Wales during August, but, despite this factor, the market was abundantly supplied with the principal vegetables, especially "greens". In fact, early in the month, deliveries of cauliflowers exceeded buyers requirements; growers experienced difficulty in effecting disposals and prices fell to very low levels.

Heavy consignments of peas.

Consignments of peas from metropolitan, North and South Coast areas were very heavy, and on some days the total number of bags on offer approximated 3,000. Fortunately the Melbourne market

/provided .....



provided an additional avenue of disposal and large quantities were purchased for despatch to that centre. The volume of local sales was satisfactory, and any surplus was cleared by operators buying for canneries. The effect of daily clearances was the maintenance of prices at levels which would afford at least some return to the grower.

Wide range of quality affects sales of beans.

The North Coast of New South Wales and Queensland districts provided the beans offered. While supplies generally were not very heavy, a wide range of qualities adversely affected sales. The few choice lines in each consignment were eagerly sought after and realised good prices. On the other hand, the medium to inferior lots cleared slowly and at times as low as 1/- per bushel was accepted for some carry-over lines.

Very favourable conditions prevail in the Tuggerah district, where a large acreage of beans is under crop and information received indicates that yield prospects are bright. A small offering of beans from this centre, submitted late in August, was quickly disposed of at 15/- per bushel.

Supplies of cauliflowers decline towards end of August.

A marked decline in the supplies of cauliflowers was apparent. Early in the month up to 300 tons per day were reaching the market, but at the close less than one-sixth of that quantity was coming forward. From unprofitable prices early, values gradually firmed and from 8/- to 9/- per dozen was obtained for choice lines at closing. Present indications promise payable rates for any late crops.

Cabbages in limited demand.

Owing to the abundance of the foregoing vegetables, growers of cabbages experienced a limited demand and clearance of supplies was difficult. In some instances, quantities were sold to dairy farmers for feed for their stock and also to poultry farmers, who were unable to obtain sufficient green stuff for their flocks.

There was a good request for bunched carrots, parsnips and rhubarb at firm rates. On the other hand, large stocks of spinach were on offer daily and prices were low.

Throughout the greater part of August, lettuce was cheap, but towards the end of the month the sharp rise in temperature promoted a marked increase in demand and higher values were obtained.



Queensland principal source of tomato supply.

The bulk of the tomatoes on offer was from northern and southern growing areas of Queensland. Some nice quality tomatoes were included in consignments from southern localities and realisations were on higher levels than those for stocks from the north. For the most part, values were fairly steady with an upward tendency noticeable towards the end of the month.

Local glasshouse supplies were available in small lots and sold up to 10/- per half-case. It is expected that considerably increased quantities will be submitted during September.

R.M.

-----oooOooo-----

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

Lighter offering of Tasmanian potatoes.

Stocks of potatoes available in Sussex Street during August consisted of the following quantities:- Tasmanian 87,087 bags; New Zealand 18,900 bags, including 9,300 bags carried over from July; New South Wales (North Coast) 333 bags. Arrivals of Tasmanian tubers were considerably below those of the previous month, when 124,050 bags were received.

In the Tasmanian section, the demand was very firm and, at times, stocks were cleared from first hands practically as soon as they were unloaded from the ships. In the first and second trading periods, Brownells were sold at £12.0.0 and "Whiteskin" varieties at £11.0.0 per ton. For the final two weeks in August, prices were increased to £13.0.0 for Brownells and £12.0.0 per ton for the "Whiteskin" tubers.

A similar market ruled for the New Zealand potatoes. Agents reported that the quality of the shipments was good and little difficulty was experienced in disposing of supplies at £11.0.0 early in the month and at £12.0.0 per ton subsequently.

There were only light stocks of Northern Rivers potatoes, which sold readily at £11.10.0 for No.1 grade and £9.0.0 per ton for No.2 grade lines.

Arrivals of potatoes at the Alexandria Railway Goods Yard totalled 1,543 bags, all from New South Wales centres. Although a proportion of this offering was of medium quality only and certain stocks were withheld for reconditioning, generally a steady request prevailed and satisfactory deliveries of good to prime quality lines were reported at the following rates:- No.1 Grade £11.0.0 to £14.0.0, No.2 Grade £4.0.0 to £14.0.0, Seed Grade £9.5.0 to £14.0.0, Stock Food Grade £5.10.0 to £6.10.0 per ton, Chat Grade 4/- to 7/-, Stock Food Grade 2/- per bag.

/Further .....



Further decline of Victorian onion prices

Victorian growers forwarded 300 tons and 5,674 bags of Brown Spanish onions to Sussex Street during the month. The market throughout was lower than that of July. Screened stocks carried over in the stores from the previous month's shipments met a steady demand at £12.0.0 per ton. Receipts during August, however, were in excess of buyers' immediate requirements, and, as a consequence, rates for these were reduced to £10.0.0 per ton in order to facilitate sales.

Increased rates for pumpkins.

Although the 50 trucks of Queensland pumpkins in position at Alexandria represented a lighter stock than that railed during July, the arrival in Sussex Street of 1,730 bags from the same State made up the deficiency. Notwithstanding this, the market was fairly good throughout. Early in the period, sales were effected at £5.0.0 to £6.0.0; later, prices firmed to £9.0.0 and £10.0.0, but subsequently steady disposals took place at from £7.0.0 to £9.0.0 per ton. Local offerings, consisting of 12 trucks at Alexandria and 108 bags in Sussex Street, met a similar market to that ruling for the Queensland produce, realisations being:- At Alexandria - £5.0.0 to £10.0.0, In Sussex Street - £7.0.0 to £8.10.0 per ton.

Ready sale for other vegetables.

Tasmanian growers forwarded the following quantities of other root vegetables to the Sydney market during August:- Swedes 8,308 bags, carrots 2,308 bags, parsnips 252 bags. On the whole, ready sales were effected early each trading period and price ranges were:- Swedes and carrots - £6.0.0 to £7.0.0, parsnips £10.0.0 to £12.0.0 per ton. Local producers railed 89 bags of swedes and 8 bags of carrots to Alexandria. Rates for the carrots were not released, but disposals of the swedes were reported at the following levels:- By auction £6.15.0, By private treaty £6.0.0 to £7.0.0 per ton. Supplies of Tasmanian dry peas arrived in Sussex Street; Blue lots were in form request at 22/6 per bushel, but Grey lines were heavily stocked and sold slowly at 9/- to 9/6 per bushel.

White chaff in heavier supply.

Receipts of white chaff at the Alexandria Railway Goods Yard totalled 238 trucks of Oaten and 35 of Wheaten chaff. Although these quantities constituted a larger offering than that for July, the market was firmer and rates were higher, ranging as follow:- Oaten - By auction, £5.5.0 to £6.3.4, By private treaty, £4.15.0 to £7.0.0; Wheaten - By private treaty - medium £4.10.0 to £5.10.0, some sales to £5.15.0, good £6.0.0 to £6.10.0, and prime and extra prime lines £7.0.0 to £7.5.0, with odd lines to £7.10.0 per ton.

/Satisfactory....



Satisfactory inquiry for lucerne hay and chaff.

New South Wales growers consigned 53 trucks of lucerne chaff to Alexandria during August. The chief inquiry was for good to prime leafy lots, which sold readily at from £10.0.0 to £11.10.0 per ton. Medium and inferior lines, however, met a fair demand only, and moderate disposals were reported at from £5.0.0 to £9.0.0, with some sales at £9.10.0 and £9.15.0 per ton.

Arrivals of lucerne hay at Alexandria consisted of 59 trucks from Maitland and 66 trucks from other centres. Satisfactory clearances of the Maitland offering were effected at the following rates:- New Green £6.0.0 to £8.0.0, inferior from £2.10.0; Dry £8.0.0 to £9.10.0 per ton. Other hay in position at Alexandria was of mixed quality; derrick-pressed lots realised £4.0.0 per ton by auction, while private sales ranged from £4.10.0 for inferior to £11.0.0 per ton for prime lines.

The truck of wheaten hay to hand was cleared at £3.5.0 per ton. The bulk of the locally grown oaten hay (11 trucks) railed to Alexandria, was not available for sale; the limited quantities offered brought £4.5.0 by auction and from £5.0.0 to £6.0.0 per ton by private treaty.

Higher realisations for straw.

Consignments of straw to Alexandria during the month included 38 trucks of New South Wales and 10 trucks of Victorian produce. On the whole, a good market ruled, and the increased rates of from £4.10.0 to £5.5.0 per ton were obtained. The 400 bales of Tasmanian oaten and wheaten straw to hand in Sussex Street met a firm inquiry at £5.10.0 to £5.15.0 per ton.

Steady demand for wheat.

A lighter stock of wheat, totalling 111 trucks, was in position at Alexandria. As has been the case for some time past, the entire supply was sold at auction, realisations ranging from 2/5 to 4/2<sup>d</sup> per bushel, according to quality.

Receivals of maize at Alexandria aggregated 3,088 bags from Queensland and 2,703 bags from New South Wales districts. Firm disposals were effected at the following rates:- Queensland - By auction 4/5 to 4/6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, By private treaty 4/8 to 4/9; Local Yellow, By auction 4/5 to 4/8, By private treaty 4/9, White 5/- per bushel. The 2,148 bags of Northern Rivers maize shipped to Sussex Street met a good inquiry at 4/8 for yellow and 5/- per bushel for white.

Only a portion of the 15 trucks of oats at rail was cleared, bringing from 2/2 to 2/7 per bushel by auction.

E.A.G.



WHOLESALE PRICES OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES  
IN SYDNEY (N.S.W.) DURING AUGUST, 1940, AND  
CORRESPONDING FIGURES AT 31st AUGUST, 1939.

The following table gives particulars of the range of prices in Sydney as collected and recorded by the State Marketing Bureau in respect of various commodities for the periods indicated:

Commodity	August, 1940.		31st August, 1939	
	From	To	From	To
Wheat - Home consumption				
Bulk - per bushel	4/-	3/11 $\frac{1}{4}$		2/4
Bagged - " "	4/3	4/2 $\frac{1}{2}$		2/5
Flour - per ton	£10.14.7	£10.11.7	£6.12.3	
	(plus £1.15.5 tax)	(plus £1.18.5 tax)	(plus £6.2.9 tax)	
Bran - per ton	£5.10.0	} unchanged	£4.5.0	
Pollard " "	£5.10.0		£4.5.0	
Eggs (hen) per dozen	1/2	1/3		1/-
Butter:				
Choice	161/2	} unchanged	161/2	
First Quality	156/6		156/6	
Second	151/10		151/10	
Cheese:				
Loaf per lb.	11d	} unchanged	11d	
Large " "	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d		10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	
Special brands	1/-		1/2	1/2
Pigs (Abattoir Sales):			29th August, 1939	
			From	To
Good to Prime -	per head		per head	
Porkers - Extra light	26/6	40/6	31/6	40/6
" - Light	36/6	44/6	39/6	44/6
" - Medium weight	40/6	55/6	43/6	51/6
" - Heavy	51/6	59/6	50/6	54/6
Baconers	63/6	87/6	60/6	75/6
Backfatters	£4.5.0	£7.15.0	£4.5.0	£8.10.0

Note: The pig sales nearest to 31st August, 1939, were those held on 29th August, 1939.



RETURN OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IMPORTED INTO NEW SOUTH WALES  
BY LAND AND SEA - JULY, 1940.

F R U I T

STATE	Pineapples tropical cases	Bananas tropical cases	Other Fruit cases	Tomatoes half-bushel cases	TOTALS packages
Queensland	17,818	8,109	18,003 <sup>x</sup>	85,262	129,192
Victoria	12	23	40,151 <sup>/</sup>	15	40,201
Tasmania	-	-	185,085	-	185,085
Sth. Aust.	-	-	1,491	90	1,581
West Aust.	-	-	2,950	358	3,308
TOTALS:	17,830	8,132	247,680	85,725	359,367

x Also 13,355 trays Strawberries and 76 bags Passions  
/ Also 93½ tons Melons by rail from Queensland.  
/ Also 137 bags Lemons.

V E G E T A B L E S

STATE	Potatoes bags	Onions bags	Swedes bags	Pumpkins		Cucs. & Chillies cases	Other Vegs. pkges.	TOTALS	
				bags	tons			pkges.	tons
Queensland	521	21	-	766	1,678	672	15,009	16,989	1,678
Victoria	6,443	28,540	368	-	-	-	33,671	69,022	-
Tasmania	134,984	-	8,708	-	-	-	5,387	149,079	-
Sth. Aust.	258	378	-	-	-	-	13,749	14,385	-
West Aust.	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	112	-
TOTALS	142,318	28,939	9,076	766	1,678	672	67,816	249,587	1,678



## STATE MARKETING BUREAU-DEPT OF AGRICULTURE N.S.W.

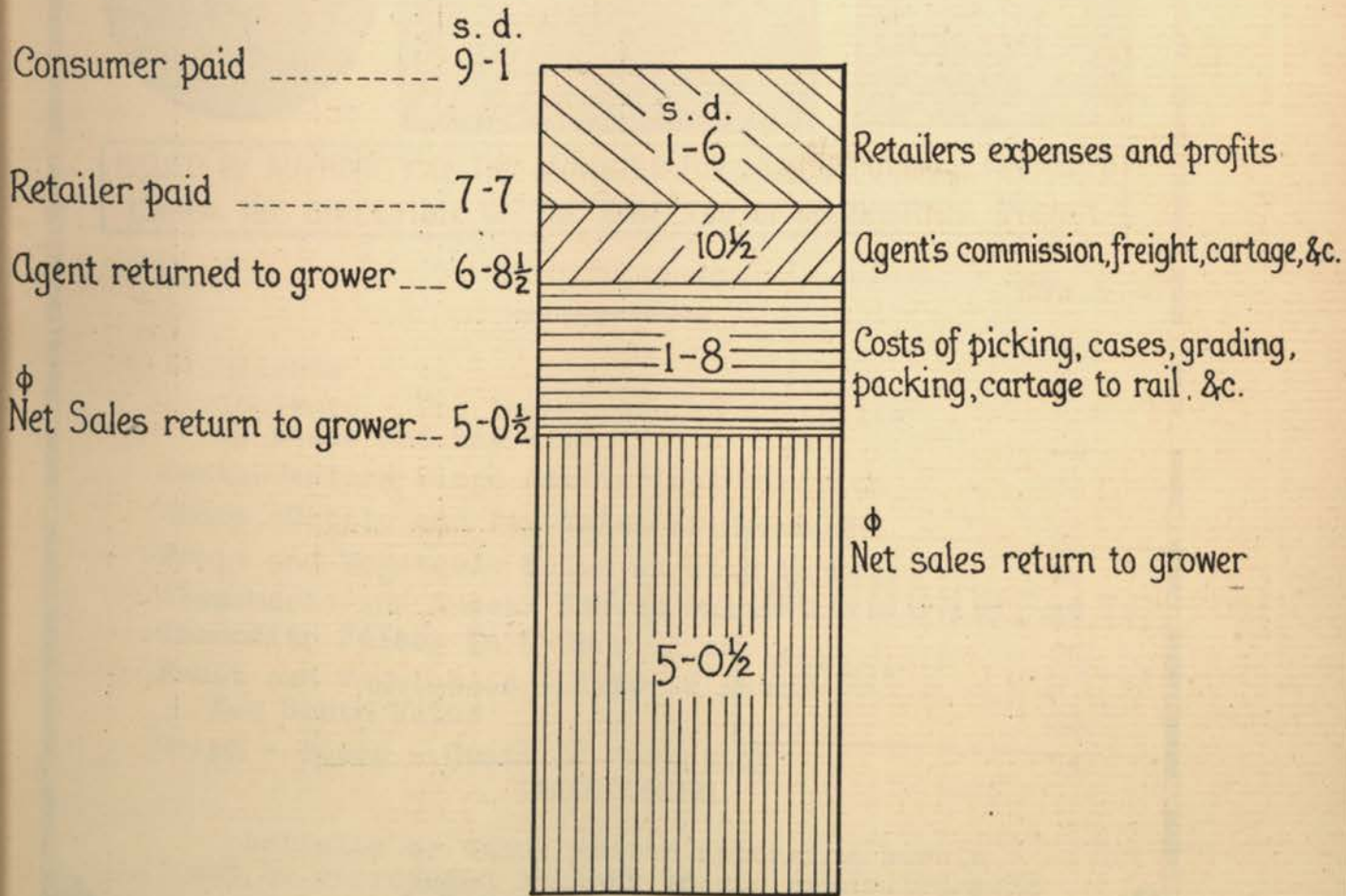
C.40·2

Dark - Choice **CHERRIES** Per  $\frac{1}{4}$  Case

"SPREAD" BETWEEN THE RETURN TO THE PRODUCER  
AND THE PRICE PAID BY THE CONSUMER

1939 - 40 SEASON

40·977



⊕ Costs of production should be deducted from this return.

Compiled ..... C.M.P. 16·9·40  
 Compilation checked. C.K. 16·9·40  
 Drawn ..... E.H.S. 16·9·40  
 Graph checked ..... C.K. 16·9·40

A.A. WATSON  
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING