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NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE MARKETING BUREAU

DIVISION OF MARKETING

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

APRIL, 1942.

Vol. 8 No. 4

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE
PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF MARKETING.
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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 CHIEF OF
THE DIVISION OF MARKETING, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.

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H I G H L I G H T S.

Adverse seasonal conditions and potato moth in New South Wales cause marked reduction in prospective yields. The main or inland crops expected to return only 23,000 tons of potatoes.

Proposed "stepping up" of potato planting by at least 50 per cent. this season expected to absorb at least 17,500 tons of seed, including Queensland requirements which are normally obtained from New South Wales.

Many vegetable-growers answer Government appeal by entering contracts for producing vegetables for the fighting forces at fixed prices.

In order to conserve manpower, petrol and vehicles, retail deliveries will be drastically curtailed as from 1st May, 1942.

Distribution of milk in zones expected to result in reduced prices to consumers. Anticipated that scheme will cover whole of Metropolitan Area and Newcastle district before end of April.

Regulations gazetted on 16th April, 1942, peg all prices at those ruling on 15th April, 1942, with the exception of a limited number of commodities which include livestock, poultry and perishable poultry products not already subject to price control.

PHYSICAL FEATURES, PRODUCTION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE WESTERN STATISTICAL DIVISION No. 14 - NEW SOUTH WALES. (Concluded)

The March, 1942, issue of the Monthly Marketing Review contained an article giving a general description of the Western Statistical Division No. 14 of New South Wales, together with information concerning irrigation settlements. In this second and concluding article, rural, mining and other industries are dealt with.

Sheep-raising the principal primary pursuit.

The carrying capacity of the Western Division is limited owing to denudation of natural timber and shrubs, with subsequent erosion by both wind and water, and to depredations of rabbits. In 1891, when New South Wales flocks reached their maximum, the Western Division depastured 131 sheep per square mile, but in 1921 the number had fallen to 40; by 1940 an upward trend to 60 had occurred. The fall was most pronounced between 1891 and 1902, by reason of drought, when the total decreased from 16,408,000 head to 3,600,000. In recent years the rabbits have been brought more under control, while water storage and artesian bores have given more assured water, and in 1940 the number of sheep in the subject division was 7,483,000, principally merinos.

During that year lambs marked totalled 2,454,000 (representing over one-seventh of the aggregate lambs for the State), a 72.6% proportion of lambs marked to ewes mated.

The Western Division is noted for the heavy wool clip per sheep, the average over the past 12 years being 9.9 lb. per sheep, as against 8.8 lb. for the whole State. In 1939/40 the average for the division was 10.41 lb.

Dairying is practically confined to the production of milk for the urban populations of the towns, notably Broken Hill, and dairy cattle at 31st March, 1940, aggregated 2,000 only. Beef breeds are run to a limited extent, varying with seasonal conditions and the beef market; whilst 132,000 head of "other cattle" were depastured in 1921, the number had fallen to 58,000 in 1940. Pig raising, also, is of minor proportions, the pigs in the Division totalling only 3,447 head at 31st March, 1939.

The number of horses has fallen from 44,000 in 1891 to 26,000 in 1940. Small numbers of camels, donkeys and mules are utilised for purposes of transport.

The Broken Hill silver, lead and zinc mines.

It is through its mineral wealth that the Western Division has become famous, and outstanding in this regard are the silver, lead and zinc deposits at Broken Hill. In "The Mineral

/Industry ....

Industry of New South Wales", issued in 1928 by the Department of Lands, Mr. E.J. Kenny states:-

"As an individual producer of lead and zinc, Broken Hill, perhaps, is the most important mining centre known. The total value of the yield of the minerals from the district exceeds £145,000,000. Allowance must be made also for incompleteness of returns, thereby indicating a much larger figure for the total output than that supplied here. The value of the dividends paid is £34,000,000 approximately. This amount, in the main, has come from one line of lode only in the district, namely the Broken Hill lode, with a total length of 3½ miles. The amount of ore raised from this line of lode is 40,000,000 tons approximately, and the ore reserves are at least 13,000,000 tons as based on the 1927 estimates".

Silver bearing ores were found at Thackaringa, near the South Australian border, in 1876, but were not worked to any great extent until 1880. By 1882 extensive mining operations were in progress, and soon afterwards the Silverton, Apollyon Valley and Purnamoota lodes were discovered. Phenomenal values of silver were obtained, but the boom was short lived, and active mining practically ceased in 1886.

Although said to have been prospected before that date, the first claim on Broken Hill was not pegged until September, 1883. Other blocks were secured shortly after. The earlier prospecting ventures were disappointing, and after two years of moderate success or relative failure, the Broken Hill Proprietary Silver Mining Company was formed and commenced operations on an extensive scale.

The Broken Hill ores yield silver, lead, zinc, copper and cadmium. Whilst at first smelting was carried out locally, later the ore or concentrates were treated at Port Pirie, in South Australia, and at Risdon, Tasmania.

Figures compiled by the Department of Mines show that ore raised from mines in the Broken Hill Mining Division in 1938 totalled over 1½ million tons with a value of over £3½ million, and that the output from inception of operations to the end of 1938 was valued at £172 million. The mines employ over 5,000 men.

Cadmium recovered at Risdon, Tasmania, in 1938 from calcined zinc concentrates from Broken Hill was valued at £60,770.

The Cobar Copper Mines.

The Cobar mining region has furnished by far the largest proportion of the copper mined in New South Wales. Unfortunately, owing to heavy transport costs and other factors, copper-mining in Australia can only be conducted profitably when the overseas price for the product is comparatively high, and thus this industry has only flourished spasmodically.

/The ....

The Cobar mining region includes several important centres, of which the following are in the Western Division - Cobar, Nymagee and Mt. Hope. Cobar, situated 467 miles north-west of Sydney, has supplied the largest amount of copper of any of the New South Wales fields, and one mine - known as the Great Cobar - had a total output of over 4,000,000 tons of ore. Copper was first discovered in this locality in 1869.

Nymagee is 50 miles south-east of Cobar, whilst Mt. Hope is approximately 95 miles south of that town.

Output of some of the mines to 1928 were:-

		Ore		Copper
COBAR.				
The Great Cobar	-	4,087,296	tons for	113,781 tons
" Chesney	-	322,949	"	
" Queen Bee	-	53,792	" valued at	£209,556
" C.S.A. (including Tinto after 1913)		111,716	" " "	461,316
" Tinto (to 1913) after which included in C.S.A.)		5,694	" " "	17,254
" Cobar Gladstone		40,671	" " "	173,000
NYMAGEE.				Copper
The Mouramba	-	422,630	tons for	24,408 tons
" Crowl Creek Shuttleton	-	62,600	" "	2,873 "
MOUNT HOPE.				
The Mount Hope Ltd.	-			5,700 tons

In 1938, the Great Cobar Mine and the C.S.A. Mines did not work. The sale of concentrates from the New Cobar Mine realised £34,144.

Silver, lead and gold, varying with the individual mines, are also recovered from these fields.

White Cliff and Lightning Ridge Opal fields.

Two of the main opal fields in New South Wales lie within the Western Division, that for "light" opals at White Cliffs in the middle west, and that for "black" opals at Lightning Ridge, 47 miles north-north-west of Walgett, which is 460 miles from Sydney by rail. This latter field includes mines at Grawin, about 30 miles south. The greater portion of the State's total production of this precious stone - which by the end of 1938 had amounted to £1,627,021 - has been obtained from these fields. Of recent years, output has been rather restricted, that for 1938 being valued at £4,226.

/Other....

Other Mining.

Tin (as tinstone) occurs at Euriowie, Waukeroo and Kantappa in the Barrier Ranges district. Gold-bearing country is found in the sector from Byrock, through Cobar to Mt. Hope, and at isolated places in the west of the Division. The more famous of the gold fields in this section are:-

The Canbelego Goldfield (Mount Boppy Gold Mine): Although gold was found near Canbelego about 1889, the Mt. Boppy lode was not discovered until 1896, and was extensively worked from 1898 to 1923. It was such a consistent producer that it was considered to be the most celebrated in New South Wales. The total value of the output is said to exceed £1,840,000.

The Cobar Goldfields: In addition to the copper produced by mines in the Cobar district, a considerable quantity of gold has been won both from gold ores proper and gold-bearing sulphide ores worked principally for their copper contents. The chief mines from which gold has been produced are:- The Great Cobar, the Cobar Chesney, the Cobar Gold, the Peak, the Occidental and the Mount Drysdale. Between 1887 and 1927 the total quantity of gold won from these mines was approximately 629,086 ounces fine.

The Mount Allen Goldfield: Small deposits of gold-bearing iron ore were worked at Mount Allen, about 12 miles from Mount Hope. Small quantities of bismuth were present in addition to gold.

The Broken Hill and North Western Mines: Gold occurs in association with the silver, lead and zinc ores mined at Broken Hill. Leads occur at Mt. Browne, Tibooburra and The Peak. Some very rich yields of gold have been obtained in shallow and deep workings near Mt. Browne.

Figures published by the Mines Department show that in 1938 the gold production in the Cobar mining district (mostly from the New Occidental and New Cobar mines) amounted to 47,438 ozs. valued at £415,943, out of a total of 87,734 ozs. valued at £732,383 for New South Wales. In addition, in the Albert Mining District, 5,292 ozs. of gold valued at £44,030 were obtained, mostly from silver-lead ores at Broken Hill with a small quantity recovered by fossickers in the Tibooburra area.

Cobalt is recovered as a subsidiary product from the treatment of the silver lead and zinc ores from Broken Hill. This treatment is carried out in other States, and full value for the finished product is not credited to New South Wales.

Ore carrying a small proportion of platinum as well as other metals, etc., can be obtained over a very wide area of the Broken Hill district, but there appears little prospect of extensive development of the deposits.

/Felspar .....

Felspar and Cornish Stone are mined to a limited extent in the Broken Hill Division, the output in 1938 amounting to 95 tons out of a total of 175 tons for the State.

Other minerals, precious stones, etc., to be found in the Broken Hill area include garnet and rhodonite, graphite, etc.

Gypsum deposits are fairly common in the Western Division, those within reasonable distance of transport facilities being in the Trida-Menindie, Wentworth and Balranald districts. In 1938 the only deposits worked were in the Wentworth region, where 1,087 tons of gypsum were obtained. Magnesite occurs near Cobar and has been worked to a limited extent.

Sulphur and Sulphuric Acid are obtained as by-products from the treatment of zinc concentrates from Broken Hill. In 1938 the Sulphide Corporation Ltd. at Cockle Creek produced from such ores 14,449 tons of Sulphuric Acid (Mono), valued at £44,206. No Sulphuric Acid was produced at Broken Hill during the year, supplies for local use being secured from the smelters at Port Pirie, South Australia. Sulphur is also present in the copper ores at Cobar and Mount Hope.

Rail and Road Communications

Owing to its vast extent of sparsely populated country, the Western Division has rather limited railway facilities. It is only of recent years that a direct rail link between Sydney and Broken Hill has been completed. Previously (from 1888) Broken Hill had been connected to the South Australian system by means of a privately controlled line of nearly 36 miles length running via Silverton to the South Australian border.

In 1927 the direct railway from Sydney to Broken Hill was opened for traffic, making it possible to reach the latter city after a rail journey of 698½ miles, whereas previously it was necessary for a train traveller to go via Melbourne and Adelaide, a distance of over 1400 miles. The Sydney-Broken Hill line is linked to the south-western network by a branch from Roto via Hillston and Griffith. From Nyngan (Central Plains) the Western railway runs to Bourke, and a branch therefrom at Byrock proceeds to Brewarrina, while from Nyngan another branch goes practically due west to Cobar. In the extreme north-east, the rail termini are east of the Barwon and thus outside the subject division - viz., at Walgett, Tokataroo and Mungindi. In the southern sector, Balranald is the terminus of a line from Echuca, which, although operating within New South Wales territory, is controlled by the Victorian Government and links up with the Victorian system. Further west along the Murray River, Wentworth is opposite to the Victorian township of Yelta, from which a railway runs via Mildura to Melbourne.

/The....

The principal road development in the Western Division is in respect of State Highways under the control of the Main Roads Department. The Mitchell Highway branches from the Great Western Highway (from Sydney) at Bathurst (Central Tableland) and runs via Orange, Dubbo, Trangie and Nyngan through Bourke to Barringun on the Queensland border. The Barrier leaves the Mitchell Highway at Nyngan and proceeds via Cobar, Wilcannia and Broken Hill to enter South Australia at Cockburn. The Sturt Highway, which branches from the Hume at Lower Tarcutta, traverses the South Western Slope and Riverina divisions via Wagga, Narrandera and Hay, to Balranald, and then runs through portion of the Western division, via Euston to the bridge across the Murray River at Mildura. State Highway No. 21 runs generally north-westerly from Moama on the Murray River via Hay and Booligal (Riverina) through Ivanhoe, Wilcannia and Cobham Lake to the Queensland border near Olive Downs in the north-western corner of the State. In the north-east sector, State Highway No. 18, which branches from the Oxley at Gilgandra and runs mainly north via Coonamble and Walgett (Central Plain), passes through Goodooga to the Queensland border near Brenda. The total mileage of highways within the subject division is approximately 1,132 miles.

C.K.

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PENALTIES FOR INFRINGEMENTS OF STATUTORY ORDERS REGARDING FOOD SUPPLIES IN LONDON.

The Acting Official Secretary, New South Wales Government Offices in London, advises that with a view to adopting more effectual measures for controlling illicit practices in the marketing and distribution of foodstuffs during the war, an Order in Council has been brought into operation here increasing the maximum penalties which may be imposed by the Courts for infringements of Statutory Orders made under Paragraph (1) of Regulation 55 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939. The Minister of Food's Orders on rationing, price control, hoarding, substitutes, etc., were made under this Paragraph. The new Order increases the former maximum penalties for sales at too high a price by a further fine not exceeding three times that price. For other breaches of Orders made under the same Paragraph the maximum penalty is increased by an amount not exceeding three times the price which the article might be expected to fetch if lawfully sold. The former maximum penalties under the Regulations were:- On summary conviction, 3 months imprisonment and/or a fine of £100; On indictment, 2 years imprisonment and/or a fine of £500.

The Order in Council also empowers a competent authority (including the Minister of Food) to make Orders providing for the seizure and sale of any article in respect of which an offence is believed to have been committed. The Court which convicts a person of an offence in respect of a seized article may, if satisfied that he is the owner at the time of seizure, direct that all or part of the proceeds of the sale should be applied towards the payment of any fine impowed. If there is no conviction the article or the proceeds of the sale will be returned to the owner.

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THE EFFECTS OF WAR CONDITIONS ON THE MARKETING OF AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY PRODUCTS.

VEGETABLES AND FRUIT.

The Chief of the Division of Marketing (Mr. A.A. Watson) on 11th and 13th March, 1942, tendered evidence before the Federal Parliamentary Joint Committee on Rural Industries, concerning the effects of war conditions on the marketing of Australian primary products. Hereunder is an extract from Mr. Watson's evidence relating to the fruit and vegetable industries.

"During the past two years, and particularly during the last twelve months, vegetable growers of New South Wales have had to contend with many adverse conditions. Some of the difficulties which have caused most concern are lack of water, shortage of labour, restrictions on the supply of petrol and the loss of overseas supplies of seed and fertilisers. General seasonal conditions have been responsible for the first mentioned and the world war for the other three.

For a long period, drought conditions have prevailed in New South Wales and these, coupled with the resultant restrictions imposed on the use of water in the Sydney Metropolitan Area, has had a serious effect on the quantity of vegetables produced.

Labour Shortage.

Enlistments in the A.I.F. and other voluntary forces, and the compulsory call-up of young men for military training have claimed many who in pre-war days were employed in the vegetable-growing industry. The efforts of producers to obtain substitute labour to offset these losses have not been successful and the shortage of workers is becoming acute. Areas planted to crops have been decreased already and at present growers are stressing the urgent need for additional labour, without which further areas of suitable land must be allowed to lie idle. Additional labour requirements may be placed in two divisions. Firstly, that to meet the needs of the general market gardener and secondly that for the seasonal-crop grower. The general market gardener, who is to be found in close proximity to the city, is engaged throughout the year in producing numerous types of vegetables and it is his practice to have at all times one or another of his products available for market. Thus, his need for additional labour is a constant one. The seasonal-crop grower generally is more of a specialist than the market gardener. The proportions of most of these producers are situated further afield and are larger in area than market gardens. Crops grown may be beans, peas, potatoes, cauliflowers, etc. The need by these growers for additional labour would occur mostly at

/seeding....

seeding and harvesting times and particularly at the latter. At harvesting time, it is essential that the crop must be gathered quickly and therefore temporary assistance is essential. Unless there is every prospect of this being available, growers are unable to undertake to prepare and seed areas which would normally be devoted to vegetable production.

While much of the produce received at the principal city markets is transported from the point of production by rail or boat, large quantities arrive daily by motor lorry. All vegetables grown in market gardens which, as stated previously, are handy to the city in most instances and constitute a substantial proportion of total receivals, are carried by motor lorry, while much of the produce from areas as far away from Sydney as Kangaroo Valley, Moss Vale and even Bathurst find their way to market by this means.

Effect of Petrol Rationing.

The rationing of petrol has restricted the distances producers are able to travel by road. Realising the necessity for conserving fuel supplies, growers have made genuine efforts to devise schemes whereby they may be able to more fully co-operate with the authorities in this matter and at the same time market their produce. Should substantial rains fall and there be every promise of a very good season, the fuel position alone could be a deterrent factor to the utilisation of normal areas of production.

Lack of Seed Supplies.

In the past a very large percentage of vegetable seed used in Australia was imported. The outbreak of war and subsequent happenings have resulted in the cessation of fairly large supplies from Germany, France and the Netherlands and difficulties will arise in obtaining sufficient seed for normal requirements pending the implementation of schemes now being undertaken to increase home production.

Fertilisers.

Phosphates, which are used extensively as fertilisers by vegetable growers, are now unable to be imported into Australia.

Prices Fixation.

The Commonwealth Prices Commissioner, appointed by the Commonwealth Government, since the outbreak of war has been given authority to inquire into costs and to fix wholesale and retail selling prices. Many factors operate to render the fixation of prices of various classes of fruits and vegetables extremely difficult. However, action has been taken by the Prices Commissioner to fix the wholesale and retail prices of potatoes, onions and tomatoes.

/Fruit....

Fruit - Seasonal Conditions.

Fruit growers in New South Wales have suffered similarly to vegetable growers during recent years as a result of seasonal conditions, while here again the war has been responsible for a shortage of farm workers and to a lesser degree petrol rationing has affected the transport of fruit.

Apple and Pear Marketing.

Prior to the war, fairly large quantities of apples and to a lesser degree pears were exported annually from Australia. Present conditions, however, exclude the export of Australian apples and pears to overseas markets. While normally the bulk of these exports were shipped from Tasmania and Victoria, growers throughout the Commonwealth have had to share the burden of this lost market as practically all supplies grown in Australia must now be marketed within Australia.

Although the Commonwealth Prices Commissioner has not taken any steps towards the fixation of fruit prices, the Commonwealth Government has constituted the Australian Apple and Pear Marketing Board. This Board is charged with the responsibility of marketing the whole of the apple and pear production of the various States and in the exercise of the powers granted to it under National Security Regulations regulates wholesale selling prices and returns to producers.

General.

Experience to date seems to show that the exit of large numbers of men from normal walks of life into the various branches of the armed forces has resulted in a large potential aggregate consumption of fruits and vegetables, the decrease in supplies sold for civilian consumption being offset by the requirements of the forces. It appears necessary, therefore, that every consideration should be given towards maintaining production at reasonable levels.

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Production of shorn wool in Canada reached a new peak in 1941. The preliminary estimate for the Dominion is 14,511,000 pounds as compared with an estimate of 13,822,000 pounds for the year 1940, and the previous high of 14,027,000 pounds in 1932. The number of sheep shorn in 1941 is estimated at 1,925,300 with an average yield per fleece of 7.5 pounds, compared with shearings of 1,860,500 sheep in 1940 and an average yield per fleece of 7.4 pounds. The number of sheep shorn showed an increase in 1941 in all provinces except Nova Scotia, Ontario and British Columbia.
(Extracted from "Agricultural and Industrial Progress in Canada" issued by the Department of Immigration and Colonization of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Montreal, Canada).

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SALES OF LIVESTOCK AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

INCREASED PENNINGS OF SHEEP AND LAMBS - SUPPLIES OF CATTLE AND PIGS MAINTAINED.

Sheep and lambs numerous.

Considerably larger numbers of sheep and lambs reached the Homebush Saleyards during March than in the previous month, lack of food in some centres and the good prices ruling towards the close of February no doubt being contributing factors. Receivals totalled 417,152 head, or an average per sale day of 46,250.

Prime sheep scarce.

Although prime heavy wethers were in comparatively short supply, some very fine drafts were included. Moderate numbers of good light trade descriptions were available but a fairly large percentage of the sheep of suitable trade weights were only of fair to medium quality. Many plain aged sheep were noticed.

Irregular market for sheep.

Values of grown sheep, particularly those for medium to plain descriptions, displayed a good deal of irregularity and realisations were somewhat below those ruling at the close of February. A general downward movement in values was noticeable until the third week of March when an upward trend in rates began. The strong tone, however, was not fully sustained, prices being lower once more at the close of March. Allowing for variations, rates for mutton were about ½d per lb. lower at the end of March than at the end of February.

Some of the actual sales for the period were as under:-

First Week

Good Heavy	48 lb.	wethers	(skin 5/6)	made	22/9	each	or 4¼d	per lb.
" "	48 lb.	ewes	(" 6/6)	"	19/3	"	" 3¼d	" "
" Trade	40 lb.	"	(" 3/6)	"	15/10	"	" 3⅝d	" "

Second Week

Good Heavy	52 lb.	wethers	(skin 8/6)	made	21/9	each	or 3d	per lb.
" Trade	46 lb.	"	(" 7/6)	"	19/7	"	" 3¼d	" "
" Heavy	52 lb.	ewes	(" 5/6)	"	16/3	"	" 2½d	" "
" Trade	42 lb.	"	(" 4/-)	"	14/6	"	" 3d	" "

Third Week

Good Heavy 56 lb. wethers (skin 7/-) made 21/- each or 3d per lb.

/Good...

Good Trade 40 lb. wethers	(skin 5/6)	made	16/2	each or	$3\frac{1}{4}$d	per lb.
" Heavy 48 lb. ewes	(" 4/6)	"	14/-	" "	$2\frac{3}{8}$d	" "
" Trade 40 lb. "	(" 5/-)	"	13/10	" "	$2\frac{3}{4}$d	" "

Fourth Week

Good Heavy 48 lb. wethers	(skin 5/9)	made	21/1	each or	$3\frac{3}{4}$d	per lb.
" Trade 44 lb. "	(" 4/-)	"	18/9	" "	4d	" "
" Heavy 48 lb. ewes	(" 8/6)	"	19/10	" "	$2\frac{3}{4}$d	" "
" Trade 42 lb. "	(" 6/-)	"	17/1	" "	$3\frac{1}{4}$d	" "

Closing Auctions.

Good Trade 46 lb. wethers	(skin 8/-)	made	21/9	each or	$3\frac{1}{2}$d	per lb.
" " 44 lb. ewes	(" 3/9)	"	15/2	" "	3d	" "

Mutton prices lower.

During the previous month mutton prices reached as high as $4\frac{1}{2}$d per lb. but the best price paid in March was $4\frac{1}{4}$d per lb., while generally the average cost of mutton was below that of February. Good light wethers cost from 3d to $4\frac{1}{4}$d and heavy from $2\frac{3}{4}$d to 4d per lb. with a fairly large percentage of wether mutton making from $2\frac{3}{4}$d to $3\frac{1}{2}$d and 3d to $3\frac{3}{4}$d per lb. for heavy and light, respectively. Best light ewes cost up to $3\frac{3}{4}$d per lb. on one occasion, exceeding the highest price of the previous month, but for the most part rates ranged from $2\frac{1}{4}$d to 3d for heavy and $2\frac{1}{2}$d to $3\frac{1}{4}$d per lb. for light. Medium to plain mutton was obtained at relatively lower prices, mostly selling from about 1d per lb. upwards.

Better representation of lambs.

Increased supplies of lambs totalling 198,408 head were penned. The lightest daily total was 19,981 compared with 8,954 in the previous month and the average penning each sale day was 22,045.

General quality slightly better.

Some improvement was noticeable in the general quality, although medium to fair trade lambs still continue to form a good percentage of the yardings. Prime light lambs were again fairly scarce, the most noticeable improvement in supplies being in lambs from 32 to 36 lb. dressed. In some cases, prime heavy lambs were offered but this type was by no means numerous.

Prices for lambs variable.

The market for lambs in common with that for grown sheep showed some irregularity but not to such a marked extent. At the beginning of March prices for the most part were without change but subsequently plain and medium lambs showed several declines in value of about 1/- to 2/- per head. Generally speaking, good to

/prime .....

prime lambs did not vary appreciably but some improvement was noticeable towards the end of March, increases in prices ranging from 6d to 1/- per head. Some of the sales were:-

First Week

Good Trade	30 lb.	lambs	(skin 3/6)	made	21/1 each	or	7d	per lb.
" Trade	36 lb.	"	(" 4/6)	"	23/11 "	"	6¾d	" "

Second Week

Good Trade	33 lb.	lambs	(skin 4/6)	made	19/4 each	or	6½d	per lb.
" "	35 lb.	"	(" 4/9)	"	21/3 "	"	5¾d	" "

Third Week

Good Trade	32 lb.	lambs	(skin 3/6)	made	20/1 each	or	6¼d	per lb.
" "	30 lb.	"	(" 3/-)	"	20/7 "	"	7d	" "

Fourth Week

Good Trade	32 lb.	lambs	(skin 3/6)	made	21/7 each	or	6¾d	per lb.
" Heavy	42 lb.	"	(" 4/3)	"	22/8 "	"	5¼d	" "

Closing Auctions

Good Trade	34 lb.	lambs	(skin 2/6)	made	22/1 each	or	7d	per lb.
" Heavy	37 lb.	"	(" 4/6)	"	20/10 "	"	5¼d	" "

Prices below previous month's average.

Generally demand was good throughout March but the increased numbers available were responsible for somewhat lower prices. In February, values for good suckers were as high as 8½d per lb. and lambs made up to 7½d per lb. During March, however, good light lambs and suckers mostly sold at from 6d to 7d per lb., although on occasions up to 7½d per lb. was obtained. Prime heavy lambs made up to 6¼d per lb. but mostly sold at from 5¼d to 5¾d per lb. Prime hoggets cost as much as 5d per lb. but average rates were from 3½d to 4½d per lb., according to quality.

Quality of cattle shows some improvement.

Cattle supplies at Homebush were fairly well maintained throughout March and the yardings for the nine sale days aggregated 16,509 head, about 1,500 more than the total for the previous month. Auctions in the store section accounted for 3,152 head. Quality generally throughout the period could be described as fair and it showed some improvement on the February offerings. A substantial percentage of the pennings again comprised plain descriptions but larger numbers of good trade beasts were noticed. The improvement in quality was largely due to better pastoral

/conditions ......

conditions prevailing in many parts of the State as the result of beneficial rains. These conditions, however, were confined chiefly to the northern districts and elsewhere the position was far from satisfactory. By the close of the month good rains had also been received over most of the coastal areas.

Light supplies of bullocks.

Truckings of bullocks were somewhat similar to those of February in that supplies were fairly light and the percentage of medium and heavy weight descriptions was small. Fair to good trade sorts predominated, although very attractive lines were not infrequently noticed. The market during March was very unsteady and values fluctuated to a marked degree. They were highest on the first sale day when prime light bullocks were quoted to 51/- per 100 lb. dressed weight and lowest during the second week when 45/- was the best rate. The market was very firm at the close when quotations generally for good to prime quality were:- heavy 43/- to 46/-, medium 44/- to 47/-, light 45/- to 48/- per 100 lb. On this occasion heavier beasts met a very keen inquiry and a line of prime shorthorns realised £18.6.0 per head; the estimated weight being 775 lb., equivalent to 47/- per 100 lb.

Good trade steers well represented.

Steers continued to be well represented throughout the period but the percentage of prime animals, especially early in the month, was small. Good trade sorts, however, made a fairly satisfactory showing. Steer prices also fluctuated fairly substantially, prime lightweights at the commencement and close of the period being worth 54/- and 55/- per 100 lb., respectively, with quotations down to 51/- during the second week.

Prime cows scarce.

Most of the cows offered were of plain and medium grade and on several occasions this class of beast made a very poor showing. On some sale days, however, several drafts of good trade to prime descriptions were noticed, while quality animals were usually obtainable in odd lots. Prices varied in common with other classes but on the whole they were very satisfactory, although not quite so high as the February levels. Prime light cows were frequently worth to 44/- per 100 lb. and prime heavy from 42/- to 43/-. Quotations, however, were approximately 3/- per 100 lb. lower than these figures about the middle of the month.

Prime heifers sell at enhanced rates.

In contrast with cows, heifers made a fair showing on most sale days, although they were chiefly of lightweight description. Quality was variable but good trade sorts were well represented. On occasions, however, prime lines were somewhat

/difficult....

difficult to secure. Except during the period when the market generally declined temporarily, values were maintained at enhanced levels which were only slightly below those obtaining for prime steers. Early and late in the period prime light heifers were quoted to 54/- per 100 lb. with rates for other weight grades of good trade quality ranging from 44/- per 100 lb.

Variable offerings of vealers.

Numbers of vealers forward each sale day varied considerably, pennings being limited at times but moderate on other occasions. Quality also showed a fair degree of fluctuation and ranged from plain to prime. Fair trade sorts predominated, although a noticeable percentage of the pennings was of prime grade. Generally the smaller animals were of poorer grade, while most of the quality descriptions were of medium weight. Good to prime vealers were always in keen demand and although values changed during the month the variations in prices were not so marked as with some of the other classes of cattle. Early in the period prime lightweights were quoted to 66/- per 100 lb. The following typical sale at the close of the month illustrates the enhanced values of this class of beast: Prime Shorthorn vealers, estimated to weigh 340 lb. dressed sold at £10.16.0 per head, equivalent to 63/6 per 100 lb.

Pig supplies well maintained.

The total number of pigs submitted at auction at Homebush during March, 1942, 10,864 head, showed an increase on the February disposals but average consignments were a little less as there were five sale days in the month. Rail consignments sold by auction accounted for 6,390 head, while 3,174 were disposed of by private treaty.

Good showing of prime porkers.

Porkers made a very satisfactory showing, especially from a quality standpoint, and it is probable that the number of good to prime descriptions penned during the period was the largest for a considerable number of years. A pleasing feature was that the yardings were consistently of good quality. Most of the offerings comprised medium and heavy weight porkers and lightweights were fairly scarce, especially towards the close. Small store pigs were also difficult to secure. Although quality porkers were fairly plentiful the market generally became a highly satisfactory one from the producer's viewpoint. On the opening sale day prices showed some recession, especially heavy weights when prime light porkers dressing 60 lb. sold to 42/6 per head and heavy porkers dressing 90 lb. to 57/6 per head. Values subsequently, however, showed a progressive increase and by the close of the month rates had reached the highest level for some considerable time, quotations being:- Good to prime lightweights (50-60 lb.) 41/6 to 49/6; heavy (80-90 lb.) 57/6 to 64/6. On a per lb. basis values of extra light porkers ranged to 1/- (excluding killing, dressing and other incidental expenses).

/Enhanced ......

Enhanced values of heavy baconers.

Baconers were well represented throughout the month, especially on the last sale day, when the pennings were fairly heavy. Consignments comprised both light and heavy descriptions of chiefly good trade quality. Prime sorts, however, were well supplied, particularly amongst the heavyweights. The market generally during March was a very unusual one. It was lowest at opening and firmed progressively until the close of the period when values of heavy baconers reached the highest level for many years, namely 9d per lb., or 119/6 per head. Rates per lb. for light and medium weight baconers ranged to 8½d and 8¾d and were slightly below the February levels. These quotations show a remarkable exception to the general rule that on a per lb. basis lightweights are of more value than heavy baconers. These conditions, of course, were created by the abnormal wartime demand for canning purposes. Local prices are above export parity and operators claim that they are losing on contracts entered into with the Government but hope to recoup their losses when pigs become more plentiful. The Government is urging greater pig production and, with better arrangements for feed purchases and the more favourable weather conditions prevailing in coastal areas, feels confident that increased supplies will become available. The position, however, will depend greatly on the amount of labour to be made available to the industry in the future.

Increased supplies of backfatters.

Consignments of backfatters were the heaviest for some considerable time and the pennings included numerous heavy descriptions. Good to prime sorts were also well in evidence. The market was fairly steady and on the average a little weaker than that of February. Prices of most backfatters were slightly lower during the second half of the period, although rates for very light sorts showed a small advance in sympathy with the heavy baconer market. Quotations at closing for good to prime pigs dressing 200/350 lb. were 5¾d to 6d and for those exceeding 350 lb., 4¾d to 5¼d.

Pig market very satisfactory.

The market for pigs is now in direct contrast to that prevailing a year ago when values had receded to disastrously low levels from the producer's viewpoint. Prices are now the most satisfactory for many years and present prospects augur well for the industry, subject, of course, to war considerations.

G.C. & J.W.

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SALES IN SUSSEX STREET AND AT ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD.

Local potatoes continue to be exceptionally lightly stocked.

Consignments of local potatoes to Alexandria Railway Goods Yard were again particularly light, only 649 bags being received. This number comprised 525 bags of old and 124 of new tubers. Although quality only varied from moderate to good, demand was abnormally keen and stocks were rationed out to buyers at the maximum rate of £17.5.0 per ton.

Stocks of Tasmanian potatoes were fairly heavy, 80,194 bags being received. This number was approximately 14,000 more than that received during the previous month but as the bulk was requisitioned by the Military authorities the potato shortage continued to be acute. Clearances of the stocks available were made at the maximum fixed rate of £17.5.0 per ton.

Slight increase in supply of root vegetables.

Swedes available in Sussex Street totalled 4,504 bags as against 2,339 during February. Inquiry was brisk and sales were made at £10.0.0 to £16.0.0 per ton, representing a decrease of £4.0.0 to £10.0.0 per ton on the previous month's rate. Carrots continued to be scarce, only 543 bags being received; these were sold immediately upon arrival at £20.0.0 per ton. No quotations were available for the 67 bags of parsnips which arrived. At Alexandria no root vegetables were received.

Decline in onion arrivals.

After heavy consignments totalling 17,962 bags of onions during February, arrivals in March fell to 4,706 bags from Victoria, no stocks being received from local growing centres. The bulk of the Victorian consignment consisted of brown table varieties which cleared well at the increased rate of £15.0.0 to £17.0.0 per ton. The remainder consisted of white lots which sold at £23.0.0 per ton, being an increase of £3.0.0 per ton on the previous month's rate.

In Sussex Street approximately 1,300 bags of Victorian brown table onions were received by rail and were on offer at £15.0.0 per ton. Towards the end of the month 399 bags were received by boat and cleared well at £17.0.0 per ton.

Lower rates for pumpkins.

After the very small yarding of 3 trucks of pumpkins during February, stocks showed a considerable increase, 29 trucks being received. This number consisted of 21 from Queensland and 8 from local growing centres. Demand continued to be good but

/rates ....

rates were lower at £17.0.0 to £24.0.0 per ton, with inferior from £10.0.0.

Arrivals in Sussex Street amounted to 233 bags. Included in this total were 95 bags which arrived at the commencement of the month and cleared at £42.0.0 per ton. The remainder arrived towards the end of the month and realised £18.0.0 per ton.

Steady market for oaten chaff.

Arrivals of oaten chaff totalled 148 trucks, including 9 from Victoria. The bulk of the offering was of good quality and rates were maintained at £7.5.0 to £8.0.0 per ton. Disposals of some moderate to good lots were effected by auction at £6.10.0 to £7.10.0 per ton.

The 36 trucks of wheaten chaff which came to hand represented a decrease of 8 trucks on the previous month's yarding. Choice quality lots predominated and as inquiry was brisk sales were made at higher rates, choice lots selling at £7.5.0 to £8.0.0 per ton, with other lots at £6.0.0 to £7.0.0 per ton.

Heavy supplies of lucerne chaff.

Lucerne chaff railed to Alexandria totalled 69 trucks which was 8 less than that of the previous month. Several inferior lots were received and were disposed of with difficulty at £6.0.0 to £7.10.0 per ton. Medium to good lots were also somewhat slow of sale and realised £9.0.0 to £10.0.0 per ton. Choice lots were sought after by buyers and demand was keen at £11.0.0 to £11.10.0 with a few extra choice lots to £11.15.0 per ton.

Increase in lucerne hay rates.

Truckings of lucerne hay from the Maitland district to Alexandria totalled 21 trucks. The bulk was not available for general trading but was consigned direct to private firms. The remainder was in request at £6.10.0 to £7.0.0 for medium to good lots with choice £9.0.0 to £10.0.0 per ton. Arrivals of oaten hay from other centres totalled 56 trucks, being 11 less than that received the previous month. Included in this number were some derrick pressed lots which were cleared by auction at £5.0.0 to £8.0.0 per ton. Other lots sold well at £8.10.0 to £9.10.0 for medium to good with choice £10.0.0 to £11.0.0 and a few specials £11.10.0 to £12.0.0 per ton.

Straw sells well.

The 61 trucks of straw received comprised 43 from local and 18 from Victorian sources. All the Victorian straw was of choice oaten description and sold readily at £6.10.0 to £6.15.0 per ton. The local offering comprised both oaten and wheaten lots.

/The....

The oaten realised £6.0.0 to £6.10.0 and the wheaten £4.10.0 to £5.0.0 per ton. One inferior lot was disposed of by auction at £3.10.0 per ton.

Very little of the 27 trucks of oaten hay received was available for general trading but a small amount was on offer at £8.10.0 per ton.

Lower rates for maize.

Growers from local centres forwarded 1,184 bags of yellow maize to Alexandria, while consignments from Queensland amounted to 1,330 bags. The local maize sold mainly at 5/3 per bushel, but one prime dry lot realised 5/5½d per bushel when submitted to auction. The Queensland offerings were disposed of by private treaty at 5/3 to 5/6 per bushel, with one lot 5/5 per bushel at auction. In Sussex Street 1,840 bags were received from the Northern Rivers and sold at 5/3 to 5/4 per bushel.

The 24 trucks of wheat received contained a large proportion of inferior lots and prices were lowered in order to effect clearances. Sales were made privately at 4/2 to 4/3 per bushel with sales by auction from 3/6½d to 4/2½d.

Receivals of oats amounted to 32 trucks. Inquiry was limited and sales were made by private treaty at 2/8 to 3/- with clearances by auction at 2/6 to 3/- per bushel.

B.O'C.

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CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY
- SALES OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES -

Good demand for dessert apples.

During the greater part of the month supplies of dessert apples were comparatively light and firm rates ruled. Jonathans from orchards within the State were the most plentiful and met very good inquiry at prices ranging to 23/- per bushel in the first half of March. Towards the close, however, the receipt of Victorian and Tasmanian consignments brought about a general reduction in price levels. Some Delicious, McIntosh Red and London Pippin from local sources also were available, while interstate supplies comprised, in addition to Jonathans, the following varieties:- Worcester Pearmain, Cleopatra, Cox's Orange Pippin and Ribston. A few miscellaneous kinds were also included. Cookers were fairly plentiful, particularly Granny Smiths, and prices were fairly steady at from 9/- to 11/- per bushel. Alfristons from Tasmania met good request at around 6/- per case.

/Pears....

Pears clear steadily.

Choice green lines of local and Victorian Williams pears sold well at all times. Rates varied to some extent but, generally speaking, they were at relatively high levels compared with previous years. The season for this variety ended about mid-March. Buyers then turned their attention to Packham's Triumph which commenced to come forward both from local and interstate sources. Fair quantities of Comice, Winter Cole, Beurre Bosc and a few other varieties were on offer. Good quality packs of Winter Coles met ready sale while there was steady clearances of other kinds.

High prices rule for oranges.

Supplies of coastal main crop Valencia oranges were light and towards the close of the month were practically finished. Opportunity was afforded growers to market second crop fruit at prices well above normal.

Small consignments were received from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and also from other States. Special packs from the M.I.A. realised to 32/- per bushel, while rates generally ranged from 20/- to 30/-.

Some navel oranges were received from Queensland and these sold at high rates. Intermediate crop fruit from coastal groves in this State were available and little difficulty was experienced in disposals at remunerative prices.

The position with regard to lemon supplies did not show much improvement until towards the close of March when consignments of Queensland fruit increased, resulting in the market weakening. It is expected that following the copious rains received in coastal growing areas the lemons being carried on trees will fill well and supplies should increase in the near future.

Relatively few lots of local grape fruit came to hand but gradually increasing quantities were received bi-weekly from Queensland; exceptionally good prices were obtained, as much as 35/- per bushel being paid. Rates, however, were mainly from 20/- to 30/-.

Choice grapes sell well.

Fairly heavy supplies of grapes were available during the greater part of the month. Many of the muscats from inland areas were small and much difficulty was experienced in clearing stocks even at very low prices. Choice fruit sold satisfactorily. Cornichons from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area were plentiful; many packs opened up in a wet state and had to be sold cheaply. Towards the close of the month there was a falling off in

/consignments....

consignments; a marked improvement in quality was evident and as demand was good values showed an upward trend. White varieties were only in moderate supply and were in steady request.

Pineapples sell cheaply.

Very heavy consignments of pineapples were forward at times during the month, over 11,000 cases being received in one week. Large supplies and the indifferent quality of many packs resulted in values falling to low levels. The position at closing had improved and with reduced supplies in prospect the market had a firmer tone.

Custard Apples reach the market.

A few half-cases of custard apples, the first of the season, arrived and sold at high prices.

Bananas meet steady request.

The market for bananas was steady throughout the greater part of the month owing to the somewhat restricted consignments. A good deal of plain grade fruit was included in receivals and this class of banana was sold at rates much lower than those paid for standard quality packs.

Effect of weather conditions on vegetable production.

Droughty conditions prevailed until shortly after mid-March when some light rain was received and this was followed later by particularly heavy falls. In a number of instances metropolitan gardens in low-lying areas were flooded. This resulted in much loss and diminished supplies of lettuce, spinach, celery and other vegetables reached the market with a consequent rise in prices.

Peas in short supply.

Consignments of peas ranged from moderate to very light. Supplies from the Northern Tableland received early in the month showed a fairly large percentage of weather damage and affected lots had to be sold at comparatively low rates. Subsequently the general quality of receivals was better and satisfactory prices were obtained. Rarely did prices of choice lines fall below 20/- per bushel, while up to 26/- and occasionally more was paid. Values were governed largely by the quantities available and to some extent by stocks of other vegetables.

Considerable variation in supplies of beans.

Supplies of beans ranged from heavy to light. Early in March up to 1,700 bags, principally from Victoria, were on offer daily. Values fell to comparatively low levels and many lines were

/sold..

sold to canneries. When consignments were smaller the market improved quickly and higher prices were obtained. Towards the close of the month the greater proportion of supplies comprised medium quality descriptions and choice lots cleared promptly at rates well above those ruling for the bulk of offerings.

New season's cauliflowers reach market.

The cauliflower season opened about mid-March with consignments from the Bathurst district. Demand was very satisfactory and good clearances were effected daily at prices ranging to 24/- per dozen and at times more was paid for selected heads.

Acute scarcity of tomatoes.

The tomato market generally was understocked. Locally grown supplies showed a marked falling-off and although fair quantities were received from Queensland at bi-weekly intervals early in the month, they were not sufficient to fill buyers' requirements. Occasional consignments were received from Victoria. Prior to the close of the month supplies were very light and most holders rationed stocks to their clients.

Cabbages sell steadily.

The bulk of the cabbage supplies were disposed of to contractors, nevertheless sufficient quantities were available to fill the needs of the retail trade. Values for the most part were steady and choice heads realised from 18/- to 22/- per dozen.

Satisfactory inquiry for bunched goods.

Bunched vegetables were in keen request and with reduced quantities coming forward values of practically all lines advanced. Choice carrots sold to 10/- per dozen bunches, up to 9/- was paid for parsnips, while beetroot reached the highest level for years. Growers of spinach benefited from the high prices ruling for this vegetable, as much as 12/- per dozen bunches being realised.

R.M.

----oooOooo----

What is claimed to be the first attempt to precool celery on a large scale in the middle west is being practised in Michigan, where the Muskegon Co-operative Celery Growers' Association is shipping about 600,000 bunches (or 300 cars) of precooled celery to market. This new plant was put into operation in July of this year. The new water precooler can precool approximately a carload per hour in the new plant, and the packed celery is then loaded immediately into refrigerated trucks and iced cars for shipment to marketing centres. The water cooling takes all field heat out of the celery and lowers the temperature to approximately 32 deg. Fah. which ensures crisp, fresh celery at delivery point. (Extracted from Cold Storage News Letter, issued by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada).

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WHOLESALE PRICES OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES IN SYDNEY (N.S.W.) DURING MARCH, 1942, 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	March, 1942 From	March, 1942 To	31st August, 1939 From	31st August, 1939 To
Wheat - Home consumption:				
Bulk - per bushel	3/11¼d (unchanged)		2/4d	
Flour - per ton	£10.4.2 (unchanged) (plus £2.8.10 tax)		£6.12.3 (plus £6.2.9 tax)	
Bran - per ton	£6.0.0 (unchanged)		£4.5.0	
Pollard - " "	£6.0.0 "		£4.5.0	
Eggs (hen) per dozen	1/6	1/10	1/-	
Butter -				
Choice - per cwt.	161/2	169/4	161/2	
Cheese -				
Loaf per lb.	11d	1/0½	11d	
Large " "	10½d	1/-	10½d	
Special Brands " "	11½d	1/2½d	1/2d	

	March, 1942 From	March, 1942 To	29th August, 1939 From	29th August, 1939 To
Pigs (Abattoir Sales): Good to prime, per head:				
Porkers - Extra light	24/6	44/6	31/6	40/6
Light	35/6	49/6	39/6	44/6
Medium weight	41/6	60/6	43/6	57/6
Heavy	49/6	64/6	50/6	54/6
Baconers	60/6	119/6	60/6	75/6
Backfatters	£4.10.0	£10.0.0	£4.5.0	£8.10.0

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

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RETURN OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IMPORTED INTO NEW SOUTH WALES
BY LAND AND SEA - FEBRUARY, 1942.

FRUIT

STATE	Pineapples tropical cases	Bananas tropical cases	Other Fruit cases	Tomatoes half - bushel cases	TOTALS packages
Queensland	37,507	3,906	20,355	95,863	157,631
Victoria	8	78	89,440	29,456	118,982
Tasmania	-	-	9,421	103	9,524
Sth. Aust.	-	-	4,546	-	4,546
West Aust.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	37,515	3,984	123,762	125,422	290,683

VEGETABLES

STATE	Potatoes	Onions	Swedes	Pumpkins		Cucs. & Chillies	Other Vegs.	TOTALS	
	bags	bags	bags	bags	tons	cases	pkges	pkges.	tons
Queensland	135	6	1	3,499	-	1,127	4,943	9,711	-
Victoria	28,800	45,165	-	897	-	-	5,652	80,514	-
Tasmania	125,300	-	6,835	-	-	-	879	133,014	-
Sth. Aust.	598	1,337	-	-	10	-	2,979	4,914	10
West Aust.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	154,833	46,508	6,836	4,396	10	1,127	14,453	228,153	10

STATE MARKETING BUREAU - DIVISION OF MARKETING - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - NEW SOUTH WALES.

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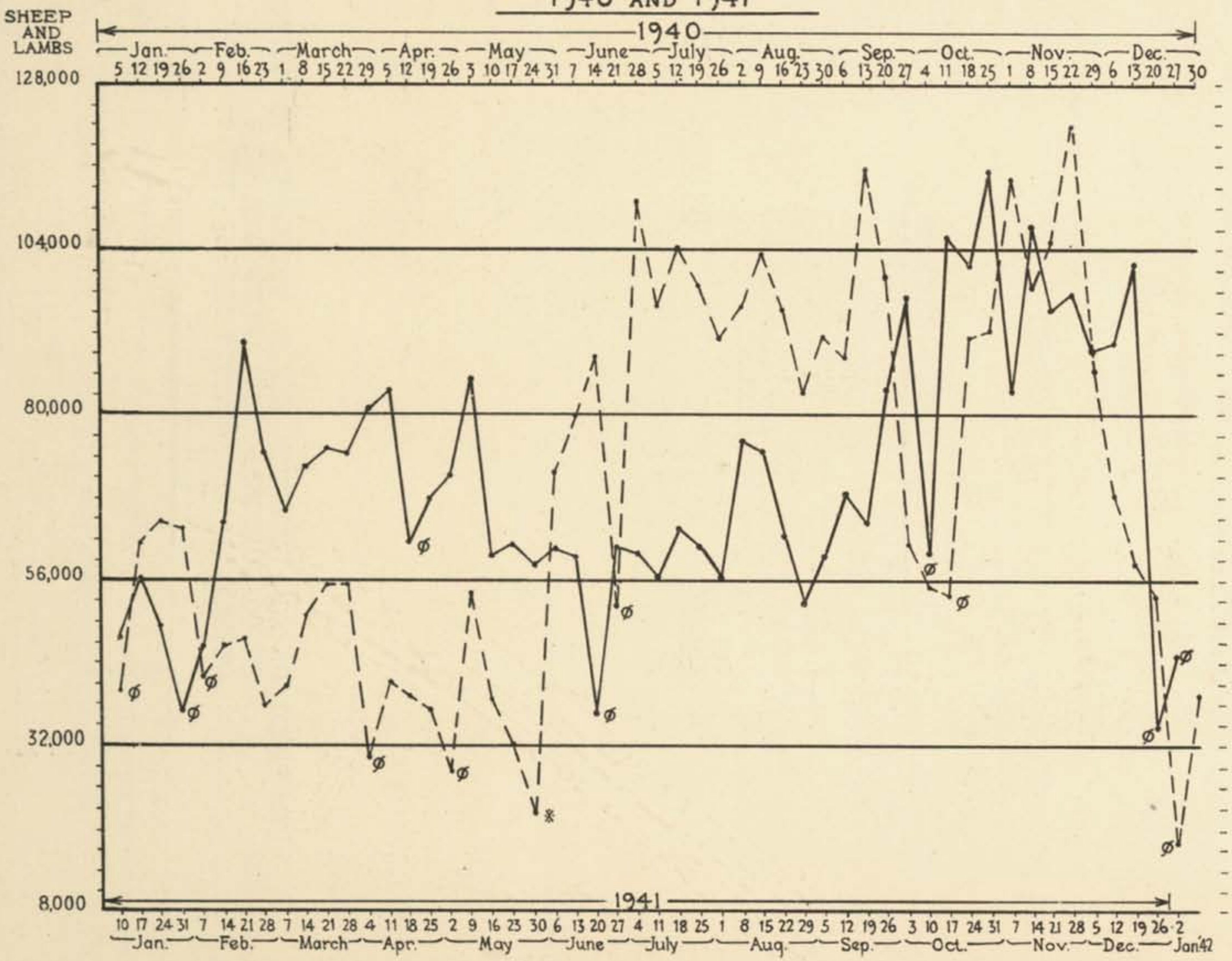
SHEEP AND LAMBS

COMPARISON OF WEEKLY YARDINGS AT HOMEBUSH SALEYARDS

1940 AND 1941



1940 shewn thus — — — 1941 shewn thus ———

NOTES:- ∅ indicates week in which only one sale day was held (due to the intervention of a public holiday).
X " coal strike.

A. A. WATSON,
Chief, Division of Marketing

Compiled, ... G.C
Compln. Checked, A.O.C.
Drawn ... ... E.H.S., 17-2-42
Graph Checked, G.C.