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ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD
AND SUSSEX STREET SALES.

Heavy supplies of Tasmanian potatoes.

Tasmanian supplies of potatoes totalled 205,205 bags compared with 124,184 in January. They comprised mostly Bismarcks but also some Brownells, Up-to-Dates and Snowflakes. A substantial percentage was released for general trading. Prices remained unchanged, viz., wholesalers' prices to retailers, New and No.1 Grade £7.17.6, other grades £7.5.0 per ton. Primary merchants' rates to wholesalers were £1.5.0 per ton less than the figures quoted. Only 1,281 bags of local potatoes arrived at Alexandria. They came mostly from the Dorriggo, Armidale and Moss Vale districts. At Darling Harbour 3 trucks of local seed arrived but these were not released for trading.

Swede supplies from Tasmania continue to increase.

No fresh arrivals came to hand at Alexandria during the period. Arrivals from Tasmania increased when 5,564 bags were on offer at Sussex Street; portion of these was taken over by the Federal Authorities. Open market sales were effected at £12.0.0 per ton.

Other root vegetables scarce.

The following is a summary of the position of carrots, parsnips and beetroot:

- Carrots - No fresh supplies at Alexandria. Only 323 bags from Tasmania - rates undisclosed.
- Parsnips - Consignments totalled only 100 bags from local centres, and these sold at £19.0.0 per ton.
- Beetroot - 50 bags of local sold at £12.0.0 per ton and 32 bags of Tasmanian at undisclosed rates.

Pumpkins sell at considerably reduced rates.

Receivals of pumpkins at Alexandria were reduced to 84½ trucks compared with 104 trucks in January, particulars being as follows:- 41½ trucks from local centres and 40 from Queensland. Owing to fairly heavy stocks having been held and improved supplies of other lines of vegetables being available rates gradually declined. A few Queensland lots sold early in the month at from £11 to £12 per ton but for the most part prices realised were £14 to £16 in the first half. Later, however, values gradually declined to range from £8 to £9 with a few lots at £7.10.0 per ton. Local lines sold early at £16 but these gradually declined to £8 with a few at £7 per ton. Triambles realised £4 to £5 per ton at Sussex Street. Consignments from the North Coast increased to 1,676 bags; some early sales

were made at £16 but the market gradually eased to £9 per ton. At Darling Harbour landing 4 trucks arrived from Queensland. A few sales were made early at £15 and £16 per ton and other lots sold later at undisclosed rates.

Onion supplies increase.

Only arrivals at Alexandria were 1,528 bags of Victorian brown pickling onions which sold at from £17 to £18 per ton. At Sussex Street 19,396 bags arrived from Victoria. These were brown table lines and sold at approximately £18 to £19 per ton. At Darling Harbour landing the 3 trucks of brown onions on offer realised £18 to £18.10.0 per ton. Other sales were 2 trucks of brown pickling at undisclosed rates, 85 of white table £21 per ton, and 80 bags of brown pickling £12 per ton.

Sharp falling-off in supplies of oaten chaff.

Consignments of oaten chaff were reduced considerably when only 35 trucks came to hand; of these only 26 trucks were made available for general trading. All lots were in keen demand, being rationed to various buyers and selling at ceiling levels at £10.5.0 per ton.

Wheaten chaff supplies continue to increase.

Supplies of the above were the heaviest for a considerable period when 79 trucks arrived. All lines sold readily owing to shortage of oaten chaff at the maximum rate of £10.5.0 per ton.

Lucerne chaff exceptionally light.

Consignments of lucerne chaff were the lightest for many months and comprised only 16 trucks. With the exception of one truck of grassy lots which sold at £13.5.0, all lines realised £13.10.0 per ton. There were also 4 trucks of lucerne meal received, the selling price being £15 to £16 per ton.

Lucerne hay consignments continue to be fairly light.

Arrivals from the Maitland district approximated the previous month's total and amounted to 67½ trucks. There was a good demand and sales were made as follows:- Few very soft green £6 to £9, new green £10 to £11.10.0 with few special £12 to £12.10.0. From other centres arrivals were lighter totalling 29 trucks which included 20 trucks of derrick-pressed; clearances were recorded as follows:- Damaged lots £10, medium £11, grassy £11.5.0, good sound and prime £12 to £12.10.0, derrick pressed inferior and grassy lines £8.10.0 to £9, other grades £12.10.0 per ton.

Oaten and wheaten hay exceptionally scarce.

Receivals of cereal hay were the lightest since October last. These consignments consisted of the following:- 1 truck of oaten rack, 4 trucks of derrick-pressed and 8 trucks of wheaten. All these lines met with good enquiry selling at ceiling rates of £9 per ton. One truck of ~~maize~~ hay also came to hand and realised £8 per ton.

Consignments of New Zealand and Tasmanian hay arrive.

Owing to the adverse weather conditions in New South Wales it has been necessary to import fodder from other States. This consisted of about 11,000 bales of derrick-pressed meadow hay from New Zealand, including rye, cocksfoot, subterranean clover and lucerne. There was a good demand for supplies received, but a restriction was placed on this hay and it was made available for consumption only in the Metropolitan area. From Tasmania about 2,200 bales of derrick pressed hay, including cereal and lucerne hay, came to hand. Prices were £9 per ton ex wharf in truck lots and small lots £9.7.6 per ton.

Straw lines again well supplied - prime lines in request.

Ninety-three trucks of straw, including 86 of wheaten and 2 from Victoria, were on offer. Good sound brought £6 to £6.10.0, with a few early sales at £7 and prime lines £7 to £7.10.0 per ton. Fourteen submitted at auction realised £3.5.0 to £4.10.0 for damaged lines and £5.3.4 for a few medium lots. Oaten was limited to 3 trucks, prime selling at £7.10.0. Prices of four trucks of rice straw were not disclosed.

Wheat consignments again very light.

Receivals of wheat at Alexandria Goods Yard were the lowest for some months. Only 19 trucks and 85 bags arrived as compared with last month's total of 41 trucks. For the most part sales were made by auction and included inferior pick-ups 1/- and 2/-, weevilly 2/10, pick-ups 3/- to 3/7½, line pick-ups 3/7½ and slightly under grade 3/7 to 3/8½ per bushel.

Maize again exceptionally scarce.

Consignments of maize were exceptionally light at Alexandria, consisting of 135 bags of yellow, 625 bags of white from local centres and 211 bags of yellow from Queensland. These were not available for general trading, being taken to store. No supplies came to hand from the North Coast at Sussex Street during the period.

Oats.

No consignments were received for general trading and only 1 truck was received at Alexandria during the month.

(C.H. Ferry)