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SALES OF FARM PRODUCE AT ALEXANDRIA AND SUSSEX STREET, SYDNEY.

May, 1947.

Local and Victorian Potato Consignments Increase.

Supplies from all sources were fairly well maintained, 147,546 bags being on offer or only about 2,000 bags less than the previous month's total. Tasmanian consignments at Sussex-street amounted to 101,356 bags compared with 133,706 bags in April. The tubers comprised mostly Brownells, Bismarcks, with a few Snowflakes and Up-to-Dates. At Alexandria, local receivals increased considerably to total 23,588 bags, the supply consisting of Nos. 1, 2 and 3 grade Factors. Arrivals from Victoria comprised 12,170 bags of No. 1 grade Carmans and 6,561 bags of Tasmanian Brownells and Bismarcks. About 3,871 bags of No. 1 grade Factors were received from Queensland. A large percentage of the arrivals was made available for trading. No difficulty was experienced in disposing of all lines as supplies were still insufficient for requirements.

Prices fixed for the month ending 31st May, Sydney basis, were: Wholesalers' prices to Retailers: Local and Interstate—No. 1 Grade and Undergrades £7 17s. 6d. per ton. Rates for New South Wales grown potatoes for delivery to country areas are as quoted, plus freight from loading station; prices for Interstate potatoes to New South Wales country areas are as quoted, plus freight from Sydney, or loading station, whichever is the lower. Primary merchants' prices to wholesalers are £1 per ton less than the figures quoted.

Swedes in Short Supply—Rates Again Lower.

At Alexandria, one consignment of 54 bags came to hand from local centres and realised £12 per ton. Arrivals at Sussex-street from Tasmania showed a decline, only 2,923 bags coming forward. Rates, however, were again reduced, sales being recorded at £8 to £10 per ton.

Other Root Vegetables in Limited Supply.

Receivals at Alexandria were again restricted, only 428 bags of Victorian carrots coming to hand. Sales were difficult to effect and quotations were lower at £5 to £8 per ton. Arrivals from Tasmania totalled only 70 bags and no rates were disclosed. At Sussex-street, 69 bags arrived from Tasmania and were disposed of at undisclosed prices. Receivals at Darling Harbour from Victoria amounted to six trucks which realised £5 to £10 per ton. Parsnips were also in light supply, Victorian consignments at Alexandria approximating 352 bags. Difficulty was experienced in making sales on account of the poor quality offering. Some clearances were made at £5 10s. to £7 with inferior at £4 15s. per ton.

Victorian Brown Table Onions in Heavy Supply.

There was a marked increase in the quantity available, 25,510 bags being forward at Alexandria from Victoria, compared with the 16,981 bags last month. The supply consisted of brown table

lots and a good inquiry ruled. Sales were effected at approximately £21 per ton. Receivals from local centres totalled 746 bags of brown table. Demand was slow and sales were recorded at £10 to £15 per ton. Only one truck of brown table came to hand at Darling Harbour from Victoria and was disposed of at the ruling rate.

Pumpkin Consignments Exceptionally Light.

Supplies were again considerably reduced, only 41 trucks of local lines being available for trading at Alexandria, compared with 61 trucks on offer during April. Although supplies were limited, demand continued to be very slow because of the increased supplies of other vegetables. During the first half of the period, sales were made at £4 to £7, but at closing £6 to £6 10s. only could be obtained. No consignments arrived from Queensland during the month.

Oaten Chaff Consignments Fairly Heavy.

Receivals amounted to 150 trucks in comparison with 102 trucks on offer during the previous month. The total is the highest since November, 1946. Although arrivals increased considerably, the bulk of the supply met a good inquiry, mainly on account of the scarcity of other lines of chaff. Stained brought £8 10s., good sound £9 5s. to £10, few prime £10, while most of the prime and choice lines realised the maximum rate of £10 5s. At auction, two trucks of medium sold at £7 5s. and £8 1s. 8d. per ton.

Wheaten Chaff Supply again Reduced.

Arrivals were the lightest for some time, totalling only 28 trucks or eight less than last month. Prime and choice lines were in request, but other grades sold slowly. Medium lines were quoted at £8 to £8 10s., good sound £9 5s. to £10, and prime and choice at the ceiling rate of £10 5s. At auction, six trucks were submitted, medium being disposed of at £7 5s. to £8 6s. 8d. per ton.

Lucerne Dust, Pods, and Threshings.

Consignments of lucerne dust comprised two trucks which were disposed of at £12 10s. to £14. About 123 bags of lucerne pods were received and sold at £8 15s. The 95 bags of threshings forward brought £9 to £9 10s. per ton.

Lucerne Chaff Arrivals Increase.

Consignments increased by nine trucks when 29 came to hand. Most lines were in demand, especially prime and choice lines. Quotations were as follow: Medium £10 15s., grassy £10 10s., good sound £11 10s. to £12 10s., prime £12 10s. to £13, choice £13 to £13 10s. per ton.

Increased Quantity of Lucerne Hay.

Supplies from Maitland and other centres increased to 86 trucks; 59 trucks came to hand during April. Consignments from the Maitland district totalled 37 trucks, the supply at times

being more than sufficient for requirements. Request was therefore slow, except during the later part of the month. New soft green sold at £4 to £5 10s., few inferior £2 to £3, and a few dump-baled, well made lots at £10 10s. per ton. Receivals from other centres showed an increase to aggregate 49 trucks, including 12 of derrick pressed. Prime and choice Mudgee baled lines sold readily, but demand for other grades was slow. Prices were as follow: Medium £9 10s. to £10, good sound £10 10s. to £12, prime £12 to £12 5s. and choice £12 5s. Derrick pressed, new soft green realised £5 5s., medium £6 15s., grassy £6 to £8 10s., heated £7 10s., and prime £8 to £9 per ton.

Oaten Hay in Light Supply.

Receivals were limited to 11 trucks, consisting of 10 of rack and one of derrick pressed. Prime rack was disposed of at £10 5s. and choice at £10 5s. to £11 per ton. No rates were disclosed for the truck of inferior derrick pressed.

Oaten and Wheaten Straw Receivals again Restricted.

Arrivals showed an increase of only 7 trucks to total 31 trucks, which included 19 of oaten and 12 of wheaten. A good demand ruled for oaten, good sound bringing £7 to £7 5s., prime and choice £7 10s., and a few inferior lots £2 5s. Stained wheaten sold at £5 10s. to £6, good sound £6 to £6 15s., and good sound Victorian £6 per ton.

Wheat Offerings Continue Light.

At Alexandria, only 28 trucks came to hand, the total including 10 from South Australia. The greater proportion of the supply was taken to store.

Increased Supplies of Maize.

Arrivals again showed an increase, 4,325 bags being available at Alexandria. This is the largest quantity since June, 1946. The supply consisted of 3,129 bags of yellow and 415 of white from local centres and 781 bags of yellow from Queensland. Demand was good during the first half of the period but was slow later. Local yellow sold at 7s. 3d. to 7s. 7d. and at 7s. 3d. to 7s. 5d. at closing. A few heated lines brought 6s. 6d. per bushel.

Oat Consignments Light.

Only 11 trucks were forward at Alexandria, including four from Victoria. Two trucks of inferior local were sold at 3s. 10d. and inferior Victorian at 3s. 8d. per bushel.

Milo and Kalo Seed.

Receivals of milo seed amounted to 6 trucks. A few lines realised 6s. 3d. per bushel but, later, rates were reduced, 5 trucks at auction bringing 5s. per bushel and £8 10s. to £10 per ton. One truck of kalo arrived and sold at £9 12s. 6d. In addition, 1 truck of hegari came to hand and cleared at £9 10s. per ton.

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