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

January, 1947.

### Potato Supplies Again Exceptionally Light.

Aggregate consignments showed a further reduction and totalled only 78,883 bags, compared with 90,905 bags in December. Of these, 58,017 bags were received at Sussex-street from Tasmania and comprised chiefly new grade Bismarcks with only few Brownells and Snowflakes. Receipts at Alexandria, included 14,797 bags from local centres, mostly Factors, with few Katahdins, also Chats; 3,916 bags of Brownells, Bismarcks and Snowflakes from Tasmania; 2,153 bags of Carmans with few Katahdins from Victoria. A large percentage of the arrivals were made available for trading. Supplies were not nearly sufficient to meet requirements.

Prices fixed for the month ending 31st January, 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 Sydney or loading station, whichever is the lower. Primary merchants' prices to wholesalers are £1 per ton less than the figures quoted.

### Supplies of Tasmanian Swedes Increase.

Following exceptionally light supplies during the past four months increased consignments were available for trading. At Alexandria, 557 bags of medium grade arrived from Victoria and realised £10 to £14 per ton. Tasmanian arrivals at Sussex-street increased to 4,339 bags, but quality varied considerably. Choice lines realised £20 early, and to £16 later. A number of lots were regraded and disposed of at as low as £10 per ton.

### Other Root Vegetables Scarce.

During the period there were no fresh arrivals of carrots or parsnips from local or interstate sources.

### Onion Consignments Exceptionally Light.

Receipts at Alexandria from interstate sources continued to decline and were the lightest for a considerable period, amounting to only 3,430 bags from Victoria. Sales were readily effected, all lines being rationed to buyers. Opening rates for brown table lots were approximately £18 10s. od., later increasing to £21 per ton.

**Pumpkins in Heavy Supply Sell Slowly.**

There was a marked increase in the quantity received at Alexandria, amounting to 132 trucks, or the largest supply since August last; 116 trucks of these came from Queensland. Sales were made in the early part of the month at £14 to £15 for Queensland lines, later reduced to £8 to £10, with few at £6. Local lines sold early at £12, later £9 to £10 with few at £8 per ton.

**Oaten Chaff Receipts Decline.**

Following increased supplies in December, arrivals decreased by 22 trucks when only 101, including 5 from Victoria, were offered for trading. Supplies were insufficient for requirements and sold readily, medium realising £8 5s. od. to £8 10s. od., good sound £8 10s. od. to £10, few prime early £10, and prime and choice (the bulk of the supplies) the maximum rate of £10 5s. od. Sales by auction included 2 trucks early of medium at £8 1s. 8d. and good sound £8 15s. od. per ton.

**Wheaten Chaff Supplies Maintained.**

Receipts totalled 51 trucks including 2 from Victoria. All lines met a good inquiry owing to other varieties of chaff being in short supply. Clearances were made as follows: Few inferior and medium £7 10s. od. to £8, good sound £8 10s. od. to £10, few prime early £10, with the bulk, which included prime and choice lines, at the ceiling rate of £10 5s. Four trucks were submitted to auction including inferior at £7 10s. od. to £7 11s. 8d. and Victorian medium £8 to £8 10s. od. per ton.

**Lucerne Chaff Consignments Considerably Reduced.**

Following fairly heavy arrivals in December totalling 34 trucks, there was a considerable falling off in the quantity on offer, only 17 trucks being available. Owing to short supplies, sales were not difficult to effect at the following higher rates: Medium £10, good sound £11 to £11 10s. od., prime £11 10s. od. to £13, with choice lots at £13 to £13 10s. od. per ton.

**Lucerne Meal and Dust Scarce.**

Only 1 truck of Lucerne meal was on offer and £14 per ton was obtained for choice lots. One truck and 15 bags of prime lucerne dust brought £14 15s. od. to £15 per ton.

**Lucerne Hay Consignments Exceptionally Light.**

Maitland supplies showed little improvement in the quantity on offer, which amounted to only 38 trucks. All stocks were readily disposed of as follow: New soft green £6 to £7 10s. od.,

with well made £7 to £8 10s. od., few higher; late in the month supplies were considerably curtailed and some well made lines realised the high rate of £12 5s. od. per ton. Following heavy receipts from other centres in December there was a marked decline in the quantity on offer which totalled only 26 trucks including 9 trucks of derrick pressed. This supply was the lightest since September last. Sales were readily effected at the following rates:—Good sound £11, prime £11 to £11 10s. od., choice £12 to £12 5s. od., derrick pressed heated £5 15s. od. to £7, medium £7 10s. od. and new green £7 10s. od. Later sales by auction included 1 truck of new green at £10 10s. od. per ton.

#### **Exceptionally Light Supplies of Oaten Hay.**

Receipts continued to be very light, only 3½ trucks being offered for trading which included ½ truck of good sound rack at £9 10s. od. and 3 trucks of derrick pressed oaten, including 1 from Victoria, which realised £7 10s. od. for good sound and £4 for Victorian inferior.

#### **Wheaten and Meadow Hay Receipts Restricted.**

Only 2 trucks of wheaten hay were received and rates were not disclosed. Inferior lots of meadow hay sold at £3 11s. 8d. and medium £4 10s. od. per ton.

#### **Straw Supplies Heavy.**

There was a marked increase on the December truckings, 102 coming to hand, the heaviest since January, 1946. Supplies comprised 30 trucks of oaten and 72 of wheaten including 7 Victorian. There was a good inquiry for prime oaten, but other grades sold at reduced rates, wheaten in particular. Medium oaten lines realised £5 10s. od. to £6, good sound £5 10s. to £7, with prime £7 10s. od., and, at auction, 3 trucks of inferior at £4 6s. 8d. Wheaten lines sold at a wide range of values, medium bringing £4 to £5 10s. od., good sound £4 10s. od. to £6, and prime £6 to £6 15s. od. Sales by auction included 1 truck of Victorian medium at £3 16s. 8d. per ton.

#### **Receipts of Wheat Increase.**

Supplies at Alexandria totalled 29 trucks compared with 11 during the previous month. The bulk of the arrivals were taken direct to store and not offered for trading.

#### **Maize Consignments Scarce.**

Supplies showed little improvement, only 391 bags of yellow from local centres coming to hand. These were taken direct to store for milling.

#### **Oat Consignments Again Heavy.**

Receipts at Alexandria were again heavy, increasing to 110 trucks. Truckings comprised 26 from local centres, 82 from Victoria and 2 trucks from South Australia. The bulk of the receipts was taken direct to store for milling. A few sales were recorded of local at 4s. 11d. to 5s. 3d. and Victorian at 5s. to 5s. 3d. per bushel.

C. H. FERRY.