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per lb. for legs, best loin 1s. 4½d., foreloins 1s. 1d., belly 11d., and other cuts 10d. The wholesale price, including the cost of delivery to retailer was also fixed at 9⅞d. per lb. for dressed carcasses.

At the opening sales, rates for porkers and stores advanced, but the following auctions values eased. Later, however, prices improved and the closing market was particularly strong, reaching to 14d. per lb. as compared with 13¼d. in July, while up to £4 17s. 6d. per head was paid for pigs dressing approximately 90 lb., which, it is understood, is the maximum weight of pigs that will be permitted to enter the retail trade for sale as pork. It is anticipated that with the lifting of restrictions on the sale of pork, fewer store pigs will be available to meet producers' requirements.

G. COLEMAN & D. MCGREGOR.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SALES AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS.

FRUIT.

Apples Sell Well.

Demand for choice quality apples continued good throughout August. New South Wales Delicious were in lighter supply and towards the end of the month prices improved, up to 33s., and occasionally more being obtained for selected sizes and packs. Values of New South Wales Granny Smith's remained steady at 10s. to 20s. until the last week, when 21s. per bushel was realised for best sizes. Consignments of Delicious, Jonathan, Rome Beauty and Granny Smith's received from Victoria showed waste when held for a few days and low rates were accepted in some instances in order to effect quick clearances.

Shipments from Tasmania included Democrat, Sturmer, Crofton, Granny Smith and Cleopatra.

Granny Smiths received from Western Australia realised 9s. to 18s., occasionally 20s. per bushel. Small quantities of Jonathan and Rome Beauty from South Australia were on offer.

Demand for Pears Limited to Choice Quality.

There was a ready sale for choice quality New South Wales Packham's Triumph pears throughout August, 18s. to 22s. per bushel being maintained for best packs. Other grades sold from 12s. Packman's Triumphs and Josephines were received from Victoria weekly. The condition of the consignments varied considerably. Much of the fruit was of good quality, particularly that from the Harcourt district, but the keeping quality of some lines was poor, much waste occurring if held for a few days. Values ranged from 10s. to 18s., faulty lines being cheaper. A large percentage of the Tasmanian Winter Coles on offer opened up in an unsatisfactory condition and had to be disposed of at low rates.

Small and Medium Sized Navel Oranges and Plain Grades Plentiful.

A marked decline occurred in the quantity of choice large navel oranges being received from coastal groves. On the other hand, heavy supplies of small and medium sizes and plain grades were forward. During the third week of the month, 16s. per bushel was the maximum obtained for best quality, but up to 18s. was realised during the remainder of the period. Very small and plain grades were difficult to dispose of and large quantities were not infrequently carried over; values for this class of fruit were as low as 5s. per bushel. Small quantities of navel oranges were received from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

Mandarins in Heavy Supply.

Heavy supplies of mandarins from coastal orchards were available. A large percentage of this fruit was of medium quality only, and small and medium sizes were slow to clear at 3s. to 12s. Choice packs realised to 16s. per bushel and occasionally more.

Limited Stocks of Lemons.

Lemons were in limited supply, large quantities being sold for juice purposes direct from orchards. Demand for supplies available was limited. Rates remained stable at 7s. to 12s., specials to 14s. per bushel.

Banana Values Decline.

Bananas were well supplied and during the greater part of the month much very small and inferior quality fruit was marketed. Values ranged from 25s. to 44s. per tropical case with odd specials higher during the first week in August. For the remainder of the month, quotes were 20s. to 40s., odd sales higher. On many occasions, very small sizes were as low as 15s.

Increased Supplies of Passionfruit.

Passionfruit were more plentiful than during July and values were lower at 10s. to 20s. with odd special lots to 25s. per half case.

Pineapples Realise Maximum Prices.

Regular bi-weekly consignments of pineapples were received from Queensland. Demand for the majority of supplies was satisfactory, although some green lines and also very small-sized fruit was slow to clear. Apart from the first week of the month when 18s. to 20s. was the maximum realised, best packs maintained the ceiling price of 21s. 3d. per tropical case.

Values of Papaws Fluctuate.

The warmer weather experienced during the second week of August resulted in a much improved demand for Queensland papaws. Values which ranged from 8s. to 20s. during the first week of the month advanced sharply to 16s. to 30s. per tropical case. Subsequently, there was a progressive decline, quotes being 12s. to 20s. with only odd specials higher on Friday, 30th August.

Queensland Strawberries More Plentiful.

Increased supplies of Queensland strawberries were available. Inquiry was good on Fridays, fruit being purchased for week-end sales. Otherwise, however, demand was only fair.

Up to 16s. per tray was obtained for best fruit for the first half of the month, but 12s. was the maximum realised on most days during the last two weeks. Values for packets remained fairly constant at 18s. to 36s. per dozen.

VEGETABLES.**Supplies of Peas Decline.**

Peas were well supplied during the first half of August. Subsequently decreased quantities were received. In many instances, peas showed adverse affects of the dry frosty conditions prevailing in growing areas. Choice lots sold readily and clearances were effected on most days. Up till Friday, 16th, values remained fairly stable at 12s. to 22s. with best quality occasionally realising 24s. per bushel. Values increased and fluctuated over the last two weeks of the month when rates for best lots on offer varied from 26s. to 35s. per bushel.

Beans in Decreased Supply.

The unfavourable growing conditions experienced on the North Coast of New South Wales and Queensland, the main sources of supplies of beans at this period of the year, resulted in considerably decreased quantities coming forward. Quality also was adversely affected, the bulk of the consignments being medium to poor; only when grown under irrigation was quality good. Values mainly ranged from 15s. to 25s. with best lines 30s. to 35s., and in some instances, small lots realised 40s. per bushel.

Cauliflower Prices Advance.

Cauliflowers continued to be in heavy supply for first half of August. From then on quantities coming forward showed a sharp progressive decline, and at the same time there was a noticeable falling-off in quality, very small and inferior heads comprising a fairly large percentage of offerings. Whereas 12s. to 14s. was the maximum price paid up till Friday 16th, 30s. and occasionally more was obtained regularly during the last week.

Cabbage Values Steady.

Cabbages were well supplied throughout the month. Values remained steady, generally ranging from 2s. to 8s. with best heads 10s. to 12s. per dozen.

Increased Supplies of Lettuce.

Supplies of lettuce on offer showed a gradual increase during August. An improvement in quality was also noticeable. 12s. per case was the maximum obtained for best heads on most days although on a few occasions, up to 16s. was paid.

N.S.W. Glasshouse Tomatoes on Offer.

New South Wales Glasshouse tomatoes commenced to come forward early in the month. Up to 30s. and occasionally as much as 34s. per half case was obtained for the first few consignments. Towards the close of the month, values had declined, 25s. being the highest price paid. Regular bi-weekly consignments of tomatoes continued to be received from Queensland. Quantities showed a marked increase. Quality for the most part was satisfactory, although about the middle of the month many "Green" packs, when opened, included a fair percentage of coloured and forward ripe fruit. In a number of instances, very small and immature fruit packed failed to pass inspection and was withheld from sale pending regrading.

Unseasonably warm weather experienced during the second week of August resulted in a marked increase in values. Apart from this short period, prices were fairly stable at:—Green, 8s. to 14s., occasionally 16s.; and coloured 10s. to 20s. with odd specials higher per half case. Queensland repacked tomatoes met a steady demand.

Choice Celery Sells Readily.

Weekly consignments of South Australian celery received ranging from 2,400 to 2,800 crates were lighter than during the previous month. There was a ready inquiry for good quality lines, values being firm at 20s. to 28s. with a few special brands 30s. per crate. A number of brands which were of very small sizes had to be sold at much lower rates.

Victorian Brussels Sprouts in Decreased Supply.

A progressive decline occurred in the quantities of Victorian Brussels Sprouts received, supplies being comparatively light at the close of the month. Quality also showed a deterioration, many second grade packs being included.

High Prices for Root Vegetables.

High prices ruled for root vegetables, carrots realising to 22s.; parsnips to 40s.; and sweet potatoes to 36s. per cwt.

In all instances sales of broken bagged lots were made at higher rates.

H. G. MOON.