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(N.S.W.) local 12s. to 24s. per dozen bunches; South Australian 16s. to 24s., few to 30s., closing sales 16s. to 38s. per crate; brussel sprouts (Victorian) 8s. to 12s. per 12 lb. box, date of last consignment, 16th September (N.S.W.), 8s. to 10s. per 12 lb.

A. M. BURNS.

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

September, 1948.

Tasmanian Potato Supplies Reduced.

Whereas a heavy supply of 203,818 bags was available in August, offerings from all sources in September were considerably reduced to aggregate 151,901 bags. A total of 3,465 bags arrived at Alexandria from local centres. These tubers mostly consisted of No. 3 grade Factors with a few seed. Victorian consignments amounted to 15,813 bags and included No. 1 grade Carmans and Snowflakes. Of this quantity, approximately 3,500 bags were reconsigned to other stations. Receipts from Tasmania at Sussex-street were reduced to 132,623 bags compared with the previous month's total of 186,427 bags. The supply mainly consisted of No. 1 grade Brownells, but a few other varieties were included. All lines made available for trading sold readily, as stocks were not sufficient to meet the demand.

Prices fixed for the month ended 30th September, Sydney basis, were:—*Wholesalers' Prices to Retailers*—Local and Interstate—No. 1 grade and undergrades £10 per ton, plus cartage, which was not to exceed 10s. per ton. Rates for New South Wales grown potatoes for delivery to country areas were as quoted, plus freight from loading station; prices for interstate potatoes to New South Wales country areas were as quoted, plus freight from Sydney or loading station, whichever was the lower. Primary merchants' prices to wholesalers were £1 per ton less than the figures quoted.

Swedes Scarce—Prices Higher.

Supplies at Alexandria from local centres were reduced to 358 bags. Choice lots sold early at £16 and later in the period at £12 10s. per ton. Tasmanian stocks amounted to 470 bags, which also realised higher prices, being cleared at £16 to £18 per ton. Offerings at Sussex-street were reduced to 1,690 bags from Tasmania, compared with a total of 4,773 bags in August. Choice brought £12 to £14 and large sizes £10 per ton.

Other Root Vegetables Again Short.

Receipts of carrots at Alexandria only amounted to 279 bags from Victoria. Some sales of washed lines were made early at £42 and later at £58 to £60 per ton. Supplies at Darling Harbour totalled 130 bags from Tasmania which sold at £28 to £32. The supply of 147 bags from Victoria brought £55 per ton. Parsnips were also in light supply, 263 bags arriving at Alexandria from Victoria. These were of medium grade and a few sold at £11 to £12 per ton.

Queensland Onion Prices Lower.

Consignments at Alexandria were fairly heavy and aggregated 22,488 bags, the supply including 21,440 bags from Queensland and 1,048 from Victoria. Demand was good, opening sales of new season's brown being made at £16 to £19 but, later, as stocks increased, rates were gradually reduced to £10 to £12. Later in the month rates were again firmer, closing quotations being £16 to £17 per ton. Some Queensland white lines were included in the supply and brought £20 to £22, few early £23 per ton. Victorian brown table sold slowly at £12 to £14 with a few carry-over lots selling at as low as £10 per ton.

Pumpkin Rates Very High.

Receivals at Alexandria showed a reduction of 30 trucks on the fairly light supplies during the previous month to total only 57 trucks. This was the smallest quantity available since May, 1947, and naturally was not sufficient to meet requirements. Consequently values increased considerably. The total consisted of 39 trucks from Queensland, 17 from Victoria, and 1 from local centres. In the early part of the period sales of Queensland lots were recorded at £36 to £50, while Victorian Triambles brought £36 to £40. Later quotations were:—Queensland £38 to £40; Victorian Triambles £42 to £44 (some regraded lots £29 to £34), and local £30 per ton.

Oaten Chaff Supplies Lighter but Rates Reduced.

Stocks showed a reduction of 29 trucks on the heavy arrivals in August when 137 trucks came to hand. In spite of the lighter supplies, demand was slow and rates were again easier, especially for grades other than choice. Medium realised £6 to £8 10s., good sound £7 10s. to £9 10s., prime £9 to £10 10s. Medium brought £6 15s. per ton at auction.

Wheaten Chaff Sells Slowly.

Receivals were reduced to 21 trucks compared with the previous month's total of 31 trucks. This quantity, however, was sufficient for requirements as demand was slow, so that, with the exception of prime and choice lots, rates were again easier. Medium brought £7 10s. to £7 15s., good sound £8 to £9, prime £10 to £11, and choice £10 10s. to £11 per ton.

Lucerne Hay Rates Lower—Increased Supplies.

Compared with the very light arrivals from Maitland in August, which amounted to only 38 trucks, there was a considerable improvement in the quantity available for trading which totalled 73 trucks. The supply included 5 trucks of derrick pressed. Demand was good early as a result of the short supplies and rates were firm, but as stocks increased sales were made at lower levels. New soft green realised £6 to £7 10s., a few dry lines £7 10s. to £8, and derrick pressed well made £7 to £7 15s. per ton. Receivals from

other centres were reduced to 31 trucks, being the smallest quantity for a considerable period. Prime and choice grades were very scarce. Sales included medium grade at £6 to £7, good sound at £6 15s. to £9, and prime at £8 to £9 10s. A few special lines brought £11 and a few half bales of medium £7 10s., and good sound £9 5s. Derrick pressed good sound realised £5 10s. per ton.

Oaten Hay Stocks Again Smaller.

Only 16 trucks were forward, the total including 13 trucks of rack oaten and 3 of derrick pressed. Choice grades were scarce and sold well, but other lots were difficult to sell except at lower rates. Medium realised £5 to £6 10s., stained £7, good sound £8 10s., and a few choice £11 10s. to £12. At auction stained lots brought £5 10s. per ton.

No fresh supplies of wheaten hay were received during the month.

Straw Scarce.

There was a considerable reduction in the quantity offered for trading which amounted to only 28 trucks, including 3 of wheaten. A total of 51 trucks was available in August. All prime and choice lots were in request. Good sound oaten sold at £6 15s. to £7 5s., and prime and choice at £8. Good sound wheaten was quoted at £7 per ton.

Wheat in Lighter Supply.

A total of 74 trucks came to hand, representing a reduction of 23 trucks on the fairly heavy supplies in August. No f.a.q. wheat was available, as this grade is released by the Wheat Board on a quota system. A total of 48 trucks was offered for auction sale, pick-ups and sweepings bringing 2s. 1d. to 4s. 6d. and inferior 4s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. per bushel.

Maize Consignments Decline.

Only 2,670 bags arrived, compared with 4,834 bags in August. At Alexandria, the supply consisted of 1,309 bags of local yellow, 770 of Queensland yellow, and 210 bags of white. In addition, 381 bags of yellow arrived from the North Coast at Sussex-street. No sales were recorded at Alexandria as the bulk of the offerings was taken direct to store. A few sales of North Coast yellow, however, were made at 9s. 9d. per bushel.

Only Inferior Oats on Offer.

There was a considerable reduction in the quantity offered for trading. Nine trucks of inferior were sold by auction at 3s. to 3s. 10d. per bushel.

C. H. FERRY.