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obtained in the previous month was £5 14s. 6d. On a per pound basis, extra light pork cost up to 17½d., light and medium weight 17¼d. and heavy 17d. per lb. The schedule which follows shows price ranges of the various grade of porkers over the period. Suitable and good useful store pigs were in fair supply only and mostly sold well at very firm prices.

**Pigs—Good to Prime Quality.**

*Values shown in pence per lb.:—Based on selling price per head of live animals and estimated dressed weight of carcass.*

Date of Sale, 1948.	3rd Aug.	10th Aug.	17th Aug.	24th Aug.	31st Aug.
No. yarded each Sale ... ..	1,562	1,737	1,758	2,168	1,839
Estimated prices per lb. for:—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
<b>Porkers—</b>					
35-50 lb. Extra Light ... ..	14½-16¾	14¾-17	15½-17½	14½-17½	14½-17
50-60 lb. Light ... ..	14½-16½	14½-16½	15½-17½	15-17½	14½-17
60-70 lb. Medium ... ..	14½-16½	14¾-16½	15½-17½	14½-17½	14½-17
70-80 lb. Medium ... ..	14½-16½	14¾-16½	15½-17½	14½-17½	14½-17
80-90 lb. Heavy ... ..	14½-16	15-16½	15½-17	15-17	14½-17
<b>Intermediates—</b>					
90-100 lb. ... ..	14-14½	14½-15½	15-16½	15-16½	14½-16
<b>Baconers:—</b>					
100-110 lb. Light ... ..	13¾-14½	14½-15½	14½-16½	15-16½	14½-16
110-120 lb. Light ... ..	13½-14½	13½-15	14½-16	14½-16½	14½-16
120-130 lb. Medium ... ..	13½-14	13½-14½	13½-14½	14-16	13½-15½
130-160 lb. Heavy ... ..	12½-13½	12½-14	13-14½	13½-15	13-14½
160-180 lb. Extra Heavy	12-12½	12½-13½	12½-13½	13-14½	12½-14½
180-200 lb. Extra Heavy	11½-12½	11½-12½	12½-13½	12½-13½	12½-13½
200-240 lb. Extra Heavy	10-11½	10½-11½	11-12½	11-12½	11-12½
<b>Backfatters:—</b>					
250-350 lb. ... ..	7-8½	7½-9½	8-10½	8½-10	8½-10½
350 lb. and over ... ..	6½-8½	6½-9	8-10	8½-10	8½-10

G. COLEMAN.

**FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SALES AT CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS.**

**August, 1948.**

**FRUIT.**

**Demand for Choice Quality Apples.**

Supplies of apples from New South Wales and interstate sources were sufficient for trade requirements. Demand centred mainly round choice fruit with keeping quality and prices as a whole showed little variation from those recorded for the previous month. Delicious and Granny Smith varieties were mostly in demand with a lessened request for large size Rome Beauty and Jonathan from Victoria and South Australia. Tasmanian supplies of all popular varieties sold steadily. Representative quotations were as follows:—*New South Wales*: Delicious, 10s. to 28s., few 30s., odd higher; Rome Beauty 12s. to 20s., few 22s.; Democrat 12s. to 16s.; Granny Smith 12s. to 20s., special 22s.; Dougherty 14s. to 22s. *Tasmania*: Rome Beauty 12s. to 16s.; Democrat 12s. to 16s.; French Crab 10s. to 12s.; Granny Smith 10s. to 20s.; Crofton 14s. to 18s. *South Australia*: Jonathan 16s. to 22s.;

Statesman 16s. to 18s. *Victoria*: Jonathan 12s. to 18s., few 20s.; Delicious 16s. to 22s.; Granny Smith 12s. to 18s., few 20s.; Yates 12s. to 20s.; Statesman 12s. to 14s., few 16s.; Rome Beauty 12s. to 18s.

#### **Demand for Pears Weaker.**

During the first two weeks of the period under review pears met a strong demand and values were maintained for good quality lines of Packham's Triumph and Winter Cole varieties, but request during following weeks was weaker and prices declined slightly. Market requirements were met by supplies from New South Wales and Victorian centres. Quotations are as follows:—*New South Wales*: Packham's Triumph 7s. to 16s., special to 22s.; Winter Cole 12s. to 24s. *Victoria*: Packham's Triumph 16s. to 22s.; Josephine 13s. to 20s.; Winter Nelis 12s. to 18s.; Winter Cole 14s. to 24s.

#### **Steady Request Maintained for Bananas.**

Supplies of bananas from New South Wales and Queensland were available in ample quantities for retail trade requirements and prices remained steady until the last week of the month, when values were slightly lower. Representative quotations are as follows:—*New South Wales*: Cavendish 9 in. and 8 in., 40s. to 46s.; sevens, 34s. to 40s.; sixes, 24s. to 32s. Inferior lines were lower. Lady Fingers sold mainly from 15s. to 25s., with specials to 30s. per banana case. Queensland Cavendish realised 24s. to 40s. Receipts for August were 10,718 banana cases.

#### **Small and Plain Grade Oranges Sell Slowly.**

Small and plain grade oranges mostly continued to be neglected by buyers but choice large fruit met a steady demand. Coastal Washington Navels sold mainly from 7s. to 12s., with special large to 13s.; Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area Navel 7s. to 10s., few to 12s. per bushel case, very small and inferior lower.

#### **Heavy Supplies of Lemons.**

Stocks of lemons again exceeded retail requirements and purchases by processors were only made at irregular intervals at 2s. 6d. to 3s. per bushel case. Choice fruit of selected sizes (150 to 183) sold in single case lots from 5s. to 7s. with occasionally 8s. Very large and small fruit was neglected by the retail trade and considerable losses occurred when processors did not clear stocks from the agents' stands.

#### **Strong request for Choice Mandarins.**

Strong demand prevailed throughout the month for choice large Emperor mandarins and fruit of this description sold readily from 14s. to 16s. per bushel case. Small and inferior offerings, however, were neglected at prices ranging from 3s. to 12s.

#### **Limited demand for Grapefruit.**

Grapefruit were at all times plentiful during the month. Selected fruit of large size sold satisfactorily at 8s. to 10s. per bushel case but smaller sizes were almost completely neglected by buyers, even at 4s. to 7s. On occasions very small fruit was offered from 2s. per case.

**Passionfruit much dearer.**

At opening, rates for passionfruit were unchanged and ranged from 10s. to 24s. per half case according to quality and count. A gradual advance occurred subsequently, however, and at the end of the period best fruit was bringing from 28s. to 32s. with other grades from 12s. to 26s. Only the choicest lines met a ready sale.

**Queensland Strawberries Plentiful.**

Offerings of strawberries on most selling days were ample for retail requirements. The greatest proportion of sales ranged from 1s. to 2s. per packet, with special to 2s. 6d., but as much as 3s. 6d. was obtained on occasions. Trays brought mainly from 4s. to 8s. according to quality, although special lots realised 10s. and occasionally higher on some days.

**Consignments of Custard Apples Terminate.**

Consignments of custard apples from Queensland terminated during August when a total of 557 half-bushel cases was available. Sales ranged from 5s. to 10s. according to count, with a few special to 12s.

**Fuerte Avocados Sell Satisfactorily.**

Supplies of Avocados from Queensland totalled 507 half-bushel cases. The Fuerte and similar varieties met a satisfactory demand from 9s. to 14s. with late sales to 16s., but others were slow to clear at most times at from 3s. to 6s. per half-case.

**Papaws More Plentiful.**

Increased stocks of papaws came to hand from Queensland, amounting to 4,783 tropical cases. Clearances were well maintained at slightly lower rates, main sales ranging from 12s. to 18s., with special to 20s. and odd sales higher. During the third week, however, offerings were relatively larger and few sales exceeded 16s. per case.

**Improved Demand for Pineapples.**

With the advent of slightly warmer weather an improved demand prevailed for Queensland pineapples. Supplies were much larger, totalling 33,036 tropical cases, but sellers were able to maintain values at previous levels. Sales varied principally from 15s. to 18s., with a few to 20s. and occasionally to 22s. per case. However, small sizes were offered from 10s.

**VEGETABLES.****Heavy Supplies of Peas.**

Supplies of peas totalled 26,815 bags, as against 11,586 available during previous month. Early in the period realisations ranged from 24s. to 35s. per bushel, but with extra supplies prices fell and, at the end of the month, 15s. to 18s. per bushel were the ruling rates.

**Heavily Increased Stock of Beans.**

A total of 21,595 packages of beans was available during August, made up by 5,469 bags from N.S.W. and 16,490 parcels from Queensland. The total showed an increase of almost 50 per

cent. over July figures. Choice offerings commanded up to 30s. per bushel but many lines of only medium quality sold from 15s. to 25s.

#### **More Cabbages Available.**

Increased offerings of cabbages during the month consisted mainly of small and medium sized heads and the choice hard, large sort, in demand for country trade, were scarce and realised relatively higher rates. Quotations ranged mainly from 6s. to 12s. per dozen with choice 14s. to 16s., whilst choice large realised 18s. to 22s. with some sales early in the month to 26s. per dozen.

#### **Lower Prices for Cauliflowers.**

Increased supplies of peas and beans resulted in lower prices for the increased quantities of cauliflowers. As with cabbages, choice large cauliflowers, suitable for despatch to country districts, were in short supply and sold freely throughout the month. During the first week of the period under review, prices were mainly from 10s. to 15s. per dozen with choice large to 20s. During the following weeks values ranged from 8s. to 18s., except during the last week when a strong demand for lighter supplies resulted in rates rising to a maximum of 24s. per dozen heads. Small and inferior were much cheaper at all times.

#### **More Lettuce on Offer.**

With more lettuce on offer, lower realisations were obtained. Rates for the first three weeks were chiefly from 10s. to 16s. per case, with choice packs 18s., but at the close of the month most sales were made at from 5s. to 12s. per case.

#### **Increased Supplies of Queensland Tomatoes.**

Consignments of tomatoes from Queensland totalled 45,089 half-cases, which showed an increase of 6,117 over the July consignments. Small supplies from New South Wales (local) sources were on offer prior to 21st August, but the market was dominated by northern offerings. Realisations during the first three weeks were from 30s. to 38s. per half-case for choice ripe repacked Queensland tomatoes with New South Wales locals about 4s. per case less. Rates late in the month rose to 40s. to 50s. for best offerings of Queensland repacks.

#### **Other Main Vegetable Lines.**

Representative ranges of prices for other main lines of vegetables were as follow:—Carrots: New South Wales 20s. to 30s., few to 35s., closing sales 40s. to 48s. Parsnips: N.S.W. and Victoria: 16s. to 24s., late sales 20s. to 30s. Potatoes: No. 1 grade 10s. (fixed maximum price). Swedes: N.S.W. 10s. to 18s., closing rates 18s. to 24s. Pumpkin: 16s. to 20s., late rates 24s. to 36s. Sweet Potatoes: 16s. to 28s., closing sales 30s. to 38s. per cwt. Celery: (local) 15s. to 24s. per dozen bunches, South Australian 28s. to 44s. per crate. Brussel Sprouts: N.S.W. 8s. to 12s. per 12 lb., Victorian 10s. to 15s. per 12 lb. box.

A. M. BURNS.