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Cauliflowers Meet Good Inquiry.

Large quantities of cauliflowers continued to come forward from the Bathurst district and towards the close of the month some lots grown in the County of Cumberland were available.

Demand generally was good although very heavy consignments on some days had a steadying effect on sales and values. Top prices were obtained during the period 15th to 18th April when up to 40s. per dozen was paid, while only on one occasion was less than 24s. per dozen accepted for choicest, large heads.

Steady Request for Cabbages.

Despite the plentiful supplies of cauliflowers, there was a steady demand for cabbages on most days, although on a few occasions, stocks could not be cleared.

Top rates were 12s. to 14s. per dozen throughout the greater part of the month, although as much as 30s. per dozen was paid during the third week.

Carrots Plentiful but Swedes Lightly Stocked.

Bagged carrots were well supplied but there was a scarcity of parsnips at times. The market for swede turnips was very firm just prior to the close of the month, choice selling to 20s. per cwt.

Rates for Lettuce Improve.

Good supplies of lettuce were available until late in the month, when there was a marked falling-off in the quantities coming forward. Prices realised during the first two weeks ranged from 3s. to 8s., a few to 10s. per case, whilst 12s. to 14s. and higher was paid towards the close of the month.

Brussels Sprouts Available.

Marketing of Victorian Brussels Sprouts commenced during the second week of the month, consignments coming by air and rail transport. As much as 26s. per box was paid for some extra-choice lines but with increased quantities coming forward, prices at closing were 10s. to 18s. with a few at 20s. per box.

R. D. MEAKER.

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

April, 1946.

Potato Supplies Increase.

Larger supplies of potatoes were received in Sussex street from Tasmania, consignments totalling 165,209 bags. The tubers consisted of Brownells, Bismarcks, Snowflakes, Up-to-Dates and Pinkeyes. There was a substantial percentage released for civilian use but clearances were easily effected.

Consignments to Alexandria from Victoria increased considerably, 21,800 bags being received, compared with 5,392 bags in March. Supplies mostly comprised No. 1 grade Carnians and Snowflakes.

Supplies from local centres were exceptionally light and amounted to only 514 bags, representing the smallest quantity for a considerable period. The tubers consisted of undergrade Factors from the Guyra and Glen Innes districts but were disposed of at ruling rates.

Prices fixed for the week ending 10th May, Sydney basis, are:—

Wholesalers' Prices to Retailers:—

Local and Interstate—No. 1 Grade, £7 17s. 6d.; Undergrades, £6 7s. 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 5s. 0d. per ton less than the figures quoted.

Tasmanian Swedes Well Supplied.

Receivals of swedes from local centres at Alexandria were restricted to 190 bags which sold well at £13 to £14 per ton.

Tasmanian supplies in Sussex street continued to be fairly heavy, 9,691 bags coming to hand. Rates varied considerably, early sales being recorded at £12 to as low as £7, but towards the end of the month, £10 10s. 0d. to £12 per ton was realised.

Other Root Vegetables in Light Supply.

Consignments of carrots from Victoria to Alexandria totalled 405 bags; choice sold at £14 and spotted lines, after being regraded, brought £8 with a few at £10 per ton. Also received at Alexandria were 334 bags of sweet potatoes from Queensland. Sales were made early at £16 but later, values were lower at £13 to £14 per ton.

Carrots received in Sussex street from Tasmania consisted of 204 bags which sold at £8 per ton. At Darling Harbour landing, 2 trucks of choice from Victoria sold at £18 per ton. Parsnips comprising 180 bags of medium quality lines from Tasmania were disposed of in Sussex street at £8 per ton.

Pumpkins in Shorter Supply—Rates Vary.

Following fairly heavy supplies in March, only 97 trucks were on offer in April. Once again there was a considerable variation in the range of prices and at times demand was very slow, sales being difficult to effect except at lower rates, especially Queensland lines.

Arrivals at Alexandria comprised 47 trucks from local centres and 50½ trucks from Queensland. Local lots sold early in the period brought £12 with later sales at £8, although values firmed again and as high as £11 was obtained. It was necessary to regrade a number of Queensland lines owing to breakdown. Early sales were at £8 to £10, followed later by sales at £6 to £7; however, £9 to £9 10s. 0d. per ton was subsequently secured.

Victorian Onions in Light Supply.

There was a considerable falling-off in the stocks of Victorian onions on offer, supplies at Alexandria totalling 13,711 bags compared with 23,583 bags in March. Particulars of arrivals were as follows:—11,790 bags of brown table, 1,305 bags of brown pickling, 536 bags of white table, 80 bags of white pickling. All lines met good inquiry, clearances being effected as follow:—Brown table, approximately £18 to £18 10s. od., brown pickling, £10 to £10 10s. od., white table, £21, white pickling, £10 per ton.

There were 380 bags received from local centres. Portion of these were disposed of early at £8 to £9, but later £12 per ton was realised.

Reduced Consignments of Oaten Chaff.

Arrivals of oaten chaff continued to show a falling-off, only 126 trucks coming to hand. This constituted the smallest quantity received since November of last year. Despite reduced offerings, demand was slow and rates showed little change. Sales were made as follow:—Medium, £5 10s. od. to £6 10s. od. (a few £7), good sound, £6 10s. od. to £7 10s. od., prime, £7 10s. od. to £8, choice and special lots at £8 with a few at £8 5s. od. Sales by auction included two trucks of medium shandy at £6 5s. od. per ton.

Wheaten Chaff Supplies Fall off.

Arrivals amounted to 31½ trucks. Demand other than for prime lots was slow, nevertheless rates showed little alteration and were: medium, £6 5s. od. to £6 10s. od., good sound, £6 10s. od. to £6 15s. od. (few £7), prime, £7 5s. od. to £7 15s. od., specials, £7 10s. od. to £7 15s. od. per ton.

Lucerne Chaff Sells Well.

Following restricted supplies last month, deliveries increased to 49 trucks. Despite the increased offering, prime and choice lines realised higher rates. Medium lots sold at £9 15s. od. to £10 5s. od., good sound at £10 10s. od. to £11 10s. od., with a few at £10, prime at £11 10s. od. to £12 10s. od. and choice at £12 to £12 10s. od. with an occasional sale at £13 per ton. The 5½ trucks submitted at auction included medium grassy at £8 11s. 8d., damaged at £8 15s. od. to £9 15s. od. medium at £10 to £10 6s. 8d. and grassy at £10 18s. 4d. per ton.

Consignments of Lucerne Hay Again Lighter.

Supplies of hay from the Maitland district totalled 33 trucks, the bulk being received in the first half of the period. The outlook at that stage was promising for increased supplies, but owing to heavy rains and floodings in the Maitland district it will now be necessary for a number of growers to resow their crops, and supplies from that part of New South Wales will be restricted for some time to come. New soft green brought £5 to £6, and new green £6 to £6 10s. od., with a few dry lines at £8. In addition, a few prime derrick-pressed lots realised £8 to £9 per ton.

Supplies from other centres were also restricted, only 55 trucks being on offer. There was a good demand for the bulk of the offerings and rates were higher, especially for prime and

choice lines. Clearances of good sound were effected at £7 10s. od. to £8 10s. od., prime at £10 to £11 10s. d. (few £12) and choice at £11 10s. od. to £12 5s. od. with specials at £12 to £12 10s. od. Included in the arrivals were 21 trucks of derrick-pressed. Grades varied considerably, inferior selling at £4 5s. od. to £5 10s. od., grassy at £5 10s. od., medium at £6, with good sound and prime at £7 to £7 10s. od. Later rates were higher, some heated lots realising £7 to £7 10s. od. and good sound £7 10s. od. to £8 per ton.

Oaten and Wheaten Hay Supplies Light.

Consignments continued to be light. Supplies of oaten consisted of 16½ trucks, which included 8½ trucks of derrick-pressed and 8 trucks of rack. Generally, there was good inquiry for most lines, prime rack selling at £9 10s. od. and derrick-pressed good sound at £6 to £6 10s. od., with prime at £7 per ton. Wheaten hay stocks amounted to 4 trucks, sales of good sound being made at £5 10s. od. to £6 10s. od. per ton.

Straw Cheaper.

Straw supplies were again fairly heavy and were more than sufficient for requirements. Prime lots met a satisfactory request, but other grades were disposed of at lower prices. There were 87 trucks on offer, including 50½ trucks of oaten and 36½ trucks of wheaten. Medium oaten brought £3 15s. od. to £4 10s. od., good sound £4 10s. od. to £5 10s. od., and prime £5 10s. od. to £6. Medium wheaten lines moved out at £3 10s. od. to £4 5s. od., good sound at £5 to £5 10s. od. and prime at £5 10s. od. to £6 per ton.

Wheat Consignments Again Restricted.

There were 23 trucks of wheat received at Alexandria. The bulk was not offered for general trading, being taken direct to store.

Maize Again Relatively Scarce.

Supplies comprised 1,906 bags of yellow and 210 bags of white from local centres in addition to 2,041 bags of yellow from Queensland. There was a good demand but in only a few instances were any of the consignments released to buyers at the maximum rate of 7s. 3d. also 7s. 6d. per bushel.

Receivals from the North Coast comprised 253 bags of yellow, in respect of which no rates were disclosed.

Oats More Plentiful.

Supplies aggregated 38 trucks but the bulk was taken direct to store. One truck was submitted at auction but the price offered was not accepted.

• C. H. FERRY.