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to 20s., but in the latter half of the period a decline in quality was apparent and rates dropped to range mainly from 3s. to 8s. Moderate supplies also came to hand from the Portland district of Victoria.

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

Representative ranges of prices for other main lines of vegetables were as follow:—Carrots, 12s. to 24s., occasional sales to 32s., inferior lower; Parsnips 20s. to 28s., few to 32s.; Potatoes (No. 1 grade) 10s., fixed maximum price; Onions: New South Wales (brown and white) 10s. to 18s., few higher, Victorian (brown and white) 22s. to 23s. 6d.; Swedes 14s. to 18s., few special to 24s.; Pumpkins 5s. to 8s., early sales 10s. to 12s.; Sweet Potatoes (old season) 12s. to 20s., few higher, (new season) 22s. to 28s., few to 32s., per cwt.; Celery (local) 8s. to 18s., special to 24s., few to 33s., per dozen bunches, (South Australian) 30s. to 36s., few higher, per crate; Cucumbers (apple) 6s. to 10s., special to 16s., (green) 6s. to 10s., early sales to 14s. per half case.

T. M. McKEON.

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

**March, 1948.**

### **Tasmanian Potatoes in Heavy Supply.**

Consignments from all sources during the month aggregated 234,357 bags compared with a total of 156,620 in February. Receipts at Alexandria, however, were exceptionally light, only 1,410 bags of No. 1 grade Factors arriving from local centres and 1,686 bags of Carmans and Snowflakes from Victoria. Shipments from Tasmania showed a considerable increase when 231,262 bags came to hand at Sussex-street. About 99,087 bags were available during February. Demand was good for all lines offered for trading. Supplies at times exceeded requirements, resulting in a portion of the consignments being stored.

Prices fixed for the week ending 31st March, Sydney basis, were: Wholesalers' Prices to Retailers, Local and Interstate, No. 1 grade and undergrades £10 per ton, plus cartage, which must not 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 Again Scarce.**

No supplies were available at Alexandria during the period but 961 bags from Tasmania were received at Sussex-street. Prices ranged from £10 to £12 per ton.

**Other Root Vegetables.**

No carrots or parsnips were consigned from local or interstate sources.

**Pumpkin Prices Lower—Despite Lighter Supplies.**

Consignments again showed a considerable reduction. A total of eighty-five trucks came to hand from local and interstate centres in February but no interstate supplies were forward during March while local receivals totalled sixty trucks. Although arrivals were light, demand was very slow and prices were at lower levels. Most of the offerings realised £7 to £8 but a few trucks brought £9 per ton late in the period.

**Onion Consignments Heavy.**

Receivals at Alexandria increased considerably to total 21,707 bags. The supply consisted of 16,819 bags of Brown Table and 4,345 of White from Victoria, 294 of Brown from South Australia, and 249 of local Brown Table. Demand was good and values for Brown showed little change throughout the period, Victorian Brown Table bringing £20 10s. to £21 with a few £19. Early in the month, White realised £18 to £20 but later quotations ranged from £15 to £16 while at closing £20 per ton was obtained. Local Brown sold at £17 per ton.

**Oaten Chaff Rates Maintained.**

Arrivals for the past three months were light, but during March receivals increased to 141 trucks. No difficulty was experienced in selling prime and choice lines but other grades moved out slowly. Medium realised £8 to £8 15s., good sound £8 to £10 10s., prime £9 10s. to £11 and choice £11 to £11 10s. per ton.

**Wheaten Chaff Prices Lower as Supplies Increase.**

Receivals increased by fifteen trucks when thirty trucks were available for trading. Sales were readily effected during the first half of the month, but as consignments increased prices were reduced. Medium lines were quoted at £7 10s. to £8, good sound £10 10s. to £11 10s., and prime and choice £11 to £11 10s., with a few specials £12. Later, prime sold at £10 and choice at £10 15s. per ton.

**Lucerne Chaff Truckings Lighter.**

Only forty-three trucks were available for trading. Request was good for all lines except medium grades. Medium brought £6 to £8, heated £8 to £9 10s., good sound £8 10s. to £10 10s., prime £11 to £12, and choice £12 to £12 10s. per ton.

**Lucerne Meal Sells Slowly.**

Five trucks were on offer. Demand was slow at £13 to £14 per ton.

**Lucerne Hay Rates Lower.**

Supplies from the Maitland district increased by eleven trucks, and the forty trucks on offer were sufficient for requirements. Although demand at times was slow, rates were maintained. New

soft green was quoted at £4 to £5 10s. (few inferior £2) and well-made lines at £5 to £6, few £6 5s. Receivals from other centres also increased when ninety-seven trucks came to hand, the total including twelve of derrick pressed. This is the largest quantity for a considerable period. Choice grades sold readily, but all other lines cleared at lower levels. Medium realised £6, good sound £6 to £7 10s., prime £7 10s. to £9, choice £10 to £11 5s., and special £11 to £11 5s. Derrick pressed heated brought £3 15s., medium £4 10s., and good sound £5 10s. per ton.

#### **Smaller Quantity of Oaten Hay.**

A total of twenty-seven trucks was forward and included twelve of rack and fifteen of derrick pressed. Prime rack sold at £10 10s. and choice at £12 with a few stained lots at £5. Prices of all but prime grades of derrick pressed were reduced. Sales of damaged were recorded at £4, stained £4 16s. 8d., and good sound £5 per ton. Request for the seven trucks of derrick pressed wheaten hay was slow, medium bringing £4 15s. and good sound £6 5s. while, at auction, stained realised £4 6s. 8d. and good sound £5 10s. per ton.

#### **Straw Over-supplied—Rates Reduced.**

Receivals again showed a considerable increase and consequently were more than sufficient for requirements and rates were reduced. A total of 101 trucks were on offer and included thirty-six trucks of local oaten, forty-seven of Victorian oaten, and eighteen of wheaten. Stained oaten lines were disposed of at £4 to £5, good sound £6 to £7, prime £7 to £7 10s., while a few choice lots sold early at £8. Victorian good sound realised £6 5s. to £7, prime £6 15s. to £7 10s., and choice £7 10s. to £8. Inferior wheaten cleared at £2 10s., stained £4 to £4 15s., good sound £6, and prime £7 to £7 10s. per ton.

#### **More Wheat Received.**

Supplies at Alexandria totalled thirty-two trucks, compared with eighteen trucks forward in February. Most of this supply was not available for general trading. Eight trucks, however, were submitted for auction sale, but these were of inferior quality and realised 6s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. with a few at 7s. per bushel.

#### **Maize in Short Supply—Prices Higher.**

Stocks on offer were reduced to 755 bags which included 611 of local yellow and 144 from Queensland. Some sales of yellow were made at 7s. 9d. to 7s. 10d., with a few choice, small yellow at 8s. and 8s. 1d. per bushel.

#### **Increased Consignments of Oats.**

Receivals increased by ten trucks when thirty-three trucks came to hand. The bulk of the arrivals was taken direct to store for milling purposes.

C. H. FERRY.