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STATE MARKETING BUREAU - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. N.S.W

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, SYDNEY.

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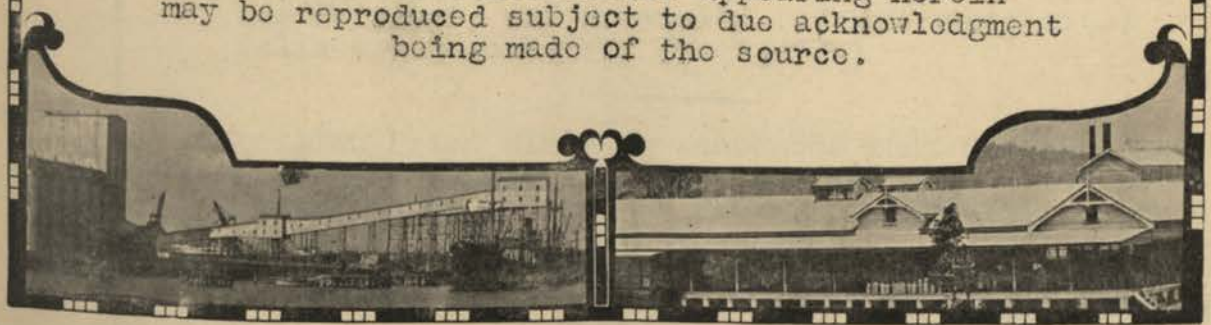

MONTHLY MARKETING REVIEW

A miscellany of matters relating to the marketing of primary products, at home and abroad.

Released during the second week of each month.
Issued by authority of the Minister for Agriculture and prepared under the direction of the Director of Marketing in the State Marketing Bureau, Department of Agriculture, New South Wales, Australia.

HIGHLIGHTS.

Chairman of Australian Meat Board announces that British Ministry of Food has agreed to purchase 249,000 tons of Australian meat during the year commencing 1st October, 1940. This is 9,000 tons more than the quantity agreed upon for the previous year. Most prices remain unaltered, but some classes of meat previously included have been omitted from the new contract.

Commonwealth Prices Commissioner announces that maximum wholesale prices of new potatoes from the New South Wales coastal crop will be declared each Monday, and will apply to all new potatoes whether sold by auction or by private treaty. Prices will be varied only in accordance with fundamental changes in supply. This action aims at stabilising prices and ensuring regular deliveries.

As a result of three storms in the latter half of September, a considerable area of New South Wales received beneficial falls of rain, partially relieving the drought conditions, materially assisting pastures and improving crop prospects. In many centres, however, the recordings were insufficient, and generally further substantial falls are necessary.

Australian Prime Minister announces that Governments of Great Britain and United States of America have arranged for storage in U.S.A. of 250 million pounds of Australian wool, representing approximately one-quarter of the current season's clip. This wool would represent a reserve held by the United Kingdom and would be purchased by the United States in an emergency.

- AGRICULTURE - THE IMPORTANCE TO AUSTRALIA IN PEACE AND WAR TIME.

(Address by Hon. Major A.D. Reid, Minister for Agriculture, New South Wales).

Country and city interests interdependent.

At the outset I should like to emphasise that no one has a greater appreciation than I have of the interdependence of the various sections of the community. Manufacturers must have customers and customers for manufactured goods would be in serious difficulties, if there were no factories. Similarly, farmers must have markets and markets would be woefully insufficient in the absence of secondary industries. The primary producer looks to the great mass of people in the metropolis and other urban areas as the most valuable market for the product of his labours, while the whole range of commercial enterprise in the capital and other cities - manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, etc. - find a highly profitable outlet in the country districts for the particular goods they have to offer. The position of primary industries, however, differs notably from that of secondary industries in the sense that the farmer must look for overseas as well as Australian markets, whereas overseas exports of the products of Australian secondary industries are very light in volume. It is a truism that Australia pays her way with her exports and it is significant that 96% of Australia's exports consists of primary products.

Nearly one-third of total production marketed overseas.

In peace time the nation's exportable surpluses of primary commodities have to be sold on the world markets at prices over which he has no control, such prices being based upon competition with various other countries, many of which enjoy considerable advantages over Australia by reason of their proximity to the main purchasing centres.

The position is perhaps best illustrated by reference to official statistics relating to Australian production and overseas trade. During the ten years ended 30th June, 1938, the total value of all Australian production, both primary and secondary, averaged £384,000,000 per annum, of which 69% was used within the Commonwealth and the remaining 31% exported. This means that Australia must find an overseas market for nearly one-third of her total production.

An analysis of the figures relating to Australian exports over the same ten-year period reveals that the value of exports averaged nearly £120,000,000 per annum made up of approximately £115,000,000 for primary products and only £5,000,000 for secondary industries. In other words, the primary industries were responsible for 96% of the total exports from this Commonwealth.

/It .....

It will readily be seen from these figures that the prosperity of the Australian people is to a very considerable degree dependent upon the maintenance of exports of primary products including wool, wheat, meat, butter, sugar, eggs and various other commodities.

Exports affect whole economic structure.

It is only natural that if our primary producers receive satisfactory prices for a large volume of exported produce, this results in an increase in the general spending power of the men on the land, enabling them--

(a) to provide rural employment;
(b) to make purchases of commodities necessary to rural production, such as fertilisers, bags, machinery and other plant, etc.;
(c) to purchase groceries, clothing and household necessities and cater for their own and their families' desires for other than bare essentials.

This increase in country spending power is necessarily reflected in the buoyancy of our secondary industries. Factory owners and employees and activities of all kinds - professional, distributive and others - are benefited. Increased employment and general all-round advantage to the community are the results. Country towns directly benefit and they in turn buy more heavily from city business houses. Transport facilities are directly and materially affected. When the exports of primary products are buoyant, our railway systems carry large quantities of primary produce from the country to the seaboard at normal rates and are guaranteed the back-loading so essential to their prosperity in the form of considerable quantities of freight from ports and manufacturing centres to inland towns and stations. Enhanced railway revenue and greater employment are thus available.

In addition, there is more work offering for carriers, both in the city and country, and waterside workers, ships' providores and others are kept more fully occupied. The employment of this section adds its share to the general prosperity of the country.

If, on the other hand, there is a decline in the value of our exports, 96% of which, as already stated, are primary products, the first section to be adversely affected is the primary producers. Financial reverses suffered by them reflect themselves in the economic structure of the whole community. Decreased purchasing power with curtailment of spending and fear of unemployment, all tend to create a depressing effect which is noticeable in almost all walks of life.

Depression follows fall in value of exports.

The truth of this is exemplified in the following illustrations:-

/The .....

The peak of "post war" prosperity was reached in 1924/25 when the total value of our exports was nearly £150,000,000. The next four years were also very satisfactory, exports averaging over £140,000,000 per annum.

In 1929/30, however, our exports were only worth £123,000,000. That year saw the start of the depression which became acute in the following year when exports fell to the low figure of £90,000,000. The depression continued during the next four years, exports averaging only £108,000,000 a year. The tremendous effect of such a huge fall in export values (from an average of £140,000,000 for the four years ending 1928/29 to £90,000,000 in 1930/31 - a difference of £50,000,000) needs no stressing. The general welfare of the Australian people retrogressed alarmingly. To quote one example of this, let us look at the New South Wales basic wage; in June, 1927, this was £4.5.0 per week, whereas in November, 1933, it was £3.6.6 per week.

The first result of the catastrophic drop was seen in the reduced purchasing power of the primary producer. In many thousands of instances farmers were unable to meet commitments to the Crown, to the Banks, to storekeepers, to implement manufacturers and to the various other agencies through which they finance their operations. The net result was that producers were compelled to suspend payments and to restrict their purchases to bare necessities. Country businesses languished and many failed entirely, orders for supplies from the city were reduced to a minimum and unemployment in both city and country rose to unprecedented levels.

Practical substantiation of what I have just said is found in the following examples culled from official railway statistics:-

(1) The Railway Department's total earnings fell by 22% in 1930/31 and 23½% in 1931/32 compared with those of 1928/29.

(2) General merchandise carried on the Railway system dropped by 30% and 31% in 1930/31 and 1931/32, respectively, from the 1928/29 figures.

(3) Outward goods from Darling Harbour representing mainly purchases by country centres showed a falling off of 37% in 1930/31 compared with 1928/29 and approximately 36½% in 1931/32.

These facts, I submit, demonstrate beyond argument the immensely important part which the primary producer plays as a unit in the national economy and the debt which the community as a whole owes to those men who maintain primary production in the face of all the discouragements of periodical and inevitable bush fires, droughts, and excessive rains and the unavoidable risks of unfavourable prices levels overseas.

/United .....

United Kingdom our best customer.

The United Kingdom has been Australia's best customer for many years. Perusal of the table showing destinations of Australia's exports, excluding gold bullion, specie and in matte, for the five years ended 30th June, 1939, reveals that the United Kingdom purchased approximately one-half of our exports. Other British countries have also provided good markets aggregating from 10% to 15% of the total; thus the bulk, ranging from 60% in 1935/36 to 69½% in 1938/39, of our exportable produce has been disposed of within the Empire. At the same time a considerable trade with foreign countries has been built up, varying from 30½% to 40% of our total exports. The percentage to any one foreign country was not large; 14% to Japan in 1935/36 and nearly 8% to France in 1938/39 were the largest individual percentages of our total exports to 'foreign parts' in the five years referred to.

Commodities exported.

The pastoral industry holds pride of place in its contribution to the value of Australia's exports, the annual average for the five years ended 30th June, 1939, having been £49,000,000. In the same period meats contributed £10,000,000, hides and skins £5,000,000 and tallow and leather £1,300,000, or a total from the pastoral industry of over £65,000,000.

During the same period the annual value of wheat exports was £15,000,000 while flour exports averaged £5,000,000. Butter also held a prominent position in the export trade with an annual average of £10,378,000. Sugar contributed £3,480,000, dried fruits £2,350,000, fresh fruits nearly £2,000,000 and preserved fruits £1,073,000. Other primary products with appreciable export totals were wine, with an average value of £944,000, eggs in shell with £868,000, milk and cream with £807,000, cheese with £609,000 and barley with £483,000.

Shipments of gold and other mining products yielded about £19,000,000, while timber was responsible for approximately £750,000.

War-time contracts with the British Government.

Australia and the other Dominions are playing a great and vital part in the supply of food-stuffs to the British Government during the war. Following the outbreak of hostilities at the beginning of September, 1939, negotiations between representatives of the British and Commonwealth Governments were initiated with a view to the purchase by Britain of Australia's exportable surplus of various primary commodities. Mutually satisfactory contracts were arranged and it is estimated that the sales effected during the first year of the operations of the contract were worth approximately £101,000,000. The estimated export values in Australian currency for the various items were:-

/Wool .....

Wool	£54,000,000
Butter	13,500,000
Cheese	1,150,000
Eggs	600,000
Beef and Veal	4,500,000
Mutton	680,000
Lamb	5,000,000
Pork	1,250,000
Edible offals	380,000
Sugar	5,500,000
Lead	3,000,000
Zinc	800,000
Copper	380,000
Dried Fruits	1,700,000
Canned Fruits	1,100,000
Wheat and other purchases by United Kingdom, say ..	8,000,000
Total:-	£101,540,000

Sales were on an f.o.b. basis, the United Kingdom arranging the transport required.

As Great Britain had to consider the provision of shipping space from the angle of items most urgently needed for both food and munitions and had also to pay regard to the availability of stocks from other sources, some of Australia's products had to be omitted from the contracts. Chief of our exports to be adversely affected were wheat and fresh fruits.

With regard to wheat, an initial sale of 56,000,000 bushels of wheat and 150,000 tons of flour (the latter equivalent to 7,000,000 bushels of wheat) was made by the Australian Wheat Board to the British Government. Shipping difficulties and the proximity of other British Empire wheat supplies have unavoidably militated against larger clearances of Australian stocks under war-time conditions on the high seas.

War-time agriculture, of course, presents difficulties not usually associated with peace-time operations. In order that the nation's resources may be marshalled to allow of a maximum contribution to the Empire's supplies of foodstuffs, marketing, at all times important, has assumed a place of paramount significance in the country's organisation. Action has therefore been taken under the National Security Act to set up Commonwealth Boards with State Advisory Committees to handle the main primary products such as wool and wheat. Where statutory control or effective co-operation existed in other industries, e.g., butter, meat and eggs, action was taken to co-ordinate the work of these bodies and this has greatly facilitated the negotiations with the British authorities. It will be appreciated that controlled marketing of essential primary products is a necessary requisite in the Commonwealth's war effort.

/Effect .....

Effect of war extension.

The extension of the war during the last few months to such countries as Denmark and Holland, has resulted in the complete elimination of exports to the United Kingdom from those countries and this may have an important bearing on several of our own primary industries. During the year 1938, Great Britain imported from Denmark butter to the value of £13,000,000, eggs £4,600,000 and bacon almost £16,000,000. From Holland during the same year butter imports were valued at £3,466,000, cheese £417,000, eggs £2,699,000 and meat £2,521,000. The question as to what proportion of this trade can be secured by Australia is, of course, dependent to a large extent upon the availability of shipping. It appears certain that the Commonwealth is likely, subject to the contingency mentioned, to increase her exports in the commodities which were previously secured by the United Kingdom from the countries which are now under enemy domination. We have a concrete example of such increased trade possibilities in the action of the British Government in recently agreeing to take the whole of Australia's estimated egg surplus. That surplus, this season, comprises 412,000 cases and if a greater quantity is available it will be accepted.

I think the facts I have mentioned demonstrate the immense value of the primary industries to Australia and I feel it will be appreciated that the maintenance of rural production and exports is of the first importance, not only in war time but in times of peace.

It is, therefore, discouraging to hear the criticism not infrequently levelled at the Government because of assistance to primary industries. Much of this criticism results from want of thought or lack of understanding of the facts but it is nevertheless to be deplored. It is perfectly true that, over a period of years, both Federal and State Governments have utilised considerable sums of money in enabling growers to survive crises but I submit that a proper examination of the circumstances will prove in each case that the money was justifiably and well spent and that the action taken has re-acted favourably not only to primary producers but to the people of Australia as a whole.

I commenced my remarks with a statement as to the interdependence of the city and country interests. At this critical hour in our history I trust that recognition of this undoubted fact will become universal and that there will be co-operation as never before between these two great interests.

----oooOooo----

Figures compiled by the Rice Marketing Board of New South Wales show that production on the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area for the 1939/40 season totalled 34,830 tons of paddy rice from 24,120 acres. This represented a considerable decrease on the record production of 52,031 tons in 1938/39; the season was stated to have been a most difficult one, owing chiefly to adverse weather conditions.

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PHYSICAL FEATURES, PRODUCTION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SOUTH WESTERN SLOPE STATISTICAL DIVISION NO.10 OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Introductory.

From time to time there have appeared articles relating to the physical features, production, etc., of Statistical Divisions No. 1 (North Coast), No. 2 (Hunter-Manning), No. 3 (Metropolitan), No. 4 (South Coast), No. 5 (Northern Tableland), No. 6 (Central Tableland), No. 7 (Southern Tableland), No. 8 (North Western Slope) and No. 9 (Central Western Slope). In similar fashion Statistical Division No. 10 (South Western Slope) is reviewed: this area comprises one of the favoured sections of New South Wales and is particularly notable for its wool and wheat production.

Boundaries.

The South Western Slope Statistical Division, according to the Official Year Book of New South Wales, covers an area of 17,561 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the southern boundaries of the Central Western Slope and Central Plain Divisions, a surveyed line running from a point slightly west of Goolagong (on the Lachlan River) in a generally westerly direction through Lake Cowal to a point about 13 miles west of Naradhan.

In the west, this division adjoins the Riverina, the boundary line running alternately south and east to the north of, and thus excluding, Rankin Springs, Kamarah and Ardlethan, to the Malebo Range, which it follows to within a short distance of North Wagga Wagga. A westerly deviation takes in a strip of country of some 600 square miles to the west of Wagga Wagga. Then the boundary goes in a generally southerly direction to the west of Mangoplah, Pullotop and Holbrook; next a westerly bend skirts Gerogery and Burrumbuttock and, finally, at the Goombargana Creek, the boundary line turns south and meets the Murray River about midway between Howlong and Corowa (Riverina).

The Murray and Indi Rivers, which constitute the southern boundary, also separate the States of New South Wales and Victoria in this region.

On the east the South Western Slope is divided from the Southern Tableland by the Snowy Mountains, the Munyang Range, the Yarrangobilly Range, the Goodradigbee River, a short bend of the Murrumbidgee River, the Bowning Hill Range, the Limestone Creek and the Boorowa River. In the north-east the subject division is separated from the Central Tableland by the upper reaches of the Lachlan River, the Battery Range, the Illunie Range and the Bong Bong Creek; the boundary then runs in a generally northerly direction, being demarcated by various ranges such as the Crowther and Broula, to point of commencement.

/Physical .....

Physical features, soil and climate.

The south-eastern corner of the division has been denominated by geologists the "Roof of Australia", as containing the ridge from which the Continent falls on the eastern side abruptly to the Pacific Ocean, and on the western by a gradual fall which reaches a level of plain stretching to the shores of the Indian Ocean.

The physical features of the different sections of the South Western Slope vary considerably. The more easterly portions, particularly those of the Boorowa-Harden, Tumut and Tumbarumba localities, include much high, rough, steep and mountainous land, but proceeding westward this is replaced by hilly country interspersed with rich river flats. About Young, Cootamundra, Junee, Wagga Wagga and Albury the country is mostly undulating, with ranges of hills and stony ridges but no mountains. The western parts, such as those surrounding Wyalong, Temora and further inland, are mainly undulating to flat.

The arable soils range from light sandy types to heavy pug clay. Patches of light sandy, light loam mallee country occur in the north-western areas, such as Naradhan. Light friable loams, principally of granitic and basaltic origin, constitute a large percentage of the soils from Boorowa to Junee. Medium to heavy loams are found in the Wyalong, Ariah Park and Temora districts, and heavy clay loams are also in evidence. Heavy pug clay occurs in various places, being predominant in the Bland and around Bimbi. Alluvial and semi-alluvial soils of varying depth, texture and fertility are found along the river and creek frontages. Volcanic, basaltic and diorite soils occur in the Gundagai and Tumut districts. A red clayey loam with a deep clayey subsoil is a feature of much of the Wagga Wagga locality, whilst the soils of the Albury sector vary a good deal, being derived from granite, slate and basalt.

Climatically, also, a wide variation is noticeable: The more elevated areas experience temperate summers and rather cold winters, usually with snow on the highlands, and have higher rainfalls, the average at Tumbarumba being in the vicinity of 38 inches per annum. Further inland, the summers are hot and dry, while the winters are described as cold and bracing, with frequent frosts; here the rainfall averages about 26 inches per year. The north-westerly sector is somewhat hotter and drier, and has an average rainfall of 17½ inches.

Area and population.

Reference to the New South Wales Statistical Register for 1938/39 shows that 15 Shires and 9 Municipalities, with an aggregate area of 11,239,000 acres are included in the South Western Slope division. Of this total area, 8,714,000 acres are alienated whilst 1,410,000 acres are held under leases of various kinds from the

/Crown .....

Crown. Holdings of one acre and upward number 8,086, of which 3,917 are used for Agriculture and Grazing, 1,892 for Grazing only, 870 for Agriculture only, 442 for Agriculture, Dairying and Grazing, 300 for Dairying only, 224 for Dairying and Grazing, 157 for Dairying and Agriculture, 32 for Poultry, Bees, Pigs, etc., and 252 Unoccupied or used for other purposes. In the season 1938/39 the area under crops comprised 1,541,000 acres, whilst 239,000 acres were under sown grasses and 877,000 acres of fallow were ploughed and worked. Nearly half of the total area of this division is said to be suitable for cultivation.

The South Western Slope is the most densely settled of the Slopes divisions, the population at the 1933 census being 116,118 persons, a gain of just over 20,000 since the previous census in 1921; the Government Statistician estimates that at 31st December, 1939, the inhabitants numbered 121,560, representing a further increase of over 5,000. The largest towns, with the population figures at end of 1939 shown in parentheses, are:- Wagga Wagga (13,120), Albury (11,630), Cootamundra (4,920), Junee (4,370), Young (4,370), Temora (4,340), Murrumburrah (2,740), Grenfell (2,660) and Boorowa (1,590).

Grazing - the outstanding primary industry.

Although usually the numbers are about equal to those carried in the Riverina Division, at the moment there are more sheep in this section than in any other statistical division of the State, nearly 6 millions being depastured in season 1938/39. The great bulk comprises medium woolled merinos but substantial numbers of cross-breds are utilised for fat lamb production. This latter industry has attained considerable dimensions, this being one of the main producing areas of New South Wales. The advantages offered by this division for fat lamb raising in suitable areas are assured seasons, soundness of the country and its ready response to superphosphate and its suitability for introduced grasses.

Important wheat-growing area.

Wheat-growing is widespread, the South Western Slope usually ranking second to the Riverina in this industry, and, on occasions, surpassing that division in total yield. According to the New South Wales Statistical Register, the South Western Slope produced 14,470,317 bushels of wheat in the 1938/39 season (nearly one-quarter of the State's total) from 1,026,724 acres, an average yield of 14.1 bushels per acre. The largest sources of production were the Bland, Narraburra, Weddin, Burrangong, Illabo and Mitchell Shires. In addition, 149,043 acres of wheat were sown for hay, yielding 190,098 tons. Some 2,231 acres of wheat were utilised for green fodder purposes.

Oats are an important secondary crop, being rather extensively grown for grain, hay and green feed. In 1938/39, the production amounted to 1,839,096 bushels of grain from 119,850 acres, and 148,341 tons of hay from 131,735 acres, whilst 24,796 acres of oats were used as green fodder.

/Considerable .....

Considerable quantities of maize are produced, mainly from the rich river flats around Tumut and Gundagai. In the above-mentioned season (which was an adverse one for this crop), 27,834 bushels were obtained from 2,773 acres, and a further 1,625 acres were sown with maize for green food for livestock.

Extensive lucerne fields.

Lucerne (alfalfa) is cultivated rather extensively, more especially for grazing purposes; in 1938/39 the area consisted of 10,551 acres for hay, from which 11,789 tons were cut, and 48,103 acres for green food, this latter acreage representing more than one-fifth of the total grown for this purpose in New South Wales.

Some tobacco is produced at Tumut; 54 cwts. of leaf were harvested from 9 acres in the 1938/39 season, but normally a greater acreage is planted.

Other crops, such as barley, rye, millet, etc., also receive attention, the acreages and yields in 1938/39 being:-

	Area	Yield
Barley - Grain - Malting	1,739 acres	28,998 bushels
" - " - Other	1,361 "	18,837 "
" - Hay	299 "	336 tons
" - Green Food	1,045 "	-
Rye - Grain	3,921 "	57,609 bushels
" - Hay	223 "	220 tons
" - Green Food	313 "	-
Broom Millet	1,230 "	(Fibre 4,203 cwt. (Grain 1,314 bushels.
Rape, Sorghum, Millet, etc., for Green Food	2,609 "	

Limited vegetable production.

Although potatoes are not grown as extensively in the South Western Slope as in certain other divisions, fairly substantial quantities of high quality tubers are marketed each year, particularly from Batlow, and, to a less degree, from Tumbarumba. In 1938/39 season 1,982 tons of potatoes were obtained from 621 acres.

The chief vegetable production is that of market gardens in the vicinity of the larger towns, and in 1938/39 there were 254 acres of these, from which produce valued at £9,429 was obtained. Other commercial vegetable cultivation consisted of:-

132	acres of peas and beans,	yielding	£623 worth.
25	" " tomatoes,	"	3,652 half-cases.
58	" " pumpkins and melons,	"	119 tons.
94	" " other root crops,	"	266 tons.

(To be continued)

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SALES OF LIVESTOCK AT HOMEBUSH, SYDNEY.

SHEEP AND PIGS MOSTLY DEARER; CATTLE PRICES SOAR.

Reduced numbers of sheep and lambs offered.

Although fairly heavy supplies of sheep and lambs were available at the Homebush Saleyards during the early part of September, there was a marked decrease in the numbers coming forward towards the close of the month, yardings declining from 54,303 head on one sale day to 24,193 head at the next. Aggregate pennings were 394,075 head, or some 34,046 below the total for August. Shearing operations have tended to reduce the numbers of sheep submitted, while the heavy yardings of lambs over the past few months have affected supplies available in country centres. Thus, until the main body of the new season's sucker lambs is fit for market, a continuation of the light offerings may be expected. Useful falls of rain in many districts have materially improved the pastoral outlook, and pastures should benefit appreciably, enabling graziers to hold many of the plain to medium classes of stock for fattening.

Moderate representation of quality sheep.

As is usual at this period of the year, shorn sheep comprised by far the larger proportion of the pennings, and the offering of full-woolled descriptions was limited. There was quite a nice showing of good to prime quality sheep of dressed weights ranging from 46 lb. to 56 lb., while occasional lines of extra heavy sheep were available. Light weight sheep of quality were not so numerous, those on offer being mostly of fair to good trade grade, while some exceptionally plain aged animals were submitted. Crown sheep were scarce, September offerings totalling 119,493 as against 125,078 head during the previous month. The greater part of the yarding again consisted of wethers. Ewes were lightly supplied and mostly were aged and lacking in condition; nevertheless, some lots of attractive light to heavy animals were available.

Market for sheep closes strong.

Although at the first sale held in September values of sheep were up to 1/- per head better, subsequent auctions were marked by a much cheaper tendency, operators securing mutton at rates which mostly were from 1/- to 2/- per head lower. During the final week, however, the light consignments promoted a particularly active demand, and prices for practically all grades of mutton rose sharply by, on an average, from 3/- to 5/- per head. Some indication of the spread between realisations at the opening sales, in mid-September when rates were lowest, and at the closing auctions, is given below:-

A consignment of nice trade shorn wethers, weighing approximately 46 lb., sold at the opening sales at 14/7 each,

/equivalent .....

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A consignment of nice trade shorn wethers, weighing approximately 46 lb., sold at the opening sales at 14/7 each,

/equivalent .....

equivalent to 3⅝d per lb., while a line of heavy shorn wethers, dressing about 58 lb., was disposed of at 15/10 per head, being worth 3d per lb. About mid-September, nice trade shorn wethers were obtained for 3¼d per lb.; this lot dressed approximately 44 lb. of mutton and realised 12/2 each. On the same day, extra heavy shorn wethers, weighing about 60 lb., cost 2½d per lb. and sold at 12/10 per head. Towards the close of the period, a draft of good trade shorn wethers weighing approximately 40 lb. made 4⅜d per lb., selling at 15/- per head, while good heavy shorn wethers of about 52 lb. weight realised 19/3 each or the equivalent of 4d per lb. A notable feature of the strong market at the end of the month was the excellent price obtained for heavy weight mutton, which in quite a few instances made as much per pound as light.

About the best realisation during the month was that for a consignment of full woolled merino wethers, which sold to 30/- per head. However, average rates for woolled sheep were from 22/- to 27/- per head. Shorn wethers made to 21/- each but, for the most part, were disposed of at from 12/- to 18/-. Although the general quality of the ewes was not conducive to high prices, some of the best woolly lots brought 22/- each; shorn descriptions sold at from 10/- to 16/- per head, according to weight and quality, with odd lines making up to 18/-. Plain and inferior classes were obtained at relatively lower prices.

At the period of highest prices, heavy wether mutton cost from 3⅝d to 4¼d and light 4d to 4½d per lb., but for the greater part of the month operators paid from 2½d to 3¼d and 3¼d to 3⅝d per lb. for heavy and light wethers, respectively. Ewes made as much as 4¼d per lb. but by far the larger proportion sold at from 2½d to 2⅝d for heavy and 2⅝d to 3⅛d per lb. for light. Generally speaking, mutton prices were from ½d to ¾d per lb. higher at the end of September than during the opening sales, while on many lines of ewes and some of the wethers the actual gain was as much as 1¼d per lb.

Lighter offerings of lambs.

In comparison with the heavy yardings of the previous month, pennings of lambs during September were appreciably lighter, totalling 274,582 head or some 30,000 below the August aggregate. Sucker lambs were well supplied, with old or summer lambs moderately represented. The quality generally was fairly satisfactory and some exceptionally fine types of suckers were included, these no doubt being from centres where stock were run on improved pastures, and supplementary feeding was resorted to. Light to medium weight suckers were by far the most numerous; nevertheless, some drafts of good to prime heavy types were available, while odd lots of very heavy old lambs were noticed. On occasions, some plain and very light weight suckers were on offer.

/Improved .....

Improved realisations for lambs.

Throughout most of the month, the better grades of lambs and suckers were in good request, and at times higher rates were secured. Values of medium to plain lambs, however, generally tended to weaken, and frequently light plain lambs, dressing under 20 lb. and unsuited to export requirements, sold at rather low levels. In common with the sheep market, smaller supplies towards the end of the month considerably stimulated demand, so that prices for lambs generally rose from 1/6 to 2/6 per head, the increase being most marked in the values of the better class of suckers. Various phases of the month's operations in the lamb section are illustrated by the following actual sales:-

Early in September, a consignment of good trade suckers of nice shape and finish, dressing approximately 33 lb., made 21/6 each or 6¾d per lb., and heavier lambs weighing 38 lb. sold on the same day for 23/8 per head, the equivalent of 6d per lb. Later in the period, a line of nice quality lambs, estimated to weigh 38 lb., realised 22/6 each or 5¾d per lb. Towards the end of the month, a draft of good export lambs, weighing about 42 lb., brought 26/4 per head or 6¼d per lb., while good trade suckers, of approximately 32 lb. dressed weight, cost 23/4 each, equivalent to 7⅛d per lb.

Realisations for quality lambs generally must be regarded as good, as at times up to 29/- per head was obtained. Average prices, however, ranged from 20/- to 26/- each, according to weight, while medium to plain grades brought from 8/- to 18/-.

At the period of peak prices, best light suckers made as much as 7¼d per lb. but mostly rates were from 6d to 6¾d. Although best quality heavy lambs and suckers cost as high as 6½d per lb., the larger proportion sold at from 5¼d to 6¼d, according to weight and finish.

Wholesale mutton and lamb dearer.

In keeping with the strong closing rates of the markets, there was a substantial increase in the average prices of all grades of mutton and lamb sold and delivered to retail butchers' shops from the Metropolitan Meat Industry Commissioner's Depot at Homebush Bay, the advance being from ½d to 1d for mutton and from ¼d to ½d per lb. for lamb.

Smaller consignments of cattle.

Although consignments of cattle during September were remarkably uniform so far as numbers were concerned, the aggregate of 13,810 head was light when compared with the total of 22,675 head yarded during the corresponding month of 1939. Pennings in the store section were also limited, totalling only 1,018 head for

/nine .....

nine sale days. Adverse seasonal conditions were largely responsible for the reduced offerings as the beneficial rain received towards the end of September has, as yet, had no effect on supplies or on the quality of the stock coming forward.

Despite the generally poor grade of cattle submitted, the yardings usually included a small percentage of prime animals, whilst frequently a fair proportion could be classed as good trade standard. However, the numbers of quality beasts were insufficient for buyers' requirements.

Heavy beef scarce.

Bullocks continued in very limited supply, despite the receival of approximately 1,000 head from Queensland. For the most part, those offered comprised lightweight descriptions of fair to good trade quality. Medium and heavy weight types were scarce; nevertheless, several drafts of surprisingly well conditioned extra heavy bullocks were auctioned during the month. Although competition for the last mentioned class of beef was restricted, prices ranged between £21 and £23 per head. Compared with the closing market in August, during early September values of light and medium weights declined about 2/- per 100 lb., quotations for good to prime grade being 40/- to 44/- for medium and 41/- to 44/- for light. Subsequently, however, prices improved and by the final week had more than recovered. On the last sale day in September, values reached the highest level recorded for a considerable time, rates being:- Heavy 41/- to 46/-, Medium 45/- to 47/- and Light 47/- to 49/- per 100 lb. One of the best sales on this occasion was that of a line of good trade Shorthorn bullocks estimated to weigh 630 lb., which realised £15.11.0 per head, equivalent to 49/- per 100 lb.

Moderate yardings of steers.

Although steers were better supplied than bullocks, consignments were only moderate and mainly consisted of fair to good trade descriptions. Drafts of prime animals were difficult to secure and usually met a very keen demand. During early sales prime light steers were worth to 49/- per 100 lb. Later, quotations rose to 52/-, and remained at that level until the final sale, when a further increase was noticeable and prices for good to prime steers, covering all weights, ranged from 48/- to 54/- per 100 lb.

Uneven truckings of cows.

Truckings of cows again fluctuated to a marked degree, both as to numbers and the relative proportions of light and heavy weights offered. Some of the consignments included a fair percentage of good trade animals, as well as odd lots of prime beasts, but quality generally was only medium. All grades of cows again sold particularly well, quality sorts realising, for the

/most .....

most part, to 42/- per 100 lb. for both light and heavy weights, although occasionally the former were a little dearer. On the final sale day, rates advanced in sympathy with those for other classes of beef and up to 45/- per 100 lb. was obtained.

Smaller supplies of heifers.

Although the numbers of heifers penned were below those of the previous month, quality showed little variation. For the most part, offerings consisted of light weight types of fair to good trade standard and only odd lots of prime grade were noticed. Steady but high prices prevailed for most of September and quotations ranged from 42/- to 48/- per 100 lb. for good to prime quality, covering all grades of weight. At the closing auction, however, rates varying from 45/- to 51/- were recorded.

Enhanced values for vealers.

For the most part, vealers were fairly well supplied, but usually the percentage of quality animals available was small. Although all grades of weight were represented, medium weight beasts predominated. Except on one sale day, values were well maintained during the first half of the period, and good to prime quality was quoted at from 50/- to 56/- per 100 lb. The market was even dearer during the latter half of September and closing rates ranged from 55/- to 60/-.

Cattle prices soar.

Although high prices ruled during August, generally during September the market was even better from the viewpoint of the producer. However, only relatively few producers are reaping the benefit of the enhanced values.

Pennings of pigs well maintained.

Numbers of pigs auctioned during September, 1940, showed a further slight increase and totalled 7,316 head, of which 3,929 were received by rail. Private sales in the Metropolitan Area aggregated 2,926 head, or slightly less than those for August.

Quality porkers in light supply.

Porkers were well supplied throughout the period, but quality generally was very disappointing, only a small percentage of the offerings being of prime grade. All weight classes were represented and the yardings generally included a noticeable proportion of small store pigs, as well as heavier animals of porker weight but in store condition. Medium quality stores met a very restricted demand, as recently the market has been overstocked with this type. On the other hand, well-bred stores were in keen request and at times the feeders were prepared to pay more for them than the butchers were offering for quality porkers of

/similar .....

similar weight. Values of heavy porkers were well maintained and prime pigs dressing 90 lb. ranged in price from 57/6 to 59/6 per head. On the whole, however, inquiry for light porkers was not quite so good and prices of 60 lb. animals varied from 40/6 to 43/6 per head. On a dressed weight basis extra light porkers were worth to 9d per lb. on the two final sale days, the lowest level since July, 1939.

Keen inquiry for light baconers.

There was a moderate number of baconers available on each sale day, the offerings including both light and heavy descriptions. Although fair trade sorts predominated, a noticeable proportion was of prime grade. Baconers continued in firm request, especially towards the close of the period, when values of lightweight classes were the highest recorded since 1st November, 1938. Early in September, rates for quality heavyweight baconers, dressing 150 lb., rose to 91/6 each (7d per lb.) and were maintained at this level for the remainder of the month. Light baconers of good trade quality, dressing 100 lb., ranged in price from 63/6 to 67/6 per head or 8½d per lb.

It is understood that the quotation for baconers sold "over the scale" was unchanged at 6½d per lb.

Backfatters lightly supplied.

The percentage of backfatters penned was again rather small and prime descriptions were difficult to secure. A fair proportion, however, was of fair to good trade standard. While most of the pigs were of light to medium weight, a number of heavy to extra heavy animals was noticed during the period. Prices showed marked fluctuations but, on the whole, were better than those obtained during August. On the second sale day values rose up to 25/- per head, only to fall 10/- to 15/- per head at the following market, when quotations on a per lb. basis were 5½d to 5¾d for good to prime pigs dressing 200/350 lb. and 4½d to 5¼d for those dressing 350/500 lb. and over.

Values mostly dearer.

The market generally may be considered a very satisfactory one for the producers, except where lightweight pigs were concerned. It may also be regarded as more favourable than that of the corresponding period of 1939, as all classes except light porkers were dearer, despite the fact that supplies were much lighter during 1939. The consistently large consignments of pigs of porker weight from country centres probably accounts for the lower prices ruling during September, 1940, for the lighter animals; heavy porkers maintained relatively high values in sympathy with baconers.

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G.C. & J.W.

SATISFACTORY SALES OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES AT THE CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.

Light shipments of Tasmanian apples.

The season for apples being well advanced, shipments from Tasmania were light, but some consignments arrived from Victoria, while Western Australia forwarded Granny Smiths. Although withdrawals from cool stores within New South Wales continued, latest advices show that fairly large quantities were held at the close of September.

There was a good demand for any dessert lines of quality, but many lots lacked colour or had reached an over-mature stage. Local Granny Smiths were in request, while Western Australian packs of this variety also sold well. High prices were obtained for some choice local Delicious but generally values for all other varieties were fairly steady.

High prices for choice pears.

The pears on offer were principally Packham's Triumph and Josephines from Victoria. Any choice fruit sold well and prices were at high levels.

Consignments of Navel oranges decline.

Navel oranges from coastal districts and the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area continued to come forward freely during the first three weeks of September, but there was a noticeable decline in consignments prior to the close of the month. Satisfactory clearances were effected at up to 10/- for coastal and to 9/- per bushel case for Irrigation Area packs. Oranges from Victoria and South Australia were on offer, also, and some special brands from the latter State realised high prices.

Some very good quality common oranges were available and a few new season Valencias appeared on the market.

Limited inquiry for lemons.

Choice mandarins cleared promptly, but small fruit was offered at very low rates, sales being difficult to effect. There was limited inquiry for lemons throughout the month but price levels were maintained.

Heavier stocks of bananas available.

Although heavier supplies of bananas were available, generally all lines sold well. Values fluctuated only slightly but an easier tendency was noticeable at the close of the month.

Fairly constant rates for pineapples.

Despite the large consignments of pineapples received from Queensland, little difficulty was experienced in disposing of stocks. Prices remained fairly constant, selected packs realising 10/- and the general range of values being mostly from 7/- to 9/- per tropical case.

Coloured papaws in request.

There was a good inquiry for papaws, particularly for any lots showing the requisite degree of colour, and firm rates ruled for such fruit. Towards the end of September, the quantities coming forward were increasing and the market was slightly weaker.

Values of passion-fruit advance as supplies decrease.

Supplies of choice passion-fruit gradually decreased as the month progressed, and consequently an improvement in values took place. At closing, the market was very firm and prices appeared likely to advance further.

Good clearances of vegetables.

In the vegetable section, trading generally was satisfactory throughout, and, despite heavy supplies of some lines, noticeably peas, good clearances were effected. Values mostly were maintained at fairly even levels, but prices of Queensland tomatoes suffered a setback towards the close of the month, owing to particularly heavy consignments.

Large receivals of peas from Coastal districts.

Notwithstanding the extremely dry winter and early spring, exceptionally large quantities of peas continued to arrive from coastal districts, while a few lots from inland areas were noticeable just prior to the end of September. Quality for the most part was only fair. Purchases for the Melbourne market and for canneries enabled agents to clear stocks daily and to maintain values. On one occasion, when supplies dropped to about 1,000 bags, the price rose to 10/- per bushel for choice lots, and on the last day of the month, when rain prevented picking operations, values again reached this level.

Smaller offerings of beans.

There was a falling-off in consignments of North Coast and Queensland beans, but increasing quantities were forwarded from the Terrigal district of New South Wales. Choice lines cleared readily at good prices, but inferior lots proved difficult

/to .....

to sell. Buyers showed a preference for the Tuggerah beans and values generally ranged around 12/- to 14/- per bushel. Recent good rains in the Metropolitan and Gosford areas should improve the outlook for bean supplies.

Heavy consignments of Queensland tomatoes reduce values.

During the first three weeks of September stocks of tomatoes were not heavy and values showed a gradual improvement, especially as temperatures were rising. Sales of all descriptions were good. Apparently the rates ruling on the Sydney market influenced growers in Queensland to consign as many lots as possible, with the result that on Monday, 25th September, over 40,000 cases were received. The quality of many packs was poor and, as glasshouse and North Coast supplies were fairly plentiful, values of Queensland tomatoes fell sharply, rates ranging from 2/6 to 4/- per half-case.

There was a fairly good demand for glasshouse lots; at times, stocks were rather heavy and the market weak, but purchases of quantities for Melbourne helped to maintain prices. At closing, however, the wet weather was responsible for a dull inquiry and rates dropped sharply. Most of the North Coast consignments opened up satisfactorily and cleared promptly.

Cauliflowers sell well.

The cauliflowers available were mainly from local sources and some very good quality heads were included. Rates fluctuated, but the best quality did not go below 8/- per dozen, and up to 14/- was paid on some occasions.

Restricted inquiry for cabbages.

Demand for cabbages was limited and growers generally had to accept low prices to clear stocks. Values mainly ranged from 9d to 3/- per dozen, although at times it was difficult to obtain better than 2/- per dozen for choice heads.

Lettuce and bunched vegetables in firm request.

For the greater part of the month lettuce were in keen request and choice packs realised up to 10/- per case.

Bunched vegetables were not heavily supplied and daily clearances were effected at firm rates.

R.M.

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ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY GOODS YARD AND SUSSEX STREET SALES.

Lighter stocks of Tasmanian potatoes.

Receivals of Tasmanian potatoes in Sussex Street during September totalled 104,305 bags or 19,745 bags below the previous month's shipments. Although the major portion consisted of No.1 Grade Brownells of generally good quality, it was stated by vendors that the proportion of seed and No. 3 Grade lines was too high and that stocks of No.1 Grade were insufficient to meet the firm request.

During September, rates ruling in Sussex Street for Brownells ranged from £14.0.0 to £15.0.0, whilst Whiteskins were offered at from £13.0.0 to £13.10.0 per ton.

Increased consignments of New Zealand potatoes were available in Sussex Street, 20,200 bags being received. Whiteskin offerings sold readily at from £12.10.0 to £13.0.0 per ton. The quality of the Dakota Red, however, was only fair, and this variety was in moderate request at from £12.0.0 to £12.10.0 per ton.

Growers in the Northern Rivers districts of New South Wales shipped 936 bags of potatoes to Sussex Street during the month. Included in the consignments were some new tubers, which proved to be of good quality, considering that it is so early in the season. Reports indicated a keen demand for all lines at auction and realisations were as follow:- New - New Grade £15.0.0 to £17.11.8, No.2 Grade £8.10.0 to £11.0.0 per ton, Chat Grade 6/- to 10/9 per bag; Old - No.1 Grade £13.0.0, Seed Grade £6.0.0 to £6.10.0 per ton and No.3 Grade 11/- per bag.

Arrivals of local potatoes at Alexandria during the period under review consisted of 1,903 bags of "Old", including 858 bags from Guyra, 234 from Glencoe and 230 from Grafton and 378 bags of New, of which 358 bags were from Raleigh and 20 bags from Grafton. For the most part, the market for all varieties was quite satisfactory and clearances by auction were effected at the following rates:- New - New Grade £16.0.0 to £18.15.0, No. 2 Grade £8.10.0 to £16.0.0 per ton, Chat Grade 3/- to 10/3 per bag; Old - No.1 Grade £11.0.0 to £13.0.0, No.2 Grade £4.0.0 to £9.10.0, Seed Grade £4.0.0 to £12.5.0, No. 3 Grade £4.0.0 to £6.10.0, Stock Food Grade £5.15.0 to £9.3.4 per ton, No. 3 Grade 4/-, Stock Food Grade 4/3 to 7/-, Chat Grade 4/3 to 6/6 per bag.

Further decline in price of Victorian Brown Spanish onions.

The market rates for Victorian Brown Spanish onions in Sussex Street declined sharply during September, when receivals totalled 213 tons and 6,837 bags. The price fixed in the first

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trading week of the month was £9.0.0 per ton, a fall of £1.0.0 on the final rate for August, and subsequently quotations dropped by a similar amount to £8.0.0 per ton. Quotes for the 120 bags of Victorian onions received at Alexandria were not disclosed.

Firmer inquiry for Queensland pumpkins.

The 919 bags of Queensland pumpkins to hand in Sussex Street represented a lighter supply than the previous month's arrivals and, furthermore, the major portion was consigned to agents in the City Municipal Market. The rate of £9.0.0 per ton was obtained during the second week of September, no stocks being available in the subsequent periods. The 57 trucks in position at Alexandria met a firm request and the prices of from £7.0.0 to £8.0.0 per ton ruling early in the month were increased gradually until £10.0.0 was quoted in the final trading week. Arrivals of local pumpkins consisted of 50 bags in Sussex Street and 3 trucks at Alexandria; these were of mixed quality and realisations were as follow:- In Sussex Street - £5.0.0 to £6.0.0; At Alexandria - By auction £6.0.0 to £8.0.0, By private treaty £8.0.0 to £9.0.0 per

Smaller supplies of other Tasmanian vegetables.

Consignments of other Tasmanian vegetables to the Sydney market during September included 2,561 bags of swedes, 2,288 bags of carrots and 345 bags of parsnips. The market was very firm and ready disposals were effected, realisations being:- Swedes £4.0.0 to £8.0.0, Carrots £4.0.0 to £12.0.0 and Parsnips £16.0.0 to £18.0.0 per ton.

Local growers forwarded comparatively heavy stocks of swedes in the closing week, when 863 bags were available and were in good request at £4.0.0 to £6.0.0 by auction and from £6.0.0 to £8.0.0 per ton by private treaty. The 30 bags of swedes shipped to Sussex Street were cleared at £5.0.0 per ton. The 31 bags of local carrots railed to Alexandria were disposed of by auction at from £9.0.0 to £12.15.0 per ton.

Sussex Street quotations for Tasmanian dry peas remained steady throughout the month, the Blue variety clearing well at 22/6 and Grey lots being in moderate demand at from 9/- to 9/6 per bushel.

White chaff sells well.

A firm inquiry prevailed for all classes of oaten and wheaten chaff and very good disposals at increased prices were reported. Arrivals of oaten chaff comprised 9 trucks from Victoria and 226 trucks from New South Wales centres. For the first time for many years large quantities of chaff were cleared at auction, some very satisfactory rates being obtained. Although the 62 trucks of wheaten chaff at rail were in excess of the previous month's stocks, sales were firm. Prices paid were as follow:-

/Oaten .....

Oaten - Victorian - By private treaty £6.5.0 to £7.5.0; Local - By private treaty £5.0.0 to £7.15.0, By auction £5.0.0 to £7.0.0, damaged £3.0.0; Wheaten - By private treaty £5.0.0 to £7.10.0, By auction £4.0.0 to £6.10.0 per ton.

High rates for lucerne chaff and hay.

The 2 trucks of Queensland lucerne chaff were in very strong demand at from £10.0.0 to £12.0.0 per ton, whilst the inquiry for the 42 trucks from New South Wales districts was extremely strong, ready disposals being reported at from £8.10.0 to £14.0.0 per ton. Arrivals of lucerne hay comprised 159 trucks from Maitland and 49 from other centres. All varieties met a firm request, and realisations ranged as follow:- Maitland - new green - large bales £3.0.0 to £7.10.0, small bales £6.10.0 to £9.0.0; dry £6.10.0 to £7.15.0; Other centres - By auction £3.15.0 to £8.0.0, By private treaty £8.10.0 to £13.0.0 per ton. No prices were quoted for the truck of Queensland lucerne hay. Growers on the Hunter River shipped 374 bales of new green lucerne hay to Sussex Street, and these sold readily at from £3.5.0 to £6.15.0 per ton.

Only limited portions of the 47 trucks of local oaten hay received at Alexandria were available for sale; these brought from £3.10.0 to £5.3.4 at auction and from £5.15.0 to £6.0.0 per ton by private treaty. Auction sales for the 3 trucks of wheaten hay were effected at £2.3.4 per ton.

Heavy stocks of straw at Alexandria.

Arrivals of straw at the Alexandria Railway Goods Yard aggregated 28 trucks from Victoria and 79 from within this State. Although stocks were much heavier than those for August prices showed little material change. Disposals were recorded at the following rates:- Victorian - By private treaty to £5.0.0, Local - By auction £3.10.0 to £5.0.0, inferior from £1.10.0; By private treaty £4.0.0 to £5.5.0, damaged from £3.10.0 per ton. As the 3,554 bales of Tasmanian straw represented an increased supply prices were lower at from £5.0.0 to £5.10.0 per ton.

Ready sales of grain.

Receivals of grain at Alexandria during September included the following quantities:- Wheat - 40 trucks, Maize - Queensland 3,185 bags, local 1,524 bags; Oats 3 trucks. All varieties sold very firmly at higher prices than those ruling in the previous month, realisations being:- Wheat - By auction 2/6 to 4/4, By private treaty 4/2 to 4/4; Maize - Queensland - By auction 4/8 to 5/3, By private treaty 4/8 to 5/-; Local - By private treaty 4/8 to 4/11; Oats - By auction 2/9 to 2/11 per bushel.

The 880 bags of maize shipped to Sussex Street from the Northern Rivers met a very strong demand at from 4/8 to 5/2 for yellow and 5/- per bushel for white.

E.A.G.

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WHOLESALE PRICES OF VARIOUS COMMODITIES IN SYDNEY (N.S.W.) DURING SEPTEMBER, 1940, AND CORRESPONDING FIGURES AT 31st AUGUST, 1939.

The following table gives particulars of the range of prices in Sydney as collected and recorded by the State Marketing Bureau in respect of various commodities for the periods indicated:

Commodity	September, 1940		31st August, 1939
	From	To	
Wheat - Home Consumption:			
Bulk - per bushel	3/11¼) unchanged		2/4
Bagged " "	4/2¼)		2/5
Flour - per ton	£10.11.7 (plus £1.18.5 tax)	£10.7.2 (plus £2.2.10 tax)	£6.12.3 (plus £6.2.9 tax)
Bran - per ton	£5.10.0	£6.0.0	£4.5.0
Pollard " "	£5.10.0	£6.0.0	£4.5.0
Eggs (hen) per dozen	1/2 - unchanged.		1/-
Butter:			
Choice per cwt.	161/2)		161/2
First Quality " "	156/6) unchanged		156/6
Second " " "	151/10)		151/10
Cheese:			
Loaf per lb.	11d) unchanged		11d.
Large " "	10½d)		10½d
Special brands	1/-	1/2	1/2

Pigs (Abattoir Sales):	September, 1940		29th August, 1939	
	From	To	From	To
Good to prime -	per head		per head	
Porkers - Extra light	25/6	39/6	31/6	40/6
" - Light	35/6	43/6	39/6	44/6
" - Medium weight	39/6	54/6	43/6	51/6
" - Heavy	49/6	59/6	50/6	54/6
Baconers	63/6	91/6	60/6	75/6
Backfatters	£4.5.0	£10.8.6	£4.5.0	£8.10.0

Note: The pig sales nearest to 31st August, 1939, were those held on 29th August, 1939.

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RETURN OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES IMPORTED INTO NEW SOUTH WALES BY LAND AND SEA - AUGUST, 1940.

F R U I T.

STATE	Pineapples tropical cases	Bananas tropical cases	Other Fruit cases	Tomatoes half-bushel cases	TOTALS packages
Queensland	22,519	8,551	12,822 x	144,053	187,945
Victoria	4	31	40,166 ✓	570	40,771
Tasmania	-	-	167,587 ∎	-	167,587
Sth. Aust.	-	-	1,969	-	1,969
West Aust.	-	-	3,562	-	3,562
TOTALS	22,523	8,582	226,106	144,623	401,834

x Also 18,906 trays Strawberries and 250 bags Passion-fruit.

✓ Also 463 bags Lemons. ∎ Also 171 bags Apples.

V E G E T A B L E S.

STATE	Potatoes bags	Onions bags	Swedes bags	Pumpkins bags	Pumpkins tons	Cucs. & Chillies cases	Other Vegs. pkges.	TOTALS pkges.	TOTALS tons
Queensland	170	26	-	4,796	1,287½	843	12,229	18,064	1,287½
Victoria	10,293	19,479	344	-	-	-	19,910	50,026	-
Tasmania	113,624	-	8,322	-	-	-	3,355	125,301	-
Sth. Aust.	909	283	-	-	-	-	12,042	13,234	-
West Aust.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	124,996	19,788	8,666	4,796	1,287½	843	47,536	206,625	1,287½

STATE MARKETING BUREAU - DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, N.S.W.

P 40-4

54

Williams - $2\frac{1}{2}$" - $2\frac{3}{4}$"
Extra Fancy & Fancy

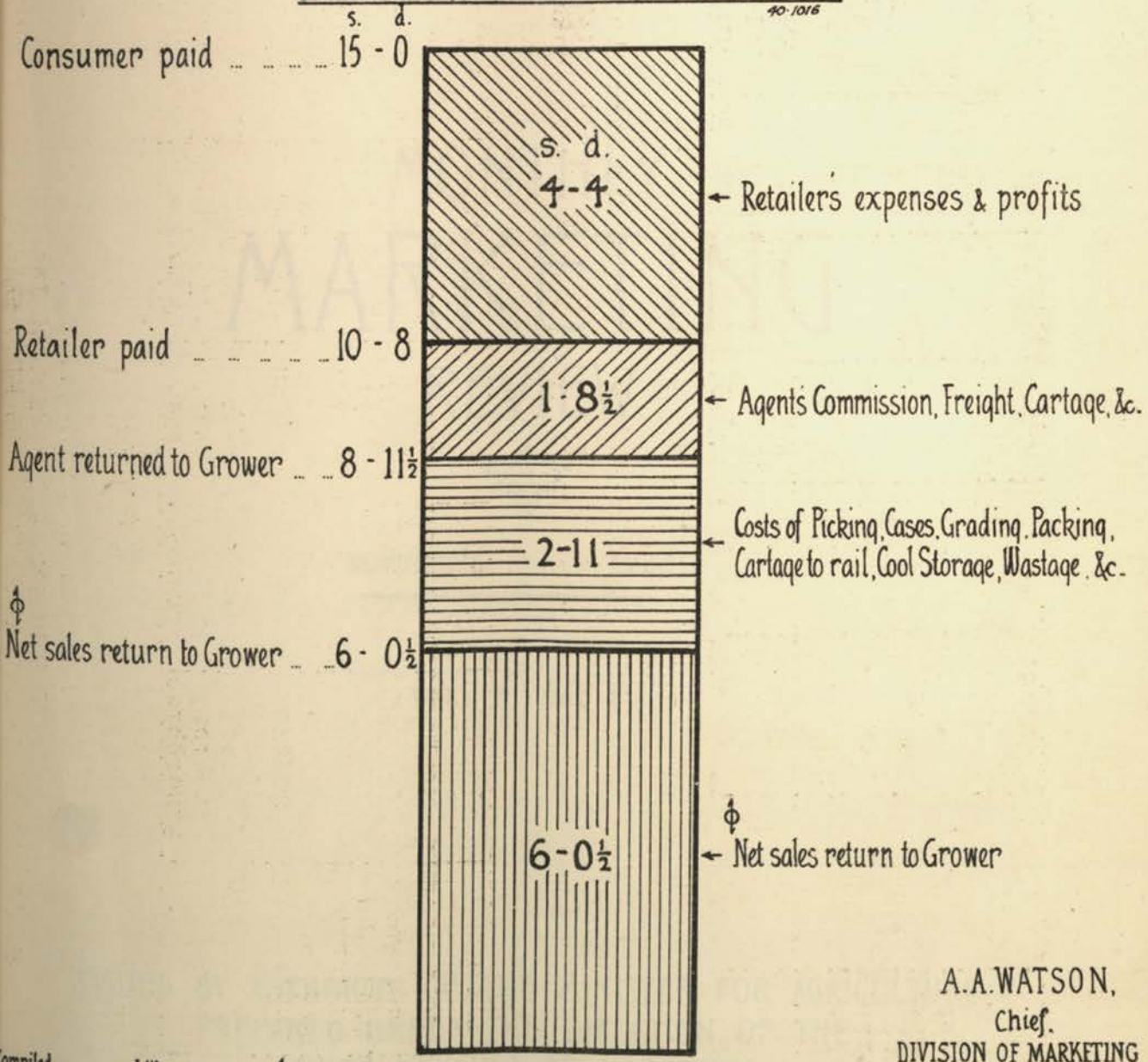
PEARS

Per
Bushel Case

SPREAD BETWEEN THE RETURN TO THE PRODUCER AND THE PRICE PAID BY THE CONSUMER

January 1940 - March 1940.

40-1016



A.A. WATSON,
Chief.
DIVISION OF MARKETING

Compiled - J.W. 25-9-40
Compilation Checked - C.K. 25-9-40
Drawn - E.H.S. 27-9-40
Graph Checked - C.K. 27-9-40

Φ *Costs of production should be deducted from this return.*

(Note: Based on direct Marketing & does not take into consideration Pooling under Apple & Pear Acquisition Scheme - operative from 1st March, 1940.)