

a dullness is expected to set in which will last for several weeks. The season has been a good one altogether, and there is a general feeling of satisfaction with its results. Collections are reported only fair, but an improvement is looked for during the current week.

FISH, POULTRY AND GAME.

The variety of fish on the market has changed but little during the week, the fresh fish being represented by Lake Superior trout which have sold at 11c, Lake Manitoba white fish which have held at 8c, and jack fish which have sold at 5c. Fresh salmon and halibut have disappeared, and so has the demand for these and other novelties. The variety of dried fish is confined to the most staple kinds. Oysters have not changed in price and are quoted at \$2.50 to \$4 a gallon in bulk, and in cans 45c to 50c for standards, and 55c to 60c for selects. In poultry there has been a little collapse, the Christmas demand having cleared out the market. On Tuesday 25c was asked for both dressed turkeys and chickens and in the evening none were to be had at these figures. None are now on the market, and no consignments are expected for a few days. Game is still to be had. Prairie chicken, ducks, rabbits, and venison comprising the selection. There has been no change in the price of these during the week.

FUEL.

The scarcity of coal reported in last issue has ceased and dealers have a sufficiency to supply all demands. There has been no change in the prices during the week, and anthracite is still quoted at \$13.75 a ton on track. Bituminous is quoted at \$12.40 for steam and \$13.50 for grate coal. Several cars of lignite from the new coal fields near Medicine Hat, are expected to arrive in town shortly and it remains to be seen what effect the placing of this coal upon the Winnipeg market will have on prices of other fuel. The supply of wood in the city is still abundant, and prices have not changed since our last report.

FRUIT.

There has been almost no change in the variety of fruit on the market during the week, and prices have been almost as free of change. The demand for all classes has naturally fallen off very much since the closing of the holiday trade, and a quietness prevades the trade. Apples are still quoted at \$6 to \$7 a barrel, according to quality. Valencia oranges are still to be had, although they are getting scarce. Quotations remain at \$14.50 a case. Lemons are to be had at \$6, but are not much in demand. Cranberries hold firm at \$17 a barrel, and are getting scarcer. Malaga grapes have held steady at \$10 and \$11 a barrel. Valencia raisins are quoted at \$3.50 a box. California pears are now nearly out of the market, only a few boxes in poor condition having been offered during the week. Figs in mats have been quoted at 10c; in large boxes at 14c, and in small boxes at 20c. Honey in the comb is still to be had at 35c.

FURS AND HIDES.

Altogether there has been considerable of an increase in the receipt of raw furs during the

past week, the supply has not been heavy enough to warrant our giving wholesale quotations. The demand for green hides has been more active during the week, and there has been a slight stiffening in prices, 64c being the highest quotation. Pelts are very scarce, and good Novembers are wanted at 60c.

FURNITURE.

There has been no improvement in trade in this branch during the week, and matters have been rather quiet. In retail circles a large business has been doing, as soon as the bustle of the holidays thoroughly subsides, a good wholesale demand is expected to set in. The trade of the past week has been very light but a very decided improvement is looked for during the present week, and continuation of reasonably good business during the balance of January is expected.

GROCERIES.

Quite a quiet feeling has prevailed this branch of trade since the holiday demands have ceased. Fancy lines are no longer in active demand, but a good trade is being done in staples, which prevents quietness from becoming actual dullness. Prices have changed almost none. Sugars are quoted, raw 9½, bright yellows, 10c to 10½c; granulated, 11c; Paris lumps, 12½c. Coffees have been quoted, Rios, 16c to 22c; Java 22c to 32c; Mocha, 35c. Dried apples are quoted at 12c, and are still scarce. Dried peaches are quoted at 11c, and evaporated 35c. There is no tendency towards any decline in prices.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

The trade in shelf hardware has been reasonably good during the week, and promises to remain so for some time yet. In heavy goods the demand has been very light, and little improvement is looked during the present month. The demand for metal goods has been anything but active, and the trade at present is really quiet. Quotations have been as follows. Tin plate 14 x 50, \$7.75 to \$8; 20 x 23, \$15 to \$15.25. Bar iron, \$3.75 to \$4, Sheet iron, 5½c. Iron piping 25 per cent. off list prices. Ingot tin 32c to 33c. Pig lead 6½c to 7c. Galvanized iron, No. 28, 8½c to 9c according to brand.

LUMBER.

This branch of business has been the duller during the past week. The light demand of the past week or two ceased altogether during the holidays, and dealers are having scarcely any business. The prospect is not good at present for any improvement. Prices remain the same as the week previous; Sheeting \$28; common dimension \$30 to \$32; fencing \$28 to \$34; stock \$33 to \$40; flooring \$35 to \$45; partition \$45 to \$50; graded clear, \$50 to \$70 shingles \$4.50 to \$6; lath \$5.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

With the demand for fancy goods for holiday purposes over, there has been a much quieter feeling in this line of business, but affairs cannot be called dull, as a steady demand exists for staple goods, and is expected to continue for weeks. Collections are reported good both in the city and the country; and there is general satisfaction throughout the trade in regard to the extent of December's business.

WINE AND SPIRITS.

There has been somewhat of a falling off in this branch of trade, and the week's business has not been quite so active as that of the one previous. There cannot be said to be any real dullness, but rush and bustle has ceased, and trade is down to a steady flow.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been very little difference between the state of monetary affairs in the city last week and the week previous. The rush of retail business was the only activity in the city's trade, and the demand for money for commercial affairs generally was not heavy. The calls upon the banks have consequently been few and light, and no strain has been felt. The freedom with which retailers have been turning over money has also helped to do away with the strain. There has, however, been no inclinations on the part of banks to loosen up, and holidays fairly over the stringency of December will no doubt be maintained to some extent. There has been no lowering of rates and commercial paper is still held at 8 to 10 per cent. for first class and 10 to 12 for ordinary. In mortgage loans very little has been done, and rates are still quoted at 9 to 10 per cent. The depression of stocks in the United States during the past week it is not expected will affect monetary affairs in this city, or not so much as will balance the freedom of circulation in local mercantile circles during the past two weeks.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The past week has not been a busy one in grain so far as the street receipts were concerned. By rail, however, they have been heavy, especially in wheat, of which the mills have had an abundance. The quality generally has shown some improvement upon the receipts of a few previous weeks, and very little damp or damaged cars have reached the city. Shipping to the Atlantic ports has been carried on although rates are now full, and advantages to shippers correspondingly poor. Somewhere about twenty cars have went to these markets, but a further falling off is unavoidable if present high freights continue. The shipments of flour to similar markets have also fallen off very much, and for the week are limited to a few cars. Oats have been plentiful, although an attempt to lessen the supply by storing at points in the country is being made. Barley has been more liberal in supply, several cars having been received by rail, none of which went beyond medium in quality.

WHEAT.

There has been a decline in prices during the week, doubtless owing to the advance in freights to the East. The plentiful supply at the disposal of millers has no doubt had a depressing tendency also. For several days past 78c. has been the price for No. 1 hard, and lower grades have sold down to 72c. The weak state of eastern and American markets does not warrant the expectation of an advance.

OATS.

During the week there has been very little change in the price of this grain. The range has been from 40c. to 45c., but only choice lots have brought the latter figure. There have been a number of cars of very light weight sold at 40c., and one leading dealer intimates an intention of paying only 38c. for such cars during the current week.