

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The usual complaints are heard in trade circles about slow collections, and generally the situation is close, the supply of the circulating medium being decidedly lighter than the demand. At the banks there is no change to note, and commercial discount rates are holding at the old quotations of 7 to 9 per cent. as to quality of security. There is considerable mortgage loan business doing, at about 8 per cent. for small farm loans, and 6 to 9 per cent. on city property, the bottom rate in the latter case usually being for irregular business, outside of the loan companies.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The city was decidedly quiet last week in a business way. The busy seeding time is evidently having its usual effect upon trade. The prevalence of considerable cold, chilly weather also exerts a quieting influence. Speaking generally business in wholesale branches is decidedly backward, but this is in accordance with the season, which is also backward, there having been very little warm weather to speak of yet. This is shown especially in the arrival of spring produce, which has not been sufficient to supply the city consumption.

DRUGS.

Prices here are as follows: Howard's quinine, 60 to 75c; German quinine, 50 to 60c; morphia, \$2.25 to \$2.50; iodide of potassium, 4 1/2 to \$4.75; bromide potassium, 65 to 75. English camphor, 80 to 90c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 65 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$6 to \$8; bicarb soda, \$3.75 to \$4.50; sal soda, \$2.50 to \$3; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5; sulphur roll, \$4.50 to \$5; American blue vitrol, 10 to 12c.

DRY GOODS.

Business is generally dull and the season backward. In clothing travellers have been on the road for some weeks with full samples, and reports sent in do not indicate that they are doing very well. If they had waited a couple of months longer before going out, it would have been better for all concerned. As it was some travellers were out with full samples before their customers had received their full complement of spring goods, and in a backward season like the present retailers are not likely to feel like ordering under such circumstances. The first of June would have been better than the first of April to start with full samples. As it is the ground will have to be worked over a second time.

Reports from eastern Canada indicate that the woollen mills are not busy, as orders for fall goods are light. This is owing to the mild weather in the east last winter, which seriously affected the sale of heavy goods, causing large quantities to be carried over to next winter.

DRIED FRUITS.

The situation in dried fruits continues very strong both locally and in outside markets. All fresh importations cost too high here to admit of sales at prices lately ruling in this market. Stocks of Valencia raisins in Canada and the United States it is claimed will not last more than a couple of months, and new fruit is a long way ahead yet, with no stocks to speak of in first hands. California dried fruits are away

up. Prices here are as follows:—California London layer raisins, \$3.00 per box, do. 1/2 boxes, \$1.00; Valencia raisins, \$2.70 to \$2.80 per box; Valencia layer raisins, \$3.00 per box; currants, 7c per lb.; dried apples, 7 to 7 1/2c per lb.; evaporated apples, 13 1/2c; choice new Elme figs in 10 lb. boxes, 18c per lb.; choice figs, 15c per lb.; fancy Elme layer figs, 20 lb boxes, 20c per lb.; figs in 1 lb cartons, per doz, \$1.75; golden dates, in 50 lb. boxes, 9c per lb.; California evaporated fruit—apricots, 21 to 23c per lb.; peeled peaches, 30 to 32c per lb.; pitted plums, 14c; raspberries, 35c; French prunes, 4c per lb.; nectarines, 18 to 20c.

FISH AND OYSTERS.

Prices are steady and the variety in the market about the same as a week ago. Lake Winnipeg fresh fish are selling as follows: Whitefish, 8c per pound, sturgeon, 8c per pound; jackfish, 1c, pickerel 4c. Lake Superior trout, 10c. Fresh salt water fish are quoted: Salmon, 18c; halibut, 20c; cod, 8c; haddock, 10c per pound; B C. black cod, 15c. Fresh brook trout, 25c per pound. Smoked finnan haddies, 12 1/2c per pound; smoked white fish, 10c per pound; smoked gold-eyes, 40c per dozen; salt whitefish, in 100 lbs kegs, 5c per pound. Oysters. \$2 per gallon for standards and \$2.50 for selects. Can oysters are quoted at 35c for standard, 40c for selects, and 45c for extras.

GREEN FRUITS AND NUTS.

Cold weather interferes with a very free movement in fruits. Oranges have not advanced as yet, but are firm and dealers are talking of an advance soon. Messina blood oranges are out of the market. Some California bloods are obtainable. All good apples are now held at well up to \$7 per barrel, though damaged lots are selling at \$2 and upward. Several vessels are billed to arrive at Montreal with Mediterranean oranges and lemons, which will be put up at public sale, commencing this week. Prices here are: Lemons, Messinas, 360 count, \$6.00; 300 count, \$6.50 per box. California seedling oranges, \$4.50 to \$5 per box; California navel seedless oranges, \$5.50 to \$5.75 per box; California blood oranges, \$7 to \$7.50 a box; Apples, \$7 per barrel for good stock. Bananas \$3.25 to \$3.75 per bunch. Comb honey 22c per pound. Maple syrup, gallon cans, \$1.25c each; maple sugar, 14 to 15c per pound. Nuts—S. S. Taragona almonds, 20c per pound; Grenoble walnuts, 18c; Sicilian, filberts, extra large, 15c; peanuts, white Virginia, green, 15c; roasted, 18c; coconuts, per hundred \$9.00; hickory nuts 10c per pound.

GROCERIES.

The local situation is steady and quiet, and no further changes to note in prices. The situation in sugars is strong in eastern Canada and New York, and a further increase of 40,000 tons in the beet crop estimate has not influenced the situation. Consumption has increased nearly 50,000 since January 1, in the United States, as compared with last year. Further purchases of refined have been made for export to Australia. According to Willett & Gray the total stock in all the principal countries is 1,494,795 tons against \$94,865 tons at same time last year. Low grade teas are scarce and strong in eastern markets. Canned vegetables are firmer, and it is claimed that full prices are being readily obtained in the east. Prices here are:—Sugars, yellow, 6 1/2 to 7c, as to quality; granulated, 7 1/2 to 8c; lumps, 9 1/2 to 9 3/4c. Coffee, green,—Rios, from 22 to 23c;

Java, 25 to 27c; Old Government, 27 to 30c; Mochas, 32 to 35c. Teas: Japan, 23 to 46c; Congous, 22 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 60c; young hyson, 26 to 50c. T. & B. tobacco, 56c per pound; Lilly, 7s, 52c; diamond solace, 12s, 48c; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W., caddies, 47 1/2c; Honeyuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 53c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 56c; Index d thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunetto Solace, 12s, 48c. McAlpine Tobacco Co's plug tobacco: Old Crow, 46c; Woodcock, 52c; Beaver, 63c; Jubilee, 60c; Ancho, 59c; cut tobacco: Silver Ash, 65c; Cut Cavendish, 70c; Senator, 80c; Standard Kentucky, light, 85; do dark, 80c. Special brands of cigars are quoted: Reliance, \$50; Gen. Arthur, \$50; Mikado, \$40; Terrier, \$30 per 1000. Mauricio, \$42.50; Soudan Whips, \$40.00; Turkish Caps, \$32.50; Commercial Traveller, \$25. Lion "L" brand mixed pickles, in kegs, are quoted: Three gallons, \$2.50; do five gallons, \$3.50; do 10 gallon kegs, \$6.50.

HARDWARE.

The hardware trade is backward, and the general disposition is to hold off. The immediate future of iron and steel is very uncertain. The reaction from the rapid speculative advance has left the situation extremely nervous and unsettled. Prices have continued downward in British markets, and in this condition buyers are holding off. Some British manufacturers are in difficulties owing to the heavy decline in values. Tin plates are depressed on the other side. Those who take the bright side of the question claim that the statistical position in iron and steel is strong and improving, and that shipments are large. In the United States the outlook is considered to be improving and it is hoped that bottom has been reached. Quotations here are: Cut nails, 10d, and upwards, \$3.50; I. C. tin plates, \$6 to \$6.50 as to grade; I. C. tin plates double, \$12.00 to \$12.50; Canada plates, \$4.25; sheet iron, \$4.00 to \$5.50, according to grade; iron pipe, net pieces, 1 inch, 11.20c; 1 1/2 inch, 14 1/2c; 1 3/4 inch, 18 1/2c; 2 inch, 28c per foot; ingot tin, 32c per lb; bar tin, 33c per pound; sheet zinc, 8c per lb.; galvanized iron, 28 gauge, 8 to 9c lb; bar iron, \$3.60 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6 1/2 to 6 3/4 per lb.; tarred felt \$2.40 to \$2.50 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6 1/2 nett.

LEATHER, LEATHER GOODS AND FINDINGS.

Quotations are as follows: Spanish sole, 24 to 25c; slaughter sole, 26 to 30c; French calf, first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 75c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, \$3; Bourdon kip, 70c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No. 1, wax upper, 40 to 45c; grain upper, 50c; harness leather, 26 to 29c for plump stock. English oak butts, 60c; buffe, 17 to 21c a foot; cordovan, 17 to 21c; pebble, 21c; colored linings, 12c; shoe uppers, from \$1.25 to \$2.75. Horse collars—Short straw, \$22 der dozen; long straw, \$33 per dozen; long straw bodies, \$22; Boston team (thong), \$27 per dozen.

LUMBER.

Following are list of quotations f.o.b. at the Lake of the Woods mills. Dimension: 2x4 to 12x12, 12 to 16 ft long, \$14; do. 10, 18 and 20 ft long, \$15; \$1 per M advance on each inch over 12in surface; 50c per M on each foot over the above lengths to 24ft long; \$1 per M advance on each foot over 24ft long; surfacing, 50c per M; surfacing and sizing, \$1 per M. Boards: 1st common, rough, \$16.50, dressed, \$17.50; 2nd common, rough, \$14, dressed, \$15; Culls, rough, \$10, dressed, \$11; 1st common, stock, 12in, rough, \$19, dressed, \$20; do. 8 and