

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

In financial matters in the city the steady tension still holds out, although during the past week it cannot be said to have increased. It seems as if affairs have been gradually adapting themselves to the situation, and with banks and their customers working in unison and with the same aim it is astonishing how seeming difficulties have been overcome. The paralysis in the movement of grain to market still continues, and C. P. R. officials are unable longer to excuse matters or hold out any hope of immediate relief. By this slow movement several hundreds thousand dollars of bank funds are locked up fast in grain handling, which should be available for business generally. Still the banks have done wonders in supplying the demands of regular trade, although they cannot afford any lavishness. They seem to have been dealing out funds, as bread would be dealt out in a besieged city, allowing enough to keep all in life, but allowing no over supply to any. A very welcome increase of cash returns from the country during the last ten days or so has aided in lowering the tension a little, and on Saturday the fourth the proportion of mercantile paper paid, although below an average for this time of year, was considerably in excess of what was anticipated two weeks previously. Besides supplementary payments during this week are expected to still improve the showing. It is unnecessary to state that the discount rates are still firm, and the very best paper is taxed at 8 per cent. In loans on real estate mortgage business has been very quiet. Money is finding such easy investment at high rates in the east, that companies are not inclined to push new business at 8 per cent. the recognized interest rate here, and farmers with crops locked up in their hands are not speculative enough to incur any avoidable obligations. A little improvement in interest payments is the only change noted.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

There has been little change in the situation in local wholesale circles during the past week, quietness still continuing to be the ruling feature. The freight blockade, instead of improving, has been daily growing more intense, until it has become almost unbearable. The country has certainly not experienced such a trying time for years, and all this is solely due to what may be termed artificial causes, namely, railway monopoly. The country is full of grain throughout the length and breadth of the province, but scarcely a car moves, consequently money is as close as ever, and customers have to be carried until some return can be received from the harvest, but of this there is little immediate prospect. From all appearances, it will be weeks, if not a couple of months before there will be much change. Of course spring goods can be shovelled on customers, but with the outlook for cash so impropitious, there is little encouragement for wholesalers.

CANNED GOODS.

Advices from the Columbia River all point to \$1.25 as the rate for fish to be exacted from the salmon packers by the Fishermen's Union the coming season. This information does not come authoritatively from the Union, but is contain-

ed in letters from packers to their correspondents. At this rate the cost of packing will be brought up to \$1.47½ per dozen cans, to which would have to be added the profit to the canner. The freight rate to the East, rail and lake, will probably be 15c per dozen, thus bringing the cost laid down to about \$1.07½ to \$1.70. Should such an extreme be brought about by the fishermen's action, it will undoubtedly lessen materially the consumption of this favorite fish, restricting packing operations on the river, and at the same time create a high market for the competitors on the outside rivers. Local trade is steady. Prices are: Tomatoes, \$3.25; peas, \$3.25 to \$3.45; beans, \$2.75 to \$3.00; corn, \$3.25 to \$3.40; peaches, (Canadian) \$7.00 to \$8.00; apples, \$3.25 to \$3.50; pears, \$3.25 to \$3.50; plums, \$4.50 to \$5.00; strawberries \$5.25; raspberries, \$4.75 to \$5.25; peaches (California) \$9.50; pears, \$8.00; Plums, \$7.50; apricots, \$8.00.

DRUGS.

Only the usual steady movement to note, and with no important changes. Prices are: Howard's quinine, 75 to 90c; German quinine, 65 to 75c; morphia, \$2.75 to \$3.25; iodide of potassium, 65 to 75c; bromide of potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5.00; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5.00; sulphur, roll, \$4.50 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

DRY GOODS.

There has been little change to note in this branch. With the mild weather prevailing last week, no demand for heavy winter sorts could be expected, whilst it is yet too early to expect much movement in spring goods. The mild spell, however, would remind dealers that spring is coming, and make them think about preparing for it. In clothing a number of travellers are still on the road, picking up orders for spring delivery, and also carrying some sorting samples.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Apples hold firm, and in steady demand. Miscellaneous sorts continue to grow less, and in addition to apples, there is little movement except in oranges and lemons. Quotations are: Apples, \$5 to \$5.50 with a few poor quality at \$4.50; Florida oranges are worth \$7 to \$7.50 a box; Mesinas, \$6.50 to \$7; Mesina lemons, 360 count boxes \$7 to \$7.50; 420 count boxes \$8.50 to \$9; Catawbas in 9 lb. baskets \$1.25; cranberries, \$10.50 to \$12 a bbl.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Prices vary little and are: Dates 10c per lb., in 50-lb. boxes; Valencia raisins, \$2.50 to \$2.65 per box; Morandi's Valencias, \$2.75 to \$3.00 per box; Malagas, London layers, \$3.50; Elme figs, in different sized boxes, 18c per lb.; Walnuts, 18c per lb.; peanuts, raw, 15c; roasted, 17c; almonds, 20c; pecans, 17c; Filberts, 15c; Brazils, 17c per lb.

FISH AND OYSTERS.

Fresh cod and Haddock are in the market, and held at 8c per pound. Fresh white quoted

at 8c, and Lake Winnipeg jackfish at 3½c per pound. Finner haddies 10½ to 11c. Oysters are steady and quoted: Selects, \$2.10, and standards \$1.90 per gallon. Cans, selects, 40c, standards 35c.

FURS.

A few small lots arrive and sold fairly well, considering the uncertain feeling. The quotations below are unchanged from last week, but they may be considered as only ornamental. Until the full result of the London sales is known prices will be merely nominal. In the following range of prices it will be understood that only a No. 1 prime skin will bring the highest figure, and that the bottom prices are for the lowest grade of unprime skins. There are usually about six grades from the lowest to the best qualities. This will account for the wide range of quotations, as follows: Beaver, \$1 to \$6 per skin, baigor, 10 to 50c, black bear \$3 to \$10; cubs do \$1.00 to \$5.00; brown bear or cinnamon, \$1 to \$17, cubs do, 50c to \$3, grizzly bear, \$3 to \$10, cubs do, \$1 to 12, white bear, \$5 to \$37, cubs do, \$4 to \$17, lynx, 10c to \$2.25, cubs do, 5 to 40c, wild cat, 10 to 30c, timber wolf, 25c to \$2.50, prairie do, 20 to 60c, wolverine, 25c to \$5, panther, 10c to \$2.50, fisher, 25c to \$5, red fox, 15c to \$1.25, kit fox, 10 to 50c, silver, grey or black fox, \$6 to \$40 according to color and quality, cross fox, 20c to \$4, blue fox, 25c to \$9, white fox, 10c to \$1.25, martin, 5c to \$1.50, mink 10 to 60c, muskrat, midwinter, 1 to 6c, otter, \$1 to \$8, do cubs 25 to 75c, raccoon, 10 to 60c, skunk, 5 to 75c. Skins may be so badly damaged or out of season that even the lowest price stated can not be obtained.

GROCERIES.

Trade holds very steady and rather quiet. Prices may be quoted as generally unchanged. Quotations are as follows: Sugars—raw, 7c; yellow, 7½ to 8c; granulated, 8½ to 9c; lumps, 9½ to 10c. Coffees—Rios, from 24 to 28c; Java, 25 to 30c; Old Government 33 to 34c; Mochas, 32 to 35c. Teas, Japan New season's 23 to 40c; Congous, 22 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 60c; young hyson, 26 to 50c. Syrups, corn, \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar cane, \$2.50 to \$2.75; T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 48c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 53c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 58c; Index d. thick Solace 6s, 48c; Brunette Solace, 12s, 48c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Trade very quiet. Prices are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$6 to \$6.25; I. C. tin plates, double, \$12.00 to \$12.50; Canada plates, \$4.00 to \$4.25; sheet iron, \$3.75 to \$5.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 40 to 42c per lb., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6½ to 7c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6½ to 7c.

HIDES.

Prices are as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 5c; No. 2, 4c; bulls, 3c; calf, fine-haired real veal, 6 to 11 pound skins, No. 1, 7c; No. 2, 5c; sheep pelts, 25 to 50c. Frozen lots of hides are taken at 3½ to 4c all around; tallow, rendered 4c per lb; rough, 1½c per pound.