

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There is little of special interest to note in financial matters in the city during the past week. The circulation of money has been moderately free, while the amount of commercial discounts has been very light. These usually reach their lowest point during the latter half of the month and constitute a lull before the activity which will be apparent before the 4th proximo, when an unusually heavy amount of paper falls due. Rates of discount are unchanged and stand at 8 per cent. for first-class commercial paper; 9 to 10 for ordinary, and 10 to 12 for one-name paper. This latter class does not find ready acceptance at the banks. In real estate mortgage loan business, the number of applications have been large, but a considerable proportion of these have fallen through on account of the difference of opinion between borrowers and the companies as to the amounts to be loaned. A fair share of applications have, however, been accepted, and business in this line may be said to be moderately active. Rates in this branch are unchanged, and payments of interest, taking circumstances in account, are on the whole satisfactory.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

Wholesalers have just passed through another very quiet week in Winnipeg, business being about as dull as it has reached for many months. The slight stirring which was perceptible in some lines during the previous week has died away, and the quietness has now reached that monotony which is usual after a few weeks of a lull between seasons. The movement in spring trade operations which has heretofore been begun about the middle of January has not stirred as yet this year, and there is a growing belief that there should be no effort at selling spring goods before February, which relief may take practical shape before the summer of 1885 is reached. In season goods, therefore, the past week has been an unusually quiet one; even for this season of the year. In staple lines of every day consumption there is a little more activity, but there is no real life even in these. Still, houses admit that the business doing compares favorably with what was done this time last year, and quite a number of reports show a marked increase. The weather was unusually cold during the greater portion of the week, and any outdoor work still being pushed had to be suspended. There was, therefore, quite a stagnation in lines dependent upon building and such like operations. Taken altogether, the sales of the week in every line if aggregated would look small, and there is a feeling of restlessness until spring business opens. The most hopeful point about the week has been the improved state of collections. While there are still a few complaints to be heard in this respect, the general tone is better, and a number of wholesalers report a very marked improvement as January advances. There is considerable preparation being made for the fourth of February, and should that day roll smoothly over, collections may be considered settled down to a satisfactory state. The mild weather which seems now to have set in at last, will doubtless assist business, and it

will certainly aid collections and add to the circulation of money all over the province.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There are still no sales to report in this trade and business is down to a very low ebb in that respect. Arrangements are being made for agents generally to take the road this week, and some have already started out. Some stirring up may, therefore, be expected during the next two or three weeks. Collections are reported slowly but steadily improving. It must not be inferred from this that all paper falling due has been promptly met. On the contrary a large proportion is overdue and unpaid, but the volume of cash returns has swelled very much since the beginning of the year.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

So far as sales are concerned business is at a standstill in this line. The demands of the week have been nil, and no improvement is looked for in the immediate future. February will be well opened up before any attempt at spring trade will be made, and until then the principal activity will be in receiving new stock for the coming season. Collections are reported moderately good.

CLOTHING.

There is a very dull report from this trade for the week. There have been literally no sales of goods for immediate use, and from spring samples retailers are still undecided about purchasing. The little improvement in sales of this nature noted in our last report have fallen off a little, and travellers who have come home report the country business unsettled and unsatisfactory so far as sales are concerned. Collections are nominal, and for the approaching fourth of February, when considerable paper falls due, matters are moving as if fairly satisfactory results would be reached.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Business is down to its ordinary movement in this trade, and the past week has been one of ordinary activity, sales being about a fair average. There are no unusual features to report regarding trade.

DRY GOODS.

Business is about at a standstill in this staple branch, and last week has been an exceedingly quiet one all round. The receiving of new spring goods has been the only activity in the trade, and during the coming week travellers generally will be starting out with samples of these. There is a disposition to hold back the season's purchases both with the wholesalers and retailers, and the probability is that spring sales will not amount to much until February is well advanced. Collections are reported fair to good, with the prospect of payments on the coming fourth being reasonably well met.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

All is quietness in this trade at present, and last week has shown no stir of any description. Staple lines are expected to move a little during the coming week, but very little movement in fancies is looked for for a month yet. Collections are reported moderately good.

FISH.

Shipments to southern points have not been active during the week, and the local trade has also been quiet, and is expected to be more or

less so until nearer the opening of Lent. The catch has been liberal of late and prices have been easier. White fish have been more plentiful than Jack, the catch of the latter being not so liberal. Jack fish are quoted at 2½ to 2¾ in car lots, and 3c in small lots. White are worth 5½c in car lots and 6c in small lots. Oysters are unchanged in price, Standards being quoted at 30 to 35c and Selects 40 to 45c.

FRUIT.

Business has been very quiet in this trade during the week. Sales have been very limited in aggregate, and collections have been rather slow. No new varieties of green fruit are reported, but in the course of a week fresh consignments are expected, and with them a livening up in business. There has been no changes in prices, and city stocks are light. Primewinter apples are still quoted at \$4 to 4.50 a bbl. Palermo oranges are still held at \$5 to 5.50 a box, and Palermo lemons at \$6 to 6.50; grapes are still quoted at \$8.50 to 9 a bbl; Eleme figs in boxes are worth 16 to 20c, and in kegs 15c; Malagas are quoted at 11 to 13c; prunes, in 100 lb kegs, are worth \$7.50, and in 50 lb boxes \$9 to 8.50. Raisins and currants are unchanged in price.

FUEL.

There has been a steady volume of business done all week, and dealers have been kept active. Wood still holds at former prices, round lots of tamarac selling at \$3 to \$4, and poplar at \$2.75 to \$3.25 on track. Coals are not changed in price and sell delivered at \$12 for anthracite; \$9 to \$10.50 for bituminous and \$7.50 for Saskatchewan lignite.

FURNITURE.

There is no change to report in this trade. Business is still very dull, and the prospect for some weeks to come is anything but encouraging.

GROCERIES.

The report from this staple line is rather mixed. Some houses report business unusually dull, while others note a slight improvement. There is certainly very little real activity, and the only favorable symptom is fairly good collections, and even this report is not general. Prices are not changed, and the following can be shaded for cash. Coffees range as follows: Rios, 14 to 16c; Javas, 22 to 25c; Jamaicas, 17 to 20c; Mochas, 30 to 34c. Sugars are quoted: yellows, 6½ to 7c; granulated, 7½ to 8c; Paris lumps, 9½ to 9¾c. Tea, still ranges as follows: Moyune gunpowder, 30 to 75c; new seasons, 65 to 85c; Japans, 25 to 50c, new seasons 40 to 55c; Congous 30 to 75c; new seasons 55 to 90c. Syrups, single crown \$2.50, and triple crown \$2.75 per keg.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

The week has been a dull one in this trade. The sales have been very light while collections, although better than in December, are still slow. The following quotations are in a great measure nominal: Tin plate I.C., 14x20, \$6.25 to \$6.50 a box; I.C., 20x28, \$12.50 to \$13.00; Canada plates \$4.00 to \$4.25; sheet iron, 28 G, \$4.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 25 to 30 per lb; pig lead, 6 to