

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been scarcely a change in the state of monetary affairs in this city during the past week, and any that has taken place has been almost imperceptible. It might reasonably be expected that with the present financial excitement in the east, there would be a stirring-up of affairs here, but the past week has been, if possible, more uneventful than others of the month of June. In commercial circles the demand for discounts has remained light, and the stir which usually takes place during the opening days of each month is not expected to be very marked in July. There have been no changes in rates, and banks have no difficulty in attending to all the business that comes their way. First-class paper is still held at 8 per cent.; ordinary at 9 to 10; and promiscuous and one name paper 10 to 12. The demand for small loans is not so great as it was a few weeks ago. In loans on real estate mortgage there has been quite an increased demand of late, and companies with spare funds are feeling more hopeful. The progress of crops has given encouragement to farmers, and loans for the purpose of improvement of farms are beginning to be applied for. A good business in this line is confidently expected during the coming fall. Loans on city property are also coming more into demand, and altogether loan companies have before them a brightening prospect at present. Rates of interest are unchanged the range being from 8 to 10 per cent., the bulk of the business being at 9.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

Last week adds another to the dull ones of the present season in Winnipeg wholesale circles. At present no person looks for any rush of business, and the dullness is in consequence no surprise. The centre point between seasons has now been reached, and the quietest point in trade might be expected. Still the past week shows improvement upon the preceding one in the aggregate of sales, and, although collections have been a little closer they are yet much freer than could be expected, and certainly much better than could have been anticipated a month ago. The increase in the aggregate of sales is due in a great measure to the presence in the city of a few traders from the far west, who have been making some heavy purchases and selling their stock of furs. Outside of their purchase the week's business would be about up to the average of June. As in all weeks of the past month, the lines connected with building operations, and the grocery and provision trades have been most active, while in season goods the general report is one of dullness. Some houses are now getting their fall samples ready, and travellers are expected to be out selling fall and winter goods before the close of the current month, and we hear of eastern houses who have their men in the field now. Travellers who have returned during the week report the whole trading community in the country in quite a hopeful state, but are cautious as yet about investing in fall and winter goods. In the city business has been at a very low ebb in season goods, and purchases have been few and light. Altogether the week has

been similar to others of June, and the whole month, while a poor one for sales, has been a wonderfully good one for collections. The state of the crops at present warrants the prediction of good times this fall and winter, and as retail merchants' stocks all over the Northwest are very light, once the turn of trade for the better becomes certain, purchases will naturally be heavy. Notwithstanding any dullness, therefore, the wholesale trade of the city is in a healthy and undimmed condition.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

The frequent showers of rain in different parts of the province have raised the hopes of country dealers in this line, and their orders for harvesting and threshing machinery have begun to come in freely during the past week. Every week seems to add to the crop prospect, and stimulate the sale of these goods, and a few more weeks of lively sales are now looked for. The sale of plows even for breaking purposes has fallen off greatly. The sudden improvement in collections which was felt during the middle of June has ceased, and cash returns now come in very slowly. Very little improvement in this respect is looked for until after harvest.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

There is still a little life in this branch, and during the past week the sorting trade footed up to quite a respectable total. Wholesalers are now preparing to receive consignments of fall and winter stock. This season has been on the whole a good one in boots and shoes, and a good fall trade is looked forward to. Collections are reported fair to good.

CLOTHING.

There has been no improvement in sales in this line during the past week, and business is about as dull as it well can be. Fall goods have commenced to arrive, but no business in these is expected for at least a month to come. All sales during the past week have been small sorting lots with the exception of a few heavier parcels to traders from far western points. Collections are reported moderately good.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

During the past week there has been a slight stir in this trade, especially in the sale of staple goods, crockery for the rapidly increasing butter trade of the country being in brisk demand. Fancies are still very slow in sale, and until travellers go out on the road again no improvement in this respect is looked for. Collections are reported fair.

DRY GOODS.

The same dullness reigns in this staple branch, although the past week has developed a little erratic activity, and there has been a slight increase in sales over the previous week. Still business has been very slow, and the only life has been in the receipt of fall and winter goods, which are now beginning to arrive. Samples of these goods will be getting ready from this time onward, and about the close of this month some travellers will start out. The report of the week from collections is a mixed one, varying from indifferent to good, but an average of fair may be relied upon.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

In this as in all other fancy lines there is a quietness, and the business of the past week has been made up of a succession of jerky spurts, reaching in all a very limited aggregate of sales. Collections are reported rather good, and wholesalers seem perfectly satisfied to get along with light sales for a time.

FISH AND POULTRY.

The supply of fresh on the market during the past week has been very limited, while the demand, although purely local has been quite active. The variety has been confined to Lake Winnipeg white and river fish, the former have been rather scarce and sold readily at 7c. River fish have ranged from 3 to 4c, and have been too scarce to allow of steady wholesale quotations, those we give now being to a great extent nominal. During the present week a plentiful supply of white fish are expected in the city, and shipping south in refrigerator cars will probably commence. Poultry are still too scarce to admit of wholesale quotations being given.

FRUIT.

The fruit business still keeps lively, and the past week has been quite a busy one. The supply of green fruits has been anything but steady. Strawberries in crates have appeared once or twice, and this week the native product in this line is expected to be plentiful. Tomatoes have sold as low as \$1.50 a box but have been as a rule in poor condition. Oranges are higher and have sold up to \$3.50. Lemons are still quoted at \$7. This week numbers of novelties from more southern latitudes are expected, and among others new season's apples. Raisins are still selling: Valentias \$2.25 to \$2.50, and loose Muscatels at similar figures. Peanuts, pecans and Brazil nuts are quoted at 15 to 17c, and English walnuts at 18c.

FUEL.

The very bottom of dullness has been reached in this trade during the past week, and sales have been unprecedentedly light. Coal still sells: anthracite \$10.75 on track, and bituminous \$9.50. Wood is quoted, poplar \$4 to \$4.50 and tamarac \$4.50 to \$5.50.

FURNITURE.

There has been rather a quiet feeling in this business during the past week, although matters have not got down to actual dullness. No marked improvement is looked for during July, but a lively fall trade is expected. Collections are reported rather slow.

GROCERIES.

A steady business is still being done in this line, although there has been a slightly quieter feeling during the past week. Still general satisfaction is expressed at the results, and high hopes of a lively fall trade are being indulged in. There have been no changes in the prices of staple goods, although in sugars and one or two other staples there has been a disposition to shade regular quotations. Prices run as follows: Sugars—yellows, 7½ to 8½c; granulated 9½ to 9½c; Paris lumps 10½ to 11c; Coffees are quoted, 14 to 17c for Rio; Javas 21 to 24c; teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; Japans 20 to 45c; Young Hyson 25 to 70c; Congous 24 to 75c.