

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been little if any change in the situation of monetary affairs in the city, in comparison with the previous week. There has been a feeling of considerable stringency, and the circulation of money has not been as free as about the first of the year, but perhaps this feeling has not been more marked than might be expected at this season. However, the winter is now considered over, and any temporary closeness in financial matters is expected to be of very short duration. Already there are indications of improvement, which will become more marked as the season advances. There has been a fairly active call for discounts, at the usual rates of 7 per cent. for first class commercial paper, and from that to 10 per cent. for other securities. There is no change in the real estate loan business.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The past week has been a quiet one in wholesale trade circles in this city. The previous week concluded the work of shipping out spring orders, and with little sorting trade doing, a very dull week was experienced. In dry goods, clothing, fancy goods, boots and shoes, etc., dealers have had the usual rest which they expect at this season. However, in some lines there has already been an improvement in the receipt of sorting orders, which have now fairly commenced to come in. A great many country merchants have apparently ordered their first stocks as lightly as possible, with the intention of keeping up stocks by giving additional orders as such are required. By adopting this course the danger of overstocking with unsaleable goods will be avoided. The weather has continued fairly favorable to an early spring, and a good sorting trade is expected from this time forward, should no serious setback occur. In hardware and builders supplies this week has developed a more active movement and the distribution of such wares is now more general. In staple lines, groceries, etc., there has also been an improved demand. The movement of immigration has now set in to a considerable extent, and is not without its influence on general trade, especially in the increased distribution of provisions. In collections there is nothing new to report.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There is still a tendency to hold off in this branch, and although a few more calls are received, and the number of such is gradually increasing, yet there has not been any active movement as yet. Samples have been sent out to agents, and warehouses at provincial points are being supplied with stocks. It is expected that immigrants who are now coming in will soon require implements with which to commence operations, and as present indications point to an early commencement of spring work it is thought that the busy season cannot long be delayed.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

There has been but little change in this branch and practically nothing new to report. Dealers are still enjoying a season of comparative quiet, and the few small sorting orders coming in to

date have not taxed the energies of dealers in filling them. Collections slow.

CLOTHING.

The week has brought but little new business, and with old orders all sent out, there has been very little stir about warehouses. However, there are indications that the demand is improving, and in a very short time an active season in sorting is expected to get in. Collections are very slow.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is about the usual trade doing in this branch that has existed for some weeks back, with but little improvement as yet in the movement. Collections are fairly good.

DRY GOODS.

Last week was one of the quietest of the season in this branch, not because the amount of actual business doing was smaller, but on account of the fact that spring deliveries had been about all cleared out during the previous week. As far as actual business was concerned, there was probably fully as good if not a little better demand than during the few weeks previous. Sorting orders have commenced to come in more freely, and dealers are hopeful of a very good trade in this way during the balance of the season, a good many country merchants having ordered their first stocks sparingly. A few buyers have been in the market, making purchases from stocks, but their number has not been large as yet. From the city trade there has come evidence of an early improvement. Collections rather quiet.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Trade continues very steady and fairly active in this branch. We give a list of quotations as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 80 to 90c; opium, \$4.50 to \$5.00; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 50 to 55c; American camphor, 35 to 40c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; tartaric acid, 65 to 70c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; blacking powder, per. eg \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, 35 to 40c; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25 to 35c; alum, \$2.75 to \$3; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.25; sulphur, roll, \$3.75 to \$4; American blue vitrol, cask \$8 to \$9.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

In this branch there has been a fairly active trade doing for the season, and dealers express themselves as hopeful for the future. Spring deliveries have been all made, and there is therefore less bustle about the warehouses.

FISH.

Considerable quantities of frozen Lake Winnipeg fish are still offered on the market in wagon lots, and there is a good city demand for the same. Trade in frozen sea fish is also good, though prices rule low as the season draws toward a close. Quotations are: Whitefish, 3 to 4c; pickerel 3c; rockfish 1½c. Salt white, \$4 per bbl; Labrador herrings, \$8 per bbl; salmon, \$17 per bbl; mackerel \$1 to \$1.75 per kit; smoked haddocks, 9½ to 10c per pound. Fresh sea fish are quoted: haddock 7c; cod 6c; herrings 5c; smelts 8c; tommy cods 4c; lobsters 12c.

FRUITS.

The changeable weather of the past week has interfered to some extent with trade, and some shipments made by freight were damaged by frost. In other respects the situation is very much the same as the previous week. There is nothing new in the market. In apples the feeling is slumpy. Stocks are large and new cars continue to be brought in. Lots may be had at almost any price from \$2 upwards. Choice fruit is also lower, the highest quotations now being \$4.50. Oranges are unchanged. Lemons again firmer. Cranberries are selling for what they will bring, and stocks are getting pretty well used up, both in quantity and quality. Quotations now are: oranges, Los Angeles, \$5.00 to \$5.25, per box, Messinas, \$6.00; Valencia, cases, 400 to 420 count, \$9.50c \$10.00; Riverside \$6.00 to \$6.50 per box. Apples are in large supply and are worth about \$1.00 to \$4.50 for extra choice. Messina lemons, \$6.00 to \$6.50 per box; cranberries, \$2.00 to \$5.00; Valencia raisins, \$3.75; London layer raisins, \$4.00 to \$4.25; black crown, \$5.00 to \$5.25 walnuts, 15 to 20c a lb; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12½c; pecans, 16c; peanuts, 15c for roasted and 13c for raw; figs 18c to 20c; dates mats 8 to 10c; golden 10c. Apple cider, \$10 per bbl.

FUEL.

Since the sleighing has disappeared, the supply of country wood on the market has not been so large, and city dealers are holding for better prices. Quotations are: poplar \$3.25; oak \$5.50; tamarac \$4.50. Prices are for car lots, delivered. On track, 50c per cord less than above. Hard coal is worth \$10.00, and soft \$8. Galt coal sells at \$7.50 on track.

FURNITURE.

There has been no change worthy of special reference in this line. Business continues to be the ruling feature. Only a very few small lots are occasionally going to the country, and in the city trade is neglected. Collections are slow.

FURS.

The annual spring sales of raw furs, held in London last month, were a great success. Prices realized were from 10 to 60 per cent. advance on previous values. The following cable report of the sales was received at Montreal: Otter, best quality sold at a sharp advance, quote them from \$8.00 to \$10.00; Fisher, sold about the same as last march, quote \$3.50 to \$5; Silver and Cross Fox, sold at about 1884 prices, having recovered the heavy decline which took place last year; Martin, sold well, some lines advancing considerably, quote these at 90c to \$1.15; Mink, contrary to all expectations this article has sold at a strong advance, quote 75c to \$1. Cable advices received in New York, have the following regarding the sales: Alaska furs were 6 per cent. higher than in November 1885. At the Hudson's Bay sale otter was 60 per cent. higher than last March, fisher 5 per cent. higher; fox silver 60 per cent, and fox cross 25 per cent higher. At Tuesday's sale of the Hudson's Bay Company, lynx was advanced 60 per cent.

GROCERIES.

A fairly healthy tone prevails in this staple branch. Though there is yet no rush, still