

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Since the 4th of February there has been nothing but complaint in wholesale circles as to collections. The 4th of March, which is also a heavy settlement day, is now being looked forward to with anything but feeling of hope. Altogether the financial situation is not cheering, and while there seems to be a disposition to tide the time over as easily as possible, it is felt all around that something must be done to try and curtail credit business and secure the more prompt settlement of liabilities. To do this it is generally acknowledged that the effort to curtail credit must commence with the consumer, and from this up through other branches of trade. It is therefore hoped that the convention of retailers, to be held in Winnipeg commencing March 3rd, will mark a new era in the trade history of the country. Wholesalers are hopeful that through this meeting, together with the experience gained in other ways of late, that retailers will see the necessity of doing business more closely as regards credits. It is recognized that a close season like the present is not a good time to begin to squeeze retailers, and the general disposition is to give every reasonable opportunity to pull through. For the future, however, it is recognized that a reform is necessary, and that reform must be inaugurated between the retailer and the consumer. If this is carried out, it will be easy to establish a reform in the way in which paper due the wholesale trade is met. The banks appear to take the same view of the case at present, and a general effort will be made to tide matters over, with the hope that business will be placed on a safer basis in the future.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

Business is still very dull in all wholesale branches, and it seems to be the general belief that the spring movement will be backward this year in setting in. Wholesalers in textile branches are shipping out spring orders, but they are doing so rather reluctantly. Retailers also evince less anxiety to receive spring stocks than is usually the case. As for new business, there is hardly any movement worth speaking about in any branch of trade.

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, 4.25 to \$4.75; bromide potassium, 65 to 75. English camphor, 75 to 80c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 65 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$7 to \$9; bicarb soda, \$1.00 to \$1.50; 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.

DRIED FRUITS.

Valencia raisins show an advancing tendency in outside markets, but prices here are steady. Quotations are: California London layer raisins, \$3.25 per box, do 1/2 boxes, \$1; Valencia raisins, \$2.40 per box currants 7c per lb.; dried apples 7 1/2 to 8c per lb., evaporated apples, 12 1/2c. Choice New Elmo figs in 10 lb. boxes, per lb., 18c; choice figs 15c per lb.; Fancy Elmo layer figs, 20 lb boxes, 20c lb; figs in 1 lb. cartoons, per doz., \$1.75; Golden dates, in 50 lb. boxes, per lb., 9c; California evaporated fruit—apricots, per lb., 18c to 20c; fancy peeled peaches, per

lb., 24c to 27c; pitted plums, 12 1/2c; raspberries, 32 1/2c; French prunes, 12 1/2c per lb; Nectarines, 18c.

FISH AND OYSTERS.

The market is now fairly well supplied with fresh fish for the Lenten season, and large shipments are now arriving, including some varieties not named in the list. A treat is in the market in the shape of fresh brook or speckled trout, brought in from the east. The market is fairly well supplied with whitefish, but the deep snow has interfered with hauling from the winter fishing grounds on Lake Winnipeg. On the market whitefish are easier, having sold as low as 4 1/2c. Other lake fish are not in large supply. Finnen haddies are firmer, having advanced 1/2c to 7 1/2c. Stocks are lighter, and cannot be replenished to sell as low as quoted here. In Lake Winnipeg fresh fish the following varieties are obtainable, and jobbing at the prices noted: Whitefish, 5c per pound, jackfish, 3c. Fresh salt water fish are quoted: Cod, 8c; haddock, 10c per pound; herrings, 30c per dozen; mackerel, \$4.80 per doz; smelts, 12 1/2c per pound; tommy cods, 8c per pound; lobsters, 20c per pound. Fresh brook trout, 25c per pound. Smoked finnen haddies, 7 1/2c per pound; smoked Yarmouth bloaters, \$1.50 per box; smoked goldies, 40c per dozen; salt whitefish, in 100 pound kegs, 5c per pound. Oysters: \$2.25 per gallon for standards and \$2.50 for selects, for good stock. Can oysters are quoted at 35c for standard, 40c for selects, and 45c for extras.

FUEL.

The recent long spell of cold weather has been a fine thing for the fuel dealers, who will now come out a good deal better than they expected to earlier in the season. We have had our full quota of cold weather after all, notwithstanding that it was a month later in setting in. Hard coal holds steady at \$9.25 to \$9.50 per ton in retail lots, delivered in the city, and soft at \$7 to \$7.50 delivered, or 50c per ton lower on track. Tamarack wood sells at \$4.75 to \$5, and poplar at \$3.50 to \$3.75, delivered, or 50c per cord lower on track. Minnesota oak wood is offering at \$6 per cord delivered.

GREEN FRUITS AND NUTS.

California oranges are arriving, but are reported a little green yet for immediate use. Almeria grapes are scarce and firmer. Some small lots of bananas, pine apples, etc., have arrived. Cranberries are scarce. Prices are: Lemons, Messinas, 360 count, \$6; 300 count, \$6.50 per box; Florida oranges, \$5.50 to \$5.75; southern apples, \$1.00 to \$1.25, choice eastern Canada apples, \$1.50 per barrel; California pears, \$4.00 per box; Almeria grapes, \$11.00 to \$12.50 per keg for choice; cranberries, \$10.00 to \$10.50 per barrel; onions—Southern, \$3.00 per 100 lbs; Spanish onions, \$1 to \$1.25 crate; comb honey 22c per pound. Nuts—S. S. Taragona almonds, 20c per lb; Grenoble walnuts, 18c; Sicilian, filberts, extra large, 16c; peanuts, white Virginia, green, 15c; roasted, 17c; cocoanuts, per hundred \$9.00; hickory nuts 10c per pound.

GROCERIES.

Sugar shows a firmer tendency in this market, in sympathy with the recent advances east, but the market is slow to take advantage of advances in prices east. Refiners east advanced prices on granulated and white sugars 1/2 to 3/4c. Low grade yellows, especially are firm east. The Toronto Empire says of sugars:—

"Granulated and all other white sugars advanced 1/2c to-day. The price of the former is now 7 1/2c for one to fifteen barrels, and 7 1/4c for fifteen and over. Yellows are correspondingly firmer. The lowest numbered sugar offered by the refineries is 5 1/2c Montreal; 5 1-16c was refused. Along the street most of the trade are getting 5 1/2 to 6 1/4c, but 5 1/2c is the actual inside price for low grades. The demand has been quite active, and the total purchases by the retail trade during the past few days have been very considerable. The opinion prevails that the future of the market will be similar to last year. It was about this time the market commenced to improve. The large surplus over last year has been materially reduced by the increase in the consumption. How far this will affect the market is difficult to estimate. A yellow sugar which reached 7 1/2c in the advance last season is now offered at 5 1/4c." Prices here are as follows:—Sugars, yellow, 6 1/2 to 6 3/4c, as to quality; granulated, 8 1/2 to 8 3/4c; lumps, 9 1/2 to 10c. Coffees, 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, 28 to 50c. T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 47 1/2c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 53c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 56c; Index d. thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunette Solace, 12s, 48c. McAlpine Tobacco Co's plug tobacco: Old Crow, 46c; Woodcock, 52c; Beaver, 63c; Jubilee, 60c; Anchor, 59c; cut tobacco: Silver Ash, 65c; Cut Cavendish, 70c; Senator 80c; Standard Kentucky, light, 85c; do dark, 80c. Special brands of cigars are quoted: Reliance, \$50; Gen. Arthur, \$50; Mikado, \$40, Terrier, \$30 per 1000. 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.

There is no further change to note, and trade is very dull all around. Some minor advances are reported in eastern markets. British metal markets have experienced considerable fluctuations in a speculative way, which has tended to weakness in some directions. Manufacturers of tin plates have been moving to curtail production, by closing up for a while during March. Prices here are as follows: Cut nails, 10d, and upwards, \$3.40; I. C. tin plates, \$6 to \$6.50 as to grade; f. C. tin plates double, \$11.50 to \$12.00; Canada plates, \$4.15 to \$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; 2 inch, 19 1/2c; 2 1/2 inch, 23c per foot; ingot tin, 32c per lb.; bar tin, 33c per pound; sheet zinc, 8c per lb.; galvanized iron, 28 gauge, 8 1/2 to 9c lb; bar iron, \$3.60 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6 1/2 to 6 3/4c per lb.; tarred felt \$2.40 to \$2.50 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6 1/2c nett.

HIDES.

Very little doing in hides, and the few country frozen hides offering are being taken at 2 1/2 to 3c, the latter for heavy hides. Sheepskins 60 to 80c each.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Quotations are as follows: Spanish sole, 26 to 30c; 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, 85 to 90c; 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 britts, 60c; buffe, 17 to 21c a foot; cordovan, 17 to 21c; pebble,