

## WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

In monetary circles during the past week the course of events has not been marked by any occurrence of an unusual nature and everything has gone on in the even tenor of its way much the same as for the last month. There has been the usual call for commercial discounts, at the old rates of 7 per cent. for first-class paper and 8 to 9 per cent. for ordinary. Building operations now going on in the city have called forth some demand for money, but a good deal of this has gone to the loan companies. In mortgage loans on farm properties there is very little doing, but in city properties there has been an improved call for funds. A good many old mortgages are being cancelled and new ones taken out. The feeling in regard to city property has improved very much, and risks would now be taken as fair securities which would not have been looked at one or two years ago. Quite a number of changes in the ownership of properties have lately taken place and prices realized have not been far from the probable real value. Of course inflated values have not been realized and there is no present danger of the commercial interests of the city suffering from any abnormal advance in real property.

## WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In wholesale trade circles during the past week there appeared to be a better undercurrent of feeling amongst dealers in some lines, brought about by an improvement in the demand. It would appear that the demand for merchandise has been on the increase and that the aggregate trade of the week has been in excess of the movement for some weeks back. In a number of miscellaneous branches a fairly active season has been enjoyed, mainly felt in those lines influenced by warm weather and the commencement of building operations. In staple lines, however, there is little if any improvement to note, and not much appearance of the usual sorting trade. Travellers lately returned from the country report stocks held by retailers as large. The keen competition going on between the large number of additional houses having representatives here this season has had the effect of loading up the country pretty thoroughly with general merchandise, especially in dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, etc., and it is now considered certain that many country dealers are carrying larger stocks than they should now have on hand, bought through the temptation of longer credits than have been usually given here. This will account for the backwardness in the sorting trade. Collections have not improved and the feeling in this respect is rather stringent.

## AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Some dealers report that spring trade in cross plows, harrows, seeders, etc., now over for the season, has been heavier than last year, while others have experienced a slightly smaller trade. A conservative estimate would place the aggregate spring trade at a fraction under last year. But while this has been the case, it is also certain that the season will prove a more profitable one to dealers than last year. Business has

been conducted in a more economical way, and trade has been done on a cash basis to a greater extent than previously. Stocks have also been lighter, and there has been a general desire shown to abstain from pushing trade in canvassing. It is therefore clear that a much larger trade could have been done had business been pushed with the energy usually shown in the implement line. The trade in harvesting machinery promises well, and a fair number of orders have already been taken. There is little doing in the way of collections, and payments not made by the first of April usually stand over till fall. One favorable feature is found in the fact that a good many old accounts of several years' standing have been settled up this spring.

## BOOTS AND SHOES.

There has been no change in this branch. Business remains very quiet and with only a light sorting trade for the season. Collections about an average.

## CLOTHING.

One house reports a fair sorting trade and also an excellent start made in orders for fall delivery. Other dealers have not experienced much improvement yet. Collections have been slow.

## CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Dealers have enjoyed a healthy increase in the call for their goods, and a fairly satisfactory trade has been done during the week, though there has been nothing like a rush of business. Collections have also been fairly good.

## DRY GOODS.

In this staple line the week has continued about the same as the previous one, which means that business has been very slow. The season is now well into the time when a fairly brisk sorting trade should be doing, but so far there has been little encouragement to dealers from this source. Travellers now on the road report stocks heavy throughout the country and little broken as yet. Each one of the host of travellers now drumming the count will do something, and the number and quantity of orders taken by any particular one must therefore be light. Many of the travellers can hardly pay expenses. Collections are rather slow.

## DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Trade continues about as usual and prices are still unchanged as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1.00; 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, 33 to 40c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; tartaric acid, 65 to 70c; 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; 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, \$2.75 to \$4; American blue vitrol, 6 to 7c.

## FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

Dealers are having a quiet time in this branch at present, and travellers on the road have been making light returns. Collections fair.

## FISH.

Some fresh Lake Superior white were in the market, but the quantity was limited and was soon exhausted. Other fresh water varieties are confined to river fish. Fresh sea fish are in good supply. Prices are as follows. Salt white, \$4 per bbl; Labrador herrings \$8 per oil; salmon, \$17 per bbl, mackerel \$1 to \$1.75 per kit; smoked haddocks, 8½ to 10c per lb; fresh sea fish are quoted. cod 8c, haddock 9c, halibut 10c, shad 10c, flounders 12c, lobsters 19c.

## FRUITS.

Dealers have had a brisk country trade, probably induced by the near approach of the 24th of May holiday. Some new consignments of apples have been in this market, and these have sold at from \$2 to \$4.50 per bbl. Fancy apples bring \$5 and some are held higher. Bananas are now in good supply. Strawberries have been brought in by retail dealers in limited quantities. Quotations are as follows: California Oranges, \$6.50 per box, Sorento, \$7.50, Blood oranges, ½ boxes, \$4 to \$4.50. Apples fancy \$5 to \$6; Bananas \$4 to \$5.50 per bunch. Messina lemons, \$8.00; 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, 15c; pecans, 16c; peanuts, 17c for roasted and 15c for raw; figs 18c to 20c; dates mats 8 to 10c; golden 11c. Apple cider, \$10 per bbl.

## FUEL.

Prices for coal and wood are unchanged as follows: poplar \$3.25; to \$3.35; oak \$5.00 to \$5.50; tamarac \$4.50. Prices are for lots, on track. Hard coal is worth \$9 to \$9.50, and American steam coal, \$6.85 on track. Blacksmiths' coal, \$12.00 per ton. Galt coal sells at \$6.50 on track.

## FURNITURE.

About the only thing which may be said about this branch is that trade is very quiet and apparently not likely to be otherwise for some time. Collections slow.

## FURS.

Considerable movement has been going on in furs and consignments have now commenced to come in freely for the season. So far consignments have been largely composed of lynx, which appear to be very plentiful this year. Prices for lynx have been easier. Otter and beaver have not come in much yet. Rats are very scarce this year. Cable advices state that prices for most leading furs are easier.

## GROCERIES.

A fair average movement has been going on in groceries. Domestic canned goods continue firm and prices tending upward. Tomatoes are now quoted at \$5.75. Sugars hold firm. Teas steady. Collections fair. Prices are as follows: yellow 7½ to 7¾c; granulated 8¾c; lump 9½c; Coffees, Rio, 12 to 13½c; Government Java 28c, other Javas 22c; Mochas 31 to 34c. Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Suey young hyson 20 to 30c; Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c; Season's congons, 1885-86, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn, \$2.30 to \$2.50; sugar, cane, \$2 to \$2.20; T. & B. tobacco \$10.

## INDEXES.

Prices rule steady and unchanged as fol-