

## WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been but little change in the monetary situation in the city since our last report, and as yet affairs have not settled down to the level, from which we judge what will be about the average state during the coming winter. There has been quite a flow of money out of the banks for crop hauling purposes, while the returns in the retirement of mercantile paper falling due have also been heavy. Thus while one string of the money bag pulls tight the other is loosening up considerably. Reports show that the supplementary payments to obligations of the fourth have come in very satisfactory, thus lifting another straw off the pressure on banks, which have nevertheless plenty of scope for their funds on hand. There is now less talk about advancing discount rates than there was a week ago, and commercial paper considered good to first-class passes at 7 to 8 per cent. In real estate mortgage loans new business is still very slow, and will continue so, as long as farmers can plow. Interest payments come in with considerable freedom, but the full volume of these has not yet commenced to flow in, and agents in some instances are getting a little impatient. There is no change in the rate of interest, 8 per cent. being the fixed figure, and only in special cases could a lower rate be secured.

## WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The report from the wholesale trade of the city for the past week, while a satisfactory one on the whole, is somewhat mixed in its details. The weather during the past week has been decidedly against activity in most lines of season goods, and there has been in such lines a marked falling off in the number of calls for sorts, which the cold snap in October stirred up, and which caused considerable life. Still the sorting trade to date in staple goods of the class referred to is already nearly equal in aggregate to the whole sorting business of last year, and between this date and the opening of December quite a large addition is confidently looked for. Another feature of the week's slow sales was the unwillingness of retailers to buy from spring samples for future delivery. It is now six weeks at least since the first travellers with spring samples started out, and the growing haste in this respect seems to have reached a reaction, as buyers are not inclined to take hold before the latter part of this month, and travelling expenses have been quite an item to the houses who were so early in the field trying to force matters. We hope the evil has got at least a partial cure this year. In lines dependant upon building operations there has been considerable activity, although signs of the near approach of the close of the season are very plain to view. In staple every day lines the volume of business has been rather on the increase, until now activity is general. The first symptoms of the trade in holiday lines have made their appearance, and will doubtless increase as the month wears on. The most encouraging circumstance has been the general improvement in collections. In instances this has not been as rapid as could be desired, and from the city trade the cash returns are still slow. But from the country generally money is coming in with a very encouraging freeness.

## BOOTS AND SHOES.

So far as sales are concerned, matters have been quiet in this line. The continued mild weather of last week caused a big falling off in the demand for sorts, and but slow progress is being made in selling for spring delivery. The most encouraging feature is a marked improvement in collections as the month advances.

## CLOTHING.

In this branch sales have shown a falling off since our last report. The weather has been decidedly unfavorable for further winter demands, and throughout the country retailers are very shy about purchasing spring goods for future delivery. From the country collections are coming in with a freedom that is quite encouraging, but in the city cash returns are still a little slow.

## CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

The country demand for staple goods has been quite heavy of late, while quite a share of fancy lines have also been called for, some calls indicating that the holiday trade is about to commence. Collections are reported very satisfactory and steadily improving.

## DRY GOODS.

Sales have fallen off very much since our last report, and in that respect the past week has been rather a quiet one. The weather has spoiled sales of winter goods, and buyers are not in the humor to look at spring patterns. Collections have kept up the improved tone with which the month started.

## DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

There is nothing worthy of note to report in connection with this trade. Prices are unchanged and are as follows: Howard's quinine, 75 to 90c; German quinine, 65 to 75c; morphia, \$2.75 to \$3.25; iodide of potassium, 65 to 75c; bromide of potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; 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; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5.00; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5.00; sulphur, roll, \$4.50 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

## FURNITURE.

There has been a little let up in the activity noted in our last report, but no real quietness has set in. Wholesalers are still short of supplies from the factories with which to fill orders.

## FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

There has been a falling off in sales during the week. No new varieties have reached the market and prices are unchanged. Quotations are: Winter apples, \$3.50 with \$4 asked for some very choice lots; Florida oranges, \$8 to \$8.50 a box; lemons, steady at \$6.50 to \$7.50; California pears are still offered at \$4.50 to \$5 a box; Malaga grapes in kegs are quoted at \$8.50 to \$9. Winter is threatened and soft fruits are gradually disappearing. Southern onions are held at \$3 per 100 lbs, and Egyptian onions at \$7 for cases of that weight. Native onions are higher and quoted at \$2 per cwt.

## FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

New Valencia raisins are on the market as are also new London layers and Black Crown raisins, the latter being quoted at \$5.25 to \$5.50.

Prices of other goods are unchanged as follows: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elome, figs, in layers, 15c per lb., or \$2 per dozen in 1 lb. boxes; golden dates 10c; Valencia raisins \$3.25; London layers, \$3.50; Patras currants 8 cents per pound; evaporated apples, 14c; dried apples, 8 to 8½c; new Turkey prunes, ½ to 7c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 17 to 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts 18c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12½c; Texas pecans, 17c.

## GROCERIES.

Improvement is slow in this staple branch, and some houses complain of a quietness. The report on collections while generally good comprises one or two complaints of slowness. Sugars are slightly advanced and are now quoted. Other goods are unchanged and are as follows: Dark yellow sugar, 6½c; medium to bright, 6½ to 7½c; granulated, 8½c to 8¾c; lump sugar, 9½ to 9¾c. Coffees—Rios, 25 to 29c; Government Java, 33 to 35c; other Javas, 25 to 30c; Mochas, 31 to 35c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1896-7, 20 to 45c; Congous, 1896-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; panfired Japan, 23 to 45c; basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Pingsuey young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1895-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn, \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 48c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 55c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 57c; Index d. thick Solace, 2s, 48c; Brunette Solace, 12s, 48c.

## HARDWARE AND METALS.

Signs that the season's trade in heavies is about over are now clear, but in shelf goods business has been fairly active. Collections are reported improving. No changes in prices are reported, but with the recent advance in tin goods in the east, a similar movement may follow here. Prices are: Cut nails, 10d and larger, \$4 to \$4.25; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.75 to \$4.90; sheet iron, \$3.50 to \$5.00, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 32c per lb., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6 to 6½c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6½ to 7c.

## HIDES.

Business has been about an average, and without any marked interest. Prices are as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c; bulls, 4½c; calf, fine-haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 8c; No. 2, 6c; sheep pelts, 30 to 65c; tallow, 3½ to 4c.

## LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

The week has been rather a quiet one with no changes to report. Prices of goods are as follows: Spanish sole, 28 to 31c; slaughterer sole, 30 to 32c; French calf, first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; Bourdon kip, 75c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No. 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, \$1 to \$4c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 23 to 25c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings, 12c.