

Winnipeg Wholesale Trade

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Trade in this branch is in a very busy state. Wholesale houses are filling orders received six weeks ago, and large consignments of goods are yet to be received. Still a very large proportion of winter orders are to go out, and several weeks of good trade are still expected. Travelers are now all in from their journeys.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.

Trade among wholesalers in this line is now reduced to the supply of sleighs, cutters and so forth, and heavy consignments of these have been received during the past week. One house has received four cars, and has still eight in transit. The country demand is good, but collections are as yet a little slow.

CLOTHING.

Travelers in this line have returned, and winter goods are being sent out as quickly as possible. The trade all over the country has been good, and is moving on a solid basis. Numerous new accounts have been opened during the past week, and the outlook for some time to come is extremely flattering.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Country orders are still coming in freely, especially from points in Southern Manitoba, where several new retailers have opened out. Collections are reported good, and the trade altogether is in a healthy state.

DRY GOODS.

Reports from wholesalers in this line are still very favorable. The despatch of goods for the winter trade will in all probability continue for several weeks. Numerous new houses in the West have sent in orders during the past week, and the prospect at present is very bright. Collections have been somewhat easier, and confidence prevails.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

There is no change in the state of trade in this line since last week. Reports are still of an encouraging nature, and prospects are good for a continuation of good trade.

FISH.

The supply of fresh fish has been more liberal during the past week, and Lake Winnipeg white fish are getting more plentiful, while the opening of the Thunder Bay route has increased and cheapened the supply of Lake Superior trout. Smoked salmon, eels, and halibut are plentiful, and Findon haddocks are expected to appear on the market during the coming week. Prices have ranged as follows:—White fish and trout, 11c; smoked salmon and eels, 30c; smoked halibut, 15c. Oysters: Select, 65c; Standard, 55c.

FRUIT.

Prime Missturi and Ontario apples are quoted \$5.50 a barrel. Lemons, \$7 a case; grapes, 12½c to 20c a pound, and the market loaded. California peas, \$6 a bushel.

FUEL.

There is some life in this branch of business, owing to the competition in anthracite coal, which started in with the opening of last week. Prices have come down steadily until anthracite is now quoted at \$14 a ton in car lots on track, and bituminous at \$12. The feeling of rivalry is still strong and lower prices may be ex-

pected. Wood is unchanged at \$7 a cord for dry poplar, and \$9 for tamarac.

FURS AND HIDES.

There is no change in the price of hides since last week, and dealers are holding for higher prices. Nothing is doing in furs except in a manufactured state, and the cold of the last few days has given trade in that branch quite an impetus.

FURNITURE.

No change has taken place in this line during the week and wholesalers still complain of dullness.

GROCERIES.

A steady good trade for the week is reported with no reductions in prices. Sugars have stiffened up a little, are quoted at 9½c to 10½c for bright yellow; 11½c to 12c for granulated. Green coffees are unchanged, and are quoted Rio, 15c to 18c; Government Java, 25c to 27c; Mocha, 36c.

HARDWARE.

Business in this line is still lively, and the stove branch is particularly so. Country orders still come in freely, and collections are reported easier than during the previous week.

LUMBER.

The demand in this line is only limited by the supply on hand, and orders from a distance have to stand unfilled on account of the heavy city trade.

Prices remain the same as last week: Sheet-iron, \$28; common dimension, \$30 to \$32; fencing, \$28 to \$34; stock, \$33 to \$40; flooring, \$35 to \$45; partition, \$45 to \$50; graded clear, \$50 to \$70; shingles, \$4.50 to \$6; lath, \$5.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Country trade in this line has increased somewhat during the week, and reports from travelers are encouraging. The prospect for the winter trade is very good.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

There is no change to report in this branch during the week. Trade is in a very satisfactory state and dealers are hopeful for the future.

Winnipeg Money Market.

There has been an active demand for money during the week, and a stringency still prevails, notwithstanding the easier tone of the Montreal and New York reports. Eastern money markets have not loosened up enough to make any material difference, and the tight feeling in this city is attributable to some extent to a sympathetic feeling. Local causes have something to do with it, however, and the fact that many payments on real estate transactions have been falling due during the week has influenced the feeling somewhat. The rapidly increasing demand for commercial purposes assists also, although a healthy state of affairs exists in business circles generally, and complete confidence exists. First-class mortgage loans on landed property are still quotable at 9 to 10 per cent., while gilt-edge commercial paper is discountable at from 8 to 10, and ordinary at 10 to 12 per cent. No advance has, therefore, taken place, and with the easier feeling reported in Eastern markets, none need be anticipated at present.

Wheat and Corn Statement for Nine Years.

S. W. Talmage, of Milwaukee, sends the *United States Miller* the following statement of the wheat and corn production in this country from 1872 to 1881 inclusive, also the average annual production, and the estimated production of 1882:—

YEAR.	WHEAT. Bus.	CORN. Bus.
1872	249,097,100	1,082,719,000
1873	281,251,700	942,271,000
1874	300,102,700	800,138,000
1875	292,130,000	1,331,000,000
1876	289,350,500	1,284,827,000
1877	301,191,100	1,312,558,000
1878	420,122,400	1,388,218,700
1879	448,753,113	1,541,001,500
1880	408,649,723	1,717,431,500
1881	380,280,100	1,101,910,000
AVERAGE PRODUCTION.		
Wheat, bushels.	352,001,844	
Corn " "	1,207,150,050	
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION FOR 1882.		
Wheat, bushels.	625,000,000	
Corn " "	1,300,000,000	

The Asia Disaster.

The coroner's inquest on the victims of the Asia disaster is concluded, and the verdict was a bold protest against the recklessness which has characterized lake navigation of late. The verdict, while censuring the captain for want of judgment in leaving port in face of such a storm, holds the Board of Steamboat Inspectors directly responsible for the disaster. The vessel was plying without a regular certificate at the time of her loss, and it was the duty of this Board to have notified the Collector of Customs to have detained her until such was furnished.

The jury which returned such a verdict are entitled to the thanks of all interested in lake navigation. They had the fearless honesty to place the saddle upon the right horse, even when the culpable parties are a board of steamboat inspectors. Their verdict is only the voice of a coroner's jury, and may not be considered of great weight, but it should be echoed all along the shores of the lake chain, as an honest testimony against the criminal negligence of parties entrusted with responsible public positions, and with the safety of the public who travel by water.

What action will be taken upon the verdict it is difficult to say now, but it is to be hoped that some course will be pursued which will tend to prevent the recurrence of such calamities as the loss of the Asia.

The *Quebec Daily Telegraph* of the 12th inst. contains a despatch stating that the carpenters of this city have decided to strike for an advance of wages to \$4.00 a day. There must be some mistake about this matter, as the carpenters of this city have been receiving \$4.00 a day for some time, and employers are glad to get men at that figure.

THE movement in favor of a system of mutual insurance culminated in a meeting held on Monday afternoon in the City Council Chambers for the purpose of forming an association of that description. Mr. W. W. Banning was elected president and Mr. A. Lake secretary, and these officers were instructed to make direct application to the Provincial Secretary for a warrant of incorporation. The names of 40 freeholders required by the Manitoba Statute have been obtained, and about \$90,000 of funds have been subscribed.