

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been no marked or new features in connection with the monetary affairs of the city during the past week, and no move from the satisfactory state noted in our last report. The handling of the crop has been the principal commercial field in which bank funds have been in demand, while the regular volume of discounts have been at the ebb level as they usually are near the close of the month. This week, however, quite a large quantity of transactions in fall goods will find their way into paper, so that the banks will have a lively turn during the current week. There are, however, no complaints of scarcity of funds heard, and the increased demand will no doubt be welcomed in banking circles. Money being free in circulation, there has been a very light call for those small loans and promiscuous discounts of small traders, so that the banking business has been confined pretty closely during the week to regular limits. Rates of discount now range first-class paper 7 to 8 per cent; ordinary 9 to 10; promiscuous 10 to 11. In loans on real estate mortgage business has shown no new features. Loans on farm property for small amounts have been freely called for, while from the city and towns applications have been few. The aggregate of the week's new business would probably look very satisfactory, but it is of that class which causes agents plenty of work for all they realize. Payments of interests are reported good, and no unsatisfactory symptoms of any kind are reported. Interest rates are still quoted from 8 to 10 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

There is a kind of monotony connected with last week's reports from the wholesale trade of the city, although taken all round there are very satisfactory. In lines not affected by season's or weather there has been the invariable report of a steady and liberal volume of sales, but at the same time an absence of anything like rush or bustle. From one house after another was received the same expression of satisfaction with results, and no symptom of change could be heard of, not even in prices of staple goods which are subject to frequent fluctuations, so that a monotony of satisfaction with the state of affairs might be said to exist. In lines dependent upon building and out door contracting a steady falling off in sales was reported, and still this has been by no means so rapid as in former years, the extraordinary mild and bright weather of November having prolonged activity far beyond what we have hitherto been accustomed to, and this has no doubt been assisted by the fact that such work was only commenced in reality in July when the rebellion was crushed instead of in April and May as has been customary, and contracts have consequently been late of being finished. In season goods lines there has also been a falling off in sales which is attributable to the unusually mild weather, but this has been made up some by a very marked increase in sales of holiday goods, while those lines which are selling from samples for spring delivery report heavy sales during the week. Any quieter feeling which exists is therefore due to the unseasonably mild weather,

for of every line in present consumer retailers both in the city and country are buying freely, and the heavy orders from spring samples shows that they are in good hopes of future business. The report on collections is even more encouraging, and it can be said that not a complaint in this respect has been heard from any wholesale house in the city during the week.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

A search in this branch during the week has failed to discover a sale outside of a few wagons. Even the sale of cutters and sleds promises to be a failure this year owing to the absence of snow and cold weather. All interest is now centered in the work of making collections, and the report on this head gives every cause for satisfaction. A fair estimate of how the season will turn out can now be made, and although there are a few districts from which cash returns are rather slow on the whole a good season may be calculated upon.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

This branch has been one of the severest sufferers from the mild clear weather which has played havoc with the sale of winter goods to such an extent that in these business is very quiet. Orders from samples for spring delivery have been coming in freely showing that trade is healthy if the weather is unfavorable. Collections are reported exceptionally good.

CLOTHING.

Mild weather has had a quieting effect on this branch also and has checked up the winter sorting trade a little. No complaints are heard, however, and travellers now on the road selling from spring samples report country retailers purchasing very freely. Collections are also reported free although very little is falling due at present.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Business in this line has been fairly good during the past week and has begun to feel a stir, owing to the near approach of the Christmas and holiday seasons, sales now being principally in fancy lines, and not so much staples called for. Collections are reported to be improved especially from the Western points.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

In this trade there is not much change since our last report. The demand has continued to be principally from the country with a little activity also in the city. The aggregate of sales made during the week were up to a fair average; collections were very fair.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

In this branch there has been quite a little activity during the week. Regular lines have been in fair demand, and there has been a marked increase in sales of holiday goods. Altogether there has been considerable bustle, and collections are reported about as good as could be wished.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple line business has been rather slow during the week so far as sales are concerned. The continued mild weather has put quite a damper on winter sorting orders, and until colder weather comes no renewal of activity is looked for. Notwithstanding the unseason-

ably mild weather of November the aggregate sales of the month show an increase on corresponding one of last year. Collections are reported exceptionally good and there is a feeling of buoyancy in the trade, although there is a quietness in sales.

FISH.

The fresh fish trade is reported to have been fairly active last week, but as yet the supply of Lake Winnipeg white fish is rather light, and prices owing to that are at an advance. Sales of these are now being made at 5c for round lots and 5½c for smaller quantities. There was a fair local demand for smoked white fish, sales of which were made at 8c and salt white fish at 4½c a lb in half barrels. A supply of salt sea fish is now on the market, the prices of which are given as follows: Labrador herrings at \$8 per barrel and \$4.50 per half barrel; salt sea salmon at \$17 per barrel, \$9 per half barrel and \$5 per quarter barrel.

FRUIT.

In this trade the business of this week is stated to have been very good, although there is a perceptible falling off in the sales from the summer turn over. Apples are still quoted at \$3.75 to \$4 for choice winter and snows, but these prices may be considered as firm owing to the advancing of winter rates and the firmness in the eastern markets. Lemons at \$6.00 to \$7.00 a box; California pears at \$4.75 to \$5; Oregon pears at \$4.50 to \$4.75; Valencia raisins \$3.25; London layer raisins \$4 to \$4.25; Black Crown \$5.25 to \$5.50 and black baskets in qr. boxes \$1.35 to \$1.45; Malaga grapes \$8 to \$8.50 a barrel; Walnuts 20c a lb; almonds, 20c a lb; filberts 12½c a lb; pecans, 16c a lb; peanuts 16c a lb; figs 18 to 20c a lb, and dates 10c a lb.

FUEL.

In this line business continued fairly active during the week with sales up to about the average. Round lots of poplar have been offered at \$2.25 to \$3 on track, and of tamarac at \$3.50 to \$3.75. Coal is unchanged in price and sales are made at \$9 on track for Anthracite, and \$7 for Pennsylvania bituminous delivered; \$8 for Galt.

FURNITURE.

In this line the business of the past week does not show much improvement on our last report. The only movement heard of being some sales of small lots of which a good number were made in both the city and country. Collections are stated to have been very good from outside places.

GROCERIES.

There has been a monotonous feeling in this staple branch during the week but a rather satisfactory one. There has been a steady volume of sales all week, the demand coming from both city and country. There has been no changes in prices of goods and nothing to break the even flow of business. Collections are also reported free and regular. Notations still stand: sugars, yellow 6½ to 7½c; granulated 8½c; lump 10½ to 10¾c. Coffees, Rio 13 to 15c, Government Java 32 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c Mochas 31 to 34c; Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket fired 25 to 40c, Ping Suey