

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

The same uninteresting features prevail in monetary circles. Wholesale dealers report collections all around as not any better than fair, which is probably expressing the situation in the most favorable light possible. The sudden and almost complete let up in the grain movement has had a quieting effect upon business at the banks, where a state of dullness and inactivity prevails. Until spring weather begins, with its accompanying movement toward commencing miscellaneous undertakings likely to cause a demand for funds, quiet will prevail. Discount rates hold steady at old quotations.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

The election excitement was at its height during all last week, and a great many dealers were paying more attention to politics than to business. In this respect, the elections were brought on at the very best season of the year, so far as business is concerned. Always the duller time of year, dealers were enabled to give almost entire attention to politics without serious inconvenience to their trade. The cold weather and blockades on the railways has also operated against any early movement of spring trade. Last year at this time spring weather prevailed in the far west, and wholesalers here were shipping out summer goods. This year, the western country has been buried under a great depth of snow for some time back, and the railways have been blocked for several days at a time—something which has never before occurred since the construction of railways in the country. The blockades, however, were confined to the far western portion of the territories, and therefore the effect upon business was not nearly so great as if it had occurred in Manitoba. The very mild weather which set in about the middle of last week, would probably carry off the snow in the west, and allow commerce to move on as before.

CLOTHING

Some dealers have commenced to send out orders for general spring delivery, but others have not yet received a sufficiently full complement of stock to begin shipping largely. However, there has been no hurry to get goods out. Orders are now about all taken, and show up about the same as last year. While there will be no marked increase in the amount of business, there will not be a falling off.

DRY GOODS

Travellers have returned from their first trip for spring orders, and dealers are well pleased with the result. It is claimed that in this line the amount of orders taken will foot up very considerably larger than last year, and that country merchants have shown a disposition to do more trading in this market than for the past few years. "Regular old time orders" was the expression one dealer made in reference to the spring trade. Shipping out spring deliveries will commence about the close of the present week, by which time stocks will be complete.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Quotations in this branch are now as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 70c to 80c; opium, \$4 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potas-

sium, 55 to 65c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; 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; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

FISH.

The market is still but lightly supplied with fresh lake fish, and prices hold up firmly. Prices for fresh Lake Winnipeg are as follows: Gold eyes, 6c; Whitefish, 8c; pickerel, 4; jackfish, 3c. Oysters are quoted at 35c for standards, and 37½ to 45c for selects, according to quality. Bulk oysters, \$1.85 to \$2.20 per gallon, according to quality. Fresh sea fish are in the market and quoted as follows: Smelts, 9c; tommy-cods, 7c; cod, 6c; haddock, 8c; lobsters, 18 to 20c. Smoked Finnan haddies, 11c.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Choice apples are scarce and prices hold firm. Some car lots were expected to arrive in a day or so, but it was not thought that these would affect prices, as new importations cannot be made during cold weather at a less cost than would admit of selling below present values. Quotations are: Florida oranges, \$7.00 to \$7.50; Messina oranges, \$6.00 to \$6.50 per box; Valencia oranges, in cases \$12.00; Winter apples, \$5 to \$5.50 per bbl. best stock. Messina lemons, \$7.00 to \$7.50; Oregon pears, \$4.50 to \$5.00; Malaga grapes, \$7 to \$8.00 per keg; Cranberries, \$9.00 to \$12.00, according to size of barrel and quality; Spanish onions, \$7.25 per case of 150 lbs.; apple cider, \$10 per barrel.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Dried and evaporated apples are firm at quotations, as at present prices east, new importations could not be sold for the same money. Prunes could not now be laid down at ruling prices here, and are consequently firm. Prices are: Figs, in 50-pound sacks, 12½c; new Elme figs, in layers, 16c to 20c per pound, in one lb. to ten lb. boxes; Golden dates, 11 to 12c; Valencia raisins, \$2.40 to \$2.50; London layers, \$3.50; black crown, \$5 to \$5.25; black baskets, ½ boxes, \$1.30; evaporated apples, 13 to 14c; dried apples, 6½ to 7c; new Turkey prunes, 7½c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 20c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 15c; Texas pecans, 18c.

RAW FURS

A Montreal report says:—"The Montreal market has assumed a condition of dullness and dealers are in no way disposed to purchase furs at the prices that are now demanded. Some dealers having got into their heads that some lines have substantially advanced, have increased their own demands, which no one will touch, especially in view of possible troubles which would knock European values endways." Here there is little movement, with prices about nominal as follows: Beaver, per pound, \$2.50 to \$4.00; bear, per skin, \$5.00 to \$20; bear, cub, per skin, \$1.00 to \$7.00; otter, per skin, \$5.00 to \$10.00; mink, per skin, 30 to 90c; martin, per skin, 60c to \$2.50; fisher, per skin, \$1.00 to \$6.50; lynx, per skin, \$1.00 to \$2.50; racoon, per skin, 40 to 60c; skunk, per skin, 40.00-80; muskrat, per skin, 1 to 7c.

Fox, red, 25c to \$1.40; fox, cross, \$1 to \$10; wolf, timber, 25c to \$2.25; wolf, prairie, 25c to \$1.25.

GROCERIES

Trade has continued to improve, though the blockage on the railway west has retarded the movement. Sugars hold steady and syrups firm. Quotations now are: Canned tomatoes, \$3.75; corn, \$3.25 to \$3.50; peas, \$4.00; yellow sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c to 8c; lump sugar, 8½c; Coffees, Rios, 19 to 20c; Government Java, 30 to 35c, other Javas, 25 to 28c; Mochas, 31 to 34c. 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; panfried Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Ping Suey 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, \$10.

HIDES

Prices here are unchanged. A Montreal despatch reports a further decline of ½c. in that market. Quotations are: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 5½c; No. 2, 4½c; bulls, 3½c; 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.

HARDWARE AND METALS

There is yet very little movement in any class of hardware. Prices are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.55 to \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 45 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 26 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6½ to 7c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.60 to \$2.85 per 100 lbs; barbed wire 7 to 7½c.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLOIS

Quotations are as follows: Turpentine, 90c; harness oil, \$1.10; Neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw 68c per gal., boiled 71c; seal oil scam refined, \$1.00; castor, 12½c per lb; lard No. 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive oil, pure, \$1.50; union salad, \$1.25; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 26c; headlight, 28c; water white, 30c. American oils, Eocene, 36c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 30c; Eldorado, machine, 56c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$4.75; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

WHEAT

From present appearances it would seem that the wheat movement is just about over for the season, so far as deliveries by farmers are concerned. If this be the case, it will be an abrupt termination to the season's business. There was scarcely anything doing last week, and the amount of deliveries has been growing gradually less for some time. About ten cars per day would be the total number arriving here or passing through, and about all arriving comes from Southern Manitoba, wheat marketed in