

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The past week has been one of considerable activity in some branches of financial affairs in this city, and in commercial affairs, there has been a demand for discounts which contrasts favorably with the dull times of August. An amount of business has been done in mercantile lines of late, which has warranted a little depression upon the banks, and as the month advances and October opens we may expect the demand to increase. Banks all profess to have abundance of funds for this class of business, but are quite close fisted in regard to any matter of speculation, and have shown a disposition to entail on small loans to small trades, even to men of standing. It is evident that they look to the legitimate discount business, being sufficient to engage their attention without allowing funds out on irregular business. This causes some inconvenience owing to the scarcity of money in circulation during harvest operations, but will not be productive of any great evils. Rates are unchanged and are, first-class paper 8 per cent., ordinary, 9 to 10, and promiscuous and one name paper 10 to 12. In real estate mortgage loans, the business of the week has been rather light, although enquiries have been plentiful. With the conclusion of harvest operations quite an improvement is looked for for in this respect, and even the city is expected to show openings for some good loans about the close of this month or opening of October. Rates of interest still range from 8 to 10 per cent., the latter figure representing principally renewals.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The work of sending out goods to fill fall orders has been going on without let up in wholesale circles during the past week, and most houses have been kept quite busy so doing. Some travellers have returned from their first rounds of the season, and all report orders exceedingly light, not on account of stocks in the country being heavy, but from the fact that for this season at least there is a general disposition on the part of retailers to make purchases only as they are necessary, and it is consequently impossible to sell goods on prospect. Some of these travellers intimate their intention of starting out again about the end of this month, and express a firm belief, that this second trip will show as heavy, if not heavier sales than at first. Goods, they say are badly wanted in this country, but they can only be sold this season as demands arise. In lines of every day consumption there is a better feeling than we reported in last issue, and sales for the week have shown an increase upon those of the preceding one. In almost every line there was a falling off in orders during the recent rainy weather, trade being still extremely sensitive and ready to check up with the slightest adverse circumstances. The falling off was not felt much, as most houses had sufficient orders on hand to keep them busy for several days, and since the return of fine weather the check up has gradually eased off again. Lines connected with building operations are still kept busy, and expect another month of activity. The report of collections while showing some-

thing of an improvement upon our last report is still not so bright as could be wished, although it is quite as good as could be expected while harvest operations are going on. Altogether there is considerable activity in wholesale circles, and a prospect of a continued steady trade for the greater part of fall and winter.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Business in the agricultural implement line continues in very much the same condition as reported last week. The demand for harvesters is over, and the chief enquiry now is for threshing machines of which the market is fairly well supplied, but dealers anticipate that before the season is out there will be few if any unsold, as crops are much better than the most sanguine had predicted earlier in the season. Collections are still slow, and there will be no improvement until grain is on the market.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

There has been an active movement in boots and shoes during the past week, the wet weather that we have had has interfered somewhat with shipping arrangements, but taken as a whole, the week's trade has been all that could be desired. Collections are rather slow.

CLOTHING.

Trade in this line has been rather quiet during the week. The wet weather of the past week made country dealers cautious about ordering goods, but now that the weather is all that could be desired, orders will arrive more freely, as stocks are low in the country, and must necessarily be replenished soon which will make trade lively for the balance of the season. Collections are not first rate.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

In this branch of trade business continues a little slow. There is considerable enquiry for the future, however, which would indicate that trade will be lively before many days. Collections are as good as could be expected.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Business continues very fair, with fine prospects for a heavy fall and winter trade. Collections are fairly satisfactory.

DRY GOODS.

The dry goods trade still continues a little on the quiet side, the few days of wet weather last week caused a heavy falling-off of orders from the country. Since the fine weather set in orders have increased wonderfully, and, if nothing happens to mar present prospects, a large trade will be transacted during the fall and winter season. Collections are still slow, and it is not expected there will be much change in this respect for at least two or three weeks.

FISH AND POULTRY.

Dealers are receiving fair quantities of white fish from Lake Winnipeg, enough to supply the wants of the city which is about the only demand at present, the weather being still too warm for shipments south. Prices are unchanged and quotations are: white fish, 8c and Lake Superior trout, 10c, in large lots. Game is plentiful and the demand fair. Poultry is still scarce and prices are firm at 50 to 55c for spring chickens per pair, and fowl from 40 to 50c each.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

There has been a very satisfactory business transacted in this line during the past week and orders from the country are increasing daily which, no doubt, will still improve as the season advances. Collections are reported as very satisfactory.

FRUIT.

There is little change to report in this line. Business is still of a very satisfactory character to wholesalers. Apples are in large supply, but, as a rule, the quality is not all that could be desired. Really choice stock is scarce, but it is expected that future arrivals, will show a larger percentage of fine qualities. Prices have remained fairly steady and quotations are: apples, \$4.50 to 5.50 per barrel. California pears, \$6 to \$6.50; plums \$3.25 to \$3.75; white grapes \$8, and Tokys \$9 per crate; tomatoes \$3 per basket; watermelons 80 to 90c each. Dried fruits are unchanged.

FUEL.

The fuel market remains in about the same condition that it was a week ago. Large quantities of coal are received at Port Arthur for shipment to different points along the C.P.R. Western will also be in large supply, and the expectation is that prices will rule considerably lower than last year. Wood is in fair supply and prices are: tamarac \$5 to \$5.50, and poplar \$4.25 to \$4.50.

FURNITURE.

There is no change to note in this branch of trade. Business is still slow, nor is it likely that there will be much improvement for at least the next two weeks when the marketing of grain will make money more plentiful. Collections are reported fair.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Heavy hardware is still in active demand, light, however, is not much enquired after. Collections are still on the slow side, but under the circumstances they are as good as could be expected. There is no change in prices and quotations are as follow: Tin plate 1C, 14x20, \$6.50 to 7.00 a box; 1C, 20x28, \$13 to 13.50; Canada plates \$4.35 to 4.50; sheet iron, 28G, \$4.75 to 5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 25 to 29 per lb.; pig lead, 6 to 6½c; galvanized iron, No. 28, 7½ to 8½c, according to quality; bar iron \$2.95 to 3.15 per 100 lbs; cut nails, 3.60 to 3.80.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Nothing new in this line to report. A steady trade is being transacted daily, and future prospects are very encouraging. Collections are reported fair. Prices are unchanged, and quotations are: Spanish sole 33c to 35c; slaughter sole 35c French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic 55c; B Z calf \$1.00 to 1.10; French kip \$1.00 to 1.25; B Z kip 85c to 90c; slaughter kip 65c to 75c; No. 1 wax upper 55c; grain upper 55c; harness leather 34c to 36c for plump stock; English oak sole 65c.

LUMBER.

It is hard to give a correct report of this trade. Some dealers affirm that trade is good, while others admit that it is anything but satisfactory.