

## WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The past week has been one of caution as well as stringency in monetary circles in Winnipeg. The approach of the fourth was awaited with some anxiety, and in some cases preparations beyond the usual were ready for any emergency that might turn up. That day, however, passed over with an ease which was an agreeable disappointment to many, and the proportion of paper met was much greater than might have been expected. The demand for money at the banks has been quite active during the entire week, and for commercial purposes it has been rather heavy. Still there has not been the close compressed feeling which characterized some weeks earlier in the year. Banks have been more careful in the selection of paper, but in few instances have they failed to meet the full demands of commercial customers. The falling off in deposits showed that every effort was being put forth without calling upon the banks, and these were compelled to act with a cautious hand. In the east the stringency has not increased during the week, and that has kept extra outside pressure from being felt here. Rates have remained unchanged. Gilt edge commercial paper is still good at from 9 to 10 per cent and ordinary at 11 to 12.

In mortgage loans on landed property the transactions of the week have not been numerous, and none have been heard of below 10 per cent. Money for such loans is not so scarce in the city as might be expected.

## WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The past week has been one of considerable nervousness in commercial circles in this city, and not a little uneasiness was felt by many wholesale men as the dreaded fourth of May approached. It had become a settled fact in the minds of all that a great load was being carried by most mercantile men, and it only required a little more pressure in some instances to produce very unwished for results. The demoralization which has pervaded the wholesale dry goods business for two weeks has had more or less of a sympathetic action upon other branches of business and produced an uncertain feeling upon trade generally. This, added to the fact that every energy was being strained by retail merchants to meet the demands of the fourth, caused quite a lull in many lines of business which was quite unexpected after the improvement which took place in trade generally during the latter part of April. The report of the week is rather a mixed one, and is no brighter than that of the previous one, but rather the opposite. In some staple lines a good volume of business has been done while in the majority there has been more or less complaining. In collections there was a lull previous to Friday, resources being held for that day, the results of which, so far as can be learned, has been rather an agreeable surprise to most wholesale men, so limited was the demand for renewals. There has evidently been a burden lifted off the mercantile community, and a few weeks of easier money and freer trade may now be expected.

## AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

In this line there has been considerable activity, although some complaints have been heard that as yet the volume of trade had not reached the expectations of the complainers. The general report is that up to date the business done is much in excess of what it was at this date last year. The season has no doubt been much earlier, but once seeding is over it is expected that the demand for harvesting machines will greatly increase, and in such a case the trade of this season will be much greater than that of 1882. During the past week about 14 cars of goods have been shipped to points in the country, and goods are still arriving from the south and east in heavy consignments. There have been but few delays in freight, and the track of the importers of machinery has so far been a clear one.

## BOOTS AND SHOES.

In this branch of trade there has been a steady business during the week, but wholesalers have not been rushed. The volume has been slightly less than that of the previous week, but has not been a disappointment to the trade. Country demands are not heavy, while the city trade has held reasonably good. Collections are reported close, although the paper of the fourth was well attended to.

## CLOTHING.

There has been a slight stir in this line during the week, although the volume of trade done has not been heavy. Orders have been for sorts, and were in most cases light. Travelers who are out with samples of winter goods find sales very slow and retailers very unwilling to invest. The sorts trade has therefore composed nearly all the business of the week. In collections a few part renewals are reported, all of which are at very short dates.

## CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

A temporary lull in business is reported from this branch for the week. There has been no dullness, but a falling off from the activity of the previous week took place. The trade, however, is in a very satisfactory state, and confidence in a speedy revival is general. Collections are reported fair to good, only a small proportion of renewals being asked for.

## DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

From this branch of business comes rather a cheering report for the week. Houses here have been busy, and in one instance considerably rushed, and numerous orders are still on hand to be filled. There has been no special demand to cause the activity, but a general reviving in both country and city trade. There is no doubt but the wholesale drug interest of the city is making about as rapid progress as any branch of business, and the area of operations is rapidly widening. The trade is now in a solid and safe condition.

## DRY GOODS.

From this staple line of business the report of the week is of a very discouraging nature. The city trade is practically dead, no demand for goods coming from there. The country demands are also light, and with the caution which wholesalers are exercising added, the

volume of business for the week has been rather limited. The whole trade is carrying a load, and the rash action of some leading retail houses in the city in deluging the market with goods at cut prices is daily adding to the weight of the same. The fact is gradually forcing itself upon both wholesale and retail men that the business of this season is already destroyed, and a struggle for safety must take place before the coming fall. The report of collections is not much brighter than that of sales, and does not afford much reason for hope in the future. The trade is in short demoralized, and will take months to recover and reach a satisfactory state.

## FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

In these lines a fair average trade has been done during the past week, which would no doubt have been heavier but for the sympathetic feeling with dry goods. One or two houses report a very satisfactory state of affairs, both in sales and collections, while others find reasons for complaining. The continued fine weather has given quite an impetus to the fancy trade, and this will in a great measure account for the hopeful reports.

## FISH AND POULTRY.

In fresh fish the variety on the market has not changed since our last report, and is still confined to pike, pickerel and white fish. There have been no changes in quotations, pike and pickerel being still at 3c and white fish at 5c. Findon haddocks are still quoted at 12½c, although one cleaning out lot was sold during the week at 10c. There were no novelties on the market. Oysters are still to be had at 60c for selects and 50c for standards. The supply of poultry was confined to a few chickens, not enough being offered to admit of wholesale quotations being given.

## FUEL.

There has been no change as yet in the price of coal, and none will take place until the new freight rates on the C. P. R. are in force. Anthracite is worth \$15 delivered, and bituminous \$13.50 to \$14.50. The demand during the week has not been a heavy one. Wood still holds at \$6 for dry poplar and \$7 to \$8 for tamarac, although navigation is now open. The demand has fallen off very much during the week, owing to the continued mild weather.

## FURNITURE.

From this business comes the most flattering report of trade for the week. There has been numerous heavy shipments to western points during the week, and life and activity has been general. At present orders are on hand which cannot be completed until further receipts from the east are available, and the factories of the city have all on hand that they can attend to for some weeks to come. The report of collections is equally encouraging, and the whole trade is in a very prosperous and satisfactory condition.

## FRUIT.

There has been quite a steady feeling in this trade during the week, and wholesale men express satisfaction with both sales and collections. There has been an easier feeling in the prices of some goods, and in some instances a