

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been no particular change in the money market since the last time of writing. The feeling of increasing confidence which began to set in a couple of weeks ago continues to steadily improve. The demand for money is not so great as it was, customers getting along with as little as possible at present. A healthy sign of the times also is the excellent preparations that are being quietly made to meet responsibilities maturity at the end of the present month or the beginning of next. The critical period has undoubtedly passed, and the harvest will go a long way towards making matters in monetary circles comparatively easy. On every hand there is an assuring feeling of confidence, and neither bankers nor their customers expect anything like a repetition of the hard times of the past six months. So mote it be.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

There has been but little movement in wholesale circles during the week, and the report is very much the same character as that of last week. Travellers who have been out have not met with much encouragement, their customers preferring as a rule to postpone placing their orders for fall and winter goods until later on in the season. It is not expected that there will be any general movement until about the middle of next month, after which a good trade is expected. August is generally the duller month of the year, and this coupled with the depression that exists in the country makes business a great deal quieter than it otherwise would be. As regards money matters there is very little change to note. If there has been any change it has been for the better, some houses reporting their bills maturing during the month so far as having been very well met.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There has been a steady run of trade during the week. Harvesting machinery is in active demand, and country agents have their hands full in attending to that department of the trade. Threshers are also much inquired for, and judging from the number that have been already sold this season farmers will not have the difficulty in securing threshing accommodation that they had to contend with last year. The plow business is quiet at present, but this will revive after harvest. The wagon market is overstocked and there will be quite a large surplus left on the hands of dealers. Collections are on the slow side at present, but this is nothing more than was expected at this season of the year. After harvest, money will doubtless flow freely into the hands of those connected with the agricultural implement trade.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Business in this line still continues quiet. The wholesale houses are not anxious to push business at present, preferring to wait until after harvest before removing their stocks from the warehouse. Collections have been slower since the beginning of the month than for some time, but this is attributable to the effort made to meet July notes.

CLOTHING.

There is literally nothing doing in the clothing line at present. Some travellers have been out, but have found it hard work to sell, most of retailers not wishing to place their orders until later on in the season. A good fall trade is anticipated. Collections are only fair.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is as yet very little movement in crockery and glassware, country dealers not having yet placed their orders for fall trade. The prospect for a good trade later on in the season is considered excellent, and there is very little danger of disappointment. Collections are fair.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Trade has not been so brisk during the past week as it was for a few weeks previous. The retailers throughout the country have stocked up pretty well, and until after harvest no general revival of business is anticipated. Collections are hardly so good as they were a month ago.

DRY GOODS.

There is no line of the wholesale trade in which more interest centres than that of dry goods. Those connected with that business have had to bear the heaviest burden of any, and the manner in which they have pulled through is a credit to their energy and ability. The wholesale houses have stood firm on their ground and have overcome every difficulty. There was one exception, and that should never have occurred had the bank with which they dealt acted liberally and not in the manner they did. Business generally is quiet at present, and no general revival is expected until after harvest. Wholesalers are wisely restricting their trade to limits which will not incur much loss in any event, and retailers are equally cautious in buying. These two elements combined serve to make business duller than it would otherwise be. The outlook for the fall is considered to be very satisfactory, and if crops come in all right there is nothing to fear in that direction. Collections are still slow, but at the same time considerably better than they have been for the past month or six weeks. One word we have to say to wholesalers is this—adopt the short credit system—your orders may not be so large in amount at any one time, but they will in the aggregate reach a sum equal to that obtained under the present long credit system. Union is strength, and unless all the leading firms unite in adopting this policy it cannot be carried out. But it would be money alike in the pockets of wholesalers and retailers. Some exceptions for outside points, such as Battleford, Edmonton, &c., would have to be made, but the towns along the line of the C.P.R., or contiguous to it, would reap a heavy benefit.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

There is as yet very little movement, and none is expected for a month yet. Small sorting orders from the country are very regularly received, but city trade is dull.

FISH AND POULTRY.

There has been no change in this line of business since last week. Stocks on hand are small and are regulated entirely by the demand. White fish and trout are quoted at 8c; pike at 3c to 4c.

FRUIT.

For the past week business has been on the quiet side. Stocks held in the city are not large, but still ample to supply the demand. Collections have not been so good as they were a month ago, but on that score there is nothing special to complain of. Lemons are still quoted at from \$10 to 10.50. Oranges are out of season and consequently none offering. Blueberries, raspberries, &c., are being received in liberal quantities, but the price of these, as with other new fruits, varies so much, dependent upon the condition in which they are received that quotations cannot be given. For dried fruit there is a fair demand, and quotations are:—loose muscatel raisins \$3.00; black currants \$4.75; triple crown \$8; golden dates \$11 to 11.50 in mats; 16c in boxes.

FUEL.

The demand is very light, but prices are as high as ever, and are not likely to be affected until force of shipment via Port Arthur makes itself felt. Quotations are:—Anthracite coal, \$15 delivered; bituminous \$13.50 to 14.50; tamarac wood in lots of ten cars or over sells at \$6.50, smaller lots \$6.75; poplar \$5 in large lots, \$5.50 in small quantities.

FURNITURE.

There has been very little doing in furniture during the week, nor is it expected that there will be until after harvest. Retailers outside are holding off, and will not place their orders until they are fully assured as to what the ultimate result of the harvest will be. If all goes well a good fall trade will be done. Collections now are fair, and show some improvement over last month.

GROCERIES.

During the week there has been a fair demand for groceries, and the aggregate of sales in the leading houses foots up to a very respectable figure. People must have groceries and there can be no doubt but that a heavy trade will be done here between now and winter. Collections are fair, but might be better. The quotations are:—Sugars—Yellow 9½ to 10c; granulated 10½ to 11c; Paris lumps 12½ to 12½c; Coffees 15 to 18c for Rios, 22 to 27c for Javas; teas—Japan 25 to 45c, Moyune gunpowders 35 to 75c; Young Hyson 26 to 55c; new season Congous 30 to 40c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

In this line of business things generally are quiet. A few heavy contracts in this city has caused a little breeze in the heavy lines, but in other branches of the trade there is very little doing. Quotations are:—Tin plate 14 x 20, \$8 to 8.25; 20x28, \$15 to 15.25; bar iron \$3.74 to 4; sheet iron 5½ to 6c; iron piping, 25 per cent off price list; ingot tin, 32 to 35c; piglead, 6½ to 7c; galvanised iron, No. 28, 8½ to 9c according to quality.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Business is quiet; quotations remain as they were:—Sole leather, 70 to 75c; B.Z., 85 to 90c; French first choice, \$1.15 to 1.25; French calf first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; wax upper, No. 1 55c; grain, No. 1, 65c; harness leather, 34 to 35c for plump stock.