

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

In the Winnipeg Money market there is little change to report for the week. Two banks have made no change from the policy of conservatism they have been pursuing for the past few weeks. Nor is it likely that there will be any particular loosening of the bonds which have made money so tight of late, until the harvest is gathered in. That there is an increasing feeling of confidence cannot be doubted, but at the same time there has yet been very little departure from the straight and narrow lines laid down some time ago, in regard to granting accommodation. Some of the banks show more of a disposition to deal liberally than others, and those which just now temper their judgment with the greatest degree of mercy will be well repaid for it in the future, when business again resumes its wonted form. Rates of discount have not changed. For gilt edged commercial paper from 8 to 10 per cent has to be paid; ordinary paper 10 to 12 per cent. Money for purposes of real estate speculation is still hard to get, and in some cases fabulous prices are paid to private parties for accommodation. We hear of as high as 10 per cent. per month being paid for the use of money for short periods. Money for investment on good landed mortgage security is easily obtained, and at reasonable rates. The ruling figures are from 9 to 10 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The condition of the wholesale trade in this city has not changed materially from that indicated in our last week's issue. Business still continues in the same dull stereotyped way that was reported then, and there is very little prospect of an immediate revival. In fact it is scarcely possible that there can be any change until the crop now on the ground is brought to market and converted into money. The excellent crop prospects, however, inspire dealers with confidence in the future, and should nothing unforeseen occur to prevent the proper harvesting and curing of the grain, there will no doubt be an excellent fall business done. Country dealers are acting very cautiously, and do not care to place any orders beyond what actual necessity demands, until the safety of the crops is assured. Wholesalers also do not care to press sales until later in the season, and the leading houses will not send out travellers with fall samples until about the middle of August. By that time the situation can be pretty well ascertained, and both buyers and sellers will be in a position to guide themselves thereby. These two circumstances together combine to make wholesale business quieter than it would have been at this season of the year. But the policy being adopted is a wise one, and will result in much greater and more lasting benefit than if the reckless system that has characterized the conduct of business in the past had been continued. It will place business on a good sound basis, and that is what is wanted. Collections have not shown any signs of improvement, in fact generally speaking they are slower than they have been for some time. This is accounted for by the fact that the supply

of ready money in the hands of the farming community has been pretty well exhausted in the purchase of agricultural machinery, and storekeepers' accounts are left to be paid out of the proceeds of the crops now on the ground. So much so is this the case that during the past month many country merchants who expected to be able to meet their accounts pretty fairly have failed to do so, and have had to arrange with their wholesale creditors for longer time, and say they cannot promise to do much until after harvest. The leading houses are doing all in their power to accommodate in this way, and any good reliable business man will be carried over the present crisis. The banks are not inclined to be as liberal with country dealers as they might be, or, to put it stronger, as they ought to be, and this throws a heavier burden upon the shoulders of the wholesale men than they should have to bear.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

The agricultural implement men have their hands full just now in attending to the wants of customers. This is their busy season in delivering and setting up machinery. Haying operations are in full blast all over the country and an immense number of mowers and rakes have been sold. There will scarcely be an article in this line left unsold in the country, and some of the houses have been unable to supply demands. Reapers are selling well; it is thought that in this line the supply will just about be equal to the demand, and there will be very few machines left in the warehouses over winter. The only line which has been at all overdone is that of wagons, of which the supply will be considerably beyond what is wanted. Threshing machinery finds ready sale, and a great deal will be required to handle the crop after it has been stacked. For lighter implements, such as plows, &c., there is a light demand at present, but a good many will be wanted as soon as fall plowing begins. Reports from agencies in the country are very favorable as regards the crop prospect, the recent rains having done an immense amount of good. Collections are somewhat slow, but not more so than was expected at this season of the year. On the whole the leading houses consider the outlook a very favorable one.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

There is very little being done in the boot and shoe line at present, and no general revival is expected until the middle of next month when fall trade will begin to open up. A few sorting orders are being sent out to the country. City trade is very dull. Collections are inclined to be slower than they have been during the season.

CLOTHING.

Business in the clothing line continues in the same stand still condition that was reported last week. Some travellers have been out on the road, and brought in a few sorting up orders. They report the prospect for fall trade as very favorable. Collections are on the quiet side.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

There has been a more steady run of trade during the past week. A considerable number of small orders are being regularly received

from the west and south, but city trade is still exceedingly quiet. Collections although not so good as they were some time ago, cannot yet be said to be unsatisfactory taking all things into consideration.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Trade in the crockery and glassware line is quiet, but at the same time not by any means in a stand still condition. Orders received are chiefly for the commoner class of staple ware. Collections are still slow, the principal difficulty being with accounts of long standing which have become somewhat rusty.

DRY GOODS.

No active phase of business has as yet developed in the dry goods line, and to go into detail as to the state of trade would only be to give a repetition of what has appeared under this heading in the COMMERCIAL for a past month. One or two of the leading houses report a slightly improved business during the week, which they look upon as only temporary, and not any indication of a revival from the inactivity of the past. The majority of the houses report no improvement whatever, and do not anticipate any for a few weeks yet. About the middle of August travellers will start out with fall samples, and a good trade is looked for. Money is still very tight, and shows no signs of improvement, and it is not expected there will be any until after harvest.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

There is very little activity to report for the week. A few small sorting up orders make up the volume of trade. What orders are received come chiefly from outside points, city trade being still abnormally dull.

FISH AND POULTRY.

The fish market is very quiet, and as regards poultry there is nothing doing. White fish and trout are worth 8c per lb, and pike sells at 3c. There will not be any particular supply or demand until the weather becomes colder.

FRUIT.

There has been an active demand for fruit during the week, especially for lemons and oranges. Lemons are not in very large supply, but a couple of car loads are expected in a day or two. They are quoted at \$10 to 10.50. California oranges, with which the market is well supplied, are now sold at \$8. There are very few box apples in the market; new barrelled apples are expected in a few days. Tomatoes are in fair supply, but the price fluctuates so much, according to the condition in which they are received, that they cannot be quoted. There has been a brisk demand from the west of late. Collections are reported good.

FUEL.

The demand is very light, both for coal and wood. Prices have not changed, but there will no doubt be a considerable drop before winter sets in. The following are the quotations. 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, \$7.50 in smaller quantities.

FURNITURE.

There is very little demand for furniture at