

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

The monetary situation still remains decidedly close. In the city the circulating medium seems to be in very light supply, and the country gives indications of nothing better. Paper at the banks has been anything but well met for some time back, and renewals are the order of the day. Several wholesale dealers report that payments are very bad, in fact worse than at any time for two or three years back. There are a few exceptions, where some dealers report fair returns, but the general statement is unsatisfactory. It is said that many dealers have been meeting their paper due eastern houses, whilst "standing off" the local houses. In fact, several glaring instances have recently come to light, where local wholesalers have been obliged to renew large notes in full, while at the same time the customer had met his eastern paper promptly. This is manifestly unfair to the local trade, and customers should remember that Winnipeg dealers have to pay heavier discount rates than eastern houses. Such action is rather in the line of imposing upon the men who carried the trade through the late season of depression and contraction. Accounts with eastern houses have not been of as long standing, which is probably the reason retailers make an effort to pay them in preference to those with the local houses, but they should at least make a fair division between the respective houses, when they cannot meet all their paper in full. Whilst wishing to give their customers every advantage possible, yet in cases of unfair discrimination such as has been described, some dealers threaten to institute proceedings to compel payment.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

The wholesale trade of the city has not been much better than holding its own during the past week. Some lines report a slight improvement, such as hardware, lumber, crockery and glassware, paints, oils, fruits, furniture, etc. Groceries, provisions, produce, etc., have been dull even for the season, and in textile fabrics the week has also been backward, so far as new business was concerned, though there was more or less activity in shipping out old orders. In the latter lines this work has now been about completed, and unless the sorting movement commences at once, the present week will be dull.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

Agents are now going through the country and are meeting with fair success. Warehouses are also being put in order for the coming spring trade, and shipments of new machinery are beginning to arrive.

DRY GOODS

There was considerable activity going on at the warehouses during the week, in shipping out spring orders, but by the close of the week these were pretty well cleared out. Travelers were about going out again, some having already started. In clothing actual trade was quiet, first orders having been about all sent out, with but few new arriving. Both in dry goods and clothing, a few buyers were in the market personally during the week. Collections were generally very poor. A Montreal report says: "Cotton and woolen manufactur-

ers, satisfied to their hearts content that the tariff will not be interfered with, to their advantage are turning out large quantities of goods for the demand which they are convinced will soon be made upon them, and expect higher prices upon many of their immediate offerings."

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Quotations in this branch are now as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 70c to 80c; opium, \$1 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 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, \$1 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

FISH.

Fresh lake fish irregular in supply and quoted: 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, 6c; cod, 8c; haddock, 8c; lobsters, 18 to 20c; herrings, 25c a dozen. Smoked Finnan haddies, 10c; boneless fish, 6½c; boneless cod, 8½c; prepared herrings, 7½c.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Trade is commencing to move more actively, with the appearance of spring. Apples are firm at quotations, with a few new cars on the way. Russets are usually held at \$6, and baidwins, spies, etc., at \$6.50. Cranberries were about out of the market, and prices are therefore merely nominal. Quotations were as follows: Florida oranges, \$7.00 to \$7.50; Messina oranges, \$6.00 to \$6.50 per box; Valencia oranges, in cases \$11 to \$12.00; Winter apples, \$6.00 to \$6.50 per bbl. best stock. Messina lemons, \$6.50 to \$7.00; Malaga grapes, \$7 to \$8.00 per keg; Cranberries, \$9.00 to \$12.00, according to size of barrel and quality; Southern red and yellow onions, \$5.00 per 100 lbs.; apple cider, \$10 per barrel.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Quotations unchanged and now as follows: 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, 10 to 11c; 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, 7½ to 7c; new Turkey prunes, 7½c. Nuts are quoted: leanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 20c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 15c; Texas pecans, 18c.

FURNITURE

After a season of several months' silence, country dealers have again commenced to make inquiries, and a few small orders have been received, which it is hoped will be the precursor of better ones later on. Payments have also been a shade better.

RAW FURS

Sales were going on in London all last week, a full report of which will be given in our next issue. As far as known, the result of the sales was to reduce prices. The demand was not as

keen as had been expected, and several sort sold much lower. Lynx showed the heaviest decline, prices for this fur dropping as much as 45 per cent. Beaver declined about ten per cent. Skunk were also reported to be easier. Previous to the sales, lynx were selling here as high as \$4.00 per skin and even higher, but our quotations were not advanced to over \$2.50, believing the latter price to be as high as could legitimately be paid. Time has proved this to be the case. The following are the latest revised quotations, with further changes probable next week. Quotations are: Beaver, per pound, \$2.25 to \$3.75; 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, 40-60-80; 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; badger, 50c to \$1.

GROCERIES

Sugars moved up ½c at the refineries last week and syrups were scarce and stronger. Prices here, however, were not changed in any of these goods. Prices are: Canned tomatoes, \$3.75; corn, \$3.25 to \$3.50; peas, \$4.00; yellow sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c; lump sugar, 8½c to 9c; Coffees, Rio, 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 1886-7, 20 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 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, 1885-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar, cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound.

HIDES

Prices are now steady as follows: 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.

LUMBER

Building has already commenced to some extent in the city, with indications of even a better season than last year. Some frame buildings are now in course of erection, and lumber is being laid down for others. Lumber dealers therefore expect a good city trade this season. From the country very little has yet been heard, but it is still early.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS

Turpentine has declined 10c, and is now quoted at 80c, in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels. Other prices are now as follows: Harness oil, \$1.10; Neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw 68c per gal., boiled 71c; seal oil seam 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, 35c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 29c; Aurora, 27c; Eldorado, machine, 50c. 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.