

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

It seems as if monetary affairs in the city had been acting in sympathy with the weather during the past week, and have been unusually dull all round. In commercial circles they have been quiet, and the call for discounts of this kind have been both few and light. Of course the closing week of a month is usually the dullest in this respect, but April has shown an unusually inactive closing. Banks claim to have abundant funds for all regular discounts, but are forced to acknowledge that the demand is very limited, unless they are prepared to handle business which they usually avoid. They are consequently doing very little business, and are no doubt ready to welcome the little activity, which the opening of the new month is likely to bring with it. Discount rates are still the same, being: first-class paper, 8 per cent.; ordinary, 9 to 10; and irregular and one-name, 10 to 12. In loans on real estate mortgage matters have been in no better state than in mercantile circles. The weather has been such as to shut off all, or nearly all demands from the country, while the city business for weeks past has amounted to very little. The troubles out West have unsettled the minds of property owners more or less, and what will be the effect of all upon prices of landed property in the province is a question in the minds of many, some looking for unfavorable, but more for favorable results. In the midst of such an unsettled feeling it is not to be expected that loan companies will do a heavy business. Rates of interest are unchanged, ranging from 8 to 10 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In the wholesale trade of the city matters have been gradually settling down from the disturbed and jerky state in which it has been for several weeks, since the first news of the Saskatchewan outbreak was heard. The rush for military supplies is now over, and the demand for such is now down to simple food supplies. There is now a chance of judging the effect the rebellion has had upon trade generally, and that is decidedly adverse. The whole Saskatchewan district and quite a portion of Alberta being totally cut-off so far as trade is concerned, and more or less of an unsettled feeling being prevalent in all far-western points, the area of operations for our wholesalers is a little circumscribed, and the volume of business doing is correspondingly so. This is being felt at present, and the past week has been the first since the outbreak to clearly demonstrate the true state of matters. Business in lines of season goods is now at a lull, the first spring stocks having been sent out and no sorting-trade of any consequence being yet forthcoming. Of course there are a few exceptions to this rule, but such is the general state, and the fear is that unless the rebellion has a speedy termination, the sorting-trade will not amount to much this season. In lines dependent upon building and outdoor contracting, spring's activity seems to make very slow progress, and quite a few houses complain, that the season so far gives very little promise of do-

ing much good. In goods of every day consumption the state of affairs is much better, and demands for military supplies still add materially to the volume of sales. With this addition taken away the general business would be considerably below an average for this time of the year. While, therefore, sales have been rather unsatisfactory during the week, collections have been even more so. The proportion of payments falling due during the latter part of this month is light, but even the light cash returns have been very irregular. Very little dissatisfaction or disappointment is expressed over this, as all seem to be reconciled to light cash returns until seed is over.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Even the limited trade in spring machinery which has been done since seedling commenced was materially curtailed during last week owing to the general rain and broken-up state of roads all over the province. Near the close when a bright spell set in there was a little improvement noticeable, and quite a few demands were made by country agencies. This week promises to show a very marked improvement. The report in collections is not very encouraging. Scarcely any cash returns have been made during the week, and a few weeks more of short supplies in this respect are looked forward to.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Every change of weather seems to have a favorable effect upon this trade, and last week, when it seemed as if the spring business had spent its force, and a time of quietness was at hand, the rain and mud made a sudden demand for classes of goods not usually called for until May. There has been no extra activity caused, but a quiet time has been avoided.

CLOTHING.

Business is at a standstill in this trade, and the past week has been an exceedingly quiet one. Travellers are at home now, and are not likely to start out again for some time, as the unsettled state of trade out west does not promise much success for them. Collections are also in a very unsatisfactory state.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is still a moderately good business in staple goods being done in this trade, and a few fancies are being called for. The past week has been fully up to the previous one in point of sales, and with returning good weather still better is looked for during the current week. Collections are reported quite satisfactory.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

The presence of the military in the province still adds to the volume of business being done in this trade, and last week was very similar to the previous one. The general trade has been steadily good, and there has been no falling off in the demand created by military affairs.

DRY GOODS.

This staple trade has been exceedingly quiet during the past week, and as April draws to a close it becomes more apparent that the business of the month will show a heavy shortage when compared with the corresponding month of last year. The first spring orders are now all filled and shipped, and there is no sign of any sorting

trade setting in, such as is usual at this time of year. Houses here look forward to a rather slow time during the balance of the season, unless there is a much more rapid termination of the rebellion and settling down of affairs out west, than seems probable at present. Collections are also reported in a very unsatisfactory state, and not at all such as would give encouragement to push business for the present.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

Although there has been no genuine activity in this trade, business has been better than might have been expected during the past week and with a return of fine weather some improvement has set in. The trade in Indians' knick knackery, small though it is, at any time, has been entirely cut off of late, but there has been a fair and steady demand for staple lines.

FISH.

The business in fresh fish is now over until summer operations on the lakes commence. A few small lots of white fish from the refrigerator have been sold at 6c, but the whole sales amount to very little. Dried and salt fish have been in fair demand and have been selling as follows: Smoked white fish 8c per lb; Scotch herring 35c per 7 lb box; Labrador herring \$1.50 per can of 100 fish; Fin-don haddocks 8c per lb. Salt fish—labrador herring per half bbl \$6; round herring \$4.25; salmon \$10; shad \$10; whitefish \$4.50. Oysters are completely out of the market.

FRUIT.

Business has been only moderately active during the week, and like the previous one has been rather irregular in its flow. There are no novelties in fresh fruit except pie plant, which has been arriving in small lots from the south. Prices of most other fruits are a shade lower, and are quoted as follows: Apples are quoted \$5.50 to 6c for good, and \$7.50 for fancy stand. Bananas at \$4 to \$5 a bunch. Oranges Messina, \$5 to \$5.50; California Riversides the same. Lemons, \$5 to \$5.50; grapes, \$5 to 6 a bbl. Tomatoes are about out of the market. Coconuts are quoted at \$10 per 100. Raisins, figs and nuts are unchanged in price.

FUEL.

Business in this trade is still very slow, and there have been quite a few complaints heard about the new market arrangements being a serious trouble and annoyance to wood dealers. Poplar is offered at \$2.50 to \$3 in car lots, and tamarac \$4.50 to 5. Coal is unchanged and is quoted delivered: anthracite, \$12; bituminous, \$9 to \$10.50; Saskatchewan, \$7.50.

FURNITURE.

There has been many complaints heard about the state of this trade. The wholesale business has been limited to a few orders for small lots. Wholesalers think they might make more sales by carrying heavier and more varied stocks, but the outlook at present is not such as will warrant them in stocking up.

GROCERIES.

In this staple trade matters have been rather quiet during the past week, and even the additional trade from military demand fails to make business active. Collections are also reported rather unsatisfactory. Although freights