

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There is very little change to note in connection with city monetary affairs, and any little that has taken place is in the direction of an easier feeling. The circulation of money in country trade circles grows gradually if slowly freer, and during the past two weeks supplementary payments towards obligations of the 4th instant have been quite numerous, making the results of that days payments look much more encouraging than they did in the first week of February. Banks have no difficulty in meeting all trade demands for funds, and these have lightened up quite a little since the beginning of the month. The grain movement makes its steady demands, but they are by no means as heavy as could be wished, and it seems as if an early spring would send farmers to seeding with several millions of bushels of grain still unmarketed from last year's crop. If such should be the case the present stringency of circulation may continue into the summer. Anyhow there is an abundance of funds for all trade wants at present, and should new enterprises in spring demand more, there is no prospect of any scarcity. Discount rates seem almost fixed at 7 to 8 per cent., the latter figure being as a rule for good one name paper. In real estate mortgages new business is not plentiful, but renewals of farm loans have been more numerous of late. The steady rate of interest for such is 8 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

Business has not apparently assumed any greater appearance of the coming spring movement. The steady weather of the week makes the spring trade appear about as far off as a week ago. In hardware, paints, and such like lines, business is still at a low ebb. In textiles there is also a decidedly dragging tendency, and orders have not been up to expectations. In this respect more than the usual caution has been shown, and the trade appears determined to make early spring purchases as light as possible. If the business is to be done, however, later orders will make up for present shortage; if it is not to be done, country merchants will have the advantage of not being over loaded with dead stock. The political contest was beginning to make its influence apparent in business circles, though the week was really the first one since the excitement commenced. One favorable feature about this is, that the date between the dissolution of Parliament and the elections is so short, that the agony will very soon be over.

DRIED FRUITS.

The demand is rather slack for dried fruits all around. Valencia raisins are reported easier from the east. Quotations here are: California London layer raisins, \$3.50 per box; quarter boxes, \$1; Valencia raisins, \$2.20 to \$2.30; Valencia layers, \$2.75; currants, 7c; figs, cooking in bags, 6½c, in boxes, 7c; choice, 13c, do in 10 lb. boxes, 14 to 15c; fancy Elmo figs in layers, 16 to 17c; dried apples, 10½c; evaporated apples, 16c; Golden dates, 7½c per pound; choice new golden dates, 10c per pound; California evaporated fruit—Apricots, 24c; peeled peaches, 35c; pitted plums, 22c; raspberries, 35c; prunes, \$2 to \$2½, the higher figure being for choice of fine varieties. Malaga raisins—London layers, \$3.50; black baskets, \$4.50; Tahitis, 55.

DRUGS.

Camphor is declining, and values are irregular. The price of this drug was advanced, owing to the demand for it in the manufacture of smokeless gunpowder, but prices are now coming down. Glycerine is lower. Bluestone is quoted considerably lower, dealers selling at 7½ to 8½c. Business is fairly brisk. Quotations are: Howard's quinine, 55 to 60c; German quinine, 45 to 50c; morphia, \$2.30 to \$2.60; iodide of potassium, \$4.25 to \$4.75; bromide potassium, 55 to 65; English camphor, 75 to 80; glycerine, 25 to 35c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$6 to \$8; bicarb soda, \$3.50 to \$4.25; sal soda, \$2.50 to \$3; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$1.50 to \$5; sulphur roll, \$1.50 to \$5; American blue vitrol, 7½ to 8½c.

FISH AND OYSTERS.

Fish is not plentiful as to variety, and this has been a characteristic of the season all through. Finnan haddock are hardly obtainable in wholesale quantities, and outside of retail importations there is nothing obtainable in fresh sea fish. Lake Winnipeg white are quoted at 5½ to 6½c, and Lake Superior trout at 9 to 10c. On the street market a few mixed loads of jackfish, pickerel, perch, etc., have been offered. Oysters are quoted at \$2.25 for standards and \$2.50 for selects.

FUEL.

For wood the demand has continued unsatisfactory to dealers. Large offerings on the street market has continued to reduce sales of city dealers. Good tamarac has usually sold retail at about \$4.50 per cord, delivered, and can be quoted on track in car lots at \$3.75 to \$4 as to quality. Poplar on track about \$2.40 to \$2.50. Coal unchanged.

GREEN FRUIT.

Trade still remains very slack, with the variety of fruit in the market about the same as last report. Fancy apples are held at \$8 per barrel, with less desirable stock selling at \$7.50 and even \$7, as to quality. Florida oranges are in good supply, and quoted at \$5 per box in 125 size, and \$6 in 150 to 200 size. California oranges are looked for shortly. Lemons are quotable at \$6 to \$6.50 per box for choice, though sales were made as low as \$5 for not choice. Good choice cranberries held at \$11 to \$11.50 per barrel with some poor stock offering lower. Malaga grapes, in 55 lbs kegs at \$13 per keg.

GROCERIES.

Sugars are strong on all sides. There have been fractional advances on all grades at the refineries in eastern Canada. United States and British markets were also higher. The jobbing price in eastern markets on granulated was 6½ to 7c., the latter price on less than 15 barrel lots. The situation was considered very strong and another advance was said to be likely. The general tenor of advices in teas from outside markets is decidedly strong. A circular issued by a Winnipeg house spoke as follows on teas: "You cannot make a mistake in buying a few packages of tea just now. The market can only go one way and that is upwards. England is short of stock. America has barely enough, and Australia, which is a large consumer of medium and cheap black teas, is in actual want of supplies. Under these circumstances we feel warranted in recommending you not to delay purchasing any teas that you will require during the next few months." Prices here are:

Sugars—Yellow, 6 to 6½c; Granulated, 7½c; Coffee, green, — Rios, from 24 to 25c, Java, 27 to 29c; Old Government, 29 to 32c; Mochas, 33 to 35c. Teas: Japan, 23 to 40c; Congous, 22 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 60c; young hyson, 26 to 50c. T. & B. tobacco, 56c per pound; lilly, 7s, 52c; diamond solace, 12s, 45c; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W., caddies, 47½c; Honey-suckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 53c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 56c; Index d thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunette Solace, 12s, 48c. McAlpine Tobacco Co's plug tobacco: Old Crow, 46c; Woodcock, 52c; Beaver, 63c; Jubilee, 60c; Anchor, 59c; cut tobacco: Silver Ash, 65c; Cut Cavendish, 70c; Senator, 80c; Standard Kentucky, light, 85; do dark, 80c. Special brands of cigars are quoted: Reliance, \$50; Gen. Arthur, \$50; Mikado, \$40; Terrier, \$30 per 1000. Mauricio, \$12.50; Soudan Whips, 40.00; Turkish Caps, \$35.00; Commercial Traveller, \$25. Special selects, \$35; Selects, \$45; Columbia, \$45; Canucks, \$40; Derby, \$36; Sports, \$30. Lion "L" brand mixed pickles in kegs, are quoted: Three gallons, \$2.50; do five gallons, \$3.00; do 10 gallon kegs, \$6.50.

HARDWARE.

There is very little sign of life yet in this branch. Business is dull, and there has been scarcely a change of any kind in quotations for a number of weeks. With the light trade doing, there is no disposition to alter prices. The following quotations are in a great measure nominal: Cut nails, 10½ and upwards, \$3.25; I. C. tin plates, \$6 to \$6.25 as to grade; I. C. tin plates double, \$12 to \$12.50; Canada plates, \$4.10 to \$4.25; sheet iron, \$1 to \$1.50, according to grade; iron pipe, net prices, 1 inch, 10½c; 1½ inch, 13½c; 2 inch, 16½c; 2½ inch, 23½c per foot; ingot tin, 30c per lb.; bar tin, 32c per lb.; sheet zinc, 8c per lb.; galvanized iron, 28 gauge, 7 to 8½c per lb.; bar iron, \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6½c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.30 to \$2.40 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6c net.

LEATHER, LEATHER GOODS AND FINDINGS.

There has not been much movement yet, though business is slowly improving. Prices are: Spanish sole 26 to 30c; slaughter sole, 26 to 30c; French calf, first choice, \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 75c to \$1; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 55c; Bourdon kip, 70c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No. 1 wax upper, 40 to 45c; grain upper, 50c; harness leather, 26 to 30c for plump stock. English oak butts, 60c; buffalo, 17 to 21c a foot; cordovan, 17 to 21c; pebble, 21c; colored linings, 12c; shoe uppers, from \$1.25 to \$2.75. Horse collars—Short straw, \$22 per doz.; long straw, \$33 per doz.; long straw bodies, \$22; Boston team (thong), \$25.00 per doz.; do., wool face, \$27.

PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS.

Business is quiet. Prices are: Turpentine in barrels, 76c per gallon; in 5 gallon cans, 81c gallon; linseed oil in barrels, raw 79c; boiled, 82c; benzine and gasoline, 50c; pure oxide paints, in barrels, 90c per gallon; coal tar \$6 per barrel; Portland cement, \$1.90 a barrel; Michigan plaster, \$3.25 to \$3.50 a barrel; putty, in bladders, 3½c a pound, bulk, in bladders, 3c; whitening, in barrels, \$1.40 a cwt; Elephant genuine white lead, \$7.25; Elephant, No. 1, do, \$6.40; Bull's Head, do, \$6.00; Royal Crown, do, \$5.00; Crown pure white lead, \$7.25; Royal Charter, \$6.50; Railroad, \$6.25; Red Star, \$5.50; Calsomine, in cases of 20 five-pound