

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Monetary affairs in the city have been moving along during the past week with very little symptom of change. In commercial circles there has been a falling off in the demand for discounts, such as is usual near the close of every month, and this time it has been even more than usual. So much so that early in the week some bank managers reported business exceedingly quiet. With the opening of November there will no doubt be a decided increase in the volume of commercial paper going to discount, and the quantity which will be taken up on to-morrow, the fourth, will be quite heavy. There is no disguising the fact that the banks here could attend to a much heavier commercial discount business than is available, and the movement of grain will have to be much heavier and require considerably more funds than it called for last week, if a plethora of money is to be avoided. Even the irregular business which was abundant six months ago is now down to a small limit, so that in connection with trade the outlet for funds has been rather contracted. Banks still hold to their old discount rates, namely: first-class paper 8 per cent; ordinary 9 to 10; irregular and one name 10 to 11. In real estate mortgage loans the state of business has changed very little during the week. There is still a fair and slowly increasing demand for loans on farm lands, most of which are for amounts under \$1,000, but there is very little city business outside of mortgages, and first-class new business is freely taken at rates of interest below regular quotations, which are quoted from 8 to 10 per cent. Payments of interest are reported coming in moderately free.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

During the past week the wholesale trade of the city has shown quite a tendency towards increased activity, and in a great number of different lines there has been an increase in the volume of sales. This has been especially the case in season goods, which seem to have been stirred into new life, by the frosty weather, which set in with the beginning of the week. Several branches in these lines are still on the road, and they send home reports of a much freer inclination on the part of retailers to buy, than during the early part of October, and all of them anticipate a very heavy sorting trade during the present month. The only circumstances which would be likely to prevent this would be a continuance of moderate temperature which is not in keeping with the November of the Northwest. Still this fall so far has been so unusually mild and bright that scarcely anything in the way of fine weather would astonish us now. In lines dependant upon building and outdoor contracting business still holds fairly active, and colder weather while it is dry and bright seems only to help the demand for goods to finish many contracts now being completion. In the regular lines of goods of every day consumption there has been but little change since our last report. Some houses note a slight improvement, but generally there has been only the steady moderate feeling of October, and until fall plowing has ceased and the full rush

of crop to market has set in really stirring activity is not looked for. Altogether the report of sales show an improvement, and as this month advances it will no doubt become more marked. The report on collections is much the same as in our last report. One or two houses reported cash slower, but an equal number report improvement, and all are sanguine of increasing returns as this month progresses.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

We have failed to hear of any sales in this trade during the week, and any made must have been very trifling. The business of the year in that way is over, until further calls for sleds and sleighs come in. The report on collections is beginning to take a more definite form. Cash returns have been on the increase, and although much heavier ones must come before long, a fair proportion of the trade state that the index furnished so far would strengthen the belief that during the winter money returns will be fairly free.

FOOTS AND SHOES.

This is one of the branches which have profited by the frosty weather, and the sales of the week are reported much better than in our last issue. Still much greater activity is confidently looked for and a turn of keen cold or snow would cause some bustle in the trade. Collections are still holding out good.

CLOTHING.

There has been a further improvement in the state of this trade since our last report, and wholesalers report a marked increase in sales. The sorting trade has evidently fairly set in, and November will doubtless be a busy month. Collections are reported very satisfactory.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

This line forms a contrast to most others at present, sales having fallen off considerably during the past week. Collections too, although still moderately free are not as good as they were a month ago. Improvement is looked for further along in the month, when the demand for fancies for holiday trade will set in as is customary.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

The report from this unusually steady branch is very encouraging. The week's sales have been considerably above an average in aggregate and collections are reported very satisfactory.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

This trade still holds active, and has if anything improved since our last report. Although the bulk of the sales is made up of staples, quite a share of fancy lines are also going out. Collections are reported satisfactory, although a little slower than they were a month or so since.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple trade frosty weather has been making an improvement in the volume of sales. During the past week this has not been very marked, but it has been sufficient to indicate what is coming, and travellers out have reported that during November a heavy sorting business may be looked for, as stocks in the country are by no means heavy or complete in variety, and a snap of keen weather will un-

doubtedly bring an active and hurried demand for goods. Collections are still reported very satisfactory, although the aggregate falling due during the week has been very light.

FISH.

The fresh fish sale of the city is at its lowest ebb at present. This being the closed season for white fish none are now on the market and jack fish are equally scarce. Even Lake Superior trout are rather scarce, so that there is mighty little doing in fresh fish of any kind. Salt white fish are selling at 4½¢ a pound in half bbls, and smoked at 8¢. The new seasons salted sea fish are expected on the market daily, but as yet we are unable to give any quotations. Oysters are selling at 50¢ for standards and 60¢ for select.

FRUIT.

There has been quite a good business done in fresh fruit during the past week, especially in apples. The variety on the market has not been great, and the only novelty is new season's Valencia raisins, which are quoted at \$3.25; apples are quoted \$3.25 to \$3.50, with \$3.75 for choice winter; lemons \$7.50 to \$8 a box; California pears, \$4.50 a box; Malaga grapes \$8 to \$8.50 a barrel; Ontario grapes, at 10 to 12¢ a lb. Walnuts 20¢ a lb; almonds, 20¢ a lb; filberts 12½¢ a lb; pecans, 16¢ a lb; peanuts 15¢ a lb.

FUEL.

Colder weather has made a little stir in this trade, and sales have been on the increase. Round lots of dry poplar have been offered at \$2.25 to \$3 on track, and of tamarac at \$3.50 to \$3.75. Some oak can be had but not in quantities to warrant wholesale quotations. Coal is unchanged in price: Anthracite sells at \$9 on track; Pennsylvania bituminous for \$7 delivered and Galt for \$8.

FURNITURE.

In this line the business of the week has been very light in the way of sales, only a few small lots having been shipped to the country. Cash returns are reported fairly satisfactory.

GROCERIES.

In this staple trade there has been a steady and moderately active business doing during the week, but an absence of any rush or bustle. Now that a freeze up for the winter seems at hand, an improvement in sales is looked for. Collections are reported satisfactory. The new season's teas have been arriving, and next week we will be able to give quotations. There are no changes in prices to report as yet, and quotations are: sugars, yellow 6½ to 7½¢, granulated 8½¢, lump 10½ to 10¾¢. Coffees, Rio 13 to 15¢, Government Java 32 to 33¢, other Javas 22 to 27¢ Mochas 31 to 34¢; Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 30 to 75¢ pan-fired Japan 26 to 50¢, basket-fired 27 to 40¢, Congous 23 to 80¢.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

During the week there has been a fairly active business done in shelf goods, while the store trade has been quite lively. In metals and heavy goods activity has not been general, although some houses report a good business done. Signs are not wanting, however, that the lock up of winter will soon bring its quieting effect. Collections are reported very satisfactory. Prices of staple goods have not made