

## WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The monetary situation in Winnipeg shows but little change since our last report, and the process of mowing down the financial load carried by the trade interests goes steadily if not rapidly on. Banks receive freely all paper from regular customers at 7 to 8 per cent., and display no scarcity of funds to supply the regular wants of trade. How far the mowing down process has proceeded may be judged from facts revealed by a peep allowed in confidence at the books of a leading wholesale house in a staple branch. Last October this house held customer's paper and open accounts aggregating about one-half of the firm's annual turn over. At present this is down to about thirty five per cent of the same, and at the present rate of reduction it will be under twenty-five per cent before the middle of April. Others may vary from this rule, but the latitude will not be wide, and this may be accepted as an index of mercantile finances generally. The handling of grain makes a steady but not heavy demand for funds, and with the proportion of trade paper gradually diminishing, banks are not feeling the strain they experienced a month or two ago. The pressure from the east, too, has considerably eased up, and with the money rates getting low in Great Britain, this pressure may give way entirely very soon. Such is the financial situation in trade affairs, while in real estate mortgage loans the business doing is light and very slow in movement. But few new applications for loans are coming in, and payments of interest and principle also come in with tantalizing slowness.

## WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

There have been some slight symptoms of revival in several of the staple branches of wholesale trade during the past week, although there is as yet no general activity, and unless in food lines and others of every day consumption, there has been very little call for goods for immediate delivery. In season lines mild weather has prevented any calls for sorts that might have been made, but retailers both in the city and country have been taking hold more freely than heretofore of spring and summer samples, and orders for delivery next month and March have been coming in with some freedom. Travellers are all out with these goods, and for a month hence there will be a steady stream of orders coming in. There is as yet no movement in lines dependent upon building and contracting, and none is looked for until February is well advanced. In every day staples the movement is still limited to the demands for immediate wants, and there is no disposition displayed to go beyond that. Cash returns while they are coming in better than during the months of November and December, are still slow, and until there is further reduction of the debt load in the country, there is not likely to be any vigorous effort made to increase sales in any outside of season lines.

## BURNING OILS.

There is no change to report, only that sales are on the drop. Prices remain unchanged and as follows:—Water White, 31; Ecene, 33c; Sunlight, 28c; Naptha, per case, \$3.50; deoderized gasoline, \$2.50.

## DRUGS.

There is no reason for complaint about sales,

the movement of goods being quite free, but collections are not as satisfactory as could be wished. Prices are steady and as follows:—Howard's quinine, 55 to 65c; German quinine, 45 to 55c; morphia, \$2.25 to \$2.50; iodide of potassium, \$4.25 to \$4.75; bromide potassium, 60 to 70; English camphor, 80 to 90; glycerine, 30 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$6 to \$8; bicarb soda, \$3.75 to \$4.50; sal soda, \$2.50 to \$3; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5; sulphur roll, \$4.50 to \$5; American blue vitrol, 10 to 12c.

## DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, ETC.

An unusually mild January has made an unusually light demand for winter sorts, and during last week there has been an utter absence of the little fragmentary sorting orders usual during this month. Sales for spring delivery from spring and summer samples have increased in volume, and travellers are sending in fairly good returns. Collections are slow, but not as discouraging as they were a month ago.

## FUEL.

Anthracite coal is still held at \$9.25 delivered. and Galt coal at \$7. Bituminous is quoted at \$7.50. There has been a weakening in the wood trade, brought about by continued mild weather. Poplar is still held at \$2.50 to \$2.75 on track, and tamarac at \$4.25 to \$4.50, but prime oak sold during the week as low as \$4 on track. With more snow and good sleighing there would very probably be a drop in both poplar and tamarac.

## FISH.

There has been quite a variety of fish in the city during the past week, but only white fish and finnan haddock could be had in wholesale quantities, the former at 5 to 6c a pound, and the latter at 9c a pound in 30 pound boxes. At retail, B.C. salmon and fresh herring; sprats, smelt, cod, haddock, halibut, pickerel, perch and sturgeon could be had. Oysters are quoted, standards, \$2 and selects \$2.25 a gallon.

## GREEN FRUITS.

In fruits business is very dull. Apples are the principal feature of interest. Southern apples of rather inferior varieties have sold at \$7 per barrel, while choicest fruit is held at \$8.

## GROCERIES.

This staple branch is in a rather slow state. Sales are mostly of small lots for immediate wants, while collections are slow and irregular. Staple lines are unchanged in prices. Quotations being: Sugars—Yellow, 6 to 6½c; Granulated, 7½c; Coffees, green,—Rios, from 24 to 25c, Java, 27 to 29c; Old Government, 29 to 32c; Mochas, 33 to 35c. Teas: Japan, 23 to 46c; 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, 48c; 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; Brunnette 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, \$42.50; Soudan Whips, \$40.00; Turkish Caps, \$35.00; Commercial Traveller, \$25. Special selects, \$55; Selects,

\$45; Columbia, \$45; Canucks, \$40; Dorby, \$35; Sports, \$30. Lion "L" brand mixed pickles in kegs, are quoted: Three gallons, \$2.50; do five gallons, \$3.50; do 10 gallon kegs, \$6.50.

## RAW FURS.

At the Hudson's Bay Company's sale, in London, England, last week, muskrat advanced 5 per cent., and there was also an advance of 10 per cent. in beaver, due to the light offerings of the latter fur. Fuller particulars of the London sales is expected next week. C. M. Lampson & Co's sales were also going on in London, and will be completed to-day.

## WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKETS.

## WINNIPEG.

## WHEAT

Wheat has continued weak and uncertain, declining on most days of the week in leading United States markets. On Friday, January 23, Chicago was about 1½c under a week ago. May wheat at Minneapolis on Thursday was 2c under a week ago. The week opened with heavy bank failures at Kansas City on Monday which depressed prices. Cables were dull and Minneapolis and Duluth received 444 cars, against 300 a year ago. The visible supply decrease was not as large as expected, being announced at 338,000 bushels. Later an error was discovered in the statement, which showed the decrease to be over 100,000 bushels greater than had been first stated. On Tuesday Liverpool cabled ¼d lower, and receipts were again large. Minneapolis and Duluth getting 260 cars, against 150 cars a year ago. Wheat on passage showed an increase of 816,000 bushels. It began to be feared that northwestern crops have been greatly underestimated, and the continued large receipts is one of the worst features the bulls have to face. New York showed an upward tendency on Wednesday, on which day it was 17c above Chicago, thus showing Chicago prices to be on a shipping basis, and not above it as has often been the case. Bradstreet's report showing a decrease of 1,580,000 bushels in stocks east and west of the mountains, turned prices upward on Wednesday. Minneapolis and Duluth received 260 cars on Wednesday, against 122 cars a year ago, and on Thursday those two points received 204 cars, against 152 a year ago. Cables were firmer on Wednesday and Thursday, the cold weather influencing the situation. On Friday cables were easier, but fair export clearances helped the markets. Bradstreet's report, dated New York, January 23, says: "Exports of wheat and flour, both coasts (including flour) from July to date, as wired Bradstreet's, equal 56,637,000 bushels, against 61,000,000 bushels in thirty weeks of 1889-90, and 56,300,000 bushels in 1888-89, and 82,000,000 bushels in thirty weeks of 1887-88. This weeks total exports equalled 2,205,000 bushels, against an average of 1,700,000 bushels in like weeks in each of the three preceeding years. Last week 1,104,879 bushels were shipped."

In Manitoba the situation has been characterized by decreasing receipts at a number of points, receipts at some of the principal markets being very light. There has been almost a gradual decrease in farmers' deliveries since the new year. Prices in country markets were not varied much. At some points prices moved up