

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The report from the banks this week is one of quietness. The volume of commercial paper going to discount is very slender indeed, and there is no other field open at present for the employment of funds. As a result there is somewhat of a monetary plethora existing, which will not be materially relieved before the next crop comes to market, although there may, and will no doubt be, little hectic spurts at times during the interval. Payments of maturing obligations show no irregularities, but it is not conceded on the part of wholesale merchants, that there is considerable past renewing and other patching up being done. There is not the slightest influence at work in the direction of a change of discount rates, which still range from 7 to 8 per cent. In real estate mortgage loans there is actually nothing doing, and interest payments are very slow in coming in. The most encouraging reports are of sales of lands held by loan companies, and these are becoming quite numerous of late. The interest rate on farm loans is nominal at 8 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In almost every branch of the wholesale trade of this city a quiet feeling is reported, and in some lines complaints are heard. Even in lines of every day consumption, the movement of goods is down to calls for the most immediate wants, and there is no evidence of a desire to stock up in any of these lines. In several lines of seasonable goods the report shows an aggregate of business done to date somewhat below the aggregate at this time last year, although in every district in the country the feeling was decidedly more hopeful than it was a year ago. Near the close of the week an improvement began to show up, which, according to advices of travellers now out, was due to the recent liberal rainfall, and it is very probable that this improvement will be more marked during the present week, or as soon as time sufficient elapses for reports to arrive from all points. It is generally expected that the season although slow in starting, will turn out better than last year. In lines dependent upon contracting and building there is as yet no great stir, and some houses of that class complain of dullness. Altogether sales are slow in general, and cash returns have not been coming in with the regularity that could be wished.

DRY GOODS AND CLOTHING.

Some houses report a fair sorting trade doing, while others say things are rather quiet. Up to the close of the week sales from fall samples were light, but near the close an improvement was noticeable, and travellers now out report the prospect of improvement all around, now that rain has fallen heavily all over the country. Cash returns are reported slow and are not expected to improve much, until barley seeding and root planting is over, and produce begins to come freely to market.

FRUITS—GREEN.

A fairly active business has been done during the week. There is still no prospect of any scarcity of apples, and prices hold steady. Oranges and lemons are both tending upwards, especially the latter, which show a sharp advance since last week. Quotations are:—Ap-

ples, \$3.00 to \$1.00, for good stock; damaged, \$1.00 to \$1.50. Messina oranges, \$4.00 to \$4.50 per box; Messina lemons \$6.00 to \$6.25 per box; Riverside seedless oranges, \$4.00 to \$5.50 per box; California Washington Naval oranges, \$6.00 per box. Bananas, \$3.00 to \$4.50 per bunch. Cranberries, \$7.00 to \$8.00 per barrel for sound fresh fruit. Pie plant, or 8c per lb. Southern red onions, \$1.25 per crate of 50 lbs.; Spanish onions, \$1.50 per crate of about 50 pounds. Cider, rectified, in barrels, 35c per gallon. New maple sugar, cakes, 13 to 14c per lb. Maple syrup, in tins or bulk, \$1.25 per gallon, with some of indifferent quality offered as low as \$1 per gallon.

GROCERIES.

The movement in this branch has been quiet and steady, the demands being in almost every instance light and only for immediate wants. The sugar boom has subsided a little, but prices are still away up, and there is no probability of any material drop in the near future. Prices of goods are as follows: Sugars, yellows, 8 to 8½c; granulated, 9½ to 10c; lumps, 10½ to 10¾c. Coffees—Rio, from 22 to 25c; Java, 25 to 30c; Old Government 33 to 34c; Mochas, 32 to 35c. Teas, Japan 23 to 46c; Congous, 22 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 60c; young hyson, 28 to 50c. T. and B. tobacco, 50c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 47½c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Briar, 7s, 53c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 56c; Index d. thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunetto Solace, 12s, 48c. Special brands of cigars are quoted: Reliance, \$50; Gen. Arthur, \$50; Mikado, \$40; Terrier, \$30 per 1000.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

There are complaints heard of a falling off in the demand for heavies, the week being a quieter one than its predecessor. In shelf and general goods there has been a fair line of sales, but cash returns all round are reported rather slow. Prices of goods are steady, quotations being: Cut nails, 10d and larger, \$3.50 to \$3.60; I. C. tin plates, \$5.75 to \$6.25; I. C. tin plates double, \$11.00 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.60 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3.75 to \$5.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 25 to 40 per cent, according to size, off list prices; ingot tin, 30 to 32½c per lb., bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.25 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6½ to 6¾; per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.50 to \$2.60 per 100 lbs. barbed wire, 6½ to 7c

HIDES AND TALLOW.

There is no new feature to note. Outside markets are without life, and matters are quiet and steady here. Prices are steady as follows: Winnipeg inspected, No. 1, 3½c; No. 2, 2½c; No. 3, 2c. per pound. Calf, 7 to 13 pound skins are quoted at 4 to 5c, Deacon skins, 10 to 20c each, the lower price for cut skins. Sheepskins 25 to 55c each as to quality, for old. New, lately killed skins, with long wool are worth 75 to 90c, but few of this sort offering. Sheared skins, 5 to 10c each. Lambskins, 15c each. Tallow quoted: rough, 2½ to 3c rendered 5c.

The scarcity of water in Morden and vicinity is now about solved, and in future an adequate supply will be obtainable from several flowing wells bored to a depth of 150 feet.

GRAIN AND PROVISION MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

WHEAT.

The week just passed has been one of nervousness and excitement in leading grain markets, and especially in Chicago. The feeling of depression of the week previous was succeeded by a rebound, and prices have been going steadily upward. Duluth has also been on the upward turn though not in such a marked degree, while European markets generally have been firmer all round. In this city and over the whole province there has been a deadlock all week. Holders have not the slightest idea of letting go at anything like the prices offered by eastern buyers, and the buyers seem equally determined. Eastern millers cannot pay the prices asked, and compete with the flour of Minneapolis millers laid down in their own territory, and they are feeling badly the want of Manitoba wheat for their high grades of flour. On the other hand Manitoba grain holders cannot sell without coming out losers, unless at a considerable advance upon present offers. It remains therefore for eastern millers to decide whether to buy and produce at a loss, or shut down altogether. Under such a strained state of affairs there has hardly been a transaction in wheat on the Winnipeg Exchange during the whole week, and there is not much hope of any going through soon. The price of wheat no dealer will attempt to guess at, and it is the most puzzling conundrum of the day. When the tug of war between buyers and holders will come to an end it is impossible to say just at present. Last week holders drew great encouragement from the tone of eastern markets, although the previous week almost squeezed the courage out of them. What this week will develop remains to be seen. In the meantime the market is locked up in the most effectual manner.

FLOUR.

Eastern markets still hold down to figures, that put a check on shipments there, although there was a much improved feeling there towards the close of last week. The local market is rather quiet, and prices are unchanged, quotations being:—Patents, \$2.90; strong bakers, \$2.70; XXXX, \$2.00; second bakers, \$2.45 to \$2.55; superfine, \$1.40; middlings, \$2.90; Graham flour, \$2.70.

MILLSTUFFS.

The feeling is easier a little, although both the eastern and home demands are quite active. Bran ranged from \$9 to \$10 a ton, and shorts from \$11 to \$12.

OATS.

At outside points purchases have been made at 23 and 24c, and in the city feed lots on track have been offered at 23c, although a good milling lot will still bring 30c. The feeling however is much easier and several dealers are not buying.

OAT AND CORNMEAL, ETC.

Oatmeal is very slow in sale at present, and millers are a little depressed. Prices hold unchanged, quotations being as follows:—\$2.60 for standard oatmeal and 2.75 for granulated per hundred. Rolled oats, 80 pound sacks, \$3. Cornmeal is held at \$1.75 per hundred. Pot barley is held at \$2.75, and pearl barley at \$3.25 per sack.

BUTTER.

This spring the city is almost clear of the load of medium and poor butter with which it