

**WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.**

Monetary affairs in the city have been in rather a slow state during the past week, even in connection with commercial business, which is usually active about the opening of a month. There has been a feeling of indecision on the part of discounters, and an unwillingness to increase their volumes of paper in discount. In this they have been carrying out the tendency which has been felt in connection with every branch of trade. Besides, the curtailing of sales has lessened the necessity for discounting to an appreciable extent, and this, added to the fact that there has been no movement in grain circles, and no call for funds has caused a marked falling-off in the demand for funds for regular business. The banks are in no way responsible for this falling-off, as it has taken in the only field in which they wish to extend their business operations. Yesterday was the 4th, but it was rather a quiet one, the aggregate of paper falling due not being enough to cause any flurry. There was quite a little part-renewing and other financial patching-up going on, but so far as we have yet learned there have been very few irregularities. Rates of discount are unchanged, and are: First-class paper, 8 per cent.; ordinary, 9 to 10; promiscuous and one-name, 10 to 12. Loans on real estate mortgage have not been much in demand, and like every other branch of business money loaning is suffering from the unsettled state of affairs. Funds are in no way scarce for such purposes, but there seems to be a very limited call for them at present. The fact that farmers are so busy seeding as to be unable to attend to business in town, accounts to some extent for the quiet feeling, and as soon as these operations are over, improvement is looked for. Rates of interest are unchanged, ranging from 8 to 10 per cent.

**WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.**

The past week has been another quiet one in city wholesale circles generally, although there have been a few reports of activity which stand out in contrast to the general feeling expressed. In almost all lines of season goods matters have been almost at a standstill, the exceptions being in a few fancy lines which have brightened up a little under the influence of good weather and a higher temperature. Generally the spring trade is reported past, and that irregular business which usually continues up to the beginning of early summer has not commenced yet, and is not expected to amount to much this year, owing to the unsettled state of the country. With few exceptions houses in these lines of goods report April sales quite a little short of those of last year, instead of being better as was confidently expected before the rebellion broke out. In building supplies and lines dependent upon outdoor contracting there has been a little improvement since our last report, but this is mainly due to the return of bright, dry weather, and there is but slim promise of the season being an active one throughout. In provisions and other lines of every day consumption there is still considerable stir, but these are the lines most benefitted by the demand

from military sources, and that adds greatly to their volume of sales. The reports on collections is not a very bright one, and with some houses is quite discouraging in its tone. With most houses the quantity of payments falling due has been too light to base a reliable report upon, but the good reports from others are few and far between, so that the report, altogether, is anything but an encouraging one.

**AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.**

Country agencies have not been making many demands during the past week, and the principal call has been for wagons, quite a few of which have gone for military transport service. In regular spring machinery the business done has been small for this time of the year, and there is no effort being put forth by dealers to push matters. Collections are down to a very low ebb, and complaints on this head are numerous. Of course seeding causes a quietness in this trade, but at present it is even quieter than would be looked for, and collections are much slower than was calculated on.

**HATS AND SHOES.**

Like other lines of season goods the spring trade is over in this branch, and the only business done during the past week was a light scattered sorting trade. Although this branch has been reasonably active all spring houses complain that the business to the end of April shows a shortage of last year, and it is not likely that in the present disturbed state of affairs the sorting trade from this onward will improve the comparison.

**CLOTHING.**

The report from this trade is not one of activity, although there has been a few calls for sorts during the week at some houses. Other report sales almost nil. The feeling has been decidedly quiet on the whole so far as sales are concerned, and there has not been a sufficient volume of cash returns falling due to furnish a reliable report about collections.

**CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.**

From this trade we have report of a moderate and steady business in staple goods during the week, but with very little call for fancy lines. Although the unsettled state of affairs is felt adversely, matters are in a more active state than could be expected under the circumstances. Collections are reported fairly satisfactory.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**

There are no complaints heard from this branch, and the business of the week has shown a fair share of activity. The military operations have proved rather a help to this trade, and have more than made up for the business lost through the unsettled feeling prevalent in far-western points. Collections are reported fairly free.

**DRY GOODS.**

It would be difficult to find a period when this staple trade was so quiet as it has been during the past week. Some houses report literally nothing doing, while others state that sales have been limited to a few sorting orders. The report for the month of April shows quite a falling-off when compared with the same month of last year, but this is in a great measure due to the desire on the part of whole-

salers to do as little business as possible, while the trouble out west lasts. There is no denying the fact that there is not the activity which should be at this time of the year. Collections are reported slow and rather unsatisfactory.

**FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.**

During the week there has been more activity in this branch than might be expected considering the general state of trade. Still, there has been no show of any kind, and the business doing does not come with the even free flow which it should come with at this time. Collections are reported rather slow.

**FISH.**

Fresh fish are not to be had now, except a few white fish still held in refrigerators. Jack fish are not to be had in wholesale quantities. Small lots of frozen white sell at 5½ to 6c. There has been a fair business done during the week in salt and smoked fish, but there are no changes in prices to report. Quotations are as follows: Smoked white fish 8c per lb; Scotch herring 35c per 7 lb box; Labrador herring \$1.50 per can of 100 fish; Findon haddocks 2c per lb. Salt fish—labrador herring per half barrel \$6; round herring \$4.25; salmon \$10; shad \$10; whitefish \$4.60.

**FRUIT.**

The business of the week has been demoralized a little, owing to changes in the two leading houses in the trade, one having changed proprietors, and the other premises. There are no novelties in fresh fruits, and no material changes in prices to note. Quotations are: apples, \$5.50 to \$6.50 with \$7.50 for fancy stand. Bananas \$4 to \$5 a bunch. Oranges, \$5 to 5.50. Grapes and tomatoes out of the market for the present. Cocoanuts \$10 per 100. Other nuts, raisins and figs unchanged.

**FUEL.**

Wood is more plentiful than it was earlier in the month and prices are easier owing, no doubt to the unusually light demand. Poplar, in round lots, is quoted at \$2.25 to \$2.50, and tamarac at \$4 to \$4.50. Coal has been selling very slowly at former quotations. Prices delivered being: anthracite, \$12; bituminous, \$9 to \$10.50; Saskatchewan, \$7.50.

**FURNITURE.**

The troubled state of affairs out west has played havoc with the wholesale trade, which during the past week has been limited to a few small orders from points near to Winnipeg. No improvement is looked for until affairs reach a settled state.

**GROCERIES.**

This staple trade has had less cause than any other for complaint since the Saskatchewan outbreak. The country now cut-off has caused some loss to our wholesalers, but the presence of so many troops and importations connected with the military has made a demand fully equal to the business lost. The only drawback is that it is not one that will last. There are no changes in prices of staple goods. Quotations are: Sugar, 6½ to 7c for yellows; granulated, 8 to 8½c; Paris lumps, 10c; coffee, Rio 14 to 16c; Mocha, 31 to 34c. Teas, season 1884-5, Moyune gunpowder, 30 to 75c; pan-fired Japans, 26 to 50c; basket-fired 26 to 40c; Congour, 23 to 80c.