

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The past week has been rather a quiet one in city banking circles, as there has been a general lull in commercial financial affairs. The volume of commercial paper going into the banks has been very light, and in fact so have the trading demands for finances altogether. This may be looked upon as a lull before a rush, as with the opening of October a large share of the transactions in fall goods will go into paper, and will make quite a lively demand for discounts during the coming week. The past one has developed very little in the way of irregular commercial business, and that demand for small accommodations, which was so steady during the early summer, seems to have died away. Banks state that they have plenty of funds, and are quite ready to attend to anything in the line of legitimate commercial business. Rates of discount still stand at 8 per cent. for first class paper, 9 to 10 for ordinary, and 10 to 11 for irregular and one-name. Real estate mortgage loan business has been improving a little, and several loan agencies report an increase in applications for loans on farm lands, and others look for a similar increase during the current week. There has been an odd call for city loans at intervals, but business in this field is still rather quiet. Rates of interest are still quoted at 8 to 10 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In the city circles during the past week, the slow feeling of harvest time was still felt more or less in most branches, although evidences were not wanting that it was slowly but steadily disappearing. The report of sales from quite a large proportion of the different lines indicate an improvement over the previous week, an equally large number reported no change, while a few noted a slight falling off. In lines of every day consumpt the improvement was most noted, and most indications were apparent, that the harvest lull was nearly over. In lines dependant upon building and contracting matters have been moving along steadily, and as a rule with very little change from the previous week. In season goods the quiet feeling has been most prevalent, and this is attributed not to harvest operations, but to the unusually mild weather we have had during the past three weeks. These lines are now waiting for a trade which immediate wants will develop, and these wants are not likely to be felt until a snap of colder weather is felt. On the whole the aggregate of sales gives a probable increase over that of last week, and with the first indications of coming winter, a very decided improvement may be looked for. The report on collections is not all that could be desired, and the cash returns during the week have been light. Houses report very few payments falling due and those falling due met rather slowly. This has been more noticeable as the month drew to a close, which indicates that an effort is being made to prepare for the 4th of October, when quite a volume of mercantile paper falls due. There are no complaints made on this head, and next week will doubtless develop quite an increase in cash returns. Altogether the wholesale trade of the city has been in quite a healthy

state during the week, although there have been no evidences of rush or bustle.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Business has reached a very quiet state in this trade so far as sales are concerned. The last demands for harvesting and threshing machinery and material have been filled, and even the trade in stirring plows has dwindled into nothing. The weather too has been so warm that as yet there has not been an inquiry for bob sleds, sleighs or winter vehicles, and the sales of the week have been confined to a few wagons. No report on collections can be given as yet, but houses are all prepared and ready for operations in this way, and by the close of next week they will probably have a slight idea of how cash will move during the balance of 1885.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Business has been rather quiet in this line during the week, and wholesalers do not look for any improvement until less favorable weather come around. The past two weeks of mild clear weather have been anything but good for sales, and some appearances of winter is wanted to cause an improvement. Collections are reported satisfactory.

CLOTHING.

In this as in other season goods lines sales have been light during the past week. Wholesalers report the month of September better than the same month in 1884, and the prospect for October much better than they were a year ago. Collections are reported moderately free, but the payments falling due few in number.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

In this trade business during the past week has continued to be fairly good. The demand from country points has kept up fairly well, but in the city this has appeared to have been rather quiet. The principal trading being done is in staple lines, with the trade in lamps at present taking the lead. In fancy lines an improvement is also noticed, dealers apparently making arrangements for the approaching Christmas season. Collections are reported to have been very fair.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

In this trade business during the past week does not show much if any change from the previous one. Sales have been fully up to a good average and collections are reported to have been very fair.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

There has been a little improvement in this line during the week, but no real activity has been reached as yet. There have been a few calls for fancy lines, and sales of staples have increased considerably. Collections are reported fairly free, and quite satisfactory.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple trade sales have fallen off slightly during the week, but a steady although reduced volume of business has been done, and wholesalers express perfect satisfaction with the results, and are very hopeful as to a good sorting business as soon as the first signs of colder weather appear. Some travellers are on the road at present, and they report country dealers

slow to purchase until the results of threshing are known. The report on collections is very encouraging and much better than might be expected at this time.

FISH.

The trade in fresh fish during the past week is reported to have continued fairly steady, but without any particular activity being observed. The supply of white fish has kept up very well, for which there has been a very fair demand and sales of these were made at from 5 to 5½¢ for round lots and 5½ to 6¢ in smaller quantities. Shipments of fresh Oregon salmon continue coming in for which there is also a good demand and sales of these are made at from 20 to 25¢ a lb. The supply of Lake Superior trout still remains very light. The fall demand for salt fish has not as yet made a move, but is expected to do so in a very short time now. Prices have not changed any, the following being the dealers' quotations:—Smoked white fish, 8¢, per lb.; Scotch herring, 35¢ per 7-lb. box; Labrador herring, 1.50 per case of 100 fish; salt-fish—Labrador herring, per half bbl., \$6; round herring, \$4.25; salmon, \$10; shad, \$10; whitefish \$4.50.

FRUIT.

The past week business in this line does not show much change from our last report. The varieties on the market is more limited than for some time back. The supply of Ontario grapes is becoming more plentiful and prices have gone down, sales of these are now being made at from 10 to 12¢ a lb. California grapes are still in the market and a consignment of Malaga grapes is expected in a few days. Apples are quoted:—Cooking, \$3.25 to \$3.50, Fancy, \$4 a bbl.; Lemons, \$7 to \$8 a box; California pears, \$4.50 a box; Ontario pears, \$10 a bbl. A supply of southern cranberries are on the way, and will be in the hands of dealers in a few days.

FUEL.

In this line the business of the past week is not much changed from that of our last report. The principal business being done is in orders for coal for fall delivery. Sales of this are made at \$9.00 for anthracite and \$7 for Massfield, Reynoldsville and Pittsburg bituminous, while as yet we do not hear of any price having been fixed for lignite. An attempt is being made at a combination to hold up prices of wood during the coming winter; but coal will remain at the figures we quote. As yet no actual change has been made in the quotations, these being as follows, for round lots of poplar on track are held at \$2.25 to \$2.75 according to quality, and for tamarac \$4.50 to \$4.75.

FURNITURE.

In this branch business during the past week is stated to have continued fairly good, but does not show so much activity as during the one preceding. The demand from both country and city seems to have slackened down some, on the whole the aggregate of sales turned over in that time are considered satisfactory. No single car lot shipments have been sent out to western points during the week. Collections are reported to have been rather slow, especially in the city.