

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Monetary matters in connection with commercial affairs seem to have reached a monotony, and the past week presented scarcely a feature that would attract notice from a close observer. In proportion to the volume of mercantile business doing, that of commercial discounts has been light, the aggregate of the week being probably the lightest banks have experienced during the present year. Banks are as dull as merchants and do not look for any marked or, in fact, perceptible improvement until fall trade sets in, or at the earliest until harvest is ready for cutting. There has been no change in rates, and nothing that would suggest a change. First-class paper goes at 8 per cent., ordinary from 9 to 10, and promiscuous discounts and one-name paper from 10 to 12. Small loans by parties who are not regular traders are in considerable demand but have, as a rule, to be obtained at private banks, or from other private sources. Loans on real estate mortgage security are in moderately active demand, and as the harvest nears and the prospect holds good, hopes of a heavy business in loans on improved farms begin to brighten. Already numerous farmers are making enquiries, and should the grain be cut in good condition they will probably come to business at once. On city property the demand is light, and the field for good safe loans not too extensive. Some loans made a year or two ago, are now considered very imperfectly secured, but these are few, and are not increasing fast in number. Companies are now very conservative in dealing with loans on city property.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

There have been no new features developed in connection with the wholesale trade of the city during the past week, and certainly no stirring ones. Matters are, so to speak, between the ebb and flow tides. The summer trade, which has been rather of a limited character, and dictated by the immediate necessities of purchasers, is now virtually over, so far as seasonal goods are concerned, and the most trifling spurts in demands for sorts are about the only signs of activity that vary the general dullness. Purchases of wholesalers, retailers, and even consumers, have been light even to niggardliness during the entire season, and now that it is at a close, stocks on hand with all three are at the lowest possible ebb, and the inclination is to hold them there until actual demands for fall goods compel purchases. In staples of every day consumption, matters have been in a much more satisfactory state, and a steady trade has been done during the week. In lines of provisions the volume does not increase as the population does, but this is easily accounted for by the fact that a large share of what was hitherto imported is now produced in the country, and as yet the local product trade is not sufficiently organized to enable wholesalers to fill up stocks from such a source. Building material is in lively demand, and lines dependent upon the same have no reason to complain of business. Fancy lines experience the duller trade, and money will have to be much freer in

sirculation among the masses of the people before any marked improvement can be looked for in these branches. The general report of collections is not so good as it has been for some weeks back, and a tightening feeling is generally looked for until the certainty of a good harvest is before us, and it seems as if every day brings us nearer to this. Reports from every part of the Northwest state that traders are all in a very hopeful state, and the safe harvesting of the magnificent crop now on the ground will undoubtedly open up a fall trade which will not only be heavy, but profitable to both wholesaler and retailer. The situation is therefore one of present dullness, but hope and confidence in the future.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Dealers engaged in this business have their hands full at present in attending to the wants of customers. Harvesting machinery especially is in active demand. The crops look excellent, and farmers are hopeful of an abundant harvest. Haying will soon commence, and, as a consequence, mowers and hay rakes will be in active demand. The enquiry for other classes of goods outside of haying and harvesting machinery is light, and will continue so until after harvest. Collections are slow and notes past due will have to be carried over.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

There has been little doing in the boot and shoe line during the week. Country dealers are supplied with nearly all they require until after harvest. The present trade is confined to a few small sorting orders. The city trade is extremely dull, and amounts to very little. Collections are not so good as they have been for some time past. A good fall trade is expected.

CLOTHING.

There is little life in the clothing trade at present. Now and then a small order comes in, chiefly from western points, but they are very few. Dealers, however, are not disappointed, as this is the duller season of the year. Collections are as good as might be expected under the circumstances.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is no difference in the state of trade in this line from that noted last week. Orders by mail have been numerous, but the total amounts to a small aggregate, but, as in other branches of trade, a rushing business at this time of the year could not be expected. Collections are, as a rule, good, much better than expected.

DRY GOODS.

No change of any consequence to note in this branch of trade. Business is at a standstill and it is not expected that there will be any change for the better, until the crops are secured. Sorting orders have been considerable in number, but, as a rule, small in amount. New fall goods are arriving freely, and the travellers of the different wholesale houses will soon be on the road for the fall trade, in which dealers anticipate a large business. Collections are fairly satisfactory.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

This line of business is like the others, looking for customers, which are few; but dealers

are looking for better times in the near future, and there is no doubt but that their hopes will be realized, as the prospects of an abundant harvest were never so promising as at present, which means good times in all branches of trade. Collections are reported fair.

FISH AND POULTRY.

The trade in fish is still rather slow, due to want of stocks. Arrivals of white fish from Lake Winnipeg are few and far between. So far this season the catch has been exceedingly light. Lake Superior trout are in the market in moderate quantities. Quotations are: white fish 8c, and Lake Superior trout 10c.

FRUIT.

Business in fruit is particularly brisk, or rather would be if consignments were received promptly as they ought to be. The difficulty between the Customs officers and the C.P.R. have been a great hindrance as well as loss to our wholesale houses. Oranges are in good demand at \$9 per box, and lemons at \$7 per box. Novelties this season are apples, which are fair sale at \$1.50 per box. Currants, gooseberries, and water melons are in fair supply with the demand not over active. Tomatoes are arriving freely and are in fair demand at \$1.65 a box. Quotations in dried fruits are: Valencia raisins \$2.25 to \$2.50, and loose Muscatels at about the same figures. Peanuts, pecans and Brazil nuts are quoted at 15 to 17c, and English walnuts at 18c. Dealers report having received the last consignment of oranges for this season.

FUEL.

No change to report in this trade. Dullness is still the characteristic of the market. Sales are light and there is no change looked for until colder weather. Quotations are: tamarac \$5 to \$5.50, and poplar \$4 to \$4.50.

FURNITURE.

Business is still fair in this line, but the orders are, as a rule, small. No sales of round lots reported. Collections have fallen off somewhat from the last report, and are spoken of as being rather slow.

GROCERIES.

Business in this line has been very satisfactory to wholesalers during the past week, while there has been no rush. Sales have been large in the aggregate, and the future prospects are still more encouraging. Values of staple goods have shrunk considerably during the past week. Sugars, especially have taken to imitate Eastern Bank stocks, going flat on its back to see how many friends it has got—yellows are from 7 to 7½c; granulated 8½c; Paris lumps 9½c; eastern markets are quoted as closing firm and a trifle higher. Coffees are quoted at 14 to 17c for Rio; Javas 21 to 24c; Mocha 30 to 33c. Tea quotations are: Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; Japans 20 to 45c, and Congous 24 to 75c. Syrups, single crown, \$2.50, and triple crown, \$2.75 per keg.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

During the week the trade in shelf and fancy hardware has been rather light, while in heavy goods and building supplies sales have been quite heavy. The trade is thus in a moderately active state, and no complaints of dullness are heard. Some are heard about irregularity in