

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There was just a few ripples during the past week on the surface of commercial monetary affairs in the city caused by the opening of August, and the fourth yesterday. The latter developed no unusual occurrences, and passed off very quietly. Arrangements for a few part renewals had been made previously, and paper passed from banker to maker with a kind of monotonous regularity. The demand for fresh discounts in the opening of the month has been very light, and a slim volume of paper is expected to pass through the banks during the whole of August. There is, therefore, no scarcity of funds for commercial purposes, and there are none of the banks, but are prepared to handle a little more gilt edge or even good ordinary paper than comes to them these times. Rates still hold at 8 per cent. for first-class paper; 9 to 10 for ordinary; and 10 to 12 for promiscuous discounts and small loans. There is not much hope of any immediate change in these figures, but with a good turn out of the harvest it is possible that gilt edge paper might come down a trifle. In loans on real estate mortgage business is improving, and as harvest draws near applications become more numerous. There is now every prospect of a good demand during the fall and winter for loans on improved farms, and there are plenty of funds available for this purpose. In city loans business is slow, and the field rather limited, although in good solid buildings money can be had at very low interest, one loan being made a few days ago at 7 per cent., the regular range of interest, however, is from 8 to 10, the latter being charged principally on renewed loans.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In wholesale circles throughout the city the past week has been one of general improvement, and a great proportion of houses now consider that we are one week closer to a good season's business. In quite a number of lines connected with season goods, fall orders have begun to drop in, and the magnitude of these prove that the parties ordering have perfect faith in a prosperous fall and winter. Of course the fall trade is only as yet tapped, and the great bulk of the purchasers are holding off until harvesting has commenced. This cannot last but two weeks longer, and during the interval business will be steadily improving. This week the reserve of the travellers will take the field, and August will be a month of unremitting push. By an arrangement in one or two lines no travellers were sent out until August opened, but all restrictions are now at an end, and all men are in the field. So far as heard from the past week shows that they are succeeding well, and each mail as it arrives steadily increases the volume of their orders. While there has been all this improvement in season goods, the lines connected with goods of every day consumption, have shown no falling-off, and in one or two instances have improved. Provision lines have not improved much, local supply in some goods cutting them off. In lines connected with building all is still activity, and promises to remain so for weeks yet. There is, therefore, no actual dullness in any branch,

with the exception of a few fancy lines, which will not develop any activity until the season advances and actual wants create a demand. The report of the week on collections is certainly very encouraging, and on all sides is admitted to be a rather agreeable surprise. There were, of course, a few part renewals of notes falling due on the fourth, but these were, without exception, at very short dates. The proportion of paper met in full during the past week could not be less than 80 per cent. of the whole, and where extension of time was necessary, it was asked for and secured without irregularity. Altogether, matters are down to a safe and very regular flow, and unless some very improbable calamity overtakes the crop now almost ready for harvesting, wholesalers may consider their danger over, and that they have entered upon what will prove a lengthy period of prosperity and good steady business.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Business in this line is still quite brisk. The season for certain kinds of implements is about over. Harvesting and thrashing machinery are in active demand. Agents, as a rule, have their hands full attending to the wants of their numerous customers. The fall trade, so far, is much beyond what dealers had anticipated. While there has been no rush, there has been a steady demand throughout the season. Everything has been highly satisfactory, with the exception of collections. No doubt farmers will appreciate the leniency of dealers toward them the past year, and pay their bills promptly after harvest.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Business in this line still continues quiet. Fall orders, however, are coming in slowly, and as a rule, are for large quantities, showing that country dealers are, and have been, carrying light stock throughout the season. Foot wear being an actual necessity, in the near future a heavy trade is anticipated. Collections are good for this season of the year.

CLOTHING.

The dullness which has characterized this branch of trade for some time past is giving place to activity and life. Fall orders are commencing to arrive, and so far are, for liberal quantities. The sorting trade is over for the season, and if nothing happens to mar the crop prospects. A heavy trade in this line will be done through the fall and winter months. Collections are very encouraging.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is as yet little movement in crockery and glass ware. Still, orders by mail throughout the past week have been much more numerous than for sometime past. There is, however, plenty of room for improvement. In the matter of collections dealers seem to be well satisfied.

DRY GOODS.

The dry goods trade during the past week shows but little improvement over its predecessor. The fall trade will be pushed with energy from about the first of the month. Travellers of the wholesale houses will start on the road next week. A large business is confidently anticipated as stocks are very low in

country dealers' hands. Collections are moderately good. A few part extensions have been given for the 4th of August.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

Trade is still very quiet in this line. This week, however, is an improvement on last. Orders by mail have been fair, but as a rule, they have been for small amounts. Dealers are hopeful and seem certain that the present dullness has about run its course and will be superseded by a season of activity. Collections are reported as very encouraging.

FISH AND POULTRY.

The fish trade continues quiet. The demand is not great, but about sufficient to absorb the offerings. White fish and Lake Superior trout are in fair supply and quoted at 7 to 8c in round lots. Poultry is abundant, spring chickens especially, and vary in price according to condition and size, from 25 to 60c per pair. Fowl are worth 40 to 50 each.

FRUIT.

The demand for fruit during the week has been very good. The supply in the city at present is rather limited. Large consignments are on the way and expected daily. During the warm weather there is great risk in importing fine fruits such a long distance, unless they are brought through quickly there is danger of heavy loss. Oranges are out of the market for the season. Apples are arriving freely, and as a rule in good condition. Several consignments of grapes are on the way, and will be on the market this coming week. California pears are on the market, but in such poor condition that quotations cannot be given. Quotations are: apples, \$7 to \$9 per bbl., according to quality; California pears, \$7.50 to \$8 per box; tomatoes, \$1.25 per box; and lemons, \$7 to \$7.50 per box. Peanuts, pecans and Brazil nuts are unchanged in prices, and Valencia and loose Muscatels still hold at \$2.25 to \$2.50 a box.

FUEL.

The demand is still light and prices remain uncharged. Peplar, in round lots, is quoted at \$4 to \$4.50 on track, and tamarac \$5 to \$5.50. Anthracite coal is worth \$10.75 and bituminous \$9.50 on track. Western lignite, in small lots, is worth \$7.50 delivered.

FURNITURE.

There is as yet very little movement in the furniture line. Country dealers will not buy their fall stock for another month. The prospects for a heavy fall trade are bright and manufacturers are hopeful. Collections are fair.

GROCERIES.

The demand for groceries continues steady, much better than was anticipated at this season of the year. Trade has, however, been slightly erratic. Some wholesale houses report quite an increase in their business, while others admit a decrease. The weakness noted last week in the sugar market has disappeared, and a firm feeling now exists. Quotations are as follows: yellows 7½ to 8c; granulated 8½ to 8¾c, and Paris lumps 9½ to 10c. Coffees, Rio, 14 to 17c; Java 21 to 24c; Jamaicas, 17 to 20c, and Mocha 30 to 34c. Tea, Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; Japans, 20 to 45c, and