

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The past week has developed no new feature in connection with the monetary affairs of the city, and so far as their connection with commercial affairs are concerned they have subsided into a rather slow going state. The usually active demand for money which existed in the early days of June, has fallen to a great extent. Not that there is any less stringent feeling; but merchants and manufacturers are tightening every string in business demands that call for money, and are consequently lessening as much as possible demands upon the banks. This system of rigid retrenchment has had a good effect, and maintains confidence to a great extent, as there is every evidence that united efforts are being made to prevent any financial disarrangement, and that the effort will prove successful. The fact that monetary affairs in the east are also in a more satisfactory state than they were a few weeks ago, lends some aid and creates hope. Still there is a stringent money market in the city, and the best feature in connection with the same is that all are aware of the fact, and have made preparations for the same. Rates are unchanged, commercial paper being received at 8 to 10 per cent gilt edge, and 10 to 12 for ordinary. Loans on landed mortgage have been rather slow during the week, their range of interest being from 8 to 10 per cent, the bulk of them being at the latter figure. Funds for such investment are not scarce, and on first class property can be easily secured.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In wholesale circles during the week there has as a rule been little or no activity. The general run of orders from regular customers in the city and provincial centres has been lighter in nearly every line than for some time past. The arrival in the city of some leading merchants from Calgary, Fort McLeod and other far west points, who have bought extensively has been the only relief from absolute inactivity, especially in dry goods and clothing. Merchants in the older towns throughout the province are very conservative in their dealings, and buy only as necessity requires. This state of affairs cannot last long. Stocks in hand must soon get low, and as the retailers' shelves become empty they have to be filled again; consequently a revival in trade is generally anticipated before many weeks. A good fall trade is looked forward to with confidence. The unhealthy competition of eastern houses will not interfere with the trade this fall in the same way that it did last year. Toronto and Montreal wholesalers have learned a lesson which they will doubtless profit by and be content to stay and attend to the wants of their regular legitimate trade nearer home. The failures of a large dry goods house, and a hardware firm, both with heavy liabilities, does not directly affect the wholesale houses here, as their creditors are nearly all firms in the eastern provinces. Still the throwing of their goods on the market as bankrupt stock will indirectly affect the lines of business they represent to some extent.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

The amount of business being done in this line is such as to be very satisfactory to the leading houses. There is not the rush that characterized last season, but business is much more steady. The total of trade done this year so far is fully equal to what it reached up to this time last season, and it is steadily advancing and appears to be in a very healthy condition. Some country agents are sending in to the depots in the city for fresh supplies, and these are promptly forwarded to their destination. Just now the principal business is in harvesting machinery and waggons, the season for plows, seeders, &c., having pretty well passed. After harvest again there will be a demand for plows. Threshing machinery is now being inquired for. Take it all round this line of business is in a very satisfactory condition, more so than any other.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Although the report from this line of business for the week cannot be said to be of the most cheering character, still it cannot by any means be called unsatisfactory. City trade has been almost at a standstill, and the leading houses are not making any effort to force it at present, preferring to keep their goods in stock rather than let them out into the hands of retailers while the present dull state of business continues. Country business keeps up very fairly; sorting orders considerable in number, but small in amount, are being received. The volume of trade has been swelled considerably by two or three heavy orders from far west points. Collections are about as good as could be expected, and tend to be a little better than they were a week or two ago.

CLOTHING.

The clothing trade, take it all round, presents a rather better report this week than last, and the total of business will amount to a rather larger figure. This is not due to any particular revival in business in a general way, but to the receipt of a few good additions to the order book from the end of the track and beyond. At this season of the year briskness is not expected in the ordinary run of trade. Collections are fair, and no worse than they have been for some time. There will not likely be much improvement in cash receipts until after harvest.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

The usual amount of business has been done during the week. Orders received from the country are light but sufficient to keep the houses moving along. Collections are about as they have been, from fair to good.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

The past week has been on the quiet side in the crockery and glassware business. Retailers in the country have about all the stock they require for present demands, and beyond sorting up orders in the commoner line of staple goods there is but little doing. The season for fancy lines has passed, and no activity is expected before fall. Collections are reported fair, with considerable room for improvement.

DRY GOODS.

Beyond a few good orders received from the west business for the past week may be said to

have been at a standstill. City trade is especially quiet, and sorting up orders from the country merchants have neither been numerous nor heavy. The principal houses are very cautious in extending their trade, and unless the customers can pay a good percentage in cash and show a very good prospect of being able to meet the balance on maturity they prefer to keep the goods in stock. Merchants along the line of railway towards the end of the track, and between there and the Rocky Mountains, seem to be doing well and experience no difficulty in disposing of considerable quantities of goods. The failure a few days ago of one of the largest retail houses in the city has not interfered seriously with the wholesalers here, as the bulk of the creditors are in the eastern provinces. There will not likely be any briskness in trade until after harvest, and should the crops be such as present indications promise, a good trade will then be done. Collections are a little better than they have been, but the promptitude with which paper maturing on the 4th was met, left the wholesalers' bills receivable book comparatively clear until nearer the end of the month. On the whole trade may be said to be in a more satisfactory condition than it has been, and a hopeful feeling is generally to be found.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

The leading houses report the dulllest week that they have experienced for some time. There is scarcely anything doing beyond a small sorting up order now and then, which happens along to relieve the monotony. Collections are fair but cannot be said to be good.

FISH AND POULTRY.

During the week business has been on the quiet side; still it cannot be said to have been dull. There are no novelties in the market. Lake Superior trout are beginning to come in, and find ready sale; they are quoted at 8c; whitefish are worth 8c, and pike 3c; oysters are entirely out of the market.

FRUIT.

In the fruit line a very fair business has been done during the week. There are no novelties to report of any consequence. A small consignment of new apples was brought, but the price at which they had to be sold was so high that it was thought advisable to discontinue importation for a week or two. Oranges are becoming scarce and are now worth \$9 to 9.50; lemons are not so plentiful as they were, and have gone up to \$8; apples are getting to be extremely scarce, and are quoted at \$8.50 to 9.00. Quotations in dried fruit are: Loose muscatel raisins \$3; black currants \$4.75; triple crown \$8; golden dates 11c to 12½c in mats, and 16c in boxes.

FUEL.

Prices remain unchanged: Anthracite is quoted at \$15 delivered, and bituminous from \$13.50 to 14.50. Wood is in good supply. Tamarac in lots of ten cars or over sells at \$6.50; smaller lots \$6.75; poplar is quoted at \$5 for large lots and \$5.50 for smaller quantities.

FURNITURE.

There is a healthy report from this branch of business this week. Trade although not rushing is good for this season of the year. Collec-