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Agent for Manitoba and Northwest Territories:

JOHN B. MATHER, 42 McDermott Street, Winnipeg

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Cereal Duties in Germany.

The German Empire, it is well known, entered two or three years ago on a protectionist policy, and laid heavy import duties on wheat, flour and other cereal products, raw and manufactured. These duties it has lately been proposed to still further augment, and in the meantime it was rumored that the Government was about to ask for a provincial protective law, giving it power to summarily shut out imports of foreign grain; the Government has, however, disclaimed any such intention. It appears likely that any attempt to raise the corn duty will meet with determined opposition from an influential section of the Liberal party, and it is said that a formal anti-corn law league is about to be formed by the new Liberals in the Reichstag or German House of Commons. This league is to have a special organ in the shape of a newspaper.—*London Miller.*

Wheat in the Far Northwest.

Bishop Young of the Church of England diocese of Athabasca, arrived from Vermillion, Peace river, on Wednesday, June 22nd. He left Vermillion on May 9th and canoed to the Forks of the Peace river, about 200 miles up stream. Last season was quite favorable for crops at Vermillion. Wheat, barley and potatoes yielding well and ripening. The weather became cold about October 13th, but turned milder towards the end of the month. The ice began to run in the river about November 5th and set on November 19th. The weather was mild until New Years. In January and the

early part of February it was steadily cold. The latter part of February was mild. The lowest thermometer was 52 below, about the end of January. The snow was about two feet deep and was gone about the 21st of April. The river opened about the end of the month. Cattle did well all winter, some feeding out.

Wheat was sown at Vermillion on April 29th, the ground being in excellent condition, and potatoes were planted before that time. At Dunvegan on the flats of the Peace river and Old Wives' lakes wheat was sown about May 4th. On May 29th wheat was up two inches and looked well. A slight frost at Dunvegan on June 4th cut down cucumbers, melons and bean plants, but did not injure the wheat. It was not felt at Old Wives' lakes, where cucumber plants remained unaffected. Bishop Young is of opinion that in both soil and climate an immense area of the Peace river district is fitted for agricultural settlement, only lacking means of communication with the outside world to make it available.—*Edmonton Bulletin.*

The recent drop in the price of wheat at Chicago, caused more loss to Manitoba shippers than has generally been supposed. One or two consignments of wheat which had been forwarded east and were on the road when the drop occurred, were refused by the parties to whom they had been shipped. This of course was only in one or two instances, as no first-class firm would break an agreement owing to a drop in the market, even if they could find a means of escape from a contract, through a technicality. In this way one consignment of wheat, for which 70 cents had been bid on track at a provincial point in Manitoba, but which was subsequently shipped to Montreal and refused, was sold in that city at 89 cents. This price would of course net the shipper a considerable loss.