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The Tillamook Headlight.

Fred C. Baker, Publisher.

Free Trade's Last Stand.

It is conceded by the friends, as well as the foes, of British free trade that the policy will soon have to make the night of its life. The split in the Balfour ministry brings the issue to the front in such a menacing way that the question will have to be referred to the people of the kingdom before many more months pass. Colonial Secretary Chamberlain, who has just stepped down out of the cabinet, wants a system of tariff duties which will give a preference to the products of England's colonies, though the compensation demanded is a preference on the part of the colonies to imports from England. Premier Balfour wants a tariff scheme whereby retaliatory duties can be imposed on goods from the countries which tax the imports of British commodities, which means virtually all the great countries of the world.

The difference between the Chamberlain and the Balfour idea may not seem important to the world at large, for each contemplates the imposition of duties on some or many of the products of the rest of the great countries. It is important enough, however, in the opinion of Mr. Chamberlain, to prevent the two leaders from working in harmony together, and hence the colonial secretary retires. On one point both Balfour and Chamberlain are agreed. They believe the British people are not yet prepared to tax imports of food products. Moreover, they think that a long campaign of education will be necessary to win them to the taxation side, even if they can be won at all.

In any case, the matter will have to go to the British electorate for a decision, and this will bring up the whole question of protection and free trade in a more direct way than at any time since the free-trade basis was reached, over half a century ago. The election will have a great interest for the people of the United States, as well as for the other great countries. The adoption of a policy of protection would injure American exportation into England, for a time at least. The fact, however, that it would make food dearer in England will be a strong argument against both the Balfour and the Chamberlain plan. This is a point which will be urged with great force by the Liberal party, which, in general, will take ground against the adoption of protection. There is a chance, indeed, for a return of the Liberals to power on this issue. In any case, an element of interest has been injected into British politics such as it has not felt since home rule for Ireland was defeated.

Policy of Retaliation.

There has been a great deal said in recent years in regard to international retaliation in the matter of commerce, but nothing of a really practical nature has yet been adopted by any country. Perhaps the nearest approach to it was in the case of the Russian government's action when it adopted retaliatory duties after the decision of our government that its policy in regard to sugar was in effect a bounty. Russian retaliation in that case has been shown to have been absolutely without warrant and yet that country has not departed from its unwarranted policy, the effect of which has been more or less injurious to our trade with that empire. In a minor degree our foreign trade interests have suffered to some extent from a policy of retaliation on the part of foreign governments, but these circumstances have not been sufficiently serious to cause any great complaint.

Now we are confronted with a proposition of more portentous significance than any we have yet had to consider. This is the British idea of retaliation that is being urged by Mr. Chamberlain and supported by Premier Balfour. That is something that has really a serious aspect, or would have it if it was admitted that it is entirely practicable, but there are certain difficulties in the way which at least suggest a doubt whether this extraordinary British suggestion can be made available. What, in fact, does it mean? Obviously this, that unless Great Britain in arranging treaties of commerce with other countries is able to make terms satisfactory to herself with any country she will reserve the right to retaliate upon that country. This appears to be the logical inference from the expressions of the exponents of the proposed reform in the British fiscal policy.

What does this mean so far as the United States is concerned, that unless Great Britain shall be able to obtain certain concessions from this country in a commercial way—concessions that will be really favorable to the colonies of that country—we may expect a system of retaliation in trade. The folly and futility of such a proposition ought to be apparent to everybody of ordinary judgment. It would seem to be beyond question that it can never command the support of a majority of the people of the United Kingdom. There is absolutely nothing, when we consider the present condition of the British colonies

or of the empire as a whole, to commend it. It is a policy that would inevitably bring Great Britain to a condition in the last degree disastrous to her welfare and leave her stranded as an industrial and commercial power. Modify her fiscal policy how she will, she can never afford to enter upon a system of trade retaliation.

Inventor of Condensed Milk.

Gail Borden, the inventor of condensed milk, was a remarkable man, who devoted the most of his life to riding the hobby of food preservation. He invented pemmican, the dried meat biscuit, which is carried as food by whalers, Arctic explorers and others who go into either the frozen or the torrid zones beyond the reach of natural supplies. His idea was to prepare food in a compressed form, so that it could be easily carried by travelers across the plains of Texas without being spoiled by heat or dampness. He was also the inventor of beef extract, and was engaged in manufacturing down in Texas, when he was driven out by the outlaws and greasers, who burned his buildings, shot his men and drove off his cattle.

Mr. Borden was a native of Norwich, N. Y., where he was born in 1802. He moved to Indiana, where he lost his health, and went down into the pine wood of Alabama, and afterward to Texas, where he became associated with Sam Houston and Davy Crockett in founding the Republic of Texas. His family were the first white settlers upon the island now occupied by Galveston; he started that town, and was the first collector of taxes there under the republic.

He invented condensed milk in 1856, and had much difficulty in obtaining a patent, because the examiners in the patent office at Washington insisted that milk could not be evaporated in a vacuum. But he finally got his papers, and went into the business of manufacturing at Burrville, Conn., where his partner was Jeremiah Milbank, afterwards associated with Alexander Mitchell in the construction of the St. Paul railroad. The Civil War was a lucky thing for Mr. Borden, because it created a great demand for condensed milk and advertised its merits. It was soon adopted on the ocean steamers, was carried into mines, forests and construction camps and is now used in every corner of the world.

The industry in the United States consumes 600,000,000 pounds of fluid milk yearly and makes 5,000,000 cases of 48 cans each. They are more than 200 factories in the United States, all using the Borden process, and about 70 of them belong to the Borden company, situated in different parts of the country. The largest condensed milk plant in the world is at Dixon, Ill., which uses 300,000 pounds of milk a day; the second largest is at New Berlin, Chenango county, N. Y., and the third at Elgin, which consumes about 100,000 of milk daily. The contract between the factory and the farmer is a curious document, and is full of all sorts of conditions in order to secure absolutely pure milk. The company bind themselves to take an average of so many pounds of milk per day for each month in the year, and the price is set by contract at \$1.35 per hundred pounds for the Spring, Summer and Autumn months and \$1.45 per one hundred pounds for the Winter months. The farmer agrees that his cows shall be fed upon particular food and that they shall not eat turnips, brewery or distillery grain or any other food that will impart a disagreeable flavor to the milk or reduce its richness. He agrees to keep the milk room at a certain temperature, and with a certain amount of ventilation; the cans must be washed and placed in the sun when they are not in use, and they must be turned down bottom upward on a rack at least three feet from the ground. Every possible precaution is taken to secure proper care and cleanliness, for that is one of the secrets of successful manufacture.

The report that the damage to corn is smaller than was feared is something that will give pleasure to the country. Corn is America's imperial crop. It counts for more than cotton, wheat, hay or any of the country's other big products. A reduction of the yield, of course, might not mean a reduction in the amount which the farmer would receive for it. It would mean an advance in price which would bring the cost up to a higher point for the consumer. The present outlook is that the crop will go to the 2,000,000,000 bushel mark at least, and that line has not been passed many times. A good corn crop would be a vast benefit to the country, and the chances still are that the yield will be up to the average of the past few years.

At a meeting of the Nationalist Congress, at Cassell, Germany, Dr. Moritz of Alsborg, speaking on inherited degeneracy through social influences, asserted that degeneracy in European countries is spreading, and is shown by a decrease of physical resistance and a tendency to illness and weakness. Alcoholism he declared to be the chief cause of inherited degeneracy, to cure which alcoholism must be wiped out, and he suggested that a legal certificate of health should be required before a person is allowed to marry.

BURKE IS TAKEN.

Desperate Escape Taken Near Vancouver—Shot Twice by Sheriff.

J. H. Burke, the desperate escaped prisoner from the Hillsboro Jail, was shot twice by Sheriff E. S. Beisecker and captured, Saturday evening, at his brother's cabin, six miles north of Vancouver. The sheriff got the drop on Burke while the fugitive's guns and ammunition were laid aside. Despite the fact that he was looking down the yawning muzzle of the officer's sixshooter, Burke uttered a curse and bolted for liberty. A ball was sent plunging through his left arm and another through his right thigh. Even in this unhappy plight he struggled pitifully against capture.

His final display of desperation was characteristic of the man's demeanor since his capture for forgery and his subsequent escape from jail. Had he got hold of a gun or been warned of the Sheriff's approach, there is little doubt but that a pitched battle would have ensued.

Sheriff Beisecker learned several days ago that the fugitive's real name is F. C. Hamlin, instead of Burke, and that he has a brother living in the woods, six miles from Vancouver. Thinking it probable that the man would make for his brother's home for shelter and food, the Sheriff made his way to the place Saturday afternoon, accompanied by a deputy. The two men hid in the woods until dark and then advanced cautiously to where a faint candle-light showed through a window over which a ragged curtain was drawn.

Tiptoeing carefully to the window, the Sheriff could hear men talking. He listened with his ear close against the window and heard the voice of the fugitive describing graphically to his brother how he had given one Sheriff the slip, had fought a deputy and taken his weapons away from him, and had defied all the officers of the county he had passed through.

"They ain't going to take me as long as I have got a cartridge or a bit of fight left in me," came in braggadocio tones from behind the drawn curtain.

Just at this moment the Sheriff discovered that a pane of glass was out of the window. With a quick jerk he tore the curtain down and shoved his gun through the opening and brought it in line with the escaped man's anatomy.

"Throw up your hands or I'll kill you," he ordered.

Burke's response was a curse and a leap for the nearest door. The Sheriff shot twice. Both balls took effect, bringing Burke to his knees. But the fellow was up again in an instant. He staggered to the door and tried to open it. The door would not yield at first and before he could get it open the Sheriff had reached the place. As Burke tottered outside the officer pushed the gun under his nose and told him that if he made another move he would be killed on the spot.

"I guess you've got me for keeps this time," Burke said.

He was handcuffed and taken back in the house, where his wounds were examined. They were found to be painful, but in no way dangerous, and the officers then determined to take the man to jail as quickly as possible. They remembered that he had effected three remarkable escapes and wished to take no chances with him. The drive of six miles to Vancouver was made in less than an hour. The wounded man was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital, where his wounds will be dressed before he is lodged in jail.

J. P. Burke was arrested at Forest Grove, August 27, while attempting to pass a forged note at the bank. He had made inquiries that aroused suspicion, and when he attempted to pass the paper he looked into the muzzle of guns held by the bank president and cashier.

Early on the morning of September 9, Burke and J. T. McNamara dug through the wall of the Hillsboro County Jail and escaped. McNamara was recaptured a few days later at The Dalles.

On September 20 Burke was captured by Sheriff Totten at Carson, Wash., but escaped. On Sept. 21 he was arrested by Frank Schrook, near Lower Cascades, whom he overpowered and robbed of a rifle and two revolvers, and escaped.

From descriptions of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County, Cal., Burke is the man wanted for cashing two forged notes of \$180 each at two different banks. Baker & Hamilton, the big hardware firm, of San Francisco, for whom Burke worked, offer \$100 reward for his arrest.

Saves Two From Death.
"Our little daughter had an almost fatal attack of whooping cough and bronchitis," writes Mrs. W. K. Haviland, of Armonk, N.Y. "but, when all other remedies failed, we saved her life with Dr. King's New Discovery. Our niece, who had Consumption in an advanced stage, also used this wonderful medicine, and to-day she is perfectly well." Desperate throat and lung diseases yield to Dr. King's New Discovery as to no other medicine on earth. Infallible for Coughs and Colds. 50c. and \$1.00 bottles guaranteed by Chas. I. Clough, druggist. Trial bottles free.

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