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**Law Relating to Foreign
 Trade Is Explained**

One of the important bills on the democratic legislative program failed to pass in the rush of closing the session of congress. It came up to the last days of the session with opposition pretty thoroughly removed and support thoroughly consolidated. Its enactment was confidently expected. But other measures had powerful friends and they crowded them ahead of the Webb bill. This bill is intended to modify the antitrust law as it relates to foreign trade, and in closing debate upon it the author made this luminous explanation, which will be read with interest even though the bill failed to pass, because it is almost certain in the short session of congress now approaching.

For many years the manufacturers of this country have felt the need of the passage of this bill in order to clarify their rights in the foreign export trade. Ever since our export trade has been increasing, as it has been for the last 10 years, grave doubt has been felt by good lawyers, patriotic lawyers, as to whether or not the Sherman law applied to exporters engaged solely and purely in the foreign export business. Many of the best lawyers have always thought that it did not apply, that the object of the Sherman law was to keep the channels of trade pure in the United States and in its territories.

In view of the situation, in view of the uncertain conditions as to whether or not his famous law does apply to foreign export trade from the United States, the federal trade commission, under section 6 of the bill, was passed two years ago, giving it authority to investigate both interstate and foreign trade, has made a full and widespread investigation as to our export trade, and as to how export trade is carried on by foreign competitors. After their investigation they sent to the House about two months ago a very strong report, signed by every member of that commission, showing, I think, conclusively to every sane man the absolute necessity for the clarification of the Sherman law in reference to the foreign export business along the lines of this bill. They have shown conclusively that unless

American exporters engaged solely in the foreign export business are permitted to do business with foreign countries on the same lines as their foreign competitors do business and as the foreign countries in which business is done permits it to be done, our foreign export business is bound to languish and in some instances stop.

"I know that there is a feeling among some that we ought to hold the American manufacturers wherever they do business in all the world to that same high business standard that is prescribed by the Sherman law for their doing business in the United States. I do not believe when I am putting a horse in an international race that it is incumbent upon me to put 100 pounds weight upon his back when every other horse in the race is not encumbered at all. I know from this trade commission's report that every foreign country whose manufacturers compete keenly with our manufacturers have no such rules to control them as the Sherman anti-trust law throws around the American exporter if the Sherman law does apply to our exporters in foreign trade."

He stated in answer to questions of other members that it would be impossible for several manufacturers to form a corporation and thus get a monopoly in the United States. He said further that the bill would have no effect whatever on importation, but only on exportation.

He added: "The Standard Oil company does not need this bill. The Harvester people do not need this bill. The steel corporation does not need it, and other big corporations do not need it. This bill is not at all in the interest of the big corporations of the United States. They already have their selling agencies established in the countries of the world. Being so big and powerful and being such tremendous producers, they can compete in any foreign countries and are doing it. It is the little fellow who throws his capital or the money to go into foreign countries to seek trade, it is for him, for a dozen or so to unite so that they can carry and show their goods abroad at a reduced cost to their overhead charges. It is really in the interest of the little fellow; it is in the interest of the small manufacturer."

AMOEBIC DYSENTERY.

With more than 100,000 of our young men stationed along our Mexican border, most of them destined within a few months to be scattered among civilian population throughout our country, there should be a quickened interest in amoebic dysentery.

The soldiers of the civil war remember dysentery as one of the worst menaces of the war. The soldiers of the Spanish war, while they did not suffer from it as they did from typhoid, nevertheless counted it as one of their worst enemies. Our troops in the Philippines, in Cuba, subsequent to the war, and on the canal zone have not been greatly disturbed by it. Perhaps the Russo-Japanese conflict is the only war in history in which there was no great trouble from dysentery. The experience of the soldiers in that war and those of our soldiers on the frontiers at home and abroad in recent years led us to believe that we will not have much dysentery among our soldiers on the Mexican border.

The amoeba was discovered in 1876, 11 years after the civil war. Since then the habits of this parasite have been studied and every commanding officer knows just what to do to protect his command. In spite of this, some of the men will get reckless and, disobeying instructions, will eat unwashed, uncooked fruit and vegetables or drink unapproved water. Some of them will contract amoebic dysentery and some of those who do will return to their homes with the organism still alive in them.

Amoebae, once they have infected the intestine, hang on tenaciously. Any old soldier will bear witness to that. Army diarrheas hung on for a generation after the war had been officially declared to be at an end. Any one of those old cases of amoebic dysentery—and a certain percentage of the chronic diarrheas which followed that war were cases of amoebic dysentery—was capable of infecting people.

The amoeba of amoebic dysentery is one of the few animal disease-producing parasites. Most of the minute forms of life which cause disease are vegetables, but the organisms which cause malaria, dysentery, and a few others are animals. It is about five or six times as large as a blood corpuscle. In fact, it is large enough to be seen with a moderately good microscope. It can be seen with a microscope magnifying no more than 300 times. Many high schools possess microscopes of this power.

If the examiner will arrange to keep his microscopic slide at blood temperature during the examination he can see the amoeba slowly crawling across the field or feeding on bacteria. The organism burrows deeply into the coats of the large intestine, causing ulcers. Its food is bacteria. Authorities call attention to the fact that amoebae thrive in mouths that are not kept clean. That when amoebae are swallowed they go into a dormant state, and so remain while passing through the stomach and small intestines. When they reach the large intestines they find a pabulum rich in bacteria, whereupon they "come to life," unfold, and proceed to feed.

In some cases amoebic dysentery starts with bloody flux, high fever, cramps in the legs, and bodily weakness. More often there is a history of fever lasting two or three weeks and a mild diarrhea or flux. In some cases there is a colicky pain, but the bowels are constipated. There is a good deal of mucus and jelly and a varying amount of blood in the stool. After the acute stage has passed the soldier—or the civilian, for that matter—settles down into a condition of relapsing diarrhea. For a while he will think he is all right, then he will have a spell of diarrhea with mucus, pus, and maybe blood in his stools, then convalescence, and then another spell.

Edwards says he has seen 16 cases of amoebic dysentery "clearly acquired in Chicago." They got it in all probability, from people who had come to Chicago carrying the amoebae, having occasional relapses of dysentery, but probably not very sick and not thinking of themselves as spreaders of contagion.

There is no symptom by which the disease can be recognized with certainty. If for any reason, it is suspected, the only way to know with certainty is to have a microscopic examination of some of the jelly from a stool.

In the olden times physicians treated dysentery with full doses of powdered ipecac. They gave a teaspoonful or somewhere near it. It seemed a foolish thing to do, for no scientist had found a reason for it. The old fellows gave it because they knew for some reason or other it benefited. Some of

them had heard that in Brazil, where there was much of the disease, ipecac was the standby.

Then along came an English physician, Rogers, working in India, who proved that there was a scientific basis for the practice of the old time physicians. He found that emetin, one of the active principles of ipecac, was as specific a poison for the amoebae as quinine, another substance of vegetable origin, was for that other animal parasite—the plasmodium of malaria. The public health service has verified the statement that by giving emetin hypodermically, or by the mouth, or by washing the teeth with it, the amoebae found in the mouth will disappear therefrom. However, amoebae, such as are found in the mouth, are so omnipresent that they reappear in the mouth soon after the use of emetin has been stopped.

In treating amoebic dysentery with emetin the patient is put to bed. Dr. Bates, who had a large experience with amoebic dysentery on the canal zone, says that complete rest in bed is necessary if the disease is to be cured to stay cured. He then gives one or more doses of castor oil. He also gives one half grain or a grain of emetin every day until the patient has taken six grains. During this time the patient eats nothing except sweet milk. Following this, the patient has some other treatment at the direction of his physician.

It is important that the patient continue following directions until he is completely cured. In this disease, as in malaria, the patients are disposed to quit when they think they are well. They feel better and they think that nature will finish the job. Nature makes a failure in completing the cure in dysentery as well as in malaria.

Another form of dysentery also subject to increase in armies in the field is bacillary or ordinary dysentery. This form of flux is due to vegetable parasites or bacilli. The best studied of the bacilli of dysentery is that discovered by a Japanese scientist and which goes by his name—the Shiga bacillus.

If this were the only bacillus which caused flux the situation would be easy, for there is a serum for the dysentery caused by this bacillus. This serum is almost a sure cure for all cases of dysentery due to the Shiga bacillus.

In this country, dysentery, in both grown people and babies, is generally caused by some bacillus other than that of Shiga. In consequence the Shiga serum is not much used. It is not of much service in treating the disease as it is seen in the United States.

In bacillary dysentery, infection is carried by contaminated drinking water and milk, and by flies. When sterilized water and pasteurized milk are used exclusively, and no flies are allowed, there is very little bacillary dysentery.

After an incubation period of from two to eight days, the disease starts with a fever and a diarrhoea. If the food is stopped at once and a big dose of castor oil is given, the disease may be cut short. In a short while the ordinary "loose bowels" is replaced by stools containing mucus and pus and blood, or by pure blood. There are many passages a day. Straining at stool is a prominent symptom.

When a patient has this form of dysentery, he may die or he may get well, but he is not very apt to stay chronically sick or to appear to get well and then relapse. The cases which hang on are generally of the amoeba form.

Summer time is the season for bacillary diarrhoea. The danger of contracting it is greatest in August, less in September, and materially less in October, and then remains at a low ebb through the fall, winter and early spring.

If the people will be careful of their drinking water, will use only pasteurized milk, will wash and peel or cook all fruit and vegetables, and will keep the flies away until October 1, they will not suffer much from this disease. These precautions will save soldiers from epidemics of the disease.

Not Looking For Stingers.

From the Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Gazette. Concerning the internal row in Iowa republican politics, the two Larrabees are preserving a silence that identifies their wisdom with the teachings of their father. They never denied for their supply of honey on success in raiding a hornet's nest.