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Yours truly,
W. F. SMITH.

MODERN WITCH HUNTERS

Editor, Herald.

Sir:—Sir H. Ryder Haggard describes in "King Solomon's Mines" the methods of witch hunters in operation among the tribes of Africa. The plans proposed by our leaders seem to have something in common with the African authorities, in fact one might conclude the brain trust had read Haggard in their younger days.

The witch hunters could detect the presence of witches by their sense of smell. Our leaders may not use this sense or any sense at all in making their decisions although they may smell votes. The Africans sacrificed human beings to appease the wrath of the offended gods. The starvation, misery and poverty of millions of men today are evidence the gods have been ignored in some way and so the brain trust dictates the destruction of a few million acres of cotton as a sacrifice to appease their wrath and to show that we are really in earnest.

In Brazil, it takes the form of burning coffee and in Germany they burn Jews. All our modern witch hunters agree we have offended the gods by receiving or importing goods from other nations and insist on sending goods away or exporting them. This may be an evidence of the true Christian spirit as "it is better to give than to receive." At Christmas time we try to benefit others by sending them presents and our tariff regulations are arranged along this line, to encourage exports and discourage imports. It may be we have not worked this plan to the limit and should proceed to exclude all imports. Perhaps all nations should export all their products and import nothing.

If all these plans fail, we might send a delegation to Africa and ask the advice of a real witch hunter who has had more experience, or take the bull by the horns and defy the gods as Russia has done and proceed on the theory that we can run things without any regard for God's law or natural law at all.

If democratic or representative institutions have nothing better to offer than tariffs to destroy trade or destruction of cotton or burning of coffee or slaughter of immature pigs in countries where thousands need food, we might as well let a Hitler or a Stalin take control and end our misery all at once.

F. PEASE,

President, Milk River Single Tax League.

WIRTSCHAFTS-CANADA