

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

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Virgin Islands To Lose Old Status To Americanization

Washington, D. C., March 2.—Measures to Americanize the Virgin Islands were agreed on today by the joint Congressional Commission which recently visited the former Danish possessions. Legislation to establish the American citizenship of the islanders is proposed. The commission also decided to establish American banking interests in the islands to supplant the Danish bank.—*New York World*.

St. Thomas News.

INAUGURATION OF A NEW LINE OF STEAMSHIPS

Yesterday morning, the Dutch s. s. "Aurora," of the Royal Dutch West India Line, 1059 tons register, Capt. H. Grellis, with general cargo from Amsterdam via French and British ports and bound to Trinidad and Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana, arrived here. Consignee: Emile A. Berne.

This steamer is the pioneer of a new line of steamers that will call regularly at St. Thomas, both on the outward bound and return voyages to Holland, if the necessary support be given the company. The itinerary of the company includes the ports of San Juan, P. R.; Puerta Plata, Sto. Domingo City, San Pedro de Macoris, Sanchez, Cape Hayti; Kingston, Ja., and Pto. Barrios, Colombia. The steamers of this line, apart from accepting freight and passengers from and to European ports, are prepared to

carry on an intercolonial service, likewise.

In view of the present irregularity in steamship communications with the above named ports, the calling of this line of steamers to our ports will be of incalculable benefit, and should be patronized to the utmost by our merchants and the travelling public.

The ship left in the evening taking a mail along.—*St. Thomas Mail Notes, March 13th.*

Yesterday afternoon, the populace was again treated to another musical display at the hands of the combined Naval bands, who leaving their headquarters at 5 o'clock, marched through the town, to the great delight of the town-folk. In the evening, the Christiansted Navy Band gave a fine concert in the Emancipation Garden, which was listened to by a goodly concourse of people. After the concert, the "boys" went on a short hike.—*St. Thomas Mail Notes, March 17th.*

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret, indeed, that we today, record the death, after a short illness, of Mr. Carl A. Thraen, at his residence yesterday afternoon, at 5 o'clock.

Deceased, who was a well-known member of this community, and who held several positions in the various institutions to which he belonged, was born in the town of Christiansted St. Croix, on the 11th May, 1863.

Coming over when a boy, he resided with us until early manhood, when he departed for the island of Haiti, where he resided for many years. Returning hither about the year 1892, he established a shoe-making establishment, in the manufacture of which he proved himself both skilled and competent. This business declining through the vast importations of the "ready-made" article, he next took up, in 1901, the arduous duties of teacher in the Roman Catholic School for boys.

In this capacity of teacher he continued for years, giving general satisfaction to all concerned.

Later, in about 1905-1906, we find him in charge of the Aerated Works of C. V. La Beet; and later still, in 1910, we find him a full-fledged merchant and burgher of our town. In this capacity he remained until September 1913, when upon the demise of Mr. Chas. Aug. Brewer, he was unanimously elected accountant of

the St. Thomas Savings Bank, a position that he fulfilled with confidence and satisfaction to one and all. Apart from these above mentioned activities, Mr. Thraen was also a staunch and faithful member of the Roman Catholic Church, of which, for the past 11 years, and up to the time of his death, he had been a Warden. He was also likewise a member of our Legislature, having been, about 9 months ago, appointed by the present administration, 4th Appointed member to that body.

Married in the July of 1896, Mr. Thraen leaves behind a widow and two children (now in their teens) to whom we beg to tender our sincere condolences upon their irreparable loss. "Carlos," as he was well-known to his friends, was a kindly, good-natured fellow, always ready to give assistance by word or deed to those calling upon him; and for the good deeds done in private and in quiet, he will be sadly missed by a great many.

He was our friend, having known each other from early manhood, and his death in the prime of life we sincerely deplore. Our sincere hope, however, is, that he will, in the hereafter, meet the full reward due his life on earth.

The funeral, to which all friends and acquaintances are invited, takes place this afternoon at 5 o'clock.—*Ibid.*

The musical concert by the combined Navy Bands in the Emancipation Garden, came off last evening, and was listened to, by the usual large crowd. The pieces as usual were finely rendered.—*St. Thomas Mail Notes, March 18th.*

Last night was rather a gala affair at the American Soda Fountain, when to commemorate the opening of the "Roof Garden" lately erected over that business concern, a regular programme was got up for the occasion. Dinner in the spacious and airy saloon over, the guests, many of whom are fond disciples of Terpsichore, indulged for hours in the pleasant and recreative dances. Today patrons are speaking of the fine time enjoyed. Again, we compliment, the management, and hope for better patronage and success in the future.—*Ibid.*

Director of Experiments, Eduard Gedde, in St. Croix, has had the satisfaction that the Director of the Experimental Station in some of the islands in the British West Indies, has informed him that he

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