

this discussion. The point is that the contracting Planter must deliver canes containing at least 17% of sugar in the juice or be paid at a figure less than the one we are calculating on.

Now, the Sugar Canes of St. Croix have an average fibre content of about 15%. Calculated on this basis and on a 17% sucrose content of the juice, the canes contain 14.45% sugar, and a modern Sugar Factory should recover at least 85% of the sugar of the cane in the form of 96° Crystals, that is, it should recover 12.24 lbs. of sugar from 100 lb. of canes of the richness demanded by the Factory.

The worst feature of the case with the Bethlehem Factory is that they paid their contracting Planters for the first canes delivered during crop on the basis of a quotation of \$7.28 for 100 lb. of 96° Crystals, knowing full well that \$13.00 was the correct price. Further they still pay their contracting Planters in local dollars, thus deducting 27½% from the amount they should receive, though they are well aware that when the value of the local currency became depreciated the Planters had without demur made up the depreciation to the labourer in his wages, thus rendering the production of cane more expensive. I trust that the Bethlehem Factory will see fit to rectify this gross injustice.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

LONGFIELD SMITH.

P. S. I might mention that the Gunthorpes Factory in Antigua recovered in 1915 91.3% and in 1916 92.3% of the Sucrose of the cane in the form of 96° Crystal Sugar. My assumption of a recovery by Bethlehem of 85% will therefore be seen to be quite a modest one.

L. S.

Editor of the St. Croix Avis.

Dear Sir:

I beg to agree with Consumer that the wholesale price of sugar is very high, the shopkeeper has to pay \$32.50 for one bag of raw sugar of 250 lbs. or in other words 13cts. per pound in bag, which is only turned out to the cart by the wholesaler and his work ends there. Now the shopkeeper has to fill out the sugar in packages which cost something, he has to pay the seller for handling the sugar, he has to pay the rent and other expenses connected in running the business, when you deduct all the expenses there is hardly anything left at 16cts. per pound; I too would be glad to learn why we here must pay higher prices on the spot where the sugar is manufactured.

Respectfully,

ENQUIRER.

Frederiksted, February 16th. 1920.

The mail schooner "Virginia" arrived this morning at 5 o'clock, with a small

United States, Porto Rican and St. Thomian mail. 72 packages general cargo and the following passengers:

From St. Thomas: Judge Noll Lawyer Payne, W. T. Horton.

She left about 10.30 o'clock with passengers: For Porto Rico: Mrs. B. V. Daniel, & 1 child Bernice. Mrs. V. Wilson, Miss Albertha N. Wescott, Mr. C. W. Bjaelke, Mrs. Lucille Gordon. For St. Thomas: Ensign Zook, W. C. Van Norden, Dr. E. Petersen and Dr. H. C. Hark.

The sloop "Eagle" left about noon for St. Thomas with the following passengers: Roumalia Isaac, Ovidia Richards, Miriam Thomas, Mrs. Elenora Jacobs, Muriel Jackson, Ethel Jackson, S. G. Crosswaithe, Jacob Johannes, Jos. A. Flynn, Albert Martin, Alphonso Marcus, Georgiana James, Albertina Thomas.

We are glad to welcome the new ice-manufacturer and wish him success.

For a long time we have been in need of this most necessary article, because of the breakdown at the plant and have had to rely on Christiansted.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Barbados, Feb. 13th.—U. S. Battleship "North Dakota" arrived 2.55 p. m. from Gibraltar.

Barbados, Feb. 14th.—U. S. S. "Pennsylvania", "Arizona", "Oklahoma," and "Nevada" left 5 p. m. for Colon.

St. Thomas, Feb. 14th.—Six seaplanes of the Air Detachment of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet which arrived at San Juan, P. R., on the 8th. instant left there for St. Thomas at 9.15 a. m. today and arrived here at 10.50 a. m., alighting in the harbour. It is reported they are en route to Trinidad via Martinique.

Ponce, P. R., Feb. 12th.—U. S. Hospital Ship "Solace" left 11 a. m., destination unknown.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11th 1920.

Flour, Blended Clear St. Lawrence Brand pr. brl. \$11.75

Meal, Kilndried per 100 lbs \$3.55

New Season's Pork per brl. \$46.00

Heavy Mess Pork per bbl. \$43.00

Sugar---Crystals maximum per 100 lbs \$13.04.

Sugar---Crystals minimum \$12.79

Molasses Sugar (Confirmed by Brokers) 28 12--100d.

Cotton, Middling Upland, at Liverpool per lb. no quotation

Exchange, New York and London, 60 days' sight \$3.33

Exchange New York and London, sight \$3.36½

LONDON, Feb. 11th 1919.

Sugar-Demerara Crystals duty paid price.

fixed by the Royal Commission per cwt 106s. 0d. -109s. 0d.

Muscovado, 89°/- basis, floating terms in

bond, Ditto duty free. 95s. 0d.—97s. 0d. German Beet 88°/- f.o.b. no further sales during the war

White Java sugar cif U. Kingdom cif without engagement. 90.0

White Java Sugar, cif United Kingdom if arrives before 27th December 85/ Demerara Rum, per gal. nominal.

Trinidad Cocoa, Good Middling Red per cwt 128s. 0d. 130s. 0d.

Cotte Medium Fine Sea Island, at Liverpool nominal per lb.

HONI SOIT QUI MALY PENCE!

There are in our midst a group of men who have from the time of the transfer of these islands to the United States, acted as leaders of the poorer and less intelligent section of our people. These men are not real leaders—they are but opportunists, who, misinterpreting certain principles of Americanism, and seeing a lack of cohesion among the people, have stepped forward in the guise of leaders, and in their eagerness to pass as such—not weighing the consequences of their course have tried to introduce a wedge between the good understanding that have generally existed among all classes of our people.

These would-be leaders—many of whom remind one of the lilies of the field, inasmuch as they neither toil nor spin—have been advocating a change in the present administration of the islands. They are leaders who seem not to think of the impracticability of their schemes. They seem to think only of the pleasure of having the governing power in the hands of their clique, even the power of appointing their own Governor! and thus giving but little consideration to the prerogative of the United States.

Happy are we, however, that there are not many disciples of these advocates of what they know not of themselves. The great majority of St. Thomians have fully demonstrated their sound judgment by repudiating such leadership, an act on their part that will go far towards proving when the time arrives that they are not wanting in ability to control and administer a purely civil form of government.

Meanwhile, let all respectable citizens beware of the extreme teachings of this group of men, who having nothing to lose, not even we believe sincere love of country,—would not mind seeing their fellowmen brought to the same level as themselves. Above all, let St. Thomians remember that "a man is a man," primarily, because under the glorious flag which today we call our own, the lowest placed of mankind has every opportunity of achieving the highest possible success in life, if he will but prove that he delves not into the by-ways of ignorance, dishonesty and lawlessness, but lives in the realms of truthfulness and honesty of purpose.—St. Thomas Mail Notes, Feb. 16th.