

Publication.

It is hereby brought to public notice that a balance of interest amounting to Frcs. 331.20 will be on hand for distribution on the 25th day of May 1921, from their Majesties King Christian the Ninth and Queen Louise's Golden Wedding Memorial Fund for the benefit of worthy indigent persons in St. Croix.

Applications containing the requisite information and duly certified must be forwarded to the Despatching Secretary's Office, St. Croix, V. I., within the 18th day of May 1921.

Despatching Secretary's Office, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, April 20th, 1921.

C. W. FOX,

Despatching Secretary.

IF YOU WANT REAL BARGAINS

GO TO THE

Company Street Emporium

RICE (whole grain and snow white) 7c. per lb.

LINGFISH 14c. " "

Christiansted 20th April 1921.

M. A. PRETTO.

LOCAL.

Thirty-one bags of mail by the Mystery reached here at noon yesterday inaugurating the establishment of this new mail service.

A complete drama film entitled "The Girl In The Rain" will be shown at the theatre this evening affording lovers of the short productions an excellent opportunity of spending an enjoyable evening.

EDITORIAL.

Referring to a communication which appeared in yesterday's issue, from "Movie Admirers," the proprietor of the Christiansted Theatre, Mr. E. Svendsen, requests us to say that he intends making a trip to Porto Rico in the very near future and will use his utmost endeavors to secure the film "Lucille's Divorce" which he has hopes that he will be able to do and accommodate his patrons.

Some time ago we commented on the indiscriminate littering of the public streets with fruit skins, but no improvement whatever is noticed in the dirty practice which gives an uncared for appearance to the streets and endangers the

safety of pedestrians who are constantly slipping and falling through stepping on fig skins and other offal. The provisions of paragraph 20 of chapter 3 of the Police Regulations would appear to prohibit this sort of thing, but yet it is committed with the utmost impunity. The attention of the proper authority is invited to this matter which is of more than trifling importance.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, April 15th.—Not since the days preceding the declaration of war has the House of Commons witnessed more dramatic fluctuations of hope and fear, than were expressed today in connection with the threatened industrial crisis. Last evening everything looked black, but after it became apparent that the mine owners were prepared to consider a revision of their original position and after the striking statement of Mr. Hodges that he was prepared to discuss the question of wages, leaving the question of a national pool for future settlement, hope rose and they still were high when the House met at noon today. On the assembling of the House rumours were current that Mr. Hodges had been thrown over by the miners' executive and also that he had resigned. Then the news came that the miners had refused to meet the owners and were insisting on their original demands. This news became known when the Prime Minister made the statement that the miners had refused his invitation to meet the owners, but the terms of the letter of refusal drew cries of indignation and the fact that the letter was signed by Mr Hodges, created a murmur of astonishment. No newspaper reporters were present at last evening's gathering, but it was said there was not the slightest doubt of his impression left in the minds of the members of the House by Mr. Hodges, who made his statement in answer to a specific question by a member. A ballot was taken by the seamen's and firemen's union on the question whether the union should call a strike in sympathy with the coal miners resulted in a majority 57 against a strike. The total poll was 19,000. The executive body of the electrical trades union and the secretary of the railway clerks association called off the strikes of their organization upon announcement of the decision of the railwaymen and transport workers, not to strike.

London, April 16th.—Labour forces of the United Kingdom today are apparently broken into sections, as a result of the refusal of the national union of railwaymen and the national federation of transport workers yesterday to continue their support of the strike called by the Miners Federation on April 1st. Opinion prevails in some quarters that the action of the railwaymen and

transport workers means the death warrant of the alliance. This view is not held universally, but without doubt the split which developed yesterday will have a serious effect on the rank and file of labour. "Yesterday wasn't the heaviest defeat that has befallen labour within the memory of man", begins the "Herald's" comment on the sensational breakaway of the railwaymen and transport workers. "It is no use trying to minimize it. The workers have not stood together, and they have reaped the reward." The paper declared that Mr. Hodges, Secretary of the miners organization, made a tactical mistake by altering the old formula of the Union during his address before members of the House of Commons on Thursday night. The Union had held it would not negotiate until assured of the establishment of a national wage board, even if such a body would not begin operations immediately but Mr Hodges changed the formula by declaring the unions would negotiate immediately postponing the question of a national board. Assertion is made, that, in so doing, he went beyond his power. "The old machinery has failed", the "Herald" concluded. "we must start afresh and get a machine that will work, and develop a new spirit. This is not the end, it is the beginning". Whether the miners federation in its turn will split up as predicted in some quarters, remains to be seen. Mr. Hodges position has become delicate but it is known that he has the support of a strong minority. The hands of the present executives of the organization are tied, but the new conference of delegates has been called to account to modify its instructions, so that negotiations may proceed. The "Times" gives a graphic account of what happened at the fateful meeting of the Triple Alliance yesterday. The proceedings developed, says an eyewitness, quoted by the "Times" into the biggest circus ever seen. Extremists of all sections tried hard to keep the battle flag unfurled, and Mr. Camp president of the railwaymen's Union, led in the attempt to secure postponement instead of cancellation of the strike. Recriminations were mutual, and while the transport workers were particularly accused of not desiring fully to support the miners, they retorted by referring to weak-kneed action which led to the matter of sanctioning the strike-order being raised at this juncture at all. It was urged that the miners should have accepted Mr Lloyd George's proposal and stood by the offer made by Mr. Hodges, their refusal showed their attitude was not actuated by the wage dispute, but was a kind of direct action for securing some kind of nationalization. When it became evident the break was coming, the anger of the miners was unbounded. According to other accounts, the atmosphere was electrical, and bitter personalities were