

S T. C R O I X A V I S

the matter is again placed before you for consideration.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. One thing has struck me—I think there is a misprint. Under Miscellaneous Fees, Jury Commission fees should be Frs. 10 instead of Frs. 15.

Government Secretary (*Gaffney*): It has been changed in St. Thomas.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*): I have just been informed by the Government Secretary that while the fees here for Jury Commission is Frs. 15 it has been changed in St. Thomas to Frs. 10.

I wish to bring in an amendment to the effect that the Member on the Jury Commission who has to travel from Frederiksted to Christiansted be paid traveling expenses in addition to the fees; also witness fees—A professional witness should not be paid the same as an ordinary witness. Take a medical man,—of course I am not speaking for myself,—he should not be paid the same as an ordinary witness. In all other countries a professional witness receives a different fee to that of an ordinary witness whenever he is summoned to appear in court.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Curry*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I will answer the Honorable 2nd Member for Christiansted Town and explain—An expert witness, if he is a party or part of the res gestae, receives no pay, but if he is summoned in an expert capacity he can demand his own fee, and if he is not paid he can refuse to go into court and testify. This is covered by a general law, and it is the law prevailing today. Expert witnesses are protected.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. Just a few words in regards to Jury—It seems fair to pay jurymen twenty cents per hour instead of Frs. 10 per day. A man may sit one hour in court and receive Frs. 10 while another may sit for twenty-four hours and receive the same Frs. 10. I think it would be a great saving to the Community if jurymen were paid by the hours.

To be continued.

LOCAL.

The S. S. "Guiana" will sail from New York on January 4th 1923.

The Adventures of Tarzan will be continued at the Christiansted Theatre this evening. See ad on first page.

We extend hearty congratulations and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Holger Esmann of Est. Mt. Pellier who today celebrate their Silver Wedding anniversary.

The schooner "Creole" sailed for St. Thomas with mails and passengers at 5.45 p. m. yesterday and will return this evening calling at Frederiksted for this run only.

The S. S. "Parima" from New York via St. Thomas arrived at Frederiksted at 3 p. m. yesterday and sailed again for the Islands after a short stay, having no passengers and but a very small cargo. She brought 48 bags mail for Christiansted most of which was delivered to box holders last evening.

We thank Mr. R. H. Amphlett Leader for his customary "old year" contribution which will be published in tomorrow's issue. Readers' attention is invited to this article which is particularly inspiring this year.

PASSENGERS LIST.

Dec. 23rd —From St. Thomas per s. s. Marina—Donald Boreham, Lawyer A. E. Stakemann. From Porto Rico:—Johanne Svendsen, Einar Svendsen, Allan Queale, Ernest Johnson, Irene Rjix, Theodora Dunbavin.

MOZART'S "GLORIA" (12TH MASS.

The above number by one of the great masters of music was rendered in excellent style by the Lutheran Church choir of Christiansted, on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Mr. S. A. Smith presided at the organ. It would be extremely difficult to attempt to point out for praise any particular voice in this grand music, as the soprano, alto, tenor, and bass did justice to their respective parts. Considering that the choir members are not what we may term vocalists, and some not even acquainted with the rudiments of music, great credit is due them for the fine rendition of this music by Mozart, and we must also note that Mr. Smith filled both positions of organist and choir director at the same time. The organ, a fine instrument responded to the masterly touch of the popular organist.

The Church was filled with an anxious crowd, and some of the critics went there with the express purpose of hearing this beautiful and soul-stirring number rendered by the choir, as the talk was rife among some as to whether that choir could render successfully such kind of music, but we are proud to say, it was rendered. We congratulate Rev. Anton Jensen and his able Church choir, and thank them for the musical treat given all, and hope that they will give us another select number soon.

We also listened with satisfaction to Mozart's 2nd Mass on Christmas Day sung by the Anglican Church choir. The effect was pleasing. Give us some more of these.

Music oft hath such a charm to make bad good, and good provoke no harm—Shakespeare.

SOME LISTENERS.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION

Quebec, Dec. 22nd.—A heap of smoking ruins amidst scorched walls was all that was left this morning of the fine old Basilica which has been the pride of this district because of its age and the beauty of its interior. The fire which broke out in the early hours this morning in the roof defied all the efforts of the firemen to control it and destroyed the church in a few hours. With the sacred edifice was burning the Presbyterian adjacent while this morning the fire department was deluging the ruins to prevent sparks flying to the Cardinal's palace, which had a narrow escape. Incendiarism is believed to have been responsible for the outbreak, as the chief of the provincial police force received a letter telling him the Basilica was to be burned on the 28th of this month. Among the contents particularly prized was the great organ, said to be one of the finest in the world and a number of paintings of sacred subjects by Vandyke and Raeburn.

Paris, Dec. 22nd.—M. Poincare appearing before the Foreign Affairs commission of the Chamber of Deputies today insisted that the Washington naval agreements should be ratified at the earliest possible day. The Premier was seconded by M. Briand. M. Poincare's recommendation for ratification caused the provision that the Brandegée amendment in the United States Senate, stipulating in effect that the accords did not convey any intimation of military participation of the Washington accords concerning the Pacific Ocean which perhaps, he said, will not please Japan but will place us in a superior position in our relations with the United States. M. Guernier, general reporter for the Foreign Affairs commission, disagreed completely with the Govt's point of view and complained of the failure of the United States authorities to produce the French translation of the Washington negotiations until four days ago when the immense volume of 2,500 pages was delivered to the commission.

London, Dec. 22nd.—The Canadian press is able to state authoritatively that there is not the faintest idea of any official action being taken to change the name of the British Empire to the Commonwealth of Nations, as was suggested in a press cable yesterday. The subject has never been discussed in responsible quarters nor has there been any serious representation on the matter.

Dublin, Dec. 23rd.—Two hundred and sixty-four Republicans held prisoners in Mount Joy prison, were released today, having signed a declaration of allegiance to the Free State. Four of these released were women.