

economys of the nation or people. It is the character of the homes that determines the kind of statesmanship and decides the destiny of a state, he declared, and concluded his interesting discourse by making a fervent plea for the good old fashioned homes, where true Christian virtue are inculcated and practiced; those God fearing homes where the contemplation of the Scriptures is made the daily exercise of both parents and children; those revered domestic fanes which are the focus and radiator of ethical and moral instruction, and the most active agency in battling with the evils of humanity and the shocks of existence. He cited an imposing list of some of the most brilliant stars in the constellation of statesmanship who emanated from such homes. The jubilant pair were then presented with a purse, subscribed to by friends in appreciation of their services to their church and to the community.

Mr. Ignatius Wilson, fourth son of the emerald bride and groom, in a few choice words, filled with emotion, thanked the Rev. gentleman and the audience for the signal honor done his parents.

After the singing of an an anthem by the choir the memorable service was brought to an end, whence the invited guests proceeded to the home of the patriarch, where the balance of the time was spent in feasting.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have truly observed the Biblical injunction to be fruitful and multiply, being the progenitors of nine children, thirteen grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

May these blessed old people live to enjoy many more years of wedded bliss!

REPORT AND ESTIMATE ON IRRIGATION POSSIBILITIES ON ISLAND OF ST. CROIX, VIRGIN ISLANDS, U. S. A.

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(Continued from yesterday's Avis)

50. In figuring the reservoir evaporation loss it is the usual practice to figure the net loss, which is the evaporation minus the depth of the rainfall on the reservoir; this in the wet months would result in a negative loss. In the computation of the operation of the several reservoirs in this study, (See Tables 8 to 11) no credit has been allowed for the rainfall on the reservoir. In figuring the runoff, however, the area of the reservoirs have been included—except for the Manning Bay reservoir the area of which was classed as valley land—so the reservoir losses as here figured are properly subject to a reduction of about 80% of the depth of rainfall. The gross loss is here used in order to be conservative owing to the uncertainties of runoff, reservoir seepage etc.

51. Seepage: No data are available

as to seepage losses on the island. The older geological formation, for "blue beech" rock, on which all of the proposed dam sites except the Manning Bay, are located, is a hard, tight rock according to the unanimous opinion of the geologists previously referred to. Though this rock lies in a steeply tilted position which is not the most favorable for the tight reservoir, it is believed that with proper precautions as to dam foundation the seepage loss should be only moderate. The Manning Bay dam and reservoir site are located on the newer lime rock and marl formation, and less confidence is therefore felt in its tightness. For this and other reasons expressed later the adoption of this site is not advised.

52. From a study of the above conditions, and also from a study of the actual seepage losses in a number of constructed reservoirs of the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, it is concluded to figure the St. Croix reservoir losses at 36 inches in depth per annum over the water surface area. This is the seepage estimated in the proposed reservoir of the Isabel project in Porto Rico, which is located in the limestone formation of questionable tightness.

OPERATION OF RESERVOIRS

53. With the runoff, reservoir losses, canal losses, and net duty of water estimated as above outlined, a computation of the operation of the several reservoirs here considered, namely the Jolly Hill, River, Manning Bay, and Salt River has been made:—See Tables 8 to 11. In order to determine what acreage could normally be supplied from a given drainage area and estimated water supply, the computation was begun with the normal rainfall year, and such acreage was adopted as would with the reservoir losses consume the supply without shortage and practically without hold over. The computation of the operation is then continued from the normal year to the high year of 1916 in order to decide the advisable maximum reservoir capacity to avoid waste except in an unusually high year. From this the computation is continued, in the first two cases, on down through the present low rainfall cycle in order to see what shortages might result. In the latter two reservoirs the computation is carried only far enough to show that the water supply and reservoir capacities are reasonably sufficient for the acreage adopted. It is seen from these Tables that for the irrigation of 1000 acres each from the Jolly Hill and River reservoirs, which are the areas here advised, and which areas are nicely provided for under the normal or unusual conditions, there is a material shortage during the dry years of 1918, 1920, 21, 22, and 23. This however is the driest period of the 72 years of record and it cannot be hoped to furnish a full supply for such a dry cycle under the scant water supply conditions. As previously stated the greatest advantage that can be accomplished from irrigation at St. Croix is to store water during

the wet months for use during the dry months under the usual yearly conditions; and it is the belief of the writer that such development is amply justified in case it can be done at reasonable cost.

(To be continued.)

Bill Providing for Extension of National Bank Act to Virgin Islands Passed by Senate.

A bill extending the provisions of the National Bank Act to the Virgin Islands of the United States was passed by the Senate on May 15. Senator McLean, who introduced the bill, had the following to say as to its purpose:

I introduce this bill at the request of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy. It has the approval of the Solicitor of the Treasury and the Comptroller of the Currency.

There is at the present time one commercial bank in the Virgin Islands. It was organized under the laws of Denmark. The owners of the bank want to dissolve and reorganize and come in under our national bank Act, now that we own the islands. I know of no objection to the bill, and I hope it will pass.

In stating that the bill defined the political status of the inhabitants of the Virgin Islands, the Senator said:

They have the same status that the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands have, and they will retain that; but this bill provides that insofar as our law requires that directors of national banks shall be citizens of the United States the law is modified so that the inhabitants of the islands who now control this bank can qualify as directors.

The text of the bill as passed by the Senate follows:

Be it enacted, &c., That the National Bank Act, as amended, and all other Acts of Congress relating to national banks, shall, in so far as not locally inapplicable, hereafter apply to the Virgin Islands of the United States: *Provided*, That such inhabitants of the Virgin Islands of the United States as resided therein and were Danish citizens on January 17 1917 and who have not since that date elected to preserve their Danish citizenship in the manner provided for in Article 6 of the convention between the United States and Denmark signed Aug. 4 1916, shall be regarded as citizens of the United States within the meaning of Section 5146 of the Revised Statutes, as amended: *Provided further*, That Section 19 of the Act of Feb. 8 1875 (18 Stat. L. p. 311), shall not apply to the National Bank of the Danish West Indies: *Provided further*, that any bank which shall organize under the authority of this Act shall not have the right to issue bank notes until after the expiration of the concession granted to the National Bank of the Danish West Indies or the relinquishment of such concession by said bank.—*Financial Chronicle, N. Y. City.*