

LOCAL

Eighty-four bags mail via the s. s. *Catherine* were received and delivered in this town on Saturday evening, the post office being open until a late hour.

Post Office Inspector Rice was a passenger by the *Catherine* from San Juan having gone to St. Thomas to install a new postmaster who, however, had not arrived.

Postmaster R. H. Amphlett Leader sailed by the *Catherine* yesterday on a three-week vacation the greater part of which he contemplates spending in Porto Rico.

The s. s. *Parima* is expected at Frederiksted at 8 o'clock tonight having sailed from New York last Tuesday instead of the previous Saturday as advertised. She has on board 15 passengers, 607 packages and 24 bags of mail for this island. Mails close for the Leeward and Windward Islands, Barbados and Trinidad at 4 o'clock p. m. today.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

New York, Oct. 31st.—The Earl of Birkenhead, sailing home yesterday on the *Mauretania* after a lecture tour of Canada and the United States, voiced disapproval of the conference of financial experts of reparations, proposed by Secretary of State Hughes. "Poincare will not admit of fixing any amount of reparations by a committee of experts," declared Lord Birkenhead, "insisting upon the figures as provided by the existing Reparation Commission. He would turn the conference of experts into a debt collecting agency, without taking into account at all Germany's capacity to pay. I see little value at all in the conference, and think that the whole proposition would be to make inadequate the services of the United States experts. France, nor anyone else, has ever given a definite figure as to what Germany can pay." Lord Birkenhead expressed great regret at the death of Mr. Bonar Law. "He was one of the most remarkable parliamentary debaters I have ever known," he said, "a clear and lucid speaker, a man of amiable character and for many years a dear friend."

Scranton, Pa., Oct. 31st.—"The English speaking peoples of this earth can save civilization from doom," Mr. David Lloyd George declared in an address here today before a great audience in the State Armory. "Do you think I am using violent words," he asked, "if you do, go to Europe to see Europe, see conditions, the fear of some impending terror, and if the blow falls it will be such a war as humanity has never conceived." "The people of the United States and Great Britain in acting together to insure

order in the world," he asserted, "need enter into no formal agreement to that end, not by alliances, but by understanding," he said, "not by contracts, but by cooperation. I am opposed to entangling alliances as any man in this republic, or in our realm. The two peoples standing together to bring order out of chaos, that will achieve the end. Mankind will be saved and peace shall reign forever and forever."

Paris, Oct. 31st.—The British Government, through its Ambassador, the Marquis of Crewe, has sent two communications to the Foreign Office, which was received there as in complete accord with the conciliatory spirit shown by France in recent intercourse between the two countries. The first note drew the Foreign Office's attention to the judicial consequences which might be attended by the separation of Germany from certain provinces, in that such provinces were not signatories of the Treaty of Versailles and so would not directly have assumed obligations laid upon the Reich by this treaty. It has been reported that the note contained various statements, including criticism of certain measures taken by the French and Belgians in the zones of occupation, but it can be said that the note is limited to the above declaration, based on the Treaty of Versailles. An identical communication was made to the Belgian Government. The second note contained a proposal to the Govt. to send a joint British, French, Italian and Belgian invitation to the United States to be represented on the committee of experts, which will be charged with the task of making an economic investigation into Germany's capacity for the payment of reparations and the means Germany possesses to fulfill her obligations. The joint investigation will express thanks to the United States for its collaboration and beg the Government to appoint delegates through its observer on the Reparations Commission. Thus it can be seen that the British note neither raises objections nor asks the Government to specify its intentions, as has been reported from London. M. Poincare did not have time today to draft replies, but, as apparently not the slightest differences exists between the Government on the questions treated therein, there is no doubt as to the nature of the replies. With respect to the Separatists movement, the Government's view is that no responsibility can be placed on it, or the Belgian Government, as both have adhered to the principle of letting the populations concerned act according to their own will. The Government is highly pleased at the participation of a delegate from the United States on the experts commission, but a semi-official statement issued tonight, says it will probably demand certain modifications, notably, that the proposed investigation will have to do with Germany's capacity for pay-

ment, not in a general way, but on her capacity at the present moment.

London, Oct. 31st.—The rum running issue between the United States and British Govts. which the United States Ambassador in his conference with British officials repeatedly characterised as a dangerous menace to the existing good relations of the two countries, has been practically settled. On the occasion of his formal farewell visit to the Foreign Office the retiring Envoy and the Foreign Secretary gave a final consideration to the terms of a draft treaty which, it is believed, will clear up the whole question. The treaty is understood to meet the United States desire for the right to search suspected rum running vessels beyond the three mile limit, but at the same time the United States gives to Great Britain formal affirmation of the three mile limit as governing British maritime rights generally. It would also allow British ships to carry liquors into United States territorial waters under seal, thus enabling liners under the Union Jack to maintain a bar to and after departing from United States ports. From the British side it only remains for the Imperial Conference of Premiers to place its approval on a document embracing the points of agreement. It was expected this would be done today, but as the document had not been completed it was postponed until Friday, after which the draft will go to the United States for ratification by the United States Senate. At the request of the British, the rights of the United States authorities to detain British vessels suspected in rum running, will not be confined strictly to twelve miles from shore, or any other arbitrary limit, but will probably embrace the distance covered by the broad term, "an hour's sailing distance from the United States shore, which is reckoned rightly from ten to fifteen miles. Thus a "twelve mile limit" will not be mentioned in the treaty and the Foreign Office cannot be charged with surrendering its traditional principle regarding the limitation of territorial waters. In this connection the British attach much more importance to formal recognition of the three-mile limit in questions of general maritime rights, as being likely to be invaluable to them. Only recently Soviet Russia agitated for the establishment of a twelve mile limit for all maritime purposes, but with the United States Government supporting the British stand it is expected that the principle will remain as established in international law. Mr. Harvey's farewell conference with Lord Curzon also disposed of the only other unsettled question which has arisen since his arrival, that of the Newcastle Consulate. It is believed that an equitable settlement is possible and that the consulate, which was closed on February 20th last, will be reopened within a fortnight. The consulate officials involv-