

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., MONDAY 16TH AUGUST 1920.

No. 188.

THE ST. CROIX AVIS

is printed and published daily (Sundays and Holidays excepted) by G. Johansen at the Avis Office.

TERMS--50 cents monthly in advance.
2 cents per single copy.

Entered as second-class matter May 26th 1917 at the Post Office at Christiansted, St. Croix, V. I. of the U. S. A., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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CRIME WAVE IN U. S. LAID TO 'DRY' LAWS.

The Association Opposed to National Prohibition, in a statement issued last night, charges that on account of national prohibition there has been a startling increase in crime and lawlessness all over the United States, together with a widespread inability or unwillingness to enforce the law.

"Prohibition," says the association, "is breeding a dangerous contempt for the law in every state, and is yielding a ghastly harvest of crime and disease, while the 'bootlegger' has within the last six months developed the status of a national institution."

"Investigations reveal that the drinkers of six months ago are the drinkers of today. The big difference is that they are now not only drinkers but lawbreakers as well. Unable to obtain liquor of the usual standards, they are now drinking moonshine whisky, various wood alcohol mixtures with their menace of almost instant blindness, hair tonics, liniments, patent medicines and everything that holds the percentage of alcohol necessary for the 'kick'."

"The number of drug addicts has alarmingly increased."

"In Michigan the increase in crime has made itself manifest in over-crowded conditions in the jails. In Detroit the authorities state that the prisons are inadequate, and that there are more criminals in the state than all of the prisons in the Northern states could hold. The House of Correction in Detroit has become so inadequate that it has been necessary to build an annex to it. A few days ago 248 prisoners were arraigned before a Detroit judge.

Results In Illinois.

"Prohibition has worked no better in Illinois. Discussing exact statistics of crime the Chicago police state that since July 1, when war-time prohibition went into effect, crime has increased 46 per cent over the same period last year. In a recent month of 1919 there was 58 per cent more crime than in the same month of 1918. During the first month of war-time prohibition crime increased 100 per cent over the same month of the previous year.

"Kansas, since war time prohibition went into effect, has held a doubtful honor, that of having the largest number of drug addicts in proportion to population of any state in the Union according to United States Senator France of Maryland.

"Staid New England has fared little better than the other states of the Union. Reports from the police of the principal cities of Connecticut state that drunkenness has vastly increased with the coming of prohibition. This drunkenness is not due, according to the police, to the use of whiskey, but of such dangerous liquids as wood alcohol, cologne, horse liniment and Jamaica ginger.

Bootlegging Is General.

"Revenue officers report that there are at the lowest estimate two thousand illicit distilleries in Oklahoma. Some of them manufacture 'Choctaw beer' based on an old Indian drink, where there is in addition a dozen similar drinks, some of which have caused death.

"In West Virginia within a month, revenue officers found thirty stills. Some \$15,000 worth of whiskey was found buried in a garden.

"In Alabama near Mobile, one of the largest raids of the South was recently conducted by revenue men. Over 1,500 gallons of beer and 2,000 gallons of whiskey and two stills of 240 gallons capacity were seized. Two stills, one warm from the operating, were found in the basement of the new postoffice building in Birmingham, now under construction.

"In Tennessee, Federal officers are finding that moonshiners and bootleggers are infesting the Mississippi River, operating from boats. The officers are using armoured cars with which to patrol the river.

Prices Still Soaring.

"In Georgia the prices obtained for illicit liquor are so large that many stills are operating in that state, and daily raids are reported. Near Atlanta re-

cently six stills of large capacity, 7,000 lbs. of sugar, 1,600 gallons of beer and 200 gallons of whiskey were seized. In this raid twelve moonshiners were captured, while one was killed.

"In New York five agents of the Department of Justice were indicted on a charge of permitting liquor to be sold while it was charged that a ring has collected \$500,000 for permitting violations of the law. One man arrested was a volunteer Federal agent who had asserted that he was a person of wealth interested in the enforcement of prohibition.

"Raids are common in cities. Four stills were recently discovered in Gary, Ind., and another in Boston with a capacity of 600 gallons a day. In Dayton, Ohio, authorities discovered, in raiding a still, a cache of many rifles, revolvers, army cartridge belts and 200 rounds of ammunition.

"Government reports on the subject state that since the going into effect of war-time prohibition more than 25,000 illicit stills have been put into successful operation over the country, some of which had daily capacities as high as 500 gallons.

In Virginia the outrages upon property, persons, common decency, and even life itself, perpetrated in the name of prohibition bred a scandal which echoed thru the whole country. The Anti-Saloon League, in control of the enforcement machine, distributed the well paid jobs, like so many meal tickets, among its zealous agents. —New York Tribune, Sunday Nov. 23rd.

NOTICE.

It is hereby made known that the Colonial Council's Ordinary Meeting which was fixed for Monday, August 16, has, by consent of Government, been postponed to MONDAY AUGUST 23RD, at one o'clock p. m.

Colonial Council Office, St. Croix, August 12, 1920.

F. COULTER,
Vice-Chairman.

For good appetite and
good digestion use
Dr. Ross' Life Pills.

Readers, No. 29-17.