

we must reduce expenses. Shall it be in the government office, or in the department of education or in the judiciary, or in the sanitary department, or perhaps the police are overpaid; will attention to any of these help us out? No, we would simply be "cutting off the nose to spite the face" to use slang. Then it must be that we are financially unprepared for civil government, and should live within our means.

LOCAL

The s. s. "Guiana" on her way to New York is due at Frederiksted at noon on Saturday.

The sloop Mizpah sailed for St. Thomas yesterday with mails.

The show at St. Mary's Hall last night was a very fine one and deserved a larger attendance. Rainy weather and the influenza were probably responsible for the absence of many patrons of the hall.

Mr. Plaskett will hold his lectures on spiritualism in the Union Hall from tonight.

We beg to remind our readers that the very fine entertainment given by the Amateur Club of this town in St. John's School House last Wednesday night will be repeated this evening for the benefit of St. John's Church.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, April 7th.—Thomas Newman yesterday established what is claimed to be a world's record, in the semi-finals the professional billiard championship of England, by scoring three successive breaks of 542, 705, 850. The break of 850 is described as the highest ever scored in a championship match, the previous best being 785 made by William Smith against C. Falkner in 1920.

New York, April 7th.—The sugar market was firm and unchanged at 5 11/16 c. for Cuba's, cost and freight, equal to 7.47 for centrifugal and Porto Rico's at the same level. There were sales of 22,000 bags of Cuba's and 500 bags of Porto Rico's raw sugar. Futures opened steadier on covering and trade buying, and after selling one to two points net higher, prices eased off under scattered liquidations for over the week end. Final prices were unchanged to two points lower on active positions. Closing, May \$5.76, July \$5.97, September \$6.11. The market for refined was firmer and unchanged to ten points higher, with fine granulated listed now at 9.10 to 9.25, with a continual good inquiry reported. Business in refined futures consisted of two lots June delivery at \$9.30. The market closed not nnnchanged.

London, April 8th.—Troublesome days are in prospect for Mr. Bonar Law's "tranquility" Govt on the eve of the reopening of Parliament, which will re-assemble tomorrow. This session will not be concluded until August, with a brief rest at Whitsuntide. Even supporters of the Govt. do not deny that the Cabinet, with the delicate Ruhr situation hanging like the sword of Damocles over their heads and faced at home with budget difficulties and awkward housing and agriculture problems, are in uncomfortable seats. Thus far the Govt. has averaged a majority of 96 in the voting. To this result the National Liberals contributed substantially, giving perhaps twice as much support to the Cabinet as did the opposition Labour. The Liberal Union still hangs fire. Mr. Asquith's last move in rejecting the idea of a consultative committee, which should evolve a common line of action for the two Liberal groups in the House of Commons, and in refusing to appear upon the same platform with Mr. Lloyd George at Leeds, has disappointed the friends of the hoped-for combination. It is restrained by "domestic influences" and by a little knot of politicians who control the party organization, but there is also distrust, and it is feared that if Mr. Lloyd George became one of the leaders of the party, he would range the new party with the progressive Unionists and there would be another coalition. The philosophic members of both groups are content to await developments, convinced that reunion will come naturally when an issue arises which genuinely divided all the Liberals from the supporters of Mr. Bonar Law. While all these movements are proceeding behind the scenes, the Labour Party has made a brave show in the House of Commons, and according to observers, has justified its title as the official opposition. Some sections of the Labour Members are inclined to be noisy, but on the whole the members have shown considerable parliamentary skill and have adopted themselves to novel suggestions under the shrewd guidance of Mr. J. Ramsay MacDonald. Mr. MacDonald has difficulties, as his party is not homogeneous, but by strength he has kept his followers together and his authority has not been seriously challenged. At the reopening of Parliament the deepest interest is manifested throughout the country in the future stand of the Liberals and Mr. Chamberlain's section of the Conservative party. The first knotty problem to be faced by the Govt. is in connection with the agricultural situation, which, since the adjournment of Parliament, has been greatly aggravated by strikes of farm labourers over wages. The initial debate on the subject, it is expected, will take place on Wednesday when the strong agricultural section headed by Colonel Pretymann will demand a specific statement from the Govt. as a

mark as to what it intends to do for the betterment of the situation. This section is prepared to demand that the Govt. enact into law the recommendations just published of Mr. Bonar Law's agricultural tribunal. This at present is an unpleasant situation since the tribunal's recommendations are distinctly protection and while they are said to coincide with the ideas of the majority of the Conservative party, yet it is admitted that the passage of protection laws at this stage would arouse a tremendous outcry and increase the Govt's opposition from Labour and Liberals.

Kingston, Jca., April 9th.—The western commercial section of Port Antonio was swept by a great fire on Saturday morning, wiping out numerous small wholesale business and houses of the two room and shack variety. The fire started in a bakery, through a man going to extract gasoline from a drum. Loss estimated at seventy thousand pounds.

San Juan, P. R., April 9th.—Secretary Denby, who sailed from here Saturday night, was extensively entertained together with Governor Towner. On Friday, after the inauguration ceremonies there was a luncheon at the Palace Hotel and afterwards an informal reception at the Governor's palace. In the evening a dinner at the Condado Hotel and a ball at the Porto Rico Casino in honour of the Governor and Secretary Denby. On Saturday a tour of the island was made, stopping for lunch at Mr. Giorgetti's country house in Barranquitas, where two hundred covers were laid. In the evening there was a big ball at the Union Club.

Constantinople, April 8th.—The reply of the Turkish Govt. to the invitation of the Allies for Turkey to attend the session of the Near East peace conference to be resumed shortly at Lausanne, reached Constantinople today from Angora and will immediately be conveyed to the representative of the Allies here. The note declares the Turkish counter-proposals contain no substantial modification of the territorial and other clauses of the draft treaty which the powers cannot equitably accept. It suggests certain reservations on economic and financial questions and on the capitulations clauses of the treaty generally. However, the note is couched in a friendly spirit and reciprocates the desire of the Allied powers for the success of the Lausanne conference.

Boston, April 8th.—Jay Gould, playing for the Philadelphia Racquet Club, yesterday won the National court tennis championship for the sixteenth consecutive year. He defeated C. Suydam Cutting, of New York, on the courts of the Boston Tennis and Racquet Club 6-2, 6-5, 6-2.