

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, 28TH JANUARY 1920.

No. 22.

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 25th 1917 at the Post Office at Christiansted, St. Croix, V. I. of the U. S. A., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Contribution to this paper will be gladly received when the same deals with matters of general interest, and is accompanied with the author's name, as a guarantee of good faith. The editor cannot be responsible for the views of his correspondents nor does he necessarily endorse them.

SHIPPING BOARD IS TO RECONSIDER PORTO RICO.

Reports from Washington brought by Commissioner Robert H. Todd and received in letters by Edward Ferrer, president of the Insular Chamber of Commerce, indicate that there is still a strong possibility that shipping facilities to and from the island will be improved, by government ships if not by those under private operation.

The United States Shipping Board at the direction of Chairman Payne, is to reopen the case of Porto Rico and regardless of any previous decision, is to reconsider the needs of the Island anew. This was the program announced in Washington while Commissioner Todd was there attending the meeting of the Republican National Committee.

REFUSED AID PREVIOUSLY.

This change in the plans of the Shipping Board was reached after Resident Commissioner Cordova Davila and Congressman H. M. Towner, chairman of the House Committee on Insular Affairs had conferred with Chairman Payne, and also after the return to Washington of Secretary of War Baker following his visit to San Juan.

Previously the Shipping Board had decided not to place additional ships in the Porto Rico service and had also decided not to make San Juan a port of call for Shipping Board vessels engaged in the South American trade.

While he was here the Secretary of War showed a great deal of interest in the island's shipping needs and at the dinner tendered him at the Hotel Condado Vanderbilt most of his remarks were devoted to recounting the island's

needs for improved ocean transportation and the improvement of San Juan harbor. What he said was taken as an indication that he had given the problem considerable study and those who heard him speak were of the opinion that if he were not really interested in helping provide better shipping facilities that he could very well have talked about something else and not committed himself on a subject considered of such vital importance.

PANAMA SHIPS HERE?

One suggestion which the Secretary of War suggested as possible, and one which he had considered favorably, was the establishment of a triangular service between New York, Porto Rico and Panama.

At the time he referred to this possibility he suggested that it was a matter still to be held in confidence, but since that time the possibility of such a service has been considerably discussed.

Secretary Baker said that he had prepared a memorandum for President Wilson on the establishment of such a service and that the President had returned the memorandum to him with a most favorable endorsement. The Secretary did not indicate, however, that the service was to be started, but that it was a possibility under serious consideration. It is also known that on his return to Washington Secretary Baker took up with the Shipping Board the shipping needs of Porto Rico.

Before leaving San Juan, Edward Ferrer furnished the Secretary of War with a memorandum setting forth the shipping needs of the island and also calling attention to the port facilities which San Juan offered to shipping. In this connection the memorandum sets forth that San Juan offers "more advantages to steamers than any other island in the West Indies." Provision and supplies may be obtained here at lower prices than in the other islands. There are two large and well equipped machine shops here for quick repair work; that there is communication with Venezuela and Curacao weekly; with France, Spain, Mexico, and Panama Canal monthly; with New York twice a week, Santo Domingo weekly, with Cuba bimonthly and Haiti monthly. —Porto Rico Progress.

LOST between Christiansted and Est. La Gr. Princesse A CARRIAGE RUG AND WHIP. Finder will be rewarded on leaving here at this office.

Publication.

IT is hereby brought to public notice that the Government has, this date, authorized REV. MARTIN F. MULLIGAN to perform civil-religious functions in the Municipality of St. Croix.

Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States, St. Croix, January 13, 1920.

C. C. TIMMONS,
Government Secretary.

Publication.

LIEUTENANT O'Hagan, U. S. Navy, at his own request has been relieved of his duties as Despatching Secretary of St. Croix.

COMMANDER COLBY, Financial Adviser to the Governor, in addition to his other duties, has been detailed as Acting Despatching Secretary of St. Croix.

FOR RENT.

The Dwelling House At Estate Northside completely furnished—situated near the sea. Fine surrounding scenery, and a short distance from town.

For particulars apply to

C. E. HAGEMANN.

Frederiksted, St. Croix, V. I., January 15th 1920.

NORTHERN Assurance Company Limited

OF LONDON
GEO. L MARKOE

Agent for Frederiksted's District
M. K. ARMSTRONG.

Agent for Christiansted's District
Policies are not subject to average.