

including that of Lord Derby, are being mentioned in connection with the Colonial Secretaryship, it being generally agreed that Lord Milner's successor must be a statesman of first rank.

London, Jan. 12th.—Sir T. H. Grat-tan Esmonde, ex-M. P. for North Wex-ford, Ireland, has been refused permis-sion to land at Sydney from the S. S. "Makura" from New York, says a des-patch to the "Times" from Melbourne. It is alleged that he is a Sinn Fein emis-sary.

Ottawa, Jan. 12th. Canada has con-cluded a new trade agreement with France. The agreement provides: [1] For the minimum tariff of Canada to be given in exchange for the minimum French tariff on nearly the whole list of articles included in the convention of 1907-9, with a considerably extended list of articles, not included in that conven-tion. [2] For a fixed percentage on certain other articles some of which were included in the preceding convention at minimum rates and others not included in that convention.

TOBACCO CONCERN SOLVES PRO-BLEM IN VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Scarcity of labor in Hartford has re-cently prompted J. Rosenberg & Co., leaf tobacconist of No. 35 Canton street, to solve the problem of having their product prepared for the market in the novel way of shipping it to the Virgin Islands, where a plant was opened, and after the process of stripping it, return-ing it to the markets of the United States.

These islands are approximately 1,300 miles to the south of the United States, lying to the east of Porto Rico. Mr. Rosenberg, who is an extremely clever man, went down there, bought a build-ing, formerly an old government plant of the Danish government and had his cased tobacco sent down by boat, and stripped it.

The process of stripping is to remove the mid vein of the leaf. The tobacco that J. Rosenberg & Co. was unable to handle because of lack of labor here was what is termed fillers. Bought in Con-necticut, this stripping has in the past been done here, in various plants for the purpose. These fillers are the short to-bacco that is sorted out on the table when the wrapper crop is sorted over. They constitute the body of the cigar. Covered with a blinder apt to be broad leaf in the better cigar or that grade of Havana seed that is unfit for wrappers as being too dark and without sufficient quality for wrappers,) the wrapper is put on and the complete cigar as it is used by the smoker is assumed. But before the filler tobacco can be utilized in cigars, the mid stem has to be re-moved. And it was because of inability to secure this character of labor that Mr.

Rosenberg made his jump to the Virgin Islands.

The stripping is done largely by wo-men. Their labor is cheap, and the work can be done much more cheaply than would be the case in the United States. At the present time Mr. Rosen-berg says that he has 500 hands. Asked if he expected to have more, he said that it all depended upon conditions, he might have 1000 after the first of the year.

He admitted that as far as making much money on voyaging his tobacco to St. Thomas and back, he was not so much ahead. The freights are very high, and the extra handling necessitat-ed by the voyage, adds costs that make tobacco stripped in the Virgin Islands come to about the same production cost that it would handled right here in Hart-ford. But when J. Rosenberg & Com-pany had its fillers, it could not get suit-able help here. It was a question of having the work done and from the standpoint of attaining the result that he wished, the possession of stripped fillers, he accomplished his purpose.

It was a pioneer move. There may have been some who thought it was a long way to transport the tobacco, take it into the plant, handle it, case it and then return it to the State. But un-stripped, Mr. Rosenberg could not sell his fillers to such good advantage. So he seized the most likely horn of his dilemma and sought the abundant labor of Uncle Sam's newest possession. He went down personally last July and spent most of the summer there, a summer by the way which he reports delightful.

At the St. Thomas plant has been lo-cated a government man, who sees that the United States governmental regula-tions are correctly followed. The St. Thomas business is under the personal supervision of Mr. Rosenberg, who is now in this country and who left George Moorehead, termed the "King" among the local residents of St. Thomas to handle the help who work at the strip-ping plant. The bookkeeping of the St. Thomas plant is done in New York, the house of J. Rosenberg having offices in Hartford, New York and St. Thomas. Among the local leaf tobacco men Mr. Rosenberg is considered to have had a very extensive experience in the toba-co business. He has traveled much to places where the tobacco industry flour-ishes.

All of the Virgin Island employees are negroes, native to the island. They speak Danish as the islands were under the rule of Denmark for years before they were purchased by the United States in 1916. The island of St. Thomas and its neighboring island, St. Croix, or Santa Cruz as it was called long ago, were once owned by Spain. The J. Rosenberg & Co's. warehouse is located upon the wa-ter front and has its own private docks. The building, like so many similar struc-tures in the American tropics, is of white

stone and one story high, specifications which are best suited to the climate.

The Virgin Islands were bought by this government because of their strategic value in case of war; they are an impor-tant link in the chain of islands that com-mand the entrance to the Panama Canal that lies about 800 miles to the south-west.—The Hartford Daily Courant, Dec. 3, 1920.

Publication.

IT is hereby made known that the Horse, Carriage and Ecst Tax for the first half year 1921 will be received by the Policemasters in Christiansted and Frederiksted from the 20th January to the 10th of February 1921, both days in-cluded, after which the list of arrears will be transmitted to the same authori-ties for further measures.

Each debtor of tax will be subject to a fine Frcs. 1.00 if the tax be under Frcs. 25.00 and Frcs. 2.00 if the tax be Frcs. 25.00 or above, beside the ordinary levy expenses.

Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States of America, St. Croix, December 30, 1920.

For the Governor.

C. W. FOX,

Despatching Secretary.

Publication

FROM THE POLICE.

IN accordance with the Ordinance of 14th November 1908 § 3 all owners of firearms in Christiansted's Jurisdiction are hereby notified that a new sign must be taken out for 1921 before the 15th of February a. c.

Christiansted Police Office, St. Croix, the 29th December 1920.

F. COUTIER

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IF YOU ARE A SUFFERER—Go to your Local Druggist and order 'CON-CENTRATED SOURDAL,' price 46/- per tin. This New remedy gives almost immediate relief, and quickly effects a permanent cure. It penetrates to the actual seat of the complaint, and has completely cured many cases which were considered hopeless. If your Chemist does not yet stock 'SOURDAL,' do not accept any substitute, but send money-order for a supply direct to the 'SOUR-DAL' DISTRIBUTING CO., 38 STA-TION ROAD, CROYDON, SURREY, ENG., and a package will be mailed per return with full directions.