

Anton E. Jensen, pastor of St. Mark's English Lutheran church, at the regular weekly luncheon meeting of the Lions' club in the Palip room of the Hotel Leopold. Rev. Jensen's topic was "The Virgin Islands" where he spent nearly a year in church work.

Describing the island group, consisting of more than fifty islands, only three of which are habitable, Rev. Jensen also told something of the history of the islands, leading up to their purchase recently by the United States from Denmark. He told of the great improvements expected by the people there when Uncle Sam took hold, and of their great disappointment when these improvements were not made.

Summing up the needs of the people on the Virgin Islands, Rev. Jensen declared that the greatest need is water and that as they are practically entirely dependent upon rain, which falls only occasionally, but then very heavily reservoirs should be constructed. Lack of water for irrigation purposes, he said, caused failure of the sugar cane crop and brought about distressing conditions. The eighteenth amendment also was a severe blow to the Virgin Islands, he asserted, putting a stop to the manufacture of rum, and seriously affecting the manufacture of bay rum.

Valuable as War Base.

Speaking of the alleged exorbitant price paid by the United States for the islands, Rev. Jensen said they are worth their cost price, being almost invaluable as a base in the event of war. He described the harbor of St. Thomas as one of the best in the world.—*The Bellingham Herald, Washington, Jan. 4th.*

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Geneva, Jan. 25th.—The expectation is that Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, formerly Lord Robert Cecil, no longer will represent Great Britain on the Council of the League of Nations. As he was the recognized leader of the League Council, his absence from participation hereafter, will be a great loss. The question of British representation on the Council is regarded as most important and Sir Eric Drummond, Secretary General of the League of Nations, is leaving for London to consult with Mr. MacDonald.

London, Jan. 25th.—An agency despatch from Constantinople reports the discovery of an extensive Japanese-Russian Communist plot. Many arrests are said to have been made.

Paris, Jan. 25th.—The treaty between France and Checho-Slovakia was signed at the Foreign Office today by M. Poincare and Dr. Edouard Benes, the Checho-Slovakian Foreign Minister.

Hobart, Tasmania, Jan. 25th.—The Tasmanian Assembly yesterday decided by 14 votes to 12 against the appoint-

ment of any one from outside Tasmania to fill the office of Governor.

Munich, Jan. 25th.—Ex-Grand Duchess Marie of Luxemburg is dead at Hohenburg is dead at Hohenburg Castle at Lenggries, Bavaria.

Washington, Jan. 25th.—Governor Pinchot's bill proposing drastic federal regulation of the anthracite coal industry was introduced yesterday by Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho and referred to the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Chamonix, France, Jan. 25th.—The winter sports of the eighth Olympic games were officially opened today with the customary Olympic ceremonies, presided over by M. Gaston Vidal Under-Secretary of State for Physical Education. M. Vidal received the cats of amateurism by the athletes entered for the competition. The teams of all the nations represented, bearing their national flags and emblems, then paraded from the City Hall to the skating ring where the actual competitions will be begun tomorrow. The worry over the weather, the mildness of which had threatened to prevent the starting of the games on Saturday was dissipated today. Clear and cold conditions set in during the night and this morning was freezing hard.

London, Jan. 25th.—Viscount Grey of Fallowton in a speech in the financial heart of London, declared that Europe was going quite certainly in the direction of a future war and drifting back into the old race for armaments and he appealed for the admission of Germany into the League of Nations as a means for procuring for France the security she so much desires. "Security is what people want if peace is to be maintained". The lesson of the past is, that they do not make themselves secure by building great armaments. France is trying now to get security by relying on her armaments and arming other nations which she hopes will stand by her relying on a policy of separate action, which is an old policy and which has always failed. The best I can see is that Germany should be got to sign the Covenant of the League, as well as France and ourselves. Then this country might agree that if France and Germany broke the Covenant, we would do nothing for either of them, but that if one broke the Covenant and the other stood by it, we would take action not for the sake of supporting one country against another, but for the sake of supporting the covenant and the country which stood by the Covenant. "In that way you will get security which will be equal to every nation signing the Covenant. That is the only way you can get a real security. So far as I am concerned I would say arm our navy and our air force and let their first use be to protect ourselves if aggressively attacked. But if used for any other purpose I would like to see them used to uphold the Covenant and for no other purpose.

London, Jan. 25th.—Mr. Daniel Irving member of Parliament and the veterans of the British Socialist Party, died suddenly of heart disease tonight. Mr. Irving was born in Birmingham in 1844. He was Secretary to the Burnley Socialist Society for about twentyfive years. He was first selected for the Burnley seat in Parliament in 1918 and was re-elected as a Labourite in the recent general election.

New York, Jan. 25th.—Captain Samuel Robinson, hero of the Japan earthquake disaster, arrived here today on board the Empress of Canada under his command. While here he will be decorated with the title of G. B. E. by Mr. Armstrong, British Consul General. Captain Robinson is to receive the honour in recognition of his courageous behavior while in command of the Empress of Australia in the harbour of Tokohama during the earthquake. He was instrumental in the rescue of approximately three thousand persons. The Empress of Canada, on a world cruise, came here from Vancouver via the Panama Canal.

Mayence, Jan. 26th.—The Separatist ex-Councillor Schlicht was assassinated yesterday on the road from Berlin, near Adenau, to Niedermendig, by two men. Eight shots were fired into his body.

London, Jan. 25th.—Secret Diplomacy will have no place in the dealings of Great Britain's Premier with foreign countries. Mr. MacDonald intends that the public shall be informed of foreign negotiations whenever the circumstances warrant. He also has decided that the discussions with the Cabinet shall not be kept drumtight, as it is claimed in some quarters was the case in the Baldwin-Cirzon administration, but that the newspapers shall be given a communique after each session, summarizing the subjects discussed or decisions taken. In conversation with the newspapermen today Mr. MacDonald said he always would be glad to receive them when public interest demanded, or time permitted. The Premier's policy of acquainting the House with what the Government was doing was apparent today at the Press Bureau of the Foreign Office, where it was indicated that Mr. MacDonald might arrange to receive the newspapermen periodically. In this respect for Mr. MacDonald would revive the wartime practice of Mr. Lloyd George. In order to get better acquainted with the foreign representatives accredited to Great Britain, Mr. MacDonald this afternoon held an official reception at the Foreign Office for the Diplomatic Corps. Most of the Ambassadors never had met the new Premier. They were presented to him in Lord Cirzon's old office by Under-Secretary Sir Eyre Crowe. Mr. MacDonald chatted in friendly fashion with the Diplomats, but did not touch upon the subject of official questions pending with foreign countries.