

Publication.

IT is hereby brought to public notice that the Government has this date authorized Reverend ALFRED P. BANKS, to perform civil-religious functions in the Virgin Islands of the United States.

GOVERNMENT OF THE
VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
ST. THOMAS.
11 December 1922.

J. J. GAFFNEY
Government Secretary.

NOTICE.

THIS is a reminder to all roadholders that the annual inspection of the Public roads will take place in the month of January 1923.

The repairs should be completed before the 31st Dec. 1922, when all bridges, side-walls, etc. shall be whitewashed. Special attention should be paid to the "Quarter Jobs" coupled within the past year, and when necessary, re-whitewashed. Up to the present, with the exception of the weeding of the roads, very little has been done, and it is imperative that all holes in the roads, especially the Center line, should be immediately filled: much harm has been done by the late showers and neglect of attention to this special work.

EDGAR W. MEYER,
Chairman Road Commission.

LOCAL.

Dr. E. G. Goodbody is expected to arrive in St. Croix on Monday 18th inst. and will be assigned to duty on the medical staff at Frederiksted. Dr. Goodbody is a graduate of Fordham University, and served as Chief resident physician at the New York Maternity Hospital before entering the Navy Medical Service. Following his appointment in the Navy he served on the Medical Staff of the hospital at Annapolis, Md.

Dr. C. V. Van Gaasbeek who has already earned a favorable reputation here as Municipal Physician in Christiansted has been selected by the Medical Aide, Capt. H. O. Shiffert, because of his skill and experience to take charge of the wards of the Frederiksted hospital, and will assume duty in the other town from today. Dr. Van Gaasbeek served under Capt. Shiffert at New York Hospital. Prior to his assignment to St. Croix he served on the surgical staff of the Naval Hospital, New York.

The S. S. "Paria" from New York was due at St. Thomas at 6 o'clock this morning and is looked for at Frederiksted 5 p. m. today.

The S. S. "Marina" is due on schedule time today.

$\frac{3}{4}$ of a line of rain was measured this morning.

Having concluded the sale of the St. Croix Sukkerfabrik Concern and wound up affairs in connection therewith Messrs. Emile Petersen and C. J. G. Sørensen, directors from the home office are returning to Denmark tomorrow. Both of these gentlemen had resided here previously as directors respectively of the St. Croix Sukkerfabrik and La Grange Concern and obviously they were the fittest representatives to be sent out on the present occasion. We trust that apart from business their stay has been a pleasant one and wish "bon voyage".

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION

Jamaica, Dec. 13th.—His Excellency the Governor informed the Legislative Council yesterday that he had received the following telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in reply to the one he sent on 28th November: "December 6th. With reference to your telegram of November 28th please inform Legislative Council that I have had under consideration their resolution of that date and that as regard head D. claim, which is alleged to be usual, this was carefully investigated by the former Secretary of State in consultation with his technical advisers and after revision considered to be fair and reasonable, in accordance with precedent, and economical to Colony; circumstances were fully explained in my predecessor's despatch No. 35, January 28th, Nos. 234, June 9th, and 402 Sept. 29th, which I understand have already been laid before Legislative Council. I concur in the views of my predecessor embodied in those despatches and I desire to add that I have a higher opinion of the officer concerned, Major Thomas, who has, I note, been warmly commended by the Railway Commission. As regards heads A, B, and C, I observe that the representations of the Legislative Council are of a general character. It is not clear whether they are based mainly on financial considerations or whether the Council regard the political and constitutional questions involved as of greater importance. In any case it will not be possible for me to come to a decision until they have been formulated in detail". No discussion took place, but the "Gleaner" predicts that the elected members will deal with the question of confidence later on knowing that they have a case to present which will secure the endorsement of all Jamaica.

Dublin, Dec. 12th.—The King's message to Governor General Healy, which was read in the Free State Parliament today, after formally announcing the

enactment of the constitution of the Free State says: "It is my earnest hope that by faithful observance by all sides of the pact, peace and prosperity in Ireland may be secured. In the spirit of that settlement, I have chosen you to be the first representative of the Crown in the Irish Free State. With all my heart I pray that the blessing of God may rest upon you and the Ministers of the Irish Free State in the difficult task committed to your charge." Governor General Healy's reply to the message from the King, was as follows: "I have the honour to acknowledge the gracious message by which your Majesty has inaugurated the self-governing dominion of the Irish Free State. The terms of the message will touch all hearts, while the thought which inspired it must everywhere evoke the admiration of men. May I too, humbly join your Majesty in beseeching the Almighty that the reign of freedom, now established in Ireland, will bring early peace and assured prosperity, as well as a lasting reconciliation between the British and Irish nations."

Havana, Dec. 12th.—One hundred workmen were killed or injured today in a boiler explosion which wrecked the Estrella sugar mill near Camaguey. This morning sixteen bodies had been recovered up to 7 o'clock this evening and forty injured persons were being cared for in Camaguey. Most of the victims are Spaniards.

Belfast, Dec. 12th.—The Duke of Abercorn, appointed Governor of Northern Ireland, by the King was sworn in today. The ceremony took place in the court house in the presence of the Premier and the other members of the Ulster Cabinet, the local members of the Privy Council and the judges of Northern Ireland. The oath was administered by Sir Denis Henry, the Lord Chief Justice.

Washington, Dec. 12th.—The appropriation of \$9,000,000 carried in the treasury supplementary bill, for the enforcement of prohibition during the next fiscal year, was declared by Senator Brissard, Democrat, Louisiana, in a speech in the United States Senate today, to be inadequate to make the dry laws effective even among Government officials and among those who forced the eighteenth amendment and Volstead law upon the U. S.

London, Dec. 12th.—Mr. Bonar Law informed the House of Commons today, with regard to the discussion of the Allied debt question in the Premier's conference, that he had told the conference that if Great Britain saw some chance of a complete settlement with a prospect of finality, she was willing to run a certain risk in the end of not receiving as much from the Allies and Germany as she might have to pay the United States. The Premier said that in view of the fact that the conference would be resumed, he would decline to discuss what had occurred there as a whole.

London, Dec. 12th.—Cambridge defeat.