

disinclined to sell to people who will not pay him; he has the right to refuse altogether to sell under such circumstances. But even this technicality will not cover or alter the case as presented by us for the fact remains that when the butcher asks for the worst bull, or ox, or cow, taking it for granted that the butchers do buy only the worst stock, then he is required to pay almost the same price per pound as the Porto Rico agent pays for the finest veal. This is at any rate how we understand it. If this is incorrect we shall be exceedingly pleased to have planters or other interested dealers present the way they know it. If the butchers are not buying cattle for local consumption, by weight, then they ought to do so, and in that way take advantage of that system which is the most equitable and will prove the most satisfactory to all concerned. Some means of control ought to be established whereby the local butcher deals in meat corresponding in quality commensurate with the price paid and asked. Much effort is being expended in warding off disease where common danger is likely to lurk, is not what we eat of some importance and ought not the meat for which we pay big prices to be inspected at least in regard to ascertaining whether it is worth what is asked for it? We are glad the dealers can get big prices for their stock; we are sorry we have to pay the big prices and not get the value. Who can blame us for this assertion of the mere natural human instinct of fairplay? As a matter of fact the bulk of the trade in cattle is carried on through export bringing good prices. Is it asking too much that the the local butchers have a special price for the local trade considering how small that is, and the financial condition of the community with depreciated currency and what not else to contend? We are sure that upon due reflection the stock estate owners will realize that they have misunderstood us, and that we aim at a fair deal only, and a change of conditions whereby the public welfare will be ameliorated. This is no personal question; so far as we know the exporters we have in mind are excellent people personally; but this is a question of finance and sound reasoning.

LOCAL.

Readers are encouraged to attend tonight's show at the theatre when a complete programme for the evening, said to be very sure to absorb interest, will be presented.

The Creole arrived here last evening and will return to St. Thomas tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock, mail closing as usual.

The tug Jorge Bird Leon towing a

lighter with more than a hundred head of cattle left for Fajardo, P. R. last night. This shipment is said to be fetching 9 cents a pound live weight, or more than 11 cents local currency from which it may be deduced that the local price of meat will now be increased accordingly. The shipment is estimated at \$7000.

As published elsewhere in this issue it will be seen that during the absence of the Danish Consul General and Special Commissioner Baumann, the Director of the West Indian Co., will discharge the duties of the offices of Mr. Baumann.

The Industrial Band asks to mention its inability to render the concerts planned for tomorrow and Sunday evenings.

CORRECTION

In yesterday's reference to the fire at Sight and other estates, please read over 400 instead of 80 acres.

OFFICIAL NEWS.

April 21, 1920.

Hon. Albert Strauss and Mr. B. M. Angell, Special Commissioners of the United States Treasury Department, to investigate matters relating to currency and exchange in the Virgin Islands arrived on the U. S. S. "Dolphin" last evening. Mrs. Strauss, Mrs. Angell, Miss Anna Strauss and Miss Constance Poor have accompanied the Special Commissioners.

The U. S. S. "Dolphin" will be at Frederiksted Saturday, April 24th, leaving there about 4.00 p. m., for Santo Domingo City. Interested parties desiring interviews with the Special Commissioners should arrange with the Government Secretary in St. Thomas and with the Despatching Secretary in St. Croix.

Henry C. Blaire's resignation as Director of Education, tendered early in March, was accepted by Governor Oman yesterday, to take effect June 30th. Mr. Blair, being over military age when the United States entered the war in 1917, was unsuccessful in his efforts to enter the United States Naval or Military forces and in January 1918 came to St. Thomas and entered upon educational work for the Government. His desire to return to the States to attend to his personal business interests is given for the reason for resigning. In accepting the resignation Governor Oman expressed his deep appreciation to Mr. Blair for the very satisfactory work he had accomplished during the period of transition from former educational methods to the present system along American lines and wished him every

success in the future. Mr. Blair sailed on the U. S. S. Henderson this morning.

The following passengers sailed from St. Thomas on the U. S. S. "Henderson": Mr. Henry C. Blair, Mr. Norman P. Alexander and family, Miss McIlvaine, Mrs. Newell, Mrs. Dana, Miss Patter, and Mr. Moyer and wife, and 12 others.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

(Delayed in transmission.)

Paris, April 16th.—According to the "Temps", the French Government has given its assent to inter-allied action towards the Berlin Govt. provided by England. This action will consist of a declaration to the Berlin Govt. that the Allies will not admit the establishment in Germany of an insurrectional regime, whose policy would be opposed to the execution of the treaty of peace. If such a regime should be established, the Allies would be obliged to abandon the programme for assisting in the economic restoration of Germany and to suspend the sending of foodstuffs.

Paris, April 16th.—The Ambassadors of Belgium and Italy have informed M. Millerand that their Governments are in agreement with the proposal made by Lord Derby for a collective Allied manifestation towards the German Govt., calling for the integral execution of the treaty of Versailles. The Polish Govt. has informed the French Minister at Warsaw that it fully approved of the action of France in occupying Frankfurt and Darmstadt. Poland, like France, desiring the complete execution of the treaty.

Berlin, April 16th.—The danger of a new coup d'etat appears to be past for the present but serious measures of precaution continue to be taken.

Milan, April 16th.—A general strike in Turin has spread to the entire province. The railway service is reduced and the postal, telegraph and telephone services are interrupted.

Honolulu, April 11th.—The Japanese have captured the entire Usuri railway between Vladivostock and Khabarovska, according to a cable despatch received from Tokio by the Shingo. The Usuri railway from Vladivostock to Khabarovska is about 400 miles in length and it runs directly north and south and passes through the important towns of Nikolsk and Usuri.

Chicago, April 11th.—An important break in the unauthorized strike of railway employees, which started in Chicago Terminal District nearly two weeks ago, occurred tonight at Columbus, where six hundred switchmen on the Pennsylvania railway voted to return to work tomorrow. In addition, five hundred engineers and firemen, forced out of work by the strike, will return to work.