

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 1919.

No. 259

THE ST. CROIX AVIS

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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.

PROVIDE AGAINST SHORTAGE OF SUGAR-BEET SEED IN 1921.

American producers are urged by the United States Department of Agriculture to grow sugar beet seed sufficient for their needs. The shortage of sugar-beet seed in the United States for the 1921 plantings will be serious unless the beet sugar companies and seed growers in this country arrange immediately for the production of a large part of their sugar-beet seed requirements for that year. This statement by the United States Department of Agriculture is based upon unofficial but reliable reports from representatives of beet-sugar companies and seed dealers who have recently visited the sugar-beet seed-producing countries of Europe.

The sugar-beet seed situation for 1921 is serious because of the limited production of sugar-beet seed in Europe as compared with former years, because of the increased activity in beet-sugar production in European countries, and because of the increased acreage planted to beets in this country in recent years. It is probable that several years will elapse before normal quantities of sugar-beet seed will be produced in European countries. American growers, therefore, must depend to a considerable extent upon home-grown sugar-beet seed. There seems to be no good reason why this country should not produce its full requirement of sugar-beet seed, annually. The domestic production of sugar-beet, now totaling millions of pounds, has demonstrated that sugar-beet seed of the highest quality may be produced in this country.

The present indications are that there is sufficient sugar beet seed, either im-

ported or domestic, now in the hands of nearly all of the beet sugar companies in the United States to take care of the entire acreage to be planted to sugar beets in 1920, but that there is very little foreign sugar beet seed now available for importation, and that the foreign production in the immediate future will be limited. Since the sugar-beet seed stored under normal conditions will retain its vitality for several years, it would be advisable for sugar companies to secure any sugar beet seed of good quality now available and not more than two years old.

The domestic beet-seed production is increasing rapidly. In 1918 about 6,000 acres of sugar-beet seed were grown, while in 1919 upward of 10,000 acres were planted to beet roots for seed in the United States. Unfortunately, drought interfered with a normal production of sugar-beet seed in some localities this past season, but the resulting reduction in yield was local and temporary and should not prevent or retard the efforts that are being made to produce in this country an adequate supply of sugar-beet seed to meet the American requirement for 1921 and the years following.

In order to produce a crop of seed next year for the 1921 planting, it will be necessary to select the beet roots this fall, pit them so they will not freeze during the winter, and plant them as early as soil and weather conditions will permit next spring. Persons desiring full details in regard to growing sugar-beet seed should address the Office of Sugar Plant Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.—Louisiana Planter.

CHRISTIANSTED THEATRE

8.30 THIS EVENING 8.30

"The Bull's Eye."

EPISODE 7.

EPISODE 8.

Show concluding with a

Comic.

ADMISSION.

ADULTS — Reserved Seats 40 cents, General Entrance 20 cents.
CHILDREN—Reserved Seats 20 cents, General Entrance 10 cents.

Additional Moneybill

To the Budget for the Municipality of St. Croix for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920.

To Item XI. MISCELLANEOUS ADD:

8. For the purchase of the building known as the Frederiksted High School, No. 30, 30a, 30c, and 31 Strand Street, Frederiksted, Pres. 25,000.

Thus duly passed at the 3rd Ordinary Meeting of the Colonial Council held Monday, Oct. 20, 1919.

Christiansted, St. Croix, October 22, 1919.

D. C. CANEGATA ROBT. MERWIN
Secretary. Chairman.

The above Additional Moneybill is hereby sanctioned and approved.

Witness my Hand and the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States at St. Thomas, the 27th day of October, in the year 1919.

(SEAL)

J. W. OMAN,
Governor.

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For further information apply at this Office.