

St. Croix Avis

75TH YEAR

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., FRIDAY 22ND OCTOBER 1920.

No 245.

THE ST. CROIX AVIS

is printed and published daily (Sundays and Holidays excepted) by G. Johansen at the Avis Office.

TERMS--50 cents monthly in advance.
2 cents per single copy.

Entered as second-class matter May 26th 1917 at the Post Office at Christiansted, St. Croix, V. I. of the U. S. A., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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.

TO PREVENT THE RAPID DECAY OF RIPE FRUIT.

The *Tropical Agriculturist*, May 1920, contains an interesting article on the above subject. Experiments conducted recently in the Jodrel laboratory, Kew, with the object of ascertaining the value of various substances in preventing the rapid decay of ripe fruit, appeared to point to the conclusion that commercial formalin was most effective, cheap, and easy in application, there being also an entire absence of danger in its use. The method of the treatment is as follows:—

The fruit should be immersed for ten minutes in cold water containing 3 per cent. of commercial formalin, and afterwards placed on wire netting, or some similar material, to drain and dry.

It was found in the Kew experiment that in every case fruit treated with formalin in the foregoing manner remained perfectly sound and free from mildew for many days after the untreated check fruit had become covered with mould, and quite unfit for use. Bananas, for instance, treated with formalin solution, kept sound for ten days longer than the untreated lot.

However valuable the method of preservation alluded to above may be for extending the duration of time in which ripe fruit may be kept in good condition for local use, doubtless the greatest benefit will be in connection with the export of fruit. Many kinds of tropical fruit which, owing to their rapid deterioration and decay, are never sent on long journeys, may possibly be exported successfully, if treated in this manner before shipment. It is true that many tropical fruits decay very quickly in their native countries, but that only shows that, owing

ing to moist and warm conditions, the spores of fungi, etc., which lodge on the surface of a ripe fruit, germinate rapidly and attack the tissues, and so set up a fermentation that is often mistaken for normal decay due to over-ripeness.—*Agricultural News*, 4th Sept.

THE SCARCITY OF SUGAR IN FRANCE.

We note from the weekly circular published by the Syndicate of French Sugar Manufacturers, under date of August 22nd, that the control of sugar consumption is still held carefully in hand by the government. The under secretary of the department in calling attention to the existing law, states that after September 1, 1920, the sugar furnished by the government service will no longer be delivered except to specially named categories who are duly rationed i. e., first children less than 13 years; second old people of more than 65 years third, poor sick people, native incurables. The ration of sugar is fixed at 750 grams or three-fourths of a kilo, equal to 2 1-5 English pounds per person per month. The various forces connected with the service are instructed to proceed accordingly. Still we have people in this country who can scarcely believe that sugar is scarce anywhere. Apparently the whole world has been combed with a very fine comb throughout to bring out every pound of sugar available for exportation to the United States during the first half of this year as being the highest priced market in the world. Some, or many of these people, are now buying sugars in the United States.—*Louisiana Planter*, Sept. 25th.

NOTICE.

PUBLIC notice is hereby given that the annual examination of applicants for teachers' licenses will be held on March 21, 22, & 23, 1921.

Any citizen of the United States or of the Virgin Islands, over sixteen years of age, who is known to be a person of good moral character, is eligible to sit at these examinations.

Information regarding said examinations may be obtained from the Director of Education or the Assistant Director of Education.

DANIEL R. NASE,
Director of Education.

Notice To The Public

SANITARY RULES

regarding the sale of bread, cakes, pies, pastries and candies in the towns of Christiansted and Frederiksted, Municipality of St. Croix.

UNDER the provision of paragraph 28, Sanitary Regulations for the towns of Christiansted and Frederiksted, Municipality of St. Croix, of January 30, 1886 authorizing the Board of Health to control the sale of provisions and by the authority placed in the Chief Sanitation Officer by the Governor to assume the functions of the Board of Health, the following measures are hereby set forth to take effect November 1st, 1920:

Bread, cakes, pies, pastries and candies offered for sale or kept for the purpose of being sold must be protected from flies, dirt and dust at all times.

All persons engaged in making bread, cakes, pies, pastries and candies for sale, must do so in room so screened that is absolutely fly-proof, such room not to be used as a bed-room, living room, or for any purpose other than the making of bread, pies, cakes, pastries and candies.

It is forbidden to allow dogs, cats, chickens, ducks and all other animals in any room used for the purpose of making bread, cakes, pies, pastries and candies.

All persons engaged in the preparation, handling or sale of such provisions as enumerated above, must be free from disease, wear clean clothes and have clean hands, including clean finger nails.

All shops, stores and stands keeping any of the above enumerated provisions for sale must do so in a screened container that is absolutely fly-proof.

All provisions as enumerated above not prepared, kept or sold in accordance with the above rules will be considered as injurious to health and will be destroyed as provided for in paragraph 28 of the Sanitary Regulations for the towns of Christiansted and Frederiksted, Municipality of St. Croix of January 30, 1886.

H. V. HUGHENS,
Chief Sanitation Officer.