

United States Press Representatives' Visit To St. Croix, Virgin Islands, U. S. A.

THURSDAY February 21st, 1924.

AS REVIEWED BY BUMBLE BEE EN ROUTE

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(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt visited St. Croix in 1916, he too was accompanied to this spot and told the story as related above. But as the New York Herald of the day prints it, working up a story from the reports it had received of his visit here, made the tale run thus: "Roosevelt was much interested but when again asked the name of the place (to fix it in the wonderful memory of his) was told "Salt River" he certainly proposed that we hurry back to Frederiksted for fear that we would miss the steamer. The year 1916 was the year for presidential nomination and Theodore Roosevelt was before the public as possible presidential timber. The allusion to Salt River met defeat in the language of earlier days, however the story was in reuter to suit the exigencies of the time.

Columbus upon this voyage had passed a cluster of islands to the north to which he gave the name of the "ELEVEN THOUSAND VIRGINS" and from this has been officially created the simpler name of Virgin Islands by which the United States Possessions are designated, but the name was originally more correctly applied to the British Virgin Islands as Tortola and its sister islands to the east.

Our journey carries us back over the same road by which we came as the visit to Salt River and Sugar Bay was a side trip to that historic part of St. Croix. Crossing a brook which is the source of Salt River we strike off to the southwest across the island. Here we notice the road is quite level and the view finally opens up with the sea to be seen in the distance to the south. Tradition says that the lay of the land seems to indicate that in the years of past centuries that the island was here cut in half by a water way across this level through a point to Estate "Hope". As we drive along from time to time are noticed solid stone watch houses near the road side forming a shape like a small hut with rounded roof and a full open entrance facing the west, these huts were built as refuges from rain for the watchmen employed day and night in the olden days to watch the cane fields for cane fires, or cane stealing and any unwelcome prowlers during the night. It appears that some of the old planters believed in the great efficacy of this espionage while others did not, some realized the value of the service and while others did not, some realized the value of the service and as well the necessity of protection of their servants in inclement weather erect those huts all over their estate, a notable example of which is Estate "Betty's Hope" where quite a number of these watch houses are yet in good preservation. In one of which one of our old planters in the hurricane of 1899 found good refuge during the gale when caught in the tempest upon the road returning from a dinner party at Government House.

Upon the hill on our left is the northern boundary of Estate "Mary's Fancy", one of the properties of the Markoe family in days of old and named from one of the daughters of the house; an estate with a checkered career, but today peacefully cultivated by small farmers renting small acreage of land from the heirs of the late owner Mr. John Alexander, who, before his death was one of the substantial merchants of Christiansted. And nearby to the west is in view the great house of Estate "Bonne Esperance", one of the old residences that has escaped the fate of the many in the island previous to 1878. This residence has been kept in very good repair and is today a very fine example of the old West Indian homes in the country of years ago.

Still bearing southwest we pass on our right Estate "Beverhoudt" and "Body Slob", very fertile lands originally belonging to the De Nully family another of the early settlers of Franco-Dutch origin contemporary in the early days with the Heyliger and Markoe families who did so much by their great industry in raising the cultivation of St. Croix to that pinnacle of perfection that earn for it the proud name of the "Garden of the Antilles". Our road now carries us directly west as we made a sharp turn to the right through Slob then through the northern portion of Fredensborg already mentioned and on straight ahead into the precincts of Bethlehem Factory, passing the works and its numerous buildings so necessary in the progress of such an industry. Bent upon our objective Estate "Castle" where we have been promised some good things of this world for the inner man if we will only stop.

(To be continued.)

LOCAL

Note ad of the West End Movies in this issue, fine picture, low rates, a pleasant evening for all.

The s. s. "Catherine" is due today on schedule time, having 15 tons cargo for this island.

To The Respectful Public of St. Croix

ON Sunday morning, 6 o'clock, March 23, **The Lowry Hill Dairy** will open its doors, and offer its services to the general public of Christiansted. It will be located on the premises in Company Street once known as Miss Cross' grocery.

The Administrator of the Dairy guarantees that the milk sold to the public will be pure, without any adulteration whatever.

The Sanitary condition of **The Lowry Hill Dairy** is excellent, and your kind patronage is solicited.

Prices reasonable, within the reach of all.

M. A. ROMAN,
Administrator.

Advertisement.

BIDS are requested for the following articles which are needed in the administration of the Christiansted Municipal Hospital, Frederiksted Municipal Hospital, Insane Asylum at Richmond and the Leper Asylum during the months of April, May and June 1924:

Christiansted Municipal Hospital
BREAD; about 1800 lbs. per month.
MEAT; about 600 lbs. per month (Beef, Veal, Mutton & Pork).

Frederiksted Municipal Hospital:
BREAD; about 1600 lbs. per month.
MEAT; about 500 lbs. per month (Beef, Veal, Mutton & Pork).
WOOD; about 2 loads per week (2½ load to 1 cord.)

CHARCOAL; about 7 bags per week.

Insane Asylum at Richmond:
BREAD; about 1700 lbs. per month.
MEAT; about 500 lbs. per month (Beef & Veal)

Leper Asylum:
BREAD; about 1800 lbs. per month.
MEAT; about 400 lbs. per month (Beef & Veal).

All supplies to be best quality, and satisfactory to Hospital Officials delivered at the Institutions.

Bids should be addressed to Chief Municipal Physician, St. Croix, and to hand not later than March 25th 1924.

H. M. STENHOUSE,
Chief Municipal Physician,
St. Croix.