

St. Croix Avis

75TH YEAR.

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 1920.

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Recommendations of the Congressional Committee to the President.

1. Our Government to assist in co-operation with the people of the islands in establishing an adequate water system in St. Thomas and in St. Croix.

2. A better system of transportation should be provided between the various islands and between Porto Rico and the islands. And it is recommended that the Shipping Board give immediate attention to this question.

3. Steps should be taken to provide an American system of currency in place of the present Danish system which now burdens the people by virtue of exchange rates resulting in decreased purchasing value of the Danish money.

4. The existing code of Danish Laws should be superseded by a code of Laws based upon American principles and ideals.

5. Educational work in the islands should be greatly extended and intensified.

6. As far as practicable American boats should be bunkered and fuelled at St. Thomas. This question has already been taken up with the Shipping Board.

7. There should be some method adopted by which the people of St. John will have mail delivery if it can be accomplished at a reasonable expense. This is a question for the Post Office Department, and we earnestly recommend to that Department that mail facilities be restored to the people of St. John.

8. The Agricultural Experimental Station should be enlarged and its work extended over the islands of St. Thomas and St. John. We particularly call the attention of the Department of Agriculture to this question.

9. The bar in the harbor of Christiansted should be removed. This would open the harbor for boats of medium and light drafts. A provision for the survey of this matter will probably be adopted in the pending River and Harbor bill.

10. The establishment of libraries with good buildings at St. Thomas and in St. Croix would be of the greatest advantage in development of these islands. We realize this a work that the Government would not undertake. We offer this suggestion in the hope that those interested in library work may take up the question and possible work out by private enterprise a plan to establish libraries in these two islands.

11. The Commission found the system of taxation in the islands unjust, insufficient, and archaic. We recommend that the entire system be reformed with a view of securing a greater income, which we believe possible, and in order also to more fairly equalize the burdens of taxation.

12. It is the judgment of the Commission that the present local legislative system of one Council for St. Thomas and St. John and one for St. Croix be retained, and that the said Councils sitting together should constitute a grand Council for the whole group of islands acquired by the United States from Denmark, in all matters affecting the interests of the islands common to all.

13. It is the judgment of the commission that in the revision of the Judicial system, one court and judge having general jurisdiction should be provided for the islands of St. Thomas, and St. John, and one for the island of St. Croix, and that writs of error and appeals should be to an appellate court consisting of the two judges from said islands and the judge of the District Court of the United States for Porto Rico, sitting in Bane.

14. After careful consideration it is the judgment of the commission that it is inexpedient to change the existing system of Government at present. The contemplated revision of local laws should be enacted and put in operation before further changes in the supervisory government should be undertaken.

Publication.

It is hereby brought to public notice that the Government has, at the request of the Rector of All Saints' Church, Charlotte Amalia, St. Thomas, and the wardens of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Frederiksted, St. Croix, revoked the authority granted to Rev. R. G. BARROW, to perform civil-religious ceremonies in the municipalities of St. Croix, and St. Thomas, and St. John.

Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States, 27th April 1920.

C. C. TIMMONS,
Government Secretary.

NOTICE.

THE PUBLIC is hereby reminded, that as heretofore, the Police must be notified before burning of trash or grass takes place and that the necessary precautions must be observed to keep such burning under complete control to prevent accidental spread of the Fire.

Christiansted and Frederiksted Police Office, St. Croix, April 23rd, 1920.

JOHN L. CURRY.

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