

Mails Close

for the Leeward and Windward Islands and other southern ports by s. s. Martinique at 11.30 a. m. today.

EDITORIAL.

The Herald of yesterday declines to show the public through the same medium in which it advocated the abandonment of the present form of government how we are wrong or how it is itself right. Until concrete facts are advanced to refute the unalterable evidence of figures, we shall have no more to say on this subject. Those who have criticized the figures we advanced without knowing how we arrived at them will please be advised that we are prepared to show them. Certain deductions made by us were purposely so made and rather benefit the other side; we know this. It is so easy to wait until somebody starts to fulfil a common duty for others to find fault. This is the failing of St. Croix people unfortunately.

LOCAL

The s. s. "Martinique" arrived at Frederiksted yesterday afternoon from New York and called at this port this morning and after discharging cargo will leave for the islands. See notice about closing of mails.

Prof. B. A. Walcott of the Aibonito Training College, P. Rico came on the Mizpah yesterday and will speak at the Seventh Day Adventist Church tonight on Christian Education. All are cordially invited.—Com.

THE SPEECH OF THE HONORABLE,
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
IN THE CHAMBERS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING,
ST. THOMAS, 8 APRIL 1923.

Gentlemen of the Councils of St. Croix and St. Thomas, citizens:

I am only a visitor here. The administration of these islands is a civil administration which the Navy furnish with men to carry on. I have no authority here outside of strictly military authority. I have, however, a very great desire to be of use to these islands if I can, to help out in every way possible, to use such powers as I may possess to bring benefit to them, and as an American citizen I am very anxious as we all are that prosperity shall return by whatever route is considered best by the Congress of the United States and the Providence of the Lord. Congress, however, cannot make rain for you and it seems to me that despite all the talk

of rum, that water is what you want, and you will rather have water than rum. You have presented your case very fully to these representatives of the American people before whom the matter will be ultimately considered and decided. As to myself, I am going to send down here and have attached to the Governor's staff a civil engineer from the Navy of as good capacity as I can get to make a study in the hills of St. Thomas and the hills and plains of St. Croix and find out what method, if any, can be adopted to impound rain or whether or not he thinks it worthwhile to dig for water, whether artesian wells are likely to produce and if not, whether if it is a mechanical and engineering possibility to impound rain in order that the water may be conserved for the use of the people and for the use of the cattle on these islands. Other projects may come later. It is utterly useless to talk of irrigation on a large scale now. I have been out and seen these cattle myself. They are thin. They are not in good condition. They need grass. We cannot give them grass. I am told they need water, possibly that water may be produced and conserved for them. That is one thing that I am going to try to do to help the Virgin Islands. One other thing in the Governor's request I shall do. I shall ask the Coast and Geodetic Survey to survey the harbor of St. Thomas. After they have done it, the results of that survey may be laid before Congress and if the Congress desires, it will pass such legislation as will enable the harbor to be dredged to a depth that will accommodate large ocean going vessels. I want to assure you that every one of us in this party is earnestly desirous of doing everything he can, in proper ways, to help bring back and preserve the happiness and prosperity of these beautiful islands. (Applause). In the meantime, more rain for St. Thomas, St. John and for St. Croix.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Angora, April 10th.—The Nationalist Assembly has ratified the so-called Chester Railway and Mining Concessions. Negotiations for the Chester concessions in Turkey, which include the development of the Mosul oil region and the construction of twelve hundred miles of railway in the Mesopotamian fields, were first instituted by President Roosevelt. It takes its name from Rear-Admiral Chester, of the United States Navy, now retired, who was sent to Turkey in 1908, to obtain for the United States interests certain valuable priority rights in the Turkish oil producing district. United States capital could be used under the agreement to extend the Bagdad railway to the borders of Persia, while rail connections would be afforded to the chief cities of Turkey.

Dublin, April 10th.—Liam Lynch, the Chief of Staff of the Irish Irregulars, has been captured, it was officially announced this afternoon. Lynch was captured by the Free State forces this morning at Knockasalen, near Newcastle, after an engagement in which he was seriously wounded.

London, April 10th.—Mr. Stanley Baldwin has proposed taxation on betting as an integral means of raising revenue under the forthcoming Budget, according to the "Posts" political correspondent. This levy, the possibility of which has long been discussed here, is subject to the approval of the Cabinet. During the time that the proposal has been aired in the press it has become apparent that such a tax will meet with strong opposition in some quarters, but advocates of the measure contend that a large revenue could thus be raised at a comparatively small cost. Estimates of the sum obtainable differ widely, some persons putting it at 10,000,000 pounds, while others place the total at 30,000,000 pounds.

Berlin, April 10th.—Hugo Stinnes and his wife were taken from their berths in a Berlin-Essen train by French railway guards last night and were locked up in the baggage car, according to word received here today. The incident occurred at Scharnhorst. Herr Stinnes was on the way to Muelheim, where his principal industrial interests are centered.

Scharnhorst, Germany, April 10th.—The French today arrested Edward Hamm, Secretary of the Chancery of the Cuno Cabinet, Adam Stegerwald, ex-Premier of Prussia, and Reichstag Deputy Giesgerts, Ex-minister of Posts. The latter two were released, but the French are continuing to hold Secretary Hamm on the ground that officials, active in the German Government, had been forbidden to go to the occupied area.

London, April 10th.—Mr. Lloyd George will speak in Edinburgh on Sunday May 27th on "the Churches and International peace". General Assemblies of the three Presbyterian Churches will be held in session in Edinburgh at the time.

Chicago, April 10th.—President Harding will be renominated by the Republican Party, without opposition, for President in 1924. Senator Foss, of Ohio, declared in an address here last night before the Hamilton Club of Chicago. Mr. Foss said he was making the statement with the consent of the Administration.

London, April 10th.—The Turkish Governments reply to the Allied peace proposals, which was examined today at the Foreign Office, was declared to be reasonable and discussable. The note says the Angora Government does not consider that the Allied proposals raise any important point regarding the territorial clauses of the projected treaty, but British Officials point out that this is hardly