

(Canegata) remarked: Mr. Chairman Ten members have come in the Council anew, it is not right to bind them by the decision of the other 8 members.

(To be continued.)

## LOCAL.

The circus company gave its last show last night. The tent was crowded and the performances were of the usual high order.

The Christiansted Theatre also was a place of attraction last night and although the attendance was not all that could have been desired many passed a very pleasant evening there.

A rather shocking accident is reported as having occurred yesterday on the Centre Line somewhere west of Kingshill, as a result of a collision between one of the trucks of the St. Croix Sugar Factory and an ordinary mule-cart, the driver of the latter sustaining fractures of a leg and an arm, and other injuries considered grave. The disabled man was brought to the Hospital here.

## Correspondence

Christiansted, June 2, 1921

Editor "St. Croix Avis."

After reading the communication in your issue of today, my "risibles" broadened instead of "drooped" for more than one reason: 1. Through noting the fact that the rector of St. John's Church is writing in the Avis after all, despite the confident boasting of certain bigots who have declared that he never would stoop to enter a discussion in the newspapers (this alone shows how little they know; I can see no reason why a minister of the gospel should be averse to writing in the papers, if he knows what he is writing about). 2. At the old time-worn ecclesiastical hobby of ascribing new meanings to words in order to justify their misapplication. 3. But why take up time with this feature of the case? These days are too full of other duties to admit of much else than coming to the point right now. Revd. Pigott in his letter states that "correspondence has arisen out of a letter that showed one 'Enquirer' to be ignorant of the ordinary meanings of the terms pontiff and pontifical." Now is that really the case? The evidence before us discloses that at least two readers had their curiosity aroused by the use of the term "pontifical", and also found the same meaning of the word, while a third found a meaning different to that or what the rector now advances. Truly then these must be the ordinary meanings and not what is alleged to be given by Webster's New International Dic-

tionary, a work of which there are probably but a couple copies on the island, and these not within easy reach of the congregation of St. John's which is made up of a very varied collection of intellectuality, and for whose information and guidance it must be assumed the advertisement was published at the time. It is safe to believe that nineteen persons in every twenty in the congregation would either draw the same conclusion as "Enquirer" and others, or not know the meaning at all. We are few of us masters of the English language and still fewer of us are pecuniarily able to own, much less to be cashiering our dictionaries as often as the Anglican Church changes its ceremonies and thereby occasions a revision of definitions of certain terms. Let us be fair and square in this matter. The rector may be correct in his position as backed up by the Webster's New International Dictionary, but the ordinary layman is equally right in drawing his conclusions according to the general and accepted meaning of the word. Otherwise, the dictionaries we consulted are wrong, and the rector is silent as to whether the W. N. I. D. does not also give the meaning as "pertaining to the Pope". Why? If the very dictionary to which he refers gives two or more meanings, how can he prove a man wrong for accepting one of those meanings, and that the apparently applicable one! However, if the rector had stated his position at first, oil would have been thrown on the troubled waters. It should be borne in mind that not because scores accept and believe blindly, are others prohibited from investigating, nor does investigation necessarily infer lack of sincerity of motive.

AN AMUSED ONLOOKER.

## TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Boston, May 29th.—The Cornell Varsity eight defeated the Harvard crew by three and a half lengths, in a mile and seven eighths race on Charles River yesterday. Cornell's time in the Varsity race was 9.49 Harvard 10.1.

Delpzig, May 30th.—Captain Mueller, the second German Officer to be placed on trial, charged with criminal acts during the war, was today sentenced to six months imprisonment. He was tried on the charges of having practiced cruelties on prisoners at the Flavy le Martel Prison Camp in the Aisne Department of France. The state prosecutors, declaring that Mueller was to blame for kicking and striking prisoners and for compelling sick prisoners to work, asked for a sentence of fifteen months ordinary imprisonment. On the other hand, Mueller's Counsel pleaded that six months confinement in a fortress would be ample punishment.

London, May 30th.—The coal strike situation has taken a drastic turn over the week end. The Miners and Owners have been given to understand that the Govt has said its last word to them namely, that they must either agree, or submit their dispute to compulsory arbitration. The proposals of the Govt. in short according to a report of the proceedings at the last Govt. conference include both temporary and permanent settlement of the dispute. The Govts. proposal is that during a temporary period wages will be scaled down gradually to an economic level by the aid of the Govts grant of £10,000,000 and the owners profits will be used to assist in breaking the fall. The permanent settlement is to be one of three forms of arbitration viz. A National wage Board or Tribunal, of three, or a single arbitrator. The terms of reference are virtually ready, and exclude the raising of the question of a pool of wages. The Govts proposals will now go before the district meetings of the miners union for discussion and the men's vote will be considered by the executive on Friday. The Owners met on Wednesday.

Oppeln, May 30th.—The first battalion of the Black Watch arrived here today and was met by hundreds of children, who threw flowers at the British soldiers. They broke into the marching squads, trying to hold the soldiers' hands, and shouting gleefully as the bagpipes screeched the music on the march. The residents lined the pavements smiling and the men doffed their hats as the killed troops passed. The Scotchmen were pleased at the reception and patted the children's heads, and exchanged greetings with the crowd. The German police stood at rigid salute until the whole column was by, then went laughing about their duties. The expression was repeatedly heard from the crowds the Poles now have something to reckon with". The Italians appear eager to cooperate with the British driving out the insurgents. They have heard that this was the plan. An Italian officer remarked "It is high time they let us loose on these fellows". The Black Watch will be quartered here until the remainder of the British forces arrive. It is said they will then be ready to take the field within a week.

St. Cloud, May 30th.—The defeat of Mrs. Mallory, United States Women Tennis Champion, and W. Tilden of Philadelphia, worlds grass court champion by Miss Holman and J.T. Baines of England in the mixed doubles of the worlds hard championship here today, completed a disastrous day for the United States team members.

New York, May 31st.—The Conference of cotton growers and manufacturers has asked Federal aid for the rehabilitation of the industry, including reduced loan rates by Federal Bank and foreign selling.