

Administrator's Notice.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
OF THE UNITED STATES, CHRISTIANSTED SUB-
JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
ROSABELLA BENNERS, DECEASED.

NOTICE is hereby given, that A. E. STAKEMANN, Administrator of the above entitled estate, having filed in the District Court of the Virgin Islands of the United States, his final account of the administration of the said estate, the hearing of the same has been fixed for

SATURDAY

the 12th day of May A. D. 1923

at 10 o'clock a. m. of that day,

at the Office of the Judge of said Court in the Town of Christianssted, Island of St. Croix, and all persons interested in the said estate are hereby notified then and there to appear and show cause, if any they have, why the said account should not be settled and allowed.

Christiansted, St. Croix, April 5th 1923.

A. E. STAKEMANN,
Administrator.

OFFICIAL NOTES.

Lieutenant Commander William S. Zane, Supply Corps, U. S. Navy, now on duty in the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., will sail on the U. S. S. Henderson on May 1, 1923, to relieve Lieutenant Commander Gaffney as Government Secretary of the Virgin Islands. Commander Gaffney will have as his next duty the Navy Yard, Charleston, S. C. Commander Gaffney has served in the Virgin Islands two years and four months, with former Governors Oman and Kittelle as well as with the present administration. His detachment comes in the regular course of rotating officers assigned to civil government.

EDITORIAL.

In the Herald of yesterday the editor makes a strong appeal to the deputation of the Colonial Council shortly expected to meet the Secretary of the Navy and the congressional party at St. Thomas, to urge these islands' need and wish for a civil form of government to replace the present administration. The Herald holds that the administration of the islands may be run on the limited means at disposal, which is to say, local taxes, and other revenue accruing to the Colonial Treasury of the islands, and that the regular yearly appropriations now

received through the Navy should be cut out, and appropriations for constructive work for the development of the islands' economic status obtained otherwise from federal funds when needed. There is argument in the question as represented; a spirit of economic independence is disclosed in the aim to have the islands assume the responsibility, morally and financially, for their upkeep, which is commendable; but it is indeed a tremendous question whether we can really venture to handle the task involved in such a change. Some people have the opinion that the navy personnel here is paid from the appropriations made by Congress for use in these islands, but to the contrary only a few civil officials receive their pay from federal funds at all and the navy personnel is simply paid their salaries as navy officers, with the requirement to perform civil duties in the government of these islands; hence it will be seen that even with a reduced staff with which we could probably manage, the budget would at once be overbalanced by expenses which we now haven't to consider. The revenues too are very meagre despite some study of taxation for increasing them, and with the poor agricultural returns being experienced it would appear that we are facing a grave situation which something else than taxation is necessary to solve. Then there is the medical service to be considered. Shall we from our own resources be able to maintain this service at its present standard? And who would like to see that standard lowered? 'Tis true we hope to be well, and we won't all be sick at once, but an efficient medical department is worth so much to a community that it is hard to say what compensation we could afford to exchange it for. Of course, our views are not necessarily the views of everybody; there is possibly a diversity of opinion on the matter. Our position as here expressed does not mean that we consider the present naval form of administration the ideal one for the islands, but we do feel that with our present depleted treasury accommodations for a purely civil government of our own choice and make, it is the islands' salvation, and, as conceded by those of opposite thinking, it is efficient and practical.

LOCAL

The West End News, a daily journal started in 1912, and published in Frederiksted, by Mr. A. Ovesen, later on sold to Mr. B. Brandt, till then of this office, and ultimately owned and edited by Mr. D. Hamilton Jackson, threw up the sponge on March 31, and is now succeeded by the Agricultural News, a daily, issued under the same management. The Agricultural News will be published in the interest of what its name implies,

and its editorial policy, as outlined, has no political tendency in so far as agricultural interests are not endangered.

The sloop "Mizpah" with the mid-week St. Thomas mails arrived here at 11.45 a. m. yesterday.

The schooner Vigilant is keeled over at Protestant Quay having her bottom cleaned and repaired.

Mr. L. Plaskett's lecture and demonstration on spiritualism on Wednesday evening was well attended although the weather was very unfavorable. He will hold a series of these meetings at the place mentioned in his advertisement and it is believed that those who attend will find them interesting.

States mail via the s. s. "Guiana" was received in this town by return of the mail-car at 6 00 p. m. yesterday.

Holy Cross Church at Upper Love has been presented with a new bell, the gift of Mrs. Sigismunda Hansen, in memory of her deceased husband L. F. Hansen, who was chief engineer of the Lower Love Factory during the regime of Capt. Blackwood, and who with his family resided for many years in that district, at Est. Lower Love.

The bell, which is not a very large one, but is well proportioned to the size of the church, and has an excellent tone, was made by the well known firm of bellmakers, The Meneely Bell Co. of New York City, and was selected and sent out, at the request of the donor, by the Rev. Fr. Whitehead, who was recently Rector in charge of the parish.

After the consecration of the bell by the Rev. Fr. Banks on Easter morning at 8 a. m. o'clock, it was rung for the first time by the donor.

The work of erection was done by Mr. F. Cortina of Frederiksted, and the bell bears the following inscription:—



In Memoriam

L. F. HANSEN

N. MDCCCLVII — O. B. MCMXXII

Ab Uxore Ejus

Sigismunda

Ad. Maj. Gloriam Dei.

—Contributed.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

St. John, N. B., April 2nd.—The St. John Board of Trade has taken up the matter of the tenders for the West India Canada Steamship Service, acting on ex-