

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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(Concluded from yesterday's Avis.)

And near the shore is the old Fort with its red walls looking as it had looked within the memory of the oldest inhabitants, in fact within the limits of history. This Fort was originally designed and construction started before the town was settled to prevent illicit trade in the exportation of sugar as the law then in force (1740) compelled the planters to dispose of their produce to the Company. Traders from St. Eustatius, active rivals of St. Thomas, came here and encouraged and carried on this trade freighting the produce to the Dutch island where it was resold for shipment to Europe. According to Beck's map of 1752 the town was laid out in sections of equal size upon either side of the Fort as now situated, but only that portion to the south was built, the northern position being lower ground and not as well adapted as a healthy site, particularly when thought of in a sanitary sense as understood in those days. The town was later settled, the Fort completed in 1760, and as seen today has been very little altered since that time.

And here, as in Christiansted, as the island prospered, came the ships from the North and as well from Copenhagen and Flensburg, ships of the latter city being very permanent in other trade. Mingling with the atmosphere of chivalry and courtesy of the old world came "pumpkin-heads" from New Haven with their hair cropped short, to barter and trade their wares with the merchants of the day, bedecked as they were with lace shirts and bordered wigs, dressed in knee-breeches and long coats, the fashion of the time.

P. R. Well, Bumble Bee you certainly have given us a very full description of the scenes and history of your beautiful island, for which we must all thank you very much. I hope the visit of so many newspaper men will so advertise your island that the world may know what a fine climate St. Croix affords to live in, where the skies are always smiling, where eternal summer dwells, a land that heals heart-ache. But say! You must be very thirsty after talking so much.

B. B. Thank you for the bouquets, enlarge upon them and send the folks down to see us. I will now buzz home and have a good cold drink of water as I am really tired and thirsty.

P. R. But say, brother, what is the matter with your wharf?

B. B. Oh! That is the wharf that Jack didn't build,
All battered and torn,
Which looks so forlorn,
But never mind we will have it fixed before
you come again.

FINIS.

THE services in the Lutheran churches on Sunday will be held at the usual hours morning and evening.

King's Hill at 3:30 in the afternoon.

A cordial invitation extended.

J. P. CHRISTENSEN.

LOCAL

Last night in the bandstand, the Industrial Band rendered one of its finest concerts to the enjoyment of a large gathering. The pieces played were mostly the latest jazz hits which were enlivened, ending up with three tangos, including "Sam Polo from the Henry Holmes."

The British sloop "Cedar Branch" arrived here yesterday from Anguilla with a cargo of live stock consisting mainly of

horned cattle and fowls. It is understood that cattle dealers here find it payable to buy stock from the British islands and export it to Porto Rico. The price asked for the fowls was 30 cents a pound, nearly twice the local price.

The Mizpah arrived here during the night after a heavy beat from St. Thomas.

Commenting on the incomplete manner in which the wharf has been cleared since the order to this effect, it is remarked that the old anchors and engine parts, which are evidently of no use having been lying in the same place for upwards of a year, should be carried on the quay since they belong to that department anyway. Then there is an old spar and some more junk iron going down toward the wooden bridge. The disorderly condition of the wharf is something that has been an eyesore to the people

of this town for years, and now that a move was made to clear it away why not to do it properly and be done with it? When the newspaper men came to the island the other day, Dr. Canegata wittily referred to their having come in through the back door, meaning Frederiksted. But if this town is the front door the threshold of it looks more like a scrap heap.

It is advised that in commemoration of the date of the transfer of these islands to the United States, March 31, there will be a concert on the wharf by the Native Brass Band tomorrow evening the program to include American and Danish national music. The concert is set for a day in advance owing to the desirability to have as large a gathering present as possible, it being likely that a number would be diverted to the motion picture show scheduled for the evening of the 31st.

The s. s. Catherine is looked for at Frederiksted today as usual, having 29 tons of cargo for the island.

It will be remembered that in order to embrace the opportunity via the s. s. Parima to New York, letters should be mailed by 5.00 p. m. today.

OBITUARY.

HILDA EULALIE ABBOTT was born at Road Town, Tortola, B. W. I., one of the Virgin Islands, May 30, 1901; and died at Christiansted, St. Croix, March 26, 1924, at the age of 22 years.

Being an orphan and a promising good girl, we adopted her in our family in 1916. In 1920, she entered the Municipal Hospital as a student nurse, and after spending two years and four months of diligent service and usefulness in that institution she became ill, and soon after the doctor discovered that she had tuberculosis. All medical and rational treatments were tried, but proved useless. After coming home and taking the open-air tent treatments for over a year, she made some improvement, but finally she took in for the worse, and passed away peacefully in the faith of Jesus, (Rev. 14: 12.) About three quarters of an hour before she died the following verses were sung to cheer her on her way:

"O, how happy are they
Who their Saviour obey,
And have laid up their treasure above!
Tongue can never express
The sweet comfort and peace
Of a soul in its earliest love,

"That sweet comfort is mine,
Since the favour divine
I received through the blood of the Lamb
Since my heart first believed,
What a joy I've received,
What a heaven in Jesus' dear name!