

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., TUESDAY 17TH AUGUST 1920.

No. 189.

THE ST. CROIX AVIS

is printed and published daily (Sundays and Holidays excepted) by G. Johansen at the Avis Office.

TERMS:—50 cents monthly in advance.
2 cents per single copy.

Entered as second-class matter May 26th 1917 at the Post Office at Christiansted, St. Croix, V. I. of the U. S. A., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

(Delayed in transmission.)

Ottawa, Aug. 7th.—The second session of the Imperial Press Conference closed this afternoon with a short session in which merely routine business was taken up and disposed of and the delegates left to-night for Toronto. Empire trade formed the subject of an address by Sir George Foster before the Saturday morning conference. Sir George said he welcomed the opportunity of meeting men whose influence for good or evil was so tremendous. No bounds, he said, could be set on the achievements of a high-minded and united press within the Empire. Its opportunity for mischief as well as for good was boundless, and it ought to make pressmen feel their responsibility. He was glad, he continued, that the question of imperial trade had been placed in the forefront of the convention. As to the name Imperial he did not object to it one iota, in fact he rejoiced in it, because of its influence in beckoning forward to greater things within the Empire. If this Imperial Press Conference would throw its weight and influence behind the advocacy of Empire trade development and stay with it for twenty-five years, its progress would eclipse anything ever accomplished of a like nature in Canada, said Sir George. He had taken a very strong position in regard to imperial trade and there were many ways in which it could be fostered, one of the most essential being the method of preference between the component parts of the Empire. He then traced the preferences granted by Canada since 1879 down to the one consummated only a few

days ago with the British West India Islands, and declared that the lead given by Canada had had an inevitable reaction in the United Kingdom where the principle of preference had been recognized by the granting of actual preference on colonial products. In addition to better commodities, said Sir George, trade meant, in a larger sense, an exchange of man power of spirituality and the enterprise of peoples. In the last fifty years, He said, the best of brains and character which has poured from the British isles to this country had been contributing forces in the world's development. In so far as this contribution had gone to British countries, the effect had been to benefit the British race, but much of this valuable man power had gone to foreign countries. It was, he declared, unreasonable to expect that British emigration should be directed solely to the colonies of the Empire, but it was fair to ask that these colonies should have the first call. Trade ought to be idealized. In the original barter of commodities between neighbours to their mutual advantage, and later in the first activities of the middle man, as a useful agent between such neighbours, trade had meant only service to mankind, rather than dividends, and this must again become the paramount consideration. If British citizens would use their enterprise and spirit of adventure in developing their natural resources for the good of one another, they could make the waste spaces of the Empire "blossom like the rose". He wished he had the power of a wizard so that he could take hold of the power of the Empire and use it for the development of the democracy and the prosperity of the Empire. "but", said Sir George, we have all the power that such a wizard would use and we can use it if we will to the same end. If British citizens would make up their minds to it", he continued, "they were equipped to meet the menacing years ahead, which are not less menacing than the darkest days of the war and they would weather the shoals as they had met the dangers of war". Sir George received an ovation at the end of his speech and the chairman's vote of thanks was warmly endorsed. Lord Burnham said that newspapers combined perhaps to make the nearest approach to the world wizard, Sir George had referred to, and that they hoped to use their power for the realization of the objects which he had urged upon them.

Ottawa, Aug. 8th.—At the Imperial Press Conference yesterday Lord Burnham read the following cablegram: "The members of our Appeal Committee ask you to invite consideration by the conference of the imperial movement dealing with the appalling conditions of disease and distress in the war-stricken areas of Europe, with an outbreak of typhus as the most imminent peril. An international movement is afoot through the initiative of the League of Nations and the Red Cross societies. The imperial war relief fund, whose patron is His Majesty is the body chosen by the League of Nations and the Red Cross societies to lay the appeal before the peoples of the Empire. The whole Empire is invited to act together in this humanitarian effort. Canada, Australia and New Zealand are acting through their Governor General, and South Africa is working in the same direction under the leadership of the Premier, General Smuts. Will the editors place the need and appeal before the Empire giving a stirring lead to public opinion". Signed Edward Cooper, Lord Mayor of London, and Lord Richard Cavendish, Chairman of the Imperial War Relief Fund.

NOTICE.

It is hereby made known that the Colonial Council's Ordinary Meeting which was fixed for Monday, August 16, has, by consent of Government, been postponed to MONDAY AUGUST 23RD, at one o'clock p. m.

Colonial Council Office, St. Croix.
August 12, 1920.

F. COULTER,
Vice-Chairman.

For good appetite and
good digestion use
Dr. Ross' Life Pills.

Readers, No. 20-17.

Dr. J. R. Mayhew
Eyesight Specialist

is at Christiansted for a short stay and will make appointments with his clients from Monday 26th July.