

St. Croix Sukkerfabrik.

THE Factory's scales will be tested by the Company together with two Cane-deliverers on THURSDAY THE 5TH INST. as follows:

- Adjustment of the weights at the Custom House 2 o'clock p.m.
- Testing of the scale at the Factory Station 2½ o'clock p.m.
- Testing of the scale at the Peter's Rest Station 3 o'clock p.m.
- Testing of the scale at the Sion Farm Station 3½ o'clock p.m.
- Cane-deliverers are invited to be present at the testing.

Christiansted, 1st February 1920.

AXEL BERLAND.

The mass meeting convened by invitation to the public for the purpose of exchanging views and ideas, and deciding upon a course of procedure through which the condition of this island and the needs of the inhabitants may be represented to the Congressional Commission during its impending visit to St. Croix was held last night at the Christiansted Theatre which was crowded to its utmost capacity, between eight hundred and a thousand persons of both sexes representing all classes and factions being present. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Joseph Alexander, one of the promoters, who explained its object as being chiefly to ascertain public sentiment with regard to whether or not a civil government was popularly desirable in preference to the existing naval form of administration. Mr. Jas. A. Clendenen was then proposed and acclaimed chairman of the meeting with Mr. Alexander as secretary, following which Mr. Anselm Fabio introduced the suggestion to request the Governor by cable to use his influence in having the ship on which the commission visits this island proceed to Christiansted, the capital, where an enthusiastic reception has been arranged for, instead of Frederiksted, it having been rumored that the latter place would probably be chosen as the point at which the commission would land. A message to that effect, previously drafted, was read, approved and unanimously sanctioned. The word being now accorded to anyone in the gathering, Mr. D. Hamilton Jackson took the floor and in a lucid and illustrative style presented the advantages of a civil government as he saw them, drawing comparisons from the island of Porto Rico and other United States territory where military, naval and other forms of government have obtained at different times with decided reason to favor the civil form of government which he succeeded in impressing upon the assembly as the most desirable, loud applause and expressions of assent greeting the conclusion of his remarks.

Mr. Ashley L. Totten, visiting delegate of the Virgin Islands Protective League of New York, which organization he alleged to have been largely instrumental in the project of sending a congressional committee to this territory, then showed many advantages of a naval administration which, while so termed here, was not as far as these islands are concerned, conceded by His Excellency Governor Oman as being a naval government in the regular sense, prima facie evidence of this existing in the fact that the Colonial Council is still the legislative body in the islands, civil laws are in use in civil courts administered by a civil judiciary, and so forth, the presence and activity of naval officials being merely a convenience under the circumstances that these islands are not self-supporting and would be unable to bear the expenses connected with certain features of the administration. Mr. Totten did not advance the first-mentioned points of argument but they occurred to his hearers as substantiating the Governor's contention as correct. Mr. Joseph Alexander here differed with Mr. Totten and Mr. Joseph Roberts, Mr. A. C. Bough, and other speakers here and there, supported the urgency of a civil government. It was later on proposed by Mr. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Totten to nominate and elect a delegation committee to approach the Congressional Commission on behalf of the people to advocate their interests. This committee was voted to comprise twelve members, but by an oversight thirteen were nominated and the number was increased to fourteen made up of the following gentlemen elected by the raising of hands: W. S. Abramson, J. Alexander, Hans Bishop, A. C. Bough, D. C. Canegata, R. de Chabert, J. A. Clendenen, C. Crowe, A. Fabio, D. Hamilton Jackson, Geo. Jackson, G. Johansen, A. R. McIntosh, and M. A. Pretto.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks for the kind loan of the hall by Mr. Svendsen who put his cine machine into operation and exhibited an amusing comic on the screen sending off the crowd in lively spirits.

Correspondence is invited on the question of what form of government is to be preferred in these island under their present economic status. It is believed that the naval form of government is the best financial proposition pregnant with room for development and progress in like proportion to a civil government. Views on the subject should prove interesting, and ought to be useful especially at this time.

Patrons of the theatre are reminded of tonight's exhibition there when the Brass Ballet will again be presented to its numerous admirers.

West End Jan. 31, 1920.

The Am. Schooner "Virginia" arrived here this morning at 1.30 from Porto Rico via St. Thomas with 35 bags mail, 73 packages general cargo, and the following passengers: From Denmark:

Mr. J. Frederik Hansen, Mr. Christian Hansen, Misses Anna Svendsen, and Liffred P. Svendsen. From St. Thomas: Ellen Erich, Inger Simmonds, Palmira Lorand, Selvina Lorand.

We had the great pleasure some days ago, of reading in "The Delmarvia Star" of Sunday, January 11th 1920, one of the leading newspapers of Wilmington, Del., the following, written by Mr. Chris W. Viohl, concerning the "Virgin Islands' March," composed recently by Bandmaster Adams of the U. S. Navy Band, and dedicated to Capt. William Russell White of the U. S. S. "Vixen":

"The St. Thomas Band, composed of natives of the surrounding islands, is an organization in which the natural talents of the members have been highly developed, so that the organization is one of the finest bands to be found anywhere. The march itself reflects exceptional ability as to the technique of any organization that plays it properly."

The writer Mr. Viohl, who is a pianist and music teacher, and by whom Mr. Adams' march was played, is a graduate in Music of the University of Pennsylvania, and is at present with the Queen's Orchestra. During the visit of the U. S. Battle-ship Squadron to these shores in the early part of last year, he was a member of the Band of the U. S. S. "Maine." It was during this visit that he met our popular Bandmaster, who later sent him an autographed copy of his march.

Another testimonial as to the merits of his newest composition has been received by Mr. Adams from the Bandmaster of Tuskegee Institute Band, who wrote to the effect, that this same march played by the Institute's Band composed of 60 members, had been repeatedly and enthusiastically enjoyed by a crowd of over 10,000 people; while Professor Miranda of the Porto Rico Regiment Band likewise wrote the young composer, complimenting him on the success attained by the march, which he declared was popular, and much played by the Regiment's Band.—St. Thomas Mail Notes, Jan. 30th.

THE VIRGIN ISLANDS COMMISSION.

The House having agreed to a joint resolution originating in the Senate, a commission of three Senators and three Representatives has been created to visit the Virgin Islands and report fully to Congress as to whether the present plan of government of said islands is conducive to their welfare, and what, if anything, Congress can do to stimulate agriculture