

SALARIES FOR OTHER EMPLOYEES.

Section 10.—All deputy clerks of the District Court and other employees shall receive such salary as shall be fixed by annual budget.

POLICE COURTS NUMBER.

Section 11.—The Police Courts consists of three in number; one to be held at the Town of Charlotte Amalie; one to be held at the town of Christiansted; and one to be held at the town of Frederiksted. Each Police Court has jurisdiction throughout the subjudicial District in which it is held of all the offenses cognizable by the Police Courts.

ADDITIONAL POLICE COURTS PROVIDED FOR.

Section 12.—The Judge of the District Court, by and with the consent of the Governor, may create such additional Police Court, Districts as may from time to time be deemed necessary and may define the jurisdictional boundaries for such newly created sub-districts and Police Courts.

POLICE JUDGE HOW APPOINTED.

Section 13.—The Governor shall appoint the Judges of the Police Courts, and their annual salary shall not exceed francs ten thousand five hundred each.

ADDITIONAL DUTY FOR POLICE JUDGES.

Section 14.—In addition to the duty of administering the Police Courts the Police Judges may be assigned to act as deputy clerks of the District Court.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS WHO MAY TAKE.

Section 15.—The Judge of the District Court, each Police Judge, the Clerk of the District Court and each Deputy Clerk of the District Court shall have power to take acknowledgments of deeds, and administer oaths and affirmations, and shall be notaries public.

(To be continued.)

EDITORIAL.

The Creole is just getting in, and the Guiana arrived at Frederiksted at day-break. The former has 20 sacks mail, St. Thomas and Porto Rico, and the latter 30 for Christiansted from the States. This information is given us by the postmaster here who tells us that for the advantage of receiving regular advices concerning the mails and movements of mail vessels we are indebted to Postmaster John Streich of Charlotte Amalie whose zealous co-operation with the St. Croix offices has been the basis for the realisation of much added efficiency to the inter-island service, decidedly of great benefit to our local communities, and much appreciated.

We are requested by the bandmaster of the Industrial Brass Band to announce that this band will give a popular concert

on the wharf on Sunday evening the 26th which will be the band's last appearance in public for some time until certain pieces of instruments which are being sent away for repair are returned. It is also advised that the band hopes in the meantime to acquire some new additional instruments.

The World: Thursday, June 2,
1921 (New York)

America In The Virgin Islands.

To the Editor of The World

I wonder if you have any idea of the difficulties created by articles such as that of Mr. Karl Kitchen published in your Sunday Magazine of April 24.

There is a small handful of Americans down in the Virgin Islands trying their best to interpret the ideals of American citizenship to our new fellow-citizens here. We have spent not just a few days but months and even years here at our tasks. Why not let us speak about conditions in the Virgin Islands? We know.

Every time an article based on scanty and biased information and written with smart-Aleck superiority comes out in the home press it is reprinted down here, and it is we who have to combat the resulting wave of resentment and anti-American feeling long after its writer has gone gayly on his way and forgotten his snap-judgment pronouncements. This, I think you will agree, gives us some right to reply.

Our towns here are not "African villages." They are well-built cities in which the Spanish-American style of architecture predominates. Houses of thick walled stone and stucco, arcaded for coolness, give a quaint attractiveness to the streets. Considering that no city water supply is possible, the sanitation is excellent. Your correspondent, while conceding that health conditions are good, asserts that in all other respects the islands have retrograded since the Americans took charge. Did he discover, I wonder, that wages have more than doubled since the American occupation, and that the standard of living of the working people has never been so high as at present? On one estate on St. Croix sixty tenant farmers have bought horses in the last two years. Even the field hands in the cane fields usually can and do afford to wear whole and clean garments. Personal cleanliness is the rule. Drunkenness, contrary to your correspondent's statement, is not common among the natives of the islands. Respect for law and order is a conspicuous feature of life here. Compulsory education up to the age of fifteen is strictly enforced, and the schools, which were good in Danish days, have been improv-

ed in many respects since the islands became American. It is rare to find an adult in the islands who cannot read or write.

Each town has a public library, furnished by the Red Cross and the American Library Association, and these libraries are extensively used and appreciated by the colored population as well as the white. The institutions, public and private, comprise three general municipal hospitals, a leper asylum in which the new chaulmoogra oil treatment is being successfully administered, an insane hospital, a home for the aged, several orphan asylums, a reformatory for girls and boys now under construction and a penitentiary. All of these institutions maintain very high standards and carry on and improve under the American regime the excellent work that was begun in Danish days.

The only comment your correspondent found to make about the Red Cross in these islands was the statement that it sponsored an indecent moving-picture show in St. Thomas. This is an absolute falsehood, without a thread of foundation. The only performance at which films have been shown under Red Cross auspices were given with Red Cross films furnished direct from our national headquarters and dealing entirely with the work of the Red Cross. In these islands during the last four years the American Red Cross has furnished large quantities of medical supplies and equipment for the hospitals, has opened the libraries before mentioned, has instituted a system of school nurses and supplied two nurses to organize the work, has provided musical instruments for the use of the public schools and has assisted in the care of distressed American seaman, besides numerous other smaller works of benefit to the islands. A staff of five Red Cross nurses, librarians and social workers has been employed in the Virgin Islands since November, 1920, and the membership in the local Red Cross chapters is now well over 10 per cent. of the population, a higher average than in many American communities.

The natural ties of the Virgin Islands to the United States are many. Nearly every family has relatives there. Almost all the trade is with the United States. There was genuine joy in the hearts of the people when the islands became in truth a part of the American Nation. But the complete Americanization of the islands can be helped or hindered immensely by the degree of sympathy and understanding shown towards them by the elder citizens of our great Nation. Such prejudiced articles as Mr. Kitchen's do not help—they hinder.

J. C. COLCORD,
Permanent Field Representative
Virgin Islands Chapters.
Christiansted, St. Croix, V. I. May 20