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ST. CROIX.

MONEY ORDERS

for Great Britain will be accepted at the Post Office from to-day at \$3.75 to the pound.

EDITORIAL.

This paper does not seek or invite controversy. This, of course, does not imply that it believes controversy is always to be discouraged; to the contrary it is quite often useful, and sometimes even necessary. But owing to the fact that locally little attention is paid to logic and sound reasoning nowadays, and people are for the most part led away by biased opinion, it seems practically a waste of good white paper to set up arguments against which a bitter prejudice is religiously preached, and practised. However, for the benefit of those who may be interested, it is perhaps of some importance to explain that each and every newspaper is within its bounds in publishing news notes, and in giving space to public comment as may relate to such news. Such action does not necessarily indicate that the newspaper approves or condones the sentiment so displayed, although if there is good reason to take sides in matters of popular interest, it is proper to do so. An instance now in mind is the news note relative to the number of factory hands having been decreased through causes among which are mentioned strikes and high cost of labor. Any person of average intelligence knows that that news, like all other news, was based upon information from somewhere, comment from some source; and it may be added, good sources. The Herald gets to work and assuming that the factory authorities are responsible for it, secure their word that they had no connection with it. Whoever said the factory authorities had anything to do with the matter anyway? But it does

strike thinking people that since the Herald was so interested it might have ascertained from the factory authorities whether there was any truth in the report. We would have been gratified to copy and give publicity to such an answer. That would have been more sensible than to come out with a camouflage denial which might deceive some people into concluding that the factory authorities had refuted the report. For our part we do not perceive that the people are necessarily maligned by the report even if true. They are entitled to strike when conditions do not suit them, are they not? They have likewise full right to demand what wages they will work for, and if the concerns by which they are engaged do not find it profitable to continue business on conditions satisfactory to the laborer, then the concerns are at liberty to shut down. That a man demands a wage which the returns of the business he engages in does not allow, does not decidedly imply that the demand is unwarrantable. And if it should result in that man being dismissed from work he does not necessarily become an object of criticism and contempt. The position of this paper in the matter is misunderstood, or wilfully misrepresented by those who have the "Christian" generosity and charity to abuse their fellow-men or use any mean trick to achieve their own sinister designs.

It is indeed gratifying to note the downward impetus prices of foodstuffs are taking in the States. According to cable quotation under date of the 18th; cornmeal is listed @ \$2.50 flour @ \$6.41; and sugar \$6.50 pr. 100 lbs. Despite the cheap price of meal which is selling locally at 5 cents a pound eggs cost 7 cents a piece, 1 cent more than authorized by decreased the Food Commission,

The cablegrams report 30,000 or more

Austrian prisoners of war dead of starvation and neglect in Christian Russia. What is the world going to when such things are possible? Life in Russia is said to be simply awful, and the people are living on cats' flesh, and horse flesh, the latter being the staple meat food when it can be got. According to the cables the war-prisoners had not seen bread since September. It is now rumoured that cannibalism is creeping in among the Bolsheviks.

LOCAL.

The Virginia arrived at Frederiksted yesterday afternoon and some of the mails for this town was received here in the evening.

A rumour is current here since Saturday that Judge Malmin has been demitted from office.

The Navy Band entertained the town with a popular concert last evening, favored with moonlight and fine weather.

Patrons of the theatre are reminded that the famous serial "The Great Radium Mystery" commences to-night.

Correspondence.

THE WATER GUT FISH QUESTION

Christiansted, Nov. 20th 1920.

Editor of the Avis,

Dear Sir:—

I fully agree with a "Liberal Catholic" in today's Avis. The Herald of course is at its usual game of fooling or trying to fool people, and for ulterior motives is currying favor with the Sanitary Department making the people it professes to defend the scapegoat. The meeting of the other night was a perfect humbug. It was simply a labor union gathering and nothing more. Its purpose was to create a movement to look as if the whole island wanted man suffrage so that a certain clique can get in power to legislate for everybody. And those of the others who assisted them are mere tools tying rope round their own necks. They think they have done something smart but they are being laughed at, just the same.

Yours
ANOTHER CATHOLIC.

The Editor St. Croix Avis,

Dear Sir:

Ice in Frederiksted is scarcer than money. Cannot get even 1 lb. from Christiansted. Hurry up Frederiksted Ice Factory.

COUNTRY.

19-11-1920.