

A Proclamation

By the Governor of the Virgin Islands of the United States.

BY virtue of the authority vested in me I do hereby set apart February 12, 1920 and proclaim it a public holiday within the Virgin Islands of the United States for the purpose of observing LINCOLN'S Birthday.

J. W. OMAN.

Governor.

Government House, St. Thomas,
V. I., January 31, 1920.

Notice To All Importers.

THE following advice has been received from the Raporel Line, New York: "As all bills, claims and accounts against all steamers sailing from New York previously to January 1st, 1920, are for account of Raporel S. S. Line, Ed. M. Raphel & Co., Inc., Agents, it is necessary that same be sent forward for settlement as promptly as possible. You will please advise all consignees that claims not presented to you within (30) thirty days after receipt of this letter will be void."

ROBT. L. MERWIN & CO.,

Agents Raporel Line

Frederiksted

We have been asked to mention that the Native Brass Band will give a concert of popular numbers on the Wharf to-night, weather permitting.

Time and space will not permit the publication today of our report of last night's meeting. See tomorrow's issue for a complete account.

The soiree held during the last two days in aid of St. John's Church closed with proceeds amounting in round figures to \$500 to be used towards defraying the expenses connected with tiling the sanctuary the work of which is already in progress.

The appointment of Dr. D. C. Canegata as chairman of the Food Commission to supersede Judge Noll who has tendered his resignation in order to attend to more important work, was announced in yesterday's official news. Dr. Canegata is also a very busy man and while his selection is an excellent one as far as his being suitable is concerned, it looks like imposing too much on a good man who has already got his hands full with more

important work. As before advanced in this paper, the Food Commission should include an office from the Customs which department has the peculiar advantage of being intimately acquainted with imports and gaining information concerning other matters of advantage in connection with the fixing of food prices.

Attention is called to the fact that the acceptance of foreign money in the transaction of postal business is forbidden by the Postal Laws and Regulations only that an exception has been made locally in the case of D. W. I. currency it being realized that to demand U. S. currency which is in circulation only to a very limited extent in St. Croix would work a hardship on the general public for whose benefit the postal service is maintained. When Danish money is received at the post office a premium corresponding to the current rate of exchange is collected and if payees so request or U. S. currency is not immediately available, Danish money plus the National Bank's selling rate of exchange is used in the cashing of money orders. Notwithstanding this effort to offer accommodation and eliminate inconvenience, there appears to exist some misunderstanding among certain persons who while paying in Danish money to are unwilling to accept it from the post office. It is therefore explained that the advantage of making payments in Danish money is a privilege and not a right which may be discontinued if the public declines to cooperate in accepting the currency they offer.

There was published in yesterday's issue under official news an item to the effect that Mr. C. Coulter has been transferred from his position as Inspector of the Frederiksted Municipal Hospital and appointed Senior District Chief of Police, effective on the 1st instant. Indeed, it is gratifying to note the opportunities opening up to natives to fill responsible positions that will be so conducted as to redound with credit to the Cruzian element and in congratulating Mr. Coulter in his new post, the town of Frederiksted must be considered fortunate in having such a suitable and generally capable man to discharge the duties of his office. The position is the same as that filled by our energetic Mr. Espersen at Richmond in this district where there is a decided improvement in the entire working of the department as far as can be observed by the outsider, since his transfer to Christiansted. With that precursor that characterises the military man and with an activity that knows no relaxation it is a pleasure to see the way Mr. Espersen manages his business. The Naval Government certainly is to be commended on its selection of men of this sort to fill public offices where constant intercourse with the people calls for the tact and proper action so to be desired and admired.

OFFICIAL NEWS.

February 3, 1920.

Governor Oman announces the following personnel of the Congressional Committee which will arrive on the U. S. S. Dolphin: Senator Walter E. Edge of New Jersey, Senator William S. Keryon of Iowa and Senator Edward J. Gay of Louisiana; Congressman Horace M. Tower of Iowa, Congressman Finie Garret of Tennessee and Congressman Phillip P. Campbell of Kansas. The Committee is accompanied by Rear Admiral James H. Oliver, U. S. Navy, Major Jesse F. Dyer, U. S. Marine Corps, Mr. Sanermark, Mr. Denegere and a Secretary. The party which comprises eleven persons will leave San Juan early Thursday morning the 5th and arrive in St. Thomas about noon.

The U. S. S. Henderson arrived at St. Thomas yesterday morning and it is expected she will sail tomorrow. Lieut. Paul Keller, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy, and Lieutenant Eugene L. Walter, Dental Corps, U. S. Navy arrived for duty at the Naval Station. The remaining passengers were Mrs. Walter, Mrs. W. C. Van Norden and children, Mrs. O. E. Donovan, and infant, Mrs. Edith Uhl, 6 enlisted men of the Navy, 50 Marines and 30 tons of freight. Among the passengers sailing for the States on board there are Darwin O. Curry, Collector of Customs, transferred from St. Thomas to duty at Pensacola, Florida, Mrs. Curry, Lieut. Harry L. Brockmann, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy, transferred from the Leper Asylum at St. Croix to duty at the Naval Medical School in Washington, Lieutenant Conrad H. Nelson, Dental Corps, U. S. Navy, who recently resigned from the service, Mrs. Nelson, Ensign Zook, U. S. Navy, transferred to the States for discharge and Mrs. Schroeder, wife of John Schroeder, U. S. Navy, attached to Subchaser No. 62.

Editor of the St. Croix Avis.

Dear Sir:

For the benefit of the public, I want to explain that I was invited to speak at the meeting of Sunday night.

I did not know that anyone other than Messrs. Fabio and Alexander had any right to invite me, or I would not have attended.

In the United States where there are several thousands of our people residing, we are not only invited to hear the grievances of our people, but we are also expected to cover all expenses for them, and contribute liberally to the cause which they represent.

We do not place their intelligence at such a terrible under-estimate, even though it is usually backed up with boastful prates and not facts.

We do not stop to consider whether you are exponents in grammar or else, what we want to know is whether you