

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., THURSDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 1920.

No. 208

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.

Contribution to this paper will be gladly received when the same deals with matters of general interest, and is accompanied with the author's name, as a guarantee of good faith. The editor cannot be responsible for the views of his correspondents nor does he necessarily endorse them.

St. Thomas News.

LUTHERAN CONGREGATION TENDER FAREWELL TO REV. KASTRUP.

On Wednesday evening, one of those beautiful and touching scenes that go so far towards expressing the high regard felt by a people for one who, after years of service in their midst, is called away to other fields, was enacted at Bethania, when the members of the Lutheran congregation bade farewell to the Rev. P. Kastrup.

Long before the hour appointed for the ceremony arrived, the spacious hall was filled to overflowing with the members of the congregation and well wishers of the Reverend gentleman.

At 8.10 precisely, the meeting was opened with some appropriate remarks by the Chairman, Mr. A. R. Benjamin, in which he deeply regretted the departure of Rev. Kastrup, the "last link in the chain of Danish ministers."

The remarks of the Chairman were followed by the hymn, "God will take care of you," sung by the congregation, and a prayer by Rev. Christensen, the new incumbent of the parsonage. Another hymn, "Send the light," was then sung, after which followed the chief function of the evening, the presentation of a farewell address, and a valuable silver tea-set.

The address was read, first in Danish, by Bank Director Holst, and then in English, by Mr. A. R. Benjamin. Miss Venetia Raimo then presented the souvenir.

The following is the address:

Whereas our pastor, Reverend Peter Henrik Edward Kastrup, in answer to an urgent call from Denmark to continue an

important work formerly carried on there by him with great success, has felt in conscience bound to accept the call, and has therefore resigned his post as pastor of this congregation, and

Whereas, we recognize that after a period of eight years uninterrupted service in this island, the desire to return to the Mother Country and continue the work he was doing, is natural

Resolved, That we, the officers and members of Frederik Church, in obedience to the higher claims the Lutheran Church in Denmark has on Reverend Kastrup, with deep sorrow and regret acquiesce in the acceptance of his resignation as Pastor of this congregation by the Head Board.

Resolved, that in severing our relations as Pastor and People, we desire to put on record the reluctance with which we part with him, not only for his personal merit and the faithful and efficient work he has done among us during the eight years' sojourn, but also as he represents the last visible connecting link between us and the Diocese of Zealand, of which this congregation formed a part before the transfer of these islands from Dear Denmark to the United States of America.

We shall always remember with gratitude his earnestness in his work, his attention to the young, the infirm, the feeble, and the poor and needy; and his public spiritedness on all occasions.

Resolved, That we give to Rev. Kastrup the heartfelt assurance that the affection and prayers of our people will always attend him and his family in his new field of labour.

May the Master's richest blessings continue to follow his work, and may he reap an abundant harvest.

Resolved, That a properly engrossed copy of these resolutions, signed by the officers of this congregation be given Reverend Kastrup, and the same be published in "The Lutheran," the "Kristelig Dagblad," and in the daily papers of this island.

St. Thomas, V. I. U. S. A., August 9, 1920.

ORVILLE S. KEAN

O. JENSEN

N. P. MORTENSEN

AMOS BENJAMIN

A vocal solo, "Glory to Thee my God this night", was then sung in a pleasant and masterly manner by Mr. Chas. O. Hay.

The presentation of another address, and gift, a purse containing \$200 gold, from the Lutheran Brotherhood next followed. This address was read and

presented by Mr. C. Hay, while to Mr. M. Lindqvist fell the honour of delivering the purse. After the singing of a chorus by the choir of the Sunday School, there followed the presentation of the third address and souvenir, this time a gift from the Sunday School teachers. This was a beautiful silver cup, suitably engraved.

This third address was read by Miss Adina Kean, and the presentation made by Miss M. Perkins.

Next on the program came a recitation "Self denying Love" by Mr. Cyril Creque; a piano solo, "The Mountain Stream," by Miss Osee Lockhart and a hymn, by Mrs. J. Tornøe, and sung in Danish. The last of these pieces was most appropriately rendered as it was one of the Reverend gentleman's favourite hymns, and it must have touched him deeply remembering as he must perforce have done, that though returning in a little while to his own folks that he was leaving behind him friends who honored and loved him,—friends who were by him beloved in return.

The hymn over, Rev. Kastrup rose, and in words well chosen and feelingly expressed, addressed the assembly, thanking them for the remarks of love and sympathy shown him and his family in his sojourn among them.

It was a touching address and at the thought of separation many an eye was dimmed with tears.

The response over, the hymn "God be with you" was then sung, the first part in a duet by Messrs Benjamin and Hay, the vast audience joining in the chorus.

The closing remarks by the chairman were then made and the meeting brought to a close by the singing of the Doxology.

Rev. Kastrup came to St. Thomas in 1912, as assistant to Archdeacon Johannes Petersen, who later was succeeded by Pastor Bjerg. After the demise of the latter, whose assistant he likewise was, he was appointed pastor of the congregation. During these 8 years the Rev. gentleman has, by his kind and manly character won the esteem, not only of his flock, but of all who came in contact with him.

With his congregation, we join in wishing for him a bright and happy future.

We also through this medium embrace the opportunity of welcoming in our midst Rev. and Mrs. Christensen, and wish for them a pleasant and fruitful time among us.—St. Thomas Mail Notes, 3rd. Sept.