

To The Public.

THE invitations sent out for a meeting at Midland on Saturday night, and which is likely to be introduced in a similar way in both towns, has nothing to do with any part of the work of the Virgin Islands Protective League, neither is it in anyway connected with the proposed meeting as suggested in my article READ and THINK.

There are two separate propositions to be introduced, wholly independent of each other, and only in one case will the League take a prominent part.

ASHLEY L. TOTTEN.

Friday Evening Concert

U. S. NAVAL BAND,

Christiansted, Virgin Islands,

Feb. 20th. 1920.

First Musician Jacob W. Paulus, *Leader*.

—: PROGRAM:—

PART I.

March. The Post Adjutant....Herman Turner Jr.

Cornet Solo. Pretty Maid Milking Her Cow.....Arr. Tom Clark.

Two Step. Swanee Rag....Chas. L. Johnson.

Waltz. Last Night was the end of the World....H. Von Tilzer.

PART II.

March. The Fighting Yanks.....H. J. Crosby.

Grand Selection. Echoes From the Opera Theo.....M. Tobani.

Indian Intermezzo. Aisha.....John Lindsay.

One Step. "When You're Not Here".....Bernie Alder.

NATIONAL ANTHEM.

We have been asked to mention that the Revd. M. A. Morgan, late of the Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Mich., will hold Divine Service in the Fredens-thal Moravian Church in this town on Sundays 22nd and 29th inst.

The Industrial Band rendered a popular concert last night which was much enjoyed by the gathering.

Christiansted, St. Croix, Feb. 19, 1920.

To Mr. R. H. Amphlett Leader,

Frederiksted.

Sir:—

I do hereby honestly assure you that I am not among those (wise?) men who sent you anonymous letters.

In considering me as one of your colleagues and political admirers you have given your readers the *wrong* impression.

I am not remodeled, being still in the

flesh and not a production in marble like the statues who have time and again been compelled to look up to you".

P. L. LABEGA.

The Sugar Question And The Food Commission Etc.

Editor "St. Croix Avis",

Sir:—

With the hope that it will open the eyes of the public, including the honorable Food Commission in this island to the fact that the sister island of St. Thomas appears to be working along rather more practical lines in dealing with the regulation of food prices, you are kindly requested to publish this letter embodying an extract from the St. Thomas Mail Notes of 16th. inst. reading as follows:

"13 February 1920.

SUGAR REGULATIONS.

THE Food Commission at its meeting today fixed the prices of Sugar as follows:

	Wholesale	Retail
Sugar, brown crystal	9c.	11c.
Sugar, clear crystal	10c.	12c.
Sugar, washed crystal	11c.	13c.

Wholesale dealers are directed to put sugar on the market, *immediately*, at the above prices. In the event that this is not done the Food Commission hereby serves notice that it will take over the entire stock of Sugar in St. Thomas, at invoice prices, as provided by Section 6 of Ordinance of 7 October 1918, reading as follows:

"It shall have power to take over the stock of any or all merchants, dealers, producers or growers who do not act in the manner prescribed by the commission by paying them the reasonable value thereof, but stocks of merchants who sell at prices and in quantities and to persons in the manner determined by the commission shall not be taken over. In case any dealer or producer whose stock is taken over shall object to the value determined by the commission, his stock may nevertheless be taken over, but he shall have the right to appeal to the Court or the district in which his business is located within ten days after he is notified of the value assessed and in such case the value of such stock shall be determined by the Court after both parties have been given an opportunity to be heard."

The Food Commission rules that "retail" means the sale in quantities of one pound or more; and that "wholesale" means the sale of one or more bags.

No retailer may refuse to sell sugar in one pound lots.

It is requested that the Food Commission be promptly notified, in writing, of

any refusal on the part of any one to sell at prices fixed above.

Exportation of sugar is absolutely prohibited

C. C. TIMMONS.

President Food Commission."

It will be noted that the prices of crystal sugar range from 9 to 13 cents, and that the wholesale prices of the different grades are also given. Now it should be apparent to any thinking person that if sugar can be sold at 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 cents a pound in St. Thomas where no sugar is produced, and where its importation must necessarily be attended with expenses for freight, landing, and if it be foreign sugar, also import duty, which expenses are wholly excluded in St. Croix this being the place where the article used here is manufactured, then it takes some brains to reason out the St. Croix Food Commission's method of calculation when fixing the retail price of sugar and that of the poorest quality namely raw sugar at 16c. a pound and failing to quote any wholesale prices whatsoever. It looks like making fun at the people to do this sort of thing and with reference to other communications on the same subject published in your paper, the sellers ought to be excused in not adhering to the prices ruled by the Food Commission for probably they are not taken seriously. You will also read in a recent issue of St. Thomas Mail Notes that Mr. Lockhart will open additional stores for the retailing of sugar at the above mentioned prices. Why, it will pay the people here to send to St. Thomas to buy sugar! The Government ought to be implored in the interest of the people generally, either to make such changes in the Food Commission as will render it of some effective good to the island for the purpose it was established, or abolish it and let St. Croix be governed by the prices ruled by the St. Thomas Commission.

OLD COOK.

P. S. Would like to advise those straining under the burden of milk at 13 cents, that a tin of condensed milk will give three quarts and costs but 30 cents, also that good American butter can be had at 90 cents a pound. Try these for a while, at least until the milk and butter magnates lose their sting.

O. C.

Christiansted, St. Croix, Feb. 19, 1920.

Wanted to Know.

If the Municipal Bands must obtain permission of authorities if they wish to include the Danish National Anthem in their programmes for public concerts; and if so why.

M.

This morning about 2.30 o'clock the