

GOVERNMENT OF THE
VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
ST. CROIX

Official Publication.

THE mail arriving from Continental United States today brought a copy of Senate Bill No. 2785, introduced in the Senate on March 10, 1924, by Senator McLEAN of Connecticut *by request*. This bill is entitled: "A Bill to provide a Civil Government for the Virgin Islands, and for other purposes."

I desire to inform the people of the Virgin Islands that the Government had nothing whatever to do with this bill; was given no opportunity to comment upon it prior to its presentation to the United States Senate and, in fact, knew nothing concerning it until the printed copy was received this morning. Further, insofar as this Government is aware, the party or parties who requested Senator McLEAN to introduce this bill acted without the consent and approval of the people inasmuch as the people as represented by the two Colonial Councils have not signified a desire for a complete change in the form of government of these islands.

The danger of legislation concerning the Virgin Islands being introduced in the Federal Congress without official backing is only too apparent. Would not this bill, if enacted, endanger the Federal appropriation now made for the islands? Porto Rico, from whose Organic Act this bill is largely copied, receives no direct Federal appropriation.

PHILIP WILLIAMS,
Governor.

LOCAL

The St. Thomas papers are hot these days. The batch received on Saturday contain reference to clashes in the town between service-men, the police and natives, and dissatisfaction at the decision of the court is openly expressed. The Mail Notes denouncing the police declares that this is the last time St. Thomas will stand for incompetence and brutality from policemen whose "proper sphere is the field;" whether the battle-

Publication.

IT is hereby brought to public notice that the Government has, this date, authorized the Reverend ALPHONSE J. WOLF, C.S.S.R., to perform civil-religious functions in the Municipality of Saint Croix.

Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States, St. Croix, 27 March, 1924.

WM. S. ZANE,
Government Secretary.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REPORT No. 31.
Week Ending March 28, 1924.
Municipality of St. Croix.

School	Class	Percent of Pupils not tardy.	Percent of Attendance.
Frederiksted	Jr. High	99.78	100.00
La Vallee	Rural	100.00	100.00
Christiansted	Jr. High	98.63	99.73
Diamond	Rural	100.00	99.45
Frederiksted	Public	99.20	99.42
Peter's Rest	Rural	100.00	98.82
Christiansted	Public	99.18	98.11
La Princesse	Rural	98.00	93.60
Friedensfeld	Rural	96.51	92.26

field or the cane-field is not defined by our cotem.

The Native Brass Band entertained a large gathering with its special concert of national airs last night.

The s. s. Parima for New York sailed from Frederiksted yesterday morning, carrying as usual a number of passengers.

The U. S. S. Grebe left Frederiksted on Saturday morning for Culebra via St. Thomas taking members of the Colonial Council and friends of the navy officers to witness the maneuvers of the fleet, returning yesterday morning. We have been promised an account of the trip by our esteemed townsman Mr. W. S. Abramson which we hope to publish tomorrow.

In this issue there will be found an official publication from the Governor received on Saturday, the subject matter of which our readers have doubtless been acquainted with. By papers received by Saturday's mail it is understood that this bill was being carried to Congress through Mr. Rothschild Francis, editor of the Emancipator, St. Thomas. For the present we regard it as premature to make any remarks on this matter.

The Afro-American of the 15th instant contains what purports to be a report of the Virgin Islands commission as made to Secretary of Labor Davis. It embodies several points and includes among other things a provision for making the Virgin Islanders real citizens of the United States. It urges that the Department of Commerce study business possibilities in the island; exchange of teachers and scholars between the public schools of the Virgin Islands and colored colleges of America; that the term of the governor be made longer, etc.

Correspondence

Christiansted, March 29, 1924.
The Editor, "St. Croix Avis."
Dear Mr. Editor:

I have had many a smile at your witticisms in dealing with local facts in these days, and venture to offer you a suggestion which may be humorous but helpful if followed, all the same. It is that the sign over the bridge in Strand Street reading NO DUMPING be either removed from there and placed on the wharf or a similar sign made and placarded near the crane which is as much a dumping ground as any you want to find, excepting the rubbish heap near the fish-market. I am not charging you anything for this tip.

Yours
STROLLER.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, March 26th.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Rome says that a disaster has occurred at Amalfi, 22 miles south east of Naples, caused by the river Cannetto getting out of its banks, followed by landslides which destroyed the famous Cappuccini Convent and some of the hotels and other buildings in the villager. Fifty of the villagers are reported to have been killed, says the despatch and grave fears are felt for the tourists, many of whom were stopping in the local hotels. A large area of vineyards and a number of farm houses were destroyed. A large part of the township of Vettica is lying under a thick layer of mud, rocks and trees. Amalfi is virtually isolated owing to landslides on both the Sorrento and Salerno sides of the town. Torpedo boats have arrived to render relief. Apparently the whole coast between Salerno and Sorrento suffered. A boat has been sent from Naples to pick up stranded tourists in the affected area.

London, March 26th.—There were no signs tonight of any settlement of the strike of the bus and tramway workers and with a threatened lockout in the ship-building trade and the dispute with the coal miners still unsettled, the Ministry of Labor seemed destined for a while