

St. Croix Avis.

75th YEAR.

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., THURSDAY, 11TH MARCH 1920.

No. 57.

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 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.

U. S. NAVY PRESS NEWS.

March 8, 1920.

WASHINGTON: Three separate reports made by Senate Subcommittee that investigated recent controversy over award decoration in Navy were made public today. Majority report signed by three Republican Members criticise Secretary Daniels for not having fully advised officers as to his plans in making award and asserted that his policy of decorating officers who lost their lives "by not requiring sufficiently high standard of meritorious conduct" would be detrimental to the Navy's morals as result of awards of the controversy and second that enlisted men received too small a share of recognition for their services. The reports were submitted by two Democratic members of committee, each defining course taken by the Secretary and tackling Admiral Sims. Senator Whitman characterized whole hearing as "tempest in a teapot".

WASHINGTON: On request of Rear Admiral Sims, the Naval Court of Inquiry appointed to investigate the circumstances of Rear Admiral Wm. B. Fletcher's removal from command of American Naval Forces at Brest by Admiral Sims in October 1917, adjourned temporarily today shortly after meeting to organize. Agreed that court will reconvene in few days at such time as Admiral Sims completes testimony before Senate sub-committee which begins investigation of Sims' charges against Navy's war record tomorrow morning. Admiral Fletcher represented by civilian counsel and Major Carpenter, Marine Corps retired, and Commander Poyer, U. S. N. retired, while Admiral Sims asks

that Admiral Turnins be retained as his counsel.

PHILADELPHIA: Six third line battle ships stationed here are to be dismantled according to orders received here today; they are MAINE, ALABAMA, WISCONSIN, ILLINOIS, KENTUCKY and Kearsarge. The dismantled vessels will be sold as scrap iron or used as targets. None were in battle but were units of fleet which circled globe in 1908.

WASHINGTON: Discovery of a co-operative kidnapping association having its purpose the kidnapping and holding for ransom foreigners, preferably Americans, is announced by the Foreign Office, according to cable from Mexico City. Announcement says this unique company is made up of Mexicans and Americans on the border according to information collected through consular office. Announcement adds that this organization is also engaged in trying to create between two countries unrest. Orders to military commanders in northern Mexico to break up this organization have been given.

ELPASO, TEXAS: Joseph Williams, American employee of oil plant at Pedriena, Mexico, has been captured by Villa and is held for fifty-thousand dollars ransom according to passengers from Southern Chihuahua. They report that Villa bandits attacked train killing several and taking Williams and another man, but the rest of the helpless passengers marooned in desolate country.

OLD POINT COMFORT: Famous Chamberlain totally destroyed by fire late yesterday. Fire started on ground floor and in two hours whole building was in ruins. Believed that all of two hundred guests and employees got out safely.

WASHINGTON: Stock dividends may not be taxed as income the supreme court ruled today in declaring unconstitutional the provisions of the income tax act of nineteen sixteen taxing as incomes such dividends declared by corporations. Out of earnings and profits accruing after March 1, 1913 means government will have to refund millions.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, March 3rd. A noteworthy phase of the present meeting of the Peace Conference is the changed attitude towards Germany. In high diplomatic circles, it is asserted, that the Con-

ference has come to recognize that Germany ruined, would mean a weak and dangerous spot in Europe. Great Britain, and personally, Mr. Lloyd George, are credited with being the chief forces in bringing about this policy, while the French peace Delegation are described as moving towards this point of view reluctantly, although they are moving, it being asserted, that the French are less immovable than when M. Clemenceau was at the helm of the state. How to set Germany on her feet is one of the largest questions the conference considering. It is probable it will sanction an International Loan to her, but the question of security is a basic one. It is expected that a plan will be arranged which will offer inducements to the smaller rich neutral countries to subscribe to a Loan and even Great Britain, her representatives believe, will contribute officially or unofficially although financial commitments of various sorts arising from the war are greater than those of any other nation.

London, March 3rd.—The disposition of the Turkish Navy was definitely settled by the Allied Supreme Council today, it being decided that the Peace Treaty had provided that the warships should be broken up.

Hamilton, Bermuda, March 1st.—The people of Bermuda are highly incensed at Senator Kenyon's resolution, recently introduced in the United States Senate, proposing to buy the islands from Great Britain. The Press denounces it as grossly impertinent and as showing evidence of appalling ignorance of the British attitude regarding the indivisibility of the Empire.

London, March 2nd.—The people in the United Kingdom, young and old, have embarked on another vigorous campaign against rats, under the provisions of the rats and mice act. This law compels the occupants of land to keep the premises free from these rodents, a penalty of five pounds being provided for failure to do so. The law also applies to ships in port.

London, March 3rd.—The next few weeks will bring further interesting trials of political strength in several parts of England. Sir William Sutherland, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, seeks reelection in Argyllshire, on becoming a Lord of the Treasury, and is opposed by Labour and Land League Candidates.

Dublin, March 3rd.—The military and

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