

EDITORIAL.

In this number there appears a communication from the President of the St. Thomas Chapter of the American Red Cross correcting the number of members enrolled during the late drive to 850 instead of 500. It is with gratification that this information is received, and it is sincerely hoped that our own island campaign will prove no less indicative of local interest in the worthy movement. However, it should not be omitted to mention that the figures published in issue of the 21st. ultimo appeared in an article contributed to the paper, and does not bear any editorial responsibility whatever.

LOCAL.

Rain, and more rain, is the weather report. The elements are furnishing us with a lavish supply of water, and it is to be hoped that this rainfall at the opening of the year will prove an index to proper seasonable falls throughout the ensuing months. The gauge at the fort records this morning 5½ lines.

The town was very much stirred yesterday while the witnesses in the Anduze case were heard, the grounds and street corners near the Police Office being thronged with a crowd eager to learn facts. So far it is understood that one man only has been arrested, the others dismissed, one on bail. There are various reports in circulation but nothing authentic is known as yet.

The new serial presented at the theatre last night was well received and may be recommended as a highly attractive film equal to any of its predecessors.

CORRECTION.

In Editorial of December 31st. last, the word *agriculture* is corrected to *agricultural*, and toward the end of the paragraph the word *and* preceding dangers, to *any*.

Correspondence.

Charlotte Amalia,
St. Thomas, V. I. U. S. A.
December 31, 1920.

To the Editor of the St. Croix Avis.
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Dear Sir:—

I notice in your description of the Red Cross meeting held at the Frederiksted High School on Tuesday December the 21st that the statement was made to the effect that in St. Thomas the Roll call campaign resulted in almost 500 members. Permit me to correct this statement, and I will be glad if you will

only publish the correction. The latest information from the treasurer puts the result of the drive at over 850 members, with applications still coming in. We are optimistic and hope to secure 1000 members. The most satisfactory feature of the drive is the fact that almost all the subscriptions have been for one dollar membership. A very great deal of the credit is due to the faithful and conscientious canvas of the town and country made by the ladies and others who undertook the soliciting.

Thanking you in advance for kindly publishing this statement, and expressing the wish that the Red Cross campaign in St. Croix may prove as successful and gratifying as our own.

I am, dear sir,

Yours very truly,

E. C. GREIDER,

President of the St. Thomas Chapter of
the American Red Cross.

TELEGRAM.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, Dec. 28th.—Never since daily newspapers came into being has London been without news as this Christmas, all sources of news having been dried up for three days and all the news services disorganized. The experiment has not been regarded as a success and the public have certainly not enjoyed their strange experience.

London, Dec. 28th.—The labour commissions report on conditions in Ireland, issued tonight, ridicules the official contentions that Sinn Feiners themselves burned and destroyed property in towns of markedly Sinn Fein sympathy as "unreasonable and indeed stupid". A minute description is given of all cases investigated. One interesting point is that of the case of the Croke Park tragedy, when on November 21st. numbers of persons were killed or injured at a football game. The report absolves the authorities from anything in the nature of premeditated reprisal. The report testifies to the difficulty of gathering information owing to the terrorism existing, eyewitnesses being threatened even with death if they divulge what they have seen. It describes minutely the character and organization of all the crown forces. Dealing with the constabulary, it says: "We feel compelled to express the opinion that a by no means negligible proportion of the men as at present constituted, are men of intemperate habits, utterly unsuited to their duties". The strongest condemnation, however, is reserved for the auxiliaries, who, it is declared, evidently enjoy support and powerful protection.

Fiume, Dec. 29th.—Gabriele D'Annunzio early today surrendered all his powers to the Fiume Communal Council. A conference for the purpose of arranging the final cessation of hosti-

lities between the regular Italian forces of General Cavaglia and D'Annunzio's was set for this morning. Meanwhile all military operations have been suspended. The truce was arranged during the night and will continue until the conclusion of the Conference. The Mayor of Fiume and Captain Hostwenturi, in whose hands D'Annunzio placed the defence of the city, will be the spokesmen for Fiume, D'Annunzio apparent being ignored.

New York, Dec. 28th.—The New York World in the second of a series of articles advocating disarmament, today publishes cable messages from a number of leading men of Europe. The following are excerpts from a number of those messages: Lord Beverbrook. Great Britain, Japan and America ought to agree on a naval holiday during which no ships could be built and they should insist upon the smaller naval powers following suit. The Daily Express will urge this plan with all its energies and press the necessity for limiting armaments on the British public and Government. Lord Buckmaster. The path of international disarmament is the only one that can lead the world to safety. Competitions between nations in armaments is a race for bankruptcy, a race which those who win and those who lose alike will gain the prize. If the common sense of mankind cannot agree for its mutual protection common folly will work its ruin. Lord Bryce. It is to me rather doubtful whether good will be done in the United States by expressions of opinion proceeding from England on the question of disarmaments, but I hope for a nearby opportunity of expressing my own feelings on the subject in Parliament. Cardinal Gasparry, Papal Secretary of State. I must remind you that the first proposal of this nature, the pontifical appeal sent on August 16th 1917 to the heads of the belligerent nations, looked to simultaneous diminution of armaments and the substitution therefore, of the principle of arbitration. In view of the fact that the Holy See first set forth such a proposal and officially urges it, you can imagine with what joy it would hail the realization.

Tours, Dec. 28th.—The French Socialist Party, tonight by a large majority voted in favour of absolute affiliation with the Moscow internationals.

Dublin, Dec. 29th.—The military today made extensive raids and searches on residences and business establishments throughout Dublin. In Rutland Square alone 500 soldiers made a house to house inspection and about a score of young men were arrested.

Rome, Dec. 29th.—D'Annunzio has issued a proclamation declaring that it is not worth while dying for Italy. He said he was leaving Fiume by airplane. This was semiofficially announced here this afternoon together with an announcement that the Fiume agreement