

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., TUESDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY 1920.

No. 43.

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.

INDEPENDENCE FOR ARMENIA

The recognition of the republic of Armenia by the United States will gladden the hearts of the Armenian's and encourage them to hold on under all difficulties until the peace conference shall have finished the fixing of boundaries and the guarding against Turkish aggression. At present the conference is not in session but the council of Ambassadors is acting for it at Paris, and to this council Ambassador Wallace has conveyed the message of our state department concerning Armenia. To recognize the "republic of Armenia" means, of course, to recognize the independence of the Armenian nation. It implies nothing whatever in the direction of a mandate, trusteeship or protectorate. The right of the Armenians to full independence is indisputable. Their civilization, ability, character and history entitle them to a place among the self-governing nations.

But what is meant by the republic of Armenia as a State having territorial dominion? A state bearing that name was formed some time ago in the Caucasus. It is the neighbor of Georgia, in what was Russian, not Turkish, territory, and it fought, alongside the Russian army against the Turks. Its people are Armenians who fled from Turkish misrule many years ago, believing that they would be safer from persecution under a Czar than under a Sultan. Toward the end of the war they found the opportunity to assert their freedom, and they fought in co-operation with the British at Batum and Baku against both Ottoman and Bolshevik forces. But it is a much larger state which is referred to in the American declaration at Paris. It is

the state the boundaries of which will be defined by the Turkish treaty, the state of which our old friend Lord Bryce has said:

The new Armenian state must include Cilicia on the south, it must include the valley of those gallant mountaineers who for many centuries maintained their independence against the Turks. The Armenian state must have access to the sea, in order that its commerce may have the development it is entitled to command. As also Armenia must include that which was Russian territory in the Caucasus. In that quarter there has already been established an Armenian republic. The republic ought to be recognised by the powers, and I hope it will be.

He alluded also to the service rendered by Gen. Antranik and his men on the Armenian northern front, and by other Armenians who fought in France and Belgium, and declared for the recognition of the Armenian republic proclaimed by the Armenians whose national territory had been in the hands of the tyrannous Turks. If this is the republic recognized by the United States, are the French ready to withdraw their army of occupation from Cilicia? Will the peace conference permit the Turkish government to remain in Constantinople? Are the allied and associated powers, including the United States, prepared to guarantee the Armenian republic against Turkish aggression? This should be the business of the league of nations. Obviously there are several important questions to be considered. Yet they may be almost summed up thus in one: Is it the duty of the powers to maintain the rights of the republic they recognize? *Boston Herald, Jan. 28th.*

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Publication

FROM THE POLICE.

THE attention of all owners and drivers of vehicles in the Island of St. Croix is hereby called to the observance of, and compliance with, Paragraph 27 of the Police Regulations for St. Croix of 30th January 1915 and the Supplementary Regulations thereto of 24th February 1915—viz—

Paragraph 7.

"All vehicles when in use between the hours of sunset and sunrise shall be provided with a lighted lantern on either side, or at least in front on the right side".

Supplementary Regulations.

"For all automobiles, a distinguishing letter and number shall be prescribed by the Police, and no automobile must be used upon public roads without being provided with two signboards, one in front and one at the back of the car, containing these distinguishing signs, easy to be read at a distance of 75 feet".

"When in use between sunset and sunrise, the automobiles must be provided with a lighted lantern which clearly illuminates the hind signboard.

JOHN L. CURRY.
Director of Police.

Frederiksted Police Office, February 13th 1920.

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