at an illegal profit of more than four cents per pound. The sugar is said to be owned by a Canadian refining company. When the food administrator accused the broker of profiteering he contended that the sugar could be sold here at any price as it did not come under control of the United States Sugar Equalization Board. Mr. Williams informed the broker that under the lever law a conviction with two years' imprisonment or a fine of $5 000 or both could be brought. He advised him to notify the Canadian company of the serious shortage here and urge the sale of the sugar at a reasonable price. Shortly after Mr. Williams was told by the broker that the company's officials had instructed him to ship the sugar back to Canada if he could not get the price they wanted for it. Mr. Williams promptly communicated with Mr. Matthews, Assistant United States Attorney, who said he would summon the broker before him.

Helsingfors, Nov. 4th — Petrograd has been without bread for the last two weeks. Thousands of persons are dying daily, according to information brought to Helsingfors yesterday by a Finn who escaped from a prison camp at Moscow on Oct. 12th. The population of Petrograd has fallen below 100,000, he said. The schools were closed owing to the lack of fuel. It is also reported that the prices of food stuffs now available were so dear as to be entirely out of the reach of the poor. Herrings were bringing 200 rubles each and potatoes 120 rubles per pound. Milk was 80 rubles per pint and meat was unobtainable.

Montreal, Nov. 4th. Outstanding announcements at the victory loan dinner at the Windsor hotel here last night were that Cardinal Mercier had subscribed $100 to the victory loan, and that the Sun Life Assurance had repeated their last year subscription of $10,000,000. The Cardinal in making his subscription, said he did so because of his hopes for the future and prosperity of Canada, a country, he added, which had done so gloriously in the great war. Montreal's total at a Conservative estimate is now $46,000,000.

New York Nov. 4th.—Give us freedom from Government interference and we will see that the American people get plenty of sugar, a refiner says. "The Govt. has succeeded in keeping down the price of sugar, but it has caused the supply to become inadequate for the balance of the year, were it not for the Government control we would have been buying Peruvians, San Domingo, Demerara, St. Croix, Venezuelians. These are going to Canada which is in a position to bid higher prices. The St. Croix and Venezuelian sugar crops, of course, are small but in the aggregate all these sugars count. Phillipine sugars, which formerly came to this country, have been sold to Japan at a price far above what the United States refiners could pay under Govt. control. As for the price going to 18 or 20 cents a pound if control is discontinued I don't belive it. Higher prices naturally tend to reduce buying. Government control may keep down prices. Without control, on the other hand it would always be possible to get sugar at some price and there would be less incentive to hoard. That would tend to equalize the demands. With no definite action on the McNary sugar bill yet taken, it becomes increasingly probable that Government control be continued. The bill has not been ever reported out of the committee. Last year the contract with the Cuban producers, was signed about October 15th, and the preliminaries had been arranged early in September. The Federal Sugar Refining Company is the only refining interest that has appeared before the Agricultural Committee in opposition to the McNary bill. They are not the only refiners however that favour discontinuation of control. The American Sugar Refining Co. has remained absolutely neutral and has advanced no argument for or against the bill.

London, Nov. 4th.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Johannesburg reports the purchase by an Anglo-American company for one million pounds of all German private and state interests in the diamond fields of what was formerly German South-west Africa. Some protests are expressed over what is called the "secrecy of the deal" and allegations are made that the purchase was effected through undue influence in political quarters.

Berlin, Nov. 4th.—Dr. Glehssing, Burgomaster of Weisbaden, in the occupied territory, has been deposed by the Allied Commander-in-Chief on a charge of mal-administration. Blame for the coal shortage of the city, is imputed to him and he has been ordered to leave the occupied regions.

St. Thomas, Nov. 6th.—Cable between Halifax and Bermuda interrupted.

Grenada, Nov. 6th.—Slight shock earthquake felt here 3 a. m.

THE EFFECT OF LIGHTNING ON HEAVY RUBBER TREES.

It is well known that rubber trees are killed by lightning in the tropics just as other trees are in northern countries. Dr. Rutgers has given an account of other effects of lightning. In some cases it appears that trees may begin to die back at the tips of the branches, thus suggesting the disease know by that name and due to a specific fungus. In other cases the branches of the trees may be only withered. In some instances, strips of bark have been killed. He further records that trees affected by lightning are very liable to the attacks of borers, these evidently gaining an entrance through damaged bark, even though the latter may not be quite dead. Vertical lightning scars are also sometimes observed on trees which have been struck by lightning. In one or two cases the outer bark of treess affected by lightning has scaled off, this result being known on the East Coast of Sumatra as Scurf'; in such cases the tree are not killed. (The India Rubber Journal, July 19. 1919).—*Agricultural News.*

Resolution

Be it enacted by the Colonial Council for St. Croix in Session assembled:

The Governor is hereby authorized to renew the sum of Frcs. 25,000 from the Reserve Fund, to be deposited in the Colonial Treasury and to be applied in acceptance with the terms of Colonial Council Bill No. 12, 2nd Session 1919-1920.

That the loan thus authorized is to be secured by a mortgage bond to bear no interest.

That the building acquired in accordance with the terms of Colonial Council Bill No. 12, 2nd Session 1919-1920 is to be rented for the sum of Frcs. 125 per month, such rentals to be deposited in a redemption Fund to be known as the "Frederiksted High School Redemption Fund", there to remain so deposited until such deposits equal the amount of the mortgage bond, when the total amount shall be deposited in the Colonial Treasury and applied in satisfying the mortgage held in the Reserve Fund.

Thus duly passed at the 3rd Ordinary Meeting of the Colonial Council held Monday, October 20, 1919.

Christiansted, St. Croix, October 22, 1919.

D. C. CANEGATA, ROBT. L. MERMIN,
Secretary. *Chairman.*

The above Resolution is hereby sanctioned and approved.

Witness my Hand and the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States at St. Thomas the 27th day of October, in the year 1919.

(SEAL)

J. W. OMAN,
Governor.
