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January 12th, 1914.

A STANDARD WORK ON THE BANANA.*

IN view of the rapid increase of banana cultivation in recent years, it has for some time been apparent that the publication of an authoritative work on the subject would prove particularly welcome to all connected with this important industry. Such a book has now been published under the auspices of the West India Committee. Its title is "The Banana. Its Cultivation, Distribution and Commercial Uses," and its author, MR. W. FAWCETT, who was formerly Director of Public Gardens and Plantations in Jamaica, the greatest of the banana-producing countries in the world. In a foreword to this important volume, SIR DANIEL MORRIS reminds us how rapid the extension of the banana industry has been. Half a century ago the value of fruit of all kinds exported from Jamaica in one year, was only £728. Then CAPT. BAKER, the skipper of a small schooner trading between Jamaica and Boston, made a few trial shipments of bananas, and thus was laid the foundation of an enormous industry, Jamaica alone now exporting fruit, chiefly bananas, to the value of more than a million and a half sterling per annum. Large areas have also been planted with bananas in Central and South America, a fleet of splendid white steamers conveys bananas to the teeming millions of the United States, and another equally fine fleet brings cargoes

of 50,000 bunches at a time across the Atlantic to the United Kingdom and neighbouring countries. Full particulars of these and other producing centres, possible and actual, such as India, Ceylon, the Federated Malay States, the Philippines, Australia, and Africa, are discussed in turn by MR. FAWCETT, whose wide experience will enable the reader to place reliance on what he says. He would be a bold man who would venture to predict what the limits of the expansion of the banana industry are likely to be. At present it is only in its infancy, so far as the consumption of the fruit on the Continent is concerned, and it is not too much to say that the world will soon find that it can no more do its without the banana, and later, let us hope, also its by-products, than it can without tobacco, tea and rice. MR. FAWCETT deals very thoroughly with every aspect of the banana industry, beginning with a complete description of the plant and concluding with its transportation by sea, dilating between these on such varied matters as the value of bananas as food and medicine, and the production of fibres and alcohol from various species of *Musa*. Banana planters in the West Indies would do well to study carefully the chapter devoted to the cultivation and production of the banana plant for its fruit, which must always be the main object of the industry, and especially MR. FAWCETT's remarks on the flowering of the plant. Whilst learning much that is new, planters should follow up what MR. FAWCETT tells us as to the flowering being "the critical point in the lifetime of the plant; for it is at this period that the number of hands in the future bunch is irrevocably determined." As it must be the aim of all to grow bunches of nine hands and over, it would be well to see what can be done to evolve a species tending in that direction, and then to cultivate it exclusively. As the plant is reproduced by suckers, and not by seeds, a careful watch must be kept on plants producing

* "The Banana: Its Cultivation, Distribution and Commercial Uses. By William Fawcett, B.Sc. (London), with an introduction by Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., D.Sc., D.C.L., F.L.S. Published under the auspices of the West India Committee. London: Duckworth & Co. Deiny 8vo, pp. 287+xii. Price 7s. 6d. net., post free in U.K. 7s. 10s.; abroad 8s.

big bunches (nine hands and over) and the suckers from such should be planted apart and watched until it can be ascertained whether they will also reproduce "big" or not. "The great problem of increasing the number of hands in the bunch must," the author tells us, "be attacked at a stage earlier than its appearance in the embryonic condition described." On another page the author discusses the possibilities of producing the plants from seed and asks "Could varieties be raised from seed with fruit of improved flavour or better keeping quality, or varieties immune from disease?" All these qualities, especially the last, together with that of the ability to increase the number of hands per bunch, are of prime importance to the success of the industry, and, for this reason, too much attention cannot be devoted to what MR. FAWCETT has to tell his readers. With reference to the transportation of bananas we do not covet our American cousins' splendid transport and banana distributing business, which has been built up on the enterprise and energy of the father of the banana industry, the late CAPTAIN BAKER, of Boston, U.S.A.; but at the same time, we cannot help asking ourselves whether, had we had, ten or fifteen years ago, such a book on the cultivation of bananas as MR. FAWCETT has now given us, this country might not have secured some of the millions which have found their way into our cousins' capacious pockets, and of which we could have made excellent use. It is not, however, too late to take a lesson from the past, and do throughout the Empire what Boston at first, and then America generally, has done throughout the United States, which consumed 46,877,135 bunches during the twelve months ending September 30th, 1913, leaving a still insatiable appetite for further large helpings in the years to come. Satisfactory as the increase in the consumption of West Indian bananas has been throughout the United Kingdom, Europe and elsewhere, during the past ten years, we feel that the demand should, and could, have shown a greater expansion, and, therefore, trust that with the publication of this book, both the producers in our colonies and the distributors of the fruit here and elsewhere will carefully study what MR. FAWCETT and also SIR DANIEL MORRIS, in his Foreword, have to say on the growth of the industry to date. They will then see what they can do to develop the heritage founded by others, and if they cannot extend and increase it to a proportionate extent during the next ten and twenty years, as others have done in the past.

THE GEORGETOWN FIRE.

NO further details of the disastrous fire, accompanied by loss of life, which occurred in Georgetown, Demerara, on December 22nd, last, are likely to be received until the arrival of the next homeward mail steamer from the West Indies, and we are not likely to learn any further particulars of the calamity beyond those which we were able

to give in our last issue. Meanwhile, the plan of the fire area which we published will have served to impress upon our readers the extensive scope of the conflagration, which covered an area of between ten and twelve acres, embracing five streets, some thirty building lots, and probably not fewer than one hundred and fifty separate houses, besides involving the loss of twenty-three lives. It is certain that the fire must have caused widespread distress amongst the poorer classes, occupying houses in the devastated area as tenement apartments. This is by far the most serious fire that has occurred in Georgetown since the great Robbstown one of fifty years ago, which extended over very nearly a similar area in the very heart of the business portion of the city. Since that time, however, an ample water supply has been provided, and an efficient fire brigade established with the most up-to-date fire extinguishing appliances, so it is difficult to conceive how the fire could have spread to the extent it did before being mastered. It is known, however, that a new and enlarged pumping plant was being installed at the Georgetown waterworks, and it is possible that the main water connections may have been temporarily interrupted at the time of the fire, which, by a strange coincidence, was the case at the more serious fire at Montreal.

Fortunately the fire was checked before igniting the bonded warehouse, in which large stocks of rum and other combustible goods are usually stored, thus preventing a still larger and more widespread conflagration. Seeing that the adjoining premises, Messrs. BUGLE & COMPANY'S saw mills, were burnt out, the saving of the bonded warehouse was probably due to the fact that on the intervening space of ground two very large iron water storage tanks were erected some years ago; and they, no doubt, constituted an excellent fire screen, and so prevented the further spread of the flames on that side. Lombard Street, Werk-en-Rust, the centre of the fire zone, and where the initial explosion occurred, is one of the principal thoroughfares of Georgetown, leading to the East Bank Road, and through it passes the main line of the electric tramway system, and it is largely occupied by Chinese shopkeepers. The district is one of the oldest, most congested and slummiest sections of the city, generally known as the Chinese quarters of Werk-en-Rust, but frequently misnamed Charlestown district. It is sincerely to be hoped that the Municipal Corporation, assisted and aided by the Colonial Government, will take advantage of the opportunity now afforded to improve the condition of the district by widening Water Street on the eastern side, and Leopold Street—more familiarly known as "Grog Street"—on both sides, and extending the latter to the west to join Water Street. The widening of Water Street, Werk-en-Rust, has been a long felt necessity, which should not be further delayed now that the chance offers of bringing it more nearly in alignment with the already widened sections of the street towards the north, and so meeting the re-

quirements of the large heavy traffic passing along that main business thoroughfare.

THE NEED FOR ROADS IN DOMINICA.

SIR HUGH CLIFFORD, Governor of the Gold Coast, in his recent message to the Legislative Council, introducing the estimates for 1914, made some interesting remarks regarding the cacao industry of the colony, which has expanded with such phenomenal rapidity in recent years. He said that when it was remembered that cacao cultivation in the Gold Coast and Ashanti was a purely native industry, and that there was hardly an acre of European-owned cacao plantation in the territories under the administration of his government, it was a remarkable achievement, which assumed special value and significance, that the colony should now occupy the position of the premier cacao-producing country in the world. He went on to call attention to the slovenly and unscientific methods in vogue among the peasantry, which jeopardize to some extent the future of the industry, and he referred to the efforts which were being made by the Agricultural Department to instruct the small proprietors. He further stated that it was the duty of the Government to help the cacao planters by supplying efficient railway facilities for them. In principle this policy will be cordially endorsed in the British West Indies. If such a policy had been adopted in Dominica some years ago, we are quite confident that that island would have advanced farther along the path of prosperity than it has done. At present, however, Dominica, which is the third in size of our islands in the Caribbean, is sadly handicapped by the lack of means of communication and the absence of bridges, to which we have so often called attention in these columns. The island has, we regret to have to state, suffered through a lack of continuity of policy. For some years settlers were persuaded to take up land in the fertile interior on the understanding that means would be provided by the construction of roads for getting their produce to the coast when their estates came into bearing. Before that happy day arrived, however, other counsels prevailed, and the unfortunate settlers were left in the lurch, and when their properties began to yield crops (not, it is true, as had been hoped of cacao, but of limes) they found that it was only possible to get their produce to market at such a cost as reduced profits to a minimum. Complaints on this score have been as frequent as they have been emphatic, and it is not surprising the feeling shown has been intense. Latterly, as the outcome of some years of agitation, more has been done in the direction of road development, and MR. NOBLE, a capable engineer, is now devoting his attention to the matter; but without the requisite funds, what can he do? With a change in Administrators, hopes are now running high in Dominica that, an adequate reserve fund having now been established, a more active road and bridge construction policy may be adopted. We are not

among those who heap abuse upon MR. DOUGLAS YOUNG, who, we assume, has only been carrying out the instructions of Downing Street, for no one can deny that he has most efficiently husbanded the resources of the island; and it may yet be shown that, as MR. AGAR points out, MR. YOUNG laid the foundation of the island's prosperity by his policy of accumulation. But if the island is to progress, roads and bridges must be built, and we feel sure that no one will recognise this more than the incoming Administrator, MR. C. E. DRAYTON, who hails from Grenada, an island, which, as is shown in the admirable little handbook, for the production of which he has been responsible, is particularly well favoured in respect to means of communication, though it is quite as mountainous as Dominica.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH GUIANA.

ADVICES received by the homeward mail show that the question of the development of British Guiana still occupies the attention of the Executive and people of that colony, and although the trend of opinion would appear to favour the construction of a railway to the Rupununi, the feeling on the subject is by no means unanimous. The fact of the matter is that the entire question of the development of the "Magnificent Province" is fraught with difficulties. The extent of the country, a great deal of which is practically a *terra incognita*, the uncertainty of what is actually wanting, the need of complete knowledge of the nature and extent of its resources, and the scarcity of population, are problems which await solution. So, too, are the difficulty of access to the ports of the colony owing to the bars at the mouths of the rivers, the capital required, and the financial arrangements for any scheme of development. Before taking a plunge into the unknown, would it not be better to take definite steps to put the whole matter on a business and practical basis? Why should not a Royal Commission be appointed, composed of Empire makers and suitable experts from outside the colony, who, with the assistance of those connected with British Guiana, could make themselves practically acquainted with the conditions and formulate a definite scheme. The colony is either worth developing or it is not. The report of such a Commission, if its work were thoroughly and ungrudgingly carried out, would settle the question one way or the other, and if the report were in favour of development, it might lay down the lines definitely on which the development could be conducted. Even if the cost of such a Royal Commission were to amount to £50,000, the money would be well spent.

THE Permanent International Sugar Commission at their meeting at Brussels on December 18th last, fixed 0.925 francs per 100 kilos as the countervailing duty to be imposed on Italian refined sugar by the signatories of the Sugar Convention as the alternative of the prohibition of such sugar.

SUGAR AND CONFECTIONERY IN 1913.

The Sugar Convention Justified.

The Convener of the Sugar Section of the Greenock Chamber of Commerce, in a contribution to the annual Trade Review issued by the London Chamber, referring to Great Britain's withdrawal from the Sugar Convention on September 1st, last, calls attention to the fact that while the average price of 88 per cent. beet for the period of ten years prior to the conclusion of the Convention in 1902 was 10s. 1d. per cwt. f.o.b. Hamburg, the average price during the last twelve months of the Convention, which expired on September 1st, 1913, was only 9s. 8½d. per cwt. "This fact appears to afford strong support to the position maintained by this Chamber that the abandonment of the artificial economic conditions existing prior to the Convention has not increased the cost to the consumer; and that the periods of high values which have taken place since the Convention came into force, and which are incident to every article of produce, have been occasioned entirely by crop failures."

In 1912 the imports of 70 per cent. of the raw sugar imported into Greenock consisted of cane sugar, but last year the proportion fell to about 50 per cent. A notable feature has been the sudden expansion of the demand for raw cane sugar from Eastern markets. This was accentuated by the failure of the crop in Formosa, necessitating imports from Java by Japan, but there appears to be no doubt that the capacity of those markets to absorb cane sugar is steadily increasing, and creates a new situation which it may be necessary to reckon with in the future. During the year not a single cargo of Java sugar came to this country, and the failure of this important source of supply has added to the already sufficiently great difficulties of the refining trade. The importation of foreign refined sugar into Great Britain for 1913 is estimated at 894,000 tons, against 814,000 tons in 1912.

The same review contains a summary of the conditions prevailing in the confectionery trade, from which it is clear that these industries have actually benefited by the Sugar Convention. "During the past year the volume of trade in the home market has been unusually brisk, and results should, as a whole, be more favourable than those of 1912. Manufacturers have had the benefit of a steady sugar market at moderate prices; on the other hand, the advance in almost every other kind of raw material has been the cause of considerable anxiety. The export figures given below show that shipments have been more than maintained, a gratifying increase being noted in the exports to British South Africa.

For the eleven months ended November 30th, 1911, 1912 and 1913, the exports of confectionery, jams and preserved fruits were as follows:—

1911.		1912.		1913.	
Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£
602,576	1,692,210	544,335	1,441,215	581,571	1,493,450

Of these exports, 38,115 cwt. went to British South Africa in 1913, as against 33,761 cwt. in 1912 and 48,069 cwt. in 1911. The imports of confectionery (except chocolate confectionery) for the same periods were:—

	1911.	1912.	1913.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Imports	69,511	61,100	63,935
Entered for home consumption	69,742	61,161	63,199
	£	£	£
Value of imports	135,519	151,572	141,560

The imports of chocolate confectionery are included under the heading of "Preparations of Cocoa, etc.," the entries of which for home consumption advanced from 135,480 cwt. in the first eleven months of 1911 to 192,297 cwt. in 1912 and to 220,567 cwt. in 1913. It is to be regretted that the imports of chocolate confectionery are not separately given in the returns.

THE CANADIAN TRADE AGREEMENT.

The Trinidad Chamber of Commerce on September 11th, last, passed the following resolution:—

"That in the opinion of this Chamber the action of the Canadian Government in giving to the colony of Mauritius the same preferential rates as granted to the West Indies under the existing agreement, without Mauritius being called upon to reciprocate, is contrary to the spirit and intention of the Agreement and is detrimental to the interests of the West Indies.

"That the Chamber desires to draw the attention of the Government of Trinidad to the objectionable procedure of Canada and prays that it may take such action as may ensure the safeguarding of the interests of this colony."

A copy of this resolution was forwarded by the local Government to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and at a meeting of the Chamber on November 14th, the following reply from Mr. Harcourt was read:—

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 373a of the 23rd September, forwarding a resolution passed by the Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the extension by the Canadian Government to Mauritius, of the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff. I think that the Chamber of Commerce have misapprehended the position. As regards sugar, which is the only product of importance in which Mauritius might conceivably compete with Trinidad, Mauritius has been on equality with Trinidad since 1898. I would invite the attention of the Chamber to Item 135 of the Canadian Tariff Act now in force, which repeals the provisions of the former Acts on the subject and provides that all raw sugar, the produce of any British colony or possession, shall be entitled to entry under the British Preferential Tariff, when imported direct into Canada.

It is true that until this year Mauritius products other than sugar were not entitled to entry under the Preferential Tariff. But the products of Ceylon and the Straits Settlements and certain other colonies outside the West Indian colonies, were so entitled; and it was merely with a view to the removal of this discrimination that the Government of Canada acted.

It will be recognised that the provisions of the Agreement between Canada and the West Indian Colonies leave it open to either party to the Agreement to extend the benefits of the Agreement to any part of the British Empire; and I cannot accept the view of the Chamber of Commerce that the action of the Canadian Government was contrary to the spirit and intention of the Agreement.



A FREAK COCO-NUT IN JAMAICA.



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, VERE, JAMAICA.

In the circumstances I do not propose to communicate the protest of the Chamber of Commerce to the Canadian Government.

I have, etc.,
(Sgd.) J. HARCOURT.

If it was a foregone conclusion that the new Canadian Customs Tariff would continue to extend the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff to all British Colonies, why, one might ask, was it that the West Indian-Canadian Trade Agreement Act only admitted Jamaica and certain other colonies, which were not parties to it, to these benefits for a limited period? It is true that the West Indies are giving the preference to all British Colonies. Downing Street would not allow them to do anything else. But they are not threatening any colonies with exclusion after a certain period. By the light of recent events, it is seen that one effect of the Trade Agreement between the British West Indies and Canada is that those colonies which are parties to it have to pay for what the other British possessions get for nothing.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

Tropical Products and Rubber in London.

Members of the West India Committee desirous of attending the Tropical Products and Rubber Conferences which are to be held concurrently with the Tropical Products and Rubber Exhibition in London in June next, under the presidency of Professor Dunstan and Sir Henry Blake respectively, are requested to communicate with the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, from whom full particulars can be obtained. Arrangements for the exhibitions are well advanced, and a space of 1608 sq. feet has been taken for British Guiana, British Honduras, Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent near the bandstand in the centre of the main building at the Agricultural Hall. As already stated many valuable prizes are offered for competition, among them being those of the West India Committee, which will comprise:—

1. A Silver Cup for the best comprehensive exhibit of tropical products exhibited by any of the West Indian Permanent Exhibition Committees.
2. A Silver Cup for the best sample of rubber from an individual exhibitor from the West Indies.
3. A Silver Cup for the best individual exhibit of any article or articles of tropical produce.

It may be well to remind readers that the conditions will be as follows:—

Entries for Nos. 2 and 3 are to be made with the West India Committee, at 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., by June 1st, 1914. No entries will be required for No. 1, as the judges will make the examination from the exhibits made by the various Exhibition Committees. The judges for these competitions will be appointed by the West India Committee, and the judges' decision will be final and without appeal.

With a view to calling attention to the West Indian section of the Exhibition, it is proposed to give a banquet, which many visitors from the West Indies will no doubt be glad to attend.

It is to be hoped that the various Permanent Exhibition Committees are making progress in the preparation of literature, statistics, and exhibits. It is not at all too soon to put the printed matter for distribution in hand.

Trinidad at an Oil Exhibition.

For the first time in the history of the colony, Trinidad will be participating in an oil exhibition, the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Trinidad and Tobago having taken space at the World's Oil Industries Exhibition to be held in London in March next. Opportunity will thus be afforded of showing the remarkable strides which have been made in the last few years in the development of the local oil resources of the colony, among whose exports crude petroleum now figures regularly.

British Dominions Exhibitions, 1915.

The British Dominions Exhibitions, to be held at the Crystal Palace in 1915, is receiving influential support. In December a great meeting was held at the Mansion House in connection with it, and many important speeches were delivered, including one from Lord Strathcona, which was read in his absence by Sir Pieter Stewart Bam. He pointed out that the exhibition was to be held in the year which marked the centenary of the Battle of Waterloo, and the 700th anniversary of the signature of Magna Charta, and the 21st year of the Prince of Wales. The following resolution was moved by Sir Pieter Stewart Bam, seconded by Lord Redesdale, and supported by Lord Southwark, President of the London Chamber of Commerce, the Hon. T. Mackenzie, High Commissioner for New Zealand, Mr. Will Crooks, M.P., Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Sir John McCall, Agent-General for Tasmania, Mr. C. du P. Chiappini, Trades Commissioner for the Union of South Africa, and Mr. Hamar Greenwood, M.P.:—

That this meeting at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, cordially endorses the proposal for the organisation of an exhibition representative of all parts of the British Empire at the Crystal Palace in 1915, and pledges itself to give the project its whole-hearted support.

ONE of the arguments in favour of the Channel ferry is that, for some unexplained reason, passengers in a railway train or motor-car on board ship are never sea-sick. An opportunity of putting this to a further test will soon be afforded in the West Indies, for ferry steamers are being constructed for the transfer of trains from Key West to Havana. This will mean that a passenger will be able to go comfortably to sleep in a sleeping car in the United States of America, and to wake up in a tropical island. Who would have dreamed ten or fifteen years ago that this would have been rendered possible? Assuming that the train ferry journey is considered a railway and not a steamer one, it will also be possible for travellers from the United States to reach Jamaica via Havana and Santiago with a real sea passage of 7½ hours only.

BRITISH GUIANA TIMBERS.

Reference has occasionally been made in these columns to the important uses to which Demerara Greenheart has been put from time to time in Great Britain as well as abroad, especially for docks, canals and river navigation works. This wood has obtained a world-wide reputation for its durability under water, and for its resistance to the attacks of barnacles, teredos and other marine worms. Within the last few years some American capitalists have been exploiting, more or less experimentally, the Guiana wood-cutting trade; but the attempts have not proved altogether successful, owing to defective administration, or extravagance in the initial stage of development. Mr. Clayton Mell, of the United States Forestry Service has been recently visiting British Guiana under instruction from the Panama Canal Commissioners, for the purpose of enquiring into the suitability and available supply of greenheart and other Guiana timbers to meet the requirements of the canal in that direction. Greenheart has already been extensively used in the construction of lock gates and sills at Gatun, Pedro Miguel and Miraflores; and it is now proposed to use it still more in the construction of docks at the Colon and Panama approaches to the great ship canal; more especially for pontoons, keel blocks and dock gates.

The principal merchants now interested in the shipment of Demerara timbers are Bugle & Co., Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., S. Davson & Co. and Sprotons Ltd.; and one of Mr. Clayton Mell's objects in visiting the colony was to enter into negotiations with one or more of these firms for the supply and shipment of timbers of mature age, suitable size and of the best character for the work required.

Unfortunately the supply of larger and better matured greenheart trees in the more available river districts of British Guiana has become partly exhausted, thus frequently leading to the substitution of undersized trees of more or less immature growth. This want has necessitated going farther afield for wood-cutting operations, which adds to the difficulties of transport and the consequent cost of production at the port of shipment. One of the objects hoped to be obtained by the construction of the proposed railway to the hinterland of British Guiana in the direction of the Brazilian frontier, (as lately personally investigated by the Governor, Sir Walter Egerton, during his tour of inspection to the Rupununi savannah), is the opening up of vast forest tracts, above the great falls in the Demerara and Essequibo. These remain at present practically untouched, and contain immense stores of fine greenheart and other valuable woods.

Some ten years ago Mr. Luke Hill, late city engineer of Georgetown, contributed an interesting paper to the Institute of Civil Engineers, on "The Constructional Woods of British Guiana," which

was printed in the proceedings of the Institute, and thereby became widely circulated amongst the members of the profession in all parts of the world. This paper dealt with fourteen of the principal commercial woods of Demerara, viz., greenheart, bullet tree, mora, wallaba, crabwood, kakaralli, purple heart, locust, silverballi, suradani, cedar, simarupa, houbooballi and lignum vitæ; and described the characteristic features of the several woods, as compiled from the report of a series of technical tests made by Mr. Herbert Stone, F.L.S., at the Imperial Institute.

A FREAK COCO-NUT TREE.

Facing page 4 in the present issue is a picture of a remarkable coco-nut tree on the property of Colonel Blagrove, C.B., in Jamaica. At first sight it looks rather like a musical instrument or a snake; but it is genuine *Cocos nucifera*. Experts in the cultivation of the Consols of the West will be interested to know that the tree, with many others of normal shape, was grown in soft and rather boggy soil on the north side of the island. The ground formed part of a marsh, which was drained by Colonel Blagrove at great expense some years ago and planted with coco-nuts. The trees have thrived and bear heavy crops of nuts. Presumably the tree was planted in ground softer than the rest, but it did not give in, and with another tree similarly placed yields abundant crops regularly. It will be interesting to watch the future career of this freak tree, the convenient shape of which obviates the necessity of climbing it when the nut harvest is on. We shall be glad to hear from correspondents regarding any other freak plants.

Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, Senior Medical Officer of Dominica, whose annual report is always an interesting document, dealing with the year 1912-13, tells the strange story of "Elizabeth Barron." This he it known is the name given to a mixture sold by the local druggists, which was taken by one woman in such large quantities as to cause her death. Says Dr. Nicholls:—

The curious part of the affair is that the prescription for it is my own. Many years ago a woman named Elizabeth Barron came to consult me for a long standing and serious illness. I prescribed for her a mixture containing solution of the perchloride of mercury, iodide of potassium and tincture of cinchona. The mixture it appeared cured her quickly and she talked about it a lot. Other people sent to the druggist for the same medicine as was sold to Elizabeth Barron, other people again bought it and yet other people, and so it went on until now. The original circumstances are doubtless forgotten or are unknown to many people who buy the medicine. They are told by their friends that the medicine is good for all sorts of diseases and so they go or send to Roseau to buy a bottle of "Elizabeth Barron." Sometimes they drink too much of it, and I have had to treat at the hospital a number of cases of mercurial poisoning due to taking in excess this mixture prescribed by me for a woman long since dead!

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS.

By FRANK CUNDALL.

The Church of St. Peter, Vere.

The lower district of Clarendon, Jamaica, called Witherwood, took its name, Long tells us in his History (1774), from its having been

"formerly overspread with wood and withes when the English first settled upon it, and which grew so thick that it was impossible to walk among them without a cutlass to clear the way. This is the part which, on account of its rich soil, was afterwards filled with indigo and sugar works, the opulence of whose owners is spoken of by several writers; and though it has been called in question by some, yet it is very certain that more carriages of pleasure were at one time kept there than in all the rest of the island, Spanish Town only excepted. It is indeed almost incredible to think that vast fortunes were made here by cultivation of this simple commodity."

And, in describing the cultivation of Jamaica:—

There were formerly upwards of seventy gentlemen's carriages kept in the parish of Vere, the vast profits of their indigo works enabled them to live in such splendour; and that part of the country for its number of houses and inhabitants, on both sides of the Rio Minho resembled a populous town.

One may compare with this Rampini's account of 1873, just one hundred years later than Long:—

How can we describe the unutterably bare and barren character of the scenery between the Alley and Four Paths, our half-way station on the road to Chapelton?

Dusty roads, bordered with stunted logwood trees for miles; then dusty roads without the logwood trees; then a dry river course full of rough stones, which broke our buggy springs and delayed us an hour to have them tied up with ropes and branches; then more dusty roads and logwood trees, and then dusty roads without logwood trees as before. Not a bird to be seen, not a butterfly on the wing; not a bit of colour, except a stray orchid or two, to break the drear monotony of the landscape.

Rampini evidently visited Vere during a period of drought; or when he was suffering from dyspepsia.

Witherwood appears as Wither Wood in Blome's map of 1671, which is copied in Long's History as "according to a survey made in the year mdcclxx." The name does not appear on modern maps, though it was used as late as 1728 in the Journals of the House of Assembly. The village that has arisen around the old church is now known as Alley. Remains of the old indigo works are still to be seen here and there in the cane pieces, and indigo grows as a weed. There cotton was formerly cultivated extensively. As late as 1808 Vere had some cotton plantations, while at the same time there were thirty sugar estates. Cotton is again being grown there.

Vere, from 1673 to 1867, was a distinct parish of Jamaica, albeit it lost part of its area when Manchester was formed in 1814. With Clarendon it formed a precinct. It received the name of Vere in 1673, after the daughter of Sir Edward Herbert, Attorney-General to Charles I., and first wife of Sir Thomas Lynch, then Governor of the Island.

The one item of historic interest in connection with the parish is the repulse of the French attack

on Carlisle Bay, which has been already treated of in an article in this series. (See No.).

The church itself, with its magnificent old cotton tree, forms one of the most attractive pictures of a simple type in Jamaica, and approaches more nearly to an English village church in character than any other in the colony. Built of brick, with stone coins, it is a serviceable structure which has successfully withstood earthquake and hurricane since it was constructed in the earlier part of the 18th century, about 1715-35. It was originally a squat building about 33 ft. wide and some 48 ft. long with the present tower. The eastern end was erected and consecrated in 1872. Some monuments which Lawrence-Archer recorded are now covered by the flooring of the seats in the nave. On the other hand some which he did not record are now visible in the nave.

On February 1st, 1671, a petition was submitted to the Council by Christopher Horner, George Osborne, John Aldred, George Child, Tho. Coswell, Jno. Warren, Wm. Hinkston, Robt. Smith, James Jenner, Jno. Downer, and Phi. Robarts, inhabitants of Witherwood and Dry River:—

"that whereas His Excellency had recommended Mr. Lander to them for their minister, and they had bought land and were building him a church, and had provided him a competent maintenance, pray they may not be liable to contribute to any other church within the parish." This was "referred to the next General Assembly in regard the justices and vestry men of every parish are empowered by Act of the General Assembly to lay such assessments and parish duties as they shall think requisite and that power cannot be taken from them by the Governor and Council only."

There was a church in Witherwood, although no parson, as early as 1675. Sir Thomas Lynch, writing in May of that year says,

None but these four parishes, Port Royal, St. Catherine, St. John and St. Andrew are supplied, though there are 14 in the island. In Vere or Witherwood there is a church, and that and Clarendon parish adjoining are able and willing to give a minister £100 per annum."

At a meeting of the Council held at St. Jago de la Vega on the 19th of February, 1693,

The Council being acquainted that Mr. Samuel Cook, Rector of the parish of Vere, was attending at the Door, To answer for a Certain Remonstrance by him writt and published, was ordered to be called in. Then the Clerke of the Council was ordered to read the same in his presence. Acknowledged his Error and promised to give a Recantation under his hand and presented to this board which he did accordingly and was accepted of.

In a list of the Parishes, Churches and Ministers in Jamaica, April 18th, 1715, under Vere is recorded "a church rebuilding" but no rector's name is given.

In 1737, the Committee appointed by the Assembly to inspect the list of docketts of the charitable devises and donations in the Secretary's Office, drew up and submitted a very interesting analysis of the list, parish by parish.

So far as Vere is concerned we find that:—

William Gibbons gave £20 for a communion plate; George Forsett in 1680 gave £10 for a church Bible and

pulpit cloth; Andrew Knight in 1683 gave £20 to the church and poor; Hugh Gurge in 1687 gave £10 towards building a church; Magdalen Fawcett in 1688 gave £10 to the poor, and £10 for the minister and pall; Joseph Taylor in 1689 gave fourteen acres of land for the minister and poor; John Moore in 1690 gave £150 towards building a church; Christian Fyler in 1715 gave £50 towards building a wall round the church [then being built] Nathaniel Skeen in 1721 gave £100 for ornaments for the pulpit and pall; and Robert Cargill in 1731 gave £30 towards building the church.

The principal monuments in the church are those to the Morants, the Gales and the Suttons, families long and honourably connected with Jamaica history as members of the Council and the Assembly and in other capacities; the Gales having, however, more to do with St. Elizabeth and Westmoreland than Vere. John Gale (1680-1721), the general Baptist Minister, son of Nathaniel Gale, "an eminent citizen" who had property in the West Indies, was evidently connected with this family. Colonel Jonathan Gale was Custos of St. Elizabeth, and member for St. Elizabeth 1709-11, and for Westmoreland 1721-26.

Vere gave but two Speakers to the Assembly from among its members, Andrew Langley and William Pusey, but among its representatives were those bearing the well-known names of Ivy, Sutton, Vassall, Cargill, Beckford, Lawes, Morant, Dawkins, Nedham and Batty. Andrew Knight, who was its member in 1677-79, was, his tombstone tells us, Custos of Clarendon and Vere; and he was probably its first Custos.

John Morant, Custos of Clarendon and Vere, married Mary Pennant, aunt of the first Lord Penrhyn.

Edward Morant, son of John, represented Vere in 1752, 1754, in both the Assemblies of 1755 and in 1756. He was called up to the Council in 1757; left Jamaica in 1760, and in the following year was elected M.P. for Hindon. On July 16th, 1791, as he was driving in Kensington, his horses took fright, when he was precipitated from his carriage, carried home senseless, and died four days afterwards. He married first in Clarendon, 10th June, 1754, Eleanor Angelina, widow of William Dawkins, member for Portland in 1749, and St. Thomas in the Vale in 1752, whose tombstone in Clarendon old church is inscribed:—

HERE LIETH THE BODY OF
WILLIAM DAWKINS ESQRE.,
OF THIS PARISH, WHO DIED
THE 14th OF DECEMBER,
1752, AGED 26 YEARS.

Edward Morant married secondly in England, 22nd April, 1762, a Miss Goddard, grand-daughter and only remaining descendant of President John Gregory, who twice administered the Government of Jamaica, on the refusal of Edward Pennant, the senior member of the Council, to act in that capacity.

Elizabeth Morant, daughter of John Morant, the younger, and sister of Edward, married in Vere, 11th January 1753-54, her cousin, William Gale,

who represented Hanover in 1754 and 1755, and St. John in the second Assembly of 1755, and in 1756. He was the younger son of John Gale, the member of Council, who in 1747 first settled the estate of York (from the county of his ancestors) in this parish, and died 1749-50. Another mural monument in the church commemorates his elder son, a younger daughter, himself and his daughter-in-law.

Lawrence-Archer records Colonel Thomas Sutton, who played an important part in the successful repulse of the French at Carlisle Bay in 1694; but the monument is no longer to be seen. It probably is hidden by the flooring of the nave. It is to be regretted that copies of the inscriptions were not taken before they were covered up.

One of the most interesting accounts of the earthquake which destroyed Port Royal in 1692 is "The Truest and Largest Account of the Late Earthquake in Jamaica, June the 7th, 1692, Written by a Reverend Divine there to his Friend in London. With some Improvement thereof by another Herud. London: Printed, and are to be sold by J. Butler, Bookseller at Worcester, 1693," of which a copy is in the Library of the Institute of Jamaica, and a reprint is given in the second volume of the "Journal of the Institute of Jamaica." It is dated "Withywood, in the parish of Vere, June 30th, 1692. Nothing is known for certain of the author. He was probably the Rev. Thomas Hardwicke, who was made Rector of Vere by the Earle of Carlisle in 1678. The following extract shows how Vere fared in the great calamity:—

It overthrow all the Brick and Stone buildings in the Country, whereof several in my own Parish, which now are either leveled with the ground or standing Monuments of the Wrath of God, are so shattered and torn that they are irreparable. While these were troubling, the Earth opened in my Parish in multitudes of Places, and through thier dire Charms spew'd out Water to a considerable height above ground, in such quantities in some Places, that it made our Gallies run on a suddain, tho' before exceeding dry; in so much that some were afraid of being overwhelmed at once by the River and Sea joining together to swallow up the Country, especially nigh the River, in the purest Mould, which had not Clay or other Consolidating Matter beneath to oppose the force of the Fountain of the Deep breaking up; for where that was, we do not find any Cracks of the Earth at all; and yet it pleases God that we in the Parish have escaped the Danger much better than our Neighbour Parishes; for happening to content ourselves with mean and low built Houses, for the most part built with Timber, and boarded, or with Cratches set deep in the ground and Plastered, such Houses are generally standing: So that we have means to assist one another in this calamitous distress.

In 1728 the finances of the parish were in such a bad condition that a bill was passed by the Assembly to reduce the Rector's salary from £150 to £100.

Under date 11th February, 1803, Lady Nugent records that "The Admiral brought Mr. and Mrs. Ledwich and Captain Dunn with him." This may refer either to the Rector of Vere or to his brother, G. Ledwich, the Rector of Port Royal. On the 2nd July she entertained "the Mr. and Mrs. Ledwich" again.

The following is a list of its rectors as complete as it has been possible to make it:—

- 1671.—Rev. Lander.
 1675.—Vacant.
 1678.—Rev. Thomas Hardwicke.
 1693.—Rev. Samuel Cook.
 1716.—Rev. James White.
 1762-63.—Rev. Samuel Griffiths, A.M. Cantab.
 1763-70.—Rev. John Lindsay, D.D.
 1770-72.—Rev. John Wolcot (Peter Pindar).
 1776.—Rev. William Morgan.
 1782-94.—Rev. Francis Johnstone.
 1795-96.—Rev. Thomas Markly.
 1797-1802.—Rev. Edward Ledwich.
 1803.—Vacant.
 1804.—Rev. Thomas Underwood.
 1805.—Rev. Humphries.
 1806.—Vacant.
 1807-09.—Rev. Isaac Mann.
 1811-15.—Rev. Edmund Pope, LL.D.
 1816.—Rev. John M'Cammon Trew.
 1817-20.—Rev. George Crawford Ricketts Fearon.
 1821-24.—Rev. Joseph Jefferson.
 1825.—Rev. Edward F. Hughes.
 1826.—Rev. Urquhart Gillespie Rose.
 1827.—Rev. Henry V. Towton, M.D. Edin. 1817.
 1828-44.—Rev. John Smith, A.B.
 1845-47.—Rev. B. Robinson, B.A.
 1849-50.—Rev. J. Williams.
 1851.—Rev. W. S. Coward.
 1855-69.—Rev. Thomas Garrett, B.A.
 1870.—Rev. Alexander Foote.
 1871-76.—Rev. C. Douet, B.A. (later Assistant Bishop).
 1876.—Rev. C. T. Husband.
 1905.—Rev. S. Negus.

Griffiths accompanied the Governor, William Henry Lyttelton, to the island in 1762, and was in the same year presented to the rectory of Vere. He afterwards removed to St. Dorothy, and later to St. Jago de la Vega. Of Dr. Lindsay some account was given in the notice of the Cathedral.

Wolcot, satirist and poet, best known perhaps by his satires on the King and the Royal Academy, accompanied as physician his kinsman, Sir William Trelawny, when he came out to take up the governorship of Jamaica in 1767. They were both Cornish men, and Wolcot had been chaplain on Trelawny's ship when the later was a captain in the navy. Finding that medical prospects in Jamaica were not promising he returned to England in 1769, and took orders with a view to being appointed rector of St. Ann, the Bishop of London ordaining him Deacon and Priest on succeeding days. Returning to Jamaica early in 1770 he found the rectory of St. Ann not vacant, and he was appointed to Vere. He lived with the Governor at Spanish Town and performed most of his duties by deputy. In May of the same year he was appointed physician general to the Horse and Foot soldiers in the island. He lived on terms of close intimacy with the Trelawnys, and one of his earlier poems "The Nymph of Tauris," which first saw the light of day in Jamaica, is an elegy on the death of Ann Trelawny, sister to Sir William. Soon after the Governor's death, which occurred in December 1772, Wolcot accompanied Lady Trelawny to England; and Redding in his "Recollections Literary and Personal," tells us that her death shortly afterwards robbed him of a future wife.

While rector of Vere he published a work entitled "Persian Love Elegies, to which is added the Nymph of Tauris," printed in Kingston in 1773 by Joseph Thompson & Co. It is dedicated to Lady Trelawny. This work is, apart from the Kingston printed Almanac of 1751, the oldest Jamaica printed book in the Library of the Institute.

The following tales are told of Wolcot's ready wit in Jamaica. At a dinner party given by Pusey Manning of Vere, he jokingly introduced the rector to a stranger in the following manner, "This is Dr. Wolcot, the unworthy incumbent of this parish." "And this, Sir," retorted Wolcot, "is Pusey Manning, Esq., the scabbiest sheep in my flock."

To be continued.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Much stress has been laid recently in these columns on the desirability of the maintenance of an active campaign for reducing infantile mortality in the West Indies. In this connection Dr. Conrad J. Arthur, Medical Officer of District 5 in St. Vincent, makes some apposite remarks in his last report.

"I must," he says, "once more plead the cause of the little ones. The causes that bring about the decay of civilisation are, no doubt, diverse and many of them are obscure, but there is at all events, some ground for considering that one of the potent influences menacing the progress of our labouring class is the unrestricted propagation of inferior stocks. Under civilised conditions it is impossible for natural selection to operate as it has done in ruder ages by continually weeding out the unfit in body and mind and so raising steadily the fitness of the breed. Our interference with that cruel but effectual method of nature has thus created an artificial environment which favours the unfit at the expense of the fit, or perhaps it would be more correct to say, it has so modified the conditions of life that the diseased in body and the weak in mind are better adapted to this environment, or biologically speaking, more fit, and will tend, therefore, to replace the superior stock, which, by reason of their superiority, are unfit. If this view of the tendencies in our modern civilisations is correct, and it can hardly be questioned that it contains at least a large amount of truth, it is sufficiently evident that our methods will have to be modified, and that speedily, unless civilisation is to be destroyed by its own by-products. When it comes to discussing the practical measures which are to promote the cause of race betterment we are face to face with a great difficulty. It resolves itself into either the sterilisation of unfit adults or the destruction of their progeny. As the latter is impossible and the former impracticable it behoves us to turn our attention to the cure of the diseased adults, if not, in time, there will be nothing but a race of syphilitic degenerates comprising the labouring population of this Colony."

SUGAR A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

Interesting reading is Sir William Young's "West-India commonplace Book," a copy of which for 1807 is in the Library of the West India Committee. The French wars were then in full swing, and the abolition of the slave trade was impending. Duties were high and much apprehension as to the future of the sugar industry was being felt in West Indian quarters.

In 1806 the total quantity of sugar imported into Great Britain was 158,939 tons, of which 146,129 tons came from the British plantations in the West Indies, and 6,218 tons from the Foreign plantations. The total quantity exported, including that to Ireland, was 55,134 tons, leaving for the consumption of Great Britain alone 103,808 tons. The population of Great Britain was 11,200,000, and the consumption of sugar was thus in the neighbourhood of 21 lbs. per head of population per annum.

More than half of the West Indian sugar was produced in Jamaica. The increasing prices of sugar on the European market during the four years preceding 1798, reaching a high point in the latter year, had led to considerable extension of sugar cultivation in Jamaica, and this "aided with the new and more productive Bourbon cane" brought it about that in 1805 Jamaica exported no less than 132,000 hogsheads, or 85,000 tons—the hogshead of those days only contained 13 cwt.—of sugar to the Mother Country; while the other colonies are stated to have profited by planting the superior species of cane. Trinidad, which had become definitely British in 1804, and is described as "a vast, and in parts, a rich country, which, if fully settled, might produce a quantity of sugar equal to that of all the other Windward and Leeward Islands, was importing 4,500 slaves yearly, and already exporting 12,000 hogshead of sugar; but, says Sir William Young, if the trade in African slaves is prohibited, the settlement of Trinidad must be checked in its progress.

The valuation of the British property in the "British Sugar Colonies" is given as being in 1807 not less than £86,536,000; of this sum the value of the slaves, 560,375 in number, of which Jamaica is credited with no less than 280,000, at £50 per head accounts for £28,018,750. The value of lands, buildings and stock is put down at £56,037,500, and of town stores and shipping as £2,500,000.

The heavy taxation of sugar was evidently a very sore subject with the West Indian planters. In 1806 the import duty amounted to £1 19s. per cwt., with a surtax of 3s. per cwt. if the bond price of the sugar was over £2 10s. per cwt. Then, again, the wars had caused the mercantile charges, freight, insurance, commission, stores, &c., to be very high. The sum of these is given as being £1 3s. per cwt. in time of war as against 16s. 7d. in time of peace. The result was that a gross sale price of £3 10s. per cwt. only yielded to the planter a f.o.b. price of £1

per cwt. or £20 per ton. Bounties on export had also been given up to 1806 for both raw and refined sugars; but these had been discontinued in 1806. As considerable sugar was exported to Ireland, this formed a further grievance to the planter. On the top of all this, also, there was a four-and-a-half per cent. export tax on produce in Barbados, Antigua and the Leeward Isles, a composition to the King in lieu of quit rents, which amounted, in the case of sugar, to 1s. 4d. per cwt. Taking all things into consideration, in 1805 the planter was only netting for his sugar about 60 per cent. of what he did ten years before.

The price of loaf sugar in 1806 was from 16d. to 19d. a pound, much the same as it was ten years before. Sir William Young reckons, therefore, basing his calculation on 100 lbs. of raw sugar giving 56 lbs. of loaf, 22 lbs. of bastards and 29 lbs. of molasses, that the refiner would get £1 8s. 4d. per cwt., or £28 per ton, to pay for the cost of refining and to give the profit, and says that all the profits in sugar making went into the pockets of the refiners.

There is little doubt but there was over-production of West Indian sugar in those days. It is stated that at least 90,000 hogsheads—58,500 tons per annum—required to be re-exported from Great Britain to avoid glutting the market.

In these circumstances, the West Indian planters did not approve of British sugar growing in "Demerara and other provinces of South America." "These provinces," says Sir William, "with all their settlements made by the means of British property, must again pass over to the Dominion of a foreign power; on every principle of sound policy Great Britain cannot, and should not, retain those countries on the return of peace. Great Continental colonies are neither suitable to the extent of British population, nor to the nature of its power, which being of a naval description can better command or defend islands and maritime posts where inland regulation or force is little required."

"The vast and rich plains" of Demerara, when that colony was handed over by the Dutch in 1802, are stated to have carried with them a vested British capital of many millions, and the means of supplying all Europe with sugar, to the detriment of the West Indian Colonies, could only a sufficient supply of slaves be obtained. But the limitation of the supply of slaves to conquered colonies prevented the "mischief" as regards Demerara, which had come again into the possession of the English in 1803, but even this limitation did not satisfy Sir William Young, who gave his views of what should be the attitude of the Mother Country to this formidable rival to the West Indian Islands.

Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum.

A CREOLE HARANGUE.

It is not given to every West Indian governor to be able to address the proletariat in the creole vernacular. Sir Ralph Woodford, who established a record by representing the sovereign in Trinidad for fifteen years—1813 to 1828—used to do so. Coleridge in "Six Months in the West Indies in 1825," gives the following speech which his excellency delivered on one occasion to some free negro settlers who had been taken from the Southern States by Sir Alexander Cochrane and dispersed through the islands:—

'Silence there! . . . What for you make all dat dere noise? Me no tand dat, me can tell you. I hear that there have been great disturbances amongst you, that you have been quarrelling and fighting, and that in one case there has been a loss of life. Now, me tell you all flat . . . me no allow dat sort of ting . . . me take away your cutlashes, you savey dat? What for you fight? Because you nasty drunk with rum. You ought to be ashamed; you no longer now slave. . . King George have tak you from America, (you know dis much better place dan America,) he make you free . . . What den? Me tell you all dis . . . (what for you no make quiet your piccaninny, you great tall ting dere? . . .) me tell dis . . . if you free, you no idle; you savey dat? You worky, but you worky for yourself, and make grow noice yams and plantains . . . den your wives all fat, and your piccaninny tall and smooth. You tric to make your picnies better and more savey dan yourself. You all stupid . . . what den! no your fault dat . . . you no help it. Now but you free, act for yourself like buckra, and you love your picnies? yes . . . well den, you be glad to send dem to school, make dem read, write, savey counting, and able pray God Almighty in good words, when you no savey do so yourself.

'Now de bishop is come to do all this; His Majesty King George have sent him from England to take care of you and all of us; he is very much gentleman and he king, you savey, of all de parson. He savey every ting about you, he love you dearly, he come from England across the sea to see your face . . . no you den very bad people, if you no obey him? Yes, you very bad, much wicked people if you don't.'

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Dr. William Kenny, of the Government Immigration Service, which took place at Jamaica, on December 9th, shortly after the arrival at that port of the SS. *Mullah*, to which he was attached. Dr. Kenny, who was a relative of General Kelly-Kenny, had been associated with the immigration service for twenty years, and during this period saw many changes effected, the most notable being that from sailing ships to steam.

CONSULAR REPORT.

The Condition of Dutch Guiana.

Mr. Consul Hewett gives a gloomy report on Dutch Guiana for 1910-12. The export trade which consists chiefly of sugar, cacao, coffee, bananas and balata "shows a steady and ominous decline." Agriculture has many difficulties to contend with in Dutch Guiana, chief among them being an uncertain and unreliable rainfall, insect pests and diseases; and efforts to deal with these do not seem so far to lead to any appreciable result. The banana industry received a serious check by the cancelling of the contract by the United Fruit Company and the sale of the fruit steamers. Many of the planters for lack of funds allowed their plantations to go unweeded and neglected as a consequence. However, during the year 1913 efforts were made to save the industry by finding new markets, and some trial shipments have been made to Liverpool and one to Rotterdam. The Congo banana is a healthy fruit, and so far has resisted the attacks of disease and pests.

Sugar appears to be chiefly dependent upon the rainfall, which is patchy and uncertain, and the crops fluctuate accordingly. The decline in cacao is due to disease, which only drastic measures will remedy. Rice is the only article the cultivation of which shows a steady progress, but the quantity produced does not yet meet the local demand. Rice is grown almost entirely by natives of British India, who came to the country as indentured labourers and settled here after their indentures expired.

The balata industry is the largest and most important in the country. After 20 odd years of existence, during which it attained the foremost place in the industries of the colony, it is now, states Mr. Hewett, in danger of dying a natural death through lack of ordinary care and attention. The trees are found over an immense area of the country, and are one of the most valuable assets of the colony. In its early days the Government drew up exhaustive regulations for the care of the trees, the regulation of the industry and the methods of exploitation and bleeding of the trees. Forest laws and the granting of concessions received every attention and were committed to paper and duly passed into law. No provision, however, was made for carrying out these laws or enforcing the ordinances, and the industry has relapsed into a very unsatisfactory condition.

The exports of gold show a marked and steady decline. There is beyond question plenty of gold in the country, but the enterprise has shown a constant record of failure, owing to more than one cause.

OUR FORTNIGHTLY RECIPE: *Black Strap*. One pint of cracked liquor (*i.e.*, clarified liquor), the juice of a large lime, and half a gill of rum. Grate a nutmeg on the top. (Mrs. H. Graham Yearwood).

MAL DE CADERAS AND BITING FLIES.

Precautionary Measures in Guiana.

Active measures are being adopted in British Guiana to cope with the disease known as Mal de Caderas from which mules are suffering as the result of the prevalence of biting flies. The matter has been engaging the attention of Mr. G. E. Bodkin, the Government Economic Biologist, who has recently inspected a number of estates including, in the first instance, Cane Grove, Hope, Cove and John, Enmore, Lusignan, Mon Repos, La Bonne Intention, Vryheid's Lust and Ogle.

In each case the inspection was made of the mules themselves, the stables, and the stable yards. From the first it became quite evident that real progress, inspired by a just dread of the disease, had been made. The stables had been thoroughly cleaned and treated with a mixture of lime-wash and carbolic acid, and the floors when not constructed of concrete (the usual state of affairs) were being kept in a sanitary state; in some cases better ventilation had been provided. The stable fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*, L.) was observed to be present in all cases though with one exception (Plantation Cane Grove where they were swarming) not in any great numbers. In every instance the stable yards were observed to be in a more or less insanitary condition, heaps of stale dung and straw (the chosen breeding place of the stable fly) being everywhere conspicuous. Instructions were consequently given for the removal of such heaps or for their treatment with chloride of lime.

The published instructions for washing the mules with a mixture consisting of soft soap, kerosene, water and fish oil to prevent the attacks of flies had in all cases been carried out, but it was found necessary to urge its more thorough and regular application. The following is a list, in order of prevalence, of the biting flies observed to be attacking the mules

- Stomoxys calcitrans*, L.
- Tabanus trilineatus*, L.
- Tabanus semisordidus*, Walk.

There are, however, previous records of five other different species which will attack mules in all parts of the colony.

Skeldon, Springlands, Providence, Blairmont and Bath were subsequently visited, and Mr. Bodkin found that in all cases every precaution was being taken both to prevent the attacks of biting flies and to destroy their breeding-places. In no cases were these flies present in any great numbers, but at Plantation Skeldon a number of mules in an advanced stage of the disease had been "isolated" at the back of the estate, and were at the time of our visit being attacked by the stable fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*) and several species of cow-flies or Tabanidae. In these circumstances it would appear that this so-called isolation is of but little use (supposing

that Mal de Caderas is transmitted by the agency of blood-sucking flies) and Mr. Bodkin is of the opinion that it would be better to destroy the animals.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The latest news from the Panama Canal Zone regarding the Cucaracha slide is more reassuring, the dredges having now cleared a channel throughout of sufficient width to allow the passage of any vessels in the dredger fleet. Meanwhile Dr. Vaughan Cornish's lecture on the subject which he will deliver at the West India Committee Rooms on March 12th next, will be awaited with deep interest. Dr. Cornish, it may be mentioned, left for the Canal Zone by last outward mail for the express purpose of inspecting and reporting on the slide.

Down to December 1st last, no fewer than 213,904,031 cubic yards had been excavated for the Panama Canal, leaving 18,448,969 yards still to be removed under the revised estimate of July 1st. Side by side with the excavation, according to the *Canal Record*, work is proceeding rapidly with wharf construction at Balboa, the Panama terminal of the Canal. At this point work will shortly be started on the erection of ten concrete mosquito-proof residences, which will form the first houses in the new town of Balboa, to the west of Panama. The new town will have wide avenues, with trees down the middle, extending from an elliptical plaza, and will be in every sense a model tropical city.

The Defences of the Canal are now in a forward state. On December 12th the first division of the submarine flotilla of the United States Railway arrived from Guantanamo, Cuba, off Colon, where they will be stationed indefinitely. The division comprises five submarines, a tender and supply ship.

As the Canal nears completion the exodus from Panama continues, though no falling off is shown in the shipping visiting Colon. In the four months to November last, the net emigration amounted to 8,796, most of whom were West Indian labourers on the Canal, who are finding work on the banana plantations of Central and South America without difficulty.

A NEW use of celluloid has been discovered in the production of a substitute for horn from leather. The hair is removed from the hide, which is then treated with amyl acetate and acetone to remove fleshy matter, and to produce a hardening effect. It is then coated with a solution of celluloid in amyl acetate and acetone. The solvent evaporates, and the hide is then placed in a bath of shellac dissolved in alcohol. According to the *New York Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, the hide thus treated is said not only to be similar to horn in appearance, but also to possess its elasticity and strength. It is stated that this artificial horn is suitable for the manufacture of trunks, boots and insulating materials.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



The present issue is the first number of Volume XXIX of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR. The index and title page of Volume XXVIII are published with it as a supplement. Special binding cases can be obtained post free 2s. 6d. each, from the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, and members and subscribers can have their CIRCULARS for 1913 bound for the inclusive charge of 3s. 6d. on sending them, carriage paid, to the West India Committee Rooms.

Spring-backed cases for filing the current issues of the CIRCULAR can also be obtained, post free, 2s. 6d. each.

THE Bishop of Honduras (the Right Rev. D. Farrar) has arrived in England from Belize on Diocesan business.

ONE hundred years ago, Messrs. Joseph Travers and Sons quoted West Indian brown sugar (muscovado) at 120s. per cwt., and loaf sugar at 175s. per cwt.

INCLUDED in the list of New Year's Honours was the name of Mr. Archibald Graeme Bell, Director of Public Works of Trinidad and Tobago, who receives a well-earned C.M.G.

THE Barbados Automobile Association is the title of an organisation which has just been incorporated by an Act (1913-46) of the Barbados Legislature. Its objects are to control generally motoring in the island.

DR. G. B. MASON, founder and first Honorary Secretary of the West Indian Club, will preside at the Club dinner to-morrow. The other members of the Dinner Committee are Mr. G. E. A. Grindle and Mr. Arthur Lubbock.

MR. H. A. HIMELY's estimate of the Cuban sugar production from the crop 1913-14 is 2,569,143 tons. This is at variance with the report of our Cuban correspondent, which places it considerably below that of 1912-13, which came out at 2,428,537 tons.

AN interesting ordination was recently performed by Bishop Oluwoli, a native West African bishop. The candidate for deacon's orders was Mr. W. A. Thompson, who was trained at Lady Mico College, Jamaica. As far as is known, he is the first West Indian to be ordained in Africa.

THE West Atlantic squadron, which comprises the armoured cruisers *Suffolk*, *Berwick*, and *Lan-*

caster, which are now based on Bermuda is about to be strengthened by the *Essex*, a sister ship, which has been refitted, and was commissioned at Devonport on December 31st, by Captain Hugh R. D. Watson.

FOR the benefit of several readers who are puzzled by the names of the steamers on the new Canada-West Indies service, it may be explained that Cobequid and Chignecto are bays at the head of the Bay of Fundy, on which St. John is situated, Chaleur is the name of a large bay on the east of New Brunswick, and Caraquet is situated just below it.

MR. MEWBURN GARNETT entertained the members of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana with an interesting recital of his reminiscences of Demerara on December 19th. He spoke of many old friends, including W. Russell, Everard im Thurn, the founder of *Timehri*, Henry Kirke, B. H. Nind, D. C. Cameron and J. S. Hill, and he dealt also with the foundation of the Society, whose building now occupies the site of Demerara's first hospital.

MR. J. O. KERSHAW, the entomologist who, at the expense of the Trinidad proprietors and the Government, has been investigating the froghopper pest in Trinidad, has arrived in this country on leave of absence. He is at present obtaining further information, in case it should be necessary to introduce a foreign parasite into the plantations. Mr. Kershaw will attend a meeting of the Trinidad Proprietors and the Entomological Research Committee at the Colonial Office to-morrow afternoon.

THE possibilities of bananas have no limit. Although their value is being increasingly recognised, they are not, says our contemporary *Food and Cookery*, being used half enough, and it behoves caterers, chefs in hotels and restaurants, and all concerned, to turn their earnest attention to the numerous uses to which this nutritious fruit could be applied. They are no longer merely dessert; they are essential in the kitchen. Never has there been such a fine and varied collection of sweet and savoury dishes—and all made from that too often neglected fruit.

THE application of science to the sugar industry has made rapid strides in recent years, and the discovery of more efficient defecators now produces a greater purification of sugar juice than was possible a few years ago. The latest defecator is "Albuslite," and Mr. F. M. Roberts, of A. Boake, Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, is making a special journey to the West Indies to introduce it to clients and friends of that Company. It is understood that some very satisfactory results have been obtained with this new defecator in other parts of the world, and it should prove to be of some interest to the West Indies.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.



THERE are now about 14,791 acres devoted to citrus fruit cultivation in Cuba. Of these 8,593 acres are planted with grape fruit, 5,354 with oranges, and the balance with limes and lemons.

MR. FRANK EVANS returned to Lagos on January 7th. During his leave of absence from Nigeria, he has been investigating agricultural conditions and methods in South America and Cuba, where he made a special study of the Cuba tobacco industry, and he also paid a visit to Trinidad.

THE Report of the Agricultural Department of St. Lucia for 1912-13, shows that considerable development is taking place in the agriculture of the Colony. While sugar remains fairly stationary, the quantity of lime products exported showed a very substantial increase on previous years, while the area under cultivation in limes has been considerably extended.

DR. FRANCIS WATTS, Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, had been spending a few days in St. Lucia, when the last homeward mail left. Besides giving advice on agricultural matters, he delivered an excellent address at the Annual Speech day of the Grammar School, and distributed prizes and diplomas to those small-holders at Stubbs who were successful in the recent cotton growing competition for prizes.

4,407 tons of sugar were exported in 1912 against 4,461 tons in 1911. The cacao exported in 1912 was 17,074 cwts., a falling off of 1,420 cwts. as compared with the previous year, and the area in limes is estimated at 2,000 acres. A small area in cotton is still cultivated by peasants. Coco-nut planting is receiving considerable attention, and satisfactory progress is reported in bee-keeping. No less than 81,386 lbs. of honey were exported in 1912.

At a meeting of the Board of Agriculture in Port of Spain on December 19th, the report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the excessive claying of cacao was read. This document, which was signed by Mr. Henry Warner, advocated the publication of a joint notice by the Board of Agriculture, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Agricultural Society, to be circulated throughout the colony by the Wardens and otherwise, stating that complaints have been received with regard to representations as to the evil effect of excessive claying, and that if this be not discontinued it will be necessary to bring the matter to the notice of the Government with a view to the introduction of legislation making excessive claying a punishable offence.

MR. LAMB, Director of Agriculture of Southern Nigeria, visited Tobago on December 3rd, returning on the following night to Trinidad. During his stay he visited the two oldest budded cacao plants in the West Indies, which are to be found in the Botanic Gardens by Scarborough. He also visited the Government Stock Farm, and drove to Old Grange and to Milford. He inspected Old Grange, New Grange, Kilgwyn, Friendship, Pigeon Point and Bon Accord coco-nut estates, and in the following day inspected Cocoawatee, a cacao and coco-nut estate. Mr. Lamb, who was the guest of Mr. H. P. C. Strange, Commissioner and Warden, was accompanied on his tour by Mr. W. E. Broadway, Curator of the Gardens, and Mr. H. Meaden, of the Government Stock Farm, who acted as *ciceroni*.

THE DRYING OF COPRA.

A recent official report contains an account of a kiln employed in the British Solomon Islands for drying copra. It consists of a house of corrugated galvanised iron with an enclosed furnace on the ground. The flues, constructed of fire bricks and sheet iron, extend beneath the whole area of the floor, and there is an external shaft of sufficient height to ensure a good draught. A system of trays composed of angle iron and woven wire, running on wheels is arranged one above the other within the house. As much as from one to two tons of copra can be treated within the twenty-four hours. The quantity, of course, depends entirely upon the size of the structure. The husks of the coco-nuts supply fuel for the furnace, and are better so employed than in an attempt to turn them to commercial use by the manufacture of coir fibre.

As the kiln-dried copra is worth from £1 to £2 per ton more than the smoke-dried at the place of shipment, it is, says the *British Trade Journal*, obviously advantageous to go to the expense of a kiln when large quantities of copra are handled, in spite of the high initial expense. It is probable that in a few years the use of the kiln will almost entirely supersede the operation of drying over an open fire.

A LIST of publications obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms will be sent post free to any reader on application to the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. Among the books are: "The Banana," 7s. 6d., post free 7s. 10d. inland, 8s. abroad; "Cacao," 7s. 6d., post free 7s. 10d. inland, 8s. abroad; "The Cane Sugar Factory," 1s., post free 1s. 3d.; "Handbook of Barbados," 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 10d. inland; 3s. abroad; "Coco-nut Cultivation and Plantation Machinery," 3s. 6d., post free 3s. 9d. inland and abroad; "The British West Indies," 7s. 6d., post free 7s. 11d. inland, 8s. 3d. abroad; "Health Progress and Administration in the West Indies," 10s. 6d., post free 10s. 11d. inland, 11s. 4d. abroad.

THE LONDON LETTER.

UNIVERSAL sympathy with Mr. Chamberlain has been deepened by a letter just addressed to his constituents. We are told that his Parliamentary career will close definitely at the next General Election. On that occasion the voters in West Birmingham will record their suffrages for another Unionist candidate. It has long been known that Mr. Chamberlain's active service was over, but the news of his final retirement has touched the heart of the country. Men of all parties, and papers expressing all opinions, have united in tributes of praise to the great Imperialist. Supporters and opponents alike assign to Mr. Chamberlain a notable place in history. For ourselves we recall no Secretary for the Colonies who has displayed so accurate a knowledge of West Indian needs, or a more earnest and practical sympathy with the Western section of the Empire. His services to the tropics would alone impress the stamp of greatness upon Mr. Chamberlain's record.

THE Church of England is in the throes of a great agitation. News from overseas has enabled the newspapers to fill their columns during the dull season with scores of letters from adherents of all schools of thought within the Anglican Communion. Certain transactions in British East Africa are the source of the discussion. At a place called Kikuyu, it seems, a Conference was held of all missionaries at work in that region who met to consider proposals aiming ultimately at the formation of a United Native Church. The Conference concluded with a celebration in the Scottish Presbyterian Church of the Holy Communion administered by the Bishop of Mombasa. The Sacrament was received by Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Quakers. Was the Bishop of Mombasa right or not? That seems the point at issue. Representations have been made to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and when His Grace has all the evidence before him, we may expect a pronouncement.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer has thrown another bomb into the political camp. Mr. Lloyd-George considers that the present is a favourable moment when we may stay our hand in the matter of expenditure on armaments. Relations with Germany, he argues, have improved. The Government of the Kaiser, moreover, is concerned with the strengthening of the military, rather than of the naval arm of their national defences. Zealous believers in a paramount navy for this country are aghast at the suggestion. Meanwhile the author of the agitation is holidaying abroad.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON is planning the achievement of fresh laurels. An important expedition to the Antarctic, to be headed by Sir Ernest, is being arranged for the autumn of this year. The idea is to traverse regions hitherto unexplored, and to cover a distance of some 1,700 miles. Setting out

from Buenos Aires, the expedition will approach the South Pole from the Atlantic side, and will return by way of New Zealand. An aeroplane equipment will be a feature of the expedition.

PELLAGRA, apparently, is wider spread in the West Indies than had been supposed. This, at least, is the inference deducible from the statement in *The British Medical Journal* on the results of the visit to the Caribbean, from which Dr. Sambon has just returned. Dr. Sambon encountered in hospitals, asylums, and rural districts in the West Indies numerous cases of the disease, which he believes is caused, most probably, by a fly. In British Guiana Dr. Sambon found Pellagra along the coast from the Demerara to the Berbice Rivers. *The British Medical Journal* says the observations made will increase knowledge of the distribution of the disease as well as throw light on the cause and topographical distribution of other tropical ailments, more especially blackwater fever, filariasis and elephantiasis, as well as on the subject of leprosy.

THE tourist season in the West Indies, already rendered notable by the further visit of Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, is attracting other well-known members of Society. The Duke and Duchess of Sutherland are already in Caribbean waters on board their yacht. His Grace, who succeeded to the title not long ago, has been prominently before the public by reason of his correspondence with the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding a suggested sale of some of his Scottish property for development purposes. Further visitors to the West Indies in the near future will be Sir H. Brisco and the Dean of Salisbury (Dr. Page Roberts), who sail in the *Orotava* on January 28th.

HEARTY congratulations will be extended to Mr. Archibald G. Bell, Director of Public Works, Trinidad, upon the C.M.G. just conferred upon him,—the sole New Year honour allotted to the West Indies. These congratulations will not be confined to Trinidad. Before proceeding to that island, Mr. Bell had built up a sound reputation as Colonial Civil Engineer of British Guiana. In the Legislature, and on Government Commissions his opinion was heard always with the respect due to clarity of view. It is interesting to note that Mr. Bell provides one of the instances in the Colonial Civil Service of a son receiving a like decoration, and in the same public department as his father. The late Mr. Valentine G. Bell, C.M.G., will be remembered as a former Director of Public Works in Jamaica.

BRITISH Honduras has not forgotten its former Bishop, Dr. Herbert Bury, now Assistant Bishop for Northern and Central Europe. Dr. Bury, it is announced is now about to start upon an extended tour in Russia, Germany and Austria. As the outcome of a mission to Siberia undertaken by Bishop Bury last year, the first regular Anglican services are about to be inaugurated in that remote region.

SOME NATURE NOTES.



THE Bourbon cane was introduced into the West Indies about the year 1790, and at once met with approval. In 1792 a planter in Guadeloupe obtained not less than 3 hogsheads of sugar from half an acre, which he had planted as an experiment. The first trial of the new cane in a British colony was made in 1793 in Montserrat, and from there they were in the same year transplanted to Antigua.

THE results were so good that the cultivation of the Bourbon immediately spread over the British West Indies. In 1798 two acres and a half of this cane gave eight hogsheads per acre—a big return in those days—in St. Thomas in the Vale, stated then to be “one of the most exhausted parishes in Jamaica.” In 1797 a planter in Tobago writes that: “The Bourbon canes are so wonderful. . . This cane passes wonder and renders the appearance of the old canes unpleasant.”

THEY were also stated to resist the injuries of excessive dry weather, and the ravages of “a destructive insect called the borer,” and, further, that “the introduction of them will undoubtedly constitute an important era in the history of the West Indies.” Pretty much the same has been heard as regards certain seedlings in recent days, but when will the cane be found which, while giving such early promise, will bear the incessant cultivation of a century?

AN interesting fact in connection with cane planting has been noticed in Queensland. With an ordinary plant, says the *Australian Sugar Journal*, after the first shoot from the eye has made fairly good growth, half-a-dozen or more shoots come from the same eye. These have to make their way against the competition, so to speak, of the more forward shoot, and are thus prevented from making the growth which they otherwise would have made. It was found that by cutting off this leading shoot, the growth of the cane was eventually much greater than if the first shoot had been left.

MR. C. M. HUTCHINSON, the bacteriologist to the Government of India, in a recent report, gives the results of investigations in connection with the bacteriology of the soil. These seem to show that the high temperature of the East Indian soils, 77° to 86° F., has the effect of producing a different bacteriological result to that which obtains in soils of temperate countries. In the latter ammonification and nitrification go on at about equal rates. At the higher temperature, however, ammonification proceeds much more rapidly, and may produce so high a concentration of ammonia in the soil as to diminish or prevent nitrification.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.

The Manufacture of Demerara Sugar.

THE R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, which left Barbados on December 24th, reached Southampton on January 5th. The homeward mail brought favourable news regarding the weather and crops, the outlook for which was more promising throughout the West Indies. In a report of Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, Senior Medical Officer of Dominica, mention was made recently of the lack of means for enforcing the anti-mosquito regulations in Roseau; Mr. Cowley now writes that Dr. Sambon, who recently visited Antigua, was dissatisfied with the state of affairs in that island, where he found mosquitoes rampant. It is true that he visited the island at rather an unfortunate time, when the weather favoured the breeding of these pests, but no doubt steps will be taken by the local Government to remove the unfavourable impression which must be caused by his remarks. Referring to the case still pending for selling dyed sugar as Demerara, Mr. J. C. McCowan, Secretary of the British Guiana Planters Association, again protests emphatically that no dye is used in the manufacture of yellow crystals in British Guiana, and similar protests come from other parts of the West Indies. Of interest is Mr. Sands' statement that no fewer than six societies have been registered in St. Vincent under the new Ordinance for encouraging and regulating agricultural co-operative credit societies under the Raiffeisen system, and Trinidad proprietors will welcome the announcement made by Mr. Tripp regarding the reduction of the immigration tax. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our hon. correspondents:—

Antigua—The Need of Mosquito Extermination.

MR. A. P. COWLEY reported on December 20th that the weather had been very unsettled, cloudy and very damp, with no heavy rains, but moderate showers almost every day. They were sufficient to retard the ripening of cotton on some estates, but not enough to force cane growth.—Dr. Sambon had paid a flying visit to Antigua, and expressed himself as very dissatisfied with the sanitary conditions, urging strongly the need of mosquito extermination. Dr. Sambon's visit was made at the very worst time that could have been selected, owing to the rainy weather. Mosquitoes were then rampant, everything was damp and cold, and the impression obtained of climate and general health conditions was very unfavourable.

Sir Hesketh Bell presided at the last meeting of the Agricultural Society, when a long and interesting address was delivered by Dr. Watts, reviewing the general condition of affairs in connection with sugar, cotton and onions. Dr. Watts also addressed a meeting of the Onion Growers' Association, and then proceeded to the Botanic Station and gave practically a demonstration of onion growing, showing that seed planted without transplantation of the bulb was at least three weeks ahead of that which had been sown in the usual way and then transplanted out to growing beds. This meant that if the onions were fit to reap in January or early in February, a good market would be ensured anywhere in America, Canada or the West Indies. The work of the Association of Onion Growers was bound to be productive of good results.—The first steamer under the new Canadian contract arrived on December 14th. Great things were expected from the new arrangement. With cold storage and regular communi-

cation, a market ought to be found for much of Antigua's fruit, etc., in Canada.

Mr. Cowley proceeded to comment on an article in the last number of the official organ of the Canada-West India League, calling attention to the agitation re the admission of Mauritius and Fiji sugar into Canada on the same terms as sugar from the West Indian colonies. The writer of that article, said Mr. Cowley, waxed eloquent on the fact that these places were already under the same terms before the new arrangement with the West Indies, but he lost sight of the fact that a new arrangement had been made, and that under that the West Indies gave a very decided advantage to Canadian goods for the privilege of admission of their sugar into the Canadian market. This was not so with Mauritius and Fiji, which entered the market under their old arrangement, and gave nothing for their privilege of an open market, thus coming into competition with West Indian sugar on a preferential basis. If geographical conditions did not preclude sugar going from Mauritius and Fiji, it seemed that the abrogation of the refiners' privilege of importing 20,000 tons of sugar from foreign sources on a preferential basis, and the treaty made with the West Indies came to nothing. The refiners would still be able to import from Mauritius and Fiji (geographical conditions permitting) sugar on the same terms as could be done with the 20,000 tons before the preferential treaty with the West Indies was made.

The Grammar School Speech Day, on December 18th, was a great success. Sir Hesketh Bell made a fine speech, and so did Archdeacon Branch, reviewing the work, etc., of the school. After speeches, came scout drill and sports, all very successful. The Antigua Grammar School was a power for good. Not alone in the West Indies, but all over the four quarters of the globe, could be found men in all walks of life—doctors, lawyers, clergy and one bishop, who started at the Antigua Grammar School, and had carried its name to "earth's remotest bounds." Long might Archdeacon Branch carry on his good work.—Lady Major was visiting the island, and her husband, Sir Charles Major, Chief Justice of Fiji, was to arrive later.

Barbados—A Proposed Local Court of Appeal.

SIR FREDERICK J. CLARKE, writing on December 23rd, said that the past week had been dry, and a good rain would do much good, but complaints could not be made of the weather for the past two months.—The Agricultural Society had held their annual industrial exhibition at Queen's Park on the 17th, and it had been a great success. The exhibits in all the various classes had been good, both in numbers and quality, more especially in those for cattle, fowls and canes, and in the latter of these B6450 was well to the front. The attendance had been very large, both in the day and at night.—The Governor and Lady Probyn had visited the show in the afternoon, and evinced great interest in the exhibits.—The past week had been a busy week for them since they had been present at the exhibition and at the speech days and prize-givings of all the schools in Bridgetown.

Regarding the weather and crop prospects, the *Barbados Advocate*, of December 23rd, reported that the weather had been delightful during the fortnight,—very cool mornings, bright days and dry nights. As planting operations were proceeding, the fact that there had been heavy showers was welcome, although the ratooning districts had been favoured with some good rains. The whole face of the country wore a pleasant look.—An event of importance had been the passing of an Address to the King in Council praying for the formation of a new Court of Appeal for Barbados.

At present appeals from the Chief Justice of the island lie to the Windward Court of Appeal, constituted of the Chief Justices of Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Barbados.

The death occurred, on December 11th, at Merrywing Hall, Christ Church, of Mrs. Lydia I. Haynes, widow of the late Mr. Robert H. Haynes, son of the late Prothonotary, and brother of Mr. W. Lindsay Haynes, Registrar.

Kent Plantation (240 acres) Christ Church, had been sold by Mr. B. H. Grant to Mr. J. H. Richardson, of Stepeny's.

Bermuda—Visitors Flocking to the Somers Islands.

The *Bermuda Colonist* states that the Second Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment is expected to reach Bermuda on the 18th of the present month from Gibraltar.—Visitors were beginning to arrive in great numbers for the winter season when the last homeward mail left.—A number of Agriculturalists toured the eastern part of the island on December 11th, under the auspices of the Board of Agriculture.

The season was proving a brilliant one. The hotels were well filled, and many dances and entertainments were being provided for the visitors. Among the newcomers were a party of boy scouts from the United States. The total number of tourists in the third quarter of 1913 amounted to 4,348, as compared with 4,847 in the corresponding period of 1912. Transient passengers were more numerous, owing to many ships calling on their way from the Panama Canal. The figures for October, according to the *Bermuda Colonist*, show a decided increase over those for the same period in 1912.

British Guiana—No Dyes used for Demerara Sugar.

MR J. C. McCOWAN, writing on December 20th, said that the statement that large quantities of "Golden Bloom" dye were being shipped to British Guiana was incorrect. Some years ago certificates were sent you from every estate in the Colony to the effect that no dye was used in the manufacture of Yellow Crystals, and those statements still held good. On the few estates making Yellow Crystals only Bloomer was used.—Nice rains had fallen during the fortnight, and the weather at the time of writing was all that could be desired.—The continued drop in the prices of refining crystals in the American and Canadian markets was a very serious matter, and it was very difficult at the moment to say what the export value really was. For local consumption sales had been made at \$1.95 to \$2.10, according to quantity and quality.—At a meeting of the British Guiana Planters Association, held on the 8th December, the Hon. R. G. Duncan had been elected chairman in place of Mr. H. Y. Delafons, who had resigned. Mr. G. R. Garnett resigned his seat on the Council, and this was filled by the election of Mr. Delafons. The question of Mal de Caderas had been considered, and it was decided to point out to the Government that the quarantine should be more strictly enforced, as there was no check on animals outside an infected area being allowed to travel backwards and forwards to the boundaries of the estate and thus spreading the disease. It was also considered that the Government should secure the services of a Government Veterinary Surgeon possessing a knowledge of the disease, who would be able to deal with the trouble.—The Annual Meeting of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society had been held on the 17th inst. when Mr. Mewburn Garnett gave an interesting address on his reminiscences of the Colony. Professor Harrison had prepared a paper on the experimental work at the artesian well in the D'Urban Park. He said that when the well was first drilled the output was estimated at 1,000,000 gallons a day. This water, however, had been cloudy, with a mixture of sand and clay; later, however, the water had cleared, but the output decreased rapidly to just over 200,000 gallons a day. There were times, however, when the water diminished to a thick muddy trickle, but in the main the output was well maintained.

Dominica—The Urgent Need for a Development Policy

MR E. A. AGAR, writing on December 20th, said that he had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Forster M. Alleyne once or twice, and even so slight an acquaintance enabled him to share the regret of his friends at his death.

Referring to the transfer of Mr. Douglas Young to St. Lucia, Mr. Agar expressed the hope that the money accumulated during his regime as Administrator might be devoted to the improvement of transport facilities, which were much needed. This policy of accumulating funds had been, undoubtedly, a very sound one at first, and placed the colony in a very strong position, but it had been carried on too long; for the past two years, at any

rate, if not more, the colony should have been allowed to benefit by the expenditure of what was after all its own money. It was impossible to help grumbling when year after year large sums of money were invested at a low rate of interest when it was possible to calculate the financial advantages that would accrue from putting that money into increased transport facilities, or even left for re-investment in the island. However, the island had progressed rapidly all the same, and it was hoped that, with Mr. Young's accumulations, it would progress more rapidly still in the future.

Mr. Drayton's appointment had been published on the 19th, and there was universal disappointment, not that Mr. Drayton was coming, but that Major Burdon was going. During the short time that he had been in Dominica, Major Burdon had come up to the ideas of what an Administrator should be both personally and administratively, and his confirmation as Administrator would have been heartily welcome.

The writer would not be surprised at all if at some future date, when the immediate disadvantages under which the island was suffering in the matter of roads and bridges had been set right, and forgotten, it were generally acknowledged that Mr. Young had laid the foundation for the island's real prosperity.

The weather for the past fortnight had been beautifully fine, a great relief to cacao planters, and good for cultivation generally.

Jamaica—The Will of Lt. Colonel the Hon. C. J. Ward.

The reply of the Government to the representations of the Montego Bay Citizens' Association, regarding the plight of the residents of Cayman Brac, to which reference was made in the CIRCULAR of December 2nd, was not considered satisfactory. Briefly, the Association had been informed that their representations would be referred to the Commissioner, though it had been hoped that a scientist might have been sent to the island immediately to report on the coco-nut disease prevailing there.—The Association had been in communication with the railway company regarding the provision of special tourist trains, and Mr. Couper had replied that while it was not possible to provide a daily train, leaving out stations between Kingston and Spanish Town and Spanish Town and Williamsfield stations, inasmuch as only 20 minutes would be saved, and travelling facilities would be withdrawn from residents near the stations omitted, special trains would be run for tourists when occasion required.

The *Gleaner* of December 23rd, states that the will of the late Lieut.-Colonel Charles J. Ward, C.M.G., had been admitted to probate. The personality was sworn at £280,000 and realty at £100,000. The executors are Mr. H. I. C. Brown, Mr. E. H. Sanguinetti, Mr. David Henderson and Mr. R. S. Haughton, who will each receive £150 annually as long as they remain trustees. The will provides that Mr. Sanguinetti shall remain as manager of the business of J. Wray & Nephew, so long as he retains the full confidence of his co-executors and trustees. Colonel Ward's household effects and residence are left to the widow. The legacies include a year's salary to each clerk not less than ten years in his employment at the time of his death, and six months' salary to those who have been in his employment five years, and £350 per annum for the benefit of the respectable poor of Kingston and St. Andrew. After all legacies have been disposed of, the estate is to be held in trust by the trustees, and out of the income thereof, certain annual payments are to be paid to the widow. After her death, the funds are to be held in trust for Colonel Ward's children in the following proportions: to each son a sum equivalent to four twenty-fifths, and to each daughter three twenty-fifths of the said fund.

Montserrat—Excessive Moisture Injures Cotton

MR. K. P. PENCHOEN, writing on December 20th, said that there had been several days of sunshine with considerable benefit to the cotton, the bearing of which was suffering, and had suffered from excessive moisture caused by continuous rains in November and the early part of December.

The S.S. *Sunai*, of the East Asiatic Company's line of steamers, had taken for Liverpool 39 bales of cotton on the 11th inst.; this steamer had arrived before she was expected, and the shipment had been consequently lessened. The S.S. *Bintang*, of the same line of steamers, would take a considerable shipment of this product in January, 1914. The first R.M.S.P. Co. steamer of the new Canadian service, the *Cobeguid*, called at Montserrat on the evening of Sunday the 14th, leaving for Dominica at 2 a.m. of the 15th. The next of these steamers scheduled to call would be the *Chaleur*—south on the 12th, and the *Caravel*—north on the 16th January, 1914.

The three-masted topsail schooner *Rise*, of Denmark, 176 tons, chartered by the Montserrat Company, Ltd., was at the time of writing, loading lime juice, etc.

Nevis—An Uneventful Fortnight.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, writing on December 19th, said that the weather continued mild; the year had slipped quietly away with nothing of note to refer to in the community.

St. Kitts—The Death of the Hon. S. L. Horsford.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, writing on December 19th, said that the weather continued to be very favourable for the growing crop. Hardly a day passed without gentle light showers falling, no heavy downpour. The weather had been unfavourable for cotton, and that planted since the drought had failed badly. There had not been two days consecutive sun for cotton picking for quite a considerable time.

Referring to a leading article in the CIRCULAR of Dec. 16th. Mr. Shelford went on to say that he had never been enthusiastic over exhibitions for the very reasons stated in the CIRCULAR. It was mere waste of time persons forwarding exhibition samples of jellies, starches, etc., unless they could supply the same on commercial lines. The staple products of St. Kitts were sugar, molasses, syrup, rum and cotton—nothing else was produced on a commercial scale.

The very sad news had been received on the 18th of the death of the Hon. S. L. Horsford, in England. The honourable gentleman had left St. Kitts some months ago very ill, but his friends hoped that the best medical skill and a change to England might restore him to health. It had been willed otherwise. Deep sympathy was felt with his widow and family, who were in England. Mr. Horsford had been the senior unofficial member of the Legislative Council, and was for several years a member of the Executive to the Federal Councils, also President of the Agricultural and Commercial Society. He had always taken a keen interest and a prominent part in commercial and political matters, and possessed broad views—a rather rare qualification in those parts. He was a sound, practical business man, and one always ready to give others the benefit of his experience and advice. His death created a gap in the business and public life of the Colony which it would exceedingly difficult to fill; and he would be sadly missed by all classes of the community.

St. Lucia—A Welcome to Mr. Douglas Young, C.M.O.

MR. G. S. HUDSON, writing on December 19th, said that the weather for the past fortnight had been unimpeachable, with sunny days, cool nights, and just enough moisture to suit all crops. It certainly was beginning to look like the commencement of an early dry season, which would probably not be acceptable to most agriculturists.

The appointment of Mr. Douglas Young, C.M.G., from the Administratorship of Dominica to that of St. Lucia had been gazetted, and it was to be hoped that St. Lucia would make the same progress as Dominica had done under his regime; for Dominica had certainly gone ahead wonderfully.—The Legislative Council on the 24th inst. had been principally occupied with work in connection with the up-to-date re-arrangement and publication of the laws of St. Lucia.

His Honour the Administrator had lately visited the Anse La Raye and Choiseul districts. The man-of-war *Rossia* had visited the port, and the captain and officers had been entertained at Government House. The cable-

repairing steamer *Henry Holmes* had also made a stay of over a week at Castries.

St. Vincent—Agricultural Credit Societies Formed.

MR. W. N. SANDS, writing on December 20th, reported that very fine weather had been experienced during the past fortnight; and that it was hoped that it would continue so as to ripen up the arrowroot and enable a little more cotton to be obtained.

The recent official changes of administration were of much interest to the colony. Dr. Francis Watts, Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, had been spending a few days in the island.

It was worthy of note that already six societies had been registered under the new Ordinance for the encouragement and regulation of Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies under the Raiffeisen system, and applications from others were being considered. The excellent principles of these societies were apparently well understood, and the people in the different districts helped by their local ministers of religion were quickly taking advantage of the facilities offered by the Government. Again, St. Vincent was giving a lead to the other colonies, if only in a small way.

On Thursday, the 18th, at the Court House, an excellent amateur theatrical performance, which had been arranged by the Hon. Mrs. C. Gideon Murray, in aid of the local Needlework Association, had been given. The two short plays, "Don't let the Lady Go" and "Playing the Game," were exceedingly well done, and the performers had gained much praise from a very full house.

The Administrator and Mrs. Murray, with Mr. Batten-Pooll and Mr. Bryce were leaving by the mail on a short Christmas visit of H.E. Sir George Le Hunte at Trinidad.

Tobago—Mr. Vincent Dynamiting Coco-nut Lands.

MR. R. S. REID, writing on December 19th, said that, after about ten days blazing sunshine, there had been some nice showers. The cacao crop thus far had fallen short of expectations, and was much later than last year. No doubt deliveries would increase from January onwards, but the lack of an early crop was disappointing, especially as prices were tending downwards.

Preparations for Christmas were strongly in evidence. School prize givings, dances, etc., and the labourers were practising for cricket matches during the holidays.

Mr. H. Vincent had been dynamiting lauds for cultivation of coco-nuts, and great interest was being taken in this new departure.

Trinidad—The Immigration Taxes Reduced.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, writing on December 23rd, said that everyone in Trinidad, and there were very many, who knew Mr. Forster M. Alleyne, were sincerely grieved at the news of his death. He was prominent in all inter-colonial movements, and especially at the Agricultural Conferences held in the various islands. His genial hospitality would always be remembered by those who were fortunate enough to be his guests at Porters, and otherwise some of the most pleasant memories of Barbados were associated with his name. And it would be long before his inimitable after dinner speeches were forgotten.

Much disappointment was felt that the *Arcadian* would cut Port of Spain on her way out, especially as she was due to arrive on the 26th, the first day of the Turf Club Races, when the whole city was en fete. It did seem absurd that because two people out of a population of 350,000, and these two living 40 miles away, had died of fever, that Port of Spain, one of the healthiest and most sanitary towns in the tropical world should be shunned. The strange thing was that the British ships did it. Other lines continued their regular call. The most prominent instance was that of the two German training ships, the *Vineta* and the *Hertha*. These vessels of 6,000 and 5660 tons and 620 and 610 men respectively, were at Port of Spain, and large parties landed daily, absolutely indifferent to the scare which affected the ships of other nations, including those of England. They had done exactly the same during the time that isolated cases of plague had frightened every other visitor away, and not a man was the worse for it.

A ball was to be given that night at Government House in honour of Captains Adelung and Roherdt, and their officers, who were always welcome, but perhaps more so then in view of their sensible attitude as compared with that of others. As to the yellow fever itself, there were still two or three convalescents at Brighton well on the way to recovery, and no one in Port of Spain, knowing the isolation and splendid sanitary condition of the place attached any importance to the outbreak as far as further damage was concerned.

The *Mullah* was to sail on the 24th with 800 return immigrants, a large number of whom were paupers, sick and destitute people, many from the House of Refuge, and 14 lepers. Notwithstanding this, it was on the whole a "rich ship." The better class among them had remitted through the Treasury £9,640 and they had deposited with the surgeon in gold coins and jewellery £900. Dr. George H. Masson of that Colony was going as surgeon. All arrangements for the collection and embarkation of the people were being carried out in the efficient manner one took for granted under Commander Coombs' administration of the Immigration Department. It should be mentioned that one man would return to India with \$4,411.

In connection with immigration, owing to the reduced number of immigrants now arriving, a welcome reduction in the annual tax had been made thus:—

	Immigration Tax.			
	1913	1914	1913	1914
Cacao ...	1d.	3d.	5½d.	3d.
Sugar ...	3½d.	2d.	45. 9½d.	35. 0d.
Coco-nuts	2½d.	2d.	15. 2d.	6½d.
Copra ...	7½d.	3d.	45. 0d.	25. 0d.
Rum ...			10s. 3d.	4s. 10d.
Coffee ...			9½d.	5d.
Molasses			2s. 4d.	1s. 4d.

The football season, perhaps the most successful one known in Trinidad had just concluded. Some of the final matches for the Shield, and two cups annually competed for by the five leading clubs had excited extraordinary interest, as many as 5,000 persons attending, full of enthusiasm. The Casuals, a club composed mostly of English creoles were the victors for the present year. The South-erners, a San Fernando club, had been well to the fore, and would have to be seriously reckoned with next year.

The *Cobequid*, the first steamer of the new Canadian service had arrived punctually to time on the 20th, and those who visited her had been very favourably impressed.

The Calico Ball had left a surplus of \$900, which amount had been handed over to local charities. This result must be gratifying to Mrs. Knaggs and her indefatigable lady assistants.

The weather was all that could be desired; cacao was beginning to come forward in goodly quantity, in spite of the so called hard times, the stores were crowded with Christmas purchasers, and the season's bustle and joy were in the air. Trinidad was always ready to eat, drink and be merry, however black might be to-morrow's prospects; but, after all, they might be worse.

BIRTHS.

Jebb.—On the 6th Jan., 1914, at the Manor House, Mary-lebone Road, N.W., the wife of Richard Jebb—a daughter.

Bancroft.—On the 29th Dec. at 19, Court Street, Faversham, Kent, the wife of C. K. Bancroft, M.A., F.L.S., of Georgetown, Demerara, of a son.

WANTS.

Employment wanted by capable secretary and accountant, aged 45, who thoroughly understands West Indian Sugar business. Thirty years with the New Colonial Co., Ltd. Excellent references. G. M. Ohlson, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase, July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

For Sale.—Bound volume of *The Sugar-Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timehri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of Timehri for 1891. For sale: Part I., 1886; Part II., 1889; Part I., 1893, and Part I., 1894. Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

A Qualified Accountant of 20 years experience who is proceeding to the British West Indies about the end of February, will be pleased to negotiate with principals having interests there who might care to avail themselves of his services. Interview can be arranged before leaving England. Highest testimonials and references.—Apply H. D., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

Motoring in Dominica.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.
DEAR SIR,—Your issue of the 30th December informs your readers "that the motor-car has just been introduced into St. Lucia and St. Vincent for the first time," and that "if the motor fever extends to Dominica, an acceleration of the various schemes for opening up the island by roads should be brought about."

Your friendly mention of Dominica in this connection will no doubt be appreciated by those knowing Dominica and the difficulties of the problem involved, but let me inform you that the motor-car was introduced into Dominica at the beginning of last year, when the Honble. Archie Frampton replaced his steam car by a Ford car.

Mr. Frampton's example was soon followed by Mr. P. Noble (the Colonial Engineer in charge of the public roads of the island), Mr. Alex Riviere and others, who also imported Ford cars, and there are now six cars in the island.

When Prince Albert visited Dominica in the early part of last year, His Royal Highness drove in Mr. Frampton's Ford car, as did also Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein during Her Highness's visit to Dominica a month later.

Truly yours,
DOUGLAS YOUNG.

Culmer, West Byfleet,
9th January, 1914.

[We were quite aware that there were motor-cars in Dominica, and Mr. Douglas Young will no doubt recollect that we have already referred to them in these columns. But the existence of six cars in the island can hardly be said to afford evidence of the prevalence of "motor-fever" among Dominicans. We will admit, however, that our remarks may have been liable to misinterpretation.—ED.]

Bridges in Dominica.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—Some time back the absence of roads and bridges in Dominica was commented on in the CIRCULAR. A new colonial engineer was posted to Dominica, and the isolated planter congratulated himself that at last something would be done to enable him to get his produce to the coast with some facility. In a certain locality in the island a bridge was built over one river, and a causeway made to circumvent another portion of the same river. After a heavy rain, the flooded river washed away the causeway, and the approaches to the bridge.

It would naturally be supposed that steps would at once have been taken to rebuild the approaches to the bridge, and, now what the river in flood can do has been seen, that

the causeway would have been made on a different and better plan.

But that is not the way we do things in Dominica; the bridge remains without approaches, and nothing has been done to the ruined causeway; nor has anything been done to the rivers to make passable fords.

It is sincerely to be hoped now that a new Administrator has been appointed, that he will join at once, and energetically tackle the road question. I daresay over £600 worth of stuff has been taken down this road this year, all of which pays export duty; next year it will be over £1000. The policy up to date has been only to serve the dwellers on the coast.

Another great hindrance to any progress in these matters is the respective absences on leave of the Administrator and the Colonial Engineer. When the Administrator is away, his *locum tenens*, as a rule, dare not do anything on his own; when the Colonial Engineer is away there is no one to do it. At present there is an energetic Colonial Engineer in Dominica; it is but natural that he will soon go on leave. It is earnestly to be hoped that a suitable engineer will be put in to act for him, and not one whose qualification may be that he is available and is a good office man.

Yours truly,

"A TURNED WORM."

P.S.—This is not intended for a reflection on the Colonial Engineer, whose services we are fortunate to have, but on those who hold the purse strings and direct, or rather misdirect, the road policy of the island.

Millions and the Prevention of Malaria.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—I was much interested in what Dr. Malcolm Watson said in his paper read before the Royal Colonial Institute on the 19th November in regard to the "Millions" theory and mosquitoes.

From my long experience of conditions under which mosquitoes breed in Trinidad, and also a considerable acquaintance with the habits of "Millions," I quite agree with what Dr. Watson says: "It is important that the 'Millions' theory should be exploded."

No doubt these fishes are useful in tanks, reservoirs and estate ponds, but when it comes to "Prevention of Malaria," the greatest and only trustworthy factor is *effective drainage*.

In the *Times* Weekly Edition of 14th March, 1913, under the head of "Prevention of Malaria" there is an article on the subject of "Millions" which very much over-estimates their value.

As this article was somewhat misleading I wrote to the Editor of the *Weekly Times* (15th April, 1913) pointing out that malaria prevails in Trinidad in spite of our abundant supply of mosquito-destroying fishes, (there are several other species in addition to "Millions" e.g. *Girardinus* spp.) and I concluded by saying, "The real reason for the absence of malaria in Barbados is the absence of swampy situations in which the *Anopheles* breed."

Your obedient Servant,

P. LECHEMERE-GUPPY,

Assistant Entomologist, Department of
Agriculture, Trinidad.

19th December, 1913.

The Condition of Dutch Guiana.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—My attention has been called to a report issued by the British Consul at Dutch Guiana on that country, and I will ask the courtesy of space in the next issue of your valuable medium to refute this extraordinary collection of what I consider mis-statements of facts.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES O'CONNOR,
of Dutch Guiana.

79, Bishopsgate, E.C.

Limes in Dominica.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—We beg to thank you for the information in your issue with respect to the Imperial gallons of juice to be expected from "a barrel," but what we desired to know was the Volumetric Content or measurement of a barrel yielding the stated quantity of juice, viz., 7½ gallons.

The terms hogshead, etc., are rather different, as we think we are correct in saying that a hogshead as understood in the sugar industry of the West Indies invariably means a definite volumetric measure, whereas we frequently notice that "barrels" are referred to as containing anything from 1,000 to 2,500 limes. The difference cannot, of course, be in the size of the limes, but rather greater capacity of the barrel.

As one of the largest manufacturers of limes mills, we would like to point out from our experience that a barrel of limes yielding 7½ gallons of raw juice would consist of about 15,000 limes, and it will be interesting to know how this compares with the figures asked for above.

We remain, yours faithfully,
For GEORGE FLETCHER & CO., LTD.,
F. P. RUDDER, Director

Masson and Atlas Works,
Litchurch, Derby.
5th January, 1914.

[One cubic foot of limes contains on the average 220 limes, and one barrel about 1,200 limes. The volumetric content of the barrel is therefore about 5.45 cubic feet. A hogshead of sugar is a variable quantity, but generally speaking the idea of 18 cwt. is conveyed. A hogshead may be anything between 13 and 20 cwt.—ED.]

OUR LIBRARY.

The Fermentation of Cacao, with which is compared the results of experimental investigations into the fermentation, oxidation, and drying of coffee, tea, tobacco, indigo etc., for shipment, with a foreword by Sir George Watt, C.I.E., etc. Edited by Harold Hamel Smith. London: John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, crown 8vo, pp. 318 + liv. Obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 10s., post free. The main object of this book appears to be the publication of the very concise and informative essays on the fermentation of cacao by the Hon. George S. Hudson, the valued correspondent of the West India Committee in St. Lucia, and Dr. Lucius Nicholls, of the same island, which won for its authors a substantial prize offered by our contemporary *Tropical Life*. Other contributors of chapters are such well-known authorities as Dr. Avel Freyer, Dr. Oscar Loew, Dr. Fickendey, Dr. Schulte in Hope and J. D. Sack, all of whom have won their laurels in the world of tropical agriculture. The result of their efforts has been to provide a valuable compendium of expert information regarding a problem which has been the subject of much discussion in the past. Mr. Hamel Smith, who is the champion of by- as he is of main products criticises the various essays in a lengthy preface, and takes up Mr. Hudson's suggestion that the cacao plantation might be looked upon as a source of vinegar alcohol. Mr. Hudson estimates that for each bag of 200 lbs. of cacao, there should be a yield of two gallons of vinegar, which would give 5,006,000 gallons for the world's cacao industry. This opens up great possibilities before the manufacturers of cheap clarets; but if alcohol were to be made, a still greater yield, namely, 10,192,000 gallons of spirit might be secured. In conclusion, Mr. Hamel Smith sums up the whole matter. We have no hesitation in saying that a copy of this book should be in the library of everyone connected with the great cacao industry.

Coco-nut Cultivation and Plantation Machinery. By H.

Lake Coghlan and J. W. Hinckley. London: Crosby, Lockwood & Son, 1914. Foolscap 8vo, pp. 128 + vii, ten illustrations. Obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 3s. 6d., post free, 3s. 9d. To see ourselves as others see us is not always a pleasant experience, though it is invariably useful. In this small volume the authors deal mainly with coco-nut cultivation in the East, and while West Indian planters will find much that is of value among the numerous hints for successful planting which are given, it is to the appendix, dealing with the industry in the West Indies to which they will naturally turn with particular interest. One, if not both, of the authors visited about twenty coco-nut plantations in the West Indies, and they are consequently able to speak with first hand knowledge of the conditions prevailing there. To begin with, they show that, owing to the short distance between the estates and the American market, it is more profitable for the planter to ship the nut whole than to ship copra, or in desiccated form. This truism will not be pleasant reading to shareholders in several West Indian copra propositions which have recently been launched! The authors then proceed to remind us that in the West Indies no attempt has yet been made to convert the husk into marketable fibre; here there certainly seems to be an opening for a new industry, the prospects of which may be gauged when it is appreciated that the husk from 70,000 nuts produces 30 tons of fibre, costing only £4 per ton to prepare, and selling for at least £9 per ton; the initial cost of the factory equipment being about £3,000. Then the authors were struck by the smallness of the West Indian nuts compared with those of Malaya and Venezuela, and this they attribute to the lack of proper cultivation, want of manure, and, above all, the absence in earlier days of any care in the selection of seed nuts. These are matters to which attention must be given. The average proportion of Selects, Culls and Rejects is at present 50, 30 and 20 per cent. respectively, and the authors are convinced that with better cultivation these averages could be changed to 80 per cent. of Selects and 20 per cent. of Culls. Turning now to the earlier pages of this little volume, the West Indian planters will learn how many economies and improvements in cultivation can be effected, and we hope that many will profit by them. The time is coming when competition among coco-nut producers will be keen, and then it will be a case of the survival of the fittest.

The Sugars and Their Simple Derivatives. John E. Mackenzie, D.Sc., Ph.D. London: Gurney & Jackson, Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd. Price 7s. 6d. This work is based on a course of lectures delivered in London and Edinburgh, and is intended, not only for students of pure chemistry, but also for those interested in medicine, brewing and distilling, sugar manufacture, &c. In a subject of such gigantic proportions, the matter must necessarily only be treated in a work of the size of Dr. Mackenzie's book, in a somewhat cramped manner, but the author has contrived to include a mass of interesting information into the narrow limits. The manufacture of cane sugar has been touched on lightly; and there are several points to which exception might be taken in the description of manufacture. A notable one is that in which the author, after describing a process for making 66^c centrifugals, says "The sugar in this state is known as 'raw' sugar, and is sometimes sold under the name of 'Demerara' sugar!"

It should have been mentioned that "Songs and Ballads of Greater Britain," a review of which appeared in last issue, is published in London and Toronto by J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd. The price is 4s. 6d. post free.

[Copies of all books reviewed in the THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under this heading the principal features of the West Indian Official Gazettes are recorded for reference purposes.

Barbados, Vol. XLVIII.—No. 103. Minutes of the House of Assembly, December 15th. **British Guiana, Vol. XXXVII.—No. 103.** Estate Duty Amendment Ordinance, 1913. Local Government Amendment Ordinance, 1913. No. 104. Education Code, 1913. No. 106. Report by the Government Biologist on the prevalence of biting flies. **Trinidad Vol. LXXXII.—No. 56.** Minutes of the Legislative Council of December 3rd. Partnership Ordinance, 1913. Companies' Ordinance, 1913. Lepers Ordinance, 1913. **Grenada, Vol. XXXI.—No. 28.** Minutes of the Legislative Council, October 1st. Report on the primary schools for 1912-13. Import duties (Preferential) Ordinance, 1913. **St. Vincent, Vol. XLVI.—No. 45.** Minutes of the Legislative Council, October 6th.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Joint-stock companies in and connected with the West Indies are invited to submit particulars regarding their operations for publication under the above heading.

The General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad, Ltd.

Presiding over the third ordinary general meeting of this company on December 31st, Mr. R. H. McCarthy referred with regret to the death of Mr. W. T. Douglass, their chairman, who was greatly missed by his colleagues. Proceeding, Mr. McCarthy said that the balance sheet was made up to September 30th, as the figures were practically identical with those previously submitted, the only additions being the necessary current expenditure, which in a large measure, was to be refunded by the Central Mining and Investment Corporation, Ltd., on the completion of the sale of the property. The directors had delayed calling this meeting until the very last day allowed them by the Companies Acts in the hope that they might be able to announce that the sale of the property had been actually completed. In spite, however, of all the precautions and measures that had been taken on this side for the expediting in every possible way of the transfer it had not been actually completed, but any day now a cable might be received announcing that the matter had been concluded. The Central Mining and Investment Corporation, Ltd., who had formed a separate company called "Trinidad Leaseholds, Ltd.," for the development of the properties in Trinidad, had been in every way as anxious to complete the business as the directors, and they had for many months past had a staff of eminent geologists working on the properties, laying sites for wells and otherwise doing everything possible to enable them to proceed with active drilling operations the moment they were in possession. At the statutory meeting of Trinidad Leaseholds, Ltd.—on the board of which the company was represented—held on the 3rd instant, Mr. Keyersbach, their Chairman, stated that on the advices which they had received they had decided that drilling in the first instance would be commenced on the area known as the "Forest Reserve," that the requisite machinery for the purpose had been ordered, and that part of it was then in fact on its way to Trinidad, and he anticipated that if no unforeseen circumstances arose actual drilling would commence very early in the New Year. That morning, he, the speaker, had received a cable from Trinidad which read as follows: "Government assessing duty on transfer. Surrenders completed 18th December. Cause of delay, queries previous to registration."

Mr. McCarthy concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts. The motion having been seconded by Sir Hubert Jerningham, and carried, and the retiring director, Mr. R. H. McCarthy, and the auditors having been re-elected, the proceedings then terminated.

Albion Plantation Company, Limited

Registered December 27th, by Clarke, Rawlins and Co., 66, Gresham House, E.C. Capital £40,000, in £1 shares. Objects: To take over the business of sugar planters, etc., carried on upon the Albion Plantation, Demerara, British Guiana, and to adopt an agreement with W. M. Campbell, Colin A. Campbell and E. R. Campbell (trading as Curtis-Campbell and Co.). Private company. The first directors (to number not less than two nor more than six) are: W. M. Campbell, Colin A. Campbell, Evan R. Campbell and H. A. Trotter. Registered office, 23, Rood Lane, E.C.

The Demerara Railway Company.

The traffic receipts for November were:—

	Amount.	Increase.	Aggregate Increase.
Demerara Railway ...	\$24,136	+ \$1,944	+ \$17,209
Do. (West Coast)	\$2,611	+ \$282	+ \$1,714

Work on the extension to Parika is proceeding.

Dividend	Latest Quotations.		Prices Jan. 10.
4 %	Antigua	4 % Redeemable 1919-44 ...	98-100
3 1/2 %	Barbados	3 1/2 % Redeemable 1925-42 ...	89-91
4 %	British Guiana	4 % Redeemable 1935 ...	97-99
4 %	British Guiana	3 % Redeemable 1923-45 ...	77-79xd
4 %	Grenada	4 % Redeemable 1917-42 ...	99-101
4 %	Jamaica	4 % Redeemable 1931 ...	100-102
3 1/2 %	Jamaica	3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49 ...	86-88
4 %	Jamaica	3 % Redeemable 1921-44 ...	75-78
4 %	St. Lucia	4 % Redeemable 1919-44 ...	98-100
4 %	Trinidad	4 % Redeemable 1917-42 ...	99-101
3 %	Trinidad	3 % Redeemable 1922-44 ...	77-79xd
6 %	The Colonial Bank	... ..	93-94
12 %	The Royal Bank of Canada	\$100 (Montreal Exchge.)	\$221
7 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	... ..	98-103
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	... ..	97 1/2-98 1/2
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	... ..	100-102xd
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures	... ..	100-102xd
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	... ..	98-101
6 %	Angersura Bitters Preference (£1)	... ..	3 1/2xd
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 4 % Debentures	... ..	100-102
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. (£1) 5 % Non-cum Pref.	... ..	100-102
6 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	... ..	100-102xd
6 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	... ..	100-102
7 %	General Petroleum Properties of T'rad (£1 shares)	... ..	100-102
—	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	... ..	100-102
—	United Brit. W. I. Pot. Syndicate "A shares" (£1)	... ..	100-102
—	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	... ..	28-33
2 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref.	... ..	102-106
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % E. Pref.	... ..	79-82
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	... ..	86-89
4 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	... ..	95-98xd
1 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	... ..	1 1/2
6s.	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 % Cum. 1st Pref	... ..	92 1/2
6s.	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " 2nd "	... ..	92 1/2
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures	... ..	98-98xd

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. W. P. Ebbels	Mr. C. Richter
Mr. E. G. Bradton	Mr. F. J. Evans	Mr. W. C. Robertson
Professor P. Carmody	Mr. S. Garraway	Mr. J. W. Russell
Mr. Cecil H. Chambers	Mr. A. R. G. Hunter	Mr. W. F. Sellers
Mr. R. Dunmore	Dr. G. L. Latour	and
Mr. P. K. K. Esdaile	Mr. F. N. Martinez	Mr. Wm. Smith

Mr. R. Bryon, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.

Mr. E. A. Bugle, 39, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton.

Mr. J. C. Henderson, 2, Haven Green, Broadway, Ealing, W.

Mr. C. R. Kennaway, Gairboldisham Rectory, Thetford, Norfolk.

Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meirion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.

Mr. D. McPhail, c/o S. A. C. Todd, Esq., 26, Bothwell Street, Glasgow.

Mr. H. C. Morcom, Great Meols, Hujlake, Cheshire.

Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.

Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Bellinga Road, Herne Bay, Kent.

Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), Jan. 9th. "No rain since last message." **Demerara** (Messrs. Curtis, Camp

bell & Co.), Dec. 29th, "Weather favourable for cultivation and grinding." (Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.), Jan. 3rd, "Weather favourable for cultivation." **Jamaica**—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), week ended Dec. 31st, PORT ANTONIO, Dec. 25th, "Rain," 26th "Fine," 27th "Rain," 28th/31st "Fine." KINGSTON "Fine."

The Very Rev. Dr. Page Roberts
Hon. Mrs. Page Roberts
Misses Page Roberts (3)
Mrs. C. Image
Captain Morris
Captain and Mrs. R. E. Berkeley, R.S.
Mr. & Mrs. G. A. Cury
Mrs. and Miss Jones
Mrs. M. Brierley
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Parsons
Mr. W. D. Cronin
Miss F. A. Cronin
Mrs. J. P. Matthews
Mrs. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. R. J. Moore
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Johnstone
Miss M. A. Johnstone
Miss B. Bremner
Mr. & Mrs. O. Nugent
Miss Nugent
Mr. W. J. Gilchrist
Mr. G. Chibholm
Mrs. Wilkinson
Adnical Sir F. Powell, K.C.M.G.
Lady Powell
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Burckham-Rogers
His Hon. Mr. Justice Parker
Captain and Mrs. H. Mackay, R.N.
Mr. J. McGeorge
Mr. R. Sheppard
Mr. J. Paddy
Mr. G. A. Duchanan
Mr. A. E. Brown
Mr. H. W. G. van Cordt
Mr. T. P. Shorman
Mr. F. E. McCarthy
Mr. A. B. Alexander
Mr. H. Tietz
Mr. and Mrs. A. Mejia
Mr. and Mrs. Barker-Hablo
Mrs. D. Mejia
Miss J. Raleu
Mrs. D. Ward
Mr. & Mrs. C. Le Bas
Miss Le Bau
Mr. & Mrs. R. Boileau
Captain H. R. A. Adeane
Lady Lucie Smith
Lady Glyn
Miss M. Margetts
The Right Rev. the Bishop of Trinidad
Mr. A. W. Beddow
Mrs. Gibson
Mrs. R. Clark
Miss V. Clark
Hon. W. H. Lascelles
Mr. and Mrs. P. Dawson
Mrs. Oliphant
Sir H. Brisco, Bart.
Miss Scott
Miss R. Coldwell
Miss Dawson
Miss D. Butt
Mr. F. F. Price
Mrs. O. M. Teils
Mr. E. Rennie
Miss A. D. Cheeseman

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	Trent	Jan. 13, midnight
West Indies†	Dartmouth	Santarem	" 16, noon.
West Indies†	Glasgow	Crown of Navarre	" 21, 4.30 p.m.
West Indies	Portland	Samui	" 23, 1.12 a.m.
West Indies	Southampton	Orotava	" 27, midnight

Homeward.	Due.
Southampton ... West Indies	Magdalena ... Jan. 19.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica. ‡ In E.C. district up to 1 p.m.

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Orotava (Captain R. Hayes), Southampton, January 6th:—

Mr. T. Aikman	Mr. E. Julich	Mr. E. Schwarz
Miss A. Aikman	Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Leguia	Mr. & Mrs. T. Villareal
Mr. & Mrs. F. Blanchard	Misses Leguia (3)	Misses Villareal
Mr. W. Cooper	Mrs. M. Loyer	Mr. J. R. Walpole
Mr. & Mrs. W.L. Candee	Mr. J. J. Logan	Mr. C. B. Wrong
Mr. J. M. Castel	Mrs. L. Michhan	Mr. W. J. Winche
Miss A. M. Dyas	Mr. S. Michhan	Mr. A. E. Young
Mr. W. E. H. Dickin	Mr. & Mrs. F. E. Murray	Mr. M. Yousuf
Mr. H. B. Dodds	Mr. L. P. Fuss	S. Curtis
Nurse E. L. Fairley	Mr. R. Pound	J. Usher
Dr. E. Henze	Mr. and Mrs. T. Sowers	Woodrow
Baroness J. Hellar	Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Sowers	J. Carroll
Mr. C. N. Henderson	Dr. G. Gilliat-Smith	Tam Pang
Mrs. H. Hancock	Dr. L. W. Sambon	Wong Jung
Capt. & Mrs. C. Haynes	Mr. and Mrs. A. Mostyn-Scott	and Carlos Suevo
Mrs. J. M. Holbrook		

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Trent (Captain W. G. Mason), Jan. 14th:—

Mr. & Mrs. G. H. Arthur	Mr. H. Freke	Rev. J. Yair
Miss S. Arthur	Mr. Brown	Rev. H. A. Orpen
Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Short	Mr. T. A. Nelson	Mr. M. Craig-Brown
Hon. E. du Boulay	Mr. G. E. Crabtree	Mr. Seymour
Mr. and Mrs. J. Kernahan	Mr. S. Wildash	Mrs. Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Rust	Mr. H. L. Q. Henriques	Miss A. A. Frampton
Mr. & Mrs. C. A. Campbell	Mr. A. F. Leyba	Mr. H. Manley
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Madgwick	Mr. and Mrs. R. Philipson	Mr. W. Gordon
Miss Madgwick	Mrs. Jamieson	Mrs. Morrison
Mr. S. James	Mr. & Mrs. W. McLaren	Mr. A. Stokes
Mr. R. M. C. James	Mr. and Mrs. E. Chodwick	Mr. H. C. Steinberg
Mr. & Mrs. G.S. Spenser	Mr. T. Robinson	Rev. A. Mayo
Mr. W. Douglas	Mr. C. K. Archer	Mr. J. Oswald
Misses Beare (2)	Mr. L. Loughrey	Mr. F. J. Robinson
Miss A. M. Thornton	Mr. G. V. Fiddian	Mr. and Mrs. E. Grace
Mrs. Ewing	Mr. and Mrs. C. Russell	Mr. Dixon
Mr. B. A. J. Ferguson	Mr. J. J. Morrish	Mrs. J. J. Warner
Miss M. Ferguson	Mr. H. K. Morrish	Miss R. Warner
Major E. G. Tipping	Miss Morrish	Dr. A. BaFour, C.M.G.
Colonel G. R. Challenor	Miss J. M. Atkinson	Mrs. B. Balfour
Mr. and Mrs. L. Stokes	Mr. S. D. Stewart	Mr. & Mrs. T. H. Burke
Mr. W. D. Webber	Mr. H. G. Stephenson	Mrs. A. Vaughan
Mr. F. D. Gray	Mr. J. Jardine	Miss E. Eaton-Shore
Mrs. A. Peile	Rev. F. B. Donnelly	Miss J. Richardson
Miss A. Hewitt	Mr. C. W. Kernaban	Rev. J. H. P. Welby
Miss Fairholme	Miss K. Thompson	Colonel A. C. Baillard
Mr. J. Upton	Mr. and Mrs. G. F. H. Hobson	Mr. & Mrs. E. Hughes
	Mr. and Mrs. J. Mac Martin	and Mr. W. A. Moore

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Orotava (Captain Hayes) January 28th:—

Major & Mrs. G. F. M. Montgomerie	Mr. H. F. Roberts	Miss Moore-Brabazon
Mr. F. W. de Valda	Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Spens	Mrs. Heale
Mr. W. F. Sellan	Mr. R. Burrell	Rev. J. D. Henderson
Mr. C. R. Kennaway	Mr. G. F. Roberts	Mrs. R. Lambert
Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Bugle	Mrs. H. Benn	Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Henderson
Miss Bugle	Mr. A. Jacobson	Mr. and Mrs. Billson
	Misses Bowers (2)	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Danube (Captain W. C. Barrett), Feb. 11th:—

Hon. H. Gollan	Miss L. F. Atkins	Rev. A. Pellerin
Mr. W. Measures	Mrs. T. Sunley	Mr. & Mr. G. W. Service
Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Anderson	Mr. D. W. Russack	Mr. H. F. Roberts
Misses Bowers (2)	Mr. A. C. J. Ramsay	Mr. G. F. Roberts
Mr. J. K. Bateman	Mr. B. G. F. Luckie	and Mr. C. Williams
	Mr. and Mrs. J. Moore	

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Dec. 18, 1913	1912	Jan. 1 to Nov. 23, 1913	1912
Sugar ..	76,452	68,728 Tons.	5,333	10,438 Tons
Molasses	1,171	1,629 Puns.		
Rum	2,841,868	2,229,519 Galls.	1,002,035	920,002 Galls.
Molascuit, &c.	6,653	4,899 Tons.		
Cacao ..	31,790	11,450 lbs.	3,893,760	7,088,032 Lbs.
Coffee ..	82,373	141,341 lbs.	20,792,263	9,752,288 "
Coco-nuts	714,915	1,164,484 No	42,534,533	26,041,557 No.
Oranges			10,236,911	27,385,040 "
Bananas			13,065,306	32,000 Stems
Cotton			53,495	27,973 Lbs.
Pimento			115,145	48,675 Cwts.
Ginger ..			19,631	23,091 "
Honey ..			119,721	131,913 Galls.
Dye-woods			49,420	35,390 Tons
Gold	75,659	45,619 ozs.		
Diamonds	7,217	4,325 carats.		
Rice	25,821,878	5,914,447 lbs.		
Balata ..	3,172,501	639,729 "		
Rubber ..	366	201 "		
Timber ..	417,612	266,329 cubic ft.		
Lumber ..	507,719	214,336 feet		
Lime (hydrate of)	2,910	38 lbs.		

	Trinidad.		St. Vincent.	
	Jan. 1 to Dec. 23, 1913	1912	Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, 1913	1912
Sugar ..	31,526	32,340 Tons.	4,014,255	3,535,003 lbs.
Molasses	3,419	2,981 Puns.		
Rum	922	793 "		
Coco-nuts	14,940,328	15,929,788 No.		
Asphalt ..	203,867	167,493 Tons.		
Manjak ..	517	1,545 "		
Bitters ..	19,761	24,626 Cases.		
Coffee ..	1,680	32,640 lbs.		
Crude Petrol	12,034,828	12,145,254 Galls.		
Cacao ..	46,514,000	40,533,000 lbs.	1,402,380	1,130,220 Lbs.
Cotton ..				
Seed ..				
Copra ..	6,070	15,719 Bags.	30	35 Bags.
Spice ..			328,825	250,915 lbs.
Kola ..			2,430	1,053 "

	Barbados.		Grenada.	
	Jan. 1 to Dec. 18, 1913	1912	Oct. 1 to Dec. 22, 1913	1912
Sugar ..	11,251	30,360 Tons.		
Molasses	82,202	80,061 Puns.		

	Dominica.	
	Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, 1913	1912
Cacao ..	812,112	871,248 Lbs.
Limes	35,791	35,067 Barrels.
Lime Juice, raw	311,973	445,351 Galls.
" concentrate'd	78,904	116,858 "
" Citrate of	343,056	320,320 Lbs.
Lime Oil, dis't'd	3,421	3,520 Galls.
" equalled	862	857 "
Hardwood ..	62,416	961,351 feet.
Bananas ..	2,943	4,442 Stems.
Coco-nuts ..	371,894	437,136 No.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 4½% (from 5% on 8th Jan.) Consols (2½%) 71½.
SUGAR.—In New York, quotations again declined but subsequently improved to 2.70 to 2.73 cents for 80% Muscovados and 3.20 to 3.23 cents for 96% centrifugals. Later quotations further improved to 2.73 to 2.76 and 3.23 to 3.26 cents respectively.

The London speculative beet market was steady, and quotations rather dearer owing to small offerings and a better demand; but it became quiet with moderate sales and rather more offering, and with a less trade demand quotations declined. Subsequently, however, prices stiffened, owing to an improvement in the New York market, and a recurrence of the trade demand chiefly for near deliveries on the prospect of a renewal of frost, also on a less desire to sell by Continental producers.

Cuban advices are satisfactory, and a point of resistance seems to have been reached, for planters show an inclination to store more sugar than they did formerly rather than accept ruinous prices. This had an immediate effect upon New York quotations.

Cuban receipts for the last two weeks from all parts were as follows:—

1st. week 43,000 tons against 32,000 tons last year.
 2nd. week 53,000 " " 43,000 " "

Centrals at work 119 as against 99 last year.

Mr. Hilmely estimates that 125,000 tons of Cuban Centrifugals have been sold to Europe, and 16,000 tons are also reported to have been sold to Japan for January shipment. In Europe there is rather more disposition to support prices, but trade continues slack.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: Dec. 30th, 8s. 11d.; 31st, 8s. 11½d.; Jan. 1st, (closed); 2nd, 8s. 11½d.; 3rd, 8s. 11½d.; 5th, 8s. 10½d.; 6th, 8s. 11½d.; 7th, 9s.; 8th, 9s. 0½d.; 9th, 8s. 11½d.; 10th, 9s. 0½d.; 12th, 9s. 1½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates were:—

	1914	1913	1912
Europe (1st Dec. & 3rd Jan.)	3,594,910	3,210,670	2,524,520
United States (7th Jan.)	82,000	51,900	70,810
Cuba, 6 principal ports (Jan. 7)	35,000	10,000	20,000
Cargoes afloat (8th Jan.)	—	1,930	111,910

Total ... Tons **3,711,910 3,274,500 2,727,240**
 Quotations of 88% Beet,
 Jan 12th ... 9s. 1½d. 9s. 2½d. 13s. 11d.

Grocery West Indian.—The Crystallised market improved considerably in the demand on the resumption of business on 2nd inst., and as importers showed a willingness to meet the market, a fairly large business was done at slightly easier rates as compared with the last auctions in 1913. Privately the Trade during the week bought to replenish their stocks rather freely, and, having done so at the succeeding auctions, there was less demand, and last Friday 1,150 tons put up met with a slow demand and only a portion was sold at previous rates to a decline of 3d. per cwt. A Government order was mainly responsible for steadying the market. The business recorded has ranged for Demeraras from 13s. 6d. to 16s. 6d., for Trinidad from 13s. to 14s. 9d., for Surinam from 12s. 6d. to 14s. 4½d. Antigua sold at 13s. 6d., and Barbados at 13s.

Muscovados.—No business to report. **Syrups.**—Demerara sold at 9s. 9d. to 11s. 6d., Trinidad at 15s., Surinam 11s. 6d. to 11s. 9d., and Antigua 11s. to 11s. 3d.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1910
Imports ...	806	1,309	206	67
Deliveries ...	352	375	591	925
Stocks (Jan. 3rd.)	13,050	2,773	4,105	3,499
Quotations of medium qualities, crystallised, Jan. 9th	13s. 9d.	18s. 3d.	20s.	17s.

RUM.—Stocks in London, Jan. 3rd.

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica ...	6,459	7,268	8,692	8,915	8,662
Demerara ...	6,820	5,618	5,487	6,882	7,032
Total of all kinds	20,626	21,178	22,636	24,417	23,823

Not much business has been passing in proof kinds, changeable weather and variations of temperature having checked the demand. A small business in good Demeraras at steady rates up to 1s. 5d. proof was reported. Jamaica in first hands are still limited. Occasional sales in common to low wines have taken place at barely last rates.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, Jan. 3rd:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad ...	8,919	3,995	3,784	6,613	8,234
Grenada ...	4,407	1,695	8,162	11,026	13,578
Total of all kinds	72,238	88,012	97,811	89,441	94,258

This market continues slow for all descriptions and business has been restricted. At auction on the 6th inst. some 6,600 bags of all kinds were offered; but notwithstanding the intervening holidays no revival in the demand was apparent, and only 1,080 bags were sold. Of the offerings, 2,850 bags consisted of West India; but only 682 bags of these met buyers. Grenada when sold realized about late rates. Trinidad was not wanted, and all was bought in except good middling red which was partly sold at easier prices. Other kinds of West India met with little demand, and sold in small part only at easier prices. 12 bags Jamaica, Ceylon-cured, sold at 62s. 6d. Quotations after the auction were:—Trinidad middling red 64s. to 65s., good middling red 66s. to 67s., fine and superior 68s. to 71s. Grenada ordinary to good fair 58s. to 59s. 6d., middling to fine 60s. to 62s.

In Trinidad on Dec. 22nd, supplies were commencing to arrive more freely. Lack of demand for prompt shipment had caused some decline in prices, which now range from \$13.25 to \$13.75 per fanega, equal to 60s. to 62s. cost and freight Havre, per 50 kilos, according to quality.

COFFEE.—Santos, Jan. 43s. 3d.; March, 45s. 3d.; July, 46s. 10½d. On the spot, since the resumption of auctions on the 6th inst., there was a good demand for fine grades at prices ruling at the close of last year's auctions. Common kinds were generally unchanged. Futures have been subject to very moderate fluctuations; the undertone being on the steady side owing to a better trade demand on the Continent and less pressure to sell from Santos. The world's visible supply shows an increase of 524,000 bags over last year.

COTTON.—During the week ended January 8th, 47 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland state that since last report about 300 bales West Indian Sea Island have been sold, chiefly Nevis 17d. to 20d.; Montserrat 17d. to 19d.; St. Kitts 17d. to 20d.; with a few exceptionally fine small lots at 21d. to 22d.; and stains 8d. to 10d. The market remains firm for the finer qualities, but all the coarser stapled goods are neglected.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice.—No change. **Essential Oil** (distilled)—Firm. Buyers at 1s. 8d. **Otto of Limes** (hand-pressed)—Sales made down to 8s. 3d. **Concentrated**—Lower. Sales made down to £25. **VANILLA**—No change. **PIMENTO.**—A 1/16th easier. **NUTMEGS.**—Lower 100's/80's 5½d. to 6½d.; 140's/200's 5d. to 5½d. **GINGER**—Jamaica easier. **MACE**—No change. **COPRA**—Slow. Fair merchantable West India £31 to £31 5s. **ARROWROOT.**—Very little business doing. Under 100 barrels reported sold at 3½d. to 4½d. Quotations 3d. to 4½d.

RUBBER.—Market quiet but closes steady. Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 2½d., smoked sheet 2s. 4½d., fine hard Para 3s. 1½d., as against 3s. 6½d. in 1913; do. soft 2s. 6d. as against 4s. 3d. in 1913; Castilloa sheet 1s. 8d. as against 4s. in 1913; scrap 1s. 2d. as against 3s. 3d. in 1913; **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 8½d. as against 3s. 7d. in 1913; and Block 2s., as against 2s. 5d. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL.—American, 8½d.; Water White, 9½d.; Russian, 8½d.; Roumanian, 8d.; and Galician, 8d. **LOGWOOD.**—No change, market very quiet.

The . . . West India Committee Circular.

Vol. XXIX.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27th, 1914.

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The West India Committee Rooms.

Telephone: 6642 CENTRAL.
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.

15, SERRING LANE
LONDON, E.C.4.

January 26th, 1914

THE GOVERNMENT AND PROTECTION.

"HOME Counties," a correspondent who is generally well-informed on sugar beet matters, states in the *International Sugar Journal* for January that the Treasury has made a grant of £11,000 to the Sugar Beet Association for expenditure in respect of the season 1913. If this statement is correct, our sugar growing colonies will have still further cause for complaint on the score of the unfair advantage which is being given to home grown beet over British cane sugar. As we have pointed out, home grown beet is already being granted a substantial preference, since it is subject to no duty whatever (in spite of Mr. Lloyd George's assertion in Parliament on March 2nd, 1910, that it would be necessary to charge Excise duty at rates corresponding to the Customs duty on sugar manufactured from beetroot in this country), while British cane sugar has to pay the same Customs duty as foreign beet sugar. Not content with this, the Government, if "Home Counties" is correctly informed, has given a direct bounty to the home beet industry in the shape of a substantial dole out of the Development Fund. If similar treatment were accorded to the colonial sugar industry, no possible exception could be taken to this lavish spoon-feeding of the home beet industry. But so far from this being the case, the Government only recently declined to allow the Government of St. Kitts to guarantee the interest on capital to be raised for a second central sugar factory. Could anything be more illogical? The grounds on which the refusal was based make the position still more ridiculous. They were that it would be an infringement of the Brussels Sugar

Convention, "to the terms of which the Home Government are determined to adhere." But is not the grant of a direct bounty an infringement of the terms of the Convention? The action of the Government confirms the view which we have so often expressed that the denunciation of the Convention was a sham, and that the situation with regard to it is no different to what it was in 1907, when the Government declined to be bound any longer by the Penal Clause. Our markets were then thrown open to bounty-fed sugar, and it is small thanks to our Government that, owing to the action of the Continental powers, there is fortunately little bounty-fed sugar to come here. Meanwhile, we may do nothing to help our sugar growing colonies, while we bolster up the home-grown beet industry, relying presumably on the fact that the assistance has not so far exceeded in value the *écart* or difference between the Excise and Customs duty sanctioned by the Sugar Convention. It is significant that the chairman of the Sugar Beet Association, which is said to have received a grant from the Government, is also chairman of the Anglo-Netherland Sugar Corporation, which at the present moment is the only company in this country producing sugar, and it might be expected that that concern would be earning at least a profit; but an inspection of the latest report and "Development Account," which takes the place of a balance sheet, reveals the fact that this is not the case. It would appear from this document, which can be seen at Somerset House, that the expenditure on the 1912-13 campaign in England amounted to £83,030 13s. 4d., leaving, after deducting the proceeds of sale of sugar and by-products and the value of stocks—or their "sale value," as the account states, which is not always quite the same thing—a loss of £45,024 9s. 4d. But whether the Cantley factory is being worked at a profit or at a loss does not affect the principle of the question, and the fact remains that the home beet

industry is being bolstered up by a Free Trade Government and deliberately protected against the colonial sugar industry, and of this we think that sugar growers in the colonies have good reason to complain. When Parliament meets, steps will be taken to ascertain what has been the attitude of the Development Fund Commissioners, and what assistance has been granted by the Government to the home beet industry in the last two years. In 1912, a grant from the Development Fund was refused on the ground that it would be an infringement of the Brussels Convention. If such a grant has now been given, how can the Government square this with their refusal of the modest request for sanction for a Local Government guarantee for interest on a loan for a central sugar factory in St. Kitts?

WEST INDIAN PLANTERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

UNDER the heading "Homeward Mails" in the present issue, we give the text of a resolution recently passed by the British Guiana Planters' Association, in which they advocate the formation of a British Guiana and British West Indian Sugar Planters' Association, having for its object co-operation for commercial and political defence of the industry, the holding of yearly conferences for the discussion of problems relating to every phase of the agricultural and manufacturing side of the industry, the introduction of uniform cultivation and factory reports, so that these may be compared on a common basis, and the adoption of uniform methods of analysis of the factory products. The passing of this resolution is another step towards the solidification of the industrial interests of the West Indian colonies, and should the Association be successfully formed the position of their sugar industry should be very materially strengthened. While in the past the many sugar interests of the West Indies have invariably, in times of acute strain, united their forces in the direction of political defence, there has been an equally invariable tendency for proprietors to become a "law unto themselves" when it has come to ordinary commercial matters, and to look at matters rather from their own individual standpoint than from that of the general interest of the industry. With the formation and operation of the projected Association, this short-sighted policy would cease. When the Agricultural Conferences were instituted under the ægis of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, the discussion of agricultural and manufacturing problems connected with sugar formed a notable part of their agenda, and recently at these meetings a sugar section has been formed to deal with the subject.

Excellent, however, as the work of these Conferences has been, they do not afford sufficient scope for the individual concentration required for the satisfactory ventilation of the many subjects connected with practical sugar growing and making, and, comprehending as they do in their labours, all the agricultural interests of the West Indies,

together with the extensive interchange of social amenities, cannot possibly be expected to give the practical results which might be expected to come from the meetings of such an Association as it is proposed to form.

In addition to the furtherance of the outside interests of the sugar industry an important item in the proposed objects of the Association is the adoption of a uniform method of expressing the details of the working of field and factory, together with a uniform method of analysis of factory products. If this can be carried out the sugar industry of the West Indies will be greatly benefited. In every progressive sugar producing country of the world the value of the interchange of the knowledge of results has been recognised as being of the greatest use, especially when these results are obtained and expressed in a uniform manner. A planter may have a system of record keeping which puts him in possession of certain valuable data associated with the work of his cultivation and factory. Naturally he is anxious to know what his neighbour is doing, but he has no means of finding out, unless his neighbour is willing to inform him, and has the necessary data on which to base his information. Even then, differences in the mode of obtaining the data may lead to faulty comparison. A common system of records, such as it would be the object of the proposed Association to cause to be adopted, would not only do away with the personal equation, but also place the records on a comparable basis.

If a British Guiana and British West Indian Sugar Planters' Association can be formed, why should not the principle be applied to the other major industries of the West Indies? Why should not, for instance, a Cacao Association be formed, which would have in view the protection of interests of the cacao industry politically and commercially, and the organisation of its domestic policy by inter-communication on the subject of cultivation and curing results? We have no hesitation in saying that ten years ago such a project as that put forward by the British Guiana Planters' Association would have been altogether outside the range of practical application and would not have been seriously dealt with. In it we see an instance of the growing tendency to uniformity in West Indian agricultural and political circles. But growing inter-communication in these matters—and here again we must remember that the inception of the West Indian Agricultural Conferences was the first step in this direction—has brought to the minds of West Indians the value of the strength of unity and co-operation, and we shall be much surprised and disappointed if the sugar interests of the British West Indies do not fall in with the scheme put forward by the British Guiana Planters' Association. Meanwhile, Mr. F. R. DAVSON, who is now in the West Indies, will shortly be bringing before the various Chambers of Commerce proposals for the formation of a Central West Indian Chamber of Commerce, and it may at first sight be thought that the projected institution might be prejudicial to the value and work of such

a Chamber. But this is not the case. A Central Chamber of Commerce would include *ex officio* the representatives of the trading and merchant classes, and its utility would thus be increased.

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

IN 1908-9, under the heading "Woods and Forests of Jamaica," we published a series of articles from the pen of MR. W. FAWCETT on the subject of the timbers of that island. This series, which was subsequently issued in pamphlet form, has been so much appreciated that we are prompted to arrange for the publication of further articles on the timber resources of the West Indies, including in that term our great colonies on the mainland of Central and South America. In our last issue we made reference to the visit to British Guiana of MR. CLAYTON MELL, of the United States Forestry Service, with a view to enquiring into the suitability of greenheart (*Nectandra Rodiazi*), and other timbers of the colony for the requirements of the Isthmian Canal Commission in connection with the Panama Canal, and we mentioned that greenheart has already been extensively used in the construction of lock gates and sills at Gatun, Pedro Miguel and Miraflores, and that it is proposed to use it still more extensively in the construction of docks at the Colon and Panama entrances of the Canal. Incidentally we fear that we did an injustice to Mr. DAVID BAIRD by omitting to include the name of his firm in the list of companies handling the colony's timbers. MR. BAIRD can certainly justify a claim to be one of the pioneers of lumbering in British Guiana, and we must not forget that some years ago, he visited the Panama Canal Zone and discussed with COLONEL GOETHALS the suitability of greenheart for use for the locks, wharves, etc. That wood is now, as we have shown, being favoured and in the circumstances, the moment would appear to be opportune for calling public attention to the forest resources of Guiana, and in the present issue the first instalment will be found of a popular article which will, it is hoped, serve this purpose. In this account of the timbers of our "Magnificent Province" technicalities will, as far as possible, be avoided, the object being to give a general idea of the conditions prevailing, of the wide variety of timbers to be found in the colony and the openings which they afford for exploitation by capitalists.

MR. BLAND'S MISSION TO BRITISH GUIANA.

A Hinterland Railway Favoured.

MR. E. M. Bland, who accompanied His Excellency Sir Walter Egerton on his recent tour to the interior of British Guiana in the capacity of railway expert, has returned to London from the Continent, where he has been spending his honeymoon. It will no doubt be news to the many friends whom he has made in West Indian circles to learn that on December 16th, he was married to Miss F. M. M. Harding, daughter of Mr. John Harding, of Stone, Staffordshire.

Mr. Bland, who gained his experience in railway matters with the Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern Railways, spent some years on the Government Railways in South Africa before proceeding to Nigeria, where he holds the important post of Engineer-in-Chief for the railway under construction from Port Harcourt. He leaves to-morrow to resume his work in that colony, and will be followed by his wife when suitable quarters have been prepared for her. Mr. Bland has, it is understood, already submitted his report on the railway question to the Governor of British Guiana, and it will be disclosing no secret to state that it is distinctly favourable to a hinterland railway project, which possibly might be carried out at a lower cost than was first contemplated.

As to the interior of the colony, Mr. Bland, in an interview with a representative of the CIRCULAR, showed himself to be most enthusiastic. He considers the savannah admirably suited for cattle raising, and for the residence of Europeans concerned with such an industry, and our representative gathered that, provided a railway scheme could be carried through Mr. Bland would favour the establishment by the local Government of experimental farms.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Mr. Harcourt has informed the West India Committee that he has taken no steps to bring the suggestion for the immigration into British Guiana of East Indians from South Africa, to the notice of the Government of that colony or of the Government of Natal.

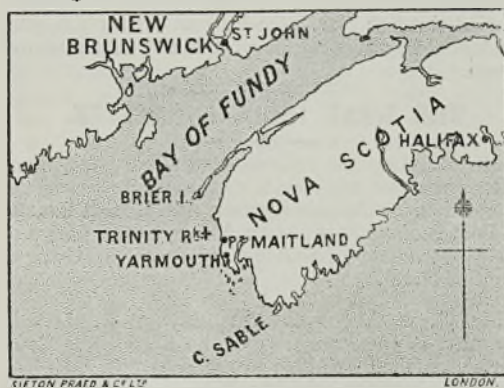
Mr. G. R. Alston and Mr. Edward R. Davson, members of the Executive of the West India Committee, reached Trinidad in the R.M.S.P. *Balantia*, on December 26th, and Mr. Davson proceeded later to Demerara. Another member of the Executive, Mr. C. Algernon Campbell, has just reached the West Indies. He proposes during his stay to visit the Kaieteur Fall in British Guiana.

THE question of haulage of the cane punts on the canals on the front lands in British Guiana has long been a source of much anxiety to the sugar planters of the colony. Mules are costly, and there has been lately a great mortality among them. An ordinary screw launch is unsuitable, as its wash tends to break the banks of the canals, and an endeavour is now to be made to overcome the difficulties by the use of aerial propulsion on the system patented by Mr. Desbleds. The British Guiana proprietors in London have arranged to build a tow punt on which to try an extended series of experiments, and it is hoped to adapt Mr. Desbleds system to the needs of the Colony in due course. The principle of Mr. Desbleds system is the use of the aeroplane propeller driven by a petrol motor. This propeller, which is driven solely in the air, can be raised or lowered when the tug passes under bridges.

THE WRECK OF R.M.S.P. "COBEQUID."

The Vessel a Total Loss.

On January 14th, news reached London that the R.M.S.P. *Cobequid*, which left Bermuda on the 10th, and was scheduled to reach St. John, N.B., on the 13th, had gone on the rocks off Brier Island in the Bay of Fundy. It was reported that a terrible sea was running, and that the *Lansdowne* and *Lady Laurier*, which had been despatched from St. John and Halifax respectively, had been unable to reach the vessel. The anxiety caused by this news was strengthened when it was learned that the engine room had been flooded, and the wireless apparatus put out of service. A later message announced that the *Cobequid* had been located on Trinity ledges, north-west of Yarmouth, many miles out of her course. The passengers and crew were reported to be safe, all having been rescued with the exception of Captain Howsen and eleven of the crew, who remained on board in the hope of salvaging the mails and cargo.



The Bay of Fundy.

The spot where the *Cobequid* was wrecked is marked with a cross.

The passengers who numbered fifteen in all, included Mr. William C. Kenny, a director of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and Captain Hicks, the Marine Superintendent of the Company, who both joined the vessel at Bermuda. Mr. Kenny, in a telegram to the *Daily Mail*, gave the following account of the disaster.

The *Cobequid* struck at 6.15 on Tuesday morning during a thick fog, with frost, and a tremendous gale. She bumped several times, and then stuck fast. For the first twelve hours conditions were critical till the ship pounded her bottom out and made a bed for herself. The main deck was flooded, driving the passengers and crew on to the bridge deck, in the captain's room, and the ladies' saloon.

We lost steam and consequently were without fire or light. The discipline of the crew was excellent. There were no cases of panic or insubordination. Tuesday night was awful. The morning brought hopes, and three in the afternoon (on Wednesday) saw the steamer *Westport* coming alongside.

At 4.30 the first boat got away with women and children. It was soon followed by two others, all from the *Westport*. Then the *John L. Cann* came up and took one more boat

load. Darkness prevented the rescue of the remainder till this morning, when the Government steamer *Lady Laurier* took the rest.

The *Cobequid*, which left St. John on November 23rd, and Halifax on December 5th, last, on her first round voyage to the West Indies and British Guiana, under the contract with the Canadian Government, was built by Messrs. Harland and Wolff, and launched in 1893. As the *Goth* she sailed for many years under the flag of the Union Castle Line.

The place of the *Cobequid*, which is a total loss, on the Canada-West Indies Service has been temporarily taken by the *Briardene*, of the Pickford and Black Line, which left Halifax on January 20th.

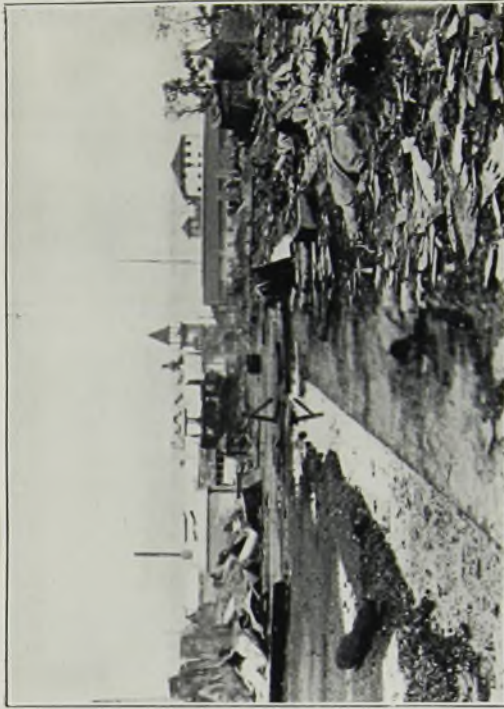
THE GEORGETOWN FIRE.

The homeward mail brought detailed accounts of the disastrous explosion and fire which occurred in Georgetown, Demerara, on the 22nd December; but there is little to add to the information given in the last two issues of the CIRCULAR. This was based on cabled messages, and the deductions drawn from them are now shown to be strikingly accurate. The initial explosion took place on the premises of Chin-a-Yong and Co., Chinese merchants, trading in the northern portion of Lombard Street, Werk-en-Rust, known as Cornhill, at about 8.30 o'clock on the Monday morning; but as every person in and about the premises at the time was killed by it, or burnt to death by the fire which immediately followed, there is doubt as to the actual cause of the explosion, beyond the fact that it was occasioned through the sale of fireworks. One rumour is to the effect that a shop assistant was seen to enter the vault, in which gunpowder and fireworks were stored, smoking a cigarette, and it is supposed that a falling spark may have set the contents alight. Another suggestion is that some boys, who are known to have been in the shop at the time buying fireworks, were experimenting with them there on the spot, and so set fire to the explosive stock.

The immediate result of the explosion was to wreck the entire building, which was blown up bodily and collapsed like a house of cards, killing all who were in close proximity, some being blown to pieces, others killed, and some pinned under the wreckage, and burnt to death before it was possible to extricate them. The violent explosion scattered burning brands in all directions, setting fire to surrounding wooden structures, and to other buildings across the street, from which starting points the fire spread rapidly, despite every effort made to stay its progress. The fire brigade and the local forces called out to assist, worked well, doing everything possible to check the fire, and the fire-boat *Vesta* did efficient work from the river side. The water supply was good, though the pressure obtained direct from the mains was found insufficient, and so it had to be supplemented by the steam fire engines. It was not until the afternoon that the fire



THE FIRE IN GEORGETOWN, DEMERARA, ON DECEMBER 22RD LAST.



THE BURNT OUT DISTRICT IN GEORGETOWN AFTER THE FIRE.



SOME WELL-KNOWN RACE-GOERS AT THE RECENT TRINIDAD RACES.



THE HON. MRS. C. GIDEON MURRAY'S AMATEUR THEATRICAL COMPANY.

was mastered; but smouldering fires, especially along the wharves and timber yards in Water Street, continued until next day.

Twenty-three dead and charred bodies were recovered from the ruins, but some six other persons are still reported missing; and about 40 injured persons were treated in hospital. Most of these were Chinese, East Indians and coloured people of both sexes. Many hundreds have been rendered homeless, and much distress prevails in the burnt district, which the authorities, aided by the local charities, were doing their best to alleviate; and empty buildings and school premises in other districts of the city were being utilised for temporary accommodation for the poorer people.

No accurate estimate of the total loss can yet be arrived at, but it will probably be not less than £250,000, exclusive of sugar and estates produce insured at Lloyd's. The valuation of the destroyed properties for municipal taxation alone, amounts to \$295,000. Apart from the sad loss of life, injury to persons, and the general distress and monetary losses occasioned, it is felt that this fire may ultimately prove a blessing in disguise, affording opportunity for sanitary improvements and reconstruction of streets and buildings in this heretofore very congested portion of Werk-en-Rust district.

DUTCH AND BRITISH GUIANA.

No Dispute over the Boundary.

In the debate on the budget in the Second Chamber of the Netherlands, on January 19th, Dr. Pleyte, Minister for the Colonies, replying to a question by M. van Doorn on the subject of the boundary between British and Dutch Guiana, said: "There is no difference with Great Britain relative to the Corentyn River. This river divides some 60 leagues from its mouth into the New River and the Coroni River, and the territory between these two rivers belongs to England, as has been categorically declared by the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Jonkheer de Marees van Swinderen. On the Dutch maps this territory is marked as belonging to Holland, but the territory is too insignificant to be made the cause of a dispute with the British Government."

M. van Doorn intimated that he would address a formal question to the Government on the subject.

THE LAMBETH CASE.

We regret to say that the Lambeth sugar case was dismissed as we went to press. It will be remembered that the sugar in question was originally 96% centrifugal sugar from Demerara, bought by a Greenock firm of refiners. The sugar, as it now appears, was by them melted, filtered re-boiled, centrifugalled and dyed with "Golden Bloom." It was then sold as genuine Demerara sugar. It is inconceivable that the West Indian proprietors will allow the matter to rest where it now stands.

DEMERARA SUGAR.

At Lambeth Police Court on Dec. 13, Mr. John de Grey resumed the hearing of the case in which Cave, Austin and Co., Ltd., of Idol Lane, were summoned by Inspector Groom for selling as Demerara sugar dyed sugar other than Demerara. Mr. C. E. Newton supported the summons, and the defendants were represented by Mr. F. W. Beck (Messrs. Neve, Beck and Kirby). The previous hearings were reported in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of November 20 and December 16. A sample of Demerara sugar purchased at a shop belonging to the defendants in East Dulwich Grove, S.E., was certified by Dr. Frank Teed, the Public Analyst, to be a sample of dyed sugar other than Demerara sugar. The Council's case was that Demerara sugar was sugar prepared by a particular process, its distinctive colour being natural to it. When, Mr. Newton said, a man asked for Demerara he wanted not a cane sugar which was whitened and then dyed to resemble Demerara sugar, but sugar which was never whitened at all and which was never dyed at all. In the one case an organic dye was added to make a white sugar yellow, and in the other case the colour was there naturally.

For the defence, Mr. Beck argued that the term "Demerara" had now come to have no signification, except that the article sold was sugar prepared from cane and not from beet. It would be proved to the court not only that the sugar sold by the defendants was cane sugar, but that it actually came from Demerara itself. It was quite true that the finishing process was carried out here. He submitted that the question of process was not one that came under the Food and Drugs Act. The question was whether the article supplied was of the nature, substance and quality of the article demanded, and in this case he submitted that it clearly was.

On the resumption of the case, for a report of which we are indebted to *The Grocer* of January 17, Mr. Beck said his Worship on the last occasion kindly said he would look at a report of the High Court case and also the case which was before Mr. Bros at Clerkenwell, as well as the case which was before Mr. Baggallay at this court. He would like to know whether his Worship after looking at those cases, which all dealt with this question, thought that the present was a case which required an answer.—Mr. de Grey: Well, Mr. Beck, I have carefully considered that, and I think you have something to answer.—Mr. Newton explained that he had been shaken up by an accident and asked that Mr. Brammall, who was in court representing the West India Committee, might be allowed to act on his behalf. Mr. de Grey assented.—Mr. Beck, continuing his address for the defence, said it was admitted that the term "Demerara" applied to sugar had lost its geographical significance. At one time it signified sugar imported from the district of Demerara. Now Demerara sugar could be imported from any of the West Indian Islands, and Demerara had become as much a generic term as, say, the term "claret." What was contended for by the prosecution was that Demerara sugar meant not a sugar from Demerara, but a sugar prepared according to a particular process which was carried out by some manufacturers in Demerara and other parts of the West Indies. He submitted that the Food and Drugs Act was not administered for the purpose of supporting a limited class of industry or a particular

limited class of importers or manufacturers. It was important that these courts and these proceedings should not be used merely for the purpose of bolstering up trade industries. No public good of any kind was served by these prosecutions, and they ought not to be encouraged.—Mr. Brammall said that it was a mistake to suggest that this prosecution was instituted at the instance of the West India Committee. The sample was taken in the ordinary manner by the food and drugs inspector, and the West India Committee knew nothing of the matter until the prosecution had been launched.—Mr. Edward Brown, a director of Cave, Austin and Co., Ltd., the defendants, said that the sugar was bought from Messrs. Petty, Wood and Co., Ltd., Basteheap, F.C. The invoice described it as Demerara sugar. His definition of Demerara was a pure cane sugar.—Mr. Robert F. Blair said he carried on business at Basteheap on behalf of the Clyde Cane Sugar Agency. He sold this sugar to Messrs. Petty, Wood and Co. The sugar was imported into Greenock from Demerara. At Greenock the sugar was washed, and then molasses and colouring matter were added to give it its colour. It was not refined in the ordinary sense of the term.—Mr. Beck: Although you do not refine you do remove certain surface impurities of the sugar? Witness: Yes.—In that respect is the quality, in your opinion as a practical man, impaired or improved? Improved distinctly. This article was properly sold as Demerara sugar. He would define Demerara as a crystallised cane sugar of yellow colour.—Cross-examined by Mr. Brammall, the witness said he was willing to admit that the sugar was imported into Greenock as refining sugar.—Mr. Brammall: It entered Greenock as refining sugar and left it as Demerara? Witness: That is so. He had, the witness said in further cross-examination, been selling this sugar for eleven months. Re-examined by Mr. Beck, the witness said several prominent firms in the trade dealt with this sugar and put it in their sale lists as "Demerara" with a knowledge of the methods of preparation.—The further hearing of the case was adjourned.

A Protest from Demerara.

A Reuter's message, dated January 13th, states: "The Planters' Association to-day passed a resolution reaffirming its approval of the definition which for many years past has received general acceptance—that the term 'Demerara Sugar,' as known in the grocery trade of the United Kingdom, applies only to sugar made in Demerara or the neighbouring islands by the Demerara process.

"The Association also gives a denial to the assertion made publicly in the United Kingdom that dye is used in the manufacture of Demerara Sugar."

"THE CANE SUGAR FACTORY."

Mr. George Moody Stuart, writing from Antigua on January 2nd, says that the manager of Gunthorpe's Factory pronounces "The Cane Sugar Factory" to be an excellent book for managers, overseers, and everyone connected with a factory. It was with the object of securing the wide circulation of the book among the staffs of sugar factories that the West India Committee put the price as low as 1s. per copy. Many estate owners have already ordered the book by dozens for the purpose of distribution of this kind. "The Cane Sugar Factory" has now entered upon its last thousand copies, and is commanding orders from all parts of the sugar-making world. Applications for this work should be made to the West India Committee, accompanied by an order for 1s. 3d., which includes postage.

THE FROGHOPPER PEST IN TRINIDAD.

The Result of Mr. Kershaw's Mission.

On Wednesday, 14th January, a meeting was held at the Colonial Office to receive a report from Mr. J. C. Kershaw on his investigations into the "frog-hopper" pest in Trinidad.

The special Sub-Committee of the Managing Committee of the Bureau of Entomology which had met the proprietors of the Trinidad Sugar Estates in October, 1912, when Mr. Kershaw was recommended for the work in question, was called together to meet the proprietors again on this occasion. The Committee was represented by Mr. E. E. Austen (British Museum, Natural History), Mr. G. A. K. Marshall (Director of the Bureau), Sir David Prain, C.I.E., C.M.G., F.R.S. (Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew), Dr. A. E. Shipley, F.R.S. (Master of Christ's College, Cambridge), and Mr. A. C. C. Parkinson (Secretary of the Committee); the proprietors were represented by Mr. Thomson Aikman (St. Madeleine Factory), Mr. T. Prentice (Trinidad Estates, Ltd.), Mr. R. Rutherford (West Indian Estates, Ltd.), Mr. D. Wallace (Tennant's Estates, Ltd.), Mr. F. H. Watson (Kleinwort Sons & Company), and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall (Secretary to the West India Committee). Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, Principal Clerk, West India Department, Colonial Office, attended the meeting.

In the unavoidable absence of Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., who had presided at the meeting in October, 1912, Dr. Shipley took the Chair. Mr. Kershaw, after making a brief statement as to his work on the frog-hopper investigations in Trinidad, laid before the meeting a summary of his final recommendations as follows:—

1. I strongly recommend that a search be made for an efficient egg- or adult-parasite of the frog-hopper, but think it very unlikely that any will be procured in islands near Trinidad, or any adjacent part of the mainland.
2. Meanwhile every effort should be made to get the Syrphid fly on the early broods of frog-hopper.
3. Abandoned lands adjacent to cane-fields to be either put under a cover crop or grazed; traces to be hoed and the rubbish taken to the pens, especially just before wet season.
4. All trash should be removed to the pens, and not returned to the fields till well broken up and sodden; and especially the trash of the two or three rows of cane nearest traces or grass land just before the wet season.
5. After the appearance of early broods of frog-hopper nymphs they should be destroyed by hand picking; the early adult broods should be destroyed by kerosene lysol emulsion or squeezing the leaf-sheaths, whichever proves the quicker and more effective.
6. The later large swarms of adults should be destroyed as far as possible by trap-lights.

He thought that the last five recommendations should be carried out in any case, because even if efficient parasites were obtained and established in Trinidad, they could not become really effective for two or three years. He recognised that all his recommendations could not be thoroughly carried out at once, both on the score of expense and perhaps through want of labour; besides, the conditions varied on different estates, and it would be easier

to carry out some of his recommendations on one estate than it would be on another. Nevertheless these measures he thought, could be put in force at least in those fields and traces where the first signs of early froghoppers appear. In the meantime he urged that a search should be made abroad for effective parasites.

The Value of the Syrphid Fly.

Mr. Kershaw expressed the opinion that the most valuable natural enemy of the froghopper in Trinidad was the Syrphid fly, and his assistant, Mr. Guppy is now breeding these flies with a view to getting them ready for distribution on the early broods of froghoppers. During its larval stage each Syrphid fly kills some 30 froghopper nymphs, and if only they can be brought to attack the earlier broods instead of waiting for the most part for the later broods, much good would probably result. There might, of course, be parasites of the Syrphid fly itself, in fact, there probably were; but they were not yet known, and he could not speak with certainty as to this. He laid emphasis on the fact that insufficient notice is paid to the damage done by the froghopper to the *leaves* of the canes. The sugar is extracted from the leaf by the sucking of the adult froghopper, and consequently that amount of sugar is lost, as otherwise it would naturally be transferred to the stem before the leaf withers. This had already been pointed out in the Bulletin of the Department of Agriculture; but Mr. Kershaw was understood to say that many of the local planters practically disregarded altogether this aspect of the question, and Mr. Marshall corroborated the statement that there was a general impression among the local sugar growers that the adult froghopper did no harm. In the face of the definite statements made by experts on this point, Sir David Prain said that a mistaken opinion of this kind should be once and for all removed, and he could hardly believe that it would now be necessary to argue the matter with any sugar planter.

Mr. Kershaw explained that the froghopper lays its eggs at the base of the sheath of leaves in the rotten trash. If the trash is buried, the eggs are buried with it, and in due course a brood is hatched out; and even when the trash is first removed to pens there is always a danger that portions of the trash containing eggs may be left behind or the eggs may have already dropped into fissures in the ground from the rotting trash, and, once in the ground, having regard to the fact that the eggs are particularly tough and very minute (less than a millimetre in length), ploughing or harrowing may quite well leave the greater number of them untouched and undamaged ready to hatch out at the appointed time. As for the larva, it has from its size and shape little, if any, difficulty in making its way to the surface from below ground, whatever the condition of the soil.

So far he had failed to find a parasite which would destroy the eggs: a Chalcid had been experimented with, but the results were not satisfactory. Therefore, pending the discovery of some outside para-

site, as to which he could as yet offer no suggestion, the Syrphid fly seemed to be the obvious parasite with which to attack the nymphs in the early as well as the late broods. In reply to an objection by Mr. Prentice that the Syrphid fly only attacks the nymph *after* the nymph has damaged the cane rootlets, Mr. Kershaw again pointed out that a large portion of the damage to the canes is done by the adult froghopper attacking the leaves, that by means of the Syrphid it might be possible to stay this damage to the leaves, and that other measures which he had advocated in Trinidad must be relied on for the present to deal with the ravages of the froghoppers in their early stage. With regard to the discovery of a parasite from outside, he proposed to go carefully into the matter in consultation with Mr. Marshall; one wanted to find a froghopper as nearly akin to the Trinidad froghopper as possible, and then to introduce the parasite of that froghopper into Trinidad. South America or Central America might be more likely places in which to find the parasite required. In any case, he thought that by the middle of 1914 it ought to be known whether such a parasite was essential, as Mr. Guppy's work with the Syrphid fly should then have produced results one way or the other.

The Froghopper Indigenous to Trinidad.

Mr. Kershaw proceeded to state that in his opinion the froghopper was indigenous to Trinidad; that it could and did breed in any kind of grass as well as cane-trash and that the nymphs feed on practically any kind of root. Moreover, the froghopper spreads easily and rapidly; both male and female fly considerable distances, so that all waste land surrounding plantations is dangerous as likely to harbour the insect which can in due course fly to the canes and do damage to the leaves. He denied that froghoppers lay eggs underground, as was suggested by one of the proprietors, although as stated above the eggs often found their way into the soil through fissures when dropped from rotting trash.

The possibility of enacting legislation to make it compulsory on all sugar growers to carry out the recommendations which had been put forward was discussed, but the proprietors appeared to think that it would not be practicable to enforce any such regulations in the case of the small planters whose plots surround or intersect the larger estates, and that in the circumstances it would be useless to pass a law which could not be universally enforced. The Chairman was not altogether convinced that this objection could not be overcome, and the question of legislation would certainly seem to be one well worth careful consideration by the local Government. As regards the recommendations which he had had occasion to make from time to time while in Trinidad, Mr. Kershaw expressed himself as being generally satisfied with the way in which the managers of the estates had followed out his suggestions, and he felt that when his advice had been taken the results had fully justified it. In support of this opinion, he quoted specific instances, but he admitted that no one could possibly say de-

initely that such and such action had led to such and such results, and that no other circumstances had influenced events. As regards the effect of weather, he was inclined to think that although there was a common belief that in wet seasons the canes suffered less from froghoppers than in dry, there was no real evidence that climatic conditions affected the incidence of froghoppers at all. The fact that in British Guiana where the cane roots were often submerged under water froghoppers were almost negligible as a pest did not necessarily prove that the common belief that heavy rains kept down the froghoppers was correct. In any event, the effect of weather was indirect, and, so far as he could judge, quite incalculable. He attributed the comparative scarcity of the froghopper during the present season not to any special weather conditions but rather to a variety of measures adopted specially for the purpose of checking the pest.

A Trap for Adult Froghoppers.

Incidentally, reference was made to the use of hurricane lamps at night placed above a tray of kerosene or molasses to attract and trap the adult froghopper (the hurricane lamps were said to have worked far more satisfactorily than strong searchlights) and to the picturesque fact that the froghoppers which fell outside the tray were devoured by frogs or toads waiting in readiness below. In connection with these light traps it was mentioned that only 1.5 per cent. of the whole number of insects caught were females. Reference was also made to the possibility of treating the soil with kerosene and preparations of different kinds, but Mr. Kershaw did not hope for much success in this direction. Inasmuch, however, as nitrolim used as a manure had a slightly deterrent effect on the froghopper, he would advocate its use more generally.

After a brief discussion on other points of less importance, the Chairman read to the meeting the following extract from a despatch received by the Secretary of State from the Governor of Trinidad on the subject of the work to be carried on after Mr. Kershaw's departure:—

"I had a conference on the 3rd inst. with Mr. Kershaw, the Acting Director of Agriculture, and the Honourable W. G. Kay, when the following measures for continuing Mr. Kershaw's investigations were decided on:—

- (a) Steps to be taken to cultivate artificially the Syrphid fly for the purpose of attacking the first broods of froghoppers;
- (b) Mr. P. L. Guppy to be employed for a further term of twelve months in charge of the froghopper campaign, with salary at the rate of £350 from 1st January, 1914, and to be required to furnish monthly reports;
- (c) Provision of £50 for incidentals to be continued; and
- (d) Mr. Kershaw to make enquiries in England as to a possible foreign parasite for the froghoppers which might be introduced here.

"The above proposals were agreed to by the Finance Committee at a meeting held yesterday on the condition that one half of the expenditure is paid by the Estate proprietors; and I have the honour to ask for your approval of them on this condition."

The Chairman then moved a vote of thanks to

Mr. Kershaw commenting on the able way in which he had dealt with an extremely difficult piece of work, which few men would be equal to undertaking successfully. The vote of thanks was seconded by Mr. Prentice, who expressed on behalf of himself and his friends the gratitude which the proprietors felt to Mr. Kershaw and their entire reliance on him; he regretted that circumstances prevented Mr. Kershaw himself from carrying on the investigations which he had conducted for the past twelve months, but he did not hesitate to say that they could proceed with confidence on the lines which had been laid down.

THE CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR.

The following figures, which are based on statistics given in the *Journal des Fabricants de Sucre*, show the consumption of sugar for three months from September to November in the principal European countries:—

	Tons.	Tons.	
	1912	1913	
United Kingdom	476,672	457,411	— 19,261
Germany	408,161	392,058	— 16,103
France	190,972	199,918	+ 8,946
Austria-Hungary	185,676	178,527	— 7,149
Netherlands	32,905	33,527	+ 622
Belgium	27,250	26,157	— 1,093

THE ST. VINCENT BOTANIC GARDEN.

The Botanic Garden in St. Vincent, which was established as far back as 1763, when it was, curiously enough, under the control of the Secretary for War, is the oldest institution of its kind in the West Indies, and probably in any part of the New World. It was in order to supply it with specimens of the bread-fruit tree and the mangosteen that the *Bounty* sailed to the South Seas under Captain William Bligh in 1789, when the crew mutinied and established themselves at Pitcairn Island. However, owing largely to the exertions of Sir Joseph Banks, the President of the Royal Society, supported by the representations of the West India Committee, who offered a substantial reward, a second ship, the *Providence*, was fitted out, and in January, 1793, Captain William Bligh, accompanied by Captain Nathaniel Portlock, of H.M. brig *Assistant*, arrived, and landed a large portion of his valuable cargo from Otaheite in the South Seas at St. Vincent, including 530 choice and curious plants of various kinds in a most flourishing condition.

The mango and cinnamon are believed to have been forwarded to the garden from Jamaica, into which island they were introduced by Lord Rodney in 1782, the clove was brought to the garden from Martinique in 1787, and the nutmeg-trees from Cayenne in 1809. In 1820 the Government decided to give up the garden, and in 1822 it was transferred to the local Government, which for a time ceased to cultivate it in 1849. Very many old and rare trees

in the garden were destroyed by a cyclone on August 6th, 1886, and a severe hurricane in 1898 did still further damage; but sufficient beautiful trees and plants remain to render the garden exceedingly attractive. It also contains a large collection of plants of economic interest, besides those of an ornamental nature.

In his annual report on the Agricultural Department of St. Vincent for 1912, Mr. W. N. Sands, Superintendent of Agriculture and Hon. Correspondent of the West India Committee in St. Vincent, gives some interesting notes regarding this historic garden. It seems that an effort has recently been made to investigate the origin of some of the old trees with the assistance of a copy of the "Catalogue of Plants in the Botanic Garden, St. Vincent, in 1806," together with notes from the Rev. Lansdown Guilding's account of the Garden, published in 1825. Extracts from the letters of Dr. Anderson, the Superintendent from 1785 to 1811, to the Society of Arts which were also obtained were found very helpful.

The number of species recorded in the catalogue totals 1,355, classified under the following heads: Commercial and Medicinal; In Economy; Esculents; Valuable Woods; Fruits; Exotics, Curious and Ornamental. In Guilding's Account the dates of introduction of several economic plants are given, and the following extracts relate to the more interesting introductions:

"About 1787 the Clove (*Carophyllus aromaticus*) and several varieties of Cinnamon (*Laurus Cinnamomum*) were introduced from the French Islands to which they had been brought by their ships from Asia. The Clove shortly after this period, was cultivated zealously in Dominique. In Jamaica the Cinnamon was planted on a large scale in many parts of that extensive Colony. Mr. Anderson, the Superintendent, who with great pains collected the most remarkable of the native plants, and in his excursions to other islands obtained many curious species, . . . in 1791 sailed to Guiana in search of valuable plants where his zeal was amply rewarded. There appear to have been three different Cinnamons, one introduced about 1785 from the island of Martinico, apparently the Ceylon Cinnamon, the two others introduced in 1785 from the East Indies by the French; a plant of each was sent to the Garden in 1787: one of these came from Martinico, the other from a gentleman of St. Lucia who had obtained it from the captain of a frigate from the Isle of France bound to St. Domingo. Trials were made to introduce *Cactus Coccinellifer*, and to introduce the Cochinal insect."

Appropos of the introduction of bread-fruit, Guilding states that "Captain Bligh . . . in January, 1793 . . . landed the best portion of his valuable cargo, about 530 plants, on the shores of St. Vincent. The young trees which were as vigorous as if they had only travelled from our mountains . . . were instantly planted out, and after a proper interval, distributed among the colonies . . . In 1794 the bread-fruit tree began to bear."

Several nutmegs and other plants were introduced from Cayenne in 1809, after having been nursed in Trinidad, but according to a letter reproduced as a footnote, Anderson himself introduced nutmegs and true black pepper in 1802. In a letter to the Society of Arts from St. Vincent, on November 18th, 1803, Anderson writes: "Some Tea trees, Pepper and

Mulberry, which I have planted in the new ground, are thriving remarkably well, as is the Manna Ash. The Mulberry, I fancy to be of little value: If it is, let me know that I may increase it." Anderson died on September 8th, 1811, and of him Guilding says on page 19: "To this industrious and respectable botanist the Garden owes its prosperity. Since his death it has in some degree declined." At the time that Guilding wrote, the mango, mahogany and teak appear to have been fine trees.

It was a local tradition that Captain Bligh brought other plants besides bread-fruit from the South Seas to St. Vincent in 1793, among these being the mango, of which there are fine old specimens in the Gardens and in the Government Office grounds, but Mr. Sands is of the opinion that he only landed bread-fruit plants.

THE WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF COTTON.

Threatened Sources of Sea Island Variety.

Professor John A. Todd, who visited the cotton growing areas of the United States last summer, gave the members of the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow, on January 13th, some impressions of his visit. Over 60 per cent. of the cotton production of the world was, he said, drawn from the United States, and to that percentage Texas alone contributed one-third. In 1831 the production by the United States amounted to 1,000,000 bales, and in 1911 it had increased to 16,000,000 bales. There was a cotton area of 450,000,000 acres, but the acreage under cultivation was only 35,000,000 acres. Statistics showed that the tendency had been for the price of cotton to rise, and there were two principal reasons why the area of production in the United States was not largely increased. One was that the amount of labour required was very heavy and that the cost of negro labour was going up enormously. Cotton was selling at 12 cents a lb., and the cost of picking alone was 2 cents, or a sixth of the selling price. Mechanical pickers had been introduced, but so far these cost about as much as hand labour.

The other cause limiting the area of production was the ravages of the boll-weevil, a plague which had been allowed to spread probably largely owing to the inefficiency of negro labour. The weevil was now threatening the area in which Sea Island cotton, the highest quality of cotton, was grown in the United States, and the chances were that this crop might almost disappear. In that case there were only two parts of the world which could supply the defect, the West Indies and Egypt. Professor Todd, in conclusion, hazarded the view that there were only two things the United States could do—either improve the quality and value of its crop, or give it up and let other countries which had cheap labour take up the burden of growing cotton. As it was at present, the cost of labour was so great as to make cotton-growing approach the non-profitable, and if things did not change the chances were that the great supply of cotton for the world in the future

might come from other countries, and these countries mostly British possessions. A large number of lantern views were thrown on the screen, these illustrating among other things the great wastage of cotton by the American method of handling.

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

I.—The Situation of the Great Forests.

Before entering upon the more or less technical part of this subject, it may be well to describe the general physical features of British Guiana, in order that readers of the CIRCULAR, not already acquainted with it, may gain some idea as to the situation of what is known as the "timber bush," and some of the difficulties of access thereto.

British Guiana, situated on the north-east corner of the continent of South America, includes the counties of Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice, so named after the chief rivers passing through them, and extends from the Atlantic ocean on the north to the Brazilian province of Amazonia in the south, having a seaboard of over 250 miles in length, and a depth to the Brazilian boundary varying from about 300 to 540 miles. No accurate general survey having ever been made, beyond fixing the principal positions by astronomical observations, none of the existing maps of the colony can be reckoned on as absolutely correct, and therefore the distances stated must be taken as approximate only. The total area of the colony has been roughly computed at being about equal to that of Great Britain, embracing England, Scotland and Wales.

There are distinctive features in the configuration of the land which suggest a classification of separate divisions or belts, each with natural characteristics of its own. We first have a belt of coast lands varying from ten to forty miles in depth, forming the present ocean margin and extending inland to the ancient sea margin marked by a range of sand reefs, known locally as the Sand Hills. This coast belt consists of alluvial clay deposits of remarkable fertility; and is all, more or less, under the level of high tides, necessitating the greater portion being "empoldered" by surrounding dams as a protection from the sea in front and on the tidal estuaries of the rivers, as well as from the overflow of savannah waters at the back; drainage being effected either by mechanical pumping or through an intertidal acting system of sluices or "kokers."

Behind these empoldered cultivated portions of the front belt are grass savannahs, more or less flooded, with wooded margins along the numerous tributary creeks flowing through them and discharging into the larger rivers flowing to the north.

Behind the sand reefs, constituting the ancient sea margin, the country gradually rises between the river valleys to a height varying from 400 to 1,000 feet above sea level, interspersed by irregularly distributed mountain ranges 1,500 to 4,000 feet in height, with some isolated mountains as high as 8,000 feet above sea level, such as the flat-topped

Roraima and Kukuenaam. This area of mountain, vale and river, constitutes the great forest belt, densely wooded and extending some 300 miles, backed by vast inland rolling grass savannahs, reaching to the Brazilian boundary. Taken together, therefore, we have four distinct belts of country, viz.—1. The coast lands; 2. Sand reefs of considerable width; 3. Mountain and forest region; 4. Hinterland savannahs.

The forests of British Guiana are estimated to cover an area of about 75,000 square miles, but of this area only about one-seventh is at present accessible for timber cutting operations owing to difficulties of transportation. The main rivers, with their numerous tributary creeks, passing through these forest regions form the only means of communication with the interior of the colony; but their courses are all interrupted by great falls and cataracts about a fourth of the distance back; which obstruct navigation and have to be negotiated by means of roundabout portages, or "droghing" tracks. These falls act as barriers to the wood cutting industry, and little or no timber is cut above them owing to the difficulty of transportation thus involved, leaving vast primeval forests of the finest timber of large size and well matured, practically untouched, the present "timber bush" being confined to sections of the country below these great falls and extending to the lands bordering the smaller creeks flowing into the main rivers for some miles below the sand reefs; but in most of these front timber grants the supply of well matured trees is well nigh exhausted. Although these portions of the forests once contained large and valuable timber readily brought to market along the river highways, they are now in great measure deprived of their more valuable timber, leaving it unremunerative for any extensive wood felling establishments to be maintained therein. Unfortunately trees of second growth and of comparatively little age, are cut down to supply the local markets with what proves to be inferior timber. It is true that regulations exist prohibiting the cutting of timber under a certain size when squared; but such regulations are constantly being contravened by the wood cutters, who allow themselves a liberal margin in the "squaring of the circle"; and within the last forty years, to the writer's personal knowledge, an increasing proportion of round wood, locally termed "fall-edge," has been allowed in the squaring process; and as a consequence, much of the wood now offered for sale in the Georgetown timber market is reckoned as of a much larger size than it ought to be if it had been properly squared on the timber grant; and young trees, fit for cutting for firewood only, are frequently marketed as framing timber, the result being that the greater portion of the outside, being sap-wood, speedily decays, leaving only the heart, or "tacooba," sound and durable.

With a view of rendering the sections of forests above the falls accessible, and thus available for timber cutting enterprise, schemes have been suggested from time to time for constructing canals

around the principal falls, with locks to lift to the higher level, through which the timber rafts might be floated down; and some thirty odd years ago, Mr. Michael McTurk, C.M.G., the well-known bushman and timber expert of the colony, proposed the construction of inter-river canals, through which timber rafts could be floated, leading from *above* the great falls on one river to *below* the falls on the other.

Within recent years practical effect has been given to this idea by Sproston's, Ltd., not by the construction of a canal, but by a railway from Wismar on the Demerara River to Rockstone on the Essequibo, above Gluck Island and the Marini rapids on the latter river, which has opened to the constructors large areas of previously untouched forests on the Essequibo River, containing some fine old green-heart and some other well matured woods. Again, coming to present day propositions, one of the objects promised by the much advocated hinterland railway in British Guiana, is easy access to the vast forest resources of the interior.

(To be continued.)

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS.

BY FRANK CUNDALL.

The Church of St. Peter, Vere.

(Continued from page 9 and concluded.)

The east window of the church is filled with stained glass, and stained glass is in two lights of the west window. That to the south is "In memory of Marie Sophie, the beloved wife of James Harvey, who died on the 24th July, 1871, aged 41 years": that to the north is "In memory of George Harrison Townshend died 10th July, 1846, and Sarah Bevil his wife died Feb. 22nd, 1871."

The church owns a most interesting chalice and paten: on the former is inscribed "The Gift of Ralph Rippon, sen., to the Parish Church of Vere, in Jamaica, 1687": on the paten "Ralph Rippon, 1687." Except for the paten at Yallahs, which dates from 1683, these are the oldest examples of plate in the colony. Both bear the date mark of 1685. The chalice is typical of what Cripps calls "the rude vessels of the latter part of the century." Rippon represented Vere in the Assembly from 1726 to 1733, with an interval in 1731, when he sat for St. Elizabeth.

The following are the principal tombs in Vere church, those that are given in Lawrence-Archer being so stated:—

MURAL MONUMENTS.

1. Underneath, amidst the ashes of her father, mother, brothers and sisters, lies interred the body of Elizabeth, daughter to ye Honble. John Gale, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, who dyed April the 30, 1761, in the 34th year of her age, in memory of whose many amiable qualities her Husband, Daniel McGilchrist, Esq., hath erected this monument of his love and regard to one of the best of wives.

[In Lawrence-Archer, who, however, omits the arms:— A lion rampant: impaling a bar charged with 3 lions

heads between 3 pairs of fish in saltire.]

2. Beneath this marble, in this pew, lieth interred the body's of the Honourable John Morant, Esq., who departed this life October the 3rd anno domini 1723, in the 44th year of his age, and his son, John Morant, Esq., who departed this life February the 6th, anno domini 1734, in the 36th year of his age, and also Elizabeth, the wife of John Gale, Esq., daughter of John Morant the elder, who departed this life January the 10th, 1740, in the 34th year of her age.

Arms—Gules, a fess lozengy argent and azure, between three talbots passant or.

[In Lawrence-Archer, who has "38th year" for "36th year," and calls the azure sable, and puts rampant for passant.]

3. Near this place are deposited the remains of John Morant, who died the 9th of August, 1741, aged 18, William Morant, who died the 9th of November, 1744, aged 19, Samuel Morant, who died the . . . October 1752, aged 18, Eleanor Angelina Morant, who died the 5th of February, 1756, aged 24, Mary Morant, who died the 9th August, 1759, aged 60.

Arms—Gules a fess lozengy argent or sable, between three talbots or.

[In Lawrence-Archer, who has "1756" for "1759.]"

4. Near this place are deposited the remains of John Gale, Esquire, who departed this life on the 24th June 1758, aged 24 year, Sarah Gale, who died on 29th August, 1748, aged 14 year, the Honble. John Gale, Esquire, who died on 27th February, 1749-50, aged 52 year, Jonathan Gale, who died 30th April, 1756, aged 25 year, and Elizabeth, the wife of William Gale, and daughter of John Morant, Esquire, who departed this life the 14th of June, 1759, aged 31 year.

Arms—Quarterly 1 and 4, on a fess between three pairs of fish in saltire as many lions heads erased; 2 and 3 a chevron between three talbots passant.

[In Lawrence-Archer, who gives "1743" for "1748, omits all reference to Jonathan Gale, and calls the fish in saltire merely saltires.]

5. To the memory of the Hon. Kean Osborn of Caswell Hill in the parish of Vere and of Montpelier, Saint Thomas-in-the-East, late Speaker of the House of Assembly in this Island, who departed this life the 4th of September, 1820, at Mont-sur-Vaudray, in France, on his way to Italy for the health of the wretched survivor, Elizabeth Osborn.

6. Sacred to the memory of Ennis Read, Esq., who departed this life on the 10th day of Novr., 1771, aged 58, and of Margaret, his wife, who died on the 29th of Sepr., 1745, aged 34. A pair that by a princæpal purity of manners acquired the universal esteem of and reflected honour on human nature. To the world their lives were fair models of imitation: their last moments an instructive lesson that shew'd with what fortitude and serenity, virtue can support her votaries in the awful hour of dissolution.

O'er Birth and Titles let the column heave
And venal flattery mock the lifeless ear,
Far nobler honours grace your humble grave,
Truth's simple sigh and Virtue's sacred tear.

Arms—Azure a griffin rampant or, impaling between three stags passant or a chevron charged with three rissettes gules.

7. Erected to the memory of Saml. Alpress Geoc. Osborn, lieutenant 74th regiment, aged 20 years, who departed this life on the 26th September, 1828, at Gibraltar, of the malignant fever prevalent there, by his broken-hearted grand-mother, Elizabeth Osborn. . . .

8. George Cussans Richards, Esqr., Obit. Jany. 1828. Erected to the memory of their relative by John Morant, George Morant, Esquires, Sir John and Lady Lambert. Sacred to the memory of Edward Sympson, Esqre., younger son of Robert Sympson, Esqr., of Monymusk, in this parish. Previous to his residence in this island, he served with credit many years in the royal navy and was present at the Battle of Navarino, 20th October, 1827, in H.M. Ship *Asia*, 84 guns, Admiral Sir Edward Codrington, G.C.B. He obtained and preserved the universal goodwill and affection of his comrades and of those amongst whom his lot was subsequently cast. Died at Monymusk, March 5th, 1846, aged 33 years.

9. Near this monument lies interred the body of John Pusey, Esqr., who died the 24th day of January, 1767, aged 75 years. Disinterestedly sincere, and uniformly steady in the interest of his native country; he lived truly and justly venerated. Unsolicitous of public honours, he knew no ambition but that of doing good; and possessing a soul rich in humanity and benevolence which poured forth its bounty with a generous and unbounded hand. He died gratefully lamented.

Arms—Gules 2 bars or. Crest: a cat o'mountain statant gules.

10. In memory of John, who died the 14th January, 1860, also of Mary Agatha, who died 22 March, 1862, the infant children of Rev. Thos. Garrett, M.A., rector of this parish, and of Sarah, his wife, this tablet was erected in the 16th year of his incumbency, in the year of the Lord, 1869.

11. Sacred to the memory of Anna Maria, widow of the late Stephen Hannaford, Esquire, of Amity Hall, in the parish of St. Dorothy, who departed this life on the 20th day of January, 1874, in the 68th year of her age. Deeply regretted by her family and friends who mourn her loss.

12. Sacred to the memory of William Lewis, who died at Moreland Estate, August 4th, 1838, aged 41 years. Beloved, esteemed and respected by everyone who knew him as an able, kind and honest man, the loss of whom is by no one more sincerely regretted and lamented than by Robert and Edward Sympson of Moneymusk Estate, who have caused this tablet to be erected to his memory.

13. Sacred to the memory of William Collman, Esquire, born 15th May, 1807, died 25th January, 1853, at Caswell Hill Estate, in the parish of Vere. Also George Munro Collman, born Nov. 20th, 1834, died 20th May, 1853, at Bushy Park Estate in the parish of St. Dorothy, and Elizabeth Caroline Collman, born 28th August, 1846, died 27th July, 1849, at Salt River in the parish of Vere. As a tribute of conjugal and maternal remembrance this tablet has been inscribed by Elizabeth Collman.

14. Sacred to the memory of George Willett Hannaford, youngest son of the late Stephen Hannaford, Esq., of the parish of St. Dorothy, who departed this life on the 23rd day of October, 1875, in the 37th year of his age.

15. In memory of Canute Wilson, many years Clerk of the Peace for this parish, this monument is erected by the many friends who experienced his kindness. He departed this life at Gibbons on the 16th October, 1848, aged 47 years.

16. To the memory of Emma Edwards, only daughter of Richard Crewe, Esqr., of Raymonds Estate, and wife of John Pusey Edwards, Esq., of Pusey Hall, at which place she died on the 23rd of November, 1820.

Near this place lies interred with her parents, &c., the body of Mrs. Deborah Gibbons, wife to Wm. Gibbons, Esq., and daughter of John Favell, Esq., of ye county of York, who departed this life the 20th of July, 1711, in the 29th year of her age. To sum up her character in brief she was one of the best of women and a most pious Christian. She left only one daughter, who married the Honble. James Lawes, eldest son of Sir N. S. Lawes, Kt., Governor of this island, who in honour to the memory of so good a parent erected this monument to her.

Arms—Or a lion rampant sable surmounted by a bend argent charged with three escallops argent; impaling sable a chevron argent between three escallops argent.

17. Sacred to the memory of William Pusey, Esq., representative in Assembly for this parish & Colonel of the Midland Division of horse militia, who died the 11th day of June, 1783, aged 42 years. And of Elizabeth, his wife, who departed this life the 8th day of June, 1780, in her 40th year.

While here a brother's sorrowing eye
Surveys the melancholy stone;
Dear Shades! Accept a Muse's sigh,
A Muse that mourns for worth alone.

[This epitaph is said to have been written by Peter Pinder.]

18. A tribute to filial and parental affection, this monument is erected by Kean Osborn, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, to the memory of her father, the Honble. Samuel Alpress, Esquire, of Caswell Hill, in this parish, and of Margaret Eleanor, her mother. Also to the memory of

the two sons of Kean Osborn and Elizabeth his wife, Samuel Alpress Osborn, who departed this life on xxx day of July MDCCCI, on his passage from this island to resume his studies at Trinity Hall, Cambridge; and of Kean Osborn, a Captain in the 5th Dragoon Guards, and a Q.M.G., to Lt. Genl. Sir Thomas Picton's Division, who fell at the Battle of Salamanca in Spain on the xxii day of July MDCCXII, after having distinguished himself at the Battle of Vimiera and sieges of Ciudad Rodrigo & Badajos.

[Executed in Rome, 1818].

19. In memory of Robert Edward Mitchell, who died in the discharge of his duty, April 3, 1899, aged 28.

20. In memory of Robert Charles Gibb, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A., who for over twenty years worked faithfully as a medical man in this parish. Died at Lismore House, St. Andrew, Jan. 27th, 1900, aged 49 years and was interred at Halfway-Tree.

21. Erected by many friends to the glory of God & in memory of the Rev. Charles Townshend Husband, rector of St. Peter's Vere from 1876 to 1904. Died 28th January, 1904.

ON THE FLOOR OF THE NAVE.

22. D.O.M.L. In piam memoriam dñi Andree, Knight, Rotulorum Custodis et Supremi Judicis communium placitorum in Provincia Clarendon et Vere in Jamaica, et turmae pedestris centurionis, qui obiit 42^o aetatis anno, 19^o Julii, 1683.

EPITAPHIUM.

Dives opum Andreas: famae virtutis et artis ditor; hocque magis dives honoris erat. Plura darent superi, ut fata inviata negarent sternendo humani futile molis onus. Ni superi tamen hinc et sors sibi fida deessent urina tenet corpus, mens habet alta potum, dicat, vovet, dedicat.

Ja. Barclay.

Arms—... on a fess ... between three bulls heads erased ... (each with a ring in its nose ...) a fret between two eagles close.

[In Lawrence-Archer, now in great part covered up.]

23. Here lies the body of John Favell, Esqr., who died March the 20th, 1720/21 aged 72 years.

Arms—A chevron between 3 escallops

24. Here lieth ye body of George Fawcett ... of William Fawcett of ... ewill in ye county of York, who departed this life 13th day of January, 1681.

[Partly covered.]

25. In memory of Cap. John Watt, who departed this life April 20th, in the year of our Lord, 1767, aged 54 years.

26. Here lies the body of John Pusey, Esquire, who died the 24th of January, 1797, aged 75 years.

27. ... yeth interred the body of ... grett Read, wife of ... is Read, who departed ... the 29th day of September ... ar of our Lord, 1745, and in ... ty second year of her age.

Arms—A griffin rampant. [Partly covered.]

The following are given by Lawrence-Archer but are not now visible:—

28. Here lieth interred the body of Coll. Thomas Sutton who departed this life, the 15th day of November, in the seventy-second year of his age, and in the year of our Lord God, 1710. B.M. Slab.

29. (Ab.) In memory of John Sutton, son of John Sutton Esq., of this parish ... (Eulogium) Post tam illustre dilucentium qualis expectandum esset mercedis? Sed nubes—sed tenebrae—sed umbra mortis. He was cut off in the flower of his age by the violence of a fever, 23d. August, anno 1745. W.M. Slab.

IN CHURCHVARD.

30. Sacred to the memory of Walter Comrie, eldest son of Walter Sterling Comrie, late of the parish of Westmoreland, obt. 12 October, 1880, aged 46 years.

31. This tomb was erected by Mr. Daniel Callaghan, consignee, and Messrs. Anderson Thomson & Co., owners of the barque Vere of London in memory of their loyal friend and servant Archibald Boyd, who traded regularly to Jamaica in command of the above vessel for many years. He died at Pusey Hall in this parish on the 24th December,

1862 in the 52nd year of his age, & was buried here.
32. Beneath this stone lieth the body of Ann Livingston, the beloved wife of William Livingston Reid, born 11th April, 1808, died on the 12th February, 1861, aged 53 years.

The illustration of the Church of St. Peter, Vere, which appeared in last issue was from a photograph taken by the Rev. C. E. Jarvis, C.F.

OBITUARY.

MR. FREDERICK VAVASOUR McCONNELL.

We have with sincere regret to announce the death of Mr. Frederick Vavasour McConnell, partner in the firm of Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd., of London, Liverpool and Demerara, which took place in London on January 26th.

Mr. McConnell, who had been in indifferent health for some little time, underwent an operation on January 17th, from the effects of which he never recovered. Born in 1868, he was the son of the late Mr. John McConnell, who for many years made British Guiana his home. Mr. Frederick McConnell was a member of the Executive of the West India Committee, and, until overtaken by ill-health, he used frequently to visit British Guiana. He did not confine his visits to the coast lands, but made several expeditions into the interior, and he was one of the first to ascend Roraima, which he did in company with Mr. J. J. Quelch and Mr. C. A. Lloyd in 1894. He spent three days and two nights on the plateau at the summit, which he revisited in 1898. During his expeditions he took many photographs of unique interest, and he secured a number of specimens which formed the nucleus of a museum at his residence, Canfield Place, Hatfield. The preparation of a catalogue of his collection of British Guiana birds, which is recognised as being the finest extant, had been engaging his attention for several years and shortly before his death he expressed the hope that it would be completed in six weeks time. Mr. McConnell was married in 1899 to a daughter of the late Hon. A. H. Alexander, Immigration Agent General for British Guiana, who with two sons and one daughter survives him.

THE HON. J. W. CULMER.

The Hon. J. W. Culmer, one of the oldest and most highly esteemed residents in the Bahamas, died suddenly in Nassau, on 22nd ult. aged 74.

After several years of life at sea, during which he twice narrowly escaped a watery grave, Mr. Culmer started pineapple cultivation at Eleuthera. He displayed marked ability and finally became the largest landowner in the Bahamas. In 1874, he was elected to the House of Assembly, and retained his seat for an unbroken period of nearly forty years. In 1907, he was appointed to a seat in the Executive Council. The funeral took place at Tarpun Bay, in the presence of a representative gathering.

THE HON. F. A. HOLMES, M.D.

The Hon. F. A. Holmes, M.D., M.R.C.S., Speaker of the House of Assembly of the Bahamas, died at his residence in Nassau, on Wednesday, December 18th, aged 70.

Dr. Holmes had just returned from Canada and the United States, where he had spent the summer months in the hope of restoring his impaired health. He was first elected to the House of Assembly in 1891, and in 1898 he was unanimously chosen Speaker of the House, which position he filled with conspicuous distinction and ability for fifteen years. A public funeral was accorded the late Speaker on December 19th. The large number of mourners bore eloquent testimony to Dr. Holmes' influence and ability.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

To many readers the features of the people in the illustrations facing page 28 will be familiar. In the group taken on the occasion of the Trinidad Turf Club's very successful race meeting at Port of Spain on December 26th, 27th, and 29th, the names from left to right are: Hon. R. S. A. Warner, K.C., who appears to have a predilection for standing with his back to the camera, the Hon. Mrs. Gideon Murray, wife of the Administrator of St. Vincent, Captain Boyle, A.D.C., Miss Bowen, Mr. "Mansey" Devenish (starter), Mrs. D. C. Da Costa and Mr. James Crawford. In the group of the members of Mrs. Gideon Murray's amateur theatrical company, which, besides giving much pleasure to the residents of St. Vincent, helps to enrich the local charities, are: (Back row, standing) Miss Muriel Richards, Major J. A. Meldon, Mrs. C. Gideon Murray, Mr. Percy Verrall, Miss Mildred Hazell, Dr. C. P. Stoute, Stage Manager. (Front row, sitting) Mr. W. S. Batten-Pool, Miss Leo Nairn, Hon. C. H. Durrant, Mrs. W. N. Sands. The Georgetown fire, for the illustrations of which we are indebted to Mr. J. C. McCowan, is referred to elsewhere.

"THE BANANA."

A Standard Work of High Value.

"The Banana: Its Cultivation, Distribution and Commercial Uses," by William Fawcett, B.Sc., which has just been published under the auspices of the West India Committee, is already recognised as the standard work on the subject with which it deals. To quote Sir Daniel Morris, who contributes a foreword: "Mr. Fawcett has been in intimate touch with banana planting for nearly thirty years, and, therefore, he may be regarded as an authority of high standing in all that relates to the details of cultivation and the general management and control of banana plantations."

The price of the book, copies of which are obtainable from the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., is 7s. 6d., or post free in United Kingdom 7s. 10d.; abroad 8s.

THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.

Prince Arthur of Connaught to Attend.

The King having given his approval, Prince Arthur of Connaught will open the Tropical Products and Rubber Exhibitions on the 24th June next. Mr. Harcourt, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies, will also be present and will speak.

Thirty-five British and Foreign Governments will be exhibiting, as well as many important associations and companies, besides manufacturers and others connected with the industries that come within the scope of the Exhibition.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



Mr. J. M. BULLOCK is contributing to the *Banffshire Advertiser* a series of articles dealing with all the Gordons who have settled in the West Indies.

THE engagement is announced of Miss May Helen, younger daughter of the Hon. S. Wolffsohn, M.L.C., J.P., British Honduras, to Mr. Rudolph Lewis, of Belize.

IT is our great pleasure to record that Mr. Prinsen Geerligs, the well-known Java sugar expert, has had the degree of Doctor of Chemistry conferred upon him, *honoris causa*, by the University of Amsterdam.

THE Free Sugar Council, of which Mr. R. M. Leonard, of the Manufacturing Confectioners' Alliance, is Secretary, is, it is understood, preparing a memorial to the Chancellor of the Exchequer urging the removal of the sugar tax.

"WET BOBS" in the West Indies will be interested to learn that two racing pairs have just been built by Sins of Putney for the Ituni Rowing Club of Berbice. With oars by Ayling, the boats will shortly be despatched to New Amsterdam.

Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum.

AMONG visitors to the West India Committee Rooms during the past fortnight have been Mr. F. K. Warren, of Halifax, N.S., and Mr. C. W. Frazee, Manager of the Royal Bank of Canada in that city, who return to Canada by the S.S. *Alaunia* on January 29th.

IT is understood that a meeting of West Indian Customs officials is to be held in the West Indies in June, with a view to discussing the possibility of securing a greater degree of uniformity in Customs matters throughout the West Indies, a subject which has been frequently ventilated in these columns.

IT is disappointing to learn that, owing to lack of support, the White Star Line has cancelled the proposed tours of the *Megantic* in the Caribbean. The two trips arranged for the *Laurentic* will, however, take place, and it is possible that there may be a third one. The cancellation of the *Megantic* tour does not necessarily imply any falling off in the tourist traffic, for it must be remembered that this

year the number of special cruises is much greater than last.

A COURSE of five lectures on the economics of the trade in cocoa are to be given in the London School of Economics and Political Science at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesdays, from January 21st to February 18th. The first three will be delivered by Dr. S. E. Chandler, F.L.S., who will deal with the cultivation and preparation of cocoa, while the last two lectures by Mr. Chapman will be devoted to the commercial aspect of the cocoa trade. The fee for attending these lectures is 7s. 6d. only.

A CORRESPONDENT in British Honduras, referring to our recent article regarding the plight of the coconut planters in Cayman Brac, suggests that the islanders might emigrate to British Honduras, where there is abundant scope for coco-nut planting. It is hoped, however, that the cause of the trouble in the Cayman plantations may be diagnosed and remedied; but if the people continue to emigrate, it would certainly be better for them to go to British Honduras than to foreign territory.

MR. CHARLES KER, liquidator of Wilsons (Glasgow and Trinidad), Ltd., in his last report, stated that it was proposed to ask the Court to sanction the payment of an interim dividend of 2s. 6d. per £1 to all creditors whose claims were allowed and admitted. He further stated that it had been decided to carry on the cacao estates and other properties, with a view to realising them to the best advantage, and that endeavours would continue to be made to find a buyer for the stores business as a going concern. The homeward mail brings the news that a purchaser has now been found, a sale having been effected to the Trinidad Stores, of which Mr. S. Salvatori, Mr. D. Terrani and Mr. C. W. Scott, late managing director of Wilsons, Ltd., are partners. The business was duly taken over on January 1st, and is now in full swing.

MR. F. C. EASTICK, B.A., F.C.S., recently delivered a lecture on behalf of the Institute of Federated Grocers, which has been reproduced in the current issue of *Grocery*. We are sure that Mr. Eastick will not take it amiss when we tell him that sugar is not a hydrocarbon, but a carbohydrate, and ask him when it was made synthetically, as said to be possible? It would also be extremely desirable if the cane did contain 18 per cent. of sugar, which, unfortunately, it does not, the average being more in the neighbourhood of 13 per cent. The quantity produced in 1912-13 was also, 9 million tons, not 6½ millions. Cane juice, also, is *not* treated like beet juice in preparing raw sugar, and in the manufacture of "Demerara" sugar sulphuric acid and tin chloride are *not* added in the vacuum pan to give it a yellow colour. We are glad to see it stated that yellow crystals made from white sugars by dyeing them were "originally" a copy of "Demerara" sugar. But why "originally"; Why not "still"?

SOME NATURE NOTES.



THE *Lancel*, in writing on the subject of the multiple uses of sugar, says that sugar, quite apart from its food qualities proper, serves to stimulate the flow of the gastric juices, and so acts in a way which recalls the action of food or meat extracts. The use of sweet liqueurs may have some foundation in this physiological fact. On the other hand, an excessive indulgence in sugar may lead to irritation of the mucous membrane of the stomach, and to the flow of a strongly acid gastric juice, leading to sickness.

NOTHING, says the *Agricultural Journal of Egypt*, can be more strongly emphasized than the necessity of injuring the roots of fruit trees as little as possible, and of shortening their stems and branches at the time of transplanting. It is always better, if possible, to take up deciduous trees with naked roots, but a "ball" is sometimes necessary. Mango trees are most sensitive to root injury, and require the greatest care in handling. When trees are removed with a ball of earth, the ball should be wrapped with the leaves of sugar cane or some other suitable material.

QUITE recently Dr. de Jonge pointed out that, in tapping *Hevea* trees, the amount of bark removed per annum, or the number of cuts to an inch, depends upon the angle which the cut makes with the vertical channel. Writing on this subject in the *Tropical Agriculturist*, Mr. J. Petch suggests that this fact may account for the difference of opinion regarding the number of cuts it is possible to make to the inch, some authorities stating that twenty-four should be made, others eighteen. This difference, he says, might be accounted for, if it were the practice to reckon the cuts across the tapping surface in one country, and along the vertical channel in another.

IT is stated in the same journal that the inhabitants of the southern oases of Algeria maintain that the sex of date palms can be changed. Of 100 date palms, 80 are male trees, and it is greatly to the cultivator's interest that the proportion of female trees should be increased. The method of doing it is stated to consist of tearing off all the foot-stalks at two or three years of age, so that the medial nerve is split in two from the centre to the leaf sheath. The theory is that this tearing process concentrates the sap movement, resulting in an accumulation of sap, which is more necessary to the vital functions of the female than of the male, and, as at that stage of growth the sex has not been yet determined, subsequent growth develops the female characteristics.

"The Cane Sugar Factory," rs. 3d. post free.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

MR. W. N. SANDS, Agricultural Superintendent, St. Vincent, covers a wide field in his annual report on the Agricultural Department of that island for 1912-13. A feature of the experimental work with cotton has been the selection for resistance to angular leaf spot disease (*Bacterium malvacearum*) and anthracnose (*Glomerella gossypii*), and West Indian leaf mildew. Interesting observations are also recorded in regard to types of Marie Galante cotton occurring in the Southern Grenadines. While the exports of Sea Island variety showed a falling off, those of Marie Galante cotton increased.

WHATEVER may be the case in other islands, no lack of care is devoted to the upkeep of the Botanic Garden of St. Vincent, which has lately been improved by the formation of a driving road round them. Then we are reminded that to commemorate her visit to the island, Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein planted a mahogany tree in this historic garden, to which reference is made elsewhere in this issue. The Administrator and Mrs. Murray also planted two trees of Bermuda cedar (*Juniperus bermudiana*).

THE increased attention mentioned in last year's report as being given to the planting of coco-nuts was continued. Besides the importation of over 10,000 nuts for planting purposes, a large number of plants were raised from nuts produced locally. The greatest extension of planting took place on the Carib Country estates, but on several other estates in the windward and leeward districts plantations were extended. The position in regard to pests and diseases of coco-nuts in St. Vincent shows considerable improvement, and, provided due attention is given to the recommendations made in regard to their control, there appears to be no reason why quite a large and remunerative coco-nut industry should not be established.

THE TRINIDAD OIL INDUSTRY.

Mr. Cunningham Craig on its Detractors.

MR. E. H. CUNNINGHAM CRAIG, late Government Geologist of Trinidad, was entertained at luncheon by the Royal Colonial Institute, at De Keyser's Hotel, London, on January 21st, and gave his hosts an interesting address on the Oilfields of Canada. Incidentally, he referred to the development of the oil resources of Trinidad. He reminded those present that seven years ago he had had the pleasure and privilege of placing before the Fellows of the Institute some description of these fields, at a time when they had not been prospected except in one remote corner, and that ineffectively. Now, after being maligned and deliberately depreciated for years, after being discredited by badly managed or badly financed companies, Trinidad was at last emerging from tribulation, and it was showing by means of wells flowing from 20,000 to 40,000 barrels per day, that it was an oilfield of great promise.

THE LONDON LETTER.

A CABINET crisis is reported. The Navy, or rather the question of expenditure on the First Line of Defence, is the alleged cause of cleavage. Views propounded by the Chancellor of the Exchequer—mentioned in our last issue—are said to have created two schools of thought among the members of the National Executive. Mr. Lloyd George, who enjoys the majority of support, opposes an increase of outlay. Mr. Churchill, and the Board of Admiralty, regard the efforts of Germany as prohibitive of limitation. Which section will carry the day? That apparently is the problem of the hour. Meanwhile, we live in an atmosphere of assertion and denial; of conjecture and contradiction.

ONE would imagine that the hands of the Government were fully occupied; that their programme admitted of no additions. Home Rule, Welsh Disestablishment, Plural Voting, await discussion in the coming Session. But no, a further tax is to be imposed upon an overburdened Parliament. House of Lords Reform confronts the Legislature. The powers of the Upper Chamber having been arrested, its constitution is to be revised. Approached in a spirit of reform rather than of revolution, all parties are agreed that the House of Peers might easily become a more effective engine of State machinery. Interests at present unrepresented might well be allotted spokesmen of experience. Retired Governors, whose residence overseas equip them with a first hand knowledge impossible of acquisition by any other process might, for example, fitly be chosen for the Senate.

ATTENTION during the fortnight has been focussed on the South African situation. For the moment the Indian immigrant problem has been obscured. The well-being, both present and future, of the Union has been imperilled. A strike of railwaymen, sufficiently serious in itself, extended to all other trades; and for a time the outlook excited acute anxiety. South Africa seemed threatened with economic paralysis. The action of the Union Government saved the situation. Prompt, vigorous and determined, the measures adopted by General Botha and his colleagues were crowned by immediate and complete success. The declaration of a general strike was followed the same day by the proclamation of martial law. The strikers were beaten at their own game. An example of value to all European countries was set by the Union Government, whose conduct has been generally and deservedly admired.

AT home we have had to mourn the loss of a number of gallant seamen. The officers and crew of the submarine A7 have perished with their craft off Plymouth. Our recent naval annals contain no more painful reading than the long records of disasters which have overtaken this branch of the service. A death-roll which would be notable even in warfare, has been created in times of peace in connec-

tion with submarines, and the moment has come when the future of these vessels, and the question of their practical utility must be seriously considered. At the present time submarine service involves abnormal and unwarrantable risks for the brave men who accept duty.

THE safety of life at sea, a problem which has engaged practical attention since the *Titanic* disaster, has now become the subject of an International Convention. Delegates from the chief countries of the world have conferred in London, and the result of their labours is enlarged provision for the protection of passengers and crews. Vessels carrying fifty persons or more will in future be compelled to carry wireless installations, if such vessels are engaged in international or colonial voyages. The Convention demands the maintenance of a continuous wireless watch. Boats must be provided for all. It is also proposed to establish an international ice and derelict patrol.

LORD STRATHCONA has passed to his long rest, amid the respect and regret of the English-speaking race. His family motto "A leader of men," well expresses the universal opinion of his personality and of his great Imperial services. To few men has it been given to witness the ascent to such lofty heights of the structure of which they helped to lay foundations. To Englishmen Lord Strathcona symbolised Canada. His time, his influence, his wealth, were devoted with full heart and to his last hours, to the cause of the great Dominion. His powers, physical and mental, knew no decay. Active and eager, there is little doubt that but for the shock of the recent death of Lady Strathcona, the High Commissioner would have exceeded his 93 years.

THE welcome boon of cheaper rates does not dispose finally of the West India cable problem. Settlement in full can never be attained until the British connection becomes established throughout the Caribbean. That view, long entertained by the West India Committee, was endorsed by the Royal Commission. Mr. Charles Bright, the celebrated engineer, whose name is familiar to our readers, also hopes to embrace the West Indies within an Imperial system of cables. His opinion to this effect, is emphasised by an article which he contributes to the current number of the *Quarterly Review*. In this article he states that a very useful all-British link with the Cape would be provided if cable connections were effected between Bathurst and the West India Cable system, whence via Bermuda and Halifax, it would be brought into touch with a proposed Imperial Atlantic cable.

DR. THEODORE THOMSON, C.M.G., who attended the Quarantine Conference at Barbados in 1904 is still remembered by his medical brethren in the West Indies. In the annual report, just published by the Local Government Board, a tribute is paid to Dr. Thomson, who has retired through ill-health.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Uniformity in Agricultural Matters.

Much annoyance has been caused by the delay in the arrival of the R.M.S.P. *Magdalena*. It appears that she was delayed on the Spanish Main, and reaching Trinidad a day late, failed to make up the lost time on the voyage home. She did not reach Southampton until 6.40 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20th, with the result that the mails could not be delivered in London on that day. In this connection it may be useful to recall that since the present contract was settled in January, 1911, out of 76 homeward voyages, the transatlantic steamer has arrived up to time on Monday, or earlier, on 62 occasions, while on 11 occasions she has reached Southampton on Tuesday, once on Wednesday, once on Thursday (after a strike) and once on Friday, when the steamer had gone ashore. Reference has frequently been made to the hope that the transatlantic service may be speeded up, and some further pronouncement regarding the two new transatlantic vessels foreshadowed by Sir Owen Phillips in his speech at the last general meeting of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company is eagerly awaited. The holiday season was in full swing when the mail left, and race meeting and dances were the order of the day and night respectively. The tourist season had opened with the arrival of the *Arcadian*. The letters of our Correspondents, extracts from which are given below, reflect the hopeful outlook prevailing throughout in view of the more satisfactory weather conditions, the only rift in the lute being the low price of sugar. On Christmas Day, Bridgetown endeavoured to vie with Georgetown in the matter of fires, an outbreak having occurred in Roebuck Street, but fortunately the fire in Barbados was less extensive than the one in Georgetown. The cause of uniformity throughout the West Indies seems to be daily gaining adherence, and schemes for forming an Association of Chambers of Commerce, and for co-operation and uniformity in agricultural matters are ripe for immediate discussion. Meanwhile, Mr. Gideon Murray, the Administrator of St. Vincent, has fearlessly returned to the charge, and delivered an interesting address on confederation to the members of the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce.

Antigua—Mr. and Mrs. Peter's New Year's Eve Ball

Mr. A. P. COWLEY, writing on January 3rd, said that the week of Christmas festivities which had just passed, had certainly been the quietest for many years. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Peters, of Jolly Hill, had given a very successful ball in St. John's on New Year's Eve, which had been a great success. The ball was an innovation, so far as Antigua was concerned. The catering and decorations, etc., had been carried out by local firms, the former by the proprietor of the Esperanza Hotel.

The Local Forces Gymkhana had been held at Victoria Park in the presence of the Governor.

The weather had been very trying, with no heavy rains,

but light showers continually, which had interfered with cotton picking, and also washed off Paris Green, etc., when applied, necessitating continual application of the insecticide. Cotton picking was proceeding on Windward and Valley Estates, but was not general at the time of writing. The general opinion was that the yield per acre would not equal that of last year, although individual growers had already got very large yields from small acreage.

Bahamas—The Death of Two Prominent Residents.

When the last homeward mail left, the deaths had taken place of the Hon. F. A. Holmes, Speaker of the House of Assembly, and the Hon. F. W. Culmer, to which reference is made elsewhere. Following so soon on the deaths of Mr. H. C. and Mr. W. F. Albury, a gloom had been cast over the community. Mr. H. C. Albury, who died on December 12th, had been engaged for many years in the sponge industry until his retirement; he had been the director of many local companies, and was proprietor of the Nassau Boat-works. His brother, Mr. W. F. Albury who had just entered his 70th year, died almost immediately afterwards from shock. With the passing of Christmas, the tourist season was beginning in earnest, and visitors from the United States and Canada were arriving by every steamer.

Barbados—A Christmas Fire in Roebuck Street.

SIR FREDERICK J. CLARKE, writing on January 8th, said that he quite agreed with what had been said in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR with regard to the extension of the West Indian preference to Mauritius and other British Colonies. The Agricultural Society had passed a resolution on the subject, similar to that passed by the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, and had forwarded it through the Governor to the Secretary of State.*

The weather, but for a few light showers, had been dry. The *Arcadian* with 139 tourists arrived on Christmas Day; she was the first tourist ship of the season. There had been a fire in Bridgetown on Christmas morning in Messrs. Ince & Co.'s provision stores, which involved the adjoining, also used as a provision stores. The damage to buildings and stock was estimated at £6,500. But for the good work of the Fire Brigade, it might have been very serious.

The mail edition of the *Barbados Advocate* reported that the fortnight had been one of very fine weather. From a holiday point of view nothing better could be desired; but rain was wanted for the young crop, the planting of which had been completed. Some old planters stated that some of the varieties, more especially 6,450, required continuous showers to enable them to make good. Without these they quickly dried up and died.

The old crop was ripening rapidly, and the reaping season would begin early. The syrup making estates had everything ready for the campaign.

Bermuda—Tango Teas Popular at the Belmont

The tango craze has found its way to the islands to the extent of tango teas being now an every afternoon occurrence at the Hotel Belmont, Warwick East. Among recent visitors at that hostelry had been Mr. Titus Ulke, of Washington, D.C., a well-known naturalist, who is about to write a book, "The First Impressions of a Naturalist in Bermuda."

British Guiana—The Local Fire Brigade Criticised

Mr. J. C. McCowan, writing on January 3rd, said that the weather during the fortnight on the whole had been showery and favourable generally. The rainfall, perhaps, in one or two places had been somewhat heavy.

The sugar market continued low. Sales for local consumption were being made at \$1.95 to \$2 for Refining, and \$2.40 for Yellows, but there is very little doing.

The disastrous fire which occurred on December 22nd, was the result of an explosion of fireworks in the store of Chin-a-Yong, Chinese merchant, Lombard Street. At one time the Telephone Exchange Building and that of the Government Bonded Warehouse had been in considerable

* A copy of this resolution was published in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, No. 399, page 9.

danger, but happily the wind changed and both places were undamaged. The Demerara Company's premises in which were stored a large quantity of sugar and Molasses had been completely destroyed. The locality had always been considered a dangerous one, owing to the congested state of the buildings, and if any good could be said to have resulted from the fire, it would be the wiping out of the numerous dens and insanitary places in which that district abounded. There was to be an enquiry, and also a Commission on the Water Supply and the working of the Fire Brigade. Apparently the water service system as regards putting out fires was antiquated.

The annual Bachelors' Ball had taken place on the evening of December 31st, and had been very well attended.—Mr. J. S. McArthur, F.R. for East Demerara, had been elected Mayor of the city.

The British Guiana Planters' Association had passed the following resolution at its last meeting :—

"That the British Guiana Planters' Association approves of the formation of a British Guiana and British West Indian Sugar Planters' Association, having for its objects.

"(a) Co-operation for commercial and political defence of the industry.

"(b) The holding of yearly conferences for the discussion of problems relating to every phase of the agricultural and manufacturing side of the industry.

"(c) The adoption of uniform cultivation and factory reports, so that these can be compared on a common basis.

"(d) The adoption of uniform methods of analysis of the factory products."

Dominica—The R.M.S.P. Co's Coastal Steamer Service.

MR. B. A. AGAR, writing on January 3rd, expressed the opinion that Dominica's exports to the Dominion of Canada would be much smaller than last year, but it appeared that Canadian buyers of lime juice had overstocked themselves last year, and had since purchased little.

The weather had been perfect for Christmas, but rain was beginning to be wanted, which was a most unusual state of things for the time of year.

Adverting to the question of the coastal steamer service, Mr. Agar said the people of Dominica were not satisfied that it was as good as they wanted; but it appeared to be the best they could get at the moment. It was understood that arrangements had been made to retain the *Yare* at the same subsidy as before, viz.: £2,000, and that she would give the island less of her time, acting as well as feeder to the new Canadian Line. A good sized boat, responsibly officered, was needed for work on the windward coast, and although for nine months in the year her cargo space was far too great, during the crop, especially as planters were disposing of their lime juice in a raw state more than formerly, the vessel was hardly large enough. The R.M.S.P. Company said she did not pay, but the writer had never come across anyone who had seen the accounts so he could not say what was included, but probably her value as a feeder to the R.M. boats by diverting cargo to London from New York was not set down on the credit side as it certainly should be. When the Company demanded £2,000 instead of the former subsidy of £1,500, the Administrator, before taking action, asked the opinion of responsible persons and societies, and the opinion was almost unanimous, that exorbitant as the amount appeared to be, it was better to pay it than lose the boat. Referring to the suggestion of a Mr. Abbot that it would be preferable to raise a loan of £25,000 for roads, the writer said that if the island were allowed to make one, it would do a good deal towards roads, but would do nothing whatever to replace a coasting steamer; on the contrary, as soon as the roads began to earn money, they would act as feeders to the sea, and make a steamer more necessary than ever.

Grenada—The Cacao Crop Coming In Slowly.

MR. W. MALINS-SMITH, writing on January 3rd, said that the past fortnight had been very dry, and the crop was coming in slowly. A little rain was wanted to make things hum a bit.

Jamaica—Sugar Factories begin to "go about."

MR. W. COKE-KERR, writing on December 29th, reported that the Sugar Factory at Catharine Hall had gone about, and there was every prospect of an exceedingly good output of sugar from the factory. The Northern Estates factory had changed hands, and was now owned by Mr. David Henderson, of Kingston. It was expected that that factory would be going about shortly.

The banana prospects were excellent, and the quality of fruit showed signs of being good. It was expected that the export of bananas from Montego Bay for 1913 would nearly double that of any previous year.

The Right Rev. Bishop Taylor Smith, D.D., Chaplain General of the Forces, has been visiting the island. He preached at All Saints Church, West Street, on December 28th.—A Montego Bay Information Bureau has been formed in Kingston, with the object of inducing tourists to visit Jamaica's Little Naples, as the town might appropriately be called.—The *Gleaner* understands that Mr. A. E. Burke, formerly a purser of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, has been appointed manager, and that his offices will be at the Oleaners in Harbour Street.

A special meeting of the Mayor and Council of Kingston had been held on January 2nd, to make arrangements to welcome Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein. The Princess was expected to arrive in Kingston on January 22nd. The Mayor was authorised to arrange for the presentation of an address of welcome, and for the decoration of the streets.

Among the visitors who had arrived in Jamaica on board the *Arcahan* was Mr. W. C. Kenny, a Director of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. He was on his way to Bermuda to join the *Cobiquid*. While in Jamaica he was interviewed by the *Gleaner*. He said he would return in the near future in order to make careful enquiry into the possibility of opening Constant Spring Hotel as a business project.

Montserrat—The Return of Lt.-Col. Davidson Houston.

MR. K. P. DENCHOEN, writing on January 3rd, said that the weather during the past fortnight had been up to the 29th December, showery, with heavy rain on the night of the 27th, and during the better part of the day of the 28th. Since the 29th there had been bright sunny weather, and in fact one or two real hot days. The constant rains since October had prevented the opening of the second bearing of the cotton, which would fall far short of what it had promised. The island generally would make a short crop, and the small growers would probably not sell more than half the cotton that might have been expected from the acreage planted.

The Christmas festivities had passed off without anything to mar the joyous season. There had been plenty of masquerading and plenty of jollification. Mr. Leslie Jarvis had left by R.M.S. *Berbice* on January 2nd. Lt.-Col. Davidson Houston, arriving by the same steamer to resume his duties as Commissioner after leave of absence. Mrs. Davidson Houston had also arrived by the same steamer.

St. Kitts—The Demand for Muscovado Sugar.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, writing on January 2nd, said that 1913, which had just gone out would find most sugar estate owners on the debit side; particularly those outside the radius of a central factory system; and the most depressing feature at present was the knowledge that the outlook for the sugar world was no brighter for 1914. At the present market quotations only sugar making on the largest scale with up-to-date methods could make money, and the cane growers supplying such a system. The small estate growing and manufacturing a low grade sugar must succumb, except for supplying local wants; and there would always be a demand for a considerable quantity of bright clear Muscovado sugar in the islands, which would enable a few of the "old time" system estates to carry on.

The holiday season had passed uneventfully, and the stores had done fairly well.—The Turf Club held a successful race meeting on December 26th. Oakdale, run by the Colonial Syndicate, had made a fine showing, and had won his two races easily, and Mr. W. Berridge had had a very

successful day, winning the Planters' Stakes with Benita, and the Pony Purse and Maidens with Rag Time.

St. Lucia—A Regatta In Castries Harbour.

MR. G. S. HEDSON, writing on January 2nd, said that the weather during the holidays had been delightful without a break—clear, sunshiny days, with a cool breeze, and cool dry nights with the thermometer sinking as low as 65° in the early morning. The rainfall for December had been the lowest on record, viz., 3.12 inches, and it certainly began to look as if there would be a long dry season. The planters in the drier districts were already commencing to say that the weather was a little "too" fine for them, and it was easy to understand and sympathise with them. Perhaps, however, it would do good in giving the sugar men rich juice, but it might be at the expense of tonnage. It was not likely to prejudice the present cacao crop, which, in some districts, was yielding its heaviest pickings; and everywhere there seemed a very slender promise of May crop.

A Regatta had been held in Castries Harbour on New Year's Day.—A new nurse matron had arrived for the Victoria Hospital from England.—It was understood that Dr. Sambon's research work in Pellagra had sufficed to revolutionize his theories on its origin in human beings, which had been proved untenable by the work he had already done in the West Indies.

St. Vincent—Kingstown to Georgetown in One Hour.

MR. W. N. SANDS, writing on January 3rd, said that the weather during the Christmas season had been beautifully fine. Trade was, however, not particularly bright, owing to a small cotton crop and the lower prices being paid to the peasantry for common arrowroot; still, it was understood that so far the revenue of the Colony was keeping up fairly well.

The honour of making the first journey to Georgetown by motor car belongs to the Hon. Conrad J. Simmons, who had gone out in just over an hour and returned in about the same time. He reported that the journey presented no difficulties, and that when the road surface was put in good order it would be possible to go out comfortably in an hour, provided there was not a great deal of cart traffic on the road. This augured well for the Government motor mail service to be started on April 1st, with similar cars to that owned by Mr. Simmons. The average time taken by buggy was four hours, but some of the prominent citizens had recently experienced the doubtful joy of a seven hours' journey, and this was not at all uncommon.

The Administrator and Mrs. Murray had returned by the mail from Trinidad, after spending Christmas with the Governor of that Colony. It was understood that the Administrator had addressed by invitation a well attended meeting of the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce on "West Indian Federation," a subject in which he evinces such keen interest, and which appeared to be gaining ground in many of the colonies.

The writer would be leaving the Colony for England on April 17th, on six months leave.

St. Thomas—Harbour Works Rapidly Progressing.

Work is proceeding by night as well as day on the new harbour works in Long Bay, and *Lightbourn's Mail Notes* comments on the altered appearance of the place with its many electric lights and pile drivers, which are putting in position an iron breakwater on the "Larsen's Patent" system.

The same journal reports the loss of the Danish scientific cruiser *Marguerite* (90 tons) on the Aneгада reef. She belonged to the Marine Exploring and Investigation Department of the Danish Government, and was on a scientific expedition. She left Copenhagen in April last, and had already fished the Faroe Islands, Azores and Bermuda, leaving the latter island on the 7th of November last, and for thirty-five days had been adding to her store of valuable specimens when disaster overtook her. Captain Hansen attributed the loss of the vessel to the strong current which set him fifteen miles to the west whilst he was endeavouring to make the Sonbrero Passage. The

ship had on board a large lot of most valuable specimens of marine life and had orders to cruise about the West Indies for three months. Everything has been lost and the crew had to be provided with clothing on arrival at St. Thomas.

Tobago—The Coco-nut Crop 25 per cent Short.

MR. R. S. REID, writing on January 3rd, reported that the exceptionally mild weather in northern regions seemed to be reflected in Tobago, as the temperature was much higher than usual at this season. December had been a comparatively dry month, and planters were rather anxious about the spring cacao crop. The pickings thus far had been disappointing, and there was the curious phenomenon of black pods from excess of rain in November and "change of leaf" and dried up flowers from the scorching sunshine of the last fortnight in the old year. The coco-nut crop had been quite 25 per cent short, but a considerable increase was expected this year, as young cultivation was coming into bearing all over the island. Even the natives were planting coco-nuts freely, and besides banishing sugar cacao might shortly have to take second place, while rubber was regarded as a dead cultivation. After all the money expended on rubber, this was unfortunate, but one must be thankful that the present race of planters had sufficient courage to change over to other products, instead of lamenting abandoned fields, as was too much the case in old time sugar days.

Tobago was looking forward to the arrival of the new coastal steamer, promised for next month. The Hotel scheme, to foster the tourist traffic, was still in abeyance. The site and even the building were there, but the necessary capital had not yet been forthcoming.

Trinidad—The Trinidad Turf Club Race-Meeting.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, writing on January 6th, said that the Christmas and New Year's holidays had passed very merrily, Government House leading the way in gracious and seasonable hospitality. The Turf Club Races, which had been held on an excellent course, and in perfect weather, took place on 26th, 27th and 29th of December. The Governor and party, including the Hon. Gideon and Mrs. Murray, and Colonel and Mrs. Carlton, had attended each day. The usual race breakfast had been given by the Governor to the Stewards, and His Excellency and guests, and the visiting owners, had been entertained at lunch by the Stewards. The events had been closely contested, and the meeting on the whole had been the most successful of many years. Everyone was glad to welcome once more those prominent supporters of West Indian sport and real good fellows whom racing in Trinidad always drew together in the healthiest of rivalry and comradeship, D. C. Da Costa, James Crawford, H. A. Berkeley and E. M. de Freitas, and to cheer when the colours of the three first were carried to victory.

On the 28th, although the morning of the incoming mail, and at the shortest notice, a meeting had been held in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce, attended by several members of that body and some official members of Council, specially invited, to hear the Hon. Gideon Murray, who had kindly accepted an invitation to speak on the subject of Federation. It was necessary to hold the meeting at this inconvenient date and time as both Mr. Murray and Mr. Davson were leaving for St. Vincent and Demerara respectively, later in the day. The address had been most interesting, and evidently made an impression on those who were privileged to hear it. Verbatim reports appeared in both the *Port of Spain Gazette* and the *Mirror* next morning. It was expected that the Chamber of Commerce would shortly bring the matter forward for consideration on the basis of Mr. Murray's scheme. Mr. Davson announced that he would submit his proposals for an Association of Chambers of Commerce on his return from Demerara.

The New Year had been danced in at various places in the Colony, but the leading event had been that at the St. Clair Club, where the members and their guests greeted 1914 in the cheeriest of spirits. It was to be regretted that a very serious difference had arisen between the Government and the Borough Council of San Fernando. It was the

eternal water question again. An impasse had been arrived at from which neither side appeared ready to withdraw, and the Government could hardly do so with dignity, although its actions savoured something of the arbitrary character which more than once of late had been adversely criticised.

The long delayed Report of the Department of Agriculture, the first since that dealing with the year ending 31st December, 1911, had been published. It covered 90 pages of the Royal Gazette, and contained an enormous number of figures. The report of the Stock Farm, overdue for a similar period, was included. The absence of this for so long a time had been severely commented upon. It was to be hoped that its contents would disprove many of the statements made regarding that Institution, but whether that were so or not, those most favourable to the Department could hardly justify withholding the publication for such an abnormal period.

The shipments of cacao during December had been in advance of those of the same month in 1912, but fell short of what had been expected. The total for the year 1913 was, however, over that of 1912 by 6,490,752 lbs., and above the average of the past five years, although not equalling the shipments of 1909 or 1910. Everything pointed to a very large, if not record, crop during the first quarter of 1914. For the first fortnight in December business had remained very dull and supplies had been almost nil, but during the second half a good deal of cacao came forward with the result that prices had declined very sharply. To-day's quotations were:—

\$12.75 to \$12.80 for Ordinary.
\$13 Estates.
\$13.25 Venezuelan

The demand from abroad was dull at steadily declining rates.

The shipments of cacao during December, 1913, had been as follows:—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	196,130
British North America	12,400
Other British Possessions	6,720
British West Indies	100
France	411,450
Germany	32,300
Holland	57,000
Italy	19,600
United States of America	958,530
Total for December	1,684,230
Shipped previously	46,431,247
Total from 1st January	18,116,377
To same date, 1912	41,625,625
" " 1911	46,790,353
" " 1910	57,839,074
" " 1909	51,575,071
" " 1908	47,632,438
" " 1907	41,038,204

BIRTH.

Clementi.—On the 10th inst., at Georgetown, British Guiana, the wife of Cecil Clementi, Government Secretary, British Guiana, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

De Verteuil Sellier.—On January 7th, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Michael de Verteuil, Government Railway Engineer, to Berthe daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Sellier.

DEATH.

Elmslie.—On the 10th inst., at 3, Evelyn Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W., Augustus Frederick Elmslie, aged 91.

WANTS.

A Chartered Accountant of twenty years' experience who is proceeding to Jamaica about the end of February to reside there, will be pleased to negotiate with principals having interests in the West Indies, who might

care to avail themselves of his services. Interview can be arranged before leaving England. Highest testimonials and references. Apply H.D., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Employment wanted by capable secretary and accountant, aged 45, who thoroughly understands West Indian Sugar business. Thirty years with the New Colonial Co., Ltd. Excellent references. G. M. Ohlson, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase, July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

For Sale—Bound volume of *The Sugar-Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply F., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timehri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of Timehri for 1891. For sale: Part I., 1886; Part II., 1889; Part I., 1893, and Part I., 1894. Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Back Numbers of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR wanted. 6d. per copy will be paid for Nos. 382, 383 and 385 returned to the Manager, West India Committee Circular, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The West Indian Mail Service.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—Over thirty years ago, I travelled between Europe, the West Indies and Panama by the Royal Mail Company's Service, and during that period have several times since used it. I have only now returned from New York, Panama and the West Indies, having travelled by different steamers of this line, and I voice the opinion of nearly every fellow passenger in saying the service to-day is no better than thirty years since. Considering the great strides this Company has made in providing for its South American passengers luxurious and up-to-date steamers, it seems rather an anomaly that they should deem it sufficient to treat their New York, Panama, West Indian and Southampton passengers to steamers considered obsolete on other routes and by other companies. I have heard no complaints as to their officers, who do the best with the material supplied.

The Company professes to cater for American and West Indian passengers, but it seems strange that they only accept their currency on board their steamers at a discount of 8 to 10 per cent. off its face value. Many other small things cause irritation, so much so that, where possible, American passengers (and, in fact, almost any passengers between the States, Cuba, Jamaica and Panama) would rather wait a day or two to travel by another line. I understand that fresh steamers to replace one or two of the twenty-five year old boats are in course of construction, but, if this Company has any desire to retain the service, especially in view of the opening of the Panama Canal, a little more attention by the Board to the modernizing of this service will require to be given!

Yours, etc.,

THOMSON AIKMAN.

Wimbledon, 21st January, 1914.

The Condition of Dutch Guiana

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR,—In your last issue, you were good enough to put a short letter from me relative to the published report of the British Consul in Dutch Guiana.

This report, a part of which I see you have published, is most misleading, as it deals only with the period of the

great unprecedented drought, which was experienced throughout the South American Continent during 1911 and 1912, and while the Consul mentions many things relative to 1913, I see that he has carefully omitted to draw attention to the wonderful strides the country has made during 1913 (in exports), in regard to which figures were published month by month in the Government Official Gazette, this data being at the disposal of anyone, and particularly the consuls of foreign countries.

As the object of a consul is to protect and foster the interests and trade of the country he is accredited to, surely it ought to be the duty of His Majesty's representative, when drawing up his report to state things as they really were at the time of his doing so.

Among other things the report says:—
"The chief products cultivated at present are sugar, cocoa, coffee, etc., all of which show a decline."

This is all right as far as 1912 is concerned, but a reference to the official figures relating to exports which appeared in the Government Official Gazette of November 11th, 1913, up to October 31st, 1913, may prove interesting to those connected with Dutch Guiana:—

	1912	1913
Sugar	11,939,976 lbs.	15,507,834 lbs.
Cocoa	7,542,359 "	2,658,258 "
Balata	1,277,799 "	2,373,265 "
Rum	462,281 litres	749,263 litres.
Raw gold secured by hand labour	560,141 grammes	714,664 grammes

One must particularly note that the 1913 figures are for 10 months, though showing such an increase.

There has been a progressive and healthy increase in all the other industries of the Colony, and the general revenue has been steadily improving for several years past.

Rainfall.—It may be interesting to note that the official returns show the average rainfall for the six years ending December 31st, 1913, was 89 inches per year, and with the exception of the drought period there is not a difference of 5 per cent. in the records kept for the last 22 years.

The rainfalls all the year round, with the exception of certain periods, when a spell of four to six weeks may be experienced, and unlike the East, floods and wash-outs are absolutely unheard of.

Balata.—The Consul's statement that this industry is "dying a natural death" is like a good many others he has made, but the official figures up to October 31st do not indicate it, and I feel sure that when the total exports for 1913 are compiled they will probably prove the largest on record.

Sugar.—This commodity is certainly on the increase, and I am informed by a firm in London who own two very successful plantations in Dutch Guiana, that all indications from estimates received, point to their crop of 1914 being the largest on record.

Bananas.—This industry has never been on such a sound basis before. A Holland company with a paid in capital of Fl. 2,500,000 or £200,000 has been formed to advance money to the planters for extending the cultivation, and contracts have been signed by a large Rotterdam steamship syndicate for five years for the carrying of the fruit.

The Congo variety, which has proved impervious to disease, is much liked in Europe. All shipments for the past eight months have proved entirely satisfactory, and their keeping qualities are unexcelled.

Labour.—I have been connected with Dutch Guiana for a number of years, and I am intimately acquainted with all its industries, and have never heard anyone complain about a scarcity of labour, in fact, were it not for the recent boom in the planting of bananas, it might have been a problem for the Government to find sufficient work to keep all the labour employed.

In addition, I may state that by arrangement with the Indian Government, we are well supplied with indentured British East Indians, who make excellent agriculturists. Negotiations were completed by the Government for large numbers to come to the Colony in the latter part of 1913

and early in 1914, and I am advised that two transports from Calcutta have recently arrived.

Health.—The City of Paramaribo, with about 40,000 inhabitants, can boast of being one of the healthiest cities in South America, and I can recall a number of Europeans who have lived there for a number of years without taking a holiday, and who are certainly splendid specimens of good health.

That Dutch Guiana is insufficiently developed, I am perfectly willing to admit; its wonderful resources seem to remain idle; its virgin forests, teeming with valuable hardwood timber of every description, are untouched; its fertile lands that grow three tons of cane sugar to the acre are awaiting capital and good management.

The Government, which is absolutely stable, are always ready and willing to grant every facility possible to foreign capital and legitimate enterprises, and can be depended on to meet every reasonable request. The laws are equitable, and leave nothing to be desired as to the protection of capital.

In concluding, and thanking you for the courtesy of your valuable space, I cannot help asking the question, is Mr. Consul Hewett aware that by his rash and semi-comical statements he does incalculable harm to his own countrymen who are trying to bring about closer relations between his country and the colony of Dutch Guiana?

JAMES L. O'CONNOR,
of Dutch Guiana.

79, Bishopsgate, E.C.
January 22nd, 1914.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Grenada Handbook Directory and Almanac for the year 1914. This handy annual is as bright and informative as ever. Its compiler now, as in 1896 when it was first published, is Mr. Edward Drayton and as that gentleman is about to proceed to Dominica to take over the administration of that island we sincerely hope that his editorial mantle will fall on suitable shoulders and that the handbook will continue to be as accurate as it is now. We also hope that Mr. Drayton will prepare, or cause to be prepared, a similar Handbook for the largest of the Leeward Islands, which is sadly needed. In the volume now under notice we are given as a frontispiece a group of the headquarters detachment of the Grenada Police Force under Major Capell, Sergeant-Major Wilkins, Sergeants Chase and Curwen, a fine and business-like body of men. In the body of the book pictures of a harpooned porpoise (200 lbs.) and a 35 lb. Kingfish caught by rod and line will raise the enthusiasm of fishermen. In every respect the Handbook is admirable.

[Copies of all books reviewed in the THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

In the October issue of the *Journal* of the Board of Agriculture of British Guiana, Mr. C. K. Bancroft, the Government botanist of that colony, describes how he met with *Fomes Semitostus*, the fungus, which causes the root disease of cultivated Para Rubber, in the interior of that colony. This is, Mr. Bancroft believes, the first occasion on which that parasite has been found in the Western tropics.

OUR FORTNIGHTLY RECIPE.—*Arrowroot and Chutney Savoury.* One teaspoonful of St. Vincent Arrowroot, one table-spoonful of chutney, a half teaspoonful Worcester Sauce. Mix well, spread on hot buttered toast, and cut in squares.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. Robert Walter, who has been appointed Colonial Secretary, British Honduras, has been connected with the Civil Service of Wei-hai-Wei for the past thirteen years. He has acted as Secretary to Government and Magistrate, and during the year 1904 was seconded for service under the Transvaal Government as emigration agent. He became Secretary to Government in Wei-hai-Wei in 1906.

Captain G. H. May, Senior Inspector of Constabulary, Trinidad, has been transferred to Singapore on being promoted Chief Police Officer there.

Mr. C. Mackey, Assistant Medical Officer, British Honduras, has been promoted Medical Officer on the West African Staff.

The King has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Mr. John Bridges Laing to be a member of the Executive Council of the Colony of British Guiana.

The appointments of Mr. V. R. H. Van Buren as Stipendiary Magistrate of Arima, Trinidad, and of Mr. E. A. Plummer as Clerk of the Peace, Port of Spain, have been approved by the Secretary of State.

Captain C. A. C. Bentley is acting as Deputy Inspector-General of Constabulary, Trinidad, during the absence on leave of Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. Swain.

Dr. H. B. Dodds, Medical Officer of St. Vincent, has been transferred to the service of the Straits Settlements as a Medical Officer of that Colony.

Major J. A. Meldou, Chief of Police, St. Vincent, has been transferred to Grenada in a similar capacity.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under this heading the principal features of the West Indian Official Gazettes are recorded for reference purposes.

Barbados, Vol. XLVIII.—No. 106 Minutes of the Legislative Council, December 16th, 1913. No. 107. Minutes of the House of Assembly on November 18th, 1913, and December 2nd, 1913. British Guiana, Vol. XXXVII.—No. 110. Sale of Goods Ordinance, 1913. Pensions Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1913. Indian Hemp Ordinance, 1913. Trinidad Vol. LXXXII.—No. 58. Corporal Punishment Amendment Ordinance, 1913. Public Authorities Rates and Charges Recovery Ordinance, 1913. Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture for the years ended March 31st, 1912, and March 31st, 1913. Yellow Book for 1910-11, 1911-12, 1912-13. Annual Report of the Protector of Immigrants for 1912-13. Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for three months ended June 30th, 1913. Vol. LXXXII.—No. 1. Report of the Committee for the Control of Tuberculosis. Report of Special Committee enquiring into Port-of-Spain Municipal Question. St. Lucia, Vol. LXXXII.—No. 44. Minutes of the Legislative Council on November 25th, 1913. No. 45. Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance, 1913. Petroleum Amendment Ordinance, 1913. Stamp Duty Ordinance, 1913.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Joint-stock companies in and connected with the West Indies are invited to submit particulars regarding their operations for publication under the above heading.

Trinidad Silverstream Oilfields, Ltd.

A prospectus of this company was issued to-day, inviting subscriptions for 62,948 shares of £1 each. This company was formed in 1912 and acquired in July, 1913, subject to a mortgage a freehold property of about 1,100 acres, com-

prising Silverstream, Mon Desir, and Malgre Tout, held from the Government under titles including all mining rights, except in respect to gold and silver. The capital of the company is £130,000, divided into £1 shares, of which 8,052 shares have been issued for cash and 59,000 shares allotted to the vendors as fully paid. The remaining 62,948 shares are now offered for public subscription. The prospectus contains a glowing report by Mr. E. H. Cunningham Craig, and an estimate of profits of over 30 per cent. on the total capital of the company. The purchase price of the properties was 84,500, payable as to £25,000 in cash, and as to 59,000 by the allotment of 59,000 shares, £21,500 of the cash purchase price was secured by mortgage payable this year in two equal instalments on June 30th, and December 30th, 1913. It has, however, been arranged by cable that on the payment of £1,000 within one month from January 5th, £5,500 on June 30th, and £5,000 on December 31st, the balance of £10,000 can remain on mortgage for three years. The company has secured the right to the "Optimum" refining process, whose inventor claims that upwards of 50 per cent. of motor spirit can be produced from the company's crude petroleum. The directors are Sir Henry Clark King, Mr. Vaughan Lloyd, Dr. Pierre de Ridder, and Mr. Richard Durand Temple, and the offices are at 6, Broad Street Place, London, E.C.

Divi Jend.	Latest Quotations.		Prices Jan. 24
4%	Antigua	4% Redeemable 1919-44	98-100
4%	Barbados	4% Redeemable 1925-47	89-91
3%	British Guiana	4% Redeemable 1915	97-99
3%	British Guiana	3% Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
3%	Grenada	4% Redeemable 1917-47	99-101
4%	Jamaica	4% Redeemable 1934	98-100xd
3%	Jamaica	3% Redeemable 1910-49	86-88
3%	Jamaica	3% Redeemable 1922-44	78-79
3%	St. Lucia	4% Redeemable 1919-44	96-98ad
3%	Trinidad	4% Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
3%	Trinidad	3% Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
3%	The Colonial Bank	...	114-64
3%	The Royal Bank of Canada	500 (Montreal Exchge.)	8222
7%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	...	107-112
7%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	...	99-102
4%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4% Debentures	...	101-103
4%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5% Debentures	...	1024-1044
4%	Imperial Direct Line 4% Debentures	...	98-101
6%	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	...	3-4
4%	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 4% Debentures	...	...
4%	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 5% Non-cum Pref.	...	...
6%	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6% Debentures	...	105-108
7%	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	...	3-4
7%	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)	...	3-4
7%	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	...	3-4
7%	United Brit. W.I. Pet. Syndicate "A shares" (£1)	...	3-4
7%	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	...	30-35
7%	Demerara Railway Company 7% Perp. Pref.	...	102-106
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Ex. Pref.	...	80-83
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Debentures	...	87-90
4%	Direct West India Cable Co. 4% Debentures	...	96-98
7%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	...	...
6s.	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6% Cum. 1st Pref	...	...
6s.	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " " and "	...	...
5%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5% Debentures	...	96-98A

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. S. Garraway	Mr. W. C. Robertson
Professor P. Carmody	Mr. A. R. G. Hunter	Mr. J. W. Russell
Mr. Cecil H. Chambers	Dr. G. L. Latour	and
Mr. R. Dumoret	Mr. F. N. Martinez	Mr. Wm. Smith
Mr. P. R. K. Esdaile	Mr. C. Richter	

Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.

Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton.

Mr. J. C. Henderson, 2, Haven Green, Bickaway, Ealing, W.

Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.

Mr. D. McPhail, c/o S. A. C. Todd, Esq., 26, Bothwell Street, Glasgow.

Mr. H. C. Morcom, Great Meols, Hoylake, Cheshire.

Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.

Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Beltinge Road, Herne Bay, Kent

Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 4% (from 4½% on Jan. 22nd) Consols (2½%) 7½%
SUGAR.—In New York quotations have advanced to 3.36 to 3.42 cents for 96% centrifugals and 2.86 to 2.92 cents for 89% Muscovados, as American refiners have been forced to pay European parity of 3.36 cents, equal to 2 cents c.&f. or 9s. 3d. c.i.f. New York, and 9s. 6d. for the United Kingdom.

The London speculative beet market has just recently felt the influence of the late improvement in New York, and this as well as the stoppage of navigation on the Continent due to frost, has imparted steadiness to this market, and raised quotations about 2½d. from the lowest; trade, however, is not very buoyant, for warehouses in this country are very full and there is some difficulty in finding fresh storage room.

Messrs. Willett and Gray give the world's production of cane and beet sugar as 18,927,214 tons, showing an estimated increase of 782,576 tons against 1912-13.

Mr. F. O. Licht has raised the German estimate by 13,000 tons, to a total of 2,738,000 tons. The total consumption in Europe is given for 12 months 1913-14 by Mr. F. O. Licht as 5,361,803 tons against 4,971,577 tons in 1912-13.

Cuban advices are favourable. Guava and Himely report the quality as much better than last year, and the canes more plentiful; although the wish is expressed for more rain, nevertheless they both maintain their estimates of the crop. The weekly receipts in Cuba were 101,000 tons and 85,000 respectively vide Guava and Himely's calculations.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: Jan. 13th, 9s. 1½d.; 14th, 9s. 2½d.; 15th, 9s. 1½d.; 16th, 9s. 1½d.; 17th, 9s. 1½d.; 19th, 9s. 1½d.; 20th, 9s. 1½d.; 21st, 9s. 1½d.; 22nd, 9s. 2d.; 23rd, 9s. 1½d.; 24th, 9s. 2d.; 26th, 9s. 3½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1911.	1913.	1912.
Europe (1 & 17 Jan.) ...	4,110,640	3,948,220	2,754,710
United States (21st Jan.) ...	99,000	53,220	74,780
Cuba, 6 principal ports (21st Jan.)	191,000	28,000	49,000
Cargoes afloat (22nd Jan.)	—	1,930	100,370

Total ... Tons **4,300,640 4,031,370 2,978,860**
 Quotations of 88% Beet, Jan 26th ... 9s. 3½d. 9s. 7d. 15s. 3½d.

Grocery West Indian.—Crystallised market was unchanged in value, but at the first auction in the fortnight a good supply of about 800 tons met with a very limited demand from the Trade, and only a few lots were disposed of. Last Friday the market was steady with a moderate business passing, and at the auction held that day some 440 tons offered were in fair demand at previous values which were not accepted as importers required firmer prices, consequently only a few lots changed hands.

The business recorded has ranged for Demerara from 13s. 4½d. to 16s. 9d., for Trinidad from 12s. 9d. to 14s. 6d., for Surinam from 12s. 7½d. to 14s. 3d., for Barbados 13s. to 13s. 3d. **Muscovados.**—Dull. Barbados bought in. **Syrups.**—Steady. Demerara sold at 11s. 6d., and a few at 12s. Surinam at 10s. 9d. to 11s. 9d.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Tons
Imports ...	1,500	3,446	554	2,827	2,501	
Deliveries ...	1,689	1,520	1,883	2,457	2,358	
Stocks (Jan. 17th)	12,417	3,765	3,161	4,728	5,218	

Quotations of medium qualities, crystallised, Jan. 23rd.—
 14s. 17s. 4½d. 20s. 15s. 17s.

RUM.—Stocks in London, Jan 17th—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Puns
Jamaica ...	6,226	7,021	8,486	8,812	8,346	
Demerara ...	7,645	6,157	5,759	6,883	7,671	
Total, all kinds	20,909	21,272	22,640	24,296	24,257	

The market for proofs is unchanged but quiet on account of heavy arrivals. Demeraras have been selling at 1s. 4½d. for fair, while fine marks are not quite so easily saleable at 1s. 5d. Surinams have commanded 1s. 4d. proof. Jamaicas continue in short supply, and in the absence of business values are nominally unchanged.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, Jan. 17th.

	1914	1913	1912.1	1911.	1910.	Bag.
Trinidad ...	8,367	3,432	3,146	5,543	9,327	
Grenada ...	3,736	2,311	7,220	9,741	20,686	
Total of all kinds	75,775	69,687	98,269	92,792	104,085	

Two auctions have been held in the fortnight, at which some 9,250 bags of all kinds were offered, of these nearly 3,600 bags consisted of West Indian sorts, and the quantity sold of this reached a little less than half of the offerings. At the first auction on 13th inst. the Trinidad importers showed a disposition to meet the market, and 860 bags were sold at a reduction of about 5s. per cwt., fine selling at 62s. to 63s. Other kinds of West India showing no change. The second auction showed a slow demand, but prices generally indicated no material change. Fine marks of Trinidad selling at 63s., and fine marks of Grenada selling at 61s. 6d., while other kinds were mostly withdrawn. Dominica sold at 49s. 6d. to 57s., Jamaica at 67s., and Demerara at 64s. to 64s. 6d. Quotations after the last sale were Trinidad middling red 60s. to 61s., good middling red 61s. to 61s. 6d., fine and superior 62s. to 68s.; Grenada ordinary to good fair 58s. to 59s. 6d., middling to fine 60s. to 61s. In Trinidad on Jan. 26th, active buying was going on to fill orders previously contracted for, and with enquiries being freely received from various consuming centres all the cacao likely to be available in the near future will be absorbed. Quotations are firm at \$12.75 to \$13.15 per fanega, the equivalent of 57s. 6d. to about 59s. 6d. cost and freight Havre for 50 kilos.

COFFEE.—Santos, March 4½s. 3d.; July, 4½s. 10½d. The spot market was firm with a fair business passing and full prices were paid later on. The auctions have been largely composed of Colombians, which met with a good demand at fair to dearer rates. Futures which were weak later became rather firmer.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended January 22nd, 327 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland state that since last report about 70 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton had been sold; including St. Kitts 18½d. to 19d., Barbados 17½d. to 19d. and a few St. Vincent 20½d. The stock at present is very limited and buyers are only paying attention to the finer sorts.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice—Raw in better tone, and business has resulted in fair good Jamaica at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d. per gallon. Common unchanged. **Essential Oil** (distilled).—Steady at 1s. 8d. **Otto of Limes** (hand pressed) Small business at 8s. 6d. **Concentrated**—Unchanged at £25. **VANILLOES**—At auction met a good all round demand, and practically everything was sold at 10s. to 14s. per lb. for first quality (3½ to 8½) 9s. to 10s. for loxy, splits and pickings. **PIMENTO**—Steady. **NUTMEGS.**—100/80's, 5½d. to 7d.; 140/100's, 5½d. to 5½d. **MACE.**—Unchanged. **GINGER.**—Quiet. **GOPRA.**—Fair merchantable West India value £30 10s. **ARROW ROOT.**—Since the last report nearly 400 barrels have been reported as sold at 3½d. to 4½d.

RUBBER.—Strong market Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 4½d., smoked sheet 2s. 5½d., fine hard Para 3s. 2d. as against 4s. 5½d. in 1913; da. soft 2s. 8½d. as against 4s. 2d. in 1913. Castillon sheet 1s. 8d. as against 3s. 8d. in 1913; scrap 1s. 3d. as against 3s. 6d. in 1913. **BALATA**—Sheet 2s. 8½d. spot as against 3s. 6d. in 1913 and Block 2s. 0½d. as against 2s. 4d. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL.—American, 8½d.; Water White, 9½d.; Russian, 8½d.; Roumanian, 8d.; and Galician, 8d.

TORTOISESHELL AND TURTLE.—The first sales of the year were held on 15th inst. The supplies were moderate, but the market was irregular and generally easier; but nearly all sold, except lots which were limited.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . . West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

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LONDON, E.C.,
Telegrams: CARRIE, LONDON.
February 9th, 1914.

THE IMPERIAL BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY.

THE recently published report of the Entomological Research Committee for 1912-13 bears eloquent testimony to the value of the work of that organisation which has now entered the fourth year of its existence. Founded with the object of furthering the study of economic entomology with special reference to tropical Africa, its sphere of usefulness has now been extended to embrace all British Dominions, Colonies and Protectorates. In view of this change of policy, it was considered desirable to form a central department in London, and the past year witnessed the establishment of the Imperial Bureau of Entomology, of which the Entomological Research Committee is now the Managing Committee. The Chairman is LORD CROMER, and the Director MR. GUY A. K. MARSHALL, who, it will be remembered, left such a favourable impression on West Indian scientists and agriculturists when he attended the Agricultural Conference of the Imperial Department of Agriculture at Trinidad, in 1911. The funds of the Bureau are derived from the annual contributions made by the Governments concerned, the British West Indies being responsible for grants to the extent of £250 per annum. The principal objects of the Bureau are to undertake the identification of injurious insects of all kinds for officials in the contributing Colonies, to publish abstracts of all the current literature bearing on such insects, and, generally, to furnish any information relating to economic entomology which may be required. That these objects are being effectively carried out is clearly demon-

strated by the annual report and by the two publications now issued by the Bureau. They comprise the *Review of Applied Entomology*, which is issued monthly, and contains abstracts of current literature from all over the world dealing with injurious insects, and the quarterly *Bulletin of Entomological Research*, a journal devoted to original articles on the same subject. It would not be possible to overrate the value of these publications, the first named of which gives to residents in the colonies for the first time the opportunity of studying what is being done in foreign countries in the direction of the application of entomology to agriculture, medicine, and veterinary science. The dissemination of such information by the publication of abstracts of carefully translated articles from Russian, German and other foreign languages would alone justify the existence of the Bureau; but its work does not end there. In a variety of ways it is assisting the colonies by tendering expert advice, and by investigating pests and identifying insects. We have already referred to the assistance which it has given to the planters of Trinidad by selecting an entomologist to deal with the froghopper pest, and we are in a position to know that that assistance saved much unnecessary expenditure which would have been involved had earlier counsels prevailed. Though the investigation conducted by MR. KERSHAW in Trinidad has not yet resulted in complete success, the report of the recent meeting at the Colonial Office of the members of the Entomological Committee and the Trinidad proprietors which we gave in last CIRCULAR, makes it abundantly clear that the enquiry into the ravages of the froghopper are proceeding on a sound footing, and, provided that the preventive work is carried on on the lines laid down by MR. KERSHAW, it is reasonable to hope that, pending the discovery of a parasite which will suppress it entirely, this sugar cane pest will

be less in evidence. A further example of the value of the work of the Bureau, which should appeal to our readers in the West Indies, may be quoted from LORD CROMER'S report. As the result of his visit to the West Indies, to which reference has already been made, MR. GUY MARSHALL, was able to show that the beetle *Phytalus*, which was devastating the sugar-cane in Mauritius, was indigenous in Barbados, and in a larva which he brought home a parasite was found. The Superintendent of Agriculture in Barbados was advised to investigate the life-history of this parasite and he soon showed that it was effectively controlling the beetle. Consignments of the parasite have now been sent to Mauritius, and there is every hope that the species may be successfully established in that island. Now, it must be very obvious that those colonies which have official entomologists must be in a better position to benefit from the work of the Bureau than those which have not, and it may be noted that the West Indies are favourably situated in this respect, MR. C. E. BODKIN in British Guiana, MR. F. W. URICH and MR. P. L. GUPPY in Trinidad, and MR. J. S. SYDNEY DASH in Barbados, and MR. H. A. BALLOU, who is attached to the Imperial Department of Agriculture, and consequently ministers to the wants of the Windward and Leeward Islands, are capable entomologists who are in regular communication with the Bureau, and are doing excellent work. Jamaica alone, of all the West Indian colonies would appear to be unprovided for in the matter of local entomological advice. This is the more surprising having regard to the fact that that island suffers more from biting insects than the other West Indian colonies. But some years ago proposals were made for the appointment of an entomologist for the island, and we hope that now that the finances of Jamaica are improving these proposals may be revived. Should any inducement be required to bring home to the official or agricultural communities there, the necessity for making such an appointment, it will be found in LORD CROMER'S report on the very valuable work of the Imperial Bureau of Entomology, which has justly received the unstinted praises of MR. HARCOURT.

IMMIGRATION INTO BRITISH GUIANA.

THE annual report of MR. CRAWFORD, the Acting Immigration Agent General for British Guiana, shows that 2,206 immigrants, of whom 1,460 were men, 593 women, and 153 children, reached the colony from India, while 759, of whom 496 were males, 167 females, and 96 children returned to Calcutta during the year 1912-13. It is interesting to note that these 663 adults, who originally came to the colony in a state of poverty, took back with them, in the form of remittances and jewellery, no less than £9,688 10s. 8½d. At the end of the year, on the 31st of March, 1913, the East Indians residing in British Guiana numbered no fewer than 129,389, of whom only 9,453 adults were under indenture. Evidence of the good treat-

ment meted out to the immigrants by the Estates' authorities is afforded by the fact that no fewer than 39,283 free adult labourers elected to remain on the sugar estates, the whole East Indian population, men, women and children, on the estates being 66,895 souls, as against 62,494 residing elsewhere. The mean birth rate among the East Indians was 3.51 per cent., a notable increase over that of the previous year, which was 2.80 per cent.; while the lowering of the death rate from 2.56 to 1.89 per cent. was equally gratifying. In this connection, it is also worthy of note, that the death rate among indentured adult East Indians was 1.21 per cent. only, while that for the unindentured adults was 1.74 per cent., which again points to the care and good treatment given to the indentured East Indians on the estates. We regret to see that no fewer than 16 strikes, in connection with wages, took place among the estates' labourers during the year, including those resulting in the unfortunate riots at Plantations Lusignan and Rose Hall, which led to regrettable loss of life. With the exception of two cases, in which a small increase of wages was found necessary, enquiries into the complaints of the strikers showed that ample wages were being given. MR. CRAWFORD makes some interesting remarks on the subject of the rice industry, which is now practically entirely in the hands of the East Indians. At the close of the year, he says, the total area under rice amounted to 41,924 acres, which was 5,924 acres in excess of the figures for the previous year. Thirty years ago the importation of rice into British Guiana amounted to 50,524,376 lbs., of the value of \$1,004,835. In 1912 the quantity of rice exported by the Colony was 6,686,879 lbs., and the value of the rice grown in the Colony was estimated roughly at \$2,000,000. While these figures appear satisfactory, MR. CRAWFORD considers that the cultivation invites criticism, especially on two prominent points. One of these is that "it is an industry that appeals to the lazy man and encourages thriftless squatters," (rice cultivation not requiring the exercise of constant industry), who only work as it pleases them in the off season, and can obtain with little effort the year's means of subsistence by a few weeks' work. The other is the ill effect the cultivation may have on the health of the cultivator, not to mention that of the general community. In his concluding remarks, dealing with the unrest which has shown itself during the year among the indentured East Indians, MR. CRAWFORD makes the important statement, that this unrest was not due to dearer food, the result of a special enquiry showing that the prices of the chief food-stuffs consumed by the East Indian immigrant at the present day are much lower than in 1872-73, when the minimum statutory wage was fixed at a shilling. This demonstrates the fact that the purchasing power of money in British Guiana is greater now than it was then. It would seem from what has been said above, that the trouble is evidently not connected with wages, and MR. CRAWFORD, who has had forty years official experience of East Indian immigrants in British

Guiana, is of the opinion that the recruiting of unsuitable immigrants has been the chief cause of the unrest which has prevailed during the last two years. Most of the ringleaders in the strikes and disturbances were, he says, high caste men recruited from Northern India, and, in some cases, from native states; men who are quite unsuitable for agricultural labourers, and the troubles were also attributable in great measure to the pernicious influence of agitators. Nothing could be more gratifying than what MR. CRAWFORD has to say about the condition of the free immigrants. "The relations between the employers and their free immigrants have been unsatisfactory throughout the year, and, as the managers fully realize the importance of encouraging the immigrants to remain on the estate after the expiration of their indentures the same personal interest is taken in their affairs after they have become free as was done while they were under indenture. The people know that the manager is always ready to listen to their complaints and to adjust their grievances where possible."

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Thursday next at 3 p.m.

The West India Committee are making arrangements for the participation of the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Trinidad in the World's Oil Industries' Exhibition which is to be held at Earl's Court, London, from March 21 to April 4 next.

DR. VAUGHAN CORNISH will soon be on his way back from the Panama Canal Zone where he has been investigating the Cucaracha slide in the Culbra Cut. On March 12th, immediately after his return, he will give his views on the subject in a lecture at the West India Committee Rooms.

DR. H. A. ALFORD NICHOLLS, C.M.G., Senior Medical Officer of Dominica, and a valued honorary correspondent of the West India Committee, leaves that island for England on February 15th. We believe we are right in saying that this will be the first time Dr. Nicholls has visited England since he took up his duties in the West Indies thirty-nine or forty years ago.

Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

DEMERARA SUGAR.

Mr. de Grey "with considerable diffidence" dismisses the case.

At Lambeth, on Monday, the Hon. John de Grey continued the hearing of the case in which Cave, Austin and Co., Ltd., Idol Lane, E.C., were summoned by Inspector Groom, of Camberwell, for selling as Demerara sugar dyed sugar other than Demerara. Mr. C. E. Newton, solicitor to the Council, prosecuted, and the defendants were represented by Mr. F. W. Beck, of Messrs. Neve, Beck and Kirby. The case has occupied the attention of the court on several occasions, the previous hearings being reported in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of November 20, December 16, and January 27. A sample of Demerara sugar purchased at a shop belonging to the defendants at East Dulwich Grove was certified by Dr. Frank Teed, the public analyst for Camberwell, to be a sample of dyed sugar other than Demerara sugar. The Council's case was that Demerara sugar was a cane sugar prepared at its place of origin by a particular process, its distinctive colour being natural to it. For the defence evidence was called showing that the article supplied was not only cane sugar, but was actually imported from Demerara itself. It was quite true, Mr. Beck said, that the finishing process was carried out here, but he submitted that the question of process was not one that came under the Food and Drugs Act. The question was whether the article supplied was of the nature, substance and quality of the article demanded, and in this case he submitted it clearly was. The term "Demerara" had now come to have no signification except that the article sold was sugar prepared from cane and not from beet. On the resumption of the hearing of the case, for a report of which we are indebted to *The Grocer*, further evidence was heard for the defence.

Mr. W. Skelton, sugar buyer and a partner in the firm of wholesale grocers, Messrs. Petty, Wood and Co., Ltd., Eastcheap, E.C., said he had been acquainted with the sugar trade for 30 years, and managed that department of the firm's business. The invoice produced was that given to Cave, Austin and Co. in regard to the sugar referred to in these proceedings. It described it as 21 bags of Demerara; the contract produced was that under which he purchased the sugar from Mr. Blair, of the Clyde Sugar Agency. He sold the sugar to Cave, Austin and Co. as Demerara sugar.—Mr. Beck: Is it a proper description to apply to this article?—Witness: I should think it is. Cross-examined: He bought the sugar as Demerara, and when he found it was made at Greenock he asked for a guarantee that it was pure Demerara sugar.—Mr. Newton: Did you know of this new process? No; but I considered that this particular parcel was better than the Demerara that was being sold at the time.—Mr. Beck (re-examining): What is your definition of Demerara sugar?—Witness: A cane sugar.—In no circumstances could beet sugar fulfil that condition? No.—Mr. Beck put in the guarantee referred to. It read: "We hereby guarantee that this sugar in question was imported into Greenock from Demerara."—Mr. James R. Kerr, manager of the Glebe Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., of Greenock, described the process pursued at their factory. The sugar imported from Demerara was dissolved in hot water for the purpose of taking out the insoluble matter. It was then pressed through filters

which took out the insoluble matter.—Mr. Beck: What does this insoluble matter consist of?—Mr. Kerr, Sand, mud, fibre off bags, and things of that description. The liquor, after being pressed through the filter, was taken to the evaporating pans and the water evaporated, leaving the crystal. It was merely a process of cleansing, and was not refining. The sugar came out a brownish crystal. The sugar was finally dried and a colouring process was then employed. It was a process called "Golden Bloom."—Mr. Beck: Is that a well-recognised trade process? I believe it is very well recognised. The bloom was mixed with sugar syrup, the syrup coming from the sugar itself.—Mr. Beck: Do you remove any of the natural constituents of the sugar? None. The sugar underwent no chemical change.—Mr. Newton (cross-examining): You bought this sugar as refining sugar, didn't you?—Witness: We bought it as Demerara sugar.—By the Court: The addition of "Golden Bloom" gave the sugar a golden colour.—Re-examined: Except from reading, he had no knowledge of the process adopted in Demerara and the West Indies. He considered that the process attained the same result as the Demerara process. That was what was aimed at.—Mr. J. J. Bastick, F.A.S., the inventor of the "Golden Bloom" process, said the process adopted in the West Indies had altered four times to his knowledge.—Mr. Newton (cross-examining): You say your "Golden Bloom" process is the better process?—Mr. Bastick: Not a bit. I don't make a penny out of the process.—Mr. Charles C. Ford, secretary to Boake, Roberts and Co., Ltd., manufacturers of "Golden Bloom," said they supplied Mr. Kerr's firm with that article.—Mr. Beck: What is the purpose of this "Golden Bloom"?—Witness: It is for the purpose of colouring sugar. Some went to the West Indies—more in former years than now.—Mr. Beck: Is it used out there for the purpose of colouring sugar?—Witness: It is. "Golden Bloom" was regarded as an improvement upon "Bloomer" (the chloride of tin process). Cross-examined by Mr. Newton, the witness said "Golden Bloom" was also used for dyeing beet sugar, but that was not its main use. They did not export any to Germany. He could not say whether any was sold in the West Indies last year. He knew some was shipped to the West Indies. He declined to say of what "Golden Bloom" was constituted.—Mr. Beck (re-examining): Whatever the nature of the colouring matter, it is a harmless colouring matter?—Witness: It is harmless.

Mr. de Grey remarked that he gave his judgment with considerable diffidence, because he had to decide between the opinions of various experts. He had come to the conclusion that the summons must fail. Certainly there might have been a time when Demerara sugar was in fact sugar from Demerara, but he was bound to say that he thought that day had passed, and that nowadays when people asked for Demerara what they meant was sugar of a certain quality and description. The question was whether the purchaser really got an article of the nature, substance and quality of the article demanded. He had tasted the samples produced in court, and it seemed to him that the sugar made by the "Golden Bloom" process had a much stronger taste of the old brown sugar than the other. The question, substantially, was whether a purchaser going into the market and asking for Demerara sugar got, when he was supplied with this sugar, as good an article as the article which was said by the West Indies people to be true Demerara sugar. On the whole he thought the purchaser did. The summons was dismissed, the Borough Council being ordered to pay the defendants 25 guineas costs.—Mr. Brammall, solicitor, representing the West India Committee, was in court, and many gentlemen associated with the sugar trade were also present.

NEGOTIATIONS between the Crown Agents for the Colonies and the Anglo-French Wireless Company for the establishment of a ship to shore wireless apparatus in Barbados have been broken off. It seems probable that the work will now be carried out by the Marconi Company.

PLANTATION WHITE SUGAR.

Mr. Frank Schaffer, president of Hugh Kelly & Co., owners of the Central Teresa, Oriente Province, was recently in Cuba visiting the properties of the company. According to an interview in the *Havana Post*, Mr. Schaffer will consider the advisability of making white sugar at the plantation. This product under the new United States tariff can enter that country free of extra duty.

Mr. Schaffer, however, suggests caution for the new venture, and advises against undue haste in the changing of sugar mill machinery or in making expensive and new installations required by the process as the product cannot be used for every purpose, as refined sugar can when made by the bone char process. He further declared that "the changes, commercial conditions and inconveniences which will undoubtedly have to be met and to be borne in the disposition and distribution of such a product, may not prove exactly satisfactory to the planters."

According to the *Cuba Review*, President Menocal has sent Dr. Gastecona Cuadrado to Louisiana for the purpose of studying the process of making pure white sugar direct from cane juice.

ADULTERATED OIL OF LEMON.

Mr. E. J. Parry, a well-known authority on essential oils mentions as "an interesting fact," says the *Mineral Water Trade Journal*, that commercial travellers call frequently on lemon pressers in Sicily, offering artificial citral for sale for the purpose of "fortifying" lemon oil adulterants. Mr. Parry adds: "It is obvious that lemon oil should only be bought from firms of good reputation, and not below current market rates."

Mr. Parry states that never in his experience has adulteration been worse. When reasonable prices prevail, and it is possible to manufacture terpeneless oil at a remunerative rate, terpenes are cheap, and are the material commonly used as adulterant. But to-day terpenes are very scarce and dear, so that other adulterants are looked for. One at least that is being used in Italy is oil of turpentine; but, as the optical rotation of this is low, a percentage of orange terpenes are pressed into the service. Another adulterant is lime terpenes, and lemon grass citral is also freely used.

AN arrangement has been entered into between the firms of S. Dayson & Co., Ltd., and Garnett & Co., Ltd., whereby the Georgetown business of the former house will be conducted in future on the premises of Messrs. Garnett & Co., Ltd. At the same time the London business of Alexander Garnett & Co., Ltd., of Great Winchester Street will, it is understood, be taken over by Henry K. Dayson & Company, and carried on at 79, Mark Lane, E.C.



SOME MEMBERS OF THE TRINIDAD LIGHT HORSE.

Trinidad's Volunteer Force comprises four troops of cavalry and five companies of infantry



AN INTERESTING GROUP IN GEORGETOWN, DEMERARA.

From a photograph taken in the Botanic Gardens after a presentation to Mr. J. F. Waby, F.L.S.

[See "Agricultural Notes".]

THE CULTIVATION OF CACAO.

Dr. S. E. Chandler's Interesting Lectures.

The lectures which Dr. S. E. Chandler delivered at the School of Economics on the cultivation and preparation of cacao were very much appreciated, if one may judge from the attendance, which was all that could be desired. In the first lecture of the series, Dr. Chandler, in his introduction, referred to the varying amount of attention received by tropical products at the hands of manufacturers in the period between their leaving the planter and reaching the consumer, contrasting in this connection, vegetable oils, tea and cacao. The relative importance of the leading cacao-producing countries was then illustrated by statistical tables. The predominance of the American tropics—the home of cacao—was pointed out, but in a comparative series of statistics it was shown that this position was threatened by the rapid growth of the West African industry. One of the most important facts of recent tropical agriculture was the remarkable development of the cacao industry in the Gold Coast. Twenty years ago this colony scarcely figured among the world's cacao-producing countries, but to-day the Gold Coast stood first on the list in point of production. Not the least interesting feature of the industry was that it is almost entirely in the hands of natives working very small plantations. The cacao grown is a hardy *Forastero* of good yielding powers, but the product is admittedly second grade, though gradually improving. The world's production of raw cacao was approximately 250,000 tons (1913), and the lecturer then dealt with the plants responsible for this huge total. Practically the whole of the product is derived from *Theobroma Cacao*, though *T. sphaerocarpha* is reported to be met with in the San Thomé plantations, and the well-known alligator cacao is held to be responsible for certain high-class Venezuelan sorts. The botanical features of *T. Cacao* were then dealt with, so far as they were of significance to the practical planter.

In the second lecture the varieties of cacao as known to the planter were considered, and the relative excellence of their products dealt with. The practical classifications of Morris, Hart and Loek were reviewed, but it was pointed out that it was probable that no single classification of varieties grown would be applicable to all cacao producing countries (Preuss). In this connection the parallel classifications of Trinidad (Hart) and Ceylon (Loek) were especially interesting, since the Ceylon cacaos in large measure were obtained from the West Indies. The laying out and maintenance of a plantation were then described. Reference was made to the contract system, and the questions of distance in planting, shade, wind shelter, drainage and other practical matters received attention; the West Indian experiments in grafting were also mentioned. Developing his theme on February 4th, Dr. Chandler pointed out that next to the maintenance of a satisfactory price for cacao, the main interest to the planter was the question of yield. The trees

came into bearing in their third or fourth year, but during that time the planter or contractor would be getting some return from catch crops. In the seventh and eighth years the trees would be getting well into bearing; and from the twelfth to fifteenth year full bearing was usually reached. The maintenance of full bearing depended much on seasons, the health of the trees, good cultivation and other factors; and, while it was difficult to state precisely the profitable age limit of cacao, fifty years might be mentioned as an approximate estimate. The question of actual yield was a difficult one: perhaps the best method was to consider the amount of dry marketable cacao per tree per annum. It would come as a surprise to most people to notice the relatively low yield from the trees. The average yield of dry marketable cacao per tree per annum was not much more than 1 lb. in Ecuador and Nicaragua, according to Preuss, but in Grenada and the Gold Coast the amount was from 2 lb. to 3 lb. As far as West Africa was concerned, the good yield was to be ascribed to the natural bearing qualities of the tree rather than good cultural methods, and it was to be remembered that the quality of the product was relatively low. Lowness of yield was to be explained in part by the fact that many of the trees in some plantations did not yield in any one year or yielded badly, which brought down the average very considerably. In good plantations often the yield was much more than the average mentioned, being as much as 3 lb., 4 lb., and even 5 lb. in certain areas. Further, planters, as a rule, did not pay sufficient attention to good cultural methods and proper systems of manuring. In the latter direction, however, matters were improving, and it was satisfactory to learn that a great deal of pioneer work had been carried out in the British Colonies, notably in the West Indies and Ceylon. Tables were shown giving results of the now classic experiments in Dominica and British Guiana and the financial aspect of the question was explained. Subsequently the methods employed in picking, fermenting, washing and drying were illustrated by lantern slides, which also included pictures of cleaning and claying. Reference was made to the protest against excessive claying reported in a recent number of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR. Somewhat detailed attention was given to the description of various forms of drying machinery, the well-known appliances of Gordon, Scott, Passburg and others being illustrated by photographs. Dr. Chandler closed his lecture by an account of the scientific work that had been done in recent years in regard to the fermentation process, and mentioned the alternative methods that had been suggested as a result of this work. The course of lectures will be continued on February 11th, when Mr. Chapin will deal with the commercial aspect of cacao.

MR. A. H. STOCKLEY being now in Jamaica it is hoped that arrangements may be made for a resumption of Elders and Fyffes' steamer service between Kingston and Avonmouth.

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

II.—The Location and Working of a Timber Grant.

Having described the situation of the "timber bush" in relation to the rest of the colony, we shall now explain the procedure to be adopted in establishing a wood-cutting grant within the more accessible forest regions.

Although most of the commercial woods of Guiana grow over a wide extent of country, it is found that certain varieties seem to favour more or less restricted general divisions of forests, designated by the names of the more prevalent trees found in them, such as greenheart, mora, wallaba, crabwood, etc., which are probably governed by varying conditions of soil or natural environment. It is, therefore, usual to act on the information of an expert timber prospector before applying for a grant of occupancy, or wood-cutting licence, on any particular river or creek.

Wood-cutting licences are issued by the Department of Lands and Mines for any desired term of years for areas up to 2,000 acres; and under special circumstances larger areas are granted to approved applicants. A survey is not always necessary if, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Lands and Mines, the boundaries of the grant applied for are sufficiently defined by natural features, such as named creeks or a range of hills.

The charges payable are as follows:—

Application fee	...	...	\$5.00
Inspection fee, in lieu of survey,	from \$20 to \$40 according to area.		
Survey fee, when a survey is necessary			
For the first 500 acres	...	30c.	per acre.
For the second 500 acres	...	20c.	per acre.
Over 1,000 acres	...	10c.	per acre.

A small annual rental of \$5 is charged on areas up to 500 acres, and \$10 for areas exceeding 500 acres. If the grant does not itself border on a river or creek, permission can be obtained to occupy as a depôt for storing or shipping purposes, an area of 5 acres on an adjacent waterway, and to construct and use a timber track or cart path leading to and from the wood-cutting grant, on payment of a nominal fee of one dollar, and a like sum as an annual rental. In addition to the above mentioned fees and annual rental, royalty is charged on all timber cut and squared as follows:—

Timber of a specific gravity exceeding .7 S.G. one cent per cubic foot.

Timber of a specific gravity under .7 S.G. half cent per cubic foot.

Grant holders are subject to certain regulations in regard to the minimum size of the hardwood trees to be cut; and to the employment of aboriginal Indians, with a view to protecting their labour rights, wages, etc.

After having taken all the necessary preliminary steps as here explained for locating the grant and

securing the licence, wood-cutters and labourers are engaged in town and registered at the Institute of Mines and Forests, for three or four months' work in the interior, an advance of from \$5 to \$10 per head being usually paid to the men on registration for the purpose of assisting them with their bush outfit, or making some provision for their families left behind, pending their first earning of wages.

A charge of one shilling is made for each man so registered; and the Institute undertakes to see that the contract made is fairly carried out by employers and men alike; the one being liable to prosecution for withholding wages or food, and the other for absconding from work or withholding their labour.

With sufficient provisions and stores to last out the term of engagement, the gangs of men, under charge of a manager or foreman, are conveyed by steamer or rail to the recognised starting point on one of the main rivers, and thence by boats to the location grant, or riverside landing leading thereto. A camp is then established, a clearing being made in the forest, and logies or benabs erected for the housing of the manager and his men. These bush houses are usually of a more or less temporary character, with open sides and a roof supported on posts covered with palm leaves, neponset, Congo roofing or, in a few cases, galvanised sheets. Palm covered benabs, being better ventilated and of more uniform temperature, are the most healthy and comfortable to live in. A provision store or depôt, under charge of the manager and his clerk, is opened for the accommodation of the labourers for the supply of goods and simple luxuries extra to their ordinary rations, the cost being deducted from their wages at the close of their term of employment, when they are sent back to town. As the working of an ordinary timber grant extends over some years, fresh relays of men are engaged from time to time and the proceedings described repeated. Meantime the work of felling the trees and squaring the timber is proceeded with, this work being performed by expert axemen at a fixed rate per cubic foot. Most of the giant trees of the forests have huge supporting spurs or buttresses at the base, and it is necessary, therefore, for the axemen to work on an improvised platform or staging, raised some six to ten feet from the ground, from which they have to jump clear at the moment the tree is about to fall.

The construction of wood paths, or timber tracks leading from the site of the growing timber to the nearest creek or waterway, has to be undertaken by the labourers whilst the work of felling and squaring is being done by the axemen of the party. These timber paths frequently extend for miles into the forest and are usually 6 feet to 15 feet in width, roughly levelled and corduroyed with round spars acting as rollers, and along these the squared baulks of timber are hauled by direct manual labour; but on some of the larger wood-cutting grants mules and draught oxen are employed for this purpose. The supply and cost of proper food and fodder for these animals at such a distance from town is, however, a difficulty. The use of elephants for this purpose,

has adopted on timber grants in the East Indies, has recently been suggested; but the same difficulty of fodder supply is likely to arise, unless the animals can be trained to feed on the tree foliage available in the forests. Light railway trucks and hauling engines have been used on a few of the more extensive timber grants in British Guiana, and seem to constitute the best possible solution of the question on any large future development of the timber industry; but in the meantime manual haulage is the most favoured, probably because it requires less capital outlay.

In order to facilitate the work of haulage, the forward end of the baulk of timber, which is always the butt, is "sniped" or cut turned up like a sleigh; in this a strong iron bolt is inserted standing upright, to which a chain and hauling ropes are attached, of which twenty or thirty men take hold by means of cross sticks, locally known as "grail sticks," fastened at intervals to the hauling ropes. The gang marches steadily along with their dragging load to the place of deposit, sometimes a distance of one or two miles, or more, one or two of the hands with crowbars or handspikes, helping to steer the log around bends in the path, or helping it over rough places.

The wood paths are carried across the smaller ravines supported on beams and trestles; but from the higher hillsides the timbers are frequently precipitated to the bottom, down a roughly improvised form of chute.

(To be continued.)

RUBBER IN BRITISH GUIANA.

If one were asked to indicate the British possession which at first sight would strike one as being an ideal rubber producing colony, one would think of British Guiana. Embracing as it does a part of the great Amazon forest-land, the true home of the heveas, and with the ideal climate in which these trees flourish, it does indeed seem strange that whereas plantation hevea rubber is so extensively exported from the East, a country conterminous with its natural habitat has so far only produced small quantities, and those from trees raised from imported seed. And yet the Guiana forest is not destitute of heveas. Three well recognised species are widely scattered, *i.e.*, *spruceana*, *pauciflora*, and *confusa*, but the latex of none of them produces a rubber of commercial value.

Until experimental plantings were made by the Department of Science and Agriculture under Professor Harrison, the only specimens of *Hevea Brasiliensis* to be found in the colony were some trees planted from seed introduced by Sir Everard im Thurn many years ago. The importation of these seeds seems somewhat significant of the fact that with all his knowledge of the interior of the colony, he had evidently not come across any wild rubber that would repay the cost of systematic gathering, or prove worth while to cultivate. It appears, however, that Sir Everard had drawn the attention of

the late Mr. Jenman, Government botanist, to a species of rubber producing sapium, and this, Jenman, with his characteristic thoroughness, proceeded to investigate. These investigations began in the early eighties and are embodied in the official reports of the Government botanist in 1884-5. Although sapium is well distributed over practically the whole of the tropical world it would seem that the only rubber producing species are limited to South America.

Mr. Bartlett described three species as being fairly widely spread in British Guiana, *i.e.*, *Jenmani*, *ancuparium* and *pauciflorum*.

When the Department of Agriculture took up the question of rubber seriously, the Government established experimental stations at Issoruru on the Barima River, Christianburg, on the Demerara, Pomeroon, and Onderneeming, near the mouth of the Essequibo. At the Botanic Gardens in Georgetown, and at all these points at considerable distances apart, sapium was planted with other rubbers. At all these stations, the trees apparently grew well and yielded in some instances rubber of a high commercial value; but it is disappointing to learn from the reports of the Department of Science and Agriculture that the outlook for this kind (sapium) is not promising. "Young trees give very low yields, a large labour force is requisite, and hence the cultivation is not remunerative."

That sapium rubber had been collected for some years in varying quantities from the wild trees is evidenced from the export reports, as the rubber exported was usually in the form of Orinoco scrap; but it would be interesting to know how much of the export from Georgetown had come into the colony from Venezuela by way of Morawhanna. The collection of wild rubber has never been one of the industries of British Guiana, and it is fairly certain that even had the widely scattered Indians neglected opportunities under their noses, the balata bleeders operating in districts where sapium is fairly plentiful would have turned their attention to a product which for some time, at any rate, would have been worth to them twice as much a pound as halata. It is true that these latter have at times sent down small parcels of rubber, and it is said that they have sometimes mixed sapium latex with their balata.

However, it seems that the results of the experiments of the Board of Agriculture have somewhat effectually disposed of any hopes of the success of sapium as a plantation rubber.

And now to revert to hevea. The report of the scientific advisers of the Government in British Guiana is decidedly encouraging with regard to the cultivation of *Hevea Brasiliensis*. We are told that "it has been successfully demonstrated that large areas throughout the colony are eminently suited for the cultivation of Para rubber." There is certainly sufficient land to be obtained in British Guiana at a purely nominal rate, and the clearing and planting with Para rubber should not cost more than £12 to £15 per acre; so that even at the present reduced price of the material, which by the

way, is probably only temporary, it would appear that this kind of investment ought to be profitable. There are other rubber producing plants indigenous to British Guiana as *Forsteronia* (a vine), and *Tabernemontana* (several species); but these have not been proved of any commercial importance.

A POSSIBLE NEW INDUSTRY.

Experiments with Silkworms in Barbados.

In a lecture which he delivered at the West India Committee Rooms on January 17, 1912, Mr. Maxwell Lefroy, the then Imperial Entomologist for India, and now Professor of Entomology at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, advocated the establishment of a silk industry in certain parts of the British West Indies, and the Committee subsequently communicated with the various Agricultural Departments in the West Indies on the subject.

It is now stated in the *Agricultural News* that during the past year an attempt has been made to encourage a trial of such an industry in the West Indies. Eggs of a good strain of Italian (Milanese) silkworm were procured through the kindness of Mr. J. Henry Watson, of Manchester, and these were received in Barbados on May 5, 1912. It may be noted here that at the time of their arrival many of them had hatched and others were hatching. No notice had been received that these eggs were coming, and unfortunately no mulberry tree was in the right condition of leaf; in consequence of the long drought all the leaves were hard and dry. By the exercise of much care in feeding and in developing young leaves by pruning and watering the mulberry plants, a few (fifty-six) of the caterpillars successfully completed their growth and became adult; that is, they changed to moths. The male and female moths mated vigorously and several egg clusters were produced, but none of the eggs have hatched. It is expected that another trial lot of eggs will be received soon, and a further attempt will be made to procure a sufficient number of fertile eggs for distribution. By comparison with the dates given below it will be seen that the life-cycle occupied a shorter period than that given for Cyprus, the larval stage being completed in from twenty-five to thirty days, and that of the pupa in from ten to twelve days; egg-laying began in thirty-seven days from the date of the previous hatching.

In Cyprus, according to the *Cyprus Journal* of October last, organised efforts are being made to keep the industry there up to the mark. Breeding experiments have been made with Japanese seed, Broussa seed (white) and Broussa seed (yellow). In the case of the first variety, the eggs hatched out on March 25, 1913, and the moulting ended on May 16, 1913. In the case of the Broussa seed, hatching commenced on April 7, 1913, and ended on May 27, 1913; whilst with the yellow seed, hatching began on April 6, 1913. Fifteen thousand moths which emerged from the Broussa cocoons were fe-

males and 14,000 were males. On an average eighty moths produced one box of seed weighing 1 oz. The article under consideration makes some reference to hygienic conditions, and to the crossing of the varieties. In regard to crossing, one male Japanese was coupled with a female (white) of Broussa. The eggs from this pair will be reared experimentally next season in order to see if medium-sized cocoons can be obtained, having a market in Cyprus. It is expected that the Broussa race will give a good size of cocoons, and the Japanese a good quality of silk.

THE TRINIDAD PETROLEUM INDUSTRY.

The recovery of petroleum has now become the principal mining industry in Trinidad, and there is every hope that at no distant date it may prove to be a very important factor in the prosperity of the island. Although the actual drilling work done by most of the companies in 1912 is reported by the Inspectors of Mines not to have been satisfactory, and although as a consequence the exports of crude petroleum fell from 7,000,685 gallons in 1911 to 4,295,737 gallons in 1912, the wells that have so far been drilled have been sufficient to prove that the oil sands in certain districts hold large quantities of oil at no great depth.

The Hon. S. W. Knaggs in his report on the Blue-book of the colony for 1912-13 quotes the Inspector of Mines who reports that the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company carried out some very important work during the year, having drilled several wells on their Union Estate at Brighton which have given a very large production, and having erected there a considerable amount of additional plant. It was on this property that the Company sunk a well in May, 1913, which at a depth of 1,900 feet commenced to give oil at the rate of 50,000 barrels a day though the production ultimately declined to some 20,000 barrels a day. A few days afterwards it unfortunately caught fire, causing a considerable loss to the Company. The fire having been extinguished the well is again producing oil though at the more moderate rate of 3,000 barrels a day. It was the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company which supplied H.M.S. *New Zealand* with 640 tons of oil fuel on her recent visit to the Colony.

The *Philippine Agriculture Review* states, with reference to methods for the purpose of locust extermination that the bacillie parasite—the *Coccobacillus acridiorum* of the Pasteur Institute—has failed in practice as an exterminatory medium. During June last, it is stated, a series of experiments with cultures of these bacilli was carried out, and with a few exceptions, it was found, that the vitality of the bacilli, outside laboratory conditions, deteriorated so rapidly that this promising method of laboratory control had to be abandoned as a general measure.

SOME WEST INDIAN INSTITUTIONS.**XI.—MESSRS. ELDERS & FYFFES, Ltd.**

From the Caribbean to the Caucasus! From the region of tropical palms to the ice and snow of the Czar's domains! That to-day is the range of popularity enjoyed by the banana. In other words a world-conquest is in progress. That section of the world which regards the trans-shipment of this fruit from Jamaica and Central America to this country as the final triumph of transportation will need to revolutionise its ideas. True, every coster's barrow in our great centres of population is laden with "golden crescents." The sale has reached a figure which would have astonished even Sir Alfred Jones. England, however, has ceased to be the final goal. Soon it will be but a half-way house: one only of the many European countries which are importing in ever-increasing quantities this product of the West.

Enormous developments may be expected in the early future. Already the chief capitals of Europe have been won to appreciation. Visit Copenhagen, and you will see the cleanest and prettiest banana carts to be found anywhere. In St. Petersburg, in Moscow, in Stockholm, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Riga, Tiflis, the banana is going ahead rapidly. Germany imported last year half a million more bunches than in the previous twelve months. Holland represents a vast consumption. Bananas landed in Liverpool are rushed across to Hull, and again put on board steamer, and arrive in Rotterdam next morning. In fact the Continental business with Central America has developed so largely, that in the near future a direct weekly service of boats is to replace the present fortnightly service to Rotterdam and Hamburg.

The Rise of the Banana.

The story covers a period of thirteen years. Of the story the chief "characters" are the firm of Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., the subject of this article. Founded in 1901, their sponsor, as is generally known, was the late Sir Alfred Jones. Their inception was the immediate outcome of the contract concluded by Mr. Chamberlain with Sir Alfred for the establishment of the Imperial Direct West India Mail service between Avonmouth and Jamaica. In return for a subsidy of £40,000—half paid by the British, and half by the Jamaica Government—the fortnightly steamship service was set up whereby not only passengers and mails, but 20,000 bunches of bananas on each boat were to be carried.

The prospect of this invasion of the home market was not welcomed by importers of bananas from the Canary Islands, who took prompt measures for the protection of their interests. For the purpose of executing that part of their contract relating to Jamaica fruit, the London branch of Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Co., joined forces with another banana firm, Messrs. Fyffe, Hudson and Co.—and the new company entitled Elders and Fyffes, Limited, began business. Elder, Dempster and Co. were al-

ready established in James Street, W.C., and from here removed to Bow Street, and here they remain. Sir Alfred Jones was represented in the Metropolis by two able lieutenants, Messrs. A. Roger Ackerley and A. H. Stockley, and it has been to the great advantage of the business, and one secret of its success that these two gentlemen have been, and still remain, at the head of affairs.

The United Fruit Company.

To go to Jamaica was one thing, but to secure the necessary shiploads of bananas was quite another. The United Fruit Co., of Boston, were already in the field. Not only so, but the bulk of the banana business was already in their hands. They represented factors which could not be ignored by any new arrivals. If bananas in any quantity were to be obtained, it was necessary to ascertain the amount of the surplus available after the requirements of the United Fruit Co. had been met. The American company, however, were not hostile. "Yes," they said, "you can have the bananas, but you will never be able to carry them to England." The company were destined to be surprised by the efficacy of the cold storage equipment which constituted a primary feature of Sir Alfred Jones's new boats. Suggestions for joining forces were advanced.

The Boston concern were running some fourteen or fifteen steamers weekly from Jamaica to the United States as against the stipulated service of one Elder Dempster steamer fortnightly from Jamaica to England. Hence it was quickly discerned that if the fruit was to be placed upon the British market at a price appealing to the working man more considerable shipments would be necessary. This larger supply, in the words of Mr. Stockley, could be secured only by co-operation with the United Fruit Co.

Hence the arrangement made that the latter should load for Elders and Fyffes at cost, and receive 25 per cent. of the profits. Justification for the alliance was claimed when on the occurrence of the terrible hurricane of 1903, banana crops in Jamaica were ruined right and left. But for this joint working the business, it is contended, would have collapsed. Costa Rica (Port Limon) and Colombia (Santa Marta), which have developed so amazingly since the cultivation of the banana began at those centres, and which will become increasingly important in the future could now be tapped. Moreover, apart from the price of the Jamaica banana, the capacity of the island is not unlimited, and if the demand was to be met other fields must be tilled. This argument first advanced a few years ago when criticism of the British taxpayers' money finding its way into American pockets became sharp and frequent, is worth remembering at the present date when the demand exceeds by millions of bunches the original minor shipments. It is also contended on behalf of Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., that bananas from Central America are yet of the West Indian variety, and cheapness of the product, and

its universal popularity would have been impossible had operations been restricted to Jamaica. The interest acquired by the United Fruit Co. in Elders and Fyffes in 1902 became paramount eight years later on the death of Sir Alfred Jones. The Company then acquired all the shares in the British concern, the vendors receiving stock of corresponding value in the United Fruit Company. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., remained under the same management, however, as before.

The Steamers.

The lapse of the Imperial Direct West India Contract in 1911, a year after the death of Sir Alfred Jones, led to the sale of some of the vessels which had hitherto carried the mails. Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., however, unaided by subsidy continued a vigorous policy of shipbuilding, and in recent years have made many additions to their fleet, which now comprises some sixteen vessels. These vessels which range in tonnage from 6,000 to 3,900, may be accounted among the finest of their class. Given up below deck to the carriage of bananas, the whole of the passenger accommodation is above the main deck and therefore well adapted to tropical travel. The vessels conduct the weekly service between the West Indies and Bristol and the West Indies and Liverpool. The remarkable advance on the original stipulated import of 20,000 bunches of bananas per fortnight is sufficiently shown by the fact that each of these vessels carries 75,000 bunches on each voyage.

In contemplating the boon to the working classes presented by the cheapness of this tropical fruit, it is possible to overlook the immediate benefit conferred upon the ports of arrival—Bristol and Liverpool. Especially pronounced is the advantage which has accrued to the West of England port. Bristol, indeed, has found in the banana a means of revival of its old time prosperity. Employment is found for large numbers of men in bringing the fruit ashore. Celerity in handling, as might readily be expected, is a prime factor of this business. Checking and packing are important features of the work of despatch, and money is circulated in the purchase of crates, straw, storing bins, etc.

At Liverpool the Company's boats deliver their cargoes at the London and North Western Railway Co.'s Stalbridge Dock, at Garston, on the Mersey. The railway company have erected a commodious banana warehouse, including a spacious shed for the reception of the Jamaica orange when in season. Oranges, it may here be remarked, have always been carried. Five hundred insulated vans for the conveyance of bananas have been built and fitted with the latest appliances, including steam heating and vacuum brake pipes, and are used for the transport of the fruit from the steamer's side by rail to all parts of the United Kingdom.

In London, the Company's headquarters are a busy centre. They possess the advantage of immediate proximity to Covent Garden Market, where the banana, once viewed with suspicion, is oftentimes

the occasion of fierce competition. The enormous demand for the fruit has weakened in no degree the firm's insistence on clean and careful handling on the part of dealers. A large volume could easily be compiled, setting forth the romantic rise to popularity of this staple commodity. This brief sketch may yet serve to indicate in some measure the part played by Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., in creating that popularity.

A CANADIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER.

Mr. Watson Griffin's Mission in the West Indies.

The Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce has appointed Mr. Watson Griffin Trade Commissioner to investigate conditions in the British West Indies, and to prepare reports with a view to developing trade with those colonies. It has been felt at Ottawa that something in addition to the methodical and constant machinery of the Trade Commissioner Service could be employed to advantage in order to represent to Canadian business men outside conditions, and this is one of the first means decided upon to accomplish the result desired.

Mr. Griffin has had a long and varied experience in industrial life in Canada and has a wide knowledge of the resources of Canada and their adaptations to the foreign market. Besides his experience, as above stated, Mr. Griffin has also the added qualifications of being a practical journalist and having an intimate knowledge of the newspaper world of Canada. His first work will be to make a tour of the West Indian colonies and countries and he will gather, in a comprehensive way, all data necessary to represent the possibilities of Canadian trade in that portion of the foreign field. In addition to writing a series of running reports to which it is proposed to give wide circulation, he will prepare data for special articles and special points in these countries which will, after his return, from time to time be elaborated and likewise widely distributed. When the last homeward mail left Trinidad Mr. Griffin had arrived at Port of Spain.

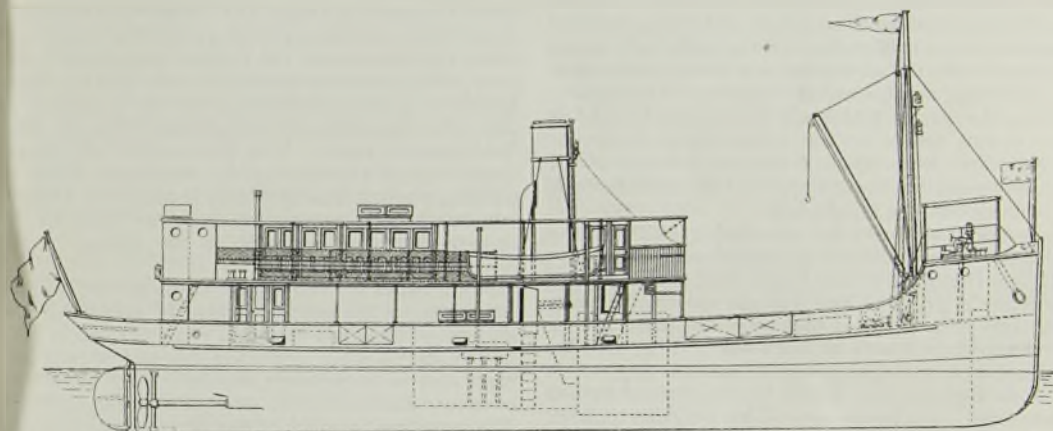
PERHAPS it was accidental, but it was certainly very appropriate that the first steam vessel to pass through the Panama Canal should have been a French one, for many experts have testified to the value of the pioneer work done on the Canal by the French engineers in the days of de Lesseps. The vessel was the crane boat *Alex. La Valley*, which was formerly engaged at the Atlantic entrance, and after working in the Culebra Cut was passed through Pedro Miguel and Miraflores locks to the Pacific entrance. She left Pedro Miguel at 9.30 a.m. on January 7th, and entered the Pacific Channel at 11.5 a.m. The *La Valley* is a unit of the old French floating equipment, and was built by Lobnitz & Co. of Renfrew, Scotland, in 1887, and rebuilt at the Cristobal dry dock shops in 1905.

STEAMERS FOR BRITISH GUIANA.

The first of six new passenger and cargo steamers which are being built for the order of the Government of British Guiana, for use on the coast and rivers of the colony, has just been launched from the yards of Messrs. Philip and Son, of Dartmouth.

It will be remembered that no offer satisfactory to the local Government having been received for carrying on the Colonial steamer service after the expiration of the contract with Sproston, Ltd., in June, 1913, the Combined Court was asked to approve of a resolution authorising the Government to acquire steamers for carrying on the ferry services across the Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo rivers; and the services from Tuschen to Suddie and Bartica. The resolution was approved on March 19, 1913, and the work of building the

feed if desired. The forward part of the main deck is fitted for the conveyance of cattle, vehicles and general cargo, and the after part is for the accommodation of third class passengers. The crew will be berthed in a top-gallant fore-castle. From aft for about two-thirds the length and the whole width of the vessel, a promenade deck is constructed for the accommodation of first class passengers, for whom a large dining saloon of teak is provided; accommodation for the captain, purser, mails, and the usual offices will also be found on this deck, the whole of which will be protected from the sun and rain by a wood awning. The captain's bridge is on the forward part of this deck, where steam steering gear is fitted and the usual telegraphs, compass, etc., for navigation purposes. The vessels will each have one mast, with a derrick and steam winch for suitably dealing with cargo. Steam wind-



The British Guiana S.S. *Arapaima*.

steamers was entrusted to the above mentioned firm who contracted to deliver them in the colony at the end of June, 1914.

Pending the delivery of the new vessels the services are being conducted by contract for one year until July 3, 1914, by Sproston, Ltd., with which firm a ten years contract has been signed for the Upper Demerara and Berbice River services and the Georgetown to Mount Everard service.

The christening ceremony of the first of the new Government steamers was performed recently by Mrs. Peck, the Mayoress of Dartmouth, who named the vessel *Arapaima*. The vessels will all be sister ships, having an over-all length of 167 feet 6 inches, a beam of 23 feet, and a draft under normal conditions of 7 feet. They are built entirely of steel, with teak decks and woodwork suited to a tropical climate. The space below deck is divided into three watertight compartments; the machinery being in the central one, and the two end ones adapted for carrying cargo. A water ballast tank is fitted in each peak, which can also be used as a boiler

lasses will be provided for working the anchors and cables. Two lifeboats of galvanized steel will be provided fitted to Board of Trade requirements. The propelling machinery will consist of two sets of compound surface condensing engines 10 in. and 20 in. by 14 in. each driving a separate gunmetal propeller. The condensing plant will be entirely independent of the main machinery. A large return tube boiler will supply steam for the machinery at a working pressure of 140 lbs. per square inch. The vessels will be lighted throughout by electricity generated by a steam driven plant in the engine room.

All the vessels are being built under the superintendence of Messrs. Flannery, Bagallay and Johnson, Ltd., London, Liverpool and Rotterdam, who are the consulting engineers for the Crown Agents for the Colonies. The names of the remaining five steamers will be as follows: *Arawana*, *Baiara*, *Haimara*, *Leukanani* and *Perai*.

It is understood that the liquidator of Pure Jamaica, Ltd., will shortly declare a dividend.

THE WEST INDIAN MAIL SERVICE.

The new transatlantic steamers nearly completed.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR is authorised to state that the two new steamers which are being built at Belfast by Messrs. Workman, Clark and Company to the order of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for their West Indian transatlantic service are now nearing completion. They will be called *Essequibo* (after the great river in British Guiana, and *Ebro* (a river in Spain). Each of the vessels, which are finely modelled, will be of 8,000 tons gross register, and will have twin screws. They will be equipped with wireless, submarine signalling apparatus, and every modern convenience, and no effort is being spared to provide for the safety and comfort of the passengers. A feature of the new vessels which are being built on the lines of the South American A steamers will be the number of single berth cabins, and cabins with bath-rooms attached while the dining saloons will accommodate 180 passengers without over crowding. The modern system of separate tables will be adopted instead of the old long tables, an innovation which is sure to be popular. It is expected that the *Essequibo* will be ready early in September, and that the *Ebro* will be commissioned a month later.

Two new steamers are also being built by the Caledon Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Ltd., of Dundee, for the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's Trinidad and Tobago coastal mail service, and it is expected that they will leave for the West Indies in March or April next. They will be, perhaps rather inappropriately, named *Barima* (a river in Guiana) and *Belize* (the capital of British Honduras). Each steamer will have a gross tonnage of 1,500 tons, and a length of 230 feet, and will have accommodation for 30 first saloon and 30 second class passengers. These steamers will take the place of *Kennel*, whose service has lately been conducted by *Jamaica*.

Meanwhile, the coastal services of Grenada and St. Lucia are also being overhauled, three new steamers being now in course of construction for them in the yard of Messrs. Day, Summers and Company at Southampton. These vessels, which will replace the old *Taw*, *Tees* and *Wear*, will be called *Taff*, *Teign* and *Tovey*, after the rivers in Wales and Devonshire. Each will be of 220 tons gross register, and will have accommodation for 25 first class passengers.

It is worthy of note that the names of three former steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company are being revived in the new constructional programme. The original *Belize*, an iron vessel of 1,015 tons was launched in 1872; the following year witnessed the launch of the *Essequibo*, also an iron vessel, of 1,887 tons, while in 1896 the *Ebro*, a steel vessel of 3,376 tons was put into commission. It is interesting to compare the tonnage of these vessels with the new steamers, the provision of

which will add greatly to the amenities of the voyage to the West Indies and of travel in West Indian waters.

BERMUDA'S STEAMER CONTRACT.

Steamers of 10,000 tons to be Commissioned.

A Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company's message states that the House of Assembly of Bermuda has accepted the offer of the Canada Steamship Lines, Ltd., to maintain steamship communication between New York and Hamilton, Bermuda, for twelve years for a subsidy of £16,000 per annum. The steamer to be used is to be a vessel of 10,000 tons. When the revenue of the Colony reaches £108,000 per annum the subsidy is to be doubled, and a sister ship is to be provided.

In this connection it may be recalled that the Canada Steamship Lines, Ltd., is the concern which acquired the companies serving the Great Lakes and rivers of Canada and the Quebec Steamship Company, which plies between New York and the West Indies, and has held the contract for a number of years for steamship communication between New York and Bermuda. The President is Mr. James Carruthers, a Director of the Merchants Bank of Canada, and the Vice-president is Mr. M. J. Haney, who has been in negotiation with the Trade Development Board of Bermuda on the subject of the renewal of the contract.

With regard to the prospect of the second steamer being put on the service, it may be noted that the revenue of Bermuda increased from £57,068 in 1905 to £83,629 in 1912. Provided this rate of improvement can be maintained the sister ship should be in commission before the expiration of the contract. The registered tonnage of the *Bermudian* at present on the route is 5,530 tons, while that of the R. M. S. P. *Arcadian* is 8,939 tons, so in respect to tonnage the new vessels will mark a distinct advance.

"THE CANE SUGAR FACTORY."

This little work continues to meet with a steady sale, and tributes are being daily received as to its value from the educational point of view and also as a work of reference. A Trinidad purchaser writes to say that he finds "the book very useful to him."

"The Cane Sugar Factory" may be obtained of the West India Committee at the nominal price of 1s. or 1s. 3d. post free.

OUR FORTNIGHTLY RECIPE.—*Angels' Food*. Spread out grated coco-nut (the brown skin having been first removed) and sliced orange in alternate layers with pure cane castor sugar sprinkled on the orange if desired. Finish with a layer of coco-nut and decorate with jelly and whipped cream. —West India Produce Association, 14, Creechchurch Lane, R.C.

COLONIAL REPORT.

The Industries of British Guiana.

Mr. G. Ball-Greene, Acting-Assistant Government Secretary, in his report on the Blue-book of British Guiana for 1912-13, records a falling off of trade and revenue resulting from the drought which lasted from August, 1911, to April, 1912. The immediate monetary loss to the sugar industry alone from this cause amounted to no less than £330,000; Cacao cultivation and cattle farming were also seriously affected. The area under rice was 41,924 acres, and 2,721 tons of rice and 2,000 tons of rice meal were exported. The cacao industry remains stationary as far as acreage is concerned; but the planting of Para rubber continues to progress, it being estimated that there are now 2,700 acres under it in the colony. The acreage under coco-nuts has increased from 12,240 to 14,700, and the coffee industry is also expanding. Mention is also made in the report of the increase in lime cultivation, 740 acres being now planted with this tree, white fibre of excellent quality is being produced from 250 acres under sisal at Hill's estate on the Mazaruni River. The gold industry made some headway, 51,765 oz. of gold being cleared during the year, and though the Peter's and Aremu mines remained closed, the Barima mine was worked periodically, and the Guiana Gold Company and Minnehaha Syndicate worked successfully throughout the year, while hydraulic work was resumed on the Tassawinni mine. Only 880,821 lbs. of balata were collected, as compared with 1,094,435 lbs. in the preceding year, the decrease being due to the drought. A considerable number of bullet trees (*Mimusops globosa*) were planted in the North-West District. As evidence of the prosperity of the East Indian immigrants, it may be mentioned that 21,500 cattle were owned by East Indians on estates, besides 3,500 sheep and goats. The value of the real property which passed into their hands was £18,847. The revenue and expenditure and imports and exports in the last five years were as follows:

	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1908-9	549,051	539,197	1,838,947	1,938,809
1909-10	549,269	546,711	1,774,457	1,830,920
1910-11	563,101	542,758	1,749,766	1,628,105
1911-12	393,499	588,626	*1,871,180	*1,850,733
1912-13	589,446	590,745	*1,703,355	*1,576,988

* Calendar year ended December 31st, 1911 and 1912 respectively.

The excess of assets over liabilities on March 31st, 1913, was £42,691 2s. The public debt of the colony at the same time was £884,615, a decrease of £1,200 as compared with the previous year.

The aggregate trade for the year was distributed as follows: United Kingdom 47.34 per cent.; Canada 24.39 per cent.; other British possessions 4.36 per cent.; United States of America 16.48 per cent.; other foreign countries 5.34 per cent.; and transit trade 2.09 per cent.

The Railway Extension in Jamaica.

Sir W. H. Manning in his report on the Blue-book of Jamaica for 1912-13, states that during the year the colony suffered from the two catastrophes of drought and hurricane. "The former was the more widespread and caused very lasting distress, while the latter appealed more to the imagination on account of the swift destruction which marked its path. Fortunately, the public finances were in a strong position, and it was possible to provide for the relief of the sufferers out of the surplus revenue.

The island has been the sport of circumstances for some years past. Slowly and painfully emerging from the depression caused by the almost total destruction of the sugar industry, portions of it have been devastated by hurricanes in 1880, 1886, 1899, 1903 and 1912, and by a destructive earthquake in 1907. The matter which has caused the greatest financial embarrassment to the Government was, however, the sale of the railway in 1890, which had to be taken back in 1900, after the company to which it had been handed over had defaulted. Since then the loss incurred on it, after paying debt charges and working expenses, has amounted to more than £750,000.

The revenue, expenditure, imports and exports of the Colony for the past five years up to March 31st, 1913, were as follows:—

	Revenue	Expenditure.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1908-9	933,751	911,095	2,420,335	2,268,254
1909-10	992,976	1,033,794	2,561,674	2,628,307
1910-11	990,399	987,304	2,614,943	2,568,222
1911-12	1,161,013	1,155,208	2,865,553	2,948,067
1912-13	1,206,161	1,304,930	3,050,478	2,709,283

The imports increased by £184,925 and the exports decreased by £238,784. These figures very clearly indicated the grave effect which the prolonged droughts and the hurricanes of 1912 had produced on the economic condition of the Colony and the extent to which the prosperity attained in 1911 had been diminished.

The returns of the Government Railway showed that the total receipts were £183,279, the expenditure, exclusive of debt charges, £95,157, making the net earnings, £88,122. The receipts fell short of those for 1911-1912 by £6,728, due to diminished traffic consequent on the hurricanes which occurred in November, and the droughts which prevailed during the greater part of the year. There was, however, a decrease of expenditure of £2,672, so that the deficiency of net revenue as compared with the previous year was £4,056.

After paying debt charges on the capital expenditure of £2,640,865 the net loss to the public treasury on the working of the railway system amounted to £29,611 for the year. The average loss for the past twelve years has been £62,514, or a total of £750,168, but it appeared evident that the railway was slowly approaching a condition of equilibrium between revenue and expenditure. But for the excessive capital cost, amounting to £14,313 per mile, no loss would have accrued.

Owing to the increase of traffic the rolling stock

had become inadequate and would have to be considerably increased, some of the main road bridges over which the Company was allowed to run its lines might have to be strengthened and other works undertaken, but in other respects the line was in very good order, well ballasted, and provided with hard-wood sleepers.

The history of this line was instructive as an indication of what should be avoided in Colonial railway development. The line, for a distance of 14 miles 5 furlongs, was opened for traffic by a private company in 1845. Representing capital expenditure of over £267,000, it was purchased by the Colonial Government for £93,932 in 1879; extensions of 38½ miles constructed by contractors were opened for traffic in 1885; in 1890 it was sold to an American Syndicate; in 1894 an extension of 66 miles was completed, and in 1896 a further length of 54½ miles. The Syndicate having defaulted, the Government resumed possession in 1900.

The line when taken over proved to be in indifferent condition, the rolling stock insufficient, and to a great extent unsuitable, and there were certain debts remaining unpaid. The average gross earnings for the two preceding years had been £115,997 and the working expenses £97,423, leaving only £18,574 per annum to go towards the payment of debt charges. Since then the most careful and economical management had been necessary, particularly as the mountain sections of the line had been constructed with such steep grades and sharp curves that much difficulty was experienced in obtaining rolling stock of a suitable description, the type of engine ultimately adopted being of American manufacture with immense boiler capacity.

Railway extension could not be resumed until 1912, when the annual loss showed a marked diminution. A branch up the Rio Minho Valley was then commenced, but the lessons of the past having been taken to heart, the Director of the Railway, who had been in charge since 1900, was entrusted with the construction, and a section of 10 miles to Suttons was opened on the 10th March, the balance of 3½ miles being well advanced. The expenditure to the end of the year amounted to nearly £68,000, or less than £7000 per mile. The difference between this sum and the capital cost of the old line—£14,313 per mile—was sufficiently striking to indicate the advantage of conducting the work of railway construction under well organised direct control rather than by means of contracts with private companies.

A belated British Honduras Report.

The latest Blue book of the Acting Colonial Secretary of British Honduras may almost be classed as ancient history. It deals with the year 1912, while the financial returns are for 1911-12, which most of us have almost forgotten. The "mañana" disease would appear to have infected the colony. The report was transmitted on November 13, 1913, and was not published until the last week of January. Its publication at an earlier date would surely have

been possible! Complaints are frequent as to British Honduras being neglected, and the belated publication of the annual reports will not help matters.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure, imports and exports of the Colony for the five years 1907-8 to 1911-12:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Imports.	Exports.
1907-08	395,183	516,701	2,676,723	2,201,799
1908-09	360,915	535,979	2,704,248	2,209,023
1909-10	395,855	592,120	2,819,217	2,344,380
1910-11	459,295	542,810	2,886,677	2,335,849
1911-12	1,201,908*	532,123	3,498,908	2,856,143

* Includes \$703,593.25 reimbursed from loan funds on account of expenditure on railway and other public works.

† For calendar years 1908-12.

The principal exports of home produce for 1912, compared with those for 1911 were:—

Bananas	(bunches)	450,365	470,039
Cedar	(feet)	1,543,744	2,683,811
Coco-nuts	(number)	5,198,899	6,553,539
Lagwood	(tons)	3,321	3,622
Mahogany	(feet)	13,020,580	16,019,917
Plantains	(number)	2,853,445	3,341,125
Rum	(gallons)	6,611	12,960
Rubber	(lbs.)	24,192	20,772
Sapodilla Gum	(lbs.)	3,219,990	3,109,227
Sponges	(lbs.)	9,822	10,488
Sugar—raw	(lbs.)	177,475	109,950
Tortoise-shell	(lbs.)	3,167	3,627

CONSULAR REPORT.

Cacao and Coco-nut Pests in Samoa.

In some of the principal coco-nut producing districts at Savaii, the island adjacent to Samoa, the *Nasicorus* beetle and its larvæ have been found in large numbers. The Government, however, makes unremitting efforts to cope with the serious danger menacing all coco-nut plantations, large and small, for in every village on the island the male inhabitants have strict orders to collect the beetles and larvæ on one day in each week; the aggregate quantity thus collected is enormous; but, until the "natural enemy" of the beetle (whatever that may be) has been found and introduced, all such efforts only mitigate the evil without giving the least hope of altogether suppressing it. One or two planters are painting their trees with coal tar, in some instances, no doubt, with a moderate amount of success; but whether this attempt to drive off the beetles from the trees will be thoroughly successful has yet to be proved.

The cacao canker is a much less danger, for it is now found by experienced planters that should the disease be grappled with as soon as it appears, the infected part of the tree cut out and drastic cauterisation or other disinfecting methods used on its infected part, in nine cases out of ten the tree will recover.

When trees are too far gone for such treatment some planters cut them down to about a foot from the ground, burn them, and then after mixing lime with their ashes dig up the ground for 20 feet or more around the diseased trees and mix the earth

so thoroughly with the lime that no danger exists of further infection to the young trees which they at once plant on such places to make up for the destroyed trees. As is generally known, the canker seldom or never attacks trees until they are nine years old, and not always then. A cacao expert states that although this is generally the case there are exceptions, for in some few instances the canker attacks trees only three years old.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

THE retirement of Mr. J. F. Waby, F.L.S., Head Gardener at the Botanic Gardens, Georgetown, British Guiana, after a service of thirty-five years in the colony, was made the occasion for the presentation of a testimonial by Professor J. B. Harrison, Director of Science and Agriculture, on behalf of the Board of Agriculture and the staff of the Department.

IN presenting the address and an accompanying sum of money, Professor Harrison eulogised Mr. Waby's long and valuable services to the colony in the cause of agriculture, arboriculture, and horticulture, and announced that the Governor, in appreciation of these services, had been pleased to appoint him an honorary member of the Board of Agriculture, so that he hoped as Mr. Waby proposed to reside in the colony after his retirement, that they would still retain for some years to come, the benefit of his special knowledge and experience.

MR. WABY was formerly employed in the Botanical Department of Trinidad, from which he was transferred to Demerara in 1879 on the recommendation of Mr. Prestoe, the Government Botanist of Trinidad, who had been engaged to inspect the site and prepare the design for laying out the proposed Botanic Gardens at Georgetown. The late Mr. G. S. Jenman having been appointed Government Botanist of British Guiana, shortly after followed from Jamaica, and he and Mr. Waby were associated together in the work of establishing and developing the extensive and beautiful Botanic Garden and experimental grounds on the outskirts of Georgetown. Mr. Waby acted as Government Botanist on occasions of Mr. Jenman's absences from the colony on leave; and on the death of that gentleman in 1902 succeeded him in the charge of the Public Town Gardens and the street plants of the city. He was for some years identified with the defence forces of the colony as an officer of the old British Guiana Volunteers.

IN the Alabang collection of bananas and plantains being compiled by the Bureau of Agriculture of the Philippines, there are at present in evidence no fewer than 134 varieties, and it is expected that the collection will be completed in about two years.

NATURE NOTES.



IN the Report of the Agricultural Department of Assam it is stated that two West Indian canes of great merit had been acclimatised there and were being distributed. It is not mentioned what the varieties were, but they are spoken of as easily yielding a juice, containing from 16 to 18 per cent. of cane sugar, which has a very desirably low glucose ratio and a very high quotient of purity. The juice also is said to be easily clarified.

THE latest thing in shams is an artificial pepper, prepared from nettles. According to the *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal*, in its preparation the nettles are harvested just before flowering and dried. After drying they are ground, and then boiled for a couple of hours with 20 per cent. of their weight of alcohol, 3 per cent. of vinegar, 10 per cent. of water, 5 per cent. of oil and 2 per cent. of salt. When the greater part of the liquor has evaporated, the remaining mass is dried and pulverized.

RECENT experiments with coffee, says the *Lancet*, show that the caffeine in coffee is combined with an acid allied to tannic acid, but possessing different properties to that of the tannin present in tea. The caffeine tannate of tea is precipitated by weak acids, and the presumption is that it is not absorbed until it reaches the alkaline secretion part of the alimentary canal. The caffeine compound in coffee, however, is soluble both in acids and alkalis and absorption would, therefore, take place in the stomach, with consequent immediate stimulating effect.

THE question of the commercial value of Para rubber seed has come forward recently in many quarters. In some investigations undertaken by the Imperial Institute it appears that the oil from *Hevea* seed, although a drying oil is not likely to take the place of linseed oil for paint and varnish purposes, or in the manufacture of linoleum. As a food for cattle, Para rubber seed cake was found to be quite satisfactory, there being no fear of the seed being tainted or the butter adversely affected.

ONE of the most interesting developments of recent years in chemical science has been the "hardening" of oils by the action of hydrogen in the presence of a catalyst, i.e. a body which, without undergoing chemical change itself, facilitates chemical reactions between other substances present, nickel in this case being the agent generally used. By "hardening" is meant the conversion of oil which is liquid at ordinary temperatures into one which is solid. In this way the liquid olein of cotton seed oil can be changed to the solid fats, stearin or palmitine of palm oil.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



ORDERS are now being received at the West India Committee Rooms for the 1914 issue of the Handbook of Jamaica, which will in future be obtainable there. The price is 6s. per copy; post free 6s. 5d. inland; 6s. 9d. abroad.

His many friends in the West Indies will be interested to learn that Dr. Bindley, formerly Principal of Codrington College, Barbados, and now Rector of Hedenham, in Norfolk, has been appointed Examiner in Theology to the London University.

THE business of Messrs. John McNeil & Co., of the Colonial Iron, Govan, Glasgow, has been converted into a private limited liability company, under the style of John McNeil & Co., Ltd. This step will involve no change whatever in the control or management of the firm.

MR. C. FORBES TODD, lately manager of Molineux Estate in St. Kitts, who has been appointed attorney of Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson and Company, in Trinidad, is the son of the late Hon. Edward George Todd, for many years the respected Hon. Correspondent of the West India Committee in St. Kitts.

THE prospects of free sugar in the United States in 1915 appears to have no terrors for Cuba. No fewer than five new central factories will be making their first crop in that island this year, and work on a new central with a capacity of 150,000 bags is about to be begun in Camaguey province. A new central is also to be built near Yaguajay in Santa Clara Province very shortly.

ANOTHER complaint regarding a colonial post office has reached us. This time the office at Belize, British Honduras, would seem to be at fault. A money order for £1 1s., issued there on January 6th, has reached this country but cannot be cashed as "the order has not been advised to this country." If the sender of the order was able to catch the mail, surely the Belize Post Office could have done so too.

THE recent advertising publications of the War Department, wherein all kinds of sport, other than of actual fighting, are depicted as a means of inducing young England to join the Colours, is a striking contrast to the poster published at Leicester in 1780, in which "all young men of spirit who wish to make their FORTUNES" are adjured to apply at once for enlistment in the Jamaica Volunteers under Colonel Rainsford. With fine appreciation of the value of capital letters, as the *Evening News* remarks, the poster goes on to promise recruits "considerably more than DOUBLE PAY, with pay

for their wives and for every child, who will be allowed to go with them."

Tradesmen are especially appealed to with the alluring promise of "FIFTEEN SHILLINGS a day, and numberless other advantages peculiar to that delightful island abounding with RUM, SUGAR, and SPANISH DOLLARS, where there is delicious living and plenty of excellent GROG AND PUNCH. The imagination of that Army Defec did not stop at promises of rum, grog and punch, however, for he went on to relate how "From that island (Jamaica) little more than one hundred jolly lads whipped across to Onda, took it and about a MILLION OF MONEY, for which the share of each private man must amount to more than ONE THOUSAND POUNDS! Young men who write a good hand will be made Officers and advanced according to merit and diligence.

In view of the constant requests received by the West India Committee by individuals regarding long lost relatives in the West Indies it seems probable that a good many people will be glad to avail themselves of a co-operative search of old records which is about to be instituted.

In October last a search on co-operative lines was made in a very valuable collection of West Indian records now in the British Museum, and formed by the late Mrs. Sidney Smith of Barnes. Notes were taken of entries concerning families in which subscribers were interested and some valuable information was the result. The collection consists principally of Extracts from wills of the period 1625-1792. There are also extracts from Deeds enrolled on the Close Rolls, Lists of Inhabitants, Extracts from Jamaican Parish Registers and from Documents among the State Papers. The whole is contained in a manuscript of 450 pages, foolscap, and a search through it, line by line, occupied some days. The interest in bygone family affairs and connections aroused by the announcement of the proposed search, and the re-discovery as it were of a valuable source of information, has induced others to wish search to be made for their family names. Another search accordingly will be made for those who were too late to join in the former one, as to which particulars will be supplied by the Editor of *The Pedigree Register*, 227, Strand, to whoever may care to ask for them.

"The Banana: Its Cultivation, Distribution, and Commercial Uses," recently published under the auspices of the West India Committee by Messrs. Duckworth & Co., forms a worthy companion volume to "Cacao: A Manual of the Cultivation and Curing of Cacao," by the late John Hinchley Hart. The price of each volume, which can be obtained from the Committee Rooms, is 7s. 6d., or post free 7s. 10d. in the United Kingdom, and 8s. abroad. Judging by the many favourable notices of these books which have appeared, no less than from the steady demand for them from every part of the tropical world, it would appear that the policy of the West India Committee in arranging for the publication of standard works on agriculture is warmly appreciated. The companion volume "The Manufacture of Cane Sugar," by Jones and Seard, is now quite out of print; but "The Cane Sugar Factory," by Seard, is still obtainable, price 1s., or post free 1s. 3d.

THE LONDON LETTER.



PARLIAMENT is being opened to-day by the King. Exceptional interest invests the new session, and the debates will be followed throughout the country with unaccustomed closeness. Government and Opposition are expected to "come to grips" immediately on the subject of Home Rule. Despite all the rumours and speeches which have filled the newspapers during the recess, the public still remain in the dark as to the precise width of difference dividing the Liberal and Unionist parties in regard to Ulster. We still await enlightenment as to the solution of the problem, which all, save the extremists, hope will be reached.

EXPENDITURE on the Navy is likely, also, to occasion warm discussion. The humanitarian hopes of the Chancellor of the Exchequer with reference to limitation of the outlay on armaments have not been strengthened by the latest speech of the Foreign Secretary. Rather have they been dispelled. The nature of his office enables Sir Edward Grey to focus this subject more clearly than any of his colleagues. His words gain weight also from his calm, judicial temperament, and from his triumphs in the domain of peace. The prospect of relief for the taxpayer has paled distinctly in view of Sir Edward's declaration at Manchester last week. He expressed his belief that even if we shut down our naval programme altogether, it would cause no alteration in the shipbuilding of the other Great Powers. Pressure of finance alone, in his opinion, would make for the arrest of armaments. Meanwhile the country has noted with satisfaction the friendly speeches in the Reichstag by German ministers. The relations of Great Britain and the Fatherland have become not merely cordial but co-operative.

THE Labour Party had been anticipating a "field day," or possibly a succession of "field days," on the re-assembly of Parliament. Deportation of the nine ringleaders of the South African strike by the Union Government has excited resentment among British Labourites. This stern action on the part of General Botha has also occasioned deep questionings as to its wisdom even in circles less sympathetic with industrial unrest. A very different complexion has been placed on the matter, however, by discussion of the subject in the South African Parliament. Justification has been established. Not a strike, but a conspiracy against social well-being was the apparent object of the deported men. Such a situation could not well be handled in kid gloves. Whatever the merits or demerits of his action General Botha has given a setback to strike tendencies, which will stand his country in good stead for many a long day.

ANGLO-AMERICAN celebrations of the century of peace between the two nations promise to be among the historic events of 1915. Preparations towards that end are already afoot. The Prime Minister, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Viscount Bryce, late British Ambassador at Washington, were the chief speakers at a Guildhall meeting last week in support of the scheme of commemoration. It is desired to raise £50,000. The purchase and maintenance of the ancestral home of Washington—Sulgrave Manor, Northants, the foundation of a Chair of Anglo-American History, and the provision of monumental records of the centenary are the chief features of the celebration.

A VENERABLE Ex-Secretary of State for the Colonies has just passed away in the person of Viscount Knutsford, aged 89. It is recorded of Lord Knutsford that he was the only Civil servant to become the political head of his Department. In early life he was legal adviser to the Colonial Office. A man of kindly nature, he won countless friends—some among the ranks of the West Indian Governors of his day. Several of these gentlemen, now retired, were present at the funeral of the statesman. We note the names of Sir Hubert Jerningham, Sir R. Llewelyn and Sir James Hay. Sir Charles Lucas, once head of the West Indian Department at the Colonial Office, also attended. Another notable death during the fortnight was that of Lady Bright, widow of the famous electrician, Sir Charles Tilston Bright, F.R.S., who laid the first Atlantic cable, and superintended the construction of the first cables between Great Britain and the West Indies.

THE Guildhall was filled to overflowing yesterday on the occasion of the meeting in favour of the maintenance of an all-powerful Navy. The Lord Mayor presided, and many of the foremost financiers, bankers, brokers and merchants of the City of London were present. The Colonies were represented among the speakers by the High Commissioner of New Zealand, and the great company present included Mr. R. Rutherford, deputy-chairman, and other members of the West India Committee. A resolution pledging the support of the commercial community in any measures which may be necessary to ensure the continued supremacy and the adequate protection of the trade routes of the Empire was carried with enthusiasm.

AMONG notable visitors to the West Indies who sailed in the R.M.S.P. *Orotava* for the Caribbean on January 28th were Sir William Christie, late Astronomer Royal, Sir Hylton Brisco, Bart., Captain Sir John Swinburne, R.N. (who saw service with the Navy in the Burmese war, China and the Baltic), and Lady Swinburne, the Very Rev. Dr. Page Roberts, Dean of Salisbury, and the Hon. Mrs. Page Roberts (who is a daughter of the fifth Lord Rivers), and their three daughters, and Admiral Sir Francis Powell, K.C.M.G., C.B., who was decorated for his services in Benin River and in China.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Distinguished Visitors to the West Indies.

Business was becoming brisker after the holidays when the last homeward mail left the West Indies. The tourist season was in full swing, and impetus had been given to it by the presence of Princess Marie Louise, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, and the Duke and Duchess of Manchester and other notabilities in West Indian waters. From Dominica comes the news of the visit of several capitalists who were spying out the land—a sure sign of the remarkable revival of interest in the British West Indies evinced in recent years. In securing this, no small measure of the credit is due to the Honorary Correspondents of the West India Committee, who, mail after mail, call attention to the amenities of the colonies in which they reside. The loss of the *Cobcquid* had caused a shock, but satisfaction was expressed at the number of Canadians who were patronising her sister ships. Several visitors from the north were staying at the Bath House Hotel, whose solid walls were also sheltering the person of Mr. Darnell Davis, the latter day Bryan Edwards of the West Indies. Mr. Darnell Davis was following the example of Parson Smith and taking the thermal baths to the great advantage of his health. The R.M.S.P. *Danube* left Barbados on January 21st, and reached Southampton at 12.30 p.m. on February 2nd.

Extracts from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents are given below:—

Antigua—A Serious Crisis over Education Question.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, writing on January 17th, said that a very important development of the education question had taken place. All the managers of primary schools had given teachers notice that their services would no longer be required after March 31, this step being due to the want of funds. The Denominational school managers had declared it to be impossible to carry on, and had demanded an increase of the educational grant by £250. This the Governor and Council did not see their way to give.

Barbados—Princess Marie Louise visits Bridgetown.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., in a letter dated January 20, said that Princess Marie Louise, who had been a passenger in the *Oruba*, had landed on her way to Jamaica, and had taken breakfast with Sir Leslie Profyt at Government House.

The weather had been abnormal for January. It had been quite calm and sultry, and the usual cool breeze to which they were accustomed was absent. It was very dry and a good rain was badly wanted.

Regarding the weather and crop prospects the *Agricultural Reporter* stated that January, thus far, had given less rain than any corresponding month of the past six years. This following upon a dry spell during the latter part of December, rendered conditions in most districts less favourable than could be desired. The tender spires of the young canes would find advantage in moderate regular showers; and the old crop, even in the plant canes, would in general improve with a fuller supply of moisture; and the later ratoons needed something more than moderate rains during the early months of the year, if they were

to give account of themselves. On the other hand, dry weather was no doubt welcome for the present to those few on the hills, who were reaping their early ratoons that, having arrowed freely, ripened up rapidly after the rains ceased in the middle of December. Castle Grant made syrup in December, and continued grinding. Lammings, Mount Wilton, and Bushy Park were taking off some fourth-crop canes this week. A few others have been obliged to commence grinding, against their will, as they have had some canes burnt.

British Guiana—Amalgamation of Business Interests.

MR. J. C. MC COWAN reported on January 17th that a meeting of the Planters' Association was held on January 12th, when the following resolutions were passed:—

1. That this Association reaffirms its approval of the definition which for many years past has received general acceptance, viz., that the term Demerara sugar, as known in the grocery trade of the United Kingdom, applies only to sugar made in Demerara, or the neighbouring islands, by the Demerara process.

2. That this Association hereby records its denial of the assertion made publicly in the United Kingdom that dye is used in the manufacture of Demerara sugar.

3. That this Association expresses its approval of the formation of a Demerara Sugar Growers' League to protect the interests of Demerara sugar growers and to advertise and further the sale of such sugar in whatever way may seem advisable.

To mark the opening of their office in Georgetown, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., through their new local representatives, Mr. W. L. Harris and Mr. E. C. Skinner, invited the Governor and several members of the official and mercantile community to luncheon on board the *Berbice* on January 16th.

The last half yearly meeting of the British Guiana Bank was to be held on the 19th, when it was proposed to declare a dividend of 3 per cent. The meeting of the Hand in Hand Company was held on the 14th, when the customary dividend of 3 per cent. on the Scrip Capital was declared. The meeting of the British Guiana Mutual Insurance Co. had been called for the 19th.

The amalgamation of the business houses of Messrs. Garnett & Co., Ltd., and Messrs. S. Davson & Co., Ltd., as far as offices in London and British Guiana were concerned was announced.

The weather during the fortnight had set in dry, and good showers were wanted for young cultivation.

There had been a firmer feeling in the sugar market during the past week; \$1.90 may be said to be the price for export and 2 cents for good quality refining sugar for local consumption.

British Honduras—A Long Dry Season Wanted.

HON. ALAN DREDGE, writing on January 16th, said that the hiring season had passed off quietly and successfully, and Belize was rapidly resuming its normal aspect on the departure of gangs to the bush. Business in the town was good during the Christmas season.

It was probable that about the usual number of labourers had been hired for mahogany cutting in 1914, and whatever change there might be in their distribution was apparently due to a slackening of demand for this wood in the United States, where this particular trade did not seem to be as brisk as during the last year or two.

H.M.S. *Lancaster* was still at Belize, having made a prolonged stay during which an expedition was sent up to the Cayo, on the Guatemalan frontier, and some of the bluejackets and marines were camped at the barracks in the town.

There had been some echoes of the troubles in Mexico, which really did not seem to affect British Honduras much, except that at some points the confines of its territory were not altogether free from undesirable visitors from that country.

During the last three months of 1913 the rainfall had been heavy and continuous, amounting in Belize to nearly 60 inches in that period. In the interest of most of the Colony's industries a long dry season was now desired.

Dominica—The Prospects of the Coming Lime Crop.

MR. AGAR, referring in his letter of January 17th, to the lime industry, said that the exports fell off considerably in quantity in 1913, but if the crop year were taken, he did not think this would be found to be the case. Nearly all estates had good crops on the trees, which the extraordinary long spell of dry weather prevented planters from reaping. The fruit must come down soon, rain or no rain, but hanging on like this was likely to give a short flowering in February. Values for 1913 were probably in excess of anything hitherto exported, if fair values had been set down, and that year would go down to history as the standard of what planters ought to get for their lime products.

A most successful concert was held that week to get funds for an organ for the Wesleyan Church. The concert was organised by Mrs. Didier, and it must have added to her satisfaction at its success that her daughter, Miss Mabel Didier, who had come back from being educated in England, was the undoubted star of the evening.

Lately Dominica had been visited by several persons representing capital, and it seemed possible that they were on the eve of a big boom in development. With ordinary care, there were few better fields for the investment of capital than Dominica.

Jamaica—The Country Looking Exceedingly Well.

SIR JOHN PRINGLE, writing from Cape Clear on January 13th, said that the country was looking exceedingly well, and the prospects were good all over the island, except perhaps Vere, where it had been very dry. It was hoped, however, that the supplementary irrigation scheme now being worked would render this fertile division of Clarendon more or less independent of droughts.

Writing from Clarendon on January 14th, MR. ROBERT CRAIG said that the promise of good crops, except of sugar in Vere, and possibly elsewhere, seemed to have made people cheerful.

SIR JOHN PRINGLE, in a later letter, dated January 17th, said that the weather was fine and crops were looking well.

Montserrat—Favourable Weather for Cotton Growing.

MR. K. P. FENCHEON stated in a letter dated January 17th, that the weather had been dry for the past fortnight with a few showers on the evening of the 15th. This appeared more like a normal January than had been experienced for the past four years, and certainly a normal season suited cotton growing better than the excessive droughts and rains experienced for the past four years.—A considerable shipment of cotton would be sent by the S.S. *Hintang* of the East Asiatic Line in the following week. All were deeply grieved to hear of the loss of the *Cobeguid* on her return to Halifax after her first trip in the new Canadian R.M.S. service.

Nevis—The Advantages of Life in the Island.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, writing on January 16th, said that the island had been further favoured with quite a sprinkling of Canadian tourists, who all seemed agreed that for hotel accommodation Nevis could only be equalled by Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados and British Guiana, while for its boundless resources a young man might well give preference to Nevis in starting life over even Canada so good was the climate, so perfect the sanitary conditions, and so very good and cheap the living. The people of Nevis regretted the blunder made in the omitting the island from the itinerary of the new Canadian service. Residents in Nevis were beginning to feel very keenly their isolation from the outer world, they were beginning to think it was high time that the Government awakened from its lethargy and faced its moral obligation, to give to the community an efficient steam or other power boat to run between Nevis and St. Kitts. Six months had passed since the *Windrush* had ceased running between the islands, and travellers had been compelled to depend on wind power. It was about time that the Government were made to understand that they were guilty of rank waste of the taxpayers time and money when they compelled him to do a journey of 11 miles in 11 hours, and sometimes more, in this year of Grace 1914. Some measure must be adopted to give to the people of Nevis quick and safe transit to and from St. Kitts. The St. Kitts

Grammar School would be very much more patronised by Nevis boys if a proper boat was on the route, where boys could go and return, as the expense of keeping a child in St. Kitts was a great drawback to many. Then the inconvenience to members of the Council who might be willing to attend on a certain "oil calm day" and could not might well be imagined.—The weather for the days past in January had been hot and dry, and a few soaking showers were badly needed.—A new system of collecting the land tax was being adopted, instead of 3s. per acre for cane and 6d. for all other lands, 1s. 8d. for all cultivated land, and 6d. for uncultivated. It was left to be seen how this would work out.

St. Kitts Gymkhanas and Sports but no Hotel!

MR. E. J. SHELFOUR, writing on January 10th, said that except for the steamship service there was no doubt that the West Indian Colonies came out second best in the reciprocity business with Canada, and he would like to see a united protest from all the islands over the extension of the preference. News would have been received of the mishap to the R.M.S. *Cobeguid* as she was nearing the close of her first voyage. The first telegrams were vague, but it was hoped the vessel was not a total loss. It was a very unfortunate beginning to a new venture. No doubt it would be some time before the tourist traffic with Canada was developed. At present, however, there was no adequate or attractive accommodation for tourists in St. Kitts, and it was a pity for all for all parties concerned that Messrs. Gillespie & Co.'s excellent Bath House Hotel was located in Nevis and not in the larger island.

On January 6th at a meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society tribute was paid to the sterling qualities of the late President, the Hon. S. I. Horsford, and a resolution passed expressing regret at his death, and sympathy with the bereaved family. Mr. C. Forbes Todd was elected President, and Mr. R. A. Hartmann Vice-President for the year. The Committee on cotton had not yet completed its report; matters were somewhat complicated as a considerable quantity of St. Kitts grown cotton was ginned in Nevis and shipped from there.

Many would join in congratulating Mr. C. Forbes Todd, of Molineux Estate, who had been offered and was accepting the important post of Agricultural Attorney for the properties lately acquired in Trinidad by Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co. Mr. Todd was a good planter, a good neighbour, and a thoroughly good fellow, and his departure and that of his family would be a loss to St. Kitts and their large circle of relatives and friends.

There had also been a successful meeting of the Turf Club on the 8th. His Honour the Administrator, who presided, was a keen sportsman, and took a great interest in the welfare of the Club. His Honour was presenting a cup to be run for at the next August meeting. It was also decided to hold a Gymkhana on Easter Monday, and altogether a healthy desire was shown to keep some life in the place notwithstanding the atrociously hard times.—1914 had come in fair and there had been no rain to speak of for the month to date.

St. Lucia—The Duke of Manchester visits Castries.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON reported on January 16th that so far less than half an inch of rain had fallen in January, and the prospect of a long and severe drought seemed well founded. It was really delightful weather from every prospect but an agricultural one; already grass for animals was brown and uneatable on dry pastures, and the owners were beginning to ponder on ways of removing them. Cacao pickings were slacking off at present, but there was plenty in sight for the next three months; the crop, however, promised to stop almost dead at the end of April for no December flowers seemed to have held, and certainly very few January ones would, if any. The last of a very prolonged citrus crop was on the lime and orange trees. The sugar factories would be soon at work; it was ideal crop weather for them, and they might count on rich juice and small tonnage, which, added to present prices, was not an altogether welcome outlook for sugar producers.—His Excellency Sir James Hayes Sadler arrived in St. Lucia on the 15th, and would leave again by the mail on Sunday

for Grenada. On Saturday he was to preside at a Legislative Council, when it was expected that he would probably make some announcement concerning the Government's financial policy in the forthcoming estimates for 1914-5. At a previous Legislative Council, both officials and unofficials tendered to Mr. Cameron their congratulations on his recent promotion to Gambia. Mr. J. K. Vanderbilt's yacht with the Duke of Manchester and party on board had called at Castries.

St. Vincent—Mr. & Mrs. W. Barnard Return.

MR. W. N. SANDS, in a letter dated January 17th, expressed the regret with which all heard of the loss of the *Cobeguid*. Several people went on board the vessel when she called at St. Vincent on her way down, and little thought it would be her first and last trip to these islands.

Among the passengers who arrived by last mail from England were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Barnard.

Tobago—Proposed Centenary Celebrations

MR. ROBERT S. REID reported on January 14th that since last mail the criminal sessions had been held and the judge had, as usual, very light duties to perform. The usual meetings associated with the January sessions were held. At the club there was the usual annual meeting for the election of office bearers, and this year there were several changes, as some of the "veterans" had protested against re-election, and it was hoped that fresh blood might mean greater vitality in both. The Tennis Club was endeavouring to transfer its grounds nearer to Scarborough, as "Burleigh Castle" a mile distant was inconvenient for most of the players.—By the *Jamaica* that week quite a number of English visitors came over to inspect the various coco-nut plantations recently acquired by a London syndicate. The country looked its best and the weather was delightfully cool. The writer saw them enjoying a sea bath on Grafton beach, and doubtless they will combine pleasure with business during their short visit. The number of passengers of late had taxed the accommodation of the *Jamaica*, and those who had to take "smoking room" berths would be glad to welcome the new steamer expected in February.—Some welcome showers had fallen during the fortnight, and cacao was ripening fast. If these continued a good crop might yet be expected, although most planters were rather doubtful about the May/June pickings.—In the Leeward District the writer saw some evidence of "high cultivation" in coco-nuts which, if maintained, would bring the palms into bearing years ahead of the customary bush conditions. The dynamite cultivation experiments were said to be most satisfactory, but no authorized report had yet been issued.—Although rather late in the day, plans for the Centenary Celebrations were again coming to the front. It would be a pity if Tobago failed to join the other West Indian islands in celebrating the hundredth anniversary of definite incorporation in the British Empire.

Trinidad—Many Distinguished Visitors Arrive.

The little outbreak of yellow fever at Brighton was apparently all over, and clean bills of health were once more being issued. It was not to be expected with the splendid sanitary conditions existing on the property of the Lake Asphalt Company, that the disease would take any serious hold, but since the outbreak they had spent many thousands of dollars in extra precautions and measures of protection. American friends had taught the English much in this respect in Trinidad and elsewhere. Mr. Arthur Sewall, the justly popular and respected President of the Company, was on the spot all the time directing operations, and the Colony's as well as the employees' thanks were due to him.

Trinidad had been favoured with quite a plethora, but a welcome one, of distinguished visitors. First there was Princess Marie Louise, who passed through en route to Jamaica in the preceding week, and landed for the day. She would return later for a longer visit. And lying in the harbour were the yacht *Calania*, with the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland on board, and the two fine American yachts *Oneida* and *Warrior*. The *Oneida* was owned by Commodore E. C. Benedict, who had with him a party of friends. She had been to Trinidad before. The

Warrior brought the owner, Mr. F. W. Vanderbilt and wife, the Duke and Duchess of Manchester and Lord Falconer. They are all "doing" the country, and had beautiful weather to enable them to visit it in comfort and see Trinidad at its best. [The *Warrior* subsequently went ashore off the Spanish Main. Her passengers and crew were rescued by a steamer of the United Fruit Company, which took them to New York.]

Lady Le Hunte was again in Trinidad and among other things was taking a keen interest in the preparations for the West Indian Work Exhibition which was to be held at the Royal Victoria Institute on 26th February and five succeeding days. These Exhibitions which were held periodically had already taken place with much success at Barbados and St. Vincent, and every effort was being made by a Committee of energetic ladies, of whom special mention should be made of Mrs. S. W. Knaggs, wife of the Colonial Secretary, to achieve equal success in Trinidad. It was hoped that the Princess Marie Louise would honour the Exhibition with her presence.

The Governor was giving very cordial support and assistance to the proposal for the establishment of Agricultural Banks. A short time ago, a Committee appointed by His Excellency reported by a majority, mostly official, against the scheme. But Sir George was not satisfied. He referred the report to the Agricultural Society, a Committee of which body had taken the matter vigorously in hand. Mr. W. G. Freeman, who, in the absence of Mr. Rust, the former chairman of this Committee, had taken his place, had thrown himself into the matter with enthusiasm, and a scheme founded on the excellent one already adopted at St. Vincent, had been propounded. This was being submitted to all the District Agricultural Societies, which Mr. Freeman visited and personally addressed. The first of these country meetings was held at Arima, and was attended by the Governor, and the Assistant Director of Agriculture, both of whom, with others, addressed the members. When the opinions of agriculturists of all classes had been obtained through the medium of the District Societies, the Committee would report to the parent Society in Port of Spain, and it was hoped that 1914 would see a practical start made of these banks.—Mr. Watson Griffin, who had been specially commissioned by the Government of Canada to enquire and report on the trade of these Colonies with reference to the Dominion was in Trinidad and would stay for about ten days.

DEATH.

Jones.—On the 28th Jan., at Surbiton, Kate Emily Jones, daughter of the late Oswald Jones, of Barbados and Bermuda, aged 51 years. West Indian papers, please copy.

WANTS.

A Chartered Accountant of twenty years' experience who is proceeding to Jamaica about the end of February to reside there, will be pleased to negotiate with principals having interests in the West Indies, who might care to avail themselves of his services. Interview can be arranged before leaving England. Highest testimonials and references. Apply H. D., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Employment wanted by capable secretary and accountant, aged 45, who thoroughly understands West Indian Sugar business. Thirty years with the New Colonial Co., Ltd. Excellent references. G. M. Ohlson, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase, July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

For Sale.—Bound volume of *The Sugar-Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply F., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timehri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of *Timehri* for 1891. For sale: Part I., 1886; Part II., 1889; Part I., 1893, and Part I., 1894. Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

An Amateur "Military" Band for Barbados.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR.—The desire of the young men of the city for musical recreation has found expression in the decision at a meeting convened for the purpose to organize a large band, of military construction.

It is obvious that decades must pass before any but those able to travel can hope to hear a military band again. It must be equally clear that without such a band the interpretation of the best thoughts in music, the influence of their uplifting emotions or even the artistic rendering of the ordinary music which is the delight of the "man in the street," is a dead letter.

What that means to the Art life of a community cannot be told in a circular, but it is, we venture to think, an irresistible reason why you should give your generous support to the effort to produce music of the kind which should be the heritage of people living at the high standard of culture and refinement that this island lays claim to.

About 55 young men have enrolled as members of a band under the leadership of Mr. C. L. Elder, but the problem of raising the necessary funds has to be solved. It was decided at the meeting that the public who will enjoy the pleasure of having such a band in their midst may fairly be invited to assist in its formation. The initial equipment will cost £300. May we invite you to think of the movement in a national spirit and subscribe as well as you can to what we think will be an asset in the social life of the island.

It has always been the criticism against us that we have not the social institutions for recreation that one expects to find in countries of our standing, and this contention we have often been forced to own was not without foundation. We therefore appeal to you in all earnestness to subscribe to the best of your means to this effort which must be a source of pleasure to all who are interested in music.

All the members of the band will be given books to receive subscriptions but we should be glad if you would send an answer to this appeal to either of us.

A. F. A. CLAIRMONTE, Lower Broad Street.

C. E. ELDER, Registration Office.

H. P. KING, Central Agency.

Bridgetown, Barbados.

January 6th, 1914.

OUR LIBRARY.

Evaporation in the Cane and the Beet Sugar Factory: Edward Koppeschaar. Norman Rodger, St. Dunstan's Hill, E.C. 7s. 6d. net. Mr. Norman Rodger has added one more to the valuable works on sugar which he has published. Mr. Koppeschaar has handled his subject in an excellent manner. No part of the manufacture of sugar, whether it is of cane or beet, is of more importance than that of steam consumption, in these days when the question of a high or low fuel account may be identical with that of loss or profit in sugar making. The subjects dealt with include the use of steam in all the departments of the factory—heating, evaporation and crystallisation. The systems of "extra" heat and pre-evaporation are gone into in a plain and practical manner, and whatever there may be, of necessity, dry in the matter of calculations, is made interesting by the historical and descriptive text which which the book teems. The book, we need not say is excellently got up, and no sugar maker, to apply, in this case, the true, if somewhat trite, expression "should be without it."

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Joint-stock companies in and connected with the West Indies are invited to submit particulars regarding their operations for publication under the above heading.

The General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad. Ltd.

Mr. R. H. McCarthy presided on February 6th over an extraordinary general meeting of the General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad, convened to consider a resolution to wind up the company voluntarily. He stated that since the last meeting on December 31st everything with regard to the sale of their property to the Trinidad Leaseholders had been completed. The cash consideration had been received, and the shares were being held at their disposal, and other liabilities which the Central Mining Corporation took from them had been discharged. Nothing now remained for them but to take the necessary steps either to wind up the company or to keep it alive. He thought they were all to be congratulated on the position at which they had arrived. The resolution was agreed to.

Trinidad Government Inscribed Stock

Applications were invited on February 6th for £550,000 Trinidad four per cent Inscribed stock (1917-1942) at 99. Six months' interest is payable on September 15, 1914. The loan is raised to meet the cost of harbour improvements, waterworks, the main road scheme, the purchase and improvement of the Woodbrook estate, the purchase of a floating dock, and the cost of construction of other public works in the colony. The stock will be issued under the provisions of the General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, and will be in addition to and identical with the £422,593 four per cent. Inscribed Stock already quoted. The loan will be payable at par, on March 15, 1914, by a sinking fund of 1 per cent. per annum, but the Government of Trinidad will have the option of redemption at par on or after March 15, 1917, on six months'

The British Guiana Bank.

The Profit and Loss Account at December 31st, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, showed a credit balance of \$43,832.24. It is proposed to pay a dividend for the half-year of 34 per cent., which will absorb \$32,128.20, leaving \$11,850.02 to be carried to the Surplus Fund, which stands at \$253,312.37. The paid up capital stands at \$926,520; there is due to the public on account of lodgments, etc., \$1,456,099.92; drafts on London outstanding \$699,944.46; circulation \$359,420; dividends unclaimed, \$12,928.41; superannuation and retiring allowance fund, \$21,395.36. On the credit side there is: Due to the Bank on bills discounted, accounts current, etc., \$1,781,063.11; remittances to London, etc., outstanding, \$833,550.80; specie in treasury, cash in agents' hands, \$112,558.76; colonial bonds and other investments, including £21,500 lodged with the Crown Agents, \$915,171.50; investment in Sproston, Ltd., \$366,448.89; superannuation fund investments, \$21,260.30; and Bank premises, \$33,500.

The British Guiana Mutual Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Owing to the serious loss sustained in Georgetown, the director are unable to recommend an interim dividend on the scrip capital. The claims admitted for the six months aggregate \$28,769. Otherwise the business for the half-year has been most satisfactory, the policies issued numbering 207, insuring \$334,352 with annual premiums of \$3,580.03. Lapsed policies amounted to 149, insuring \$284,169, with \$2,368.07 annual premiums, the result showing an increase of 58 policies, insuring \$50,383, and \$1,011.96 in the annual premium income. The lapsed policies include 13, insuring \$27,700, with annual premiums of \$107.01 written off for claims by the fire of 22nd December. The net funds stood at \$758,861 at the end of 1913 by comparison with \$811,218.80 a year ago. It is mentioned that of the \$45,951.09 profit declared on the 30th June last \$5,170 was issued in debenture stock and \$40,781.09 was paid in cash.

The Hand In Hand Fire Insurance Co.

Though the total claims resulting from the recent fire in Georgetown have not been brought into account the half year ended December 31st last discloses the heaviest losses in the company's existence. They amounted to \$165,000; but of this total on the claims paid before the end of the year, viz., \$53,673.40 appear in the statement of revenue and expenditure. There were in force on the 31st December 4,172 policies, compared with 4,127 at the end of the previous year, representing insurances aggregating \$9,452,448 and \$9,533,793 at the respective dates, the premiums amounting to \$132,136 and \$133,598 respectively. The net funds, which stood at \$1,526,702 at the 30th June last and \$1,474,531 at 31st December, 1912, amounted to \$1,436,506 at the end of December last, and the net income from premiums and interest is now estimated at \$199,000, as against \$201,900 twelve months ago. The premiums collected during the half year amounted to \$64,869, compared with \$64,662 for the corresponding six months of 1912, and the interest and dividends for the respective periods were \$31,660 and \$33,228. The investment reserve fund stands now at \$33,470 compared with \$31,656 at the end of the previous year. For the six months reported on the expenses of management totalled \$11,059, as against \$12,111 for the corresponding six months in 1912, and the premiums on policies lapsed for the half-year and not entitled to profit amount to \$3,084.56, compared with \$2,030.31 for the six months ended December 31st, 1912.

The New Colonial Company, Ltd.

Under a compulsory winding-up order made against the New Colonial Company, Ltd., 10-11, Mining Lane, B.C., accounts have been lodged showing total liabilities £656,792 18s. 10d., of which £213,883 7s. 6d. was expected to rank, there being fully secured creditors for £206,264 13s. 11d., and partly secured creditors of £134,947 11s. against which there were securities of £37,455 15s. The paid up capital amounted to £168,185, and the total deficiency is £614,068 7s. 6d. Mr. W. J. Warley, the official receiver, in his report states that the company was formed in July, 1897, with a nominal capital of £500,000, to take over the assets and undertaking of the Colonial Company, Ltd., which had been carrying on business as sugar planters, etc., in British Guiana, Trinidad, and elsewhere since 1865. Under the scheme the company, in payment of the purchase consideration, issued to the Debenture holders of the Colonial Company, Ltd., Debenture stock for £500,000, and allotted to the old shareholders 16,874 Preference shares of £5 with £2 10s. paid up, 5,874 Ordinary shares with £1 paid up and 20,889 Ordinary £5 shares fully paid up. The uncalled capital was subsequently paid up and the total issued capital is £168,185. The trading for the first few years resulted in profits, but subsequent to 1901 it was less successful, owing to small crops, low prices and cost of maintaining the company's estates and sugar factories in an efficient state. The business was latterly financed by the company's broker, Mr. C. Czarnikow, who received a prior charge on the Trinidad estates and crops as well as other securities. The Porto Rico factory and estates were sold in 1908 for \$550,000. In April, 1913, Mr. Czarnikow refused to make further advances to the company and took foreclosure proceedings in Trinidad, thereby bringing the business to an end. On the application of a Debenture holder, Sir William B. Peat was, on 11th April, 1913, appointed as receiver and manager and is now in possession. The failure of the company is attributed partly to the bad 1911-12 crop in British Guiana and Trinidad, caused by severe drought, and to a plague of frog-hoppers in Trinidad, partly to the expense of remodelling a factory in Trinidad and partly to the shortness of free working capital, and to the very low price of sugar at the time of the suspension of the company's business.

The official receiver states in conclusion that there is no prospect of any assets becoming available for payment of the unsecured claims, and consequently there can be no return to shareholders.

Dividend	Latest Quotations.	Prices
4 %	Antigua ... 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	Feb. 7, 98-100x
3 1/2 %	Barbados ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1925-42	89-91
4 %	British Guiana ... 4 % Redeemable 1935	99-100
4 %	British Guiana ... 3 % Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
4 %	Grenada ... 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
4 %	Jamaica ... 4 % Redeemable 1934	100-102
3 1/2 %	Jamaica ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49	88-90
3 1/2 %	Jamaica ... 3 % Redeemable 1927-44	76-80
4 %	St. Lucia ... 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	96-98
4 %	Trinidad ... 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
3 %	Trinidad ... 3 % Redeemable 1921-44	77-79
6 %	The Colonial Bank ...	57-61
12 %	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchange)	3228
4 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	109-114
4 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	101-104
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	103 1/2-103 3/4
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures	103 1/2-103 3/4
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	98-101
6 %	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	71
6 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 4 % Debentures	101-104
6 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. (£1) 5 % Non-cum Pref.	76-79
6 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	105-108
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	101-104
7 %	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)	101-104
7 %	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	101-104
7 %	United Brit. W. I. Pet. Syndicate "A shares" (£1)	101-104
7 %	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	33-38
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref.	101-111
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.	84-87
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	90-91
7 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 7 1/2 % Debentures	97-99
7 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	91-94
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 1/2 % Cum. 1st Pref.	91-94
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. "2nd"	9-94
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures	97-99

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Dr. A. T. Ozzard, M.R.C.S., has been appointed Resident Surgeon, Public Hospital, Georgetown, British Guiana, and Dr. C. F. Castor, M.B., C. M., has been appointed Resident Surgeon, Public Hospital, Suddie, and Government Medical Officer for Suddie District.

Mr. R. C. Grannum (Receiver-General) has been appointed a member of the Executive Council of the Colony of British Guiana; and Mr. G. O'D. Walton (magistrate) has been nominated an official member of the Legislative Council of the Presidency of St. Christopher and Nevis.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. S. Garraway	Mr. C. Richter
Professor P. Caruody	Mr. John T. Greg	Mr. V. C. Robertson
Mr. Cecil H. Chambers	Mr. A. R. G. Hunter	Mr. J. W. Russell
Mr. R. Dumaret	Dr. G. L. Latour	and
Mr. P. R. K. Esdaile	Mr. F. N. Martinez	Mr. Win Smith
Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.		
Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton.		
Mr. J. C. Henderson, c/o Haven Green, Broadway, Ealing, W.		
Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meiton House, New Quay, Cardiganhire		
Mr. D. McPhail, c/o S. A. C. Todd, Esq., 26, Bothwell Street, Glasgow		
Mr. H. C. Morcom, Great Meols, Hoylake, Cheshire		
Mr. M. A. Pereira, B. Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W		
Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Bellingham Road, Herne Bay, Kent		
Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.		

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), Feb. 5th. "A few showers have fallen but more rain is much wanted."

Demerara (Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.) Jan. 26th. "Weather continues too dry." (Messrs. Corbin, Campbell & Co.), Jan. 30th. "Weather dry, canes suffering." (Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.), Feb. 1st.

* Weather dry and unfavourable." Feb. 5th. " Some rain has fallen generally since last message. A few light showers have fallen, but more rain much wanted East Coast." (Messrs Henry K. Davson & Co.), **Berbice**, Feb 5th, " All estates 2 1/2 inches rain." Feb. 6th, " Weather is suitable." Messrs Curtis, Campbell & Co., Feb. 7th, " Rain has just commenced to fall. Nice rains have fallen in **Berbice**." **Jamaica** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), week ended Jan. 28th, **PORT ANTONIO**, " Fine." **KINGSTON**, " Fine."

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus* (Captain S. W. Plunkett), Feb. 25th:—

Mrs. S. A. Lang	Mrs. Warnock	Mr. F. R. Dorkett
Mr. L. Dent	Mr. A. P. Catherall	Mr. J. S. Matthews
Mr. H. Clarke	Mr. E. Boucher	Mrs. S. M. Schmidt
Mr. W. H. Trollope	Mr. A. Findlater	and
Mr. & Mrs. S. C. Ashlin	Mr. & Mrs. C. H. Henton	Captain and Mrs. Stal-
Lieut.-Colonel and	Misses Henton (2)	ford-Northcote
Mrs. G. L. Swain	Mr. & Mrs. Langworth	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Trent* (Captain W. C. Barrett), March 11th:—

Air Kay Muir, Bart.	Misses Sandford (3)	Mrs. P. Mackintosh
Lady Muir	Mr. P. T. Stolterfoht	and
Mrs. Sandford	Miss R. Nicolson	Mr. J. Wild

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Danube* (Captain F. M. Watson), Southampton, February 2nd:—

Mr. & Mrs. F. Armstrong	Dr. & Mrs. Hinsbhelwood	Mr. P. T. Oswin
Mr. & Mrs. G. Allen	Mr. Hackney	Mr. P. Oswin
Miss Bower	Miss R. Hazelden	Miss E. Padday
Mr. R. C. Boyle	Mr. C. D. Hooghe	Miss M. A. Peters
Mr. H. Boyle	Mr. B. Henriquez	Mrs. M. M. Parker
Mr. & Mrs. F. C. Bram-	Mr. A. D. Henderson	Rev. Father Peustings
well	Mr. E. Hargreave	Mr. & Mrs. B. C. Snyth-
Mr. & Mrs. G. Bretand	Mr. G. F. Huff	Pigott
Mr. J. S. Bailey	Mr. S. T. James	Mr. R. Powell
Dr. & Mrs. K. St. John	Mrs. E. M. James	Miss Julia Pro
Brooks	Mr. and Mrs. R. H.	Mr. J. W. Pinkham
Colonel V. Couper	Jacques	Miss V. Phillips
Miss F. Cook	Mr. & Mrs. M. Jacques	Mrs. Raleigh
Mr. H. Castro	Mr. and Mrs. T. M. C.	Mr. G. W. Roberts
Mr. C. Cooper	Lewis	Mr. G. Robson
Mr. A. P. Catherall	Mrs. J. Lovelock	Mr. G. T. Ross
Mrs. G. R. Corea	Mr. A. R. Lovelock	Mrs. and Miss Swayne
Mr. J. Dawson	Mr. A. Laidlaw	Mr. A. J. Strassberger
Mr. & Mrs. F. R. Durham	Mrs. Litchmore	Mrs. W. M. B. Shields
Miss E. Dudgeon	Mr. & Mrs. K. Lan-	Mrs. G. W. Scott
Mr. T. Dodgins	kaster	Misses Scott (2)
Mr. G. Day	Majot & Mrs. G. W. G.	Mr. A. Sterry
Mr. B. Drayton	Lindesay	Mr. D. W. Scotland
Lady Julia Follett	Mrs. J. S. de Leguia	Captain and Mrs. W.
Mr. Foley	Misses Leguia (3)	Tumbridge
Sir Robert and Lady	Mr. A. Leguia	Mr. and Mrs. C. Temple
Fulton	Mr. G. L. Lyons	Mr. E. T. Tyson, J. P.
Miss Fulton	Mr. N. T. Lawson	Mr. C. R. Thornton
Mr. G. Rae Fraser	Mr. C. Moore	Mr. H. Tuckey
Mr. W. Ford	Lieut.-Colonel D. P.	Miss Tinday
Mrs. H. L. McCavan	MacDonald	Mr. and Mrs. G. Vogel
Mr. C. Gomes	Mr. T. Middlemore	Mr. and Mrs. T. H.
Miss A. E. Gairdner	Mr. & Mrs. A. Morrison	Whitley
Mr. W. A. Griffin	Mr. N. Mountain	Mr. W. P. Wackerhath
Mr. E. A. Hard	Mr. W. Morgan	Captain and Mrs. J. I.
Mr. Rowland Hill	Mr. Mulready	Wood, D.S.O.
Lieut.-Colonel Curtis	Mr. C. H. Mounsey	Mr. G. D. Wright
Hayward	Mr. R. C. H. Maxwell	and
Miss Curtis Hayward	Miss O. Montagu	Mr. J. W. White
Mr. W. G. Helpman		

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Danube</i>	Feb. 10, midnight
West Indies	Glasgow	<i>Crown of Granada</i>	11, 4.30 p.m.
West Indies	Dartmouth	<i>Serston</i>	13, noon
West Indies	Portland	<i>St. Croix</i>	20, 11 a.m.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Tagus</i>	21, midnight

HOMEWARD.		Due.
Southampton	West Indies	<i>Tagus</i>
		Feb. 16.

Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially addressed. † Except Jamaica; In E.C. district up to 1 p.m.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Jan. 15.	1914	1913	Tons.
Sugar	4,535	5,443	42	—
Molasses	508	—	—	—
Rum	14,478	243,680	2,550	2,540
Molascuit, &c.	54	866	—	—
Cacao	2,055	—	329,616	120,960
Coffee	—	—	216,832	114,440
Coco-nuts	40,000	23,708	No	No
Oranges	—	—	401,500	512,500
Bananas	—	—	289,500	324,000
Cotton	—	—	193,266	70,152
Pimento	—	—	—	—
Ginger	—	—	4,190	5,092
Honey	—	—	—	—
Dyewoods	—	—	408	1,050
Gold	3,087	2,040	2,739	13,210
Diamonds	964	—	—	—
Rice	595,890	186,644	—	—
Balata	7,294	83,851	—	—
Rubber	—	—	—	—
Timber	—	—	—	—
Lumber	—	—	—	—
Lime (citrate of)	—	—	—	—

Trinidad.		Barbados.	
Jan. 1 to Jan. 17.	1914	1913	1912.
Sugar	165	—	21,556
Molasses	—	—	83,248
Rum	—	—	—
Coco-nuts	256,520	113,850	No.
Asphalt	2,763	3,095	Tons.
Mazjak	—	—	21
Butters	—	—	570
Coffee	—	—	754
Crude Petrol	12,145,234	13,054,685	Galls.
Cacao	4,642,400	1,720,200	lbs.
Cotton	—	—	—
Seed	—	—	—
Copra	345	375	Bags
Spice	—	—	—
Kola	—	—	—

Grenada.		
1913/14	1912/13	
Artwrt.	4,014,255	3,315,000
Cacao	172,868	176,350
Cotton	476,695	426,030
Seed	1,105,804	1,170,523

Dominica.	
Jan. 1 to Oct. 31.	1913
Cacao	811,112
Limes	38,921
Lime Juice, raw	312,928
" concentrated	78,994
" Citrate of	347,056
Lime Oil, distilled	3,482
" equalled	862
Hardwood	62,416
Bananas	2,943
Coco-nuts	371,894

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Danube* (Captain F. M. Watson) February 11th:—

Mr. & Mrs. C. Thellus-	Mr. D. W. Ruskack	Miss S. M. Miehlena
son	Mr. A. J. Ramsey	Mrs. D. Webster
Mr. F. Abbot	Mrs. Corbett	Mr. & Mrs. G. W. Service
Mr. F. Cookson	Hon. H. Gollan	Commander G. Massey,
Mr. and Mrs. F. Tracey	Mr. Vyvyan Board	R.N.
Sir John Smiley	Mr. & Mrs. R. H. Willis	Commander G. Massey,
Mr. and Mrs. H. Heber-	Colonel F. Townshend	Junr.
Percy	Mr. E. G. Fraser Luckie	Mr. J. M. R. Francis
Misses Darby (2)	Mr. G. T. A. Atkinson	Mrs. & Miss E. R. Keou
Mrs. Davies	Mr. C. T. A. Pollack	Mrs. G. Irvine
Mr. L. de Tollenaere	Mr. P. F. M. Richards	Mr. H. Edgley-Taylor
Mr. A. W. Ibbett	Miss Skerritt	Mr. T. C. B. Udale
The Rt. Rev. The Bishop	Mr. Huttenhei	Mr. E. Dutchman
of Trinidad	Dr. E. Neubauer	Mr. A. S. Marks
Mrs. Welsh	Mr. & Mrs. Gooden-	Mr. A. Marquez
Mr. G. Barnyard	Chisholm	Mr. & Mrs. L. S. Sordo
Mr. W. Measures	Miss C. Bowring	Mr. A. Ives
Mr. C. H. Sills	Mr. G. C. Dalton	Mr. A. A. Richards
Mr. H. S. Jones	Mr. W. Bawdon	Mr. J. S. MacLaren
Mr. & Mrs. W. Campbell	Mr. H. V. Cholmeley	Mr. and Mrs. A. Kidson
Jones	Mr. S. Milligan	Mr. A. Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. W. Anderson	Mr. J. Wade	Mr. A. B. Collier
Mr. & Mrs. McWilliam	Rev. A. E. Pellerin	Mr. J. T. F. Knight
Mrs. R. A. Low	Mr. A. E. Brown	Mr. C. Delaunay
Mr. J. K. Bateman	Mr. S. Quess	Mr. R. A. FitzHerbert
Mr. N. Scholcs	Majot C. Robertson	Mr. C. W. Carter
Miss L. P. Atkins	Sir H. Praed, Bart.	Mr. C. C. Skytte
Mrs. T. Smalley	Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Brown	and
Mr. and Mrs. J. Ralston	Miss Hill Climo	Mrs. G. L. Bailey

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½%) 76

SUGAR.—In New York last week quotations after having dropped away .06 cents advanced again to 2.98 cents for 89% Muscovados, and 3.48 cents for 96% centrifugals, the latter equal to 95. 9d. c.i.f. New York.

In the London speculative beet market the movements in the earlier part of the fortnight were in the direction of lower prices consequent upon easier Continental advices, and some liquidation, but later on the market became steadier owing to lower Cuban receipts than anticipated, and as a result of cables stating the weather was partially unfavourable; these cables being unconfirmed afterwards and Mr. Cuna stating "copious beneficial rains improving cane fields, retarding receipts and grinding," in addition to higher American advices with further bear covering had the effect of imparting firmness to the market. Speculative buying of new crop had also been in evidence. The Cuban receipts for the 6 ports for week were 54,000 tons as against 81,000 last year. Total for 6 ports since 1st December last 306,000 tons against 321,000 last year. All ports for the week 78,000 tons as against 107,000 last year. Total receipts for all ports since 1st December last 481,000 as against 457,000 last year. Centrals at work 163 as against 164 last year. The future of the market depends to a great extent on the course of prices in America; for a decline there would create active competition between Cuban and Beetroot sugars.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: Jan. 27th, 9s. 3d.; 28th, 9s. 3d.; 29th, 9s. 2½d.; 30th, 9s. 2½d.; 31st, 9s. 2½d.; Feb. 2nd, 9s. 1½d.; 3rd, 9s. 2½d.; 4th, 9s. 2½d.; 5th, 9s. 3½d.; 6th, 9s. 3d.; 7th, 9s. 2½d.; 9th, 9s. 3½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914.	1913.	1912.
Europe (1st & 31st Jan.) ...	4,069,200	3,940,830	2,758,290
United States (4th Feb.) ...	123,000	54,430	109,820
Cuba, 6 'pal ports (4th Feb.)	152,000	74,000	121,000
Cargoes afloat (5th Feb.)	—	—	58,960

Total ... Tons 4,344,200 4,069,260 3,048,070
Quotations of 88% Beet, 9th Feb. ... 9s. 3½d. 9s. 6d. 9s. 3½d.

Grocery West Indian.—The Crystallised market was quiet but steady at the auctions last week, when about 750 tons were offered; the demand, however, was very slow, and in consequence only a small portion was sold, prices however show practically no change for the fortnight. The business recorded has ranged for Demerara from 13s. 9d. to 16s. and 16s. 9d. for fine colory, for Trinidad from 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d., for Surinam from 13s. 3d. to 14s.

Muscovados.—No business reported. **Syrups.** Steady. Demerara sold at 9s. 10½d. to 11s., and 11s. 9d. to 13s.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	3,870	4,885	2,154	4,587	3,210
Deliveries ...	2,095	2,853	2,895	3,588	3,578
Stocks (Jan. 31st)	13,481	3,871	3,749	5,357	4,707
Quotations of medium qualities, crystallised, Feb. 6th:—	14s.	17s. 4½d.	20s. 6d.	17s. 6d.	14s. 10½d.

RUM.—Stocks in London, Jan. 31st:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica ...	5,956	6,722	8,242	8,585	8,101
Demerara ...	8,730	7,612	6,439	7,167	8,852
Total, all kinds	21,544	22,525	22,860	24,303	25,049

The proof market continues steady at practically unchanged prices, although the tendency is to rather easier values. For Jamaicas the same condition prevails as before; the want of supplies checking business.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, Jan. 31st.

	1914	1913	1912.	1911.	1910
Trinidad ...	7,891	2,885	3,892	4,642	8,521
Grenada...	6,454	3,175	9,654	12,406	20,591
Total of all kinds	81,773	68,110	108,045	98,523	102,153

Two auctions have been held in the fortnight at which some 13,400 bags of all kinds were offered; of which 6,717 bags were West India, out of these 5,352 bags were sold at steady to dearer prices; Trinidad realising for plantation an advance of 1s., while good middling red sold at 64s. Grenada also fetched steady prices to 6d. to 1s. advance for common grades. Other West India consisting of Dominica, St. Lucia, Jamaica and St. Vincent brought steady to 6d. dearer prices. There has been an improved demand and the market has been firm with a good business passing. Quotations after the last sales were Trinidad middling to red 62s. to 62s. 6d., good middling red 63s. to 64s., fine and superior 65s. to 67s.; Grenada ordinary to good fair 56s. to 59s., middling to fine 60s. to 62s.

In Trinidad on Jan. 19th it is reported that the spot market has not declined to the same extent as values abroad, and there was keen buying during the fortnight at from \$12.50 to \$13.00 per fanega, the equivalent of 56s. 6d. to 58s. 6d. cost and freight Havre per 50 kilos. according to quality.

COFFEE. Santos, March, 44s. 10½d.; July 46s. 4½d.

The spot market has been firm towards the close of the fortnight. Friday week's auctions were rather irregular in tendency; but last Tuesday's showed strong competition for Costa Rica and an advance from 1s. to 2s. was obtained chiefly for second sizes. East India also sold well. Jamaica in barrels and bags were mostly sold.

Futures after fluctuations show an advance of about 6d. since last mail.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended 5th Feb., 177 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland state that a good business has been done in West Indian Sea Island cotton since last report, and the demand is confined almost entirely to the better qualities. The sales amounted to about 350 bales, chiefly Nevis, St. Kitts and Montserrat 17d. to 20d., with a few finer lots at 21d. to 22d.; the sales also included St. Vincent 20d. to 22d., and Barbados 17½d. to 18½d.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice—(Raw) Quiet. Dominica ordinary to good, 11d. to 1s. 3d. **Essential Oil** (distilled) Small sales 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. **Otto of Limes** (handpressed) Quiet. Value 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. **Concentrated**—Lower. Buyers at £21 10s.

PIMENTO—Dull. **NUTMEGS.**—Prices unchanged. **GINGER.**—Quiet. **COPRA.**—Fair merchantable West India Copra value £29 10s., market steady but quiet. **MACE.**—No change in quotations. **ARROWROOT.**—Under 100 barrels reported as sold at 3½d. to 4½d. Quotations 3d. to 4½d.

RUBBER. Plantation No 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 6d. smoked sheet 2s. 6½d., fine hard Para 3s. 1½d. as against 4s. 2½d. in 1913, do. soft 2s. 10½d. as against 4s. 1d. in 1913, Castilloa sheet 1s. 8d. as against 3s. 8d. in 1913; scrap 1s. 4d. as against 3s. 3d. in 1913. **BALATA**—Sheet, 3s. (landed) as against 3s. 5d. in 1913, and Block, 2s. 0½d. c.i.f. as against 2s. 3½d. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL.—American, 8d.; Water White, 9d.; Russian, 7½d.; Roumanian, 7½d.; and Galician, 7½d.

LOGWOOD.—Quiet, no change to record.

TIMBER. Mahogany—Two auctions were held last week at which there was a satisfactory demand at steady rates for better class logs of fair size, but the disinclination to purchase inferior logs shown at the previous sales was again very marked, and a good deal of that class of wood had to be withdrawn. **HONDURAS.**—Squared, sizeable logs, in good condition, continue in satisfactory demand and at very full rates, but buyers' interest in inferior and small logs is still declining.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . . West India Committee Circular.

Vol. XXIX.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone 15, SEETHING LANE,
6647 CENTRAL. LONDON, E.C.,
Telegrams:
CARIB, LONDON. February 23rd, 1914.

MAJOR BURDON'S ROAD SCHEME.

ON January 30th, the Legislative Council of Dominica unaniously approved a programme of road development submitted to them by the Acting Administrator, MAJOR J. A. BURDON. We have no hesitation in describing this programme as one of the most able and important documents which has reached us from Dominica for many years past, and without any disrespect to Mr. C. E. DRAYTON, the Administrator-elect of the island, we cannot refrain from saying that it enhances the regret which we feel that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has not seen his way to confirm the writer of it in his position as Administrator of the island. Provided that the programme, which in the main has the approval of the Colonial Office, is adopted in its entirety, it is not too much to say, as Dr. H. A. NICHOLLS did in the interesting debate regarding it in the Council, that it will mark an important epoch in the history of the island. During the eight months in which he has administered the government of Dominica, MAJOR BURDON has been at pains to ride and tramp over practically every so-called road and trace of Dominica, and it is probable that he knows more about the lie of the land than many permanent residents in the island do themselves. Without entering closely into details, it may be mentioned that the actual programme contains two main features, namely: (1) the construction of a highway in the shape of an inverted letter S, quartering the whole island from Portsmouth to Grand Bay, and (2) a highway north along the leeward coast as far as St. Joseph. These two together would give every important or popu-

lous district, save one, direct land communication with Roseau. The first would connect Portsmouth and La Soye via the Imperial Road with Roseau and Grand Bay, while the second would provide the outlet to Roseau and the south, for all the leeward valleys that debouch on it. The only alternative that could legitimately be put forward as a comprehensive scheme or a framework for future roads would be the improvement of the coast road round the island in place of making the highway diagonally across. But MAJOR BURDON considers that this might form the basis for a secondary scheme. With regard to finance, MAJOR BURDON believes that £28,000 may safely be spent on the road programme for the next five years, namely from April, 1914, to March, 1919. This sum is considerably in excess of the amount foreshadowed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who, as we are pleased to recognise, has given far more attention to this road question than many persons concerned with the welfare of Dominica may be inclined to think; but MAJOR BURDON shows that though the surplus now available is only £8,000, the progress of the island is so rapid that there is every good reason to believe that the balance of £20,000 will be obtainable from the current revenue of this and the next four years. Much now depends upon the attitude of the new Administrator, Mr. C. E. DRAYTON, and though some little time must necessarily elapse before he acquires the requisite local knowledge, it can hardly be believed that he will be opposed to the unanimous views of the Legislative Council. The old maps of Dominica make it appear that the island is favoured with a perfect net work of roads, but the majority of these are only the old French traces, which in nearly every instance have been rendered quite unfit for traffic, and the credit will rest with MAJOR BURDON for having devised a really business-like and practicable scheme for establishing those means of communi-

eration on which the future prosperity of Dominica, the third largest of our West Indian islands, must inevitably depend.

THE BANANA AND HEALTH.

THE ignorance of even well-educated people regarding the nature of the most ordinary articles of diet is truly appalling. What, for instance, is really known about tea, coffee, and sugar? How many people know what is the cause of the difference between black and green tea; or to what the colour of Demerara sugar is due? One might multiply such instances indefinitely of the failure of our educational system to supply us with easily acquired and most interesting facts about various articles of food, and also some knowledge of dietetics, which would guide us in our choice of food-stuffs. Lamentable as such general ignorance is, it is wholly inexcusable, when exhibited in the pages of a medical journal, ostensibly devoted to the dissemination of accurate and scientific knowledge among officers of health. We refer to an article that appeared lately in the *Medical Officer* from the pen of a DR. G. A. STEPHENS, suggesting a causal connection between bananas and appendicitis. This article informs us that negroes can live and flourish on banana-food, which is "intended for food for niggers and not for white men, for those living in the banana-growing area with a constantly high climatic temperature, and not for those whose country and climate produce food of quite a different, though more satisfactory, a (sic) nature." If it were true, as the writer implies that we should only make use of such foods as can be produced in the country we inhabit, we, in the British Isles, should have to refuse not only bananas, but also tea, coffee, cane sugar, oranges, tapioca, sago and arrowroot; and we presume that such foreign drugs as quinine, strychnine and opium in all their forms should also be banished from the British Pharmacopœia. Another equally "credible" piece of information is that "there are at least five kinds of bananas, three only of which are eaten by the natives, whilst the other two are exported for our sole benefit! We apparently are prepared to eat anything, from the carcasses condemned by the Jews to the bananas thrown away and despised by the niggers." As a matter of fact there are many more than five kinds of bananas, but of them two kinds, the "Jamaican" and the "Chinese" or "Canary" bananas, so far from being despised as food, are pre-eminent above all others for general use by white men as well as negroes in the countries where they are grown, and are also the only kinds suited for transport to distant countries. We might have included such views as those stated above in the general ignorance of most people on the subject of food generally, but we had an idea that at any rate medical men after years of special study of everything connected with the health and well-being of man, would have known better, and would also have been incapable of writ-

ing such a paragraph as the following: "That bananas have an effect on the intestine is well known from the fact that they are considered so good for and given so frequently to children for aperient purposes, an object that is achieved by intestinal irritation of some kind or other." Even laymen, however ill-informed they may be, know well enough that it is necessary that our diet should consist in some measure at least of fruit and vegetables, and that these are especially necessary in the case of children without reference to "aperient purposes." The reason why the thoroughly ripe or cooked banana is an ideal food for children and invalids, is that almost the whole, if not actually the whole, of the banana substance is capable of absorption, and that there is nothing whatever that can possibly cause irritation in the intestines. We all know how Stanley in "Darkest Africa" tells how his life was saved when dying of dysentery, through being fed on porridge made of banana flour,—the only food that can be retained in such a case because of total absorption and absolute freedom from irritating qualities. But all this, and much more of a similar style of writing is adduced in support of a theory that appendicitis is due to the use of the banana as food. Similar wild theories have been started in former days with as little reason, that is without a particle of evidence, such as that cancer is caused by eating tomatoes, and that appendicitis is a direct consequence of consuming currants. Who is it that starts these theories? Are there practical jokers among our medical men? They are all excellent examples of a very common fallacy, known amongst logicians as that of *post hoc ergo propter hoc*. Our latest practical joker states that there has been a large increase during the last few years in the consumption of bananas, and that there has also been a marked increase in cases of appendicitis; therefore banana-food is the cause of appendicitis!

The whole article would be amusing, if we did not fear that the idea may become current amongst that very class, namely the poor, who have specially benefited by the introduction of a large supply of good cheap food. But our theorist gives himself away and destroys his own case by stating: "It is worthy of observation that one does not find much, if any, appendicitis among those who live below the poverty line, for the simple reason that they have no pennies to spare on such a 'luxury' as a banana." It is just this class who have discovered the food value of the banana, and who judiciously exchange their half-pennies for the fruit on the costers' barrows, which is not only a luxury, but is at the same time, an exceedingly wholesome article of food. If we also may be allowed to indulge in a little theoretical speculation, we will take another paragraph as a basis: "How often is a hurried lunch made of a few bananas when there has been no time for something more substantial and more satisfactory; under such circumstances, three or even six, bananas are consumed for filling if not for feeding purposes." We will now ask our readers

if it is not evident from this paragraph that the writer was suffering from an attack of indigestion brought on by eating six unripe bananas, and that he nevertheless bravely laboured away, even while he was suffering untold agonies, at an article for his medical journal, which would benefit mankind, and at the same time allow him to wreak his vengeance on that unholy thing—the banana. We must admit that to eat an unripe banana is not a wise thing to do, but why need one do so when we can refuse to buy any but soft ripe fruit with mottled or even black skins, or else cook the yellow unripe banana? We trust that those contemporaries which have quoted Dr. Stephens remarkable article will give equal publicity to the statements of SIR DANIEL MORRIS on the subject, which we have been privileged to publish in the present issue.

CANADA'S IDEA OF RECIPROCITY.

DISSATISFACTION continues to be expressed in the West Indies at the action of Canada in giving to Mauritius and other British colonies the full benefits of the West Indian Trade Agreement without insisting upon any tariff concessions being given in return. In both the West Indies and Canada the refusal of the Secretary of State to forward the protests of Trinidad on the subject to the Dominion Government is very naturally resented. In some quarters the fact that Barbados has extended the preference to "the United Kingdom, Canada and any other British country,"—or, in a word, to the whole Empire—is adduced as evidence to prove that the delegates to the Ottawa Conference were fully aware that the preferential tariff under the trade agreement might be enjoyed by any part of the Empire without reciprocity. But Barbados stands alone in this respect, and it must be admitted that it is not easy to divine the reason for her action. In not a single other instance is there the least evidence that the principle of free admission of the rest of the Empire to the benefits of the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement was accepted, and it is inconceivable that the West Indian delegates to the Ottawa Conference can have been knowingly parties to such a one-sided arrangement as that by which the West Indies have to pay for what Mauritius and other British colonies get for nothing. If it was understood all along that the preference under the agreement was to be Empire-wide in application, we may again ask why the Bahamas, Bermuda, British Honduras, Grenada (which has since come into the fold), Jamaica and Newfoundland were singled out under schedule D "to enjoy for a limited time benefit of agreement with Canada." The serious aspect of the position is that the admission of Mauritius, by providing a quantity of preferential sugar which will exceed the requirements of Canadian consumers, gives the Canadian sugar buyer the complete control of the eastern sugar markets, while the admission of Fiji reduces to vanishing point the hope that the West Indies may be able to send sugar through the Panama Canal and market it on the

western seaboard of Canada. Again, the admission to the preference of the colonies on the West Coast of Africa introduces an element of unfair competition with the cacao producers in Grenada and Trinidad, who will have to share the burden of making good the loss of revenue which will result from reciprocity. We are sorry to have to put it so tersely, but there can be no doubt that the West Indies have been completely hoodwinked, and it is not surprising that the West Indian colonies concerned, and especially Trinidad and British Guiana, whose interests in the agreement outweigh those of the other colonies, should feel sore at the action of Canada with regard to Mauritius, which has not been in accordance with the spirit of the trade agreement. What this spirit was, we state in Mr. Foster's own words. At the banquet given to him by the West India Committee in July 1912, to celebrate the conclusion of the Agreement, that gentleman said, "But sir, underneath all this was the basis of British sentiment, the feeling that we would draw ourselves closer together, and thereby link up a certain portion of the territory of the Empire more closely by adding to our loyalty of sentiment the interchange of products and the good feeling which would arise therefrom." Is the free inclusion of Mauritius in accordance with the spirit of the agreement as put forward by Mr. Foster? One point has been made very clear, and that is that Jamaica and the other colonies enumerated in schedule D of the Agreement which refused to join in that agreement are now placed in a particularly favourable position with regard to the preference, for it is inconceivable that Canada will venture to penalize them, as they threaten to do at the end of three years, while giving the preference to other parts of the Empire for nothing. If our Canadian contemporary, which professes to have the interests of the West Indies at heart while it voices what would appear to be the views of the Canadian refiners, has still any doubts as to the trend of public opinion in British Guiana and the West Indies on the action of Canada, we would refer it to the comments of the press and to the speech of Mr. Russell Garnett, Chairman of the Georgetown Chamber, which with that body's letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies is reproduced elsewhere in this issue.

THE value of the banana as a food forms the subject of Chapter XV. of Mr. Fawcett's work "The Banana: its Cultivation, Distribution and Commercial Uses," which has recently been published under the auspices of the West India Committee. The author quotes several eminent medical authorities to show how advantageous bananas, banana figs, and banana flour are in this connection. He also cites the *Lancet* which pointed out that the starch of the banana is much more digestible than cereal starches are, and that the fruit contains a notable proportion of nitrogenous material. This important work is obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, price 7s. 6d., or post free 7s. 10d.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. Middleton Campbell presided over a meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee on February 12th. Those also present were: Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. W. Fawcett, B.Sc., Mr. Cyril Gurney, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, M.A., Mr. E. L. Marshall, Mr. H. F. Previte, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, (Secretary).

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and confirmed, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That the Committee desire to record their deep regret at the death of Mr. Frederic Vavasour McConnell, for many years a member of the Executive of the West India Committee, and that the Secretary be instructed to convey to Mrs. McConnell and her family the expression of their sincere sympathy.

The Hon. Treasurer reported the death of six members and the resignation at the close of the year of thirty-five members. The following were then admitted to membership of the West India Committee:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
James B. Kernahan (St. Vincent)	Dr. G. B. Mason. E. L. Marshall.
Mrs. Spooner	E. L. Marshall. Cyril Gurney.
Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw (British Guiana)	G. R. Garnett. W. M. Campbell.
Victor de Gannes (Trinidad)	Edgar Tripp. Hon. C. A. de Verteenit.
E. M. Bland (Nigeria)	W. M. Campbell. Cyril Gurney.
Thomson Aikman	Cyril Gurney. H. F. Previte.
Mrs. Brodie (Grenada)	J. H. Burgess. Henry Gall.
J. L. W. Cathcart (Trinidad)	J. H. Burgess. A. W. Duncan.
J. J. Macleod (Trinidad)	H. B. Murray. Edgar Tripp.
J. E. Elmslie	W. M. Campbell. E. L. Marshall.
Howard Marsh	F. I. Scard. R. Rutherford.
R. G. Finney	F. I. Scard. Cyril Gurney.
F. P. Rudder	F. I. Scard. Cyril Gurney.
J. German (New South Wales)	F. I. Scard. George Fletcher & Co.

Of the above Mr. J. J. Macleod, of Trinidad, was elected a Life Member.

Correspondence with the Colonial Office was reported on the subject of the Battelle process of white sugar manufacture and the proposed immigration of East Indians from Natal into British Guiana. After the transaction of other business it was decided that the Annual General Meeting of the West India Committee should be held on Thursday, April 30th, at 3 p.m.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1572. Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies

as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms. During the year to date 14 new members have been elected residing in the following places:—

Trinidad	3	Nigeria	1
British Guiana ...	1	New South Wales	1
Grenada	1	Country	5
St. Vincent	1	London	1

It may be well to remind readers that the entry for the competition for the West India Committee prizes in connection with the Tropical Products Exhibition, closes on June 1st. The trophies are:—

1. A Silver Cup for the best comprehensive exhibit of tropical products exhibited by any of the West Indian Permanent Exhibition Committees.
2. A Silver Cup for the best sample of rubber from an individual exhibitor from the West Indies.
3. A Silver Cup for the best individual exhibit of any article or articles of tropical produce.

Entries for Nos. 2 and 3 must be made with the West India Committee, at 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., by the 1st June, 1914. No entries will be required for No. 1, as the judges will make the examination from the exhibits made by the various Exhibition Committees.

It is understood that the 10,000 ton steamer to be built for the Quebec Steamship Company for their service between New York and Bermuda under the contract between the Government of Bermuda and the Canadian Steamship Lines, Ltd., to which reference was made in last WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will have a speed of 18 knots and will carry between 400 and 500 passengers. Her cold storage accommodation will be about 50,000 cubic feet. The vessel is to be ready on or before January 1st, next. The service will be a weekly one except in May and June when the round voyage will be made every ten days. A message received by the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company yesterday, announces that the New York Steam Communication Bill, which provides for this improved service, was passed by the Legislative Council of Bermuda on the preceding day.

In a leading article dealing with the recent case at the Lambeth Police Court for selling dyed sugar as Demerara, *The Grocer* of February 14th said "With the merits of the case we do not propose to deal, since the decision of the Lambeth magistrate would not be binding upon other magistrates even in his own court."



A VIEW OF PLYMOUTH FROM THE SEA.



HOUSTON'S BRIDGE AND PARADE GROUND, PLYMOUTH.



SHIPPING LIME JUICE AT PLYMOUTH.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PLYMOUTH.

PLYMOUTH, MONTSERRAT.

From photographs by Mr C. E. E. BROWNIE.

THE "BATTELLE" SUGAR PROCESS.

The trend of plantation sugar making during the last four years has been in the direction of the direct manufacture of white granulated sugar from the cane juice, and during the last two years a new process has been experimented with in Honolulu with this object. This process, which is called the Battelle process, from the name of the inventor, Mr. E. C. Battelle, is a double carbonatation process, but differs from the ordinary defecation process in that the juice, after liming and before carbonating, is raised to the boiling point, with the object of destroying the glucose present. The destruction of the glucose permits of the Steffen saccharate process being applied to the extraction of the sugar from the molasses, with the result of improved extraction of sugar generally.

This process, which at present is confined exclusively to beet molasses, which do not contain glucose, consists in the precipitation of the sugar by the formation of an insoluble tribasic saccharate of lime, the separation of this body by filtration through filter presses and consequent breaking up of the lime compound with water and carbonic acid gas. It is customary to use the insoluble tribasic saccharate of lime instead of lime in the clarification, this body being strongly alkaline and having two thirds of its lime available for clarification purposes.

A small experimental plant to turn out two tons of sugar a day, it is presumed in twelve hours, had been erected at the Ewa Plantation, and in October 1912, Mr. R. S. Norris the technical chemist of the Hawaiian Planters' Association, took charge of the investigation of the process. This gentleman has now published a full report of the results of his investigations.

The details of the Battelle process in making white sugar, as carried out by Mr. Norris, are as follow:—

The mixed mill juice after weighing was taken to the first carbonating vessels. Here saccharate of lime was added in such proportion that the lime in the saccharate used would be equivalent to $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 per cent. of the weight of the juice. When saccharate was not available, ordinary lime was used in the same proportion. The juice was then heated to the boiling point. After this the juice was treated exactly as in the double carbonatation process. The carbonic acid was passed through for fifteen or twenty minutes, the fairly rapid subsidence of the precipitate in a glass showing when sufficient gas had been used. When this point was arrived at the gas was shut off, the juice again heated to boiling and pumped through filter presses. To remove any chance precipitate which might remain in the juice, bag filtration was also effected. A small quantity of lime was then added, about .2 per cent. The juice was then boiled again, and carbonic acid gas passed through until phenol-phthalein solution failed to show any alkalinity, an operation which required about five minutes. The juice was now again heated to boiling, and filtered through a second lot of presses. The clear juice was then concentrated to

a syrup, the syrup treated with sulphurous acid, boiled, filtered through an ordinary plate press, and then again through bag filters. The filtered syrup was boiled to grain in the usual way, and the sugar cured hot. Each change of the 30 in. centrifugals required two gallons of water for working purposes. The first molasses and washings from the above were taken to the vacuum pan without further treatment, boiled to grain and allowed to remain in a crystalliser for two or three days. This massecuite gave a raw sugar of about 96° polarisation, which was re-melted and mixed with the syrup. The second molasses obtained were treated by the Steffen process. The molasses were diluted with water to about 6.5 per cent. sucrose content, a small quantity of milk of lime added and the solution cooled to about 5° C. in the coolers. Powdered lime, in amount equivalent to about 115 per cent. of the sucrose in the solution was then sifted slowly into the solution while it was kept agitated, the lime giving an insoluble saccharate. Filtration was then carried out in ordinary filter presses, the residual cake containing the sugar. This was washed with cold water, the washings being used for diluting the next lot of molasses. The washed cake was dropped into a mixer, beaten to a cream and taken to the carbonator for clarification purposes. The clear liquor from the presses was heated to about boiling point, another saccharate of lime being thus precipitated, and again filtered. The cake thus obtained was sent as before to the carbonator.

As will be seen from the above the cost of the sugar made by the Battelle process is considerably above that for sugar made by the ordinary defecation process. In the first place the quantity of lime which has to be used is very far in excess of that required for the latter. At Ewa coral sand found in the locality was used, and the lime made therefrom cost \$3.25 per ton of 2,000 lb. The limestone has, of course, to be burnt in the factory as the carbonic acid gas generated is required for carbonating. It is suggested that the carbonic acid of the flue gases might be used for the latter, in which case the lime could be burnt at the source of production, and some money saved in transport. Mr. Norris, however, takes the lowest possible cost at \$3.00 per ton, and at this figure the cost of lime per ton of sugar become \$0.95; with lime at \$5 per ton, the cost would be \$1.58; at \$8 per ton \$2.53 per ton of 2,000 lb. of sugar.

The cost of the saccharate process is heavy, and Mr. Norris puts this down at \$0.94 per ton.

The cost of filter pressing is another heavy item, and the extra cost with the Battelle process, Mr. Norris estimates as being, for labour and supplies, \$0.30 per ton sugar. Steam, skilled labour, and the extra cost of double bags, the use of which Mr. Norris considers is essential with white sugar, add a further item of \$1.90 per ton for the running expenses. To this has also to be added the interest on capital and depreciation connected with the extra machinery required, which Mr. Norris puts down as \$0.25 per ton. Allowing, therefore, \$0.08 per

ton as the cost of lime in the defecation process, the extra cost of the Battelle process in making white sugar as compared with that of 98° refining would appear to be, with lime at the lowest figure—\$3.00 per ton—\$4.27 per short ton.

In the white sugar trial 94.4 per cent. of sucrose is recorded as the extraction recoverable on the sugar in the juice. 100 tons, therefore, of the sugar present in the juice would yield 95.4 tons of merchantable sugar, polarising 99°. This yield is a long way above that obtained by processes at present employed. Mr. Norris takes 89.9 per cent., practically 90 per cent., as the amount of sucrose recoverable on the juice of 98° sugar by the defecation process, or 91.8 per cent. of merchantable sugar. The difference in yield by the Battelle process is therefore 3.6 per cent. on the sucrose present in the juice. Mr. Norris, in comparing the results with those of the defecation process, only does so with the latter applied to refining crystals of 98°. With lime at \$3.00 per ton, he shows, taking the f.o.b. price of white sugar at \$81.00 and of 96° crystals as \$67.00 per short ton a profit of \$9.97 per ton as coming from the Battelle process. The above figures of value refer to the San Francisco market. Taking a natural f.o.b. value of \$45 per long ton, for 98° sugar, and of \$55 per ton for white granulated, with molasses at 3 cents a gallon, the advantage of the Battelle process would be \$5.70 per ton.

These figures, however, only show what would be the advantage of the Battelle process making white sugar, over the ordinary defecation process making refining crystals, and there is no evidence in Mr. Norris's report to show that even with the higher extraction of the Battelle process there would be any advantage over the ordinary defecation process for making white sugar. The results of the Honolulu experiments, also, are not altogether satisfactory in themselves, and it would have been better if it had been possible to have obtained a direct comparison of the working cost of the process with that of the defecation process for the making of white sugar coupled with the actual recovery of sugar in each case. It is only then that the necessary data could be obtained for drawing accurate conclusions. It is possible, however, to arrive at some idea of the relative cost of the Battelle and defecation processes of making white sugar by utilizing information from elsewhere. In Java it is stated that the double carbonatation process costs five shillings per ton more than the defecation process in making white sugar. The Steffen addition means 4s. a ton more, while some allowance must be made for the actual destruction of glucose part of the process which constitutes the patent. There would also be a loss of molasses as a by-product representing at least 5s. per ton sugar. It would, therefore, be permissible to say that the extra working cost of the process over the defecation process in making white sugar would be 15s. per long ton of sugar. With juice of the character of that worked up at Ewa, 89 per cent. of the sucrose in the juice could be recovered with the defecation process, say 90 per

cent. of merchantable sugar, against the 95.4 per cent. by the Battelle process. The extra 5.4 tons of sugar obtained would, therefore, cost £70 17s. 6d.—or £13 2s. 6d. per ton. This is a figure which, even at a low figure for cost of lime, precludes the use of the process save for the production of sugar under especially favourable fiscal conditions. All that can be said at the present moment is, that the general adoption of the Battelle process is not justified by the information available; but that given a fairly cheap source of lime and adequate fiscal protection for sugar, there would appear to be a distinct gain from its use.

It is only just to the inventor of the process to say that he does not agree with the extraction results set forth by Mr. Norris. Judging from results obtained in the beet sugar industry, the extraction, according to him, should be 97.5 per cent. of sucrose on the sucrose in the juice. Also, that it is Mr. Norris' opinion that better results would be obtained on a working scale, and that the sugar obtained was of better quality than ordinary plantation white sugar.

CANADA'S IDEA OF RECIPROCITY.

A further protest from the Georgetown Chamber.

Presiding over the quarterly meeting of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce in the Exchange Rooms, Georgetown, Demerara, on January 23rd, Mr. G. Russell Garnett referred at some length to the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement.

In the course of his speech he said that that agreement seemed to remain in a very unsatisfactory position. At their last meeting he reported that they had written to the Government regarding the question of the admission of Mauritius sugar and the reply had been a copy of a letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Government of Trinidad, which had been published,* and they would remember that Mr. Harcourt arrayed himself on the side of the Canadian Government. It was just possible that the Colonial Office did not quite grasp the matter from the Chamber's point of view, but, if it did, then the despatch was somewhat misleading. Reference had been made to the fact that Barbados had extended the preference to all the British colonies and therefore it was argued, it must have been intended that that should be. Well, they knew that Barbados was always well ahead of everybody in everything, but it was a curious fact that the Barbados delegate, Dr. Chandler, who was present in Ottawa was also present in Trinidad in June last year and took part in a resolution to the effect that the benefits of the preferential tariff should be extended only to those colonies that became parties to the agreement. If it had been clearly understood that it could be extended to any British colony there would have been no necessity for joining, but the Council had reason to believe that the matter was never discussed at the Conference in Ottawa, and it had been taken for granted now that it was so. But he would draw attention to the Secretary of State's reply which was based on the wording of the report. He said "It will be noted that the provisions of the agreement leave it open to any colony to extend to any other part of the British Empire the same terms as are granted to Canada and the United Kingdom." The Secretary of State did not take the context in the previous paragraph. This was what the Royal Com-

* This letter was published in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, No. 399, of January 13th last, page 4.

missioners said: "With a view to allowing such time and to encourage all the colonies to participate in the proposed agreement we would recommend that if an agreement be made between Canada and three or more of the larger sugar-growing colonies, the other colonies which are not prepared immediately to become parties to the arrangement should nevertheless be permitted for a reasonable time to share in the concessions granted by Canada to the colonies accepting the agreement. This privilege might, we think, be allowed to continue for a period of three years. We should hope that during that period all the West Indian colonies would find it to their interest to become parties to the agreement, but if after such full opportunity for consideration of the scheme they should conclude that adherence to the agreement would not be beneficial to them, they could not reasonably complain if the Canadian concessions were then withdrawn from them, and confined to the colonies which are prepared to grant to Canada reciprocal concessions." It seemed clear on the face of that that it was necessary to give some preference to the colonies granting Canada reciprocal concessions. Mauritius and Fiji had not done that; yet they were allowed to come in. The Canadian Government and their supporters and the Secretary of State all had avoided the one point regarding Jamaica and the other colonies in Schedule D. These colonies had been given three years in which to join. If as the Canadians held they had a right to extend the preference to any colony then clearly Jamaica had nothing to gain by making any reciprocal concessions. They could not leave Jamaica out and allow Mauritius to come in. If Jamaica did not come in there would be one West Indian colony trading with Canada on better terms than the other West Indian colonies which had all made concessions to keep up the trade with Canada and the West Indies. Well he did not think that that was the intention. If the point had been overlooked, it seemed the sooner it was looked into the better.

The following letter was addressed by the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce to the Hon. C. Clementi, Government Secretary, on the 21st January.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of 10th ult. No. 5,717 and to thank you for copy of despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of the extension by the Canadian Government to Mauritius of the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff.

In reply to the last paragraph of your letter I am directed to say that Mauritius was only admitted to the benefits of the full Canadian Preferential Tariff in January 1913, although it enjoyed the benefit of the preference on Raw Sugar for several years previously.

My Council is of opinion that the statement in the last paragraph of the despatch of the Secretary of State is misleading. It is quite clearly understood that the provisions of the agreement between Canada and the West Indies can be extended to any part of the British Empire but not unless such other colonies become parties to the agreement. My Council has good reasons for believing that at the Conference at Ottawa between the representatives of the Canadian Government and the West Indian delegates no reference whatever was made to the admission of other British colonies to the benefits of the sugar and other Preferential Tariffs, nor was it intended that they should benefit without reciprocation, and this was confirmed by a resolution to that effect passed at the Trinidad Steamship Conference in June 1913 at which many of the West Indian delegates at Ottawa were present.

Assuming for a moment, however, that it was the intention then it is difficult to appreciate the attitude of the Canadian Government in insisting on retaining the right to exclude the colonies of Jamaica, Grenada, British Honduras, Bahamas, Bermuda, and Newfoundland from the Preferential benefits after three years should they fail to grant Canada the advantage conceded by the other West Indian colonies. If the Secretary of State's contention, which it is understood is also that of the Canadian Government, is correct, then clearly there was no necessity to single out these colonies and discriminate against them.

If, as is reasonable to expect, the Canadian Government

treat them no worse than Mauritius or Fiji it will be seen that Jamaica which unlike Mauritius has for many years enjoyed the benefits of the full Preferential Tariff, stands to gain nothing further by joining the Canada-West Indies Agreement, and unless she does so the anomalous position will be created of one West Indian colony carrying on trade with the Dominion of Canada, with the deliberate sanction of the Canadian Government on more favourable terms than the rest of the West Indian colonies which are actually giving direct trade advantages to Canada.

My Council asks that His Excellency the Governor will be good enough to forward by the earliest opportunity this and previous correspondence on the subject, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and to repeat its request that formal protest be made to the Canadian Government.

CACAO PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.

We are indebted to Messrs. Cadbury Bros., Ltd., for the figures given below, which are extracted from the *Gordian*, showing the production and consumption of cacao beans during the past five years.

Production in Tons.					
Producing Countries	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
1. Gold Coast	12946	20534	23112	40457	39260
2. Ecuador	32119	31564	36305	38803	38225
3. St. Thome	28728	30261	36665	31312	36000
4. Brazil	32956	33818	29158	34994	30492
5. Dominican Repub.	19095	14818	16623	19828	20833
6. Trinidad	21370	23390	26240	22581	18878
7. Venezuela	16303	16848	17251	17381	10985
8. German Colonies	2738	3833	4121	4478	5775
9. Grenada	5159	5492	6028	5099	5595
10. Fernando Po	3001	2830	2462	3564	4074
11. Ceylon	2836	3570	4060	3064	3500
12. Lagos	1388	2276	2978	4471	3463
13. Haiti	2959	2217	2076	1614	3453
14. Jamaica	2694	3022	1778	2724	3374
15. Dutch East Indies	2378	2460	2570	2460	2223
16. French Colonies	1421	1372	1547	1553	1706
17. Cuba	827	1940	1412	1251	1599
18. Surinam	1699	1897	2043	1595	962
19. St. Lucia	615	984	743	940	868
20. Belgian Congo	612	760	902	681	845
21. Dominica	488	553	576	513	603
22. Costa Rica	340	235	184	343	309
23. Columbia	621	730	297	340	116
24. Other Countries	800	1000	1000	1500	1300
Total	194003	206422	220149	241446	234438
Inc or Dec. %	+29%	+6.4%	+6.6%	+9.7%	-2.9%

Consumption in Tons.					
Where consumed	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
1. U.S.A.	42615	53379	50315	58965	66553
2. Germany	34352	40725	43941	50855	55085
3. England	21052	24261	24082	25396	28044
4. France	20445	23254	25068	27340	26891
5. Holland	15821	19387	19187	23536	24921
6. Switzerland	5821	6684	9080	9852	70342
7. Austria Hungary	4907	4645	5362	6394	7323
8. Belgium	4554	5010	4792	5490	6993
9. Spain	6580	5980	5517	9379	5250
10. Russia	2588	2932	3702	4049	4481
11. Canada	1077	1174	1524	2128	3030
12. Italy	1433	1616	1886	2193	2432
13. Denmark	1200	1515	1600	1708	1727
14. Sweden	974	1136	1236	1548	1449
15. Australia	697	793	1137	853	1200
16. Argentine	895	962	1038	1271	1195
17. Norway	467	735	851	1019	1126
18. Rumania	174	154	252	285	300
19. Portugal	172	213	170	197	236
20. Finland	86	86	107	113	117
21. Other Countries	700	800	800	900	1000
Total	165710	195354	200656	230474	249703
Inc. or Dec. %	+5.2%	+18.0%	+2.7%	+14.8%	+8.3%

BANANAS AND HEALTH.

BY SIR D. MORRIS, K.C.M.G., D.Sc., D.C.L.

In *The Medical Officer* of February 7th, Dr. G. Arbour Stephens discusses "Bananas as a Possible Factor in the increase of Appendicitis." As the article may, perhaps, cause some uneasiness among those interested in the production and distribution of the fruit no less than to the large body of consumers in this country it is important that the facts stated by Dr. Stephens in support of his theory should be carefully examined.

It is well known that during recent years there has been a large increase of appendicitis in all civilized countries, and quoting from a paper by the late Dr. Owen T. Williams of Liverpool (published in the *British Medical Journal* of December 31st, 1910), it is stated that appendicitis has a markedly different incidence in various countries and "this may be largely a question of diet." It is suggested that possibly the greatest change in the diet of the people has undoubtedly been the marked increase in meat eating; but according to Dr. Stephens this increase of meat eating can hardly be applicable to the case of young children, amongst whom of late years the disease has been very prevalent. After discussing with some detail the possibility of an alteration of the intestinal contents due to a new article of diet showing itself by an increased inflammation of the appendix, Dr. Stephens boldly ventures on the opinion "that the enormous development of the banana trade coinciding as it does with a marked increase in the amount of appendicular disease is to a large extent responsible for that increase." He then quotes the figures of imports of bananas to this country "culminating in 1911 in the grand total of 6,000,000 bunches, and if," he says, "we estimate each bunch to consist of 150-160 bananas, we arrive at the immense total of 1,000,000,000 bananas [or fingers] as the amount consumed by the people of this country." The fact that more than 1,000,000 bunches of those that arrived here were afterwards exported to the Continent is overlooked. Of those that remained the consumption in a population of 46,000,000 would not average quite half a banana (weighing a few ounces) per head per week. It is therefore impossible to imagine that such dire effects as those assumed by Dr. Stephens could result from the consumption per head of so infinitesimal a quantity. If any connection could be established between the consumption of bananas and the increase in appendicitis surely it would have received attention long ago in the United States of America. That country imports nearly 47,000,000 bunches annually from Jamaica and Central America, and the trade has been carried on, more or less, for thirty years. It is difficult to entertain the idea that the effects arising from the consumption of about 5,000,000 bunches in this country could be of so serious a nature when nothing of the kind has been brought into notice in a country consuming nearly 47,000,000 bunches, notwithstanding the larger population in the United States.

There is the further point to be considered, namely, the universally admitted digestible, and, therefore, wholesome character of the banana; and the high esteem in which it has been held in all ages and all countries. It is needless to dwell on these. In an analysis of freshly peeled ripe bananas, Sir Arthur Church, F.R.S., ascertained their chemical contents to be as follows: water, 73; albuminoids, etc., 1.7; sugar and pectose, 22.8; fat, 0.6; cellulose, 0.2; mineral matter, 0.8 per cent. This confirms an earlier analysis by Corenwynder showing that omitting the water, the chief constituents of fresh ripe bananas were grape and fruit sugars, glucose, pectose and albuminoids. Coming to the consumers' point of view Sir James Crichton Browne considers bananas to contain in an agreeable form all the "essential elements of nutrition." In December, 1912, he added, "extended experience of the banana has deepened my conviction of its food value . . . its portability, palatability, digestibility are immense advantages . . . when in good condition it is microbe proof and it assuredly supplies wholesome nutriment." It is important, however, to ensure that the fruit is of the proper degree of ripeness and it is better eaten slowly. When ripe the skin should be of a yellow-brown colour, and the interior soft and mellow. When in this condition the edible pulp contains, as indicated above, more than twenty per cent. of carbo-hydrates, almost entirely in the form of sugars. The remainder is mostly water. It would be safe to assume that ripe bananas are as wholesome as (and probably more nutritious) than apples and oranges, and it is no wonder that they have become so popular in this country.

The statements made by Dr. Stephens that "the irritating effects of bananas are not to be wondered at when we remember that they are intended for food for niggers, and not for white men," and "we apparently are prepared to eat anything from the carcasses condemned by the Jews to the bananas thrown away and despised by the niggers," must be passed without further comment than they show an utter lack of appreciation of all the circumstances under which the banana industry is carried on in the West Indies.

The only real attempt made by Dr. Stephens to support his contention is the following: "I have made enquiries of and respecting a large number of people who have suffered from appendicitis, and I find in many of them that they have indulged extensively in bananas, some of the cases affording very striking instances of a close connection between the disease and the consumption of the vegetable." If Dr. Stephens could bring confirmation of this from a circle of medical experts his opinion would receive careful consideration. In the meantime I suggest, in the interests of those concerned, that judgment be suspended on a matter of such great and far-reaching importance.

It will be recollected that at one time an idea was prevalent that the consumption of tomatoes, in some mysterious way, was connected with the spread of cancer. Apparently this has now been abandoned.

for tomatoes are more largely consumed than ever. Here we have an attempt to connect the increase of appendicitis with the consumption of bananas. It is impossible to entertain Dr. Stephens' theory on the very slender grounds stated in his article. Speaking for myself I have no hesitation in expressing the opinion that he has entirely failed to make out a case against the consumption of ripe bananas, which from an exceptionally long experience of everything connected with them both in the tropics and in this country I can confidently recommend as possibly the most pleasant and wholesome fruit now within reach of the people of this country.

A leading surgeon who was closely associated with Dr. Owen T. Williams in the investigations on appendicitis at Liverpool, cited by Dr. Stephens (and whose children eat bananas every day of the year), has expressed his full agreement with what is stated above. He adds: "appendicitis is not a single disease, but several diseases due to definitely worked out causes, such as the presence of streptococcus, bacilli coli, tubercle, cancer, actinomycosis, etc., and until Dr. Stephens has shown that a definite organism is present in the banana leading directly to the causation of appendicitis, his statement has no scientific value whatever." On the other hand, Dr. Owen T. Williams demonstrated microscopically that inspissated fats, from a too generous meat diet *did* tend towards "kinking" and obstruction of the appendix and eventually perforation, which is the real trouble. There are always plenty of bacilli about to do the rest, especially in cases of constipation, and what better mild purgative could be taken than a wholesome fruit such as the banana?

PLYMOUTH, MONTSERRAT.

The CIRCULAR is indebted to a correspondent in Montserrat for the four photographs by Mr. C. E. E. Browne from which the illustrations facing page 76 are reproduced. They require little description. In the view of Plymouth, the capital of the island, which was taken from the sea, the school chapel of St. Mary's, which was originally built as a thank-offering for the emancipation of the slaves, can be seen among the trees on the left. Almost the entire stretch of land at the back of the town is under cotton cultivation. Below this view is one showing lime juice being shipped in hogsheads from the jetty—a sufficient proof that the lime industry of Montserrat is not extinct as some residents in a neighbouring island would have one believe it to be. Houston's Bridge shown in another picture is one of the improvements effected by the popular Commissioner of the island, Lt.-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, C.M.G., whose wife it is understood helped to plan the charming new Government House. Since 1906, when he was appointed Commissioner, Colonel Davidson-Houston has done much towards the betterment of Montserrat, and it is not surprising to learn that on returning from leave recently, he received a cordial welcome.

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

III.—Transportation to Shipping Ports.

Having been deposited at a waterside nearest the wood-cutting grant, the timbers are floated out to the main creek or river, two or more pieces at a time attached to a small punt or "ballahoo." At the receiving depôt on this bigger stream, the squared logs are loaded on to a larger barge, locally called a "sling-punt," which is a square ended and partly decked scow, measuring from twenty to twenty-five feet in length, by ten to twelve feet wide, and capable of carrying an inside loaded cargo of twenty to twenty-five tons dead weight; but by attaching the logs *outside*, advantage is taken of the floatage in reducing weight, and so the punt is enabled to support a load of timber three or four times the weight of its carrying capacity, the actual load borne by the punt being only the difference in weight between the timber itself and that of the water displaced by it. For example, a log of greenheart 50 feet long by 18 in. by 18 in. will weigh say four tons in the air, but only one ton when submerged. Owing to this high specific gravity of greenheart and the other hard woods of Guiana, it would be impracticable to form floating rafts of the timbers, as is done with the lighter pine woods of the northern hemisphere, and so resort is had to this method. The load of timber is suspended to the punt by means of four cross beams projecting five or six feet from the sides: two placed on top across the gunwales of the punt, and the other two known as "water-beams," under the punt bottom, each pair being connected together at their ends by strong slings made of bush-rope. The haulks of timber are then floated in and stowed between the top and bottom beams, resting on the two lower ones, under water, and suspended from the top pair. An open shed, or bush "benab," is usually erected over the main body of this sling-punt; and under its shelter the crew, which usually consists of a couple of aboriginal Indians or "bovianders," with their families, swing their hammocks, live, work, and sleep, often for weeks at a time, whilst the punt with its half-floating and externally suspended load of timber slowly drifts down the stream to one of the timber flats in Georgetown or New Amsterdam, or to a ship-loading station on one of the main rivers of the colony, all of which are navigable for ocean going vessels for a considerable distance from their mouths. When the punt is floated on to the mud flat or river foreshore, with its suspended load, the bush-rope slings are cut through with an axe, and the timbers deposited on the spot, the empty punt floating up clear of its load.

This method of transportation, it will be understood, is only possible when dealing with timber from wood-cutting grants below the falls and cataracts in the main rivers referred to in our first article; but if the vast forest regions above these falls are to

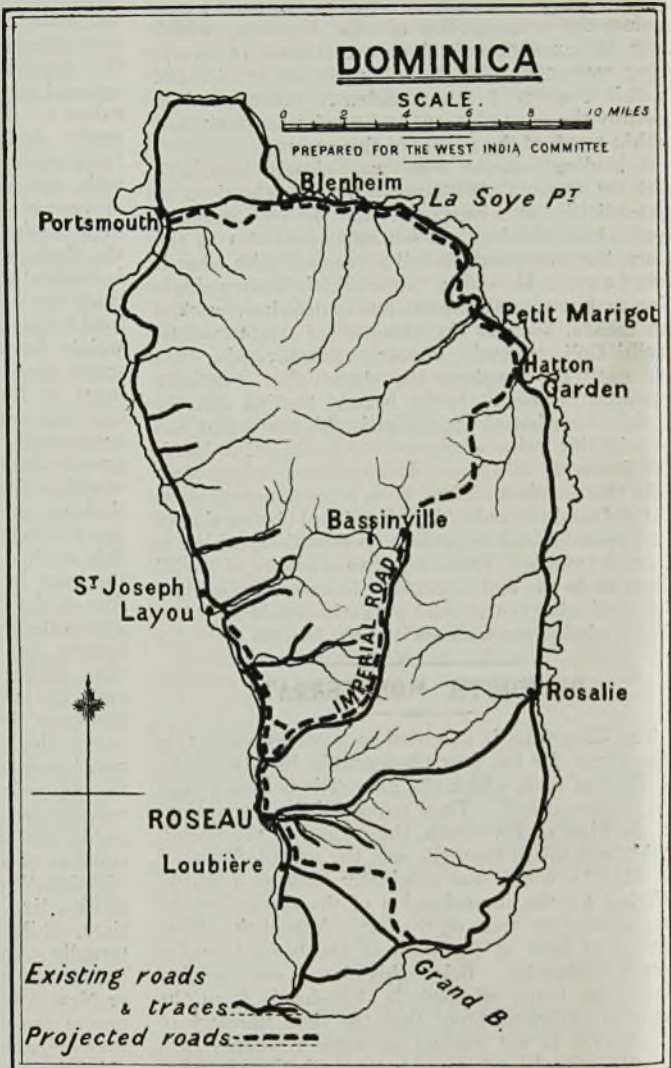
be developed and made more accessible to the wood-cutting industry on any extensive scale, some means must be devised for negotiating these obstructions, either by a rail-and-truck portage, or otherwise. A possible means of doing so might be by a system of conveyors worked on the ground level round about the falls, having a moving platform on the principle of a cane or me-gass carrier, such as are in general use on the Demerara sugar plantations, or by means of an aerial ropeway working overhead, down the portage from the upper reaches to the lower level, which would pick up and transport the logs one by one; the motive power in either case being provided by electricity developed from the water of the falls themselves. Such a system of aerial ropeways is quite feasible, and is similar to what are known as "skidding ropeways," which have been successfully adopted for logging industries in Borneo and the Balkans, the logs being hauled along attached to a tackle suspended from the steel carrier rope above, the lower ends "skimming," or trailing, on the ground, and thus relieving the overhead rope of a portion of the weight.

The adoption of such methods as here suggested, simply resolves itself into a question of cost, depending largely on the length and gradient of the proposed haulage and the probable tonnage capacity of the transport requirements per hour. In the case of an ordinary rail and truck system, seeing that the load would always be a descending one, it might, possibly, be worked entirely by gravitation, the descending load hauling up the returning empty trucks.

The much talked of proposed railway to the hinterland of British Guiana can, at best, only serve the needs of one forest district lying along the particular river, on the bank or watershed of which the railway runs, unless branch lines are constructed leading across country to timber receiving depôts on the other main rivers of the colony.

The chief objection to any overland system of transportation is the extra handling involved in loading and unloading the heavy logs, as every such handling materially increases the cost of transport. For this reason there is no question but that water conveyance is the cheapest system of transportation; and therefore to enable such to be carried through from up-river timber grants to the shipping ports, it would be necessary to negotiate the falls by

means of canals and locks, as referred to in our first article. Probably one or, at most, two locks at each set of falls or rapids, would suffice to make the necessary lift from one level to the other. Each lock would require to be at least 80 feet long by 25 feet wide, to allow of the floating punt-rafts of timber

SIFTON PRAED & CO^Y

LONDON.

A Map of Dominica Showing the Proposed New Roads.

(See opposite page.)

to be passed through. Some of the material for the construction of these canal locks, such as stone and timber, would be found ready to hand on the spot, requiring only the cement to be brought up the rivers from town.

As a matter of course, however, any of these

schemes will cost a considerable sum of money, which can only be warranted by some reasonable prospect of a large development of the timber industry of Guiana: the raw material is there in vast quantities in the forests right enough, awaiting only the necessary demand, and facilities for getting at it.

Taking the statistics of the last thirty years, it appears that the annual exports of timber—mostly greenheart—from British Guiana have varied from about 200,000 to 500,000 cubic feet, weighing approximately from 7,000 to 17,000 tons; and this must represent but a very small proportion of the world's requirements. It is, therefore, evident that there must be a large field for the further development of the timber industry of the colony, were the valuable qualities and great varieties of her woods, suitable for constructional works and manufacturing purposes, but better known in the markets of the world.

(To be continued.)

PROJECTED ROADS FOR DOMINICA.

The Legislative Council of Dominica has unanimously approved a programme of road construction and development submitted to them by Major Hon. J. A. Burdon, the Acting Administrator of the island. The scheme being embodied in a document of fourteen foolscap pages and six appendices, it is not possible to reproduce it at full length in these columns. Those interested in the matter in London can, however, see the papers at the West India Committee Rooms. The sketch map on the opposite page which has been specially drawn for the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR shows approximately the position of the existing and projected roads.

(a) A highway in the shape of an inverted letter S quartering the whole island from Portsmouth to Grand Bay.

(b) A highway North along the Leeward Coast as far as St. Joseph.

The two together, says Major Burdon, will give every important or populous district, save one, direct land communication with Roseau. The first connects Portsmouth and La Soye, via the Imperial Road, with Roseau and Grand Bay. The second provides the outlet to Roseau and the South for all the leeward valleys that debouch on it.

He adds "In my opinion there is only one alternative that could legitimately be put forward as a comprehensive scheme, a framework for future roads. That is the improvement of the coast road round the island in place of making the highway diagonally across. This alternative I propose for future consideration for a second instalment of the programme, for I admit its importance and had funds permitted I should have included it in the first five years' work. But I consider it of secondary importance to, and involving greater difficulties and expense than, the highway I propose."

With regard to the importance of redeeming the

pledge that the Imperial Road should be made into a cart road when traffic warranted it, Major Burdon is emphatic. He says:—

The Imperial road was made with money granted by the Imperial Government fifteen years ago. In spite of my obtaining £200 for its improvement, it is not yet fit to cart produce over. The settlers on it were assured that the road, originally made as a first class bridle track, would gradually be turned into a cart road when traffic warranted it and when the finances of the Presidency permitted it. These two conditions have long been fulfilled; and until the assurance is made good, the credit and good name of Dominica lie under a cloud. I heard in the West Indian Islands reflections on the reputation of Dominica, in connection with the Imperial Road, long before I knew the island or dreamt of the prospect of being sent here. Gentlemen, this cloud *must* be removed and, for our own fair name, with the utmost speed. The Imperial Road therefore stands first in order of facility, needs and deserts, after the mechanical appliances have been brought to efficiency by the experimental coast road stage.

Regarding cost Major Burdon says:—

I believe that we may confidently allocate £28,000 to be spent on the road programme of the next five years, April 1914 to March 1919. This appears to be startlingly larger than the "£12,000 in the first instance" suggested to me by the Secretary of State. But from the context it seems to me that that figure refers to the surplus available to form the foundation for a programme, not to subsequent yearly amounts to be allocated from revenue or anticipated future surpluses. The surplus now available as a starting point is only £8,000, but I hope to be able to shew that we may reasonably anticipate the balance, £20,000, from the current revenue of this and the next five years.

The money available for the purposes of a five year road programme may therefore be estimated as follows:

Surplus now available	£8,000
Additional surplus estimated March 31, 1914	2,500
Anticipated surplus for five years at £3,500 per annum	17,500
	£28,000

The Vancouver Board of Trade or Chamber of Commerce have arrived at the conclusion that there is a number of commodities from the West Indies which would be exceedingly useful to British Columbians. One of these is salt from Turks Islands, which has the reputation of being an exceptionally fine article for the curing of fish. There is also hard wood available there which could be used to advantage in buildings and for piles. Perhaps the most important of all, however, are the fruits of the West Indies. It was pointed out in a discussion recorded in *Canada* that there was always a market for tropical fruits in the different centres of the Province. With respect to possible exports it was thought that large dimension timber might be disposed of readily in the West Indies, while the market for herring, salmon, halibut, etc., it was suggested, would be limited only by the population. Curiously enough no mention seems to have been made of sugar.

A VISIT TO BRITISH HONDURAS.

BY DEMERARIAN.

A Colony off the Beaten Track.

In 1911, I was asked by a London syndicate to proceed to British Honduras and there investigate the possibilities of the Cohune palm (*Attalea Cohune*) as an addition to the supply of vegetable fats. As Belize is somewhat outside the track of the usual traveller to the West Indies and Central America, a few observations may prove of interest. In the first place when one has been accustomed to visit British colonies by an All Red route, it strikes one as being somewhat exceptional that the quickest way to British Honduras is by way of New York, then to New Orleans by rail, and across the Gulf of Mexico by the United Fruit Company's steamers under the Norwegian flag.

The Leyland Line, however, run some very good boats from Liverpool to Belize, and although this route takes a little longer, it is much more pleasant in the hot weather than the railway journey from New York to New Orleans. Even then, the Gulf in July is something to remember. On this occasion I was fortunate enough to secure a state-room on the *Cestrian*, commanded by Captain Evans, as genial a commander as I have ever sailed with, and we had a most charming party of people, mostly Americans, on board. The approach to New Orleans gave one a most depressing anticipation of that city, which everything tended to make more gloomy until one actually got into the place. New Orleans has beauties and an interest all her own, but this is not the occasion on which to enlarge upon them. From this point I took the mail boat *Ellis* to Belize, arriving there on Sunday morning. Belize is a quaint little city and seen from on board ship has a remarkably clean and tidy appearance. Passengers are landed from the steamers, which have to anchor quite a little distance from the shore, in motor launches, and as there is usually a little tumble on, it is sometimes a wet trip. Easy to please as one may be, the hotel accommodation of Belize leaves much to be desired. In the first place, it is necessary to walk some distance from the buildings to get a bath, all the bathrooms, etc., being built over the water. This is all very well in fine weather; but when the rains are on, the system has its drawbacks. My first morning in one of the hotels was amusing; to any but a good tempered man it might have been the reverse. As soon as it was daybreak, I heard a systematic tapping just outside my window. At first I thought of wood-peckers, not being quite awake; but on investigation, I found that my bedroom window looked out on to a broad verandah and that some industrious soul had carted a typewriting machine to the side of it and was tapping away for dear life.

A little later when I was making my arrangements for an expedition in search of a bath, the window curtains were abruptly parted from outside, and there between them was the enormous face of a

black lady glittering from ear to ear with a wide and pearly smile. "Ow! dis buckra too fat and nice!" said she, and when I hurled a slipper at her, she fled, clucking like a hen with an egg accomplished.

A little of Belize in July goes a long way, and so when I received an invitation from a man to whom I had an introduction to spend a few days on his estate, and incidentally to track the wily Cohune to its lair, I was delighted. There was an Orr Laubenheimer fruit boat from Mobile putting in at Commerce Bight, and this we took en route for South Stann Creek. At Commerce Bight, near Stann Creek, is the terminus of the railway which the Government have built for about twenty-five miles inland, and which is at present chiefly used to transport bananas to the Fruit Company's steamers which call weekly.

From Stann Creek, we completed the journey in one of my host's banana sloops, and the sheer delight of sailing before a stiff, cool breeze, after the heat of the town and the steamer, was something to remember. The scenery along the coast of this part of British Honduras is extremely picturesque. On the right were the Cockscomb Mountains, with the dominating triple-cleft peak which gives them their name. The shore was alternating sandy beach with a fringe of coco-nut palms and deeply indented lagoons. On the left were the Cays, those little islands recalling buccaneering lore, some of them covered with dense mangrove, others dotted and circled with coco-nut palms. And the sea was blue as a maiden's eyes. One would think it good to sail for ever among these islands of the blessed; but the navigation is not so safe as it looks, for there are razor-backed reefs to beware of, and, as it was, it took a bit of doing to sail our little craft in safety after dark to the pier. However, there was a Carib with a lantern on a pole, an ambulatory lighthouse that the sound of the conch brought forth, and so we made port.

In the roomy bungalow among the coco-nut palms we found a first-rate dinner awaiting us. There was ochro soup and freshly caught fish and, if I remember rightly, gibnut, known to us in British Guiana as latta, and there is nothing to beat it. But before sitting down, what was my surprise when I was handed a real pukka Demerara swizzle. Now, how, said I, in the name of original sin, did this beverage materialize? And lo and behold, it was elicited that the Commissioner of the district was a certain young medico from Demerara. *Cælum non animus* . . . and all the rest. And so, as Mr. Pepsy remarked, "to bed," after making plans for the morrow for a trip up the South Stann Creek.

In the morning the first thing to be seen was the coco-nut grove extending for nearly four miles along the beach. My host informed me that he derived a steady income from the trees, the nuts selling readily at twenty-five dollars per thousand. Some six hundred yards from the house was the beginning of the tramway which brings down the bananas from a distance of four miles up the Creek. We

boarded the train, which was a flat car, with a couple of provision boxes for seats, and were yanked along in great style by an opinionated, but sure-footed mule. The first two miles led along somewhat swampy ground and through a dense growth of what is termed broken ridge; but after this we came upon the banana plantations.

My host informed me that the cultivation in sight had produced £1,337 for the last year, an increase of £600 over the previous year. He estimated that every acre of fresh land he took in would cost him £4 to plant, and would in eighteen months produce £12. By a contract with the United Fruit Company, he had a sure market for his bananas at a fixed price. Having thoroughly inspected the banana cultivation, I had a surprise sprung upon me. This was nothing more nor less than one of the neatest little cattle farms one could wish to see. There were excellent beasts of good stock, capital pasture, well kept fences, and a good ranch house in a little orchard of orange trees. Nearer the creek was a group of labourer's cottages.

The labour is mostly Carib. Not, as understood in British Guiana, pure aboriginal, but an admixture of negro and Indian blood. These people are a sturdy race and fairly hard-working, but they are wedded to the sea, and do not like to go far from it for long. Their pay as labourers averages, with rations, less than fifteen shillings a week.

All that seems to be wanted in British Honduras is men with some knowledge of tropical agriculture, a little capital, and much energy, and as Sir Daniel Morris said more than thirty years ago of this colony, "the surpassing richness of its soil, its wonderful facilities for the growth of numerous tropical plants, and its close proximity to, and close connection with, the large and increasing markets of the United States and Canada" will do the rest.

(To be concluded.)

WHEN at length a ship to shore wireless system is installed in Barbados, no small share of the credit for its establishment will be due to the Barbados Chamber of Commerce, which in season and out of season, has advocated the adoption of this improvement in means of communication. This much is demonstrated by the valuable report of the Council for 1913, and by Mr. Hanschell's address at the annual meeting of the Chamber on January 29th. Regarding the Panama Canal, Mr. Hanschell, after quoting Mr. Bryce—now Lord Bryce—referred to the unique position of the Port of Bridgetown with regard to that waterway, and added that it was very possible that British Columbia pine, timber, and lumber would find a market in the West Indies, and that West India sugar would be sold in Vancouver. "We have thus, I believe," he added, "other trade and interests to look forward to in connection with the Panama Canal, besides the hope of capturing part of the transient traffic which will pass in our vicinity if not actually before our door."

PATRIOTISM IN BARBADOS IN 1666.

From a Broadside in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

The document reprinted below shows the patriotism so frequently exhibited by the people of Barbados in old days. They were always ready to exchange shots with England's foes in the Western World. In all expeditions against the neighbouring foreign possessions, Barbados took a part. In the special case recorded, the zeal of the Islanders displays a bright page in West Indian history.

A true and faithful Account of an entire and absolute Victory over the French Fleet in the West Indies, by two East India Ships, and other vessels, at Barbadoes, made into Men of War, with number of those taken and sunk in the engagement, together with the taking, sacking and Burning several of the French Plantations, in three parts—1666.

Saturday's Post gives Advice from Bristol, that two days before then was arrived a small vessel which came directly from the Island of Nevis in the West Indies, leaving the same at the beginning of the last month, and informs, that about 12 or 14 sail of French vessels, formed into Men of War, had, besides the taking of St. Christopher, infested the coast, greatly obstructing the traffic and commerce of the English Plantations, alarming all the islands with making a descent, whereby they were forced to stand continually upon their Guard, and in several places beat them off upon their Attempts.

'Twas greatly feared that they would have performed some considerable detriment upon Nevis, and several other lesser Islands, before Assistance could come to them from England; but it so fortunately happened that two of the East India Company's ships, *Charles II.* and the *London*, vessels of considerable Burthen, being at Sancta Hellena, in their return to England from India, and there hearing of the War between England and France, and therefore considering how dangerous it might be to make a safe passage to London, since they also understood that the Kingdom of Ireland, by which they usually sailed, was in possession of the French, they took a Resolution to make to the Island of Barbados, where they were joyfully received, in hopes to find a convoy there, or stay till some of His Majesty's ships arrived to accompany them to England.

In the Interim the noise of the French continuing on the coast, the Assembly of the Island met, and representing to Captain Andrews, and the other commander of the East India ships, how serviceable it would be to King and Country, to unlade their effects, converting their ships into Men of War, and stand after the French, promising at the same time, that they would afford all possible assistance of men, and other shipping; that they would make it their utmost endeavour so to represent the King and Company, that they doubted not but that they should applaud and confirm the undertaking.

Accordingly the two Captains were prevailed upon to unfrigate the ships and become Men of War; and being joined by seven other smaller vessels, equipped out by the Plantations they put to sea with a good lot of men on Board, went in search of the French Fleet, whom they found near St. Christopher's, and attacked them, being about the like number, and in less than two hours' time boarded, and took their Admiral, a ship of 36 guns, and another of 30, sinking two others of the Fleet; and had undoubtedly destroyed the whole, had they not run under the cannon of the Fort.

After which our Fleet made a descent upon St. Christopher's, which the French lately took from the English, drove all the people to the woods, killing those that made resistance, sacked and destroyed the greatest part thereof, and after three days returned to their ships, laden with great Plunder and Riches.

The same Account adds, that this victorious Fleet of Barbadians, to the Great Honour and Reputation of the Island, being flushed with success, was resolved to make efforts on other of the French Plantations, the like of which they did to Martinico, Guadalupa, &c. And 'tis said they have acquired near £100,000 of Merchandizes, and things of value from the Enemy, returning to Barbadoes, laden with victory and spoil to the Great Encouragement and Preservation to all the English Plantations, Terror and Afrightment to the French.

Charles II. to General Monk from Calais, May 1660. From Clarendon MSS.

I have soe good an opinion of Generall Penn that if you had not reminded him to me, I should have taken care of all his interests. You may therefore easily undertake to him, that he shall be satisfied as you desire, and you may likewise undertake to Colonel Moddiford, of whom I have heretofore had a very good opinion, that I will pardon and forgett all that is done amisse.

OBITUARY.

MR. C. H. MOUNSEY.

The death occurred on Friday, February 6th, of Mr. Charles Harrison Mounsey.

Mr. Charles H. Mounsey, who was a son of the late Mr. Edward Mounsey, of Liverpool, for several years a member of the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, had latterly become interested in several companies owning estates in the West Indies, and with a view to inspecting them he left in December last in the *Arcadian* on a visit to Trinidad and Tobago. He was on his way home in the *Danube* when he was taken seriously ill, and he never recovered. Mr. Mounsey was married to Florence Muriel, daughter of Colonel Alder, of Liverpool, and leaves three children.

THE first of the electric locomotives which are to tow steamers through the locks on the Panama Canal has reached Colon.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

Cacao in Nigeria.

From the figures given below which are taken from the report on the Blue Book for 1912, it will be seen that, although the exports of cacao from Southern Nigeria in 1912 were lower than those of the preceding year, they were considerably above those of the preceding three years. The falling off was due to abnormally small rainfall.

Year.	Lbs.	Value. £
1908	3,060,609	50,587
1909	5,019,150	71,916
1910	6,567,187	101,150
1911	9,858,774	164,664
1912	7,953,711	130,542
Total for 5 years	32,459,425	518,859
Average for 5 years	6,491,885	103,772

39,675 cacao plants and over 12,000 cacao seeds were distributed by the Department of Agriculture.

Increased Asphalt Exports from Trinidad.

The Hon. S. W. Knaggs in his annual report on the Blue-book of Trinidad and Tobago says that the year 1912-13 can hardly be recorded as having been a prosperous one. Apart from the drought, from the effect of which the peasant proprietors and labouring classes suffered considerably, there was a large increase in the price of imported food-stuffs, due to industrial troubles in other places. There does not appear to be much hope of these abating, and the result will probably be as far as this Colony is concerned, that the consumption of these articles will gradually be discontinued in favour of local products. The revenue and expenditure of the last five years has been as under.

Year.	Revenue £	EXPENDITURE.		Total. £
		Recurrent.	Extraordinary.	
1908-9	834,745	806,193	48,857	855,050
1909-10	853,565	798,262	64,992	863,254
1910-11	948,381	843,050	83,681	927,031
1911-12	950,744	901,018	58,533	959,551
1912-13	932,513	893,499	53,722	947,221

It will be seen that during this period the extraordinary expenditure from general revenue has amounted to £310,088. The value of the Colony's assets on the 31st of March, 1913, was £1,002,413, and its total liabilities were £921,033, giving a balance of assets of £81,410. The public debt of the Colony stood on the 31st March, 1913, at £1,045,093, but to this must be added the sum of £740,198 representing advances made at that date on account of further loans for which authority has been given but which have not yet been raised.* The loan expenditure has been for the construction of railways, roads, harbour works, and other public works of a reproductive or permanent character. The Sinking

* A loan of £550,000 was successfully floated by the Crown Agents on behalf of Trinidad and Tobago on February 6th.

Fund accumulations amount to £216,418. The imports and exports of the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Imports. £	Exports. £	Total. £
1908-9	2,682,702	2,500,195	5,182,897
1909	3,288,826	3,218,092	6,506,918
1910	3,343,011	3,467,588	6,810,599
1911	5,018,848	4,769,486	9,788,334
1912	4,682,325	4,472,577	9,154,902

A large proportion (£350,532) of the falling off in 1912 is attributable to a decrease in the transhipping trade caused by the drought in Venezuela and the neighbouring West Indian Islands.

The following were the principal items of local produce exported during the last two years:—

Asphalt—Crude	154,627	161,768
Asphalt—Epuré	38,566	40,338
Bitters	34,425	32,629
Cocoa	1,127,372	1,007,990
Coco-nuts	78,965	61,278
Copra	13,264	28,726
Fruit	14,661	11,033
Molasses	13,036	7,068
Rum	6,955	859
Sugar	530,404	529,123
Petroleum—Crude	32,839	18,432

The following table shows the direction of the export trade of the Colony for the last two years (the value of the transshipments being excluded):—

	1911. £	1912. £
United Kingdom	514,832	540,903
Canada	206,133	220,088
Other British Possessions	97,968	40,707
United States	1,045,507	940,911
Venezuela	76,044	72,846
France	277,813	261,552
Germany	96,435	96,785
Other Countries	191,306	210,603

The February issue of the *Genealogical Monthly*, contains abstracts of the wills of Daniel Rawlinson and his son Sir Thomas Rawlinson, who was Lord Mayor in 1706, the founders of the business of Rawlinson, Davison and Newman (now the West Indian Produce Association, Ltd.), concerning which an article appeared in these columns on November 4th last. Further notes concern a lawsuit of 1764 between the executors of George Maxwell, of Mark Lane, and Edwin and Daniel Lascelles in which the latter refers to his partner, William Daling, to whom further reference is made by the publication of a copy of his will of 1780. These documents form part of the history of a firm of West India merchants, which, having been established in 1743, is still being carried on by Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller. Of some interest in connection with the earlier work of the West India Committee is the search which is now in progress concerning Sir Martin Noell, Alderman of London, and M.P. for Stafford in 1661. He held a grant of 20,000 acres in Jamaica, and endeavoured, in conjunction with Francis, Lord Willoughby of Parham, Thomas Povey and Captain William Watt, to form a "West India Company."

NATURE NOTES.



THE latest addition to the synthetic reproduction of natural bodies is an artificial milk. Its percentage of sugar, fat, water, etc., is the same as in rich cow's milk. Cheese can be made from it, and when condensed, it yields a body which is stated to be especially suitable for margarine manufacture. And it can be made for 2d. a gallon!

A NEW method of preserving milk has been devised in Italy. The method is to subject milk, under pressure, to an atmosphere of carbonic acid gas. Some of the germs present in milk are thus killed, while others have their development arrested. The *Wealth of India* states that milk thus treated may be kept for eight or twelve days at a temperature of 60° F. without change, while when boiled it can be kept for an indefinite time.

SOME interesting investigations have been lately made on the subject of the poisonous qualities of smoke. In these experiments the etiolated epicotyl of the sweet pea was taken as the sensitive indicator. Prejudicial effects were produced by cigar smoke, even although washed with sulphuric acid and caustic soda. The washed smoke from cigarette paper burned as it would be in a cigarette with a limited supply of oxygen was found to be much more toxic than cigar smoke.

ON the subject of the hardening of oils, the *Bulletin of the Imperial Institute* considers that the probable effect on the oil and allied industries, and on the oil and oil seed markets is extremely difficult to forecast, as the full possibilities of the process of hardening oils cannot be gauged until the use of the process becomes more general. A possible effect is suggested in the lowering of prices of the natural harder fats, such as palm kernel and coco-nut oils, which are largely used in the manufacture of edible substances, by the substitution of synthetic hardened oils.

MESSRS. KRISTENSEN and Christensen have just published an account of the results of five years experiments with phosphatic fertilizers under varying conditions of soil. The general conclusion arrived at is that superphosphate is the most certain and quickest in its action. Taking the fertilizer value of superphosphate as 100, on grass land Thomas phosphates graded as 94, bone meal 70, and ground phosphate 68; on sandy loam soils, the relative value of Thomas phosphate was much the same, 95, and that of bone meal 65; on clay loam soils, the Thomas phosphate relation was 91, that of bone meal 51, and of ground phosphate 50.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



THE Legislative Council of Jamaica have decided to indemnify Sir Sydney Olivier for the costs of his recent libel action.

THE recent revolution in Haiti ended on February 8th, when General Orestes Zamor was elected President. Ex-President Oreste fled with his wife to Jamaica.

AMONG recent visitors to the West India Committee Rooms has been Mr. W. G. Purdie, General Superintendent and Inspector of the Colonial Bank, who returns to the West Indies on March 11th, after a short holiday in this country.

MR. MAXWELL-LEFROY, Professor of Entomology of the Imperial College of Science, and honorary curator of the insects at the "Zoo," had the honour of being presented to the King and Queen on the occasion of a visit paid by their Majesties to the Gardens on February 13th.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged between Henry Alexander, younger son of the late William Trotter of King's Beeches, Ascot, Berks, and Mrs. Trotter, 25, Berkeley Square, and Madeline Dorothy, only daughter of Major J. Herbert How and Mrs. How, St. Andrews, Fife.

WE have received from Messrs. Watson, Laidlaw & Co., Ltd., of Glasgow, a copy of the 12th edition of their "Weston centrifugals and accessories," which contains a complete and up-to-date account of all their apparatus for the curing department of a modern sugar factory in an elegant and comprehensive form.

DEALING with "the mode in Walking Sticks," *Men's Wear* is enthusiastic about Pimento which occupies an important place among the woods used by the manufacturers. "This beautiful wood with its charming natural markings, lends itself readily to a great variety of mounts. There is no doubt that the pimento will hold, and possibly increase, its well-earned popularity for some time yet."

ON January 26th, Mr. Humphrey Carter, M.B., son of Sir Gilbert Carter, was married to Miss Dorine Beloe, whom Sir Gilbert had escorted to Calcutta in January. Mr. Carter has just been appointed Economic Botanist to the Botanical Survey of India at Calcutta. Owing to the great age of her grandmother and to the illness of her son, Lady Carter was unable to accompany Sir Gilbert.

FOR the first time for twenty-one years the *Dominican Guardian* has ceased to make its appearance. This we regret to learn is due to the illness of Mr. J. Hilton Steber, and to the fact that he has been unable to find any responsible person able to carry on the work. Readers interested in Dominica will share our hope that Mr. Hilton Steber may speedily be restored to health and that the useful career of our Dominican contemporary may be resumed.

COMMENTING on the result of the recent prosecution for selling dyed sugar as Demerara the *Medical Times*, of February 14th, says: "From the public point of view the failure of this prosecution is very serious. If ordinary sugars can be sold with impunity coloured to resemble what is known in the trade as 'Demerara,' the sooner the Inspectors of Foods, etc., are sent to join the ranks of the unemployed or put on half-time the better for the rate-payers."

FROM Paris we learn that lace is once more becoming extremely fashionable. This will be welcome news to Sea Island cotton planters in the British West Indies who furnish the raw material for this dainty fabric. It is noteworthy that the West Indian cotton industry has been re-established during a period in which the demand for lace has been at its lowest, and those planters who have persevered with cotton cultivation should now reap their reward.

THE sanatorium on Taboga Island in the Bay of Panama has been reopened as the "Hotel Aspinwall," by the Subsistence Department of the Isthmian Canal Commission. If eventually the hotel is conducted on the lines of the Tivoli at Ancon and the new Washington at Colon Beach success should be assured. When will some enterprising individuals or shipping companies erect first-class hotels in those of the British West Indian islands which need them? The West Indies wait while the river of tourists flows past them.

MR. J. RIPPON presided at a fortnightly dinner of the West Indian Club on Wednesday, February 18th, in the Club rooms. Amongst those present were: Mr. Harry Berger, Mr. A. A. Nathan, Mr. F. Kimpton, Mr. G. F. Mallison, Mr. W. Puckle, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, Mr. H. F. Previté, Mr. A. E. Messer, Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, Mr. Mayson M. Beeton, Mr. L. H. Keep, Mr. W. Walton, Mr. A. Hirsch, Mr. G. H. H. Pile, Captain L. G. Tebbs, Mr. Alexander Elder, Mr. G. J. Johnson, Mr. J. J. Sabey, Mr. Andrew Sabey, Mr. A. F. Livett, Mr. C. Gomes, Mr. Clark, Mr. P. Somerville, Mr. C. G. A. Wyatt and Mr. W. A. M. Goode. It is proposed to entertain Mr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., and Sir Claude Mallet, C.M.G., at forthcoming dinners.

THE LONDON LETTER.



A SETTLEMENT in prospect! That is the view of the Home Rule problem that finds favour in the Lobby. That optimism is justified largely by the speeches delivered in the Commons at the opening of Parliament last week. The King's Speech indicated the urgent importance of averting armed conflict in Ireland, and the Prime Minister took the earliest opportunity to exhibit an attitude of conciliation. He accepted the responsibility of initiating suggestions which may result in peace. It is noteworthy that the speeches on both sides lacked the tone of acerbity which unhappily has been so conspicuous in platform speeches during the recess. The mover and seconder of the Address in the Upper House—Lord Glenconner and Lord Stanmore—can both claim association with Trinidad.

The Government have awaited the opening of Parliament in order to announce the Cabinet changes, which by now will have been cabled to our readers in the West Indies. These changes are, of course, consequent upon the selection of Mr. Sydney Buxton, President of the Board of Trade, as the successor of Viscount Gladstone in the Governor-Generalship of South Africa. These changes have promptly incurred electoral disaster for the Government, Mr. Masterman, who has entered the Cabinet as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, has failed to secure confirmation of his appointment at the hands—or rather the votes—of his constituents in South West Bethnal Green. By a majority of 24, adverse but narrow, he finds himself bereft of his seat in the Commons.

MR. BUXTON—or rather Sir Sydney Buxton as we must now term him a G.C.M.G. having promptly come his way—bears a name for ever honoured in the West Indies. His grandfather, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, whose baronetcy was the reward of his abolition activities, is commemorated in British Guiana in the name of one of the most prosperous villages in that colony. His nephew, Mr. L. W. W. Buxton, was recently resident in Georgetown as private secretary to the former Governor, Sir Frederic Hodgson. A new Governor-General of Australia has also been chosen in the person of the Right Hon. R. C. Munro-Ferguson, M.P. Here again we find a connection with the West Indies. A brother-in-law of the new Governor-General is Lord Basil Blackwood, for some time Colonial Secretary of Barbados. Mr. Munro-Ferguson married Lady Helen Blackwood, daughter of the late Marquis of Dufferin and Ava. Lord Dufferin's honoured name will be forever remembered by his countrymen as that of one of the most skilful diplomatists

of his time, and as Governor-General in turn of Canada and India.

THE clouds on the European horizon are gradually dispersing. Outstanding difficulties are being removed by conference and the new Prince of Albania takes up his task with the support and goodwill of all the Powers. Happily, too, our own contention with the United States in regard to the Panama Canal Tolls will soon be solved. The justice of our case is being admitted, fully and cordially by President Wilson and his advisers, who will no longer insist on the exemption from these tolls of American coastwise shipping. It is a great gain to the cause of international goodwill when one country is willing to admit itself in the wrong, and to avoid the necessity of referring the matter even to arbitration.

POPULAR interest is likely to be diverted from politics for a time by the arrival of the deported labour leaders from South Africa. As mentioned in our last issue, criticism of the action of General Botha in sending these men away from South Africa has been disarmed largely by the convincing proofs of the necessity of the course adduced in the debate on the Indemnity Bill in the Union House of Assembly. The British Labour Party, however, are preparing an eager welcome for their South African confrères, whose speeches and movements on this side of the water will be followed closely by the public at large. Those speeches and movements will call for no Government restriction so long as the domestic peace remains preserved.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has taken a course approved by all moderate men, in referring to a Committee of Bishops, the questions raised by the Kikuyu controversy. The Archbishop of the West Indies is a member of the Committee, which is expected to meet in July. Dr. Davidson emphatically repudiates any idea of bringing to trial on any charges of heresy and schism the Bishops of Uganda and Mombasa. These bishops are indeed the objects of a campaign of sympathy. The best interests of the Church of England will be best served by leaving the matter where the Archbishop has left it.

A MARRIAGE of unusual interest in West Indian circles is announced by *The Times* as having been arranged. The parties are Mr. Henry Grattau Bushe, barrister, son of the late Hon. John Scott Bushe, C.M.G., and Mary Kenrick Gibbons, daughter of Mr. Chambers, of Rodwell, Weybridge, and granddaughter of the late Sir George Chambers. The father of the bridegroom long held an honoured position in official and social circles in Trinidad. Sir George Chambers was one of the most notable West Indian merchants of his time. The father of the prospective bride, resided in Demerara for a considerable period, as Secretary of the British Guiana Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Notabilities in the West Indies.

The R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, which left Barbados on February 4th, arrived at Southampton at 7.50 p.m. on February 16th, and the letters were delivered in London on the following morning. Matters generally were extremely quiet when the mail left. In some quarters there were complaints that the tourist season was not coming up to expectations, though such distinguished visitors as H. H. Princess Louise, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, and the Duke and Duchess of Manchester were among the islands. It was believed that the reason for the falling off in the number of visitors was due to the tightness of money in the autumn and the depression in the United States and Canada. The happy conditions under which East Indian immigrants live in British Guiana and Trinidad had been further emphasised by a visit of an East Indian cricket team from Trinidad to Georgetown, where they had tested conclusions with a local East Indian team and the Georgetown Cricket Club. Crop prospects on the whole were decidedly favourable, both for cacao and sugar. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Honorary Correspondents:—

Antigua—Trinidad Petroleum Imported for Factories.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, writing on January 31st, said that the weather had been very bleak, damp and windy, the temperature being so low at night as to necessitate the use of blankets.—At the recent sessions, presided over by the Chief Justice, although the number of cases was not large there was a murder case and a very bad one of wounding. It was to be regretted that the emigration of the people of Antigua to other islands resulted in their acquiring bad habits, one of which was the carrying of weapons. Both of the accused men had been away and returned, and in their case razors were the articles carried and used, with serious results. The Chief Justice took a very serious view of the matter, and inflicted the maximum penalties.

The Duke of Sutherland's yacht was in the harbour, with a party on board.—Some little time ago the first shipment of Trinidad oil for fuel purposes was made to Antigua, followed by another shipment in the schooner *Annie Roger*. It was understood that this boat had been acquired by the factory authorities of Antigua and St. Kitts, and that oil fuel would be a regular article of use in those factories. The schooner came loaded with oil or tanks, and took away from Antigua a number of oxen and some yams to Trinidad. This might mean a lot for Antigua, which could supply large quantities of provisions and also live stock if a market offered, and if the boat traded between the island and Trinidad, for which journey it only took three days.

The education question had advanced another stage. The managers of schools had informed the Government that if a further sum of £250 was not provided over and above last year's grant, they would close their schools, giving all their masters and teachers notice that their services would not be required after the end of March. The Government had refused the grant, and were taking over the schools, closing eleven of them and centralizing the others.

The annual meeting of the Horticultural Society was

held on the 30th, when the board of management was re-elected.—Some experiments were being carried out by Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co. and Colonel Cotton on their estates, with "dynamite agriculture." The system ought to do good by opening underground drains and generally loosening the soil at a greater depth than any plough could go. The gentlemen interested were to be thanked for their go-ahead principles.

Bahamas—Mr. Harcourt Malcolm, elected Speaker.

MR. Harcourt Malcolm, K.C., has been elected Speaker of the House of Assembly in the place of the late Dr. Holmes. Mr. Malcolm, who is a member of the West India Committee, was private secretary to the late Sir Henry Jackson, when Administrator of the Bahamas, and later to Sir W. F. Haynes-Smith, when Governor of the colony. Mr. Malcolm was called to the bar by Lincoln's Inn in 1899 and to the bar of Bahamas in the same year. Since 1901 he has been Deputy Speaker. While congratulating Mr. Malcolm, the CIRCULAR must also condole with him upon the loss which he and the Bahamas have sustained through the death of his mother, Lady Malcolm, widow of a late Speaker, whose mantle has now fallen so well on the son.—The tightness of money in the United States and Canada was being adduced as the reason for the American season in the islands being less favourable than usual but in some directions the falling off in the number of visitors was attributed to the competition of Bermuda.

Bermuda—Improved Steamship Communication.

During January 2,575 tourists visited the island as compared with 2,006 in the corresponding month of 1913. The total figure for 1913 was 21,595 a decrease of 1,323 compared with the total of 1912.—The New York Steam Communication Bill had been engaging the attention of the House of Assembly.

The 7th annual general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on February 5th, the Hon. Charles V. Ingham presiding.

Barbados—The Marconi Company to erect a station.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE referred in a letter dated February 3rd to the refusal of the Anglo-French Wireless Telegraph Co. to sign the contract for the Barbados wireless station. The House of Assembly would be asked to vote the additional amount required to pay the cost of its erection by the Marconi Company.—The weather had been very dry and windy, and the outside rows of the cane fields had been scorched and looked as if they wanted reaping. There had been numerous cane fires and the Government was offering a reward of £50 for evidence to convict the person who has set any of them.

British Guiana—A Second Artesian Well Successful.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN reported on January 31st that there had been a firmer feeling in the sugar market during the past week, and sales had been made for export at 2 cents to \$2.07½ for refining crystals. For local consumption \$2.10 was being asked, but there was not much demand at the moment.

The news of the death of Mr. F. V. McConnell had been received with much regret.—The half-yearly meeting of the British Guiana Bank was held on the 19th when a dividend of 3½ per cent. was declared.—The half-yearly meeting of the British Guiana Mutual Fire Insurance Co. was held on the 19th.—A meeting of the Turf Club took place on the 22nd and 23rd.—The quarterly general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on the 23rd.—The team of East Indian cricketers which came over from Trinidad by the preceding mail had played three matches. They won two matches against a local East Indian team, but were defeated by the Georgetown Cricket Club. They returned to Trinidad by the mail.

A meeting of the Legislature was held on the 28th.—The boring of the second artesian well at the Colonial Bonded Warehouse had been successful, a good flow of water having been obtained at a depth of 640 feet.—The enquiry into the recent fire in the Werk-en-Rust district was commenced on the 21st, details of the proceedings so far being

given in the Mail Edition.—The weather during the fortnight had continued very dry, and rains were wanted generally.

Dominica—Considerable rains but no Wash out.

MR. B. A. ACAR wrote on January 31st, that the Circuit Court had nearly finished its sitting under Mr. Justice Walton. The criminal cases were unusually few but more than compensated for by the long list of civil ones.—Rain had fallen generally that week just as was wanted, that is to say, beginning with slight showers and increasing in fall, so that there had been no wash out as might reasonably have been feared. Too much rain would probably fall now.

Jamaica—The Fruit Companies and Banana Prices.

HON. J. H. PHILLIPS reported that there had been much dry weather, and all planters were hoping for some rain when he wrote on January 24th. Sugar conditions appeared very deplorable, as prices had been exceedingly low this year.—The fruit companies had evidently got into line on the question of contract prices, and were not going into opposition to each other. For the coming year they had again lowered their contract prices, as they alleged having lost a good deal of money over their last year's business.

MR. A. ST. G. SPOONER, writing from Moreland in Vere on February 3rd, said that crop was in full swing in Vere, and in spite of a low rainfall during 1913 the canes on the whole were looking, and turning out better than was expected some time ago. The general extension of irrigation from wells had been largely responsible for these improved prospects, and there was no doubt that the use of water from this source was capable of considerable expansion. It was fortunate, too, that such a large area of the lands was very suitable for the application of irrigation water. As far as the principal sugar estates were concerned it was very probable that well water for irrigation would be displaced by water from the Cockpit River during the next two years.

Dr. Watts, the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, was in the island, having come to give the Government the benefit of his advice as to the re-organisation of the Department of Agriculture. Opinions differed as to the value of the work done by this department, but one could hardly read the publications issued under its auspices without coming to the conclusion that very good and useful work had been done. Jamaica, however, was a place where the establishment of a thoroughly equipped and effective Department of Agriculture was a matter of the utmost importance, and it was sincerely to be hoped that Dr. Watts' advice would result in some improvement in the effectiveness of the Department.

Montserrat—The first normal January for years.

Writing on January 31st, MR. K. P. FENCHEON said that Montserrat had had the first normal January experienced for several years, with high winds and light showers, the precipitation being under 2 inches for the month. The last five years, 1909-13, averaged close on 6 inches. A normal season was good for cotton planters, and it was hoped that the normal January meant this. There was little to report.—The R.M.S. brought news of considerable sales of Montserrat cotton at fairly satisfactory prices, though why planters could not get the same prices as St. Kitts was hard to understand. It was not for want of care and attention in Montserrat, if it were soil and season against them then they could not help it. The S.S. *Bintang* of the East Asiatic Company's line of steamers called on the 21st and took 120 bales of cotton.—A correspondent sent particulars of the cordial welcome given to Lt. Colonel and Mrs. Davidson-Houston on their return to the island which is dealt with elsewhere.

St. Kitts—Sir H. Hesketh Bell visits the Islands.

MR. F. J. SHELFORD stated in a letter dated January 30th that the Governor arrived by the last mail on a short visit. He left for Nevis on the 28th, and it was understood that he would return to Antigua by the mail.—A nice general rain fell on the 21st, from 1.50 to 2 inches. The past two days had been windy, with violent rain squalls, and the canes were being lodged rather badly.

St. Lucia—Sir J. Hayes-Sadler & the Island's finances.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON reported on January 30th that from a non-agricultural point of view the weather was entirely delightful, but the agriculturists were grumbling badly that it was much too dry. The rainfall in December was only three inches and in January only 2½ inches, and this was not what planters were accustomed to in St. Lucia, with the driest months of the year to follow. Cane planting could not be proceeded with and pastures were already deficient in grass; the difficulty was not yet acute, but threatened to become so. Cacao planters were not doing well this crop, and the recent fall in prices accentuated the situation.

His Excellency Sir James Hayes-Sadler, in his recent address to the Legislative Council paid a warm tribute to the work done in St. Lucia by His Honour E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., who was leaving for Gambia, via England, next mail. In explanation of the financial situation Sir James mentioned that the estimates showed a deficit of £3,000 to £4,000, without the inclusion of a sum of £2,000 for necessary public works. Therefore he could only see two courses before the council, viz., retrenchment or addition taxation. His Excellency spoke sympathetically of the project of improving the Goldsworthy Road to Dennery, but said it was obvious that the cost of this scheme, some £5,000, could not be met from the coming year's revenue. Referring to harbour improvements he commented on the new marine lights lately furnished, and suggested it would be more wise to defer this question until it could be seen what effect the Panama Canal would have on the coaling trade. In conclusion, he advocated the appointment of a principal medical officer for the Windward Islands at a cost of about £1,000 to the three islands. It was probable that the estimates would come up for discussion at a Legislative Council within the next fortnight before Mr. Cameron leaves, and in the meantime the only comment necessary was to the effect that no one was so optimistic as to imagine that one year's revenue could bear the cost of a large improvement such as the Goldsworthy Road scheme, and that there were only two ways of meeting this necessary expenditure, viz., by an inroad on the reserve fund, or by a loan. Increased revenues could not be expected in St. Lucia until the country was thoroughly opened out to agriculture, and to defer doing this until it could be met out of revenue was to continue to revolve in a vicious circle.

St. Vincent—Why more tourists do not arrive

Fine weather continued when MR. W. N. SANDS wrote on January 31st, and the nights were delightfully cool. It was unfortunate that so few tourists were able to visit the delightful island of St. Vincent. This was due to the fact that suitable hotel accommodation was very limited, and that the fortnightly Royal Mail steamers bringing tourists did not come in until after 5 p.m. on their northern call, and arrived at 6 a.m. and left at 8 a.m. on the southern. There was therefore too little time to allow visitors to land in daylight. Steam yachts, however, occasionally called, and recently the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland with Lord and Lady Brooke, and Captain and Lady Bingham arrived in the *Catania*, and a few days previously Mr. Vanderbilt and party in the *Warrior*.—The annual meeting of the Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association was held on the 30th, when the managing committee's report and financial statement for 1913 was adopted, and the members of the committee re-elected for the current year.

Tobago—The Duke & Duchess of Sutherland's Visit.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, writing on January 30th, said that since last mail very little rain had fallen and the dry season had now begun with the cool N.E. breezes which were no doubt very healthful and pleasant, but cacao planters would like to have them occasionally seasoned with good soaking showers. The cacao crop was in full swing, and large pickings were expected up to the end of February. The prospects thereafter were somewhat doubtful as the unusual drought in December scorched the young pods from which the spring crop was generally forthcoming. In the cool valleys some gatherings might take place, but in open flats, the prospects were by no means

cheerful. It was almost needless to write about sugar as the bulk of the cane fields were being transformed into coco-nut gardens, and it was almost a revelation to drive through the Leeward district now where palms had taken the place of canes. High cultivation and dynamite might be expected to bring the palms into bearing much sooner than the usual ten years, and estates owned by Americans were rapidly taking the lead.—In the previous week Tobago was honoured by the visit of the R.Y.S. *Cafania*, with the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland and party on board. After a brief call at Scarborough and Little Tobago (to inspect Sir William Ingram's Birds of Paradise) the yacht anchored in Man-o'-War Bay, where the party enjoyed boating, bathing and shooting. Unfortunately the Duke had not the opportunity of finding that he was in a veritable land of Scots, as the only resident planter in Man-o'-War Bay was on the sick list and unable to pay his respects to the visitors. Seven large estates not far distant from Man-o'-War Bay were owned and worked by natives of Bonnie Scotland, and the names of the estates were reminiscent of the good old times when the island was largely in the hands of Scottish sugar planters.—The Windward Tennis Court was now open and affording enjoyment to its members, nearly all of whom, strange to say, were Scots! The Clay Pigeon Club held its inaugural meeting at Indian Point on January 24th, and promised to be an enjoyable sport for its members.

Trinidad—Agricultural Banks to be Formed

MR. EDGAR TRIPP reported on February 3rd that after many years ineffectual talk, a strenuous effort was being made to start agricultural banks in the colony. The matter had been placed by the Governor in the hands of a practical Committee of the Agricultural Society, of which the Chairman was Mr. W. G. Freeman, who was working heart and soul at it, with the cordial and valuable support of His Excellency. The model upon which it was proposed to work was taken from the scheme now being successfully initiated at St. Vincent by that indefatigable Administrator, the Hon. Gideon Murray. It was hoped the banks would be working before Sir George Le Hunte's term of office expired. If so, they would be a cause for the peasantry to hold his name in grateful memory.—There was a largely attended At Home at Government House on the afternoon of the 21st, when opportunity offered to welcome Lady Le Hunte once more in the colony. Everything was as pleasant as one naturally looked for now at gatherings in the beautiful grounds at St. Anne's.—The water question again loomed ominously. By a statement made at the Town Board, it appeared that thus early in the dry season water not only at Maraval and the other sources of river supply was far below the average, but the wells at Diego Martin water works were also much lower than the authorities could contemplate with equanimity. Something would have to be done to prevent these periodical scares regarding water, and it looked very much as if, after all, the despised proposals of non-expert merchants and other residents offered ten or twelve years ago would have to be adopted.

Scotland held her own the other night when every seat in the large Marie Louise Hall of the Royal Victoria Institute was filled with an expectant crowd of visitors, including the Government House party, to enjoy "A nicht wi' Burns," for which the community was once more under an obligation to that energetic and talented lady, Mrs. Perez. She not only organised, but coached and conducted every piece in a long programme. Perhaps the only disappointing piece in the seventeen numbers, was the opening chorus "Scots wha hae," which the singers rendered more as if they were lamenting for the Scots wha bled wi' Wallace than in the inspiring tone of confidence in coming victory. But after this everything went with a swing. "Call'er Herrin'," a quartette, was exquisitely given by the Misses Atkinson, Bowen, Rapsey and McLelland, and in the solos "My Ain Folk" and "Within a Mile o' Edinburgh Toon," Miss Rapsey and Miss Atkinson respectively delighted the audience with the purest and freshest of voices, in both cases admirably trained. Anything quite so excellent as the performance of these two young ladies

had not been heard in Trinidad, and in many larger places elsewhere, for some time. The writer felt he must specialise about these, but all the others taking part were good, and all received constant and well-merited applause. A tenor, in the person of a new-comer, Mr. H. Clark, had been discovered by the astute manageress. He sang "Afton Water" in a charming manner, and promised to greatly strengthen the list of amateur musical talent. Then there was a Scotch reel by the grandchildren of the late Chevalier Scott, accompanied by a piper, which was very well done. This piper, by the way, led the way with the bagpipes when the Governor entered the Hall. The only part, not altogether Scotch, but which formed a pleasing interlude, was "An Imperial Group," the verses of which, both witty and stirring, were the composition of Mrs. Perez. The curtain rose to Britannia, personated delightfully by a very beautiful child, little Miss Thelma Dumoret. Then followed England, Ireland, Trinidad, and Scotland, all by children, appropriately dressed, who looked their parts and spoke their words extremely well, eliciting genuine applause from the whole house. These children comprised the Midget Troupe of Mrs. Charlie Smith, which had already played successfully in the good cause of charity. This concert really was something worth recording, and it would be looked back to as one of the most charming entertainments in Trinidad. Needless to say all the Scotch community were there, and all the rest also who could secure a seat. All were Scots for the time being, and found themselves unconsciously talking the language. Not an Englishman amongst them who asked another that night to have a drink. It was all "Doch and Doris," and after they got home at midnight "A wee bit drappie!"

The shipments of cacao during January, 1914, were as follows:—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	418,945
B.N. America	142,350
Other British Colonies	16,800
Spain	8,200
France	1,919,250
Germany	771,050
Holland	231,100
Italy	49,000
United States of America	4,536,390
Austria Hungary	58,600
Total for January	8,151,685
To same date, 1913	3,854,745
" " 1912	10,757,066
" " 1911	5,848,611
" " 1910	9,386,702
" " 1909	8,451,140
" " 1908	7,986,902

DEATH.

Da Costa.—At Dalkeith Cottage Barbados, as the result of an accident, Mary Louise Joan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Darnley C. Da Costa, aged 7 years.

WANTS.

A Chartered Accountant of twenty years' experience who is proceeding to Jamaica about the end of February to reside there, will be pleased to negotiate with principals having interests in the West Indies, who might care to avail themselves of his services. Interview can be arranged before leaving England. Highest testimonials and references. Apply H. D., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Employment wanted by capable secretary and accountant, aged 45, who thoroughly understands West Indian Sugar business. Thirty years with the New Colonial Co., Ltd. Excellent references. G. M. Ohlson, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase, July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

For Sale—Bound volume of *The Sugar-Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timehri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of *Timehri* for 1891. For sale: Part I., 1886; Part II., 1889; Part I., 1893, and Part I., 1894. Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

REVIEWS AND PERIODICALS.

The January number of the *COLONIAL JOURNAL*, as the "Colonial Office Journal" is now called in order to prevent misunderstanding, commenting on the loss of revenue in Antigua as the result of the reciprocal trade agreement with Canada, encouragingly points out that in such cases the loss is immediate, while it takes some time for any compensating forces to take effect. In Antigua the shortage is made more serious by abnormally short crops and a fall in the price of the staple product, but fortunately the prosperity of the colony in former years enables it to meet the situation for the present, though other sources of revenue may possibly have to be sought in the future. From the same *Journal* we learn that Dr. P. H. Baker advocates the substitution of coco-nut for paddy cultivation in Ceylon in view of the facilities which the paddy fields afford for the breeding of malarial mosquitoes. He calculates that paddy land brings in a net return of about Rs. 50 per acre per annum, and that coco-nut yields Rs. 180, taking the trees per acre at 60 and the annual yield of each tree at 60 nuts. The trees take ten to twelve years to come into bearing, and in the meantime catch crops could be grown, such as cassava, sweet potatoes, and kitchen vegetables. It would be necessary, however, to drain the lands, and it is not an easy matter to divert peasants who have been engaged for generations in paddy field cultivation to other pursuits.—Among the Reports on recent investigations at the Imperial Institute, published in the current issue of the *BULLETIN*, the results are given of valuable laboratory tests of some new or little known oil seeds and oils, which, in view of the high prices ruling for most of the fixed oils and fats of commerce, might be utilised to supplement the supply of standard commodities. The other Reports are on the utilisation of Para Rubber Seed (Part II.), Ground Nuts, Baobab Fruits and Seeds, and Tobaccos from British East Africa, and a Report on Cotton Growing in the Gold Coast. Mr. P. H. Lamb, Director of Agriculture in Northern Nigeria, contributes a special article on Agriculture in Hausaland, in which the reputed natural fertility of the Hausa Plains is shown to be subject to qualification, from the point of view of agriculture. A special article on the Canadian Department of Agriculture, by Mr. J. H. Grisdale, Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, supplies a comprehensive account of the organisation of the Experimental Farms, scattered throughout the Dominion,

under the Central Farm at Ottawa; and some remarkable instances are given of recent and successful experiments in wheat-breeding. The hardening of liquid oils by a process of reduction, known as hydrogenation, for the purpose of obtaining solid fats, is dealt with in a notice calling attention to this method of conversion, which is bringing about important developments in the oil and allied industries. Other general notices deal with the Cultivation and Preparation of Rice (Part II.), and Cotton Cultivation in Northern Nigeria.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The Preferential Tariffs

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

Sir,—Recent experience has shown me that exporters in the United Kingdom, like their confrères in Canada, are not yet fully acquainted with the rules governing the New Preferential Tariff brought about by the recent reciprocal relations made between Canada and the West Indies, and so with a view to assist in facilitating matters for consignees and shippers, I venture to make the following suggestions.

Shippers should keep in view the list of articles which are entitled to the Preferential Duty under the Tariff, as it is quite unnecessary to furnish a certificate of origin, except for goods mentioned in that Tariff; this would save numerous certificates being sent out which are only thrown in the waste paper basket.

Certificates of origin should always be printed on a separate sheet, and not at the foot or on the back of invoices, this would obviate the necessity of the invoices being left at the Customs, where they are retained and filed among the Custom's papers, which is both an inconvenient and objectionable procedure, it often means that the consignee is left without a copy of his invoice. Care should be taken always that both invoice and certificate are forwarded by the ship the goods have been shipped on, or by mail to arrive in due time.

A very important point which applies to packers, is this, that where cases containing an assortment of say three or more classes of goods are made up for shipment goods that are not mentioned in the Preferential Tariff and that are not of British origin or manufacture, should not be packed in the same case with goods mentioned in the Tariff and that are of British origin or manufacture, unless they are made up separately and enclosed in the case, and the certificate endorsed accordingly, vide section 9 of the Regulations governing the entry of goods under the British Preferential Tariff of Montserrat, made by the Governor in Council on the 1st October, 1913, a copy of which I beg to enclose for reference.

Thanking you for your valued space,

I am, Dear Sir, yours faithfully,

W. LEWELLYN WALL.

Montserrat.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. H. C. Robinson, Clerk to the Courts for Kingston and St. Andrew, Jamaica, is acting as Assistant Resident Magistrate for Kingston and Supernumerary Resident Magistrate for St. Andrew.

Hon. L. J. Bertram, C.M.G., has been re-appointed a member of the Privy Council of Jamaica for a further term of five years. Mr. D. K. MacWilliam, Revenue Officer and Harbour Master, St. Kitts, has been granted five months leave of absence from March 30th next.

Mr. R. T. Stewart has been appointed Senior Emigration Agent in British Guiana in succession to Mr. W. Carter Crawford who has retired from the service. Mr. Sydney T. Bayley has been made Immigration Agent for No. 4 District.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Joint-stock companies in and connected with the West Indies are invited to submit particulars regarding their operations for publication under the above heading.

The West Indian Produce Association, Ltd

A dividend of 6 per cent. for the year ended December 31st last has been declared. The directors in their report which was adopted at the annual general meeting on February 20th, Mr. H. F. Previté in the chair, report an increased profit in spite of the illness of Mr. C. A. Philip during most of the year.

British Guiana Balata Company.

This company was formed in 1910 with a capital of £60,000 in 25. shares to take over licenses for collecting rubber and balata over an area of about 448,000 acres on the Essequibo River, Supenam Creek and Groete Creek in British Guiana. The purchase price was £25,000. The directors were Messrs. James Halcrow, W. L. Malcolmson, C. D. Marson and Alexander Rawlinson. The report for the eighteen months ended December last shows a loss of £1,867 12s. 1d., which added to a deficit of £7,184 os. 1d. at June 30, 1912, makes a debit of £9,051 12s. 2d. to profit and loss account at Dec. 31, 1913. The report says: "The statement printed herewith has not been officially audited, as the directors have no funds in this country wherewith to pay the necessary fees; and, further they have no vouchers in support of Mr. Edwards' (the Company's manager in British Guiana) periodical statements, hence a formal audit is not practicable." Further comment is needless.

Trinidad Grand River Oil Company, Ltd.

Since we last went to press the directors of the Trinidad Grand River Oil Company, Ltd., have offered to the public 150,000 shares of 10s. each for subscription at par. The company has been formed primarily for the purpose of acquiring and developing the oil rights over an area of approximately 2,319 acres of land known as the Grand Rivière Concession, situated in Moruga, Trinidad, British West Indies, which concession is held under a prospecting licence from the Trinidad Government on the usual terms, dated 25th June, 1910. All rent due under the license has been paid up till 21st October, 1914. During the prospecting period a minimum of seven wells, aggregating 7,000 ft., have to be sunk unless sufficient results are obtained before then to justify an application being made for the grant of a lease. The Grand Rivière property is situated on the southern coast of Trinidad, and has a sea frontage of nearly three-quarters of a mile. The concession is situated on the crest of the southern anticline of Trinidad, which runs for about two miles through the property, and according to Mr. Cunningham Craig's report of 10th January, 1914, should therefore be a considerable concentration of petroleum within the property. The ground is hilly and clothed with thick forest, but the valley of the Grand Rivière affords fairly easy access to the central part of the area. It is proposed to commence at once the sinking of wells on the property, and, in view of the accessibility of the property and the shallow depth at which oil has been found in the adjoining properties, it is anticipated that wells can be completed within three months from the time of commencing such operations. The purchase price is £80,000 payable as to £10,000 in cash and the balance in shares. The directors are Mr. William Eglinton, Mr. William H. Alexander, and Mr. Robert Francis Fuller. Registered offices: 58, West Regent Street, Glasgow.

The British Guiana Bank

What will probably prove to be the last meeting of the British Guiana Bank was held on January 19th. Mr. J. B. Laing, referring to its pending absorption by the Royal Bank of Canada, said that although they were only paying 6 per cent. on the Bank stock, they were going to get on March 1st the full dividend of three months on the Royal Bank stock. The year had not started very cheerfully. None liked to see the closing down or disappearance of businesses which had been in their midst for many years,

but unfortunately the year started with the disposal of the sugar estates of the New Colonial Company, and now an old and very staunch supporter of the bank, Messrs. Thom & Cameron, were proposing to go into liquidation. They would be a loss not only to the bank, but also to the colony as a whole. The liquidation of Messrs. Thom & Cameron affected only the local branch, and not the Glasgow house or the house in Barbados and elsewhere. The amalgamation of Messrs. Garnett & Co. and their old friends Messrs. Davson & Sons was also a sign of the times, and it was evident that those who had large sums of money invested in British Guiana were now doing their best to pull in and hold fast what they had got until they were more certain of the actual future. His own feeling was that they had arrived at a point in the history of British Guiana when if they were not going ahead and going to develop, they would go back, because there was no such thing as standing still. The question of the hinterland railway and the Corentyne railway and similar schemes sounded well, but when they came to hard facts they wanted something more solid to go upon before they could altogether give their support. It was no good making lines unless they had a very good idea of what was going to be brought from the country through which the lines were to run.

Mr. Laing then proceeded to refer to the disagreement with regard to the Canada-West Indies trade agreement, and expressed the hope and belief that the difference would be settled in a thoroughly amicable way. The motion for the adoption of the report and accounts was seconded by Mr. Hopkinson and carried unanimously. Archdeacon Josa moved a vote of thanks to the staff, which was also carried unanimously, and a special payment of three months salary to the managing director and staff was agreed to.

1914 dend.	Latest Quotations.		Prices Feb 21.
4 %	Antigua	4 % Redeemable 1919-44	95-100
3 1/2 %	Barbados	3 1/2 % Redeemable 1925-42	97-103 1/2
4 %	British Guiana	4 % Redeemable 1925	99-104
4 %	British Guiana	4 % Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
4 %	Grenada	4 % Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
4 %	Jamaica	4 % Redeemable 1934	100-102
3 1/2 %	Jamaica	3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49	88-90
4 %	Jamaica	4 % Redeemable 1922-44	78-80
4 %	Sr. Lucia	4 % Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4 %	Trinidad	4 % Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
4 %	Trinidad	4 % Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
6 %	The Colonial Bank	6 %	92-6 1/2
4 %	The Royal Bank of Canada	4 % (Montreal Exchange)	9-2 1/2
4 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	...	105-110
4 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	...	100-104
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	103-105
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	101-104
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	99-101
4 %	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	...	131 1/2 2/3
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 4 % Debentures	...	...
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. (£5) 5 % Non-cum Pref	...	...
6 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	...	105-108
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	...	...
—	General Petroleum Properties of T'ndad (£1 shares)	...	...
—	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	...	...
—	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1)	...	4-8 PM
—	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	...	31-34
—	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Corp. Pref.	...	100-111
—	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.	...	84-87
—	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	...	90-91
4 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	97-99
4 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	...	98-101
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 1/2 % Cum. 1st Pref	...	93-104
5 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 1/2 % 2nd	...	94-96
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures	...	97-99

The new Trinidad 4% Stock recently issued is quoted at 1-2 premium.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under this heading the principal features of the West Indian Official Gazettes are recorded for reference purposes.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX.—No. 7. Report on Pupil Teachers' Examination. Proceedings of House of Assembly, Dec. 16th. No. 8. House of Assembly, Jan. 13th.

Fisheries Order in Council. Foreign Marriages Order in Council, 1913. No. 10. Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1914. Waterworks Amendment Act, 1913. Education Amendment Act, 1914. **British Guiana, Vol XXXVIII.**—No. 9. Demerara Mutual Life Assurance Society's Ordinance, 1914. Registrar's Office Rules, 1913. **Trinidad, Vol 83.**—No. 4. Regulations under Companies Ordinance, 1913. No. 5. Partition Ordinance, 1914. Foreign Marriages Order in Council, 1913. **St. Lucia, Vol. 83**—No. 5. Legislative Council, Dec. 17th. **St. Vincent, Vol. 47.**—No. 3. Canada and West Indies Mail Service, Nov.-June. **Leeward Islands, Vol. XLII**—No. 4. Jury Act, 1914, and Memorandum. No. 5. Regulations for Leeward Islands Scholarship. Report of Antigua Postmaster for 1912-13. Supreme Court Act, 1914. **British Honduras, No. 4** Pure Milk Ordinance, 1914. Deeds Ordinance, 1914.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Tagus</i>	Feb. 29, midnight
West Indies†	Dartmouth	<i>Saba</i>	" 27, noon
West Indies†	Glasgow	<i>Crown of Cordova</i>	Mar. 4, 4.30 p.m.
Jamaica	Liverpool	<i>Antillian</i>	" 6 6 p.m.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Magdalena</i>	" 10, midnight

HOMEWARD.			
			Due.
Southampton	West Indies	<i>Oriaba</i>	March 2.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), Feb. 19th, "Very dry, rain wanted." **Demerara** (Messrs. Curtis, Campbell & Co.), Feb. 14, "Weather dry." (Messrs. Henry K. Davson & Co.), **Berbice**, Feb. 12th, "Weather is suitable in Berbice." Feb. 16th, "Good rains have fallen in Berbice." **Trinidad** (The Trinidad Estates Co., Ltd.), Feb. 16th, "Weather is dry." **Jamaica** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), week ended Feb. 14th, **PORT ANTONIO**, "Fine." **KINGSTON**, Jan. 29/31, "Fine." Feb. 1st, "Showery." 2/3, "Fine."

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. S. Garraway | Mr. C. Richter |
| Professor P. Carmody | Mr. John T. Greg | Mr. W. C. Robertson |
| Mr. Cecil H. Chambers | Mr. A. R. G. Hamier | and |
| Mr. R. Dumort | Dr. G. L. Latour | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| Mr. P. R. K. Esdale | Mrs. Murray | |
- Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
- Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton
- Mr. J. C. Henderson, 7, Eaton Rise, Ealing, W.
- Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire
- Mr. D. McPhail, c/o S. A. C. Todd, Esq., 76, Bowwell Street, Glasgow.
- Mr. H. C. Morcom, Great Meols, Hoylake, Cheshire.
- Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembridge Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W
- Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Beltinge Road, Herne Bay, Kent.
- Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Tagus* (Captain S. W. Plunkett), Southampton, February 16th:—

Mr. S. Albagh	Mrs. and Miss M. Hill	Miss M. K. Monckhouse
Mr. G. R. Ashton	Mrs. L. A. Hammond	Mr. W. Moore
Mr. L. E. Benilla	Mr. F. Binde	Mr. J. Miller
Mr. B. D. Bentley	Mr. R. Humphreys	Mr. G. W. Paul
Dr. & Mrs. J. G. Black	Mr. R. Haynes	Mr. and Mrs. C. Pettit
Mrs. S. J. Bowden	Mr. H. P. Ingram	Mr. T. C. Pattinson
Mr. E. R. Bovill	Mr. R. N. Karlowa	Mr. J. Pattinson
Mrs. F. Cooke	Mr. C. W. Kenonway	Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Pronger
Dr. & Mrs. W. B. Cunningham	Mr. J. F. Lindsay	Miss E. H. Punnett
Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Chapman	Mrs. & Miss Liversidge	Mr. G. Ramos
Mr. J. U. Christie	Mr. W. Lord	Mrs. H. Rathburo
Mrs. Christie	Mrs. S. E. Mardon	Mr. W. A. Stevens
Mr. R. T. Dennis	Mr. J. E. Milne	Mr. & Mrs. H. J. Tanner
Mr. J. Elliott	Mr. G. S. Martyn	Mr. C. H. Thomas
Mr. A. Foster	Mr. R. Martin	Miss H. Turner
Miss D. Green	Miss M. Martin	Mr. & Mrs. H. Walker
	Mr. C. O. Martin	Miss J. Weston
	Mr. J. Miller	Mr. and Mrs. D. Woolf

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus* (Captain S. W. Plunkett), Feb. 25th:—

Mr. W. H. Trollope	Mrs. A. W. How	Mrs. A. Perkins
Mr. & Mrs. R. Rothwell	Mr. R. Michelson	Master J. A. Perkins
Miss Bretherton	Mr. A. P. Cathrell	Mr. F. R. Dorkin
Mr. E. A. Lang	Mr. E. Boucher	Mr. & Mrs. C. de S. Dunn
Mr. L. Waterhouse	Mr. E. Behrens	Mr. J. S. Matthews
Miss Simmons	Mr. A. Findlater	Mrs. S. M. Schmidt
Mr. A. T. W. Henshaw	Mr. W. W. Thomson	Miss M. Edwards
Mr. H. H. Dawes	Mr. & Mrs. C. H. Benton	Miss E. Fidler
Mr. E. Martin	Misses Benton (2)	Captain and Mrs. Stafford-Northcote
Dr. & Mrs. S. C. Ashlin	Mr. & Mrs. G. T. Haycraft	Mr. W. R. McCall
Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Dewhurst	Miss Hayerall	Mr. W. E. Riley
Mr. J. M. Dixon	Miss B. Rees Williams	Rev. E. Kingston
Mrs. Warwick	Mr. & Mrs. A. Longworth	Rev. S. Franklin
Mr. W. D. Anderson	Mr. A. Dutton	Mr. & Mrs. R. F. Austin
Miss P. O. Anderson		Mr. W. H. Bagot

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Magdalena* (Captain W. C. Barrett), Mar. 11th:—

Mr. A. Ray Muir, Bart.	Mr. G. G. Wilson	Mr. J. H. F. Hennington
Lady Muir	Mr. A. H. Baker	Mr. W. G. Purdie
Mrs. J. Milne	Mr. P. T. Stöcherföhl	Mr. J. Wild
Mrs. Sandford	Miss R. Nicolson	Mrs. G. Holland
Misses Sandford (2)	Mr. H. Geimecke	Mr. E. S. Plant

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Oriaba* (Captain E. W. Morrison), Mar. 25th:—

Mr. A. G. King	Mr. K. Reid	Miss Fenwick
Mr. Jarvis	Lady Fenwick	Mrs. Allen

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Jan. 29.		Jan. 1 to Jan. 24.	
	1914	1913	1914	1913
Sugar	10,625	9,629 Tons.	87	58 Tons.
Molasses	508	234 Puns.		
Rum	487,613	302,573 Galls.	4,008	5,979 Galls.
Molascuit, &c.	469	920 Tons.		
Cacao	15,525	lbs	794,640	304,080 Lbs.
Coffee	1,000	16,937 "	1,104,096	346,304 "
Coco-nuts	143,670	31,036 No.	867,250	1,215,180 No.
Oranges			471,359	974,420 "
Bananas			157,304	180,358 Sterus
Cotton				
Pimento			3,293	11,241 Cwts.
Ginger			483	306 "
Honey			1,333	1,032 Galls.
Dyewoods			1,734	3,273 Tons
Gold	4,039	2,937 ozs.		
Diamonds	1,009	carats		
Rice	1,808,995	511,114 lbs.		
Balata	403,156	90,932 "		
Rubber				
Timber	21,024	14,915 cubic ft.		
Lumber	22,922	888 feet		
Lime (citra of)				

	Trinidad.		Barbados.	
	Jan. 1 to Jan. 31.		Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.	
	1914	1913	1913.	1912.
Sugar	202	19 Tons.	11,609	10,360 Tons.
Molasses	265	6 Puns.	83,911	80,061 Puns.
Rum	90			
Coco-nuts	690,030	269,420 No.		
Asphalt	3,563	3,803 Tons.		
Marjak	21	47 "		
Bitumens	127	759 Cases.		
Coffee				
Crude Petrol	10,200	104,450 Galls.	1913/14	1912/13
Cacao	3,843,000	4,060,600 lbs.	4,127,040	3,869,260 Lbs.
Cotton				23 Bales
Seed				
Copra	565	357 Bags	91	52 Bags.
Spice			406,920	326,405 lbs.
Kola			1,433	1,245 "

* The figures of exports for November not having been received, those for the month of December only can be given, pending their arrival.

† The complete figures of petroleum exports given in last Circular were those for 1912 and 1913 respectively as given in the trade circulars from the island. It will be noted that they differ very materially from those given in the Official Report on the Blue-book of the colony. An enquiry is being made as to how this discrepancy arises.

The Official Gazette of Dominica do not appear to have recorded the exports from that island since October 31st last.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½%) 75½

SUGAR.—In New York quotations have declined from 3.48 to 3.42 cents for 96% centrifugals and from 2.98 to 2.92 cents for 89% Muscovados, which had the effect of causing more business here in Cubas; the last asking prices being 9s. 9d. c.i.f. U.K. A steamer with 5,000 tons Cuban centrifugals sold for March delivery at about 9s. 9d. c.i.f. United Kingdom basis 96%, and in Liverpool 10,100 tons in store sold at 10s. 3d. basis 96%.

In the London speculative beet market there is no special feature to call attention to. It has been mostly quiet and inanimate for the best part of the fortnight, and quotations have fluctuated within a very narrow compass as a result of paucity of business; the range being about ½ to ¾. At the close the end of last week quotations were a fraction under those current last mail day after having touched 9s. 4½d. at one time.

There is no material change in the statistical position and now the course of the market seems under the domination of probable Cuban shipments; on exports over seas from Europe and on consumption here. The deliveries after a falling off in October/November were full up in December/January.

The Cubans apparently are showing firmness with what sugars they have ready, and seeing they evidently now have plenty of store room left they are in the position of taking full advantage of this market rather than submitting to low New York prices. The receipts from Cuba have been rather heavy according to Mr. Guma, being 105,000 tons, last week 98,000 tons, two weeks 203,000 tons, and Mr. Himely being 100,500 tons, last week 108,000 tons, two weeks 208,500 tons.

Messrs. Willett and Gray have raised their Cuban forecast of the crop by 100,000 tons, making the total estimate 2,500,000 tons.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: Feb. 10th, 9s. 3½d.; 11th, 9s. 4d.; 12th, 9s. 4d.; 13th, 9s. 4½d.; 14th, 9s. 4d.; 16th, 9s. 4d.; 17th, 9s. 4½d.; 18th, 9s. 4d.; 19th, 9s. 3½d.; 20th, 9s. 3½d.; 21st, 9s. 3½d.; 23rd, 9s. 3½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914.	1913.	1912.
Europe (1st & 14th Feb.) ...	3,852,940	3,821,480	2,661,740
United States (18th Feb.) ...	120,000	121,150	121,280
Cuba, 6 p'pal ports (18th Feb.) ...	227,000	154,000	154,000
Cargoes afloat (19th Feb.) ...	—	—	52,460

Total ... Tons **4,199,940 4,096,630 2,989,480**
Quotations of 88% Beet,
23rd February ... 9s. 3½d. 9s. 9½d. 15s. 11½d.

Grocery West Indian.—The Crystallised market has been quiet but steady. Only one auction has taken place in the fortnight at which 650 tons were offered, the demand however was slow, and only a part was sold at previous rates; a few bags of Demerara selling at 13s. 9d. to 14s. 3d., and part of Trinidad at 14s. 6d. Antigua was bought in. Privately Surinams have realised 13s. 10½d. There has been no change in values; but the tone is very quiet.

Syrups.—Demeraras part sold at 12s. to 12s. 6d.

Muscovados.—No sales reported.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	3,888	5,332	2,525	5,708	4,022
Deliveries	4,143	3,943	4,567	4,847	4,886
Stocks (14 Feb.)	12,351	3,228	2,448	5,219	4,211

Quotations of medium qualities crystallized, Feb. 20th:—
14s. 17s. 4½d. 20s. 9d. 15s. 6d. 18s. 3d.

RUM.—Stocks in London, 14th Feb.:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica ...	5,698	6,466	7,878	8,290	7,877
Demerara ...	9,262	7,520	7,528	7,596	9,189
Total, all kinds	21,621	21,000	23,612	24,732	25,293

The market for proofs has been dull; the heavy shipments having affected adversely the tone. The stock of Demeraras is greatly in excess of last year as will be seen by the above figures. Jamaicas continue in short supply and practically there is hardly anything to deal with. It is most unusual for the market to be so bare of supplies in the month of February.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, 14th Feb.:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad ...	7,291	3,079	4,806	4,504	9,248
Grenada... ..	4,962	3,087	10,319	12,242	20,588
Total of all kinds	82,087	68,735	108,050	105,871	99,015

The cacao market has been firm. At the two auctions held in the fortnight 7,479 bags of all descriptions were offered; of these 3,435 bags were West India, of which 1,600 were sold at dearer prices, fine Trinidad fetching for a small quantity 64s. to 65s., Grenada sold at an advance of 1s. to 1s. 6d., and other West India at about 1s. improvement; these consisted of Jamaica, Dominica, and St. Lucia, which all participated in the advance. Quotations after last sales were Trinidad middling red 62s., 62s. 6d., good middling red 63s. 64s., fine and superior 65s. 67s., Grenada ordinary to good fair 58s. 61s. 6d., middling to fine 62s., 64s.

In Trinidad on 2nd February it is reported that liberal receipts were coming forward; but owing to the unusually early appearance of the dry season it is feared that previous expectations of exceptionally large pickings may not be realized. The market has ruled active throughout the fortnight at \$12.75 to \$13.00 per fanega, the equivalent of 57s. 6d. to 58s. 6d. cost and freight Havre according to quality.

COFFEE.—Santos, March, 42s. 6d.; July, 41s.

The larger supplies at auction last week caused the demand to fall away, and after having been unchanged to dearer the preceding week, Costa Rica at auction met with a poor demand and prices were 1s. to 2s. lower except for fine qualities. This decline was chiefly in Costa Rica, other kinds selling at prices in favor of buyers.

Futures.—There was no change in these quotations up to early in last week. In consequence, however, of renewed increase in the Santos receipts, and other causes, quotations have given way nearly 2s. 6d. since last mail.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended 19th February, 627 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland state that since last report about 150 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton have been sold; chiefly comprising Nevils 16d. to 20d., Barbados and Anguilla 16d. to 19d., St. Kitts 19d. to 21d., and a few St. Vincent at 21d. Fine qualities are eagerly enquired for, but are not plentiful; medium grades rather neglected and the lower grades very unsaleable owing to the low prices at which American Sea Islands is selling.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice (Raw)—In better demand; good Jamaica value 1s. 7d.; ordinary Dominica to good 1s. to 1s. 4d., with small sales. **Essential Oil** (distilled)—Dearer sales up to 1s. 10d. per lb. **Otto of Limes** (hand pressed)—Dearer sales up to 9s. per lb. **Concentrated**—No change, small sales at £21 10s. **PIMENTO**—Quiet, small sales at 3d. to 3½d. **NUTMEGS.**—No change. **GINGER.**—Quiet. **COPRA.**—Fair merchantable West India value £20 10s., market quiet. **MACE.**—No change. **ARROWROOT.**—Barely 150 barrels sold at 3½d. to 4½d. It is believed business has been done in "native" at 3d. Quotations 3d. to 4½d.

RUBBER.—Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 4½d., smoked sheet 2s. 5½d., fine hard para 3s. against 4s. in 1913; Do. soft, 3s. against 3s. 11d. in 1913; Castillon sheet, 1s. 8d. against 3s. 4½d. in 1913; scrap, 1s. 6d. against 3s. 1d. in 1913. Market closed quieter. **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 11½d. landed terms against 3s. 4d. in 1913; Block 2s. 11½d. c.i.f. terms against 2s. 3½d. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL.—American, 8d.; Water White, 9d.; Russian, 7½d.; Roumaunian, 7½d.; and Galician, 7½d.
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . . West India Committee Circular.

Vol. XXIX.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10th, 1914.

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No. 403

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephones: 5613 CENTRAL.
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.
15, SIXTHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.1.
March 9th, 1914

DEMERARA SUGAR.

IT will, we think, be generally admitted, that the present state of affairs with regard to the sale of dyed imitations as genuine Demerara sugar is far from satisfactory. MR. DE GREY's recent decision at the Lambeth Police Court cannot be taken as the last word on the subject; for, as our contemporary the *Grocer* points out, "it would not be binding upon other magistrates even in his own court." The position of uncertainty which exists in the minds of the trade, is further emphasized by the *Grocers' Gazette*, which, referring to the case, says: "that it entirely disposes of the whole question we very much doubt." But at the present moment we do not propose to deal with the recent prosecutions, but with another matter of importance in connection with Demerara sugar, which calls for the serious attention of the makers. We refer to the fact that the outward appearance of imitation sugars is frequently superior to that of much of the genuine Demerara now placed on the market. These imitations are bright, clean sugars, pleasing to the eye, and consequently attractive to those purchasers who are ignorant of what constitutes the intrinsic value of the genuine article. It is a regrettable fact, but one which is not the less true, that in recent years, there has been a marked falling off in the appearance of certain marks of Demerara sugar. In an article which appeared on December 6th, in the *Produce Markets' Review*, the valued organ of the old established firm of MESSRS. J. TRAVERS & COMPANY, LTD., it is stated that the sale of Demerara sugar in the United Kingdom has suffered severely from the "undesirable qualities" placed upon the market.* That this is indeed the case does not,

we regret to say, admit of contradiction, and we cannot help thinking that it would have been better if West Indian producers had recognised the fact that when they found that they were unable to turn out a good quality of yellow sugar they should not have attempted to make it at all. The attitude of the shippers of inferior Demerara sugar is parallel with that of the exporters of immature fruit, to whose selfishness we have so often called attention. In both cases the market demand suffers in the long run and the trade is prejudiced. The introduction of improved crushing machinery has of course had much to do with increasing difficulties in the manufacture of yellow sugar; but it will be generally conceded that the root of the matter lies in the unavoidable substitution of varieties of canes, often unsuitable, for the historic Bourbon. Another prominent factor has been the amalgamation of estates, with subsequent extension of the factory output. This necessitates a supply of cane to the mill which taxes the estates' cane supplying capabilities and is against the freshness of the cane when ground, so essential to the making of a good yellow. Then, again, there are questions, such as that of water supply, which with large factories militate against the profitable manufacture of yellow sugar. In fact, the whole direction of the march of development of the West Indian sugar industry has been away from the manufacture of genuine Demerara sugar. The same remark, indeed, applies to other sugar making centres of the world. There are, however, still many estates in the West Indies whose conditions are favourable to the make of the good old Demerara sugar, and we would earnestly point out to them the need for control of the manufacture so that a good quality may be turned out. As we have said above, if it be found that good Demerara cannot be made, it is better, in the interests of all concerned, to turn on to refining sugar, rather than lower the market standard and thus aid the introduction of dyed imitations. No greater proof of the special character and value of genuine Demerara sugar can be afforded than the admitted difficulty of manufacturing

* This article was reprinted in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, of December 16th last, No. 397, page 583.

it. Dyed imitations can be made anywhere, but genuine Demerara, with its fine flavour and cane juice attributes, cannot. There is, however, every reason to believe that, with an always available supply of good quality Demerara, the public favour will revive. In this connection we would point out that, where an estate determines to include the make of Demerara sugar in its programme, it is of the greatest importance that only those varieties of cane should be planted which, under the soil and climatic conditions of the estate, will give a suitable juice for the manufacture of a good quality of yellow sugar. There is no doubt that one great difficulty connected with the important subject of competition with dyed imitations would be overcome if the market were supplied with an adequate and constant stock of good quality Demerara sugar.

BOUNTY FOR ENGLISH BEET.

IT is now an established fact that the beet sugar producers in Norfolk are not only being protected to the extent of £1 18s. per ton, through having to pay no excise duty, but are also receiving a bounty in the shape of a grant from the Development Fund. In a written reply to MR. MACKINDER, M.P., on February 26th, MR. MONTAGU denied that any such grant had been promised to the owners of the Cantley Sugar Factory, or for their assistance, but he then proceeded to state that £11,000 had been promised to a separate body called the Sugar Beet Growers' Society, Ltd., as a grant towards the cost of organising farmers in the Cantley neighbourhood and instructing them in the growth of sugar beet. Now, as there is only one sugar factory in the Cantley neighbourhood, it is perfectly clear that this bounty can only be for the assistance of the Cantley Beet Sugar Factory. It is, moreover, a fact not without significance that both the Cantley Beet Sugar Factory and the Sugar Beet Growers' Society have the same chairman, namely, MR. G. I. COURTHOPE, M.P. As we have already pointed out, the exemption of English produced sugar from paying a duty, is not a breach of the terms of the Brussels Convention, which sanctions a difference of five francs per 100 kilos between the Customs and Excise duty, but the grant of this bounty certainly does constitute such an infringement of the international agreement. No objection could be taken to the Government assisting the English beet industry if similar assistance were afforded to Colonial cane, but as we have pointed out, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, sheltering himself behind the Brussels Convention, has just declined to sanction the guarantee by the St. Kitts Government of interest on the capital for the erection of a central factory in that island, on the grounds that "any form of financial assistance from the Government we give, by way of a guarantee of interest or otherwise, would be an infringement of the Brussels Sugar Convention," and that it was impossible for the Colonial Government to afford the proposed factory any direct or indirect financial

assistance. The Secretary of State for the Colonies in the despatch to the Administrator of St. Kitts, which we have just quoted, then proceeds to say: "His Majesty's Government have no intention of departing from the fundamental principles of the Convention, and desire to pursue the same policy with regard to bounties on sugar as they did prior to their withdrawal from the Convention." And yet they are deliberately giving a bounty on home grown beet! We are pleased to note that the views which we have expressed regarding the inconsistent action of the Government in this matter have the support of our contemporary the *International Sugar Journal*, which in forcible language, quoted elsewhere in the present issue, condemns the attitude of the Government. It will be interesting to know what the views of the signatories of the Brussels Convention are.

THE BANANA AND HEALTH.

BUT for the fact that DR. G. ARBOUR STEPHENS' ridiculous suggestion that bananas are conducive to ill-health appears to have been still-born, we should imagine that the able articles by SIR DANIEL MORRIS and SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, in our last and current issues would effectively give it its death-blow. We are pleased to notice that the matter has been considered unworthy of serious attention by the general Press of the country, though we regret to see that a fruit trade contemporary, which for some years has shown its stern and implacable hatred of imported fruits, has endeavoured to make capital out of it. This proves the advantage of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR having placed on record a protest against DR. STEPHENS' publishing his quite baseless theory. Meanwhile we are pleased to recognise that the *Medical Officer* holds views widely differing from those of the romantic DR. STEPHENS, confessing as it does, in its issue of March 7th, that "in spite of DR. STEPHENS' article, our opinion still is that bananas have come as a boon and a blessing to men, affording, as they do, not only a cheap, nourishing food, but a welcome change in the restricted diet of the poor." For this frank statement our contemporary is to be complimented, and we hope that it will do us the favour of quoting the article specially written for the CIRCULAR by SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, which will be found elsewhere in our columns, as it has done that of SIR DANIEL MORRIS. SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE is an authority whose views on dietetic matters are justly valued, and his definite statement as to the advantages of the banana cannot fail to prove of value in extending the markets for that health-giving fruit. It is with this object, too, that "The Banana," by MR. W. FAWCETT, late Director of Public Gardens and Plantations, Jamaica, was published under the auspices of the West India Committee, and we hope to receive the assistance of our readers in securing for that standard work a wide circulation.

THE BRITISH WEST INDIES.

A Valuable Paper regarding their History.

Sir Charles Lucas has contributed a valuable article on West Indian history to the "History Teachers' Magazine" of Philadelphia, from which the following extracts are made.

"The importance of the West Indian islands in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries hardly needs illustration. 'They were,' to quote Professor Egerton, 'the natural cockpit of the European nations in the struggle for hegemony,' the scene of sea-fights and land-fights innumerable. Late in the fighting era, when North America had asserted herself, and the great American Republic came into being, it was in the West Indies, in the battle of the Saints, that England to some extent redressed the balance. Later still it was to the West Indies that Nelson raced to look for the French fleet before the battle of Trafalgar. There was something about these islands that made them or their waters a perpetual battle-field, and they figured largely in the periodical treaties which closed the periodical wars. When the settling-up came after the Seven Years' War, it was a question which would be the greater gain to England, and the greater loss to France, Canada or the island of Guadeloupe. In the intervals of peace these islands were equally to the fore. The West Indian plantation owners, with their 'great houses' in the West Indies, were the millionaires of the eighteenth century; they held the position which American or South African millionaires hold now. 'The profits of a sugar plantation in any of our West Indian colonies,' writes Adam Smith, 'are generally much greater than those of any other cultivation that is known either in Europe or America.' 'There are no parts of the world,' writes Burke, or whoever was the author of the 'European Settlements in America,' 'in which great estates are made in so short a time as in the West Indies.' In this last book the French half of Hispaniola is styled 'the best and most fertile part of the best and most fertile island in the West Indies, and perhaps in the world,' while Bryan Edwards testifies: 'The possessions of France in this noble island were considered as the garden of the West Indies, and for beautiful scenery, richness of soil, salubrity and variety of climate, might justly be deemed the Paradise of the New World.'

The West India Committee.

"When, in the middle of the eighteenth century, Halifax, the pushing and vigorous head in England of the Board of Trade and Plantations, tried to get himself elevated into a Secretary of State, the contemplated office was that of Secretary of State for the West Indies. This was before there was any British Secretary of State for the Colonies, and before the Secretary of State for the American Department was called into short-lived existence. Once more, of all representative colonial bodies in Great

Britain at the present day the oldest is the West India Committee, established in the middle of the eighteenth century and representing the interests of merchants and planters alike.

"But the past importance of at any rate the British West Indies can only be adequately gauged if the fact already emphasized is steadily borne in mind, that England colonized as well as exploited them. At the present day the self-governing Dominions of the British Empire, with the exception of Newfoundland, have their own business offices in London presided over by high commissioners and agents-general. In the case of all the other colonies (excluding India) which have not responsible government—the West Indies among them—the business agents are the Crown agents for the Colonies.

The Agents for the Colonies.

"At the time when this Crown agents' office was coming into existence, a very interesting return was printed for the House of Commons, dated August, 1845, and headed 'Agents for Colonies.' The return shows that two gentlemen, each styled Joint Agent-General for the Crown Colonies, and each appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, acted for twenty-two colonies, including New Brunswick, Newfoundland, New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, Cape of Good Hope, New Zealand, Western Australia and South Australia—all now self-governing dominions, or provinces of self-governing dominions. They acted, too, for—among others—those West Indian colonies which were comparatively recent acquisitions, the fruit of war, Trinidad, British Guiana and St. Lucia. But they did not act for the old West Indian colonies, Jamaica, Barbados and others, which, though fallen from their high estate, still appointed their own agents under acts of their Legislatures. The return illustrates the fact that the British West Indian colonies were largely self-governing colonies, or rather self-governing white oligarchies. They were no mere tropical dependencies; they were the homes of Englishmen who went out on terms of being equal, not subordinate, to their countrymen who stayed at home. As far back as the middle of the seventeenth century there was talk of Barbados sending representatives to the British Parliament. It was this unique combination of tropical riches and European settlement which gave such peculiar force to West Indian history, and still gives it such peculiar interest."

The Outlook for the West Indies.

With regard to the future Sir Charles Lucas is full of hope. "To-day," he says, "the outlook for the British West Indian islands is far brighter than it was, and that this is so is mainly due to the determination of one British statesman, Mr. Chamberlain. After a Royal Commission had reported, he took the islands in hand, and one and another raised its head again. A stand was made against the bounty system, which crippled the sugar industry not only or mainly by lowering prices beneath the cost of pro-

duction, but still more by utterly destroying credit, and, through constant uncertainty, scaring away capital. An Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies was constituted, and its first most capable and energetic head, Sir Daniel Morris, trained in and inspired by the Royal Gardens at Kew, brought in improved methods of cultivation, and supplemented the sugar industry with other products, notably sea island cotton. The British islands have recovered ground, they are now solvent and sound; in a quiet way they are prospering. To Jamaica the fruit trade with the United States has brought much wealth."

THE GOVERNMENT AND BEET SUGAR.

Another Bounty for English Grown Beet.

The *International Sugar Journal* for February contains the following editorial regarding the action of the Government in subsidising home grown beet while refusing to assist colonial cane sugar.

"Home Counties' statement in our last issue that the Treasury has made a grant of £11,000 to the Sugar Beet Association for expenditure in respect of the season 1913 has caused some heart-burning in certain quarters, especially with the West India Committee, who, in their current CIRCULAR, express themselves very strongly over this inconsistent action of the Government in giving what is neither more nor less than a direct bounty to the home beet sugar industry, while almost in the same breath vetoing a proposal of the Government of St. Kitts, a British West Indian colony, to guarantee interest on the capital which it is proposed to raise for a second central sugar factory in that island, on the ground that it would be an infringement of the Brussels Sugar Convention 'to the terms of which the Home Government are determined to adhere.' We have not hitherto felt disposed to endorse fully the attitude shown as a rule by this Committee towards the attempts that have been made in various ways to assist the home beet industry to make a start, notably as regards the rebate of taxation which the Cantley sugar has received, because we did not think that the demand of the British West Indian sugar colonies for like favourable treatment was so urgent or so warranted by the circumstances; but this latest protest on the part of our contemporary certainly has our sympathy, for we hardly think there was ever in the history of the Liberal party so flagrant a case of straining at the gnat and swallowing the camel as this latest determination of the Home Government to assist the British sugar industry by a direct dole while at the same time refusing to a sugar colony an indirect form of financial assistance. As Scripture records, it was once said of the Pharisees that they meanly shirked the responsibilities of assisting necessitous relations by the simple method of uttering the Mosaic reservation *That is Corban*. It would appear then that that type of Pharisee is not wholly extinct even at the present

day; for we find it hard to justify the appeal to the Brussels Sugar Convention made in the one case above while its bearing is so completely ignored in the case of a much more obvious breach at home of the terms to which the Home Government assert they are 'determined to adhere.'

"But we have long since abandoned any hope of expecting the present Government to deal with the questions arising out of the Brussels Sugar Convention in a consistent and statesmanlike spirit. At the outset of their present sojourn in office they adopted the standpoint that the principles of the Convention were a breach of Free Trade, and as they had been returned to power by free trade votes, they had to justify their position by hook or crook. So through the long series of years since 1906, in trying to make the facts fit in with their theories, they have seriously offended certain parties, have failed to please others, and have floundered hopelessly from one morass into another. As it is, one must be thankful for getting even small mercies from them. But in their latest policy, if they think that the red herring of St. Kitts will succeed in covering the scent of the home bounty in the eyes of the remaining States parties to the Brussels Convention, we think they are grievously mistaken. Those States will be able now to assess the real value of the assurances of the British Government made last summer that they were determined to adhere to the terms of the Convention, even after they had ceased to be participants in that international measure of fair trade in sugar; and we shall be surprised to learn that the assessment is at all a high one."

SUGAR IN MAURITIUS.

Mr. Stockdale's Interesting Report.

The first report published by Mr. Stockdale in the capacity of Director of Agriculture in Mauritius, contains some interesting particulars as to the sugar industry in that colony. The figures which have been compiled by Mr. Robert, the Statistician of the Department, show that there has been a considerable concentration of manufacturing operations during the last few years, coupled with great improvement in the processes of extraction and manufacture, which, as Mr. Stockdale remarks, has enabled the sugar industry of the colony to meet the keen competition of other countries. Thus, while in 1904 only 23.3 per cent. of the factories turned out more than 5,000,000 lbs. of sugar annually, the number had risen in 1913 to 86.4 per cent. Again, while there was only one estate in 1904 which made over 10,000,000 lbs. of sugar, in 1913 there were 15, the average output last year of the seven largest factories being 8,971 tons. As instancing the progress of the colony as regards its sugar industry, it is pointed out that forty years ago, at the time of the Frere-Williamson Royal Commission 3,000,000 lbs. was reckoned on as being a big output for any one estate, while during the present year not a single estate will make less than that amount.

WEST INDIA CRYSTALLISED SUGAR.

A Record of Market Values 1874-1913.

In view of the prominence into which West India crystallised sugar has recently been brought as the outcome of the recent discussions in the trade press and elsewhere, the table given below, showing the market values of this class of sugar as compared with 88 per cent. beet, should be of interest. The WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR is indebted for this contribution to Tennants Estates, Ltd., by whose Secretary, Mr. D. Wallace, the information and statistics have been compiled. The following points should be noted:—

(1) From 1874 to 1884 the market values given are for "Demerara and Berbice Crystallised." From February 1885 to December 1890, with slight alteration, the prices are for "Crystallised Demerara, Berbice, Barbados, Surinam, St. Lucia and Trinidad." From 1891 to 1913 the description has remained the same, i.e., "Crystallised West India

Sugar." (See Messrs E. D. and F. Man's Market reports).

(2) Sugar duties were abolished on 1st May, 1874, re-imposed on 19th April, 1901, and reduced to their present scale on 18th May, 1908. For the purpose of arriving at the net average prices of Crystallised Sugar for each year the duty from 1901 to 1908 is estimated at 3s. 9d. per cwt., and from 1908 to 1913 at 1s. 7d. per cwt.

(3) The quarterly prices show the range from Low to Best. Nowadays the most expensive Crystallised Sugar is rated as "Choice," but in earlier years this description does not appear, and the highest priced sugar is called "Fine Grocery Crystallised." To save complication it has been thought more desirable to show the range as mentioned. The average price for the year is the mean between Low and Best, calculated from the fortnightly market reports, and represents roughly the value of what is known as "Good Middling Yellows."

(4) The Continental Sugar Bounties were abolished by the Brussels Convention of 1902, which came into force on 1st. September, 1903.

(5) It has not been possible to collect sufficient data for beet grown from 1874 to 1877, and the averages given for those years are approximate only.

YEAR.	March.		June.		September.		December.		Average Price for Year.	Net Average after Duty is Deducted	88% Beet Sugar F.O.B. Hamburg		YEAR
	Low.	Best.	Low.	Best.	Low.	Best.	Low.	Best.			s. d.	s. d.	
1874	24 6	31 0	23 6	29 6	26 0	29 6	24 0	28 0	27 3	26 5	23 0	1874	
1875	23 0	27 0	22 6	27 0	23 6	27 0	27 0	29 6	25 7	25 7	22 6	1875	
1876	21 0	26 0	21 6	26 0	24 0	27 0	34 0	36 0	26 3	26 3	25 10½	1876	
1877	29 0	31 6	33 0	35 0	31 6	36 0	21 0	28 0	31 6	31 6	26 1½	1877	
1878	22 0	29 6	24 0	30 6	25 0	32 0	24 6	29 0	26 11	26 11	21 0½	1878	
1879	21 3	26 6	21 0	30 0	23 6	27 6	29 0	33 0	26 6	26 6	20 10½	1879	
1880	26 0	29 0	26 6	29 0	26 6	28 6	26 0	29 6	27 10	27 10	21 10½	1880	
1881	27 0	30 0	28 6	33 0	27 6	30 6	25 9	30 6	29 0	29 0	22 6½	1881	
1882	24 6	30 0	26 0	29 6	25 0	29 6	22 6	25 6	26 11	26 11	21 7½	1882	
1883	25 6	30 0	24 6	28 0	26 6	30 0	25 0	28 0	26 9	26 9	20 2	1883	
1884	20 6	26 0	18 0	25 0	15 6	24 0	13 0	20 6	21 5	21 5	13 7½	1884	
1885	14 0	20 0	17 0	22 0	16 6	21 0	16 0	22 6	18 7	18 7	14 3½	1885	
1886	15 0	20 0	13 6	19 0	13 0	21 0	13 6	18 6	16 11	16 11	11 11½	1886	
1887	13 0	17 0	13 6	17 0	14 6	19 0	19 3	21 6	16 5	16 5	12 3	1887	
1888	17 0	19 0	16 9	18 6	17 0	19 0	17 3	19 9	18 3	18 3	13 11½	1888	
1889	17 3	19 0	25 0	27 0	20 6	24 0	14 9	19 6	20 10	20 10	16 8½	1889	
1890	15 9	19 6	15 6	18 0	16 0	19 0	15 9	18 9	17 2	17 2	12 7½	1890	
1891	17 3	19 3	16 6	19 3	16 0	20 0	17 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	13 5½	1891	
1892	16 6	19 0	15 6	18 6	15 3	19 9	15 6	19 6	17 6	17 6	13 7½	1892	
1893	17 3	19 6	20 0	22 0	19 0	21 6	15 3	21 0	19 4	19 4	15 2½	1893	
1894	14 6	18 6	14 0	16 9	13 0	16 6	10 6	14 6	15 2	15 2	11 8½	1894	
1895	10 6	14 6	12 0	15 0	12 3	15 0	13 6	15 6	13 5	13 5	9 9½	1895	
1896	14 0	18 6	12 6	16 0	11 6	15 6	10 9	15 0	14 7	14 7	10 6½	1896	
1897	10 6	14 0	11 0	14 6	11 6	15 3	11 9	14 0	12 7	12 7	8 10½	1897	
1898	12 0	14 0	13 3	14 6	14 0	15 0	15 3	16 9	14 0	14 0	9 5½	1898	
1899	15 3	16 6	13 9	15 6	14 3	15 9	14 3	16 0	15 2	15 2	10 0	1899	
1900	15 6	16 9	15 0	16 9	15 6	18 0	13 9	16 6	16 0	16 0	10 4½	1900	
1901	15 0	16 3	15 9	17 9	15 3	17 0	15 0	18 0	16 2	14 7	8 6½	1901	
1902	15 3	17 9	12 9	14 6	12 6	15 0	13 9	16 3	14 9	11 0	6 7½	1902	
1903	14 0	16 3	14 0	16 3	15 3	16 6	15 0	16 9	15 4	11 7	8 3	1903	
1904	14 0	15 6	15 6	17 0	17 6	19 0	20 6	23 6	17 0	13 3	10 0½	1904	
1905	20 6	22 3	18 0	20 0	16 0	18 3	14 3	18 0	19 4	15 7	11 5½	1905	
1906	14 0	17 6	14 0	17 0	15 6	18 0	15 6	18 6	16 0	12 3	8 7½	1906	
1907	15 0	18 6	15 6	18 6	17 0	19 6	16 6	19 0	17 3	13 6	9 5½	1907	
1908	17 3	19 9	16 0	18 0	14 9	17 6	14 3	17 0	17 1	14 8	10 5½	1908	
1909	14 6	17 0	14 6	17 0	14 3	17 0	15 6	18 0	15 9	14 2	10 11½	1909	
1910	19 3	21 0	18 0	20 6	15 9	19 6	14 0	17 6	18 5	16 10	12 8½	1910	
1911	15 0	17 6	14 9	16 9	19 0	22 0	19 0	23 6	17 9	16 2	12 9½	1911	
1912	19 6	22 6	16 6	19 0	16 3	19 0	17 0	21 0	19 0	17 5	12 3	1912	
1913	15 6	19 0	13 9	16 0	13 9	16 3	12 9	16 6	15 9	14 2	9 5½	1913	

Thanks are due to Messrs. Wm. Connal and Co., Glasgow, Messrs. C. Czarnikow, Ltd., and Messrs. E. D. & F. Man of London, for kindly affording access to their records in the compilation of the above table, which is copyright.

THE BENEFICENT BANANA.

BY SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE.

Dr. G. Arbour Stephens' suggestion that bananas may be a factor in the increased prevalence of appendicitis seems to me to be utterly without scientific foundation, and should not have been lightly offered. As he is himself evidently aware it is a very serious step to take, to throw doubt on the harmlessness of a popular food, and that step should not have been taken in the case of the banana without better warrant than he is able to show. It is not only that an important branch of trade in which some of our colonies and dependencies are largely interested may be injured, at least temporarily, by the suspicion raised, but that multitudes of people incapable of judging of its justice may be scared by it, much to their own detriment, into foregoing the use of an agreeable and wholesome article of diet. Appendicitis is a word to conjure with in these days, and the ignorant, the foolish, and the faddists in their fear of it are not unlikely to swallow Dr. Stephens' allegation and to cease to swallow the banana. The discerning, however, and those who look into the so called proofs advanced will, I think, conclude that notwithstanding Dr. Stephens' indictment, the banana remains without a stain on its character, and may be enjoyed without a vestige of trepidation.

Dr. Stephens' main argument, if argument it can be called, is that there has been in the last ten or twelve years an enormous increase in the prevalence of appendicitis in this country, and that in the same period there has been an enormous increase in the consumption of bananas by our people, and, *ergo*, the bananas are responsible for the appendicitis. But during the period in which the increase of appendicitis has taken place—and it has not perhaps really increased as enormously as Dr. Stephens would have us believe—there has been an enormous increase in the consumption of meat, and it is to the increased consumption of meat that Dr. Owen Williams has ascribed the increase of appendicitis. During the same period there has been an enormous increase in the consumption of tomatoes, and why should not the tomato be responsible for the appendicitis? During the same period there has been an enormous increase in the number of motor vehicles and why should not they be the explanation of the prevalence of appendicitis, for trauma is one of its acknowledged exciting causes, and the comparative exemption of infants from it has been ascribed to the fact that they spend most of their time lying down, and are free from jars. If a mere concomitant increase in any dietetic custom or habit of life is to be accepted as an explanation of the increased appendicitis, then a hundred such could be suggested, with a *reductio ad absurdum* of the banana theory.

Dr. Stephens supports his banana theory by contentions which are I think exceedingly questionable. He says one does not find much appendicitis below

the poverty line simply because the people in that zone have no pennies to spare on such a luxury as a banana. Now, I do not know any accurate statistics showing the distribution of appendicitis in different social grades, but of this I am quite sure, that there is now no poverty line circumscribing the sale of bananas. They are within the reach of the poorest, and are carried by hucksters' barrows into the most poverty stricken districts in town and country and sold largely at three or four a penny, because it is recognised that they are not only a luxury but a food. I believe I shall be correct in saying that the banana has become vulgarised, and is now much more largely consumed by the humble than by the affluent classes, so that if appendicitis is more frequent amongst the latter than amongst the former bananas can be in no way connected with their greater liability to it.

In tracing out his parallelism between the prevalence of appendicitis and the consumption of bananas, Dr. Stephens has curiously omitted to say anything of the notable fact that at all ages males suffer from appendicitis in much larger numbers than females, probably in the proportion of 5 to 3, but males at all ages, after childhood, are less addicted to bananas than females, who are attracted by saccharine foods, which to males, and especially to smokers, have no particular charm.

Errors in diet undoubtedly conduce to appendicitis, but special culpability in this connection cannot be attached to any particular articles of diet, except those which contain seeds or pips, or are hard and indigestible. The banana is really the blandest and most digestible of fruit-foods, and, as partaken of in this country, is fully disposed of long before it reaches the cæcum and region of the appendix. It is made up of 74 per cent. of water, 22.7 per cent. of carbohydrate, 2.2 per cent. of protein and extract, .9 per cent. of mineral matter, and .2 per cent. of cellulose. It is really its easy digestibility as much as its delicate flavour that has largely contributed to its popularity. The most delicate stomach tolerates it, and no inconvenience attends its passage through the alimentary canal.

The immediate cause of appendicitis is always microbial infection, but Dr. Stephens adduces no scrap of evidence that the banana induces by its presence in the bowel the conditions which render dangerous microbial contents that are normally innocuous. The statement that bananas have an irritating effect on the intestine and are therefore conducive to appendicitis is lacking of proof. It is buttressed by the statement that they are frequently given to children for aperient purposes. I do not know that this is so, but if it is, then it must be borne in mind that numerous other inappropriate articles of food, even whehks and cockles, are given for the same purpose. Stewed apples and prunes are constantly thus employed, and they have not vel been catalogued as causes of appendicitis.

Appendicitis is not a thing of yesterday. I recollect seeing many cases of it passing under the name

of typhlitis in by-gone years, when there were no bananas in this country beyond a few clusters of the banana *Cavendishii*, grown in the hot-houses of the rich. It is seen to-day, although comparatively rarely, in infants who have never tasted a banana, not even for aperient purposes. It occurs in grown persons who have never touched bananas. Above all it is practically unknown in those races that feed most largely on bananas. The negroes in the Northern and Southern States of America are almost wholly exempt from appendicitis, and they consume bananas in prodigious quantities, while the white inhabitants of these States who partake of bananas sparingly frequently suffer from appendicitis. Dr. Stephens attempts to account for this damning fact by suggesting that the high climatic temperature is protective to the negroes living in banana-growing areas; but the protection is not confined to these areas, for it is noted in negroes living in temperate regions, climatically akin to our own into which bananas are imported. The inhabitants of the Central States of South America, who consume imported bananas freely are little subject to appendicitis; the rule indeed would seem to be that the prevalence of appendicitis is in the inverse ratio of the consumption of bananas.

I need not waste time in controverting Dr. Stephens' speculations about the different varieties of the banana and his supposition that it is the virulent ones that are exported for our benefit. Dr. Stephens seems to have acquainted himself very imperfectly with the forty different species of the *Musadæ*.

Dr. Stephens' dietetic notions seem to be of an unique description. With remarkable insight into cosmic design, he tells us that bananas "are intended for food for niggers," and he deplors the fact that "the highly and hyper-civilised," whatever that may mean, people of these British Isles prefer to live on food brought from all parts of the world, instead of "tilling our own little cabbage patches at home." "Cosmopolitanism," he says, somewhat ambiguously, "has its drawbacks, but if they have to be paid for by a disturbed health-rate, the sooner the better we consider the position." "Before the importation of all these foreign food stuffs," he goes on, "the people of these islands ate what they produced." He seems inclined to carry us back to a very restricted regimen, "broth and porridge" in Scotland, "cawl and succan" in Wales. According to him all people that on earth do dwell should eat only the produce of the soil on which they find themselves. We shall have to give up tea, coffee, cocoa, potatoes, oranges, a thousand luxuries, and must look even on foreign flour with suspicion. It would be perhaps useless to remind Dr. Stephens that foreign food stuffs are now the very life-blood of the country, and that just in proportion as they have been brought to us has the death-rate fallen. The important point is that coming from a quarter in which such singular views on

dietetic questions are entertained, the malediction of the banana need not count for much.

The banana is a clean, wholesome, nourishing and fragrant addition to our food supply—*sans peur et sans reproche*—a boon and a blessing to our people.

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

IV.—Characteristics and Classification of the Woods.

Most of the better known commercial woods of British Guiana are characterised by their high specific gravity or weight; and several have a distinctive smell when cut or sawn. This in some woods is extremely pungent and offensive, but it disappears after the wood is properly cured, or painted. Some of the forest trees are also said to possess poisonous qualities, affecting the health of the labourers engaged in the felling, squaring and sawing of the timber, this frequently taking the form of violent attacks of diarrhœa. From the bark and seeds of the greenheart tree a febrifuge is extracted, known as bibirine, partaking of the nature and properties of quinine; and decoctions made from the wood or bark of various trees are used for medicinal purposes by the aboriginal Indians of the interior, who also in times of drought and scarcity of their customary food supplies, prepare a meal from the seeds of the mora and greenheart trees, which they mix with cassava flour, and so enlarge their stores of bread-making material.

The proper seasoning of timber is most important as regards its future use and durability. In the teak forests of the East Indies the growing trees intended to be cut, are first "ringed" or barked, and allowed to remain standing for twelve months or longer, before being felled. This process arrests the flow of sap and conduces to the better curing, or seasoning, of the wood. The same practice might with advantage be more generally adopted in the Guiana forests than it is at present, where the seasoning interval is usually allowed after the trees are felled and squared, lying prone on the ground in the forest, or at the riverside depôts and timber flats.

It is claimed by lumbermen that timber which has lain in water, seasons more quickly and lasts longer than that which is freshly cut; and it is reasonable to suppose that the water would serve to soak out certain of the gummy matters of the wood, especially the outer sap-wood, making it more easily dried; besides the washing out of the sap, removes most of the natural sugars and proteids, which otherwise would furnish food for the bacteria and fungi which cause rot and decay. But whether the balks of timber have been so seasoned or not, it is always advisable to have planks and scantlings well seasoned after being sawn from the log, either by stacking, stoving or kiln drying, as this will add materially to the lasting properties of the wood, and

prevent subsequent cracking or shrinkage after the boards or scantlings are in place. This particularly applies to crabwood boards and planks, which should not be used for at least twelve months after being sawn.

The Moon's Influence on Forest Trees.

A popular idea prevails amongst the wood-cutters in Demerara that trees should only be felled at certain stages of the moon, to ensure the wood curing properly and preventing the logs and sawn planks from splitting or cracking. Many persons, it is true, attempt to ridicule this idea; but the writer from his own personal experience in the colony with timbers said to have been cut at the wrong time, is inclined to favour the popular view; and in this he is supported by that most experienced bushman, Mr. Michael McTurk, C.M.G., who in dealing with the forests of British Guiana in the Colony Hand Book of 1909, writes on this subject as follows: "A fault which affects the durability of our timber, and which all acquainted with the subject will admit, exists in the time of felling and its immediate after use. Though scoffed at by many of the inexperienced, there is no doubt that timber felled after the new moon and until after the full of the moon, splits freely, and has not the durability of timber cut at another time. The logs may be squared at any time, but should not be cut within the period mentioned." This practically means that no tree felling should be done during the growing stage of the moon, the idea being that the sap is then ascending the tree and so charging the cellular fibres of the trunk with extra moisture, there being in effect a sort of intermittent ebb and flow of sap, governed by the same lunar stages that control the ordinary tides, fortnightly, as between springs and neaps. Be this as it may, possibly the "ringing" process already referred to, in effectually arresting the flow of sap, is really but another means to the same end.

Until within comparatively recent years, there was a considerable waste of material in working down for colonial buildings and other constructional work the heavy baulks of timber as received from the wood-cutting grants: for example, if an 8 in. or 10 in. square sill or upright for a house frame was required, the practice was to take a 12 in. log of timber and adze it down on the four sides to the desired size, thus absolutely wasting, except for firing purposes, a 2 in. thickness of wood all round, which was generally reckoned to be the perquisite of the workers.

The local carpenters are very expert in adzing and dressing hardwood in this way, and can turn out excellent work in straight and well prepared framing timbers. This wasteful practice is adopted to prevent the timber warping, as it is apt to do when sawn, as was generally believed; but it is now found that this can be overcome by running the log through the mill and sawing off the two outer slabs at one operation, when the tendency to warp is con-

fining to the outer slabs, and the central portion of the logs remains straight; the outer slabs of 1½ in. or 2 in. thickness can be used for various purposes, instead of having the material wasted as before.

Of late years this same system of sawn scantlings, cut to specified dimensions, has been adopted to a large extent in the shipment of greenheart and other constructional woods from the colony, thus effecting a saving in freight as well as waste, and so reducing the cost to importers.

The Rev. James Aiken, M.A., of Berbice, who takes a keen interest in the identification of the several woods of Guiana, pointed out in a recent number of *Timehri*, the Journal of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana, the importance of grouping the principal commercial woods under well-known and clearly defined local names in order to facilitate their identity, as at present many of the lesser known woods are given different names in the different river districts of the colony, this often arising from vagueness or variation in the pronunciation; and an external character, or structure, of a similar nature often giving the same name to quite different trees, thus leading to confusion. Such a grouping or classification is urgently required by local merchants for marketing purposes; and the same will aid the timber merchants abroad in placing their orders for colony woods for the different purposes required, as soon as they become better acquainted with the characteristics, physical features and technical qualities of the several woods as definitely and authoritatively named.

This duty manifestly rests with the Government Forestry Department, when such comes to be established or organised on a proper basis, adequately manned with a staff of efficiently trained technical officers, and provided with the necessary equipment for ascertaining specific gravity, modulus of elasticity, breaking strain, and other data required for determining the strength of the timber being dealt with, as well as its suitability for various purposes, judged by its physical structure, colour, fibre, grain and other natural qualities, some woods being noted for their strength and resistance to attack from insects or decay, such as might be required for constructional work, whilst others, marked by beauty of colour or fineness of grain apart from strength, might be suitable for cabinet making, inlaying and other ornamental furniture work. In this way useful information will be gradually collected together, making it possible eventually for the Department to compile a comprehensive descriptive market list or catalogue of the commercial woods of the colony, which will be alike useful to the local timber merchant and the foreign buyer. Such will be necessary if the timber trade of British Guiana is to be developed on any considerable scale, and it be made possible for the colony to secure its proper position in the timber markets of the world.

(To be continued.)

THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH GUIANA.

The Proposed Hinterland Railway.

The text of Sir Walter Egerton's despatch to the Secretary of State on the subject of the proposed hinterland railway in British Guiana has now been published in the colony as a Sessional paper.

This despatch is the outcome of Sir Walter's visit to the interior during the months of September, October and November last, when he was accompanied by Mr. Bland, of the Nigeria Railway Department, whose report is the basis of the despatch.

The railway proposed is one of a metre gauge to start from the coast at Georgetown and proceed to a point in the savannah country, on the south western boundary of the colony near the junction of the Ireng and the Takutu rivers on the Brazilian frontier.

Mr. Bland, in his report, is in favour of the starting point of the railway being at Wismar, on the Demerara River, about 65 miles from Georgetown and accessible therefrom by steamer. Sir Walter, however, favours Georgetown as the coast terminus. His reasons for so doing are that it is the capital of the colony, containing one-sixth of the entire population, that it is situated near the centre of the coast line, and of the more thickly populated portions of the coast. It is true, he says, that at first sight Bartica, situated at the confluence of the Essequibo, Mazaruni and Cuyuni rivers, and some forty miles from the sea, looks like being a better starting point. This, however, he does not regard as being the case. An interior line, to avoid the mountainous country of that district would have to cross the lower Essequibo. The bar across the Essequibo also is no deeper than that of the Demerara river, the maximum draught of shipping is the same as for Wismar, while the rocks on the Essequibo render the approach to Bartica more dangerous than to Wismar. By way of Wismar a line can be constructed practically due south to the Brazilian frontier, without encountering any difficult country such as the Bartica route would involve. Further, by the route which Sir Walter recommends, branch lines can be run westward from the Potaro mouth through mineral bearing country, which would connect the watersheds of the various rivers, from the Essequibo at the Potaro mouth to the navigable Upper Mazaruni, and go thence to the Cuyuni, the Barama and the Barima. A further argument in support of the coast terminus being at Georgetown, and not at Wismar as suggested by Mr. Bland, lies in the fact that Georgetown possesses all the requisite trade and traffic facilities, in the way of wharves, warehouses, mercantile establishments, etc.

The course of the proposed line is as follows. If Georgetown is the terminus and not Wismar, the Georgetown-Wismar section would run up the right bank of the Demerara River, but at some distance from it, through thick forests, the Demerara River being crossed just above Wismar. From Wismar

the railway would go to the right bank of the Essequibo River to a point near the mouth of the Potaro. This is slightly out of the course, the object of the deviation being to serve the large gold mining district comprised in the valleys of the Potaro, and Konawaruk Rivers. In this way, also, the journey to the Kaieteur Falls would be materially expedited. The Potaro Mouth station would become the great junction between the main and subsidiary lines, feeding this district and the Upper Mazaruni, which it is proposed should be of narrow 20-inch gauge in the first instance.

From the Potaro, it is proposed that the main line should run between the Demerara and Essequibo Rivers, until it crosses the latter at the Kurupukari rapids. Up to this point, which is 175 miles from Georgetown and 110 from Wismar, it is stated that the line would traverse valuable timber forests where greenheart timber has only been cut in the lower sections. The Essequibo crossed, the line would run between the Burro-Burro and Rupununi Rivers, through fifty miles or more of forest, until the first open country is reached in the Annai Savannah. The Pakaraima Mountains would then be skirted for about 15 miles, and the larger middle, or Takutu Savannah, would be reached at Tirke village. From here to the Brazilian frontier at the mouth of the Ireng the line would run over the slightly undulating savannah country.

If the proposed Brazilian line from Manaus, the capital of the State of Amazonas, to Boa Vista, near the British Guiana frontier were constructed and connected with the proposed British Guiana Railway, Sir Walter considers that the financial prospects of the latter would be much more favourable. The distance from Manaus via Boa Vista to the frontier is 460 miles, which with the 360 miles of the British Guiana Railway would mean 800 miles between Manaus and Georgetown.

The Cost of the Proposed Railway.

The cost of construction as given by Mr. Bland is as follows:—

Georgetown to Wismar including cost of terminus at Georgetown	£	300,000
Wismar to Ireng mouth		1,000,000
		<u>1,300,000</u>
Less if taken only as far as Yukupari, 50 miles at £3,500		175,000
Total carried forward		1,125,000
Improved savannah transport facilities		50,000
		<u>1,175,000</u>
To this ought to be added for immigration and settling immigrants on Southern lands (at least)		50,000
For a very light 20-inch Decauville feeder railway from left bank of Essequibo, opposite the Potaro mouth section of the main line to the upper navigable Mazaruni		50,000
Making a total sum of, say		<u>1,275,000</u>

Sir Walter does not consider that the construction could be carried out by private enterprise. Too heavy financial obligations would be thrown on the colony, and undesirable concessions would be demanded. The colonial revenue and resources, also, are not sufficient, in his opinion, to justify the assumption of the construction. The practical solution of the situation appears to him to lie in the construction being carried out by funds supplied by the Imperial Government, as with the Uganda Railway, coupled with an annual grant to meet deficit on working expenses until the colony can assume the responsibility of the working.

An initial objection to the granting of an Imperial loan, says Sir Walter, is that under the present constitution, the colony possesses very complete local control over revenue and expenditure. It is an axiom of the Imperial Treasury that without control over the finances of a dependency no advances can be made from Imperial funds: an alteration in the constitution would thus be necessary so as to give the Governor and his officers the same control over the expenditure as now exists in Trinidad "if not indefinitely, at any rate, until the colony is in a position to assume full responsibility for the financial obligations which the construction and the working of the proposed railway must entail."

His Excellency concludes his despatch by expressing the belief that such a railway as is proposed coupled with an immigration scheme for settling a nucleus population in the south, "would in twenty years time turn British Guiana into a really progressive and populous colony, in which capitalists would not hesitate to invest their money." Further, that "its construction at the present time would probably start a combined effort on the part of the great and prosperous South American States to give the continent through railway communication between the far south in the Argentine, over 40 degrees of latitude, and make the capital of the colony the metropolis of the northern coast of the continent."

Apart from the extension of the present greenheart and balata industries, Sir Walter Egerton considers that the construction of the railway would have the effect of bringing into being an important cattle industry, which alone should ultimately bring in enough revenue to pay interest on the capital of the line as well as its working expenses. Among the subsidiary industries which would grow up in the southern lands of the colony as the result of the construction of the line, are mentioned ostrich farming, horse raising, tobacco, cotton, cacao, coffee and rice.

For the first time in the world's history a vessel has circumnavigated South America. She is the tug *Reliance*, which in 1912 steamed from Colon to Balboa via the Straits of Magellan, a voyage of 10,500 miles in 126 days. She has just completed the circuit by being passed through the Canal from the Pacific to the Atlantic.

JAMAICA IN COLOURS.

Attractive Kinemacolor Views.

A representative of the CIRCULAR was recently privileged to attend a private view of some very fine Kinemacolor pictures of Jamaica. They were taken by Mr. Sintzenich, of the Natural Color Kinematograph Company, Ltd., who recently returned from a visit to the island extending over six months. For over two hours scene after scene in the Isle of Springs was thrown on the screen, and the audience, the members of which were all acquainted with the West Indies, were loud in praise of their realistic colouring. One could appreciate at once that Mr. Sintzenich, besides being an expert cinematographer, if one may use such a term, is also gifted with a strong sense of the artistic. The subjects of the pictures could not have been better chosen, and the artist has successfully overcome the difficulties of gauging the exposure in the tropics, which has led to the comparative failure of earlier operators in those parts. Some capital views of the sugar industry taken on Shrewsbury estate (in one of which Captain Ker-Seymer figures conspicuously) were followed by others illustrating the growth and preparation of coffee for the market, and, of course, the banana industry. One of the best films represents the arrival of Sir William Manning, Governor of Jamaica, the colour of the scarlet tunics of the soldiers of the 2nd West India Regiment being faithfully reproduced.

It is not too much to say that Jamaica will reap a splendid advertisement from these pictures, which are now being shown in every part of the country to which natural color kinematography has found its way. Facing page 100 in the present issue will be found two examples of Mr. Sintzenich's work, but in assessing their worth it must be remembered that on the screen these pictures are reproduced in the actual colours of nature. They are in no way treated by artificial colouring, stencilling or brushwork of any kind.

CANADIAN shippers are protesting against the present high freight charges. Mr. Borden when approached on the subject suggested that instead of calling upon the Government to provide a State owned fleet, the millers and farmers would do better to combine and acquire their own tonnage. Commenting on this the *Financial Times* says: "History appears to show that in the past such ventures, after a brief and not necessarily altogether unsuccessful career, have been absorbed by their trade rivals, as must generally be the case, for shipping is a competitive industry as much as any other trade, and, no matter what the class of freight or the route, rates as a rule are quoted as low as circumstances warrant."

A list of publications for sale is obtainable from the West India Committee Rooms, post free on application.

THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.

The West India Committee Trophies.

The cup depicted below is one of the trophies offered for competition by the West India Committee in connection with the Tropical Products Exhibition entries for which close on June 1st. They consist of

1. A Silver Cup for the best comprehensive exhibit of tropical products exhibited by any of the West Indian Permanent Exhibition Committees.
2. A Silver Cup for the best sample of rubber from an individual exhibitor from the West Indies.
3. A Silver Cup for the best individual exhibit of any article or articles of tropical produce.

Entries for Nos. 2 and 3 must be made with the West India Committee, at 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., by the 1st June, 1914. No entries will



The West India Committee Cup for competition by the Permanent Exhibition Committees at the Tropical Products Exhibition.

be required for No. 1, as the judges will make the examination from the exhibits made by the various Exhibition Committees. The Exhibition is to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, from June 24th, when it will be opened by H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught, to July 9th.

The Colonies participating will include: Antigua, British Guiana, British Honduras, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

THE new list of members of the West India Committee has been posted. In bulk it is in marked contrast to the list published ten years ago, containing as it does no fewer than 72 pages.

A FEW tickets are still obtainable for the lecture on "The Panama Canal To-day," which Dr. Vaughan Cornish will deliver under the auspices of the West India Committee at the London Commercial Sale Rooms at 3.30 p.m. on Thursday next. Dr. Cornish will deal with the Cucaracha slide, to inspect which he has just visited the Isthmus of Panama. Sir Charles Lucas, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., will preside over the meeting. Tea will be served at the West India Committee Rooms after the lecture.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1572. Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

Many appreciative notices testify to the value of "The Banana," by W. Fawcett, and "The Cane Sugar Factory," by F. I. Scard, the two latest books published under the auspices of the West India Committee. "The Banana" forms a companion volume to "Cacao; its Cultivation and Curing," by the late J. Hinchley Hart. Both are standard works of great value, which no one interested in these forms of cultivation can afford to be without. These books can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms. "The Banana" and "Cacao" cost 7s. 6d. each, or 7s. 9d. post free in the United Kingdom, and 8s. abroad. The price of "The Cane Sugar Factory" is 1s., or post free 1s. 3d. in the United Kingdom, or abroad.

It is requested that those members of the West India Committee who have not already done so will forward their subscriptions for the current year immediately. The WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR cannot be sent to those whose subscriptions are over three months in arrear.

It is an interesting fact that both the winner of the Waterloo Cup and the greyhound placed fourth were nourished with thirty-year old Jamaica rum for some weeks before the dog's Derby.

A VISIT TO BRITISH HONDURAS.

BY DEMERARIAN.

(Continued from p. 85 and concluded.)

My second visit to British Honduras was in 1912, and again I was fated to start just in time to arrive there at the very hottest time of the year.

This time I went by a Cunard boat, and, although it was midsummer, the weather on the passage was miserable. We fetched up in New York on Sunday morning, and I had time to attend service at the really fine Cathedral of St. Patrick before boarding (that is correct American) the through train for New Orleans. The great New York depot of the Pennsylvania Railway made me feel ashamed of Paddington, Euston, St. Pancras and King's Cross, and oh, so bitterly ashamed of Waterloo and Liverpool Street. This was my first journey on a railway in the United States and I disliked it extremely. I disliked the snug insolence of the black porters, I disliked the food, and I positively hated the prices they charged for it. I conceived an abiding antipathy to the "dry" states through which we passed, and the cringing hypocrisy which made it compulsory to hide the nefarious crime of drinking a bottle of beer by enlisting the mute complicity of a whole tea service. Picture to yourselves drinking beer out of a teacup after it had been disgraced by being poured through the spout of a tea-pot. Oh, my teetotal friends! This is the hand of woman in politics. Once over Mason's line it was all "dry," even unto Mississippi. And then came dear New Orleans like an old friend. New Orleans is not "dry." Far from it: for here flourish in their perfection the famous gin-fizz of Ramos and the Sasserac cocktail before which the Manhattan and the Martini are things of no account. And after the gory beef-steaks of the train, the delights of Gulf oysters prepared in a hundred and fifty different ways, creole gumbo soup, lake shrimps on ice, and such like vanities at the Rathskeller. But New Orleans must prove no Capua; the Gulf must be crossed, oh, the heat of it, and Belize the *point d'appui* of operations reached.

Belize had changed but little in a year. Except at Christmastime, when the mahogany men come down for their annual spree, Belize is a very quiet little place. To the casual eye there is nothing doing; but the observant will notice little groups around the stores, men of swarthy mien and problematic descent: some of them Mexicans may be, or Guatemalans or Hondurians, a few Indians, Mayas, Waikas or Caribs (mixed Carib and negro). This would seem to indicate that Belize is a sort of entrepôt for the surrounding republics, and so it is. Of the 450,000 pounds worth of exports only 236,670 pounds worth is the produce of British Honduras. By far the greater part of the balance consists of produce from Guatemala, Spanish Honduras and Mexico.

One of the most important of these exports is

chicle (the gum of one of the sapotacææ of which the balata tree of British Guiana and the West Indian Sapodilla are members, and which is manufactured in the United States into chewing gum), which nearly equals the export of mahogany in value.

In Belize I had the pleasure of resuming my acquaintance with Mr. Wilfrid Collet, the Government Secretary, a gentleman possessing a comprehensive knowledge of the colony and its future possibilities. It is to the credit of the Colonial Office that Mr. Collet is now Governor of British Honduras. Discussing the health of the colony, Mr. Collet has a story about a man who on embarking for British Honduras heard another passenger remark "That man is taking his coffin with him," pointing to a large case labelled Belize. In the result, said the narrator at a meeting of the West India Committee, the threatened colonist had survived 27 years of the climate, and showed every sign that he would not be requiring a coffin for another 27 years. Apropos of this story, and as an illustration of the quaintness of Belizians, I happened to walk one afternoon with the Government Secretary from his office to his house. Continuing my walk, I came to the cemetery, and there I saw a nice little walled-in private graveyard quite unoccupied as yet with a large notice board to the effect that it was "Reserved for the Government Secretary." *Absit omen!*

The Colony's High Birth Rate.

But British Honduras cannot be called an unhealthy colony with a death rate, in 1913, of 24.798 per 1,000, and a birth rate of 42.393, when we compare it with British Guiana with a death rate of 31.7 and a birth rate of 28.8. And British Guiana is not an unhealthy colony, the death-rate being unduly augmented by infantile mortality from preventable causes. But in British Honduras they do certainly attend manfully to their birth rate. I could say a great deal more about Belize, did space allow, but I must hasten down the coast in order to interview that magnificent person Attalea Cohune. This sounds like an appointment with a lady. So it is: more, it is with a queen—the Queen of palms. The palm which, when the wretched labour conditions are satisfactorily adjusted will change the whole of British Honduras as by an enchanter's wand.

The visitor to Belize who wishes to see the coast to advantage cannot do better than take the fruit steamer to Puerto Carter and back, taking care not to go ashore either at Carter or Livingstone, a mistake which the writer once made at the latter place and was in consequence put in quarantine for ten days. The quarantine in itself is of a mild form consisting of a compulsory daily visit to the Colonial Hospital at Belize where a dispenser takes your temperature. You are not obliged to see Dr. Harrison again personally until you want to depart from the colony when his certificate as to your state of health

has to be produced before the United Fruit Company will issue you a ticket to New Orleans. This is a requirement of the United States authorities.

As the fruit steamer puts in on her return journey at Mounsey River, Commerce Bight and Mullins River, the passenger has an opportunity of seeing the embarkation of bananas at those points and a very interesting sight it is. From Belize down the coast southward, the scenery is quite beautiful. On the left are the Cays of various size, from the large island of Turneffe to little islets no bigger than a moderate sized house. These Cays extend along the coast line like a loosely strung necklet of pearls and are great places for turtle, both tortoiseshell and loggerhead, and green turtle. Away on the right are the hills which culminate in the peaks of the Cockscomb range, 4,000 feet above sea level, and these stand out boldly from the somewhat flat, low-lying shores with their frequent fringes of coco-nut palm and their deeply indented lagoons. Leaving the Cockscombs, the next elevation on the coast is seen at the Seven Hills district to the west of Port Honduras which itself forms an almost ideal harbour. Then Punta Gorda, the steamer crosses the Gulf of Honduras and the bold and beautiful scenery of the Guatemalan mountains, and the hills aback of the Rio Dolce delight the eye.

The round trip from Belize to Puerto Cortes and back is quite a pleasant one, and, apart from that, gives one to think furiously as our neighbours would say, as to what the condition of this colony of British Honduras might be if wisely developed.

SOME WEST INDIAN INSTITUTIONS.

XII.—THE EAST ASIATIC COMPANY.

The East Asiatic Company is one of the most important shipping enterprises in the whole world. The word "enterprise" is used advisedly, for, although a young company—it dates only from 1897—the men who control its destinies have disclosed a power of practical initiative, and a keenness for development which have attracted universal attention.

Its headquarters established in Copenhagen, this Danish Company extended its operations to the West Indies some seven years ago. A monthly service of steamers built specially for this trade was then inaugurated. These boats, it was arranged, should sail from Copenhagen, Rotterdam and London direct to St. Thomas, St. Croix, Antigua, Barbados, Trinidad, Demerara, Paramaribo and other ports. Three vessels were assigned to this service, and the first, the *St. Jan*, sailed from London on July 2, 1907. These boats offering first-class passenger accommodation, and carrying a surgeon, have become highly appreciated by West Indian travellers, for whom higher charges would be prohibitive, and with whom speed is not a first consideration.

The prime factor in the establishment of the new service is stated to have been a desire, expressed by

the Danish Government, for direct communication with the Danish island, St. Thomas. The service, it may be mentioned, is believed to be the first to open up a direct connection between London and that island. However that may be, the East Asiatic Co. saw quickly enough that a service to St. Thomas only would hardly prove remunerative. It was therefore decided to include in the itinerary the British West Indies. The importance attached to St. Thomas, if only by reason of its geographical position, however, was not misplaced. Once the Panama Canal is opened, that importance will be emphasized still further, and in view of the possibilities which will then be opened up, a sum, roughly estimated at more than a million sterling is being spent upon developing St. Thomas as a coaling centre. On establishing the West India Line, the East Asiatic Co. secured as their agents for Great Britain, Messrs. Escombe, McGrath & Co., of East India Avenue, E.C. This firm, which has carried on business as shipping agents from the far off days of sailing vessels, are concerned very largely in supervising the freight business of the P. & O. Line. In 1911, the Company established their own office in London. Messrs. Escombe, McGrath & Co., however, still retain the agency.

World-Wide Activities.

Probably few of the passengers to and from the West Indies by the Company's boats, possess full acquaintance with the wide range of activities controlled from the headquarters in Copenhagen. Those activities have already been described as world-wide. A few facts will prove the justice of that description. The interests of the Company are not confined to shipping. Commerce and industry are also embraced.

At the present moment, 17 years after its establishment we find the Company operating six separate lines of steamers, maintained by 42 vessels. These lines serve the Far East, South Africa, the Pacific Coast, and, as we have seen, the West Indies. The designation of the concern suggests its objective, and it was in the waters of the Far East that the first essay was made. Of the six lines, two run to that part of the world. A fortnightly service of fast cargo boats is maintained from Copenhagen, Gothenburg and Antwerp to Hong-Kong, Shanghai and Japan ports. Secondly, there is a three-weekly service of fast cargo and passenger steamers and motor vessels from Copenhagen, Middlesbrough, Antwerp and Genoa, to Port Said, Colombo, Penang, Singapore and Bangkok.

As a result of this Far Eastern activity we find branches of the Company established at such important centres as Siam, Singapore, Shanghai, Vladivostok and Nicolaievsk. Here also we find evidence of the Company's commercial enterprise. Some years ago the Siamese Government granted the Corporation a concession on the Malacca coast for extensive timber-felling, and a saw mill was promptly established. In connection with the Singapore

branch, a gum plantation is being cultivated in Johore. The vessels of the Company have also been engaged in the transport of troops for the Russian Government. The firm also possess in Jutland land containing lime and chalk, and a manufactory has been erected on the spot. These developments had all taken place by 1906. That year was notable in the history of the Company. By reason of these developments of the East Asiatic directors it was rendered notable also in the commercial annals of Denmark. So much indeed is evident from the annual report of the British Consul at Copenhagen published in 1907. In that report the Company's operations occupy the most prominent place. In 1906 the Corporation paid the highest dividend—11 per cent—which it had known up to that date. The net profit amounted to £166,434; moreover the capital was increased in that year from £278,000 to £833,000.

So much, then, for the Company's operations in the Far East. Thirteen steamers maintain a cargo service to South Africa from Denmark and Scandinavian ports. Two lines—known respectively as the San Francisco and the Russian-America—represent the Company on the Pacific coast. This bid for the Pacific trade is a further instance of the firm's foresight. Dating from 1911 the extension to the American continent was inspired by the Panama Canal project, and the increased trade which will flow from its completion.

Pioneers of Motor-Driven Vessels.

But the enterprise which attracted universal attention to the East Asiatic Company, and which will give the Company a conspicuous place in the history of shipping was its initiative in the use of oil fuel for their vessels. To the Company belongs the honour of owning the first ship to be propelled by motor power. Throughout its brief existence, the Company, in keeping with its spirit of development has quickly seized opportunities to keep abreast with the latest requirements by replacing vessels which showed signs of falling behind the times, with new and larger boats.

In pursuance of this policy, the Company towards the close of 1910 placed orders with Messrs. Burmeister & Wain, of Copenhagen, for three motor ships having as propelling power the Diesel motor. The influence of this energising example cannot be fully estimated. Certainly that influence is not yet exhausted. In no quarter has that influence been felt more profoundly than at the British Admiralty. It is not too much to say, that this enterprise of the East Asiatic Company, and the success which has attended it, will ultimately revolutionise the British Navy, if not the whole British mercantile marine, from the standpoint of fuel. The first of the Company's motor vessels, the *Selandia*, which completed her second voyage to the East in 1912, paid a visit to the Port of London. While here she was an object of deep interest, not only to the experts, but to the lay public. The Lords of the Admiralty went on

board, and one consequence of that visit has been to enhance the official view of the value of the oil-fields of Trinidad.

The launch of the *Selandia* opened a new epoch in the history of shipping. Still further developments may be expected along these lines in the early future. It may be taken for granted that in the course of time the Company's lines both East and West will be carried on exclusively by motor-driven vessels. At the present moment three vessels of the Bangkok Line are at Greenock where Diesel engines are being installed.

Such then is an epitome of the achievements of this Danish Company. Having accomplished so much in the short period of 17 years, one may predict with confidence further and possibly greater triumphs—triumphs which will result in valued service to the entire industry of shipping, and in honour reflected upon the friendly country in which the Company found its origin and retains its home.

AT WESTMINSTER.

"Free Trade" Protection for English beet.

Mr. Mackinder, M. P., asked the Secretary to the Treasury, whether a sum of £11,000 has been allocated from the Development Fund to afford assistance to the Cantley Beet Sugar Factory.

In a written answer on February 26th, Mr. Montagu said: No advance from the Development Fund has been promised to the owners of the Cantley Beet Sugar Factory, or for their assistance. A non-recurrent Grant of £11,000 has been promised to a separate body called the Sugar Beet Growers' Society, Limited, registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act as an association not trading for profit, as a Grant towards the cost of organising farmers in the Cantley neighbourhood and instructing them in the growth of sugar beet and towards the expenses of special book-keeping work to be undertaken for the Development Commissioners.

Oil Fuel for the Navy.

In the debate on the Navy Supplementary Estimates in the House of Commons on March 2, Mr. Churchill dealt at some length with the use of fuel for the Navy. He said that the actual quantity of oil kept in reserve and the prices paid must necessarily be kept secret. The average price including freight had more than doubled in the last two years. They now had stored in this country considerably more than three years' peace consumption for the whole of our existing very large oil-burning fleet. They were not working on any narrow margin. The reports of the Royal Commission were strictly confidential, for military reasons, but he would lay on the table a statement made by Lord Fisher, the Chairman of the Commission, from which he took this extract: "I have obtained the authority of my colleagues to write this memorandum in order that the following summary of the unanimous views of the Commissioners may be available for such use as you think fit to make of it: (1) The advantages to be derived from the use of oil fuel, and the imperative necessity for such use if the Fleet is to be maintained in a condition of the highest attainable efficiency, are conclusively established by the Commission's first interim report; (2) the Commissioners are of opinion that the oil resources of the world are amply adequate to meet the requirements of the Fleet if suitable measures are taken to secure supplies; (3) large reserves should be accumulated in this country and, with certain other storage centres on British territory, the extent of these reserves should bear a prescribed relation to the consumption under peace requirements, and this will give a definite basis."

NATURE NOTES.



IN some tapping observations conducted on *Hevea* trees in a plantation on the Mazaruni River, the following results were obtained: From 32 trees, 4 years and 3 months in age, 18 inches and over in circumference, 3 feet from the ground, 34 lbs. and 7 drams of rubber were obtained in six months, or just over 1 lb. 1 oz. per tree.

THE Chinese adopt a very primitive method of extracting camphor from the camphor tree. The leaves, says *The Indian Trade Journal*, are placed in a wicker basket fixed over an iron cauldron containing water. On the top of the basket a basin of cold water is placed. The steam from the cauldron passes through the leaves of the basket and carries over the camphor vapour which is deposited in the form of camphor on the cool under surface of the basin.

THE question of shade or no shade for cacao is a vexed one. The tendency, however, in all countries seems to be to do away with the old heavy shade and use shade trees only for the young plants. Cacao roots cannot endure excessive exposure to sun, nor the tender leaf much wind. Mr. O. W. Barrett, in the *Philippine Agricultural Review*, considers that dense shade is injurious to the cacao tree, and all that is necessary is a suitable cover crop for protecting the soil surface and a moderate amount of protection from wind.

WRITING on the subject of the cultivation of citrus fruits in the Philippines, Mr. P. J. Wester says that many people are under the impression that a budded tree must of necessity be superior to a seedling, irrespective of the source of the bud. This is far from being the case. Budded trees produce fruit identical with that of the trees from which the buds were obtained, except so far as it may be influenced by a different stock and a different environment. In order, therefore, that the budded tree may be an improvement on the seedling, the bud must be procured from a tree bearing superior fruit.

MESSRS. GOUGH AND STOREY have been experimenting on the best method for the destruction of the pink boll-worm (*Galectica gossypiella*) which has been doing so much injury to the cotton cultivation in Egypt. In their report on the subject they recommend, (1) the heating of the seed cotton by hot air to between 167° F. and 171° F. for ten minutes, (2) treatment by poisonous gases, carbon bisulphide for 30 minutes, hydrocyanic acid for 60 minutes, and sulphur dioxide, and (3) treatment by cyllin solution

for 24 hours. Methods (1) and (2) are applicable at time of ginning, and (3) immediately before sowing only.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

DR. NICHOLLS, who arrived in London by last mail, will shortly be entertained at a dinner by the West Indian Club.

FROM *Punch*: *MacBull*, "I shall be a gay grass widower for the next two months—wife's gone for a holiday to the West Indies." *O'Bear*, "Jamaica?" *MacBull*, "No, it was her own idea."

EXCURSION tickets will again be issued by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company this year between the West Indies and England. The dates of sailing will be July 21st from Trinidad, and the party will return from Southampton on August 26th. As before the return fare will be £25.

WE regret to state that Mr. Herbert Bailey, who had been connected with the firm of D. Q. Henriques & Company, West India merchants, for nearly 32 years, died on Thursday, February 19th. The business of the firm will be continued under the same name as before by the surviving partners, Mr. Harold L. Q. Henriques and Mr. E. Reginald Wood.

WE have no hesitation in advising every one of our readers in the tropics to send a postcard to Messrs. George Christie, Ltd., Ladywell Wireworks, Govan, Glasgow, with a request for a copy of their pamphlet, which bears the title "Shut Out." It deals with the steps which should be taken for the prevention of mosquito-borne tropical diseases, with special reference to screening, and contains actual samples of oxydised phosphor bronze mosquito gauze, the use of which completely obviates the necessity for stuffy bed-nets.

SIR J. ROPER PARKINGTON, J.P., D.L., presided at the fortnightly dinner of the West Indian Club on March 4th, and amongst those present were: Mr. Edward J. Cameron, C.M.G., Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., Mr. W. P. B. Shepleard, Mr. A. Braud, Mr. F. J. Clarke, Mr. Alex. Elder, Mr. J. Rippon, Mr. A. Hirsch, Mr. H. K. F. Smith, Mr. Arnold Smith, Mr. Noel Calder, Mr. F. Richmond, and Mr. W. A. M. Goode. Mr. Cameron, who will soon be leaving for Gambia, to assume the Governorship of that colony, will be the guest of the West Indian Club on Wednesday, March 18th. Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., will take the Chair, and after dinner the final of the Annual Billiard Tournament will be played for the Sir Alfred Jones trophy and the Club Cup will be presented to the winner by the Chairman.

THE LONDON LETTER.



BISHOP ORMSBY, who for fourteen years (1893-1907) was Bishop of British Honduras, has been appointed Archdeacon of Lindisfarne. For some time Dr. Ormsby has held a living in Northumberland. After leaving Honduras, he served as Chaplain to the British Embassy in Paris.

IN the vote for the Army provision is made for 51 officers, and 1,025 rank and file of the West India Regiment. Of this total 23 officers and 563 men are located in Jamaica, and 28 officers and 462 men in Sierra Leone. The establishment of the Bermuda militia is placed at 243 and of volunteers at 319.

THE Earl of Minto has passed away at the age of 68. Lord Minto belonged to that brilliant succession of men who, endowed with gifts of administration, have created further honour for their country by the wise exercise of those gifts. His experience as Governor-General of Canada had prepared the late peer for the Viceroyalty of India, and it is as Viceroy that he will be chiefly remembered in history.

NEVER has there been a larger attendance of Members of Parliament and strangers—distinguished and otherwise—in the House of Commons than there was last night when Mr. Asquith made his eagerly awaited offer to Ulster. In a speech of an hour's duration he proposed that all the statutory counties of Ulster should be polled on the question whether they should be excluded from the Home Rule scheme. That the period of exclusion should be six years, and that counties voting for exclusion should not be brought within the scheme except with the assent of the majority of the whole of the United Kingdom.

A NUMBER of illustrious Irishmen are recalled by the impending marriage of Mr. Henry Grattan Bushe, youngest son of the late Hon. John Scott Bushe, C.M.G., and Miss Mary Chambers, daughter of Mr. Chambers, and granddaughter of the late Sir George Chambers, announced in our last issue. The *Star* points out that the Bushe family received a grant of land at Kilfane in 1670, and among the cadets of the family was the orator and advocate, Lord Chief Justice C. K. Bushe. Amyas Bushe of Kilfane married in 1737 Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of General Gervase Parker, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Ireland. His only son and heir married in 1768 the sister of the Right Hon. Henry Grattan, M.P., by whom he had a large family. The fifth son, Robert, went to Trinidad, and was father of the Hon John Scott Bushe, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, of St. Anne's, Trinidad.

MEXICO has been the centre of attention during the fortnight. The murder by General Villa, the rebel leader, of Mr. Benton, a wealthy Scotch ranch owner, resident near the American frontier, has stirred feelings of indignation which will be appeased only by reparation. It is deeply to be regretted that that reparation cannot be promptly demanded. Reason for delay is to be found in the internecine conflict from which Mexico is suffering, and seems to be likely to suffer for some little time to come. Armed intervention at the moment either by Great Britain or America would not attain the end in view. The cause of Mr. Benton's death does not lie at the door of the responsible Government of Mexico. If it did, action by Great Britain would be simplified. Blockade of the ports, at the present stage, would merely penalise innocent parties, by playing the rebels' game.

THESE facts were made clear by Sir Edward Grey in his statement to the House of Commons last week. The Foreign Secretary has been called upon to handle a situation of some delicacy. In view of the Monroe doctrine Great Britain has been able to act only through the agency of the United States, and the United States, short of sending armed forces, has employed every diplomatic device to ascertain the true facts of the outrage. General Villa has exasperated public feeling still further by his refusal to hand over the body of his victim. Furthermore, he would have been delighted to have caused friction between the two English-speaking nations in regard to his crime. Anglo-American friendship has frustrated the attempt. But Sir Edward Grey has made it quite clear that short of America securing reparation, we shall, at the earliest opportunity, demand satisfaction. In some quarters this announcement has been interpreted as the beginning of the end of the Monroe doctrine so far as Great Britain is concerned. We hope so.

PRESIDENT WILSON, whose action throughout this matter has been warmly appreciated by the British Government has further deepened the sense of goodwill entertained for him on this side of the water by his action regarding the Panama Canal Act. We have known all along that he has been strongly opposed to the clause exempting American coastwise shipping from the tolls to be levied on the vessels of other nations. This feeling he has now translated into definite action by a personal appeal to Congress to repeal the Exemption clause. One cannot emphasize too strongly the earnestness and sincerity which characterised that appeal. Dr. Wilson feels that the honour of the United States is at stake. Wisdom and justice, in his opinion, demand that the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty shall be observed both in the letter and the spirit. The terms in which the President addressed Congress could not be more grateful to the sentiments of Englishmen.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Some Notable Home Arrivals.

Among the passengers in the R.M.S.P. *Oruba*, which left Barbados on February 18th, and arrived at Southampton at 1 p.m. on March 2nd, were Mr. Edward J. Cameron, C.M.G., who received a cordial send off from St. Lucia on relinquishing the administration of that island, Mr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, who is visiting England for the first time for nearly 40 years, and Dr. Vaughan Cornish, who has returned from a visit to Panama with a fund of information regarding the Canal and the prospects of its early completion, with which he will deal at his lecture under the auspices of the West India Committee on Thursday next. The chief item of interest in the newspapers received by the mail is Sir Walter Egerton's despatch regarding the proposed hinterland railway for British Guiana, which is summarised in another column. Sugar crops on the whole promised well, but cotton would be short. Princess Marie Louise was paying a return visit to Trinidad, where she was to open the Needlework Exhibition on February 26th. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Honorary Correspondents:—

Antigua—Another Intercolonial Steamer Service.

Mr. A. P. COWLEY, writing on February 14th, said that the weather during the preceding fortnight had been very dry, high and gusty winds prevailing; altogether it had been a had fortnight climatically. Gunthorpe's Factory had begun crop; but it was too early to say anything as to the yield of canes. The cotton crop to windward had been a comparative failure, owing principally to the high winds, cotton worms, and a variety of other causes, all of which had caused the bolls to drop wholesale. This was very disheartening to those engaged in the industry. The cotton to all appearances had at first promised to be first class, the bushes being fine and healthy, and loaded with bolls, with every indication of an excellent crop. This had been completely changed; instead of 250 lbs. lint per acre, as had been confidently expected in some places, less than that would be reaped from 10 acres. Still, the cotton ginnery had had a good year, and would pay a dividend of 10 per cent.

The Governor presided at the last meeting of the Agricultural Society, and announced that arrangements were pending by which it was hoped that R.M.S. *Yare* would be enabled to work between the Leeward Islands, including Dominica, Barbuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Guadeloupe, etc., for the next three months; if the scheme proved successful, it would be continued.—Colonel Hon. R. S. Stapleton Cotton and Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co. had again offered prizes for the improvement of pasture lands in Antigua. This had been much appreciated by the Agricultural Society, which had passed a resolution of thanks.—The engagement of Mr. F. Goodwin, of Gaynors Estate, to Miss Edith McDonald, daughter of the Hon. D. McDonald, had been announced.—The Rev. T. Meeke, rector of St. Philips, who had been ordered away by his medical attendant in consequence of bad health, had intended to leave by the mail for England, but had been unable to obtain accommodation in the ocean steamer.

Bahamas—An appreciation of the late Lady Malcolm.

The *Nassau Guardian* of February 4th publishes an appreciative memoir of Lady Malcolm, widow of Sir Ormond D. Malcolm, Kt., K.C., formerly Chief Justice of the colony. Reference is made to her connection with the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, with whose work she had been intimately associated since its establishment in 1901. The Queen Victoria Chapter, which was formed by her, was responsible for the laying out of Victoria Avenue, the first palm in which was planted by Lady Malcolm on Empire Day, 1904.

Barbados—Probable Fate of the Oil Boring Bill

Reaping was becoming general when SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., wrote on February 17th. The high winds and rainless weather were favourable for crop operations; but a good rain was sadly needed for the young crop.

The *Barbados Advocate* stated that February had given only very light showers, and with the high winds prevailing the moisture was rapidly absorbed, and the young canes would need considerable supplying whilst the ripening of the old ones would be unduly forced. On the higher lands the weather had been more favourable and the promise of a good return might still be cherished. Cane fires were still very prevalent.

An Oil Boring Bill was under consideration by the House of Assembly, but it was unlikely to be passed during the session then current.

The death had occurred in New York of Dr. Alfred Ellis Estebrooke, who had practised in Barbados as surgeon-dentist for about twenty years.

Bermuda—New York Steam Communication Bill.

The *Bermuda Colonist* contains a full report of the debate in the House of Assembly on the New York Steam Communication Bill, which has since been passed by the Legislative Council. A discussion on the subject had also taken place in the Chamber of Commerce on February 10th, and a resolution had been passed to the effect that the new service would be well suited to Bermuda's requirements and calculated to assist materially in the full and proper development of the trade of the islands, that the amount fixed as subsidy was not excessive, being within the resources of the colony, and expressing opinion that it would be desirable in the best interests of the colony to accept the offer of the Canada Steamship Lines, Ltd.

British Guiana—To cope with Infantile Mortality.

Writing on February 14th, MR. J. C. McCOWAN said that a very successful fancy dress ball had been given by Sir Walter and Lady Egerton at Government House on the evening of the 6th.—Mr. McCowan regretted to report the boat accident off Leguan on the 1st, when Mr. F. M. Brooks, Assistant Commissary, had been drowned. His body was recovered on the 4th.—Mr. E. R. Dayson gave an interesting lecture on "West Indian Unification," at the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society on the evening of the 10th.

A meeting at which the Governor presided had been held on the 9th for the purpose of forming a Society with the object of reducing the high death rate of children in the colony.

A meeting of the Court of Policy had been held on the 11th. The Combined Court were to meet on the 16th for the Annual Session.—Although there had been some good showers during the fortnight, the fall had not been sufficient for requirements. Prevailing high winds generally blew over the frequent appearances of rain.

The business of the British Guiana Bank was amalgamated with that of the Royal Bank of Canada on January 31st. In conveying to the CIRCULAR this intimation, MR. J. B. LAING stated that the offices at Georgetown, Demerara, and at New Amsterdam, Berbice, would be continued under the same management as heretofore.

Dominica—The Lime Trees Blossoming Very Well

MR. F. A. AGAR reported on February 14th that the Governor had paid them a flying visit, arriving by the *Briardene* on the 11th, and leaving by mail the next day.—There had been plenty of rain during the past fortnight and lime trees were blossoming well. Unfortunately there had been more than enough wind as well, and some little

damage had been done to the flowers. However, there was time for the trees to make up for losses.—Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls had left the island on his first visit to England for many years.

Grenada—The Agricultural and Commercial Society.

Writing on February 16th, Mr. C. FALCONER ANTON stated that the Governor and Lady Hayes Sadler had spent the preceding week end at "Dougaldston."—The Annual General Meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society was held on January 23rd. All the office-bearers were re-elected. The report of the Committee appointed to enquire whether a sugar factory for the villages of Grand Roy and Concord in the parish of St. John would warrant its erection was referred to the Agricultural Department to ascertain (1) if there was any responsible person or body of persons willing to guarantee the cost of its erection, and (2) whether there was sufficient land available for growing canes to justify the venture. A resolution was moved and adopted with reference to the improvement in the practical working of the Agricultural Department. A letter was read from the Colonial Secretary informing the Society with reference to the deterioration in the quality of Carriacou cotton, that a Bill had been framed having for its object the confining of ratooning of cotton within well defined lines, that efforts were being made to persuade growers to adopt better methods of ginning, and that it was hoped that a marked improvement in the quality of their cotton would soon be noticeable. It was agreed that, in the opinion of the Society, it would be desirable for Grenada to participate in the National Exhibition to be held in Panama in 1914-15, if the other British West Indian Colonies intended to take part. It was agreed that the Government be asked to place on the free list (Schedule B to the Import Duties Ordinance) all machinery imported exclusively for agricultural purposes. A reply had since been received stating that the question had already been considered and the necessary Order-in-Council drafted, which would shortly be considered by the Legislative Council. A letter was read from the Colonial Secretary informing the Society that their resolution urging the reconsideration of the question of the establishment of a motor mail and passenger service was receiving the careful consideration of the Government. A sub-committee was appointed to formulate rules to govern the Competition for the silver cup presented to the Society by His Excellency the Governor in connection with the Cacao Prize Holdings Competitions. Three new members were elected, i.e., Messrs. G. Neale Smith and Edwin Harford and the Royal Bank of Canada. These brought the membership up to 77.

The shipments of cacao, to February 16, according to figures kindly supplied by Messrs. Martin, Dean & Co., had been as follows: 1913, 29,505 bags; 1914, 25,209 bags; or a falling off of 4,296 bags.

Jamaica—More Steamers for Elders & Fyffes.

A motion for the appointment of a Development Commission was defeated in the Legislative Council on March 10th.—The *Cleaner* of February 18th contains a message from the Governor to the Legislature regarding the proposed reorganisation of the Public Works Department.—Mr. W. Newsome of the United Fruit Company and Mr. A. H. Stockley, of Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., were visiting the island. The United Fruit Company had acquired the *Emil Hoas* and *Carl Schurz*, which had been sailing under the flag of the Hamburg American Company, and it was proposed to place them on the European services of Messrs. Elders & Fyffes. The Governor, on the advice of his Privy Council, had definitely refused to grant a lease of the new railway pier to Messrs. Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—Hon. H. A. L. Simpson, Mayor of Kingston, had resigned.

Montserrat—An Exceptionally Short Cotton Crop.

MR. K. P. PENCHOEN wrote on February 14th, that there was little to report regarding the past fortnight. There had been very high winds and some showers. Cotton picking was over, and the island would make a short crop. The

East Asiatic Company's steamer *Sumai* expected early in March, would take a considerable shipment of cotton; probably the last of the first quality cotton. There would be one more shipment after that comprising second class cotton and stains.

Nevis—The Need for Means of Communication

MR. F. WILLIAMS, in a letter dated February 14th, said that telephone posts and wires were being erected, and it was hoped soon to have the telephone, but what of a steam or motor boat? No stone should be left unturned to secure for Nevis a safe, quick and efficient boat to run from Charlestown to Basseterre—it was their public highway.

St. Lucia—Mr. Edward J. Cameron's Departure.

HON. G. S. HUDSON reported on February 13th, that the weather feature of the last fortnight had been a strong north-east gale, with clear skies and very little rain, which lasted several days and caused several minor casualties amongst coastal sailing craft. There had been a few good showers, but not the soaking rain that agriculture required. The sugar crop at most of the factories had commenced, but prospects did not appear to be good. Cacao pickings had been very limited in quantity since the New Year. The lime crop was over, and the Government Lime Factory had closed down, but there seemed some prospect of a lime crop again in May, as trees flowered in January. All flowering was very advanced this year, such trees as Kola, Mango and Cashew being in full flower a month earlier than usual, and it was possible that planters might see an early cacao flowering as new foliage was a month in advance.

The Legislature met on 4th February to consider the Financial Estimates for 1914-15. These showed £71,000 estimated expenditure against £66,000 estimated revenue, the surplus fund being £4,000 in excess of the £25,000 reserve. Public works to the extent of £1,500 were held back, until a special committee of the Legislative Council had reported on the advisability of a loan to effect these works, the improvement of the Goldsworthy Road, the building of a new Court House, etc., etc. It was felt very strongly that the annual revenue should not be and could not be expected to continue to meet these large improvement schemes in the future, as it had been fortunate enough to be able to do in the past, but that they should be spread over a limited number of years.—The Administrator, His Honour E. J. Cameron, C.M.G., was leaving St. Lucia by this mail to take up his new post at Gambia. The unofficial community were presenting to him an illustrated address, which recorded its very high appreciation of the valuable work done by Mr. Cameron in St. Lucia, which had been signed almost without exception by all the prominent civilians. Mr. Bennett, K.C., had been the prime mover in getting up this testimonial. When one reflected on the deep seated, honest antagonism felt five years ago by officials against the Government, coupled with the steady integrity of purpose marking Mr. Cameron's administratorship that had never for an instant truckled to any unworthy interests; then one could not but appreciate that this voluntary testimonial should be by no means a small feather in Mr. Cameron's cap.

The Address, a copy of which can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, congratulates Mr. Cameron heartily on his well merited promotion to the Government of the Gambia and expresses regret at the severance of his official relations with the colony. It goes on to say: "When you assumed the administration of the Government the political atmosphere was considerably disturbed by causes to which we need not refer; and the relations of the Executive with the leading members of the community were strained to the utmost. This regrettable situation was naturally opposed to the efficient working of the administrative machinery; and it is not too much to say that it was changed to the normal mainly by your tact, your efforts to cultivate a frank and sympathetic intercourse with all classes, and your capacity for inspiring friendship. It must be a matter of satisfaction to you to know that complete harmony has since reigned between the Government and the inhabitants in whose welfare you have ever manifested a lively interest." It then proceeds to recognise Mr.

Cameron's capacity and judgment, courtesy and consideration, and refers to the example which the Administrator showed by travelling about the country and cultivating the acquaintance of the Agricultural community. The Address is signed Wm. Peter, B. du Boulay, Guy du Boulay, George Davidson, James P. Plummer, F. Floissac, Geo. Williams, Thos. D. Gordon, E. D. Cadet, A. R. C. Mallet, Chas. J. Devaux, M. A. C. Hunter, H. Le Curieux Belmar, Rev. Canon J. Bascon, J. Salles-Mignelle, Henry G. Crist, Rev. Gasper Downie, C. E. Devaux, Duncan Ferguson, Geo. S. Hudson, Frank Barnard, A. S. Duff, E. Bishop Twose, Gregor McG. Peter, J. H. Bourne, R. C. H. Clarke, F. W. P. Kingdom, W. Porter, J. B. Dugast, etc., John Frew, L. Tapon, F.M.I., V. G. Ant. Lartigue, C. R. Lastic, Wilson E. Bazil, Wm. Degazon, E. G. Bennett, L. Devaux, H. de Minvielle, John Devaux, L. T. Augier McVane, Chas. F. Richardson, J. F. LeGrand, Louis Mallet-Paret, G. V. Hepburn, G. Lafitte, C. R. Kennaway, E. Devaux, J.P., H. LeGrand.

In presenting the Address Hon. E. G. Bennet made a sympathetic speech in the course of which he said: "All who come into touch, and, sometimes, I am sorry to say, into collision with the Government, know full well the difficulties and anxieties which beset the paths of the administration in these smaller islands; the conflicting interests and views which have to be considered and, if possible, reconciled. And it is only right that you, Sir, who have so well and so happily succeeded in steering your way through these difficulties should receive some acknowledgment of the fact from those who have followed your work here and are capable of appreciating it. It is an acknowledgment which, besides being acceptable to you, will not fail to be an encouragement to those who succeed you to give of their best in carrying on the work which remains to be done. And it may, perhaps, tend to remove the impression created in certain quarters that we are a factions and thankless community to deal with. That is certainly not a correct impression; for we are a most pacific set of people, and as loyal to our friends as we can be generous to our opponents."

St Vincent—Mr. Murray's Address to the Council

MR. W. N. SANDS, writing on February 14th, said that the chief event of the past fortnight had been the opening of the session of the Legislative Council. The Administrator in his address, reviewed the chief events of the past year, and outlined the policy of the Government during the present one. In regard to the cotton crop he stated that owing to the influence of more favourable weather since November, some of the damage caused by abnormal climatic conditions had been repaired and the general outlook was not as black as it seemed a month previously. As evidence of this, the purchases at equal prices of peasants' cotton to January 31st, showed the small decrease of £140, nevertheless, he recognised that many growers had been hard hit this season. He mentioned that the acreage under cotton was 600 acres less than that of the previous year, and this was also conducive to a smaller output. The "Marie Galante" cotton crop of the Grenadines was, however, above the average. The position as a whole, he thought, did not give cause for despondency, and gave greater promise of stability in agricultural conditions than for many years past in view of the Canada-West Indian Reciprocity Treaty and the evident desire of the United States to maintain trade relations with the West Indies. Agriculturists should, however, direct their energies to conforming to the requirements of those markets. In regard to the operations of the Arrowroot Growers' Association, he stated that the interests of the colony were so interwoven with the arrowroot industry that it was of the utmost importance both from a public and private point of view that growers should stick together and present a united front to buyers who were apparently prepared to force the price of arrowroot down below cost of production. The Association was the mainstay of the industry. Other subjects dealt with were the installation of a cotton seed oil extracting plant at the Central Cotton Ginney; pure water supplies for small towns; land settlement and agricultural credit societies; secondary education for girls; a

new Government Sanitary Department; the proposed Motor Car Mail and Passenger Service on the Windward route, and a new General Post Office to meet the local demand. The Estimates for the financial year 1914-15, which were submitted by the Administrator, and passed by the Council, showed an estimated revenue of £36,035, and an estimated expenditure of £35,864. The estimated surplus on March 31st, 1915, was £8,836. No change of taxation was proposed.—The Administrator and the Honble. Mrs. Murray accompanied by the writer, visited the Chateaubelair district from February 5th to 10th, with headquarters at the delightful Belmont Rest House, about 1,000 feet, above sea level, from which elevation magnificent views of the Soufriere and the surrounding mountainous country could be obtained. The chief object of the Administrator's visit was to distribute the diplomas and prizes awarded in the recent cotton growing competition for small holders in the district, but many other matters beside this demanded his attention.—The American steam yacht *Aphrodite*, 1,300 tons, called a few days previously with Colonel Payne and a party of wealthy Americans on a cruise through the islands.—The weather continued seasonable, but the trade wind had been exceptionally strong for some days past.

Tabago—The Proposed Centenary Celebrations

Writing on February 13th, MR. ROBERT S. REID said that since last mail there had been high winds with light showers, and although rather trying for cacao trees the weather on the whole did not leave much cause for complaint. Cacao was coming in freely and prices in Trinidad had improved. Ordinary cacao fetched within 10 cents per to lb. of Estates, which seemed extraordinary, and was not much encouragement to planters to go to trouble and expense in curing and preparing their beans. The general opinion was that the Spring crop would be short and a June crop was too uncertain to reckon upon.—A meeting had been held in Scarborough in connection with the proposed Centenary Celebrations in May, and for expounding the principles of an Agricultural Bank. It was hoped that both might come to a successful issue.

Trinidad—Princess Marie Louise visits Port of Spain.

MR. ENCAR TRIPP, in a letter dated February 17th, stated that Her Highness Princess Marie Louise again landed in Trinidad on the 16th, and was given a warm reception. Her Highness had graciously consented to be present at the opening of the Session of the Legislative Council on the 18th, and would attend other public functions during her stay.—The White Star steamer *Lauronic* arrived on the 16th with over 400 tourists, most of whom were spreading over the country shedding good American gold in welcome quantity.—The Glossop-Harris-Cellier Shakespearian Company had been there since the 4th giving daily performances to large audiences. Nothing drew better in Trinidad than Shakespeare, notwithstanding the dictum of a late *learned* judge that the brains of Trinidad ladies were in their toes—that they could do nothing but dance, and cared for nothing else. A huge circus had also visited the island, and had left with a goodly portion of the savings of the people. It was fortunate Trinidad was getting something of its own back from Uncle Sam's touring party.—Mr. H. E. Murray had severed his connection with the St. Madeleine Estates, of which in the Colonial Company's time he had been Attorney for some years, and had purchased a fine property in Berbice. He was the popular vice-president of the Agricultural Society, a position which he had filled with much tact and ability for some time, and the members learnt with much regret that a change of residence might lead to his relinquishment of the post. All the sugar mills of the colony were about, and first results were reported satisfactory. The crop promised to be above the average. All that was wanted so far was a little better price.—A public spirited solicitor, Mr. E. Mumbo Lazare, was running a small agricultural show off his own hat in the picturesque grounds surrounding his residence at Diego Martin. It was opened on the 14th, when the Governor and a number of well known people were present. The show was principally for the benefit of peasant proprietors, whose exhibits of animal

and vegetable life were most creditable. But the most striking feature presented to the visitors was the beautiful orchard of grafted fruit trees, almost borne down with fruit, cultivated by Mr. Lazare himself. The writer did not think there was anything in its way to equal it in the colony, and it formed the most useful object lesson of a very interesting and instructive exhibition.

Cacao was coming forward in large quantities, but prices had hardened with the news of the inundation in Brazil, and in sympathy with the considerable rise at Bahia and Ecuador. Thanks to the Agricultural Society planters were kept regularly informed of the state of the Guayaquil market by telegraph communication between that body and the Asociacion de Agricultores del Ecuador.

BIRTH.

Low — At Port of Spain, Trinidad, on February 28th, the wife of Mr. A. M. Low, of Trinidad, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

Craig - Cressall. — On 14th February at St. Sidwell's, by the Very Rev. E. Sloman, M.A. (Dean of Georgetown), George Ernest Craig, M. B., University, Dublin, (B. G. Government Medical Service), second son of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Craig, Londonderry, Ireland, to Ethel Harriet Beatrice, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cressall, Georgetown, Demerara.

WANTS.

For Sale.—A paying Newspaper Concern in the West Indies, with a Large Advertising Business in full swing, and a Circulation the largest in the island. The Concern is capable of further development, and has given a profit of between 10 per cent. and 11 per cent. on the invested capital as the result of the last years' workings. —Apply "Press," c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Employment wanted by capable secretary and accountant, aged 45, who thoroughly understands West Indian Sugar business. Thirty years with the New Colonial Co., Ltd. Excellent references. G. M. Ohlson, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase, July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

For Sale—Bound volume of *The Sugar-Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timehri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of *Timehri* for 1891. For sale: Part I., 1886; Part II., 1889; Part I., 1893, and Part I., 1894. Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

OUR FORTNIGHTLY RECIPE. — *Sangaree.* (The *Sang Gris* of Père Labat). Take a tumbler and more than half fill it with bishop (rum in which an apple stuck with cloves has been soaked) or port wine. Add a burnt biscuit (cold); sweeten to taste; fill up with cold water; grate a little nutmeg on the top and put in the thin peel of a lemon (or lime) for a few minutes. Then serve. (Recipe by Mrs. H. Graham Yearwood).

MR. W. F. BROADWAY recently delivered a lecture on tobacco at the Scarborough Brotherhood, Tobago, which was much appreciated by a large audience. The Rev. Mr. Cole took the chair, and spoke in high terms of the usefulness and lucidity of the lecture.

CONSULAR REPORT.

Hawaiian Pineapples.

The rapid increase in production of pineapples in Hawaii is demonstrated by the following table of exports of canned pines, given by Mr. Consul Rentiers in his report for 1912-13.

	Cases.
1901	2,000
1902	6,000
1903	9,800
1904	25,000
1905	51,300
1906	84,300
1907	186,700
1908	410,000
1909	498,300
1910	650,000
1911	730,000
1912	1,318,336
1913	1,600,000*

* Estimated.

The acreage under pineapples in the islands is now 15,000 acres. The popularity of this product is ascribed to the fact that the fruit is ripened on the plant, owing to which the fruit contains on an average 12 per cent. total sugars. This has given rise to the presumption that the fruit was preserved with added sugar. Dr. Wilcox, of the Hawaii Experiment Station of the United States Department of Agriculture, states that total sugars in Hawaiian pineapples range from 10.14 to 15.23 per cent., being 3.14 to 5.55 per cent. reducing sugar or glucose and 6.03 to 10.12 per cent. sucrose, with an average from all his analyses of 4.22 per cent. glucose and 7.84 per cent. sucrose. There is present, in addition, about 1.25 per cent. citric acid in the fruit. If, therefore, dependence be placed merely on the density of the juice as indicating the amount of sugar present, a still higher figure would be obtained, and he is of opinion that in the case of tinned Hawaiian pineapples, the addition of sugar cannot reasonably be assumed unless the total sugars exceed 12 per cent. as an average of samples taken.

In spite of the large area under pineapples sugar remains the staple of Hawaii. The dependence of the territory on this industry is again shown by the customs statistics which give the value of sugar shipments as \$36,662,227 (£7,637,964) out of total exports of all kinds, including tinned pineapples, of \$43,471,940 (£9,056,650).

THE subject of the drying of tropical products is one which is very much to the fore at the present moment, and a pamphlet dealing with the subject, just issued by Messrs. David Bridge & Co., Ltd., of Manchester, is of particular interest in this connection. Not only are the dryers manufactured by that firm, for copra, cacao, maize, pimento, bananas, coco-nuts, coffee, ground-nuts and rubber fully described, but much valuable information is also given on this important detail of modern tropical agricultural industries.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

The Magicians of Charno By Geoffrey Williams. London, John Murray, Albemarle Street, W. 6s. With illustrations by Lady Carter. This is a story by the son of our colonial governor beautifully illustrated by the wife of another. If Mr. Geoffrey Williams told his stories of Wildest Africa to the boys of Elstree school, to whom this book is dedicated, with anything like the go and vim he has put into his absorbing tale of the "Magicians of Charno," he must indeed have yarned to an enthralled audience. And schoolboys are critical—most "demned particular," as Mr. Mantalini might have said. Mr. Rider Haggard at his best never told a better African story; *sed ex Africa semper aliquid novi*. Though essentially a boy's book, there are plenty, and we may be thankful for it, of grown-ups in whom the everlasting boy is still alive, who will be loth, having once begun the "Magicians of Charno" to close the book before they have finished the last chapter. In these days of nauseous sex problem novels and exasperating introspective studies, of weirdly improbable detective thrillers, it is a pleasure to take refuge in a nice, clean, wholesome boys' book, something that reminds us of the fiction of our youth, like that of Fenimore Cooper, Marryat, Mayne Reid and Jules Verne, and the two greatest books for all time, Robinson Crusoe and Treasure Island. Adventure, pure adventure, that is what boys love to read about, and that is what Mr. Geoffrey Williams gives them full measure, and nice and "bluggy" too. In these days of picture shows with their sometimes unwholesome excitement there is an insidious danger that the function of the eye may usurp the written word, and that soon there will be nothing left to the imagination of the young. From this point of view the writer of a good boys' book deserves well of fathers and mothers; for better the home fireside and a book than a stuffy cinematograph theatre and thrilling dramas quite untrue to life. Lady Carter's drawings are charming and show a firmness and knowledge of form quite unusual in an amateur. It was Lady Carter who designed the menu for the Charter Banquet of the West India Committee, June 22, 1905, and who also turned out a handsome design for the Barbados pamphlet distributed at the Colonial Exhibition of the same year. Her illustrations to the "Magicians of Charno" are really excellent.

Rubber; Its Source, Cultivation and Preparation By Harold Brown, Technical Superintendent in the Scientific and Technical Department of the Imperial Institute. London, John Murray, Albemarle Street, W. 6s. net. There is probably no person better qualified to write a handbook on rubber than Mr. Harold Brown, who is in charge of that section of technology at the Imperial Institute. Now that Tropical Agriculture is well on the way to becoming a profession *sui generis*, the Imperial Institute is issuing a series of handbooks which are destined to become the educational primers in its various branches, and one of the most important of these is the management of rubber estates. There can be no doubt as to the urgent need for the effective technical training of men to take up work in tropical agriculture, and one must agree with Professor Dunstan, when in his preface to Mr. Harold Brown's text book he insists on the absolute necessity for such training. Mr. Brown's text book will be of interest to those who are connected in any way with the exploitation of rubber in its financial aspect and particularly those pages of it which are devoted to the consideration of that terrible bugbear "synthetic rubber." Mr. Harold Brown points out that rubber, that is, actual true rubber and not merely a rubber substitute can and possibly will be produced on a commer-

cial scale, and that the Bayer Farbenfabrik at Elberfeld have actually produced synthetic rubber in quantity. This process consists of the production of isoprene from p-cresol, a coal tar product and the subsequent conversion of the isoprene into rubber by means of heat or by the addition of certain substances such as albumen, blood serum, starch and glycerine. The author sums up the present position of synthetic rubber as follows: "But it is still doubtful whether synthetic rubber could be manufactured at a price which would enable it to compete with the natural product especially in view of the gradual fall in the price of rubber, which is likely to take place in the future as the result of the increasing product from the plantations." To these views one must add the weighty opinion of Professor Dunstan, the President of the International Association of Tropical Agriculture, who doubts whether a satisfactory material can be manufactured cheaply enough to become a serious competitor with the natural product in view of the reduction in the cost of natural production now in progress, a reduction which will be accompanied by a decrease in the price of raw material. Professor Dunstan thinks that there is a strong probability in support of the view that when plantation rubber can be profitably sold at less than two shillings per pound, the plantation industry will be able to compete successfully with all kinds of forest rubber and will have little to fear from the competition of the synthetic material. In an article appearing in the last issue of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR entitled "Rubber in British Guiana," reference was made to Sapium rubber, which the writer said had failed to justify its cultivation as a plantation rubber. Mr. Harold Brown says: "The results so far obtained from young plantation trees have been disappointing, and it seems doubtful whether *Sapium Jenmani* can be recommended for cultivation in British Guiana. Mr. Brown states that Jumelle is of opinion that the "Caucho blanco" rubber from Colombia is derived from *Sapium utile*, Preuss. The writer of the article in the CIRCULAR referred to Orinoco scrap as a rubber exported from Georgetown. If this Orinoco scrap is the same as Cartagena scrap or Colombia virgin, which it possibly is, it may be derived from *Sapium tolimense*. There is a difference of opinion on this point. Perhaps Professor Harrison's department might be able to say definitely what was the source of the rubber which has appeared for so many years in the export returns of British Guiana. Mr. Harold Brown is to be congratulated on a carefully compiled and extremely valuable text book.

[Copies of all books reviewed in the THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

"All the Trumps."

SIR,—I observe that there has been correspondence in the *Daily Telegraph* upon card questions, and upon holding "All the trumps." It may be of interest to know of an authenticated instance of this in Trinidad. About 25 years ago a visitor gave a large dinner party for whist afterwards at the Family Hotel. Among the guests were the Governor, the late Sir William Robinson, several members of Council and officials, etc. Six or seven tables were formed. I cut in at one, having as partner the late Mr. Greig, then a partner of Previt & Co., London, who was here with his daughter at the time. Our opponents were J. A. Bulmer, Postmaster General, now enjoying his well earned pension in England, and the late "Johnny" (he was always known as "Johnny") Harragin, then magis-

trate of Port of Spain. Two or three hands had been played when it was Harragin's deal. He turned up the Jack of Diamonds, looked at his cards, put them down face upwards and said: "Call them gentlemen." They were the other twelve diamonds. The attention of the whole room was at once called to the extraordinary incident, and everyone agreed it should be at once sent to the Field, but no one did so. I have heard what the odds are against it but don't remember, and life is too short in the tropics to work them out.

Yours faithfully,
EDGAR TRIPP.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The King's Police Medal has been awarded to Major A. E. Capell, D.S.O., now Chief Inspector of the British South Africa Police, more particularly in recognition of his services while Chief of the Grenada Police. Mr. W. J. Lawrence, Superintendent of Public Works, Windward Islands, has resumed his duties. Captain Archibald Roger, I.S.O., Magistrate, has been provisionally appointed an official member of the Executive Council of St. Kitts-Nevis. Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Senior Medical Officer, Dominica, has been granted leave of absence from April 30th, 1914.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Joint-stock companies in and connected with the West Indies are invited to submit particulars regarding their operations for publication under the above heading.

Jamaica Copra and Estates Company, Ltd.

In the prospectus of this company, which was noticed in the CIRCULAR of December 2nd, a feature was made of a contract for the supply of fifty million West Indian coconuts, to be delivered in quantities of ten million per annum, at copra factories to be erected by the company, at the price of £2 5s. per thousand. Presiding over the statutory meeting of the company on March 2nd, Sir John Furley announced that arrangements had been made with the contractor whereby the company had the option to be released from the contract, thus enabling them to apply the £5,000 (which would have been kept as a bank credit with the contractor) in securing an interest in a business which had acquired a concession on the Central American coast.

United British Oilfields of Trinidad

Mr. W. N. Benjamin presided over an extraordinary general meeting of this company on March 5th, to consider resolutions making certain alterations in the provisions of the memorandum of association, which were called for by the Government in arranging a lease in substitution and exchange for the lease held by the Trinidad Oilfields. In answer to questions, Mr. Benjamin said that they had for the last two weeks had a production of over 1,000 tons a week, which showed an improvement. However, a cable that had arrived that week showed a considerable decrease in production, the production being only 470 tons for the week. That was partly due to two days' holiday, but even on that basis the production showed a considerable falling-off. That was one of the difficulties which they had to contend with in that company. There were many difficulties, but the most important was the variable production. The whole organisation of the company required considerable attention and bringing up to date, which could not be done in a short time. They must not make their refinery or their pipeline, etc., out of proportion to their production, and the first think for them to do was to gauge that production before they did anything else. He would urge on the

shareholders to have patience, and he had every hope that that patience would, in the end, be rewarded.

The resolutions were carried unanimously.

Dist. dead.	Latest Quotations.		Prices Mar. 7.
4 1/2 %	Antigua	4 % Redeemable 1919-44	98-100
4 1/2 %	Barbados	3 1/2 % Redeemable 1925-42	87-89
4 1/2 %	British Guiana	4 % Redeemable 1935	99-101
3 %	British Guiana	3 % Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
4 %	Grenada	4 % Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
4 %	Jamaica	4 % Redeemable 1934	100-102
3 1/2 %	Jamaica	3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49	88-90
4 %	Jamaica	4 % Redeemable 1922-44	78-80
4 %	St. Lucia	4 % Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4 %	Trinidad	4 % Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
4 %	Trinidad	3 % Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
6 %	The Colonial Bank	...	12-6 1/2
12 %	The Royal Bank of Canada	\$100 (Montreal Exchange)	\$225
	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	...	105-110
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	...	99-102
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	103-105
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 % Debentures	...	101-103
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	98-101
6 1/2 %	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	...	231 1/2 271 1/2
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 4 % Debentures	...	105-108
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. (£5) 5 % Non-cum Pref	...	105-108
6 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	...	105-108
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	...	...
	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)	...	...
	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	...	...
	United British of Trinidad "A shares" (£1)	...	...
	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	...	34-38
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref	...	108-111
4 1/2 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.	...	83-86
4 1/2 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	...	90-93
4 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	97-99
1 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	...	210-220
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 % Cum. Int. Pref	...	9-11
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 % Int. Pref	...	9-11
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures	...	97-99

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under this heading the principal features of the West Indian Official Gazettes are recorded for reference purposes.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX. No. 11. House of Assembly and Legislative Council. No. 12. Interpretation Act, 1914. Emigration Act, 1914. No. 13. General Board of Health, January 17th. No. 14. Report on Financial Position of Barbados General Hospital. Report on Agricultural Experiments. British Guiana, Vol XXXVIII.—No. 10. Demerara Mutual Life Assurance Society's Ordinance, 1911. No. 13. Spirits Ordinance, 1914. Trinidad, Vol. 83.—No. 7. Waterworks Regulations. Foreign Marriages Order in Council. Board of Education, January 30th. Board of Agriculture, January 16th. Board of Industrial Training, January 26th. St. Vincent, Vol. 47.—No. 5. Legislative Council, December 2nd. Leeward Islands, Vol. XLII.—No. 6. Aerial Navigation Ordinance, 1914. No. 7. Lights on Vehicles Ordinance, 1914. Dominica, Vol. XXXVII.—No. 7. Legislative Council, December 18th. Wireless Telegraphy Consolidation Ordinance, 1913. St. Kitts-Nevis Vol. XI.—No. 7. Cotton Traffic Ordinance, 1913.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	"Magdalen"	Mar. 10, midnight
West Indies	Dartmouth	"Tyne"	" 13, noon
Bermuda	London	"Caya Gilana"	" 14, 6 p.m.
West Indies	Portland	"Bintang"	" 20, 11 a.m.
West Indies	Southampton	"Oruba"	" 24, midnight
HOMEWARD.			
Southampton	West Indies	"Trent"	March 16

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica. ‡ In B.C. district up to 2 P.M.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson
His Hon. E. J. Cameron,
c.m.g.
Professor P. Carmody
Mr. Cecil H. Chambers
Mr. R. Dumortet
Mr. P. R. K. Esdaile
Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 24, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton.
Mr. J. C. Henderson, 7, Eaton Rise, Ealing, W.
Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meirion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
Mr. D. McPhail, c/o S. A. C. Todd, Esq., 26, Bothwell Street, Glasgow
Mr. H. C. Morcom, Great Meols, Hoylake, Cheshire
Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Bellingue Road, Herby Bay, Kent
Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weher, 36, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Oruba (Captain E. W. Morrison), Southampton, March 2nd:—

Fleet Surgeon T. Austen, R.N.	Captain S. Field	Mr. G. E. Parry
Mrs. Austen	Mr. W. F. Farrer	Mrs. Prada
Miss K. Anelay	Miss M. S. Farrer	Mr. F. C. Robbins
Mr. A. Alonso	Lieut. Herbert Guinness	Mr. C. B. Rosales
Miss F. Ashworth	Mr. A. C. Haxley	Mr. G. H. Risien
Mr. F. L. Brotherton	Mr. and Mrs. W. Hey	Dr. Roze
Lieut. & Mrs. Burnington	Mr. G. W. Harvey	Mr. & Mrs. R. F. Stocker
Major H. Barrow	Mr. G. Hewitt	Mr. N. Stockbridge
Mr. F. D. Brusa	Mr. & Mrs. E. R. L. Henderson	Captain A. G. C. Smythe
Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Brook	Mrs. Harvey	Lt.-Col. R. K. Scott, D.S.O.
Captain & Mrs. E. Hunter Blair	Mr. D. H. Jones	Mrs. Scott
Hon. Mrs. Bingham	Miss K. M. Kirkwood	Miss Scott
Mr. Geoffrey Brooke	Mrs. Ker	Mr. J. N. Sharp
Mr. W. R. Bull	Mr. D. M. Lewis	Major and Mrs. Stephen
Miss E. Corcoran	Lieut. J. B. Leefe	Miss Stephen
Major Collacott	Lieut. & Mrs. J. Le Hunt	Mr. J. Shanahan
Mr. A. H. Case	Mrs. Mortimer	Mr. J. R. Turner, J.P.
Dr. Vaughan Cornish, P.R.C.S.	Major & Mrs. Maitland	Colonel Taylor
Mr. Thomas Carter	Miss L. Minvielle	Major A. H. Thorp
His Honour E. J. Cameron, c.m.g.	Mr. Beresford Melville	Mr. G. Tola C.
Lieut. H. A. Cox	Mr. G. C. McDougall	Mr. Beeby Thompson
Miss M. Davies	Miss D. McDougall	Mr. & Mrs. John Wilson
Mrs. Dummett	Miss J. G. McIntyre	Lieut. M. F. G. White
Captain G. Dinsley	Miss I. L. Matheson	Mr. Ernest Williams
Mr. D. T. Dougal	Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Nicholson	Mr. C. H. Wright
Mr. Ellis	Dr. H. A. Nicholls, c.m.c.	Mr. W. Watling
Mrs. France	Miss Nicholls	Mrs. Wieting
	Mrs. Parry	and
		Mr. G. J. Wickham

HOMEWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Trent, due at Southampton, March 16th.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Athavee	Mr. J. C. Gibson	Mr. Walker Long
Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Booth	Mr. Gilkerson	Miss Marshall
Mr. Boyle	Mr. B. Heape	Mrs. Mason
Mr. Bassington	Mr. J. W. Hawes	Mr. Macquarrie
Mr. Barnard	Captain and Mrs. G. M. Hicks	Mr. O'Connell
Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Burnham	Mr. Hunter	Miss Pepps
Miss Corlett	Miss Hunter	Mr. Robertson
Mr. A. C. Combe	Mr. S. James	Mr. St. Hill
Mr. Cressall	Mr. E. M. C. James	Rev. and Mrs. Streater
Misses Downie (2)	Mrs. P. Jones	Mr. Steinberg
Mr. H. V. Delafons	Mr. W. C. Kenny	Miss P. Welle
Mr. R. A. Delafons	Major and Mrs. A. M. Kennard	Mr. & Mrs. G. L. C. S. Whitworth
Mr. H. A. Prampton	Mr. W. C. Lawrence	Mr. N. Watson

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Magdalena (Captain E. W. Morrison), Mar. 11th:—

Mrs. J. Milne	Mr. W. G. Purdie	Mr. E. H. Dickin
Mr. and Mrs. F. F. R. Topham	Mr. and Mrs. G. Jones	Mr. H. H. Jenks
Mr. T. H. Kay	Mr. J. Abadi	Miss Young
Miss A. C. Hutson	Mr. G. M. Bennett	Mr. J. H. F. Henningsen
Mr. T. Preedy	Mr. J. E. T. Haxley	Mr. W. D. Young, c.m.g.
Mr. A. G. Turner	Mrs. V. Aratton	Mr. H. S. Rocks
Mrs. Saodford	Mrs. E. McClelland	Mr. C. T. Craig
Misses Sandford (2)	Mr. A. L. Savage	Mr. A. C. Powell
Mr. G. C. Wilson	Mr. T. Curry	Miss E. M. E. Locke
Mrs. H. B. Burgess	Mrs. Steinke	Mrs. and Miss de la Cruz Nunez
Miss C. Burgess	Misses Steinke (2)	Mr. M. Collins
Dr. H. F. C. Blood	Captain and Mrs. M. Bramatow-Newman	Mr. J. Wild
Mr. A. H. Baker	Mr. H. Geimecke	Mr. J. Little
Mr. A. Munoz	Mr. T. Byrdloss	Mr. D. Drummond
Mr. P. T. Stolterfoht	Mr. M. M. Ayan	and
Mr. D. Nicolson	Mrs. G. R. Holland	Mr. A. H. Thom
Mr. C. N. Howatson	Miss M. Craig	

OUTWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Oruba, March 25th:—

Mrs. and Miss H. H. Dawes	Miss H. Jarvis	Mrs. A. Allen
Mr. A. G. Kine	Mrs. & Miss Murray	Rev. and Mrs. M. M. Longshore
Mr. & Mrs. I. Lillington	Mr. S. Vassalla	and
Mr. I. Henderson	Mr. K. Reid	Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Wells
Mr. F. Hamer	Lady Fenwick	
	Miss Fenwick	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Trent (Captain F. M. Watson), April 8th:—

Mrs. and Miss Buck	Mr. E. S. Plant
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WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Caviller), March 5th, "A few light showers have fallen, but more rain is much wanted." **Demerara** (Messrs. Booker Bros, McConnell & Co., Ltd.), Feb. 23rd, "Weather continues too dry." (Messrs. Henry K. Davson & Co.), **Berbice**, Feb. 24th, "Weather is suitable on all estates." Mar. 2nd, "Weather is suitable." (Messrs. Curtis, Campbell & Co.), Feb. 25th, "Weather dry and rain much wanted." (The Demerara Co., Ltd.), Mar. 3rd, "Weather continues too dry." **Jamaica** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), week ended Feb. 25th, **PORT ANTONIO**, "Fair." **KINGSTON**, 19/20, "Fine." 21st "Rain." 22/25, "Fine."

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
Jan. 1 to Feb. 12.		Jan. 1 to Jan. 31.	
1914	1913	1914	1913
Sugar ...	13,671	11,328	Tons
Molasses ...	513	399	Puns.
Rum ...	613,833	464,682	Galls
Molascuit, &c. ...	709	1,004	Tons.
Cacao ...	19,637	...	lbs.
Coffee ...	13,270	16,937	..
Coco-nuts ...	283,725	55,016	No.
Oranges ...	...	...	..
Bananas ...	...	...	..
Cotton ...	...	...	..
Pimento ...	...	...	..
Ginger ...	...	...	..
Honey ...	...	...	..
Dyewoods ...	...	...	..
Gold ...	6,490	4,436	ozs.
Diamonds ...	1,264	124	carats.
Rice ...	2,823,735	793,012	lbs.
Balata ...	176,114	96,456	..
Rubber ...	...	...	..
Timber ...	21,267	29,101	cubic ft.
Lumber ...	24,335	10,578	feet
Lime (hydrate of) ...	...	...	..

Trinidad.		Barbados.	
Jan. 1 to Feb. 17.		Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.	
1914	1913	1913	1912
Sugar ...	202	20	Tons.
Molasses ...	165	242	Puns.
Rum ...	110	...	..
Coco-nuts ...	1,910,245	949,190	No.
Asphalt ...	4,368	21,559	Tons.
Manjak ...	33	...	..
Biters ...	2,636	1,202	Cases.
Coffee ...	4,000	640	lbs.
Crude Petrol ...	963,409	104,450	Galls.
Cacao ...	74,446,800	9,451,400	lbs.
Cotton ...	...	...	..
Seed ...	...	...	..
Copra ...	...	703	Bags.
Spice ...	...	...	..
Kola ...	...	...	..

Grenada.		
Oct. 1 to Feb. 16.		
1913/14	1912/13	
Cacao ...	5,376,670	5,370,900
Cotton ...	...	...
Spice ...	...	...
...

The figures of exports for November not having been received, those for the month of December only can be given, pending their arrival.

The Official Gazettes of Dominica do not appear to have recorded the exports from that island since October 31st last.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½%) 7½

SUGAR.—In New York quotations were rather easier last week at 2.57 cents for Muscovados and 3.01 cents duty paid for 96% centrifugals under new tariff equal to 3.36 cents old tariff = *qs.* 3d. c.i.f. New York or *qs.* 5½d. United Kingdom c.i.f. for prompt, and *qs.* 6d. for later clearance.

The London Speculative beet market kept fairly steady in the last week of February, although values showed an easier tendency; some support for the time was assignable to a good business passing (a considerable part in transfers to August and new crop) at the end of last month; which was, however, succeeded by a set back in the opening days of March, when large Cuban receipts—114,000 tons, a record—were reported, and later on quotations further receded, owing to lower American advices and further considerable sales of Cuban centrifugals for March/April to United Kingdom at easier prices. The reduced American duty which came into operation on 1st March was expected to give a greater impetus to the consumption of sugar in the United States, but the very severe weather there last week when New York was practically snow bound and cut off from all communication with the outside world by railway and telegraph, upset all such calculations.

The reaping of the Cuban crop is making excellent progress, and with a continuation of favourable weather may exceed 2,500,000 tons. The canes in many districts show, it is stated, an increase in the yield of sugar compared with last year of 2 per cent.

The large arrivals of several Cuban cargoes at refining ports in the United Kingdom offering at prices under those at which 88% beet was obtainable have displaced beetroot for refiners' purposes.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: Feb. 24th, *qs.* 3½d.; 25th, *qs.* 3d.; 26th, *qs.* 2½d.; 27th, *qs.* 2½d.; 28th, *qs.* 2½d.; March 2nd, *qs.* 2½d.; 3rd, *qs.* 2½d.; 4th, *qs.* 2½d.; 5th, *qs.* 1½d.; 6th, *qs.* 2d.; 7th, *qs.* 2d.; 8th, *qs.* 2½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914.	1913	1912.
Europe (1st to 28th Feb.)	3,852,680	3,819,270	2,664,410
United States (4th Mar.)	132,000	139,140	128,620
Cuba, 6 p'pal ports (4th Mar.)	317,000	213,000	202,000
Cargoes afloat (5th Mar.)	—	—	48,930

Total Tons **4,301,680 4,171,410 3,043,960**
 Quotations of 88% Beet,
 Mar. 9th **9s. 0½d. 10s. 0½d. 15s. 0½d.**

Grocery West Indian.—Crystallised has been dull with scarcely any business passing. On 3rd inst, 280 tons offered at auction were withdrawn as bids made were below current values, while last Friday 260 tons offered at auction met with very little demand and only a few lots were disposed of at a decline of 3d per ton. The sales recorded are Demerara at 14s to 14s. 1½d.; Surinam 13s. to 14s.; and Jamaica at 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.

Syrups.—Demerara sold at 10s., 11s. to 11s. 9d. and 12s. 6d. St. Lucia sold at 10s. 6d.

Muscovados.—No business reported.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Imports	4,781	5,887	2,816	5,900	4,215 Tons
Deliveries	5,023	4,762	5,841	6,101	6,243 ..
Stocks (Feb. 28)	12,364	2,964	1,465	4,157	3,047 ..

Quotations of medium qualities, crystallised, March 6th:—
 13s. 6d. 17s. 20s. 9d. 13s. 9d. 15s. 4½d.

RUM.—Stocks in London, 28th February:—

	1914	1913	1912.	1911	1910
Jamaica	5,412	5,951	7,667	8,038	8,121 Puns
Demerara	9,619	8,114	8,600	7,671	9,142 ..
Total, all kinds	21,898	21,895	24,200	24,481	25,323 ..

The proof market continues steady, and prices are unchanged. The volume of business on the spot has been circumscribed from the fact that most of the arrivals have been bought to arrive, and only comparatively small parcels have been free. There is no change to report in the Jamaica market, supplies still being very short, for this period of the year.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, 28th February:—

	1914.	1913	1912.	1911.	1910.
Trinidad	6,480	2,938	5,648	4,854	8,881 Bags.
Grenada	6,762	4,914	12,984	12,638	16,624 ..
Total of all kinds	80,037	70,984	113,583	108,315	93,438 ..

At the first sale in the fortnight 5,093 bags of all descriptions were offered, of which 3,455 bags were West India, mostly Grenada and St. Lucia, which met with competition and sold at extreme prices, Dominica, Jamaica and St. Vincent also sold at dearer rates. The tone of the second auction last week was quiet and values were barely maintained. Out of 7,865 bags of all kinds offered 4,992 bags consisted of Trinidad, Grenada, and other West India. Of these 4,161 bags sold at rather easier rates, Trinidad was partly sold at previous prices, but Grenada was rather irregular, and prices mostly 6d. easier. Other West India sorts in small supply, were sold at prices in buyers' favour.

Quotations after last auctions, Trinidad, middling red, 62s. to 63s.; good middling red, 63s. 6d. to 64s.; fine and superior, 64s. 6d. to 67s.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair, 57s. to 61s.; middling to fine, 62s. to 64s. 6d.

In Trinidad on 16th February a generally firm tone characterised the market throughout the fortnight with frequent fluctuations and values on date may be given as \$13.00 to \$13.25 per fanega the equivalent of 59s. to 60s. cost and freight Havre per 50 kilos according to quality.

COFFEE.—Santos, March, 42s.; July, 43s. 3d. steady.

The spot market has shown irregularity at the auctions held and generally values have again been easier account-able in some cases to indifferent quality. No East Indian offered, but a full supply of Costa Rica offered only sold in part at lower prices. Towards the close there was a moderate demand at steady prices. "Futures" fluctuated considerably last week. A sharp advance of 1s. 6d. was followed by a decline of 1s. then succeeded by a rise of 6d. to 9d., and again a renewed decline of about 1s. took place resulting in a level a shade under last mail's quotations.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ending March 5th 422 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland state that since last report about 260 bales of West Indian Sea Island have been sold, at prices ranging between 76d. and 22d. They include St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, Barbados, Anguilla and Antigua. The chief demand was for the finest, the lower grades being rather neglected.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice (Raw)—Quiet, values unchanged. **Essential Oil**—Firm with business passing at 1s. 10d. **Oil of Limes**—Dearer, and a few small sales at 9s. 6d. **Concentrated**—Again dearer, the bulk of the arrivals per last mail steamer sold at £28 6s.

PIMENTO.—Very slow. **NUTMEGS.**—100s./80s., 5½d. to 6½d.; 100s./20s., 5½d. to 5½d.; 140s./20s., 4½d. to 5½d.

GINGER.—Lifeless. **COPRA.**—Fair Merchantable West India value £29.—Quiet. **MACE.**—Good to fine 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d., red to good 1s. 7d. to 2s. 1d., broken 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.

ARROWROOT. About 200 barrels reported sold at 3½d. to 4½d.; quotations 3d. to 4½d. **VANILLOE.**—At auction on 25th February the demand was rather slow, good qualities sold steadily at 6d. decline for short beans; undesirable qualities of all grades were difficult of sale at about 1s. per lb. decline, quotations 18s. 9d. to 14s. 9d. per lb.; foxy splits and pickings, 8s. to 9s. 6d. per lb.

RUBBER.—Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot, 2s. 4d., smoked sheet 2s. 4½d.; fine hard Para 3s., as against 3s. 10½d. in 1913; do. soft. 2s. 11½d. as against 3s. 10d. in 1913; Castilloa sheet 1s. 9d. as against 3s. 6d. in 1913; scrap 1s. 6d. as against 3s. in 1913. **BALATA.**—Sheet 2s. 11d. lauded, as against 3s. 3d. in 1913; block 1s. 11½d. c.i.f. as against 2s. 2½d. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL.—American, 8d.; Water White, 9d.; Russian, 7½d.; Roumanian, 7½d.; and Galician, 7½d.

LOGWOOD.—No change to quote. Market quiet.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . . West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone: 6642 CENTRAL.
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.
15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.4.
March 23rd, 1914

THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH GUIANA.

AT the opening of the annual session of the Combined Court of British Guiana, the Governor, SIR WALTER EGERTON, in a lucid speech took an exhaustive survey of the colony's affairs. After dealing with the financial situation and mentioning the success which had so far attended the efforts to provide Georgetown with water from artesian wells, he referred to the hinterland railway scheme, a resume of which has already appeared in these columns. He denied the rumour that the Secretary of State had favourably entertained the idea of an Imperial loan, adding that MR. HARCOURT was unlikely to give consideration to the proposals until he was assured in the most unequivocal manner that the scheme, or some modification of it, not only met with the full approval of the people of the colony, but was most urgently desired by them as essential for its well being. In connection with the proposed railway, His Excellency mentioned that recent analyses of soils from the Dadanawa section of the Rupununi savannah had shown that there were areas very suitable for cultivation in the interior, although, in his opinion, the only exports from the savannahs, for many years after the construction of the railway, would be cattle. With regard to the proposed Corntyne railway, SIR WALTER expressed surprise that MR. BLAND's report should have been considered to be unfavourable. It showed that if passengers and freight were carried at the low rates suggested, such a line would pay its way in a few years, especially if irrigation schemes ensuring a good water supply for the small cultivators were carried out. It was true that MR. BLAND did not recommend the adop-

tion of the proposals, but that was chiefly because he considered that nothing should be done which might imperil the hinterland railway. After dealing with the coastal and river services, the vessels for which were nearing completion and with legislation, SIR WALTER touched on the forthcoming reduction in the rates for cable messages. The arrangements for the continuance of the existing subsidies for ten years had been criticised in some quarters, but it was obvious that the West Indian colonies and British Guiana were not in a position to refuse the offer made. It was hoped, he said, that the new rates might come into force not later than the 1st of April. After touching on public health, education and other cognate matters, His Excellency referred to the trade returns for 1913, which were, he considered, most satisfactory, and after speaking of the benefits likely to accrue from Canadian reciprocity, he proceeded to make the important announcement that he had been advised by the Executive Council, and concurred in their opinion, that the Government would be wrong to oppose a scheme which had been vigorously promoted for the prolongation of the Ogle navigation canal as far as Enmore through the backlands of the East Coast estates, by which it was anticipated that the transport of the sugar to the shipping warehouses on the Demerara River would be very greatly cheapened. The canal would run through the backlands of several villages, greatly facilitating the transport of canes grown by the villagers to the estate factories, and the promoters had guaranteed to convey villagers' produce at the same rates as those paid by the large sugar estates. SIR WALTER recognised that this would most seriously affect the revenue of the subsidised Demerara railway, and he believed that an arrangement of some kind satisfactory to the estates might have been effected, but for the fact that the railway had no wharf from which direct shipment into ocean steamers could take place, and no warehouses in which each exporting company or firm could accumulate

large quantities of sugar awaiting shipment. Owing to this fact, very heavy and unnecessary lighterage charges had to be borne by all export produce transported over the railway. The wharfage facilities were now inferior to those provided 68 years ago, but the Company had assumed a *non-possumus* attitude when the advisability of providing proper wharfage and shipping facilities had been pointed out to them. Passing to agricultural matters, His Excellency expressed the opinion that it had been conclusively proved that rubber could be grown as well in British Guiana as in Ceylon, the Malay States and Java. It was a matter for regret that the cultivation of such crops as lime, cacao, coffee and coco-nuts was not general in the village communities, and he hoped that the present year might see the organisation of an agricultural school for the education of youths in modern methods of agriculture. Until communication with the coast had been secured, ostrich farming seemed to be the only industry, with the exception of tobacco planting, which was likely to prove remunerative on the savannah. SIR WALTER EGERTON'S speech was followed with close attention by an unusually large number of members of the public, and the interest which it has evoked, not only in the colony, but among those connected with British Guiana abroad, is considerable.

THE CANTLEY SUGAR FACTORY.

THE balance sheet of the Cantley Sugar Factory for the year ending June 30th, 1913, and the account in the *International Sugar Journal* of the recent legal proceedings in connection with that concern show that the path of home-grown beet sugar is not strewn with roses. As our readers are doubtless aware, the Anglo-Netherland Sugar Corporation, which is the title of the Company running the Cantley Factory, has the greater part of its funds invested in Dutch sugar securities. The authorised capital is £400,000 in £1 shares, and there are also £400,000 in 5 per cent. mortgage debentures, of which at the close of the year £377,900 had been issued. The shares and investments in the "Dutch and allied companies" are valued at £575,367 6s. 8d. The freehold land, factory buildings, cottages and railway sidings of the Cantley Factory are valued at £48,731 19s. 5d., and the fixed plant and machinery at £120,205 12s. 7d. The cost value of the concern as it stands is therefore £168,936 12s. The expenditure on purchase of beets, testing and organisation of the factory, and manufacturing sugar amounted to £83,030 13s. 4d., and sales of sugar and stock in hand to £38,006 4s. There was therefore a loss on the working of the British venture for the 1912-13 crop of £45,024 9s. 4d.

In January of the present year there seems to have been considerable financial trouble. It appears that in January, 1912, in the prospectus of the company, which was issued by the British, Foreign and Colon-

ial Corporation, Ltd., it was stated that the net proceeds of £300,000 of debentures which were then offered, would, after certain cash payments had been made amount to about £158,000, which would be available for erecting and equipping the proposed English sugar works and for working capital. The trust deed for securing the issue provides that there should be set aside out of the money received from the sale of debentures, a sum of £75,000 to be held by them and only paid over to the Company against the certificates of the Chairman guaranteeing that work has been done, or land or material supplied or acquired to the amount specified. The £75,000 was thought at the time to be insufficient to construct and equip the factory, and there was special provision to enable the Trustees to realize money for the purpose of augmenting this sum. As will be noted from the above statement, the Company spent more than the realized £158,000 on the concern. As a considerable sum of money was owing at this time to the bank, it was proposed that the debenture holders should sanction the Trustees realizing Dutch debentures to the extent of £77,000, and handing over the proceeds to the Company. To this the British, Foreign and Colonial Corporation objected, and it applied for and obtained an interim injunction. The matter subsequently came before Mr. Justice Warrington, who refused to grant the asked for injunction.

This is the Company to which a grant of £11,000 has been made indirectly out of the Development Fund. It is true that the grant is to the Beet Sugar Growers' Society, Ltd., for the purpose of recouping the farmers for their losses in supplying the beets at 22s. 6d. per ton, but as the two concerns have the same chairman, and as the grant is specifically for the beet industry in the Cantley district, and there is only one factory in that district, it may be looked upon for all intents and purposes as being a grant to the Cantley Sugar Factory.

It would hardly be fair for the results of the 1912-13 crop to be taken as an index of the future of the factory. We understand that the 1913-14 crop has not exceeded 3,500 tons. With the protection of £1 18s. per ton which the factory enjoys, and the £11,000 handed over to the beet growers connected with the concern, the Cantley sugar industry has received by way of protection and bounty quite £5 per ton. It is stated that for next crop the supply of beets has been contracted for at the preposterous price of 27s. 6d. per ton. It is difficult to see, how, even with the customs protection given the sugar, a paying crop can be made in these circumstances.

We call attention to these facts in order to show the nature of the concern which the Government is supporting to the extent of nearly £5 per ton, while it refuses to allow the St. Kitts Legislature to guarantee the interest on capital necessary to erect a Central Sugar Factory in that island, on the ground that it would be an infringement of the Brussels Convention, "to the terms of which it was pledged to adhere."

THE LIME INDUSTRY OF MONTSERRAT.

STATEMENTS having been freely made in a neighbouring presidency to the effect that lime cultivation in Montserrat has reached vanishing point, some particulars of the present position of the industry in that island may not be out of place. The cultivation of the lime (*Citrus acida* var *medica*) was first started in Montserrat in the year 1852 by a Mr. BURKE, who found the soil and climate of the island admirably suited for the growth of that tree. The industry prospered and for many years Montserrat held the field as the chief source of supply of limes and lime products in the British West Indies. Then Dr. JOHN IMRAY did for Dominica what Mr. BURKE had done for Montserrat, and introduced lime cultivation into the larger island, which proved equally well suited to it. Unfortunately the hopeless lack of continuity and uniformity which characterises West Indian Blue-books renders it quite impossible to give statistics regarding the development of the industry in the two islands over a series of years, for, incredible though it may seem, these weighty tomes only give the value of limes and lime products shipped, the space for "quantity of exports" being left blank. We are faced by the same difficulty when we endeavour to ascertain the extent of the areas under cultivation. It is only in the Blue-book for 1899 that they are given for the first time. In that year 1,268 acres are given as under limes in Montserrat and 892 acres in Dominica. Judging by the value of exports too much reliance must not be placed on these figures. It would, however, seem that by the early nineties of last century Dominica had begun to forge ahead; since then her claim to be the principal lime-producing island in the West Indies has never been challenged, her exports last year being equivalent to 370,000 barrels, valued at £71,916 as compared with some 20,000 or 30,000 barrels valued at £6,046 shipped from Montserrat. But though the lime industry in the smaller island has not shown the expansion that the Dominica industry has done, this does not mean that it is extinct. It is true that in 1899 it suffered a severe blow when the plantations were almost wiped out by a hurricane which swept over the island on August 7 in that year; but the Montserrat Company which had by then become prominently identified with the industry, replanted their estates, and within a very short time the exports reached their former dimensions. Indeed, leaving out of consideration the hurricane year, and the two succeeding seasons which were naturally affected by the storm, it would seem from private figures which we have been permitted to inspect that the exports for the ten years succeeding the disaster were considerably larger than those of the ten years preceding it. The exports reached their highest level in 1907-8, when they were nearly double those of the year before the hurricane. Since then the serious attacks of scale insects coupled with—and probably encouraged by—a series of abnormally dry seasons have resulted in a reduced yield. But pests are not new in Mont-

serrat. As far back as 1897, the Royal Commission reported that "The lime industry . . . has of late suffered severely from blight." Vigorous measures continue to be adopted to cope with the ravages of the insect pests and with a continuance of the seasonable weather which the island has enjoyed during the last six months there is every reason to hope that the industry will be restored to the condition of prosperity which it reached six years ago. According to the Blue-book there are now 5,000 acres devoted to lime cultivation in Dominica, and still the same 1,268 acres in Montserrat. It certainly seems rather curious that the acreage under limes in Montserrat should remain exactly at the figure of twenty-five years ago, especially as the homeward mail brought us the information that a considerable amount of lime planting has been carried out in various parts of the island, more than 100 acres having been planted on one estate alone during the last two years. However, the object of the present article is not to criticise West Indian Blue-books, to the subject of whose shortcomings we shall revert at an early date, but to defend the Montserrat lime industry from the attacks of those with whom the wish for its extinction is, perhaps, father to the thought. Lime cultivation is being rapidly extended in many parts of the West Indies, but we are confident that there is not the remotest fear of over-production at the present time.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee was held at 15, Scething Lane on Thursday March 19th. Mr. W. Middleton Campbell presided, and those also present were: Mr. Robert Rutherford, Mr. G. R. Alston, Mr. G. Carrington, Mr. Ivan B. Davson, Mr. E. A. de Pass, Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. Cyril Gurney, Mr. E. L. Marshall, Mr. H. F. Previte, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary.

The Secretary presented the following report regarding a meeting of Dominica members:—

"A meeting of Dominica estates' proprietors was held at the West India Committee Rooms on Friday, March 13th. Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall presided, and those also present were: Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Mr. A. F. Anderson, Major E. F. Beecher, Mr. P. R. K. Esdaile, Mr. J. C. Henderson, Mr. Charles Mackintosh, Mr. L. Rose, Mr. Herbert Scrutton, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary. Mr. George Carew was unavoidably prevented from attending, but expressed his views in a letter which was read.

"A discussion took place regarding the recent programme of road construction formulated by Major Hon. J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Acting Administrator of Dominica. The feeling of the meeting was in favour of the proposals, subject to the roads not being costly motor highways but suitable for cart traffic and forming the basis of a system with feeders, along which agricultural produce from out-

lying estates could be brought to the coast. It was decided to seek the assistance of the West India Committee in arranging a deputation to the Colonial Office on the subject, and the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

'That this meeting of Dominica estates' proprietors hereby requests the West India Committee to impress upon the Colonial Office the urgent need for securing the opening up and development of the island by the construction of a system of main roads with feeders, which will enable planters to get their produce to the various ports of shipment, and further requests the Committee to urge the immediate completion of the Imperial Road, in accordance with the promises made when the local Government sold land to settlers along its route.'

The Executive Committee decided to accede to the request contained in the resolution.

The resignation of Mr. Edward Packard from the Executive Committee was accepted with regret. The following were admitted members of the West India Committee:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondars.
Leonard Alex. Richard (Canada)	A. H. Richard. Hon. P. J. Dean.
Donald O. Riviere (Dominica)	Messrs. Sendall & Wade. E. L. Marshall.
The New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Paving Co., Ltd.	H. F. Previté. E. A. de Pass.
Colonel F. B. Elmslie, C. B.	W. M. Campbell. Cyril Gurney.
George Westall	John FitzHenry. W. P. B. Shephard.
Edward Becher	Frank Evans. W. M. Campbell.
Bertram Dixou (Jamaica)	A. E. Clodd. Cyril Gurney.
Henry H. Fanshawe	W. M. Campbell. H. F. Previté.
H. C. Huggins (Nevis)	E. L. Marshall. Cyril Gurney.
Joseph A. Copland (Grenad (Grenada)	George Kent. J. E. Munro.
John D. Copland (Grenada)	George Kent. J. E. Munro.
Watson Griffin (Trinidad)	T. Geddes Grant. A. S. Creighton.
Frame, Leaycraft & Co. (New York)	(E. A. de Pass. G. R. Alston.

The Committee of producers of sugar by the Demerara process presented a report of a meeting between a Sub-committee of their body and representatives of the wholesale grocers on February 26th.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. George Carrington for the gift of two rare books to the West India Committee Library, namely, "The Groans of the Plantations," London, 1689, and the "The Barbadoes Packet," London, 1720.

The Chairman called attention to the complaints received from Demerara regarding the lack of accommodation in the homeward mail steamers towards the close of the tourist season, and pointed out that having regard to the large subsidies paid by the colonies, they might reasonably expect adequate accommodation to be provided for residents in the West Indies, and it was decided to write a letter to the Secretary of the Company on the subject.

TWO QUEENSLAND SUGAR FACTORIES.

A Visit to the Masson & Atlas Works.

Messrs. George Fletcher and Company, Ltd., recently entertained the Hon. Francis Digby Denham, Prime Minister of Queensland, and a party of friends, at Derby, with a view to affording them an opportunity of seeing the machinery which they are constructing for two factories for that State of Australia at their Masson and Atlas Works.

The guests reached Derby on March 13th and were welcomed by Mr. Henriques, chairman, and Mr. Howard Marsh and Mr. R. G. F. Finney, directors of Messrs. George Fletcher & Co. On the following day, after submitting to the ordeal of having their portraits taken—with the results shown in the illustration facing page 124—they visited the works, and, under the guidance of the executive staff, made a complete tour of the buildings, including even the canteen, an institution which appeared to be admirably run on co-operative lines by the staff.

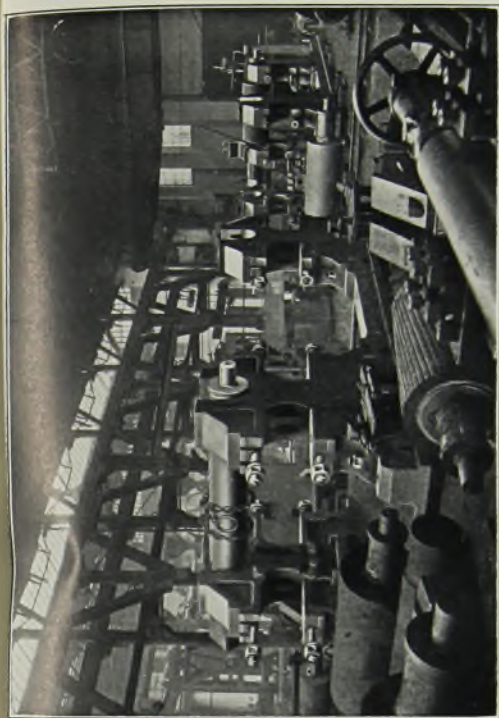
The mill for the first of the two factories, which is to be erected by the firm at Babinda in the fertile Cairns district of Queensland, is already so far advanced towards completion that its shape could easily be recognised and its arrangement understood by the lay members among the visitors to the works.

It may here be stated that the grinding plant of each factory will consist of fourteen roller mills, comprising a Krajewski Crusher, 26 in. by 66 in. and four mills, 32 in. by 66 in. The crusher and the first and second mills form an eight roller tandem, and the third and fourth mills make a separate six roller tandem, each tandem being driven through steel gearing by a horizontal double expansion engine having cylinders 18 in. and 28 in. diameter, with a 42 in. stroke.

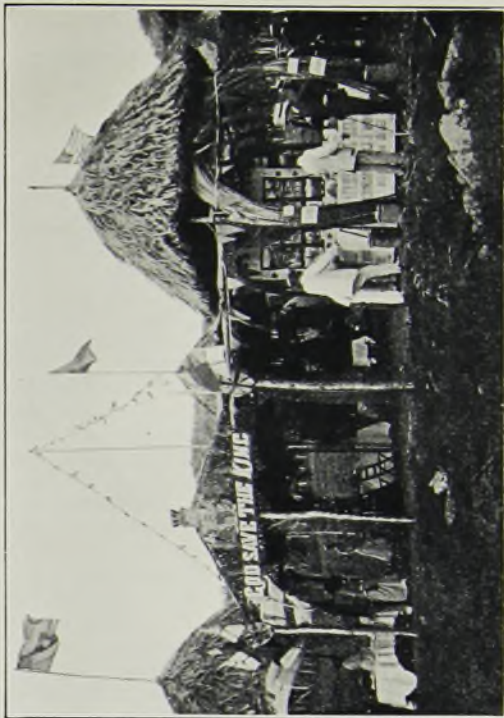
For the rest it must suffice to say that the factories and their plant, which will be supplied in their entirety by Messrs. George Fletcher and Company will be of most modern description, all the latest improvements which science or experience can suggest being adopted. Except for the mills, the power will be entirely electrical. The whole of the pumps used will be of the Rees Roturbo Company's patent type, and the centrifugals will be made by Messrs. Watson, Laidlaw and Company. The quadruple effect evaporators will each have 15,000 square feet of heating surface.

Passing from the main building, the visitors were conducted to the moulding shop, and thence to the foundry, where the Queenslanders witnessed the actual casting of the fly-wheel of one of the mill engines.

As readers of the CIRCULAR are, no doubt, already aware the policy of the Queensland Government has been to encourage in every possible manner the production of sugar by white labour. After the cessation of the recruiting of labourers in the South Sea Islands, and the deportation of the Kanakas, boun-



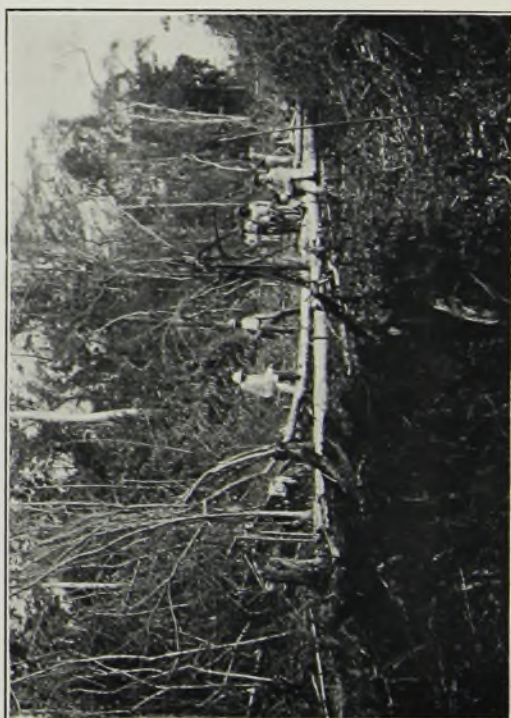
INTERIOR OF THE MASSON & ATLAS WORKS AT DERBY.



MR. LAZARE'S AGRICULTURAL SHOW, DIEGO MARTIN, TRINIDAD.



GUESTS OF MESSRS. GEORGE FLETCHER & CO. AT DERBY.



CLEARING FOREST FOR SUGAR CANE CULTIVATION, TRINIDAD.

ties were given on sugar produced by whites. For these the abolition of the excise duty was substituted with the result that the Queensland industry is protected to the extent of £6 per ton, which enables a wage of 8s. a day to be paid to the white labourer. Now the State Government is going a step further, and is erecting these two large Central Sugar Factories at Babinda and South Johnstone to be run on co-operative lines, and to crush the sugar canes cultivated by white men, who, it is hoped, will be tempted to settle in the country. Tenders were invited for these factories, each of which is to have a capacity to work up 1,000 tons of cane per 24 hours, producing 125 tons of raw sugar, and the contract was awarded to Messrs. George Fletcher and Company.

An Enterprising Firm.

This enterprising firm was founded by Mr. George Fletcher in 1838 at Farnham Place, Southwark. The business grew rapidly, and the premises being found unequal to coping with the increased volume of trade, Mr. Fletcher erected new and extensive premises on a site at Derby, thus bringing the firm into close touch with the iron and coal fields of the Midlands.

The new works, conveniently situated adjacent to the main line of the Midland Railway, were completed in 1863, when the main business of the firm was transferred to Derby, and were named the Masson Iron Works. On the death of the founder in 1874, the business descended to his son, the late Mr. George Fletcher, who, during his lifetime, erected further workshops, and modernised those established by his father, one addition being the installation of the Atlas Foundry. This enabled Messrs. Fletcher and Company to provide their own castings, thus doubtless enabling them to obtain their world-wide reputation as suppliers of the best quality of mill rollers. Upon the death of Mr. George Fletcher, junior, his estate was, for family reasons, placed in the charge of the Court of Chancery, where it remained until 1909, when it was converted into the present limited liability company, of which Mr. R. G. Fletcher Finney, a grandson of the founder, is Managing Director. Since that date, the business has expanded to such an extent that it has again been found necessary to make considerable additions to their workshops, and to modernise the tools and plant generally, with the result that the works may now be described as complete in every respect.

After visiting the Masson and Atlas Works, Messrs. George Fletcher and Company's guests proceeded to the factories of Messrs. Rolls-Royce, Ltd., round which they were shown by Mr. Delonze, the courteous secretary and his colleagues. Some idea of the importance of these works may be gained when it is realized that they turn out fifteen complete chassis every week and employ close upon 2,000 men. Such is the demand for the Rolls-Royce type that even at the present rate of production it is not

possible to guarantee delivery of a chassis until at least four months after the receipt of the order. The works are constantly being extended, and no one could venture to predict what the limits of expansion will be. Here the visitors saw the construction of a car from the casting of the cylinders to the actual testing of the chassis with its engines. Messrs. Rolls-Royce, Ltd., very kindly placed six of their cars at the disposal of the party, who were taken in the afternoon for a run to Mansfield through the Dukeries to Newark and back via Nottingham, and on the following day to Buxton, the Derwent Valley Waterworks, Baslow, (where they were met by Colonel Brooke Taylor, who conducted them over Chatsworth House), and thence to Haddon Hall, and back to Derby by way of Matlock. Altogether a most instructive and enjoyable week-end was spent.

In the photograph of the male members of the party privileged to participate in the excursion and the representatives of Messrs. George Fletcher and Company, the names (reading from left to right) are: Standing: Mr. F. Rudder, Mr. McGechan; the Secretary of the West India Committee, Mr. R. G. F. Finney, Mr. Howard Marsh, Mr. Delonze, Secretary of Messrs. Rolls-Royce, Ltd.; and Mr. J. German. Seated: Mr. R. Rutherford, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee; the Mayor of Derby; Hon. Francis Digby Deuham, Prime Minister of Queensland; Mr. Henriques, and Mr. P. J. McDermott, I.S.O., Under-Secretary of the State.

A COMING CENTENARY.

May 30th next should be a red letter day in St. Lucia and Tobago, for it is the centenary of the signing of the treaty of peace with France by which those islands were ceded to Great Britain. The chief signatory for France was M. Charles Maurice Talleyrand Perigord, while those who signed for Great Britain were Viscount Castlereagh, the Earl of Aberdeen, Viscount Cathcart and the Hon. Charles William Stewart, K.B. In Tobago the occasion is to be celebrated by entertainments for the school children and the erection of a much needed public hall in Scarborough. The assistance of the local Government has been secured, and subscriptions are being collected locally to defray the necessary expenditure. The West India Committee will be glad to receive and forward to the proper quarters contributions towards so loyal an object.

At a meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee on March 19th, a vote of thanks was passed to Sir Charles Lucas for presiding at the meeting on March 12th, when Dr. Vaughan Cornish delivered his lecture on the Panama Canal. It was decided to accept with thanks the offer from Mr. F. N. Martinez of a gold medal for competition at the forthcoming Tropical Products Exhibition.

THE BENEFICENT BANANA.

By H.A. ALFORD NICHOLLS, C.M.G., M.D., F.L.S.,
Senior Medical Officer of Dominica.

The articles by Sir Daniel Morris and Sir James Crichton-Browne regarding the dietetic value of the banana, and contradicting the idea of it being a possible cause of appendicitis, that have appeared in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR are interesting and instructive. Sir James brings forward authoritative evidence to show that the indictment against the banana cannot be sustained in England, and it may, perhaps be useful for me to adduce evidence that there is also "no case for the prosecution" in the West Indies—whence come most of the bananas consumed in this country.

The figures given in these articles concerning the composition of the banana show that it is a valuable food and that it contains all the elements necessary for the sustenance of the body. My own experience, which extends over forty years, satisfies me that those elements are combined in such a way as to make the banana a complete food, eminently suitable for persons suffering from inflammatory and other diseases of the alimentary tract, and this means that the banana as food is non-irritative, that it is easily digested, that it is absorbed in the upper portion of the intestines with a minimum of residuum, and that the fruit alone is sufficient to sustain life. In the West Indies I have often prescribed a diet of bananas for lengthened periods in cases of serious diseases of the bowels, such as dysentery, enteritis and sprue, in which the ingestion of irritating aliments would give rise to grave results, and such patients have done well under the banana diet.

How, in all these circumstances, any medical man can gravely assert that the banana causes appendicitis passes my comprehension. Dr. G. Arbour Stephens, it appears to me, was not quite certain in his own mind concerning the alleged harmful effects of bananas as food, for he appears to have tried to guard himself by his assertion that only the virulent varieties of the fruit are exported to England.

My knowledge of the banana is somewhat extensive. I have written on its cultivation, and I have eaten with enjoyment most of the cultivated edible varieties of the fruit, and I have no hesitation in asserting that no edible banana is virulent, or irritative, or indigestible. As a matter of fact, too, only the finest and largest bunches of the best varieties are shipped to England from the West Indies; and, if such fruit be eaten by any man, woman or child, in Great Britain or anywhere else, whether ill or well, no harm whatever can happen.

In the West Indies the banana is eaten by all sorts and conditions of men, indeed it forms no inconsiderable part of the food supply of the people generally.

In Dominica I have met with only four cases of appendicitis during the last forty years. One was that of a young coloured man, who recovered under

medical treatment, about twenty-five years ago; he is now in perfect health. The second was that of a young Englishman who was brought to the chief town from a remote district; suppuration had taken place, and he was operated on successfully. The third was that of a lady of mixed parentage, who recovered under medical treatment, and has had no return of the symptoms for a number of years. And the fourth was that of a young Englishman who had had an earlier attack in his native country, and who was there urgently advised to submit to an operation; he also recovered under medical treatment, and has had no return of the trouble for over ten years. No other case of appendicitis in a country where all eat the banana freely has come under my notice. These facts indicate that whatever may be the cause or causes of appendicitis, the eating of bananas is not one of them.

Appendicitis starts from irritation of a certain portion of the intestinal canal; and the irritation is followed by inflammatory changes rendering the injured part susceptible to the morbid influences of microbes that may exist in healthy intestines without causing any harm. Whatever may be the initial cause of the irritation that produces appendicitis—and probably many different irritants may give rise to the initial stages of the disease—the ingestion of bananas is certainly not one.

About ten years ago, when I was in Canada, there had been there what was described as an epidemic of appendicitis in and around Toronto and elsewhere, and the unfortunate sufferers were in most instances operated on without delay, and all of them did not recover. I heard there a theory which had been put forward to account for the great prevalence of the disease.

In the olden days all the cereals were ground by mill-stones into meal for food, and there was then no prevalence of appendicitis, or typhlitis, or perityphlitis. Nowadays the grinding is done mostly by powerful steel rollers worked by electricity. The friction aided by the generated heat causes microscopic portions of the steel rollers to flake off and to become mixed up with the meal, so that the many varieties of meals and foods made from them contain minute quantities of minute steel flakes—which undoubtedly are capable of causing irritation of the delicate mucous membrane of the intestines. These minute flakes would tend to collect in the cæcum, and it was thought that they might there give rise to the condition of irritation and consequent inflammation necessary for the morbid influences of the microbes that produce appendicitis. This was the theory I heard propounded in Canada; and it appeared to me then, as it appears to me now, to contain elements of truth.

Appendicitis is a disease of civilization, and it has taken a larger toll of its victims in recent years. In past times the disease was less frequent, and it was known as typhlitis and peri-typhlitis. Human beings had their appendices then as they have them now; but the people were not told that Nature had made

a mistake in leaving the appendix attached to the cæcum, and that it ought to be removed if it gave rise to any trouble resulting from irritation set up by something taken in the way of food.

Anyhow, the fear of the disease, and the greater fear of an operation, need not be present in a greater degree in those who eat the beneficent banana, which, as Sir James Crichton-Browne truly says—"is a clean, wholesome, nourishing and fragrant addition to our food supply—*sans peur et sans reproche*—a boon and a blessing to our people."

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

V.—Descriptive List of the Principal Woods

At the Edinburgh International Forestry Exhibition of 1884, one hundred specimens of timbers from British Guiana were shown. As, however, some of these may have been varieties of the same wood entered under different local names, and as, probably, many of them were not obtainable in large quantities, we propose only to deal with twenty-four of the better known woods of the colony such as might be deemed commercial timbers, dividing them roughly into two classes of a dozen each, viz.: "Hardwoods," of a specific gravity approaching 1.000 and over, and "Lighter Woods," under .900 specific gravity.

The specific gravities of the various woods differ materially as recorded by different authorities, and also vary according to the age or maturity of the samples of wood tested, the better matured timbers being always the heaviest; but the figures given in the list submitted may be taken as a fair average.

Some years ago Mr. Herbert Stone, F.L.S., carried out a series of technical tests on specimens of wood supplied to the Imperial Institute from British Guiana; and in compiling these papers, use has been made of his report thereon, as well as of Mr. Michael McTurk's practical notes on Guiana timbers, and Mr. Luke M. Hill's paper on "The Constructional Woods of British Guiana," as published in the Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1902.

A.—Hardwoods.

1.—GREENHEART (*Nectandra Rodiceii*) S. G. 1.125. Priority of place is given to greenheart as being the best known and most largely shipped of the timbers of British Guiana. The writer's first acquaintance with the name was many years ago, when as a small boy he was fishing with some friends on a well-known salmon river in Ireland, near a small town where lived a noted fishing-tackle maker, who swore by greenheart for salmon rods, as being superior to ash, hickory, lancewood or any other of the woods used for fishing rods.

Since then he has been brought professionally in close touch with the wood for many engineering and general constructional purposes: shipbuilding, wharves, docks, canal lock gates, bridges and house

construction, for which it is celebrated throughout the world in respect to its durability and resistance to attack from teredos and other marine worms. It has been extensively used throughout the United Kingdom and on the continents of Europe and America for harbour works and canal navigation systems, notably at Liverpool Docks, on the Manchester Ship Canal, Panama Canal, etc., and is invaluable for all submerged work, whether in salt or fresh water, being practically indestructible, if well selected and of mature growth. Its fibrous toughness renders it an excellent material for railway trucks and carriage building; and for shipbuilding it is reckoned as one of the eight first-class woods at Lloyd's. In comparative strength greenheart is 60 per cent. greater than British oak. The wood is found in all gradations of colour from yellow-green to dark brown, varying in weight from 65 lbs. to 80 lbs. per cubic foot, the oldest timber being the darkest and heaviest. In the colony greenheart is largely used for bridge building, house frames, foundations, mill-bed timbers, piles, beams and wharf flooring. It saws readily into planks and scantlings, planes well and easily, especially across the grain, and takes a good polish. It can be obtained in logs up to 70 feet in length and 18 ins. to 24 ins. square: average weight for shipping may be reckoned at 30 cubic feet, calliper measure, to the ton.

2.—DUKALABALLI. S. G. 1.138. The wood is of a deep red colour, heavy and close grained; it takes a fine polish, is a durable wood, and makes handsome furniture; but it is not very plentiful. The tree grows to a large size and to an average height of 120 feet. The wood can be shipped in logs up to 60 feet long, squaring 12 ins. to 18 ins. free of sap.

3.—HACKIA (*Siderodendrum triflorum*) S. G. 1.130. A hard, close-grained wood of a light brown colour, very tough and difficult to work, but takes a good polish. It is characterised by an almost entire absence of any visible bark, and a smell of tuberosity when sawn or worked. The tree is one of the most beautiful in the Guiana forests when in flower, being then covered with masses of brilliant yellow blossoms, showing up prominently amongst the surrounding green foliage.

The wood is valuable for cog-wheels and shafting, and makes practically unbreakable staves, batons, and walking sticks, much favoured by native watchmen; but it is almost too hard for other purposes. The tree grows to an average height of about 65 feet, and can be cut to square 12 ins. to 14 ins. free of sap.

4.—LIGNUM VITÆ (*Guaiacum officinale*) S. G. 1.313. This wood is often confounded in name with No. 3, but it is entirely different, being heavier in weight, harder in texture, and much darker in colour, but it is equally difficult to work. However, the wood turns well, takes a good polish, and is in some demand for dead-eyes, pulley block sheaves, foot-steps for vertical shafting for centrifugal pumps and other special uses, being practically indestructible. The tree bears a pretty light

blue flower, but is not so plentiful in the colony as the Hackia.

5.—**BULLET TREE** (*Mimusops balata*) S. G. 1.084. A dark red coloured and very close grained wood of excellent and durable quality. Its uses on land are similar to those of greenheart, but it is not so suitable as the latter for submerged work. Owing to its toughness it was a favourite wood for the axles and arms of windmills, when those aerial motors were more in use than at present. It can be cut to square anything up to 3 feet. This tree is abundantly distributed throughout the colony and yields the caoutchouc gum known as balata; the bleeding process, however, affects the colour and texture of the wood until the tree has had time to recuperate. Following on the greater development of the balata industry within recent years, regulations have been introduced prohibiting the felling of the trees except by special permission; and this protection has naturally restricted the supply of the wood for commercial purposes; otherwise it might be strongly recommended for wood paving of streets.

6.—**MORA** (*Mora excelsa*) S. G. 1.029. Plentifully distributed throughout the colony and abundant in certain districts. It is the largest tree in the Guiana forests, attaining a height of from 150 to 200 feet with a great girth; its top rises above the surrounding trees, and its delicately red-tinted young leaves on the crest, make it a conspicuous feature in the distance, as viewed from the river. Old and very large Mora trees are often, however, found to be hollow, and in that condition are frequently made use of as drainage kokers on riverside estates; but excellent logs of sound timber can be obtained 80 feet in length by 18 ins. to 24 ins. square. The wood is of a light red colour, varying somewhat in different varieties, close-grained, exceedingly tough, and admirably adapted for railway sleepers and wood paving. The writer has used it with success for the flooring of a stone-landing wharf, where it withstood well the attendant concussion. It can be readily sawn into planks and scantlings, planes well and smoothly though slowly, but is difficult to turn; takes a fine polish, and makes good durable furniture, though rather heavy. Mora is used in shipbuilding, being included as one of the eight first-class woods at Lloyds. In the colony it is largely used in boat-building and in the building of sugar estates' punts and other drogher craft; natural crooks, or timbers, being cut from the large buttresses, or base spurs, of the tree. It is a very durable wood, resisting dry rot; but it does not withstand the attack of marine worms, and is therefore not suitable for submerged work for wharf piles, dock gates, etc. The bark of the Mora tree is used for tanning.

(To be continued.)

"The Woods and Forests of Jamaica," by Fawcett is obtainable from the West India Committee, Price 6d.

"THE PANAMA CANAL TO-DAY."

BY VAUGHAN CORNISH, D.Sc., F.R.G.S., F.G.S.

Dr. Vaughan Cornish delivered a lecture entitled "The Panama Canal To-day," under the auspices of the West India Committee at the Commercial Sale Rooms, Mincing Lane, on March 12th. Mr. Rutherford, who presided at the outset, said that Sir Charles Lucas, who sat by his side, required no introduction to a West Indian audience. (Applause.) He had much pleasure in inviting him to take the Chair.

Sir Charles Lucas then rose and said: "We are met here this afternoon to hear an address upon the Panama Canal from Dr. Vaughan Cornish, who has lately visited it, and will speak from first-hand knowledge. It is a subject of extraordinary interest and paramount importance, especially to the British West Indies. I am always glad to be brought back into touch with the West Indies, for I have received so much kindness from my West Indian friends, and am specially glad to be invited by the West India Committee. All lovers of the West Indies owe a debt of gratitude to the West India Committee, who are the united representatives of what we hope one day will be a united province of the Empire. The oldest of all agencies in the mother country for British possessions overseas, the West India Committee has behind it the authority of age and tradition. This is coupled with youthful fire and energy which finds an appropriate home in Seething Lane. When I was in the Colonial Office I had to do with the West Indies in their darkest days. We all of us in the Office and outside the Office tried to work and tried to look for a time when the West Indies should come again by their own. In their palmy days they came not only by their own, but they came by other people's own, and I fancy that Panama comes into history first as a scene of considerable buccaneering. They then fell upon evil days, but they "dared to love their country and be poor," and now I am glad to think that the evil days are passing away, and the West Indies, with ups and downs, are beginning to taste the sweets of prosperity. I use that phrase with special reference to a certain product of the West Indies. The West Indies are now sound and substantial, like gentlemen in the City of London, but I venture to think that they have a far greater future before them, and that that future will be due to the Panama Canal. It is wonderful how the price of property rises when a road or railway comes near it. The West Indies, when this Canal is in working order, will be on a great thoroughfare of the world. They will have, I firmly believe, what people are pleased to call unearned increment; it will only make up for the undeserved losses of the past.

"Only one other word. This Panama Canal is the latest and greatest expression of what science is doing for the British Empire and the world. We talk much about laws and statesmen and legislators,

but what have they done beside inventors, engineers, doctors, scientists, to mould the earth and alter the lives of mankind? Do you realise that the makers of the Panama Canal have created an artificial lake three-quarters the size of the Lake of Geneva? The Canal is the creation not only of engineering experts, but of medical and sanitary science. Do people think where we would have been but for the men who found out printing and brought into play the forces of steam and telegraphy, which are changing day by day the lives of men? I should like to hear a great deal less about legislators and a great deal more about scientific men. My friend Professor Kirkaldy of Birmingham has recently been pointing out the economic results which will follow from the Panama Canal, and I would like to drive into those who are present, who may not have thought of it before, that the future of the British Empire depends more than anything upon the work of scientific men."

Dr. Cornish's Lecture.

Dr. Vaughan Cornish then delivered his lecture as follows: "The subject of my lecture is one peculiarly appropriate to an audience interested in the British West Indies. The Canal will greatly increase their strategic importance to the British Empire, a fact which should silence the extraordinary talk heard in some quarters of our loosening our grip on these important possessions. In my previous lecture in 1909 I dealt with the political status of the Panama Canal, its history, sanitation and general conditions. All that I will now leave aside. Indeed, everybody is acquainted with the general features of the Panama Canal, and I shall give a somewhat special lecture to-day, simply on the results of my last visit. I went more particularly to study the landslides in the Culebra Cut, but also the Gatun Lake. The two things on which the success of the Canal depends are the fulness of the lake and the stability of the cut."

Dr. Cornish then proceeded to show slides of the Canal, and in commenting upon them he said: "The great change since my last visit to the Isthmus in 1912 has been the filling of the bed of the Canal. I shall deal chiefly this afternoon with the Gatun Dam and the great Culebra Cut. The Gatun Dam is a great tribute to the patience and care of Colonel Sibert, who has been associated with its construction from the first. One of its great merits is its very gentle curves and the absence of any sudden changes in the slope. It has been piled up so cautiously and skilfully that the soft ground below has not given way.

"I could not help thinking that though engineers have been so much abused for spoiling waterfalls, they have, at all events, given us at Gatun an extremely fine, though artificial, one. Both the falls and the rapids of the Spillway are comparable in their magnificence to Niagara, and when all fourteen of the gates are opened there is actually more water flowing through them than falls over Niagara, and

even with the seven gates it is a very splendid spectacle indeed. It was a very wonderful sight to watch those gates silently opening and closing and all these waters being controlled without an effort by one man standing beside an electric switch. It is the most striking example I have ever seen of the absolute control of stupendous natural forces by the hand of man. We must not miss the significance of the fact that all the machinery of the Canal is operating perfectly—it means honest work. I timed a barge going through three locks at Gatun; it occupied one hour thirteen minutes.

"There is no sign of any failure at the Gatun Dam, and there is plenty of water; indeed, it is actually allowed to run to waste. There is, moreover, no sign of leakage, and the locks work perfectly.

"The forest trees do not encumber the channels, because their wood being soft they break up very quickly under the action of the climate, and very soon become matchwood and disappear. So much for the first part of the subject, that is to say, the Dam and the Lake.

"Now we come to the second part—the Cut. The ground of the Culebra Cut is strongly undulating. The formation of the rocks is igneous, that is, made by fire not water, and the rocks are volcanic and eruptive. The volcanic are those ejected from the mouth of an old volcano and then deposited superficially; they are rotten and treacherous. But the eruptive rocks intruded from below in a melted state push up among the other rocks, and there solidify under ground. They were never made at the surface. Now, as a rule, the peaks are composed of the solid eruptive rock, and there the sides of the Cut stand at a steep slope, but the saddles in between and the flanks of the hills are generally composed of the volcanic sediments, which are rotten and slide. It will be seen, therefore, that the most dangerous parts of the Canal are not the highest peaks, nor, of course, are they the lowest saddles, but these high slopes of volcanic rock abutting on and lying up against or in between the peaks of hard rock.

"The constructors left a summit near the centre of the Cut because it was economical to run the full trains off with the spoil down hill, and the light empty trains up hill. In that way they got out the Cut to its full depth and full width at the ends long before nearing the deepest part. Now, whereas the landslides started earlier at these two ends, the landslides in those parts of the Canal have come to rest, and in many cases are grassed over, and appear to be really dead; but they have only got the full depth and width at Culebra and Cucuracha quite recently. The consequence is that the landslides there are at an earlier stage of their life history than at the ends. Also, because the depth is greater, the landslides are bigger, and their life history is likely to be longer. The whole difficulty and interest are now concentrated on the landslides at Culebra and Cucuracha. It must always be borne in

mind that the material is heterogeneous, and one has no right to say that because it slides at Culebra, the land will therefore slide at Gold Hill.

The Philosophy of Landslides.

"The first symptom of a slide is the cracking of the ground, which then breaks and afterwards spues up at the bottom. The solid rock at the bottom of the Cut might rise ten feet in ten minutes, so that if the water had been in the Canal it would have reduced the depth immediately and spoil the waterway. When the material has escaped like that, it makes a cave, and the sides fall in and glide forwards to the bottom of the Canal. All that it has been possible to do in such cases is to take off the top weight by way of a curc, so as to reduce the weight at the bottom. But prevention is always better than cure, and if there had been a gentle slope to begin with, the slides would not have been so bad. In this case every engineer, American, French, German, Dutch and English, agreed upon the slopes of the Culebra Cut being three vertical and two horizontal; and they were all wrong. It shows that the philosophy of landslides is not yet properly known. There is room for the subject of landslides to be worked up and put on a proper scientific basis to see if such frightful mistakes cannot be prevented in the future. Land is still sliding in places where the slope is 1 in 5. At present, however, the man of science and the man in the street are much on the same footing as far as the subject of landslides goes. Nobody can specify the strength of the material nor the stress to which it will be subjected. We want now a knowledge of the landslides in the Panama Canal from which to form a prediction that will probably be correct. We must adopt to some extent the historical method, examine exactly what has happened to landslides already, examine the history of landslides at the two ends of the Canal, see how long they lasted, how often they came to life, and then judge from the time they lived and the way they acted what is the future of the East Culebra slide and the Cucuracha slide, and that I believe will be the soundest basis of knowledge with regard to these slides at the present time. The whole thing is waiting on these landslides in the neighbourhood of Gold Hill.

"Some of the dredgers being used are of American make and some are the old French machinery, which is still in full use, and there never was better machinery supplied to any undertaking. The machinery supplied by the French was suitable for the time, and is even useful now. All these dredgers were at it as hard as they could go day and night, during the three weeks I was there, and they did not gain any ground at all; they only kept their own. It is reckoned that the whole of the slides will be shovelled out by July or August next. And they are getting at it both ways. They have gone to the back of Gold Hill, and they are sluicing away these slides into the opposite valleys; they are washing them away at the back, and also actually

hastening the slide into the cut, so that it may be shovelled away.

"The question is: Will there afterwards be another break? To the south of the Cucuracha slide there is a lot of bad ground, which, though stationary, may not be dead. It is held up by 'Telegraph Hill' (eruptive rock), as the slide to the north of it was held up by 'Purple Hill' until the latter gave way. Why should not Telegraph Hill break too? The truth is that nobody knows if it will or not, and it is perhaps not a very satisfactory conclusion to come to; but it is very important to know what you do not know (laughter). The fact is that nobody in the world knows what strain is going to be put upon that point, nor what its strength is.

"Now you have seen the kind of work done and evidence collected with regard to the continuance or non-continuance of these slides, and the conclusion of the matter is this, that one cannot say yet whether there is going to be another break at Cucuracha, and another break at East and West Culebra which may be sufficiently serious to impede or even to stop navigation in the Canal. It is too soon to say. The present stuff in motion will be cleared out this year; it is hoped by August. Then the Canal and waterway will be unimpeded, with full depth and width, and if no break occurs there will be nothing to impede the imposing ceremony of opening the Canal formally in January, 1915, by the passage through it of representative international ships. With good luck this will happen. But what we want to know over here, particularly people who have business arrangements to make, is whether we can be sure that the Canal will not be interrupted after January, 1915, whether we can reckon that, after the formal opening of the Canal, it will be a reliable waterway. Now, I do not know. But I will go further than that and say that nobody else knows. The data for exact knowledge does not exist. It is quite possible that there may be breaks, and that the stuff will come down with such volume and so suddenly that it will restrict the width and depth of the waterway. But that is not all.

Some Questions Answered.

There are quite a number of pertinent questions being asked about the Canal all over the world. Let me address myself to those questions which anxious pessimism is now asking with regard to the Canal. This pessimism should, I think, be checked. I will take the questions in order, and give my answers:—

"(1) Are the Gatun Dam and its foundations sufficiently watertight? Yes, they are.

"(2) Is the water supply sufficient for the operation of the Canal? It is. They are actually able to afford to let it run to waste.

"(3) Will the foundations of the dam become a mud lake and let it down? There is no sign of it.

"(4) When will the present landslides be cleared out? This year.

"(5) Will others occur to impede or block navigation? It is quite possible.

"(6) Will there be an uninterrupted waterway of full depth and width after January, 1915? No one really knows yet.

"(7) Are the rocks being rotted as the result of letting in the water? There is no sign of it.

"(8) Will Gold Hill slide into the cut? This is one of the questions most often asked. Well, there is no symptom of it. It is composed of different material from that of the slides, and shows no sign of sliding.

"(9) Is the bottom of the cut still spueing up? That is a question which it is very difficult to answer, because one cannot now see the bottom of the cut, the water being muddy. Very careful soundings have been taken, and I was, by courtesy of the authorities, allowed to inspect the sheets of soundings. I examined those sheets, and I think there is a good deal of evidence that just below the slides the bottom of the cut does come up, but the evidence is not conclusive. It looks as if there were a certain amount of bulging.

"(10) Will the bottom of the cut always be bulging up? No, it will not; because the slope of the sides can be reduced to any extent required, by sluicing into the valleys behind. What has happened is very nearly the worst that can happen, and if it goes on, what they will have to do is to sluice away the ground from the crest of the ridge, not into the cut but into the opposite valleys. If the slopes are sufficiently flattened, there will no longer be spueing up from the bottom. As soon as the banks have got pretty nearly into a state of rest, they should be planted with vegetation.

"(11) Will the cut ultimately become a reliable and satisfactory waterway? Yes, the answer follows from those given to the last four questions.

"(12) Is it not likely that an earthquake will wreck the whole undertaking? The earthquakes of which we have detailed knowledge on the Isthmus are not sufficiently severe. One occurred in 1621 which is said to have destroyed most of the houses in Panama, but a shaking sufficient to bring down the present houses in that town would leave the locks intact. I was at Kingston during the earthquake of January 14th, 1907, and I examined the effects on buildings carefully; that shaking would, in my opinion, have had practically no effect on the Gatun Dam, and would have only done minor injury to the locks.

"You may say that these answers are not answers of certainty. After all, the business of the world is not carried on on certainties, but on probabilities. You have to decide whether a thing is reasonably safe and certain. All the probabilities are sufficiently good to justify practical men in making their arrangements on the reasonable supposition that the Panama Canal will be a successful and reliable waterway, that the landslides will come to rest, and that it will not be wrecked by earthquakes. But as to making promises that it will not be interrupted after January next, that is a matter of speculation.

"I must add a word of tribute to what has been done, because the work on the Panama Canal is very remarkable. The fact that the American engineers have been altogether wrong about the landslides is no slur upon them, because their opinion was shared by the European experts. The work they have done is exceedingly fine, the organisation of the whole undertaking has been beyond compare, and Colonel Goethals has achieved a world-wide reputation as an administrator. He has just been appointed Governor of the Canal Zone, and if the work will have to go on for some years after January, 1915, it is exceedingly satisfactory to know that it will be under his firm and skilful guidance. The sanitation has been an object lesson to the whole world, and those who have visited the Canal and gone about in comfort and enjoyment of its advantages must have been very much struck with the law and order which have been obtained in an improvised community, which after all is very little more than a gigantic labour camp, and I do not think anything is more deserving of tribute than the civilisation, achieved by the Americans in the Zone." (Applause).

An Analogy from the Canadian Pacific Railway

Sir Charles Lucas: "I ask you to give a very hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer. It is commonplace for the Chairman to say that the lecture has been most interesting, and so forth, but it is no mere form of words in the present instance. I came here to learn, and I have learnt with the greatest delight and interest, partly from the very clear way in which Dr. Cornish has told us, partly from the beautiful slides, but most of all from the moderate way in which he has put the Yes and No. I go away with infinitely more confidence about the Panama Canal than when I came. Pessimism is a very common thing, and a very hopeful sign before the actual success comes on. The late Lord Strathcona often spoke to me of the extreme pessimism about the Canadian Pacific Railway before it met with its crowning success. There is no shadow of doubt that this gigantic undertaking, the Panama Canal, will meet with the success which it deserves, and I earnestly hope that people will rejoice in the fact that the Americans have done such a great piece of good for the world. The doctors have done very much, as well as the engineers. The scientific men, as I have already said, are the men who are moulding our lives. I am sure that all will feel, as I do, that we have learnt much as well as enjoyed ourselves."

Mr. G. R. Alston: "I am sure you all agree with me that we have enjoyed the afternoon thoroughly, and will take away much to think about. I have much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks."

Dr. Cornish having thanked the meeting, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard moved a vote of thanks to Sir Charles Lucas for presiding, which was seconded by Mr. Rutherford and carried unanimously.

Sir Charles Lucas having replied, the company adjourned to the West India Committee Rooms, where tea was served.

Appreciation of the ability of Dr. Vaughan Cornish as a lecturer no less than interest in the subject of the lecture was shown by the large attendance, the room being taxed to its utmost capacity. Those present included Sir Charles P. Lucas, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Mr. Robert Rutherford, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee; Sir Robert Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., Sir Norman Lamont, Bart., Lady Lamont, His Excellency Edward J. Cameron, C.M.G., Governor of the Gambia, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Senior Medical Officer of Dominica, Mr. W. Mitchell-Thomson, M.P., Dr. W. A. Chapple, M. P., Mr. F. C. Adams, Mr. G. R. Alston, Mrs. E. B. Arthur, Mr. Austin, Mr. R. R. Bryson, Mr. H. W. Bailey, Mr. F. H. Bankier, Miss Bates, Mr. Bittencourt, of the Chilean Legation, Mrs. Beystrom, Captain B. Boileau, Mr. Bonthron, Miss M. A. Bratt, Mrs. Broadway, Mrs. H. Brooke-Alder, Mrs. Alfred Brown, Mr. Charles T. Bruce, Mrs. Scott Bushe, Miss E. Campbell, Mr. W. Chambers, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Cootc, Mrs. and Miss Vaughan Cornish, Messrs Cory, Bros., and Co., Mr. Hugh Cotton, Mrs. and Miss Covey, Mr. W. J. Cox, Mr. J. F. Croasdell, Mrs. Crundall, a representative of Messrs. C. Czarnikow and Co., Ltd., Miss Davidson, Mr. Gordon Davson, Mr. Ivan Davson, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. de Pass, Miss de Pass, Mrs. H. Draper, Mr. and Mrs. Du Boulay, Mrs. Dummet, Mr. A. K. F. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Ewen, Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. J. Fiddes-Brown, Mrs. and Miss Fisk, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. B. Fryer, Miss Fryer, The Misses Gardiner, Mr. Garrard, Mr. and Mrs. Savile Garraway, Mr. C. K. Gibbons, Mr. R. Parkinson Goffe, Miss Goffe, Mr. W. A. M. Goode, Dr. E. Grigorovitz, Mrs. Gunning, Mrs. C. Guthrie, Mrs. N. G. Hackney, Mr. and Mrs. C. Lyon Hall, Miss Lyon Hall, Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G., Miss Hamilton, Mr. T. A. W. Hance, Mr. Harker, Mr. W. O. Harrison, Messrs. Sydney Harvey and Co., Messrs. Hawkins and Tipson, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Henderson, Mrs. James Henderson, Mr. Hingston, Mrs. and Miss H. Howatson, Mrs. R. W. Hull, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Jarvis, Mr. F. G. Evan Jones, Messrs. Jenkinson, Brinsley and Jenkinson, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Kaps, Miss Kestin, Mr. J. C. King, The Misses Kolle, Mr. T. D. Lawrie, Lady and Miss Llewelyn, Mr. T. B. Lodge, Mr. R. C. Mayes, Miss Mieville, Mr. Beresford Melville, Mr. and Mrs. Audley C. Miles, Mrs. W. Mitchell-Thomson, Mr. H. P. Morris, Mrs. Frank Morris, Mr. E. H. Mundy, Mr. A. A. Nathan, Mr. B. A. Neilson, Mr. W. Newlands, Mrs. Nicholls, Mr. D. Keith Nightingale, Miss Nightingale, Mrs. and Miss Niven, Mr. H. S. Osment, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Owden, Miss Owden, Miss E. Patea, Mr. A. V. Port, Mr. Pownell, Mr. H. F. Previt , Mrs. Richardson, Mr. J. Ridley, Mr. Joseph Rippon, Dr. and Mrs. Drunmond Robinson, Mrs. Rutherford, Miss R. C. Scott, Miss Seton-

Browne, Mr. and Mrs. B. V. Shaw, Messrs. Shaw, Adams and Co., Mr. J. C. Shenstone, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, Mr. A. F. Shepherd, Mr. C. T. Shores, Mr. R. A. Simmons, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. A. K. Soutar, Miss Speir, Rev. P. A. Stevenson, Lt.-Col. A. Swinton, Miss Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Taurel, Colonel D'Aubrey Taylor, Miss Tripp, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Turner, Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, Miss Ruby Vincent, Mr. E. A. Wainwright, Mr. R. J. R. Warner, Mr. G. Westall, Mr. Edmund White, Miss White, Mrs. Wildy, Mr. J. J. Wilkie, Miss M. Wilkinson, Mr. A. J. Wilmott, Mrs. and Miss Wood, Miss H. L. Wood, Mr. C. Guy Wyatt, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary of the West India Committee.

THE WORLD'S OIL INDUSTRIES EXHIBITION.

Trinidad Represented for the First Time.

Visitors to the World's Oil Industries Exhibition, which was opened at Earl's Court, London, on March 21st and will remain open until April 4th next, will have an opportunity of seeing practical oilfield equipment and actual boring operations in progress in the grounds. Another feature likely to appeal to the general public is a cinematograph display which is held two or three times daily showing operations on well-known oilfields, including those of Trinidad, and the Pitch Lake, some fine films having been lent by the Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., Ltd. The United British Oilfields of Trinidad, Ltd., declined to participate, but a comprehensive exhibit has been prepared by the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Trinidad and Tobago, which includes samples of oils, asphalt and manjak, besides many photographs and plans of the oilfields lent by the Inspector of Mines. The Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company show a number of photographs and samples. Messrs. Thompson and Hunter show a representative collection of samples, besides many pictures and a working model of a boring plant; and the companies with which Mr. A. Duckham is associated also take part in the exhibition. A more detailed account of the Exhibition will be given in next issue. Among those present at the opening ceremony were Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. H. F. Previt , Mr. Hunter and Mr. R. J. R. Warner.

MESSRS. EHRENBERG & BAHR experimenting with the use of forest humus in agriculture, have come to the conclusion that leaf mould was injurious to plants and soils poor in lime, unless accompanied by applications of lime. The beneficial effect of the latter was thought to be due to the improvement of the physical properties of the soil. But might it not have been also the result of the neutralisation of humic acid formed by the humus?

"CATANIA'S" CARIBBEAN CRUISE.

The Duke of Sutherland's visit to the West Indies.

The Duke of Sutherland, who recently returned from a yachting cruise in the West Indies with the Duchess and some friends, expressed himself to a representative of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR as being most favourably impressed with the climate and scenery of the islands. The Duke left the South of France in December last in his steam yacht *Catania*, a vessel of 680 tons, with the Duchess, Lord and Lady Brooke, and Mr. and Lady Rosabelle Bingham. He proceeded from Gibraltar to the Canary Islands and the Cape Verde Islands, and thence to Trinidad, crossing the Atlantic in the remarkably short space of eight days. The party spent three days in Trinidad, and by motor car explored such well known beauty spots as the Blue Basin, the Maracas Fall and the Montserrat Hills. From Trinidad the *Catania* steamed 130 miles up the Orinoco River, this being the first visit of a yacht up the Orinoco. Many strange and brilliantly plumaged birds were seen, besides alligators and fishes, which none of the party had ever seen before. Trinidad was then re-visited, and also Tobago, where the *Catania* lay for several days in the spacious Man of War Bay. Asked whether he had seen the Birds of Paradise established by Sir William Ingram on Little Tobago, the Duke said that though he had not seen the birds, he heard what his guide assured him were their cries. The island was densely covered with forest, and it was therefore not easy to explore its recesses.

The *Catania* next visited in succession Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Martinique, and Dominica. In the latter island the Duke attended the meeting of the Legislative Council, which approved of Major Burdon's road construction programme, and he was very emphatic as to his need for the adoption of the scheme. He also laid stress upon the desirability of improving the means of communication between many of the islands. "I feel sure," he said, "that numbers of people would visit Barbuda if they could get there without difficulty from Antigua, instead of having to sail in sloops, which often take more than 24 hours in performing the journey of less than 30 miles." In Barbuda the Duke was the guest of the Resident Magistrate, who curiously enough bears the name of Sutherland, and he enjoyed good sport shooting fallow deer and duck.

Like other visitors to the West Indies, the Duke also appreciated the importance of providing better hotel accommodation in many of the islands. He found most of the boarding-houses quite unsuitable for a prolonged stay. "What is wanted," he said, "is hotels like the Titchfield at Port Antonio in Jamaica, which is quite the best which we visited during our voyage. It is even better than most of the hotels in Cuba, though the hotel at Camagüey

is quite comfortable." Altogether he was delighted with Port Antonio, which he much preferred to Kingston, where the dust and heat proved unpleasant. The party were unanimous in thinking Trinidad the most beautiful island which they visited, though they were agreed that Dominica, which they saw under rather disadvantageous circumstances, owing to the fact that it rained during their stay there, was not far behind.

THE WEST INDIAN WORK EXHIBITION.

CONTRIBUTED BY MRS. A. PEREZ.

The third Intercolonial West Indian Work Exhibition was held in the Royal Victoria Institute and Princes Buildings, Port of Spain, Trinidad, on Thursday, February 26th, under the patronage of Sir George le Hunte, Governor of Trinidad and Tobago, Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, and Lady Le Hunte; the general arrangements being made by the Home Industries Association of Trinidad.

These intercolonial exhibitions are the natural outcome of the establishment of the various Self-Help Associations in the sister colonies; institutions founded to aid and encourage industrious women of all classes, by giving them instruction and advice in all kinds of needle-craft, and to provide a saleroom for their work. Jamaica first recognised the importance of this centralising and encouraging of the workers of the island, and its successful Self-Help Association founded by Lady Musgrave in 1879, was the parent of all similar societies in the West Indies. Trinidad followed in 1901, Barbados in 1907, Grenada in 1908, St. Kitts in 1910, St. Vincent and St. Lucia in 1911, and British Guiana in 1913.

Small local exhibitions had been held annually in the various islands, but the wider idea of an Intercolonial Exhibition emanated from the Hon. Mrs. Gideon Murray (wife of the Administrator of St. Vincent) who in 1912 invited the sister islands to send of their best work to St. Vincent, not only for educative purposes, but with the view of a future co-operation between the islands for a greater perfection of work, and thereby establish a regular and recognised market for first class West Indian needle-work, embroideries and lace. This proved such a success that Barbados held the second Intercolonial Exhibition in 1913, which was opened by Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein.

This year Trinidad was the centre of the third Inter-Colonial Exhibition, which, like its predecessors, was a great success. That this was so must be more than gratifying to Lady Le Hunte, who worked so devotedly in its cause, and received valuable assistance from Mrs. S. W. Knaggs, and a Committee of ladies. The exhibits were so excellent that the judges found it very hard to arrive at their

decisions. For beauty of design combined with a fineness of execution, the West Indian needlework of to-day is the compeer of the best work done in any part of the world.

A very interesting and welcome collection of charming lace and embroideries came from our French neighbours of Gaudeloupe—a charming expression of "L'entente Cordiale" in the West. This exhibit proved that the French islands have not lost that cunning of lovely handwork for which they have long been famous. Jamaica had a fine show of work; and so had Barbados, which carried off seven prizes in open competition. Grenada sent some lovely exhibits and won four prizes, as well as a special prize for "small embroidered articles of easy sale." The St. Vincent collection was pronounced one of the finest in the exhibition. This island had the honour of carrying off the prize for the best piece of work in the Exhibition; also the prize awarded by the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR. British Guiana had a capital show of work at moderate prices, and won the first prize for Madeira embroidery. The St. Lucia exhibit was specially good, and won the first prize for French embroidery. Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, Antigua, and the Virgin Islands all contributed some very fine needlework and embroideries. Trinidad had nearly 400 articles sent in for exhibition, which compared most favourably with the exhibits of the sister colonies. This island received the Silver Cup presented by Princess Louise "for the finest and largest group of work in the Exhibition." The Gold Medal (presented by Messrs. Smith Bros., of Port of Spain) was also given to Trinidad for the finest Limerick lace collar.

Eleven other prizes were awarded for various kinds of needle-work, a result very gratifying to President and Committee of the Home Industries Association. Among other exhibits was an altar set made to the order of the Princess, the embroidery being executed in St. Vincent, the lace in Barbados. The Picture Gallery, organised by the Governor was a great source of attraction to residents and visitors. The collection of oil paintings by Cazabon (the famous Trinidad painter) was a valuable asset to the gallery. The Antarctic Kit of Staff-Surgeon Atkinson, R.N. (lent by his mother), and photos of the ill-fated Scott expedition, awakened sad, if glorious memories of British heroes. An Advertising Section was organised by Mrs. S. W. Knaggs and proved an interesting and valuable adjunct to the Exhibition. The Flower Stall was an artistic triumph of design and colouring, and gave some idea to our American visitors of the glowing beauties of tropical flowers. Altogether the exhibition was an unqualified success reflecting the greatest credit on its promoters.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" may be obtained of the West India Committee at the nominal price of 1s. or 1s. 3d. post free.

COLONIAL REPORT.

Grenada's Increasing Prosperity.

Mr. Edward Drayton, who is about to leave Grenada for Dominica, of which island he has been made Administrator, is in the pleasant position of being able to record in his report on the Blue-book of the first-named colony that in 1912 progress was made in nearly every direction and that the future is full of promise. Mr. Drayton adds:—

"It may truthfully be said by one who has been connected with her administration from that date onwards that on the 1st June, 1885, when she became the headquarters of the Windward Islands Government, Grenada entered on a new cycle of her life. She emerged from a condition of semi-torpidity to one of active existence, and she has since then been engaged in realising her destiny. Her future rests with her sturdy sons, and when one witnesses their zeal and activity, and re-organizes the whole-hearted manner in which they co-operate in details of the administration there can be little hesitation in predicting for her a leading place among her compeers in the West Indies."

An important public question, dormant since 1895, again came to the front in 1912. The harbour of St. George's, admittedly an excellent one, only requires certain improvements to make it one of the best in the West Indies, and the approaching completion of the Panama Canal acted as a stimulus to a revival of the question. The Governor appointed a representative local Committee, with the Colonial Secretary as Chairman, to consider the matter in all its bearings, and on 11th June a full report was made, strongly advising that the necessary work be undertaken. Later on in the year the Legislature provided funds for an expert investigation of the matter, and at the opening of 1913, a harbour works' engineer, Mr. I. C. Barling, arrived, and conducted a complete enquiry and survey. The report of the firm of engineers which he represented has not yet reached the Government, but it may reasonably be hoped that it will indicate that the work may be successfully and economically undertaken, and that the great natural advantages of Grenada in this respect will be made of some real use to her people.

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908-9	73,182	72,661
1909-10	71,224	73,482
1910-11	81,413	75,561
1911-12	98,645	81,012
1912-13	86,393	84,059

The surplus of assets at 31st March, 1913, amounted to £58,720, as compared with £56,419 at the same date in the preceding year, and with £38,742 at 31st March, 1911.

The imports and exports for the last five years were:

	Imports.	Exports
	£	£
1908	303,783	359,245
1909	268,236	284,846
1910	279,236	291,760
1911	309,227	264,640
1912	279,875	285,590

The origin and destination of the imports and exports of 1912 are returned as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United Kingdom	113,910	169,762
British Possessions	61,947	12,420
Foreign Countries	104,018	103,408

The United States of America leads the foreign countries in the bulk of its trade with the Colony, imports thence being valued at £93,740, and exports thither at £54,726. Canada is returned for imports valued at £12,065, and exports valued at £36, the principal imports being Spruce and White Pine Lumber, £7,009, Salted Fish, £2,366, and Oats, £835: the exports were 20 cwt. of Nutmegs.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

The Report on the Botanic Station of St. Kitts-Nevis for 1912-13, states that in St. Kitts the sugar crop of 10,554 tons—the shortest in the last seven years, was made from 72 per cent. of seedling canes and 28 per cent. of White Transparent cane. As regards cotton in St. Kitts, 5,500 acres are recorded as being in cultivation, an increase of about 500 acres over the preceding year. Owing, however, to unfavourable weather, the yield of cotton lint was poor. The average return was only 150 lbs. of lint per acre, the total output for the season being 302, 664 lbs. In Nevis there was an increase of 500 acres in cotton, the total area being 2,500 acres. On account of the drought the yield was much less even than in St. Kitts, the total output being 159,000 lbs. of lint, or 63 lbs. to the acre. The total exports of lint cotton from St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla amounted to 663,726 lbs. of lint. Attempts were being made to start a silk industry on the lines laid down by Mr. Maxwell-Lefroy in the paper read by him before the West India Committee.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON, the organiser of the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, in a letter to the Secretary of the West India Committee, dated March 19th, states: "The sugar that we used on the last expedition was cane sugar, and on the forthcoming expedition we shall also use only cane sugar. I have had the relative heat values of all our foods worked out by the Royal Army Medical College, and there is no doubt but that the cane sugar is by far the best."

OUR FORTNIGHTLY RECIPES.—*Arrowroot Shortbread.* Knead ½ lb. butter and 2 oz. castor sugar together, then very slowly add 6 oz. flour and 2 oz. arrowroot, which have been previously well mixed. Knead until paste is smooth, form into rounds and squares, prick with a fork. Bake on oven tin for about 30 minutes in moderate oven.

OBITUARY

MR. W. HORNE.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Mr. W. Horne, which occurred in Barbados, on March 24th.

Mr. Horne, who was 73 years of age, accompanied by Mrs. Horne, was driving in a buggy from Egerton Plantation, St. George, to his residence "Sirius" in Christ Church, when the horse took fright and bolted. On reaching the gap leading to the yard of Kent Plantation it turned sharply round and the buggy was overturned, and the occupants were thrown out. Mr. Horne fell on a sharp stone, which penetrated his skull and caused immediate death. Mr. Horne was for many years General Superintendent of the Colonial Bank, by whose Court of Directors no less than by the staff he was highly respected.

MR. JAMES RICHMOND, C.M.G.

We regret to state that Mr. James Richmond, C.M.G., died in London on March 20th.

Mr. James Richmond entered the Jamaica Civil Service in 1874 as engineer for the irrigation works department. Two years later he was appointed district engineer, a position which he continued to hold until 1890, when he became Assistant Director of Public Works. In 1900, when the Jamaica Railway was taken over by the Government from the private company which had controlled it since January 1st, 1890, he was appointed Director, in which capacity he continued to serve the Colony until his retirement through ill-health last year. Mr. Richmond was a J.P. and he received the honour of C.M.G. in 1906.

AT WESTMINSTER.

Slave Grown Cacao?

On March 19th Mr. Robertson, in reply to Mr. F. Hall, said that the imports of raw cacao in 1913, which were consigned to this country from Portuguese West Africa, amounted to 420,000 lbs. In addition, raw cacao to the amount of 2,556,000 lbs. was consigned from Portugal, a large proportion of which was probably derived originally from Portuguese West Africa. He was not aware of any forced labour being employed in any of the plantations where such cacao was grown.

In reply to a further question as to whether he was not aware that the forced labour was in operation at that part; and how could the cacao have been moved to Portuguese East Africa without it, Mr. Robertson referred Mr. Hall to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Cantley Sugar Cant.

On March 12th, Mr. Mackinder asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether, notwithstanding the fact that a Grant of £11,000 had been made from the Development Fund to the Sugar Beet Growers' Society, Limited, a body working in co-operation with the owners of the Cantley sugar factory in Norfolk, permission had been refused to the Government of St. Kitts to guarantee the capital of a sugar factory in that island.

Mr. Harcourt in reply said: The answer to the hon. Member's question is in the affirmative. I am informed that the Grant in question was made solely for work of organisation, instruction, and book-keeping, and that it stands on a footing quite different from that of any proposal to give Government assistance to a sugar factory.

Mr. Mackinder: Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that the Cantley factory is the only sugar factory in this district, and that the benefit of this Grant must therefore accrue to that factory? Mr. Harcourt said that he must have notice of this question.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



THE New York-Havana cable of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, which was interrupted on March 2nd, was repaired on the 16th inst. It is considered improbable that the vote in the House of Commons for the improved West Indian cable communication will be taken before June.

THE spring announcements of the S.P.C.K. include volumes of the "Early Church Classics" series—"The Communitary of St. Vincent of Lerius," and Tertullian "On the Testimony of the Soul," and "On the 'Prescription' of Heretics," both translated and annotated by Dr. T. Herbert Bindley.

THE Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's new transatlantic mail steamer *Essequibo* will sail from Southampton on October 21st on her maiden voyage. She will be followed by the new S.S. *Ebro* on December 2nd. This will be good news to all whom business or pleasure takes between this country and the West Indies.

The two uppermost of the illustrations which face page 124 in the present issue are dealt with above under the heading "Two Queensland Sugar Factories." Below them is a picture showing the work of clearing forest land preparatory to planting sugar canes in the neighbourhood of Waterloo Estate, Trinidad, a movement for which Mr. J. J. A. Carlee, the enterprising attorney of Messrs. Kleinworts, is responsible. In the foreground Mr. Edgar Tripp will be recognised, seated on a fallen monarch of the forest. Next to this is a reproduction of the agricultural show recently arranged by Mr. Mzumbo Lazare at Diego Martin in the same island.

MR. J. J. NUNAN contributes to the *Daily Argosy* of February 28th a letter giving his views on the subject of West Indian unification, which was dealt with by Mr. Edward R. Davson in his able paper read on February 10th. Mr. Nunan states that he was greatly impressed at the last Agricultural Conference by the growing feeling of West Indian solidarity evidenced by the proceedings. He recognises that British Guiana has vast interests in which the rest of the West Indies is not concerned, or is only concerned indirectly or to a minor degree, but he thinks that the fate of British Guiana will always be bound up with that of the British West Indian islands, and that every effort should be made to promote co-operation and closer union.

MANY residents in Barbados must remember Mrs. Grieve, whose death, we regret to say, took place suddenly on February 20th. Mrs. Grieve, who was the wife of Mr. Charles Grieve, of Braxholm Park,

Hawick, N.B., was the second daughter of the late Mr. C. T. Alleyne and sister of the late Mr. Forster M. Alleyne, of 2, Litfield Place, Clifton, Bristol, and Porters, Barbados. Mr. and Mrs. Grieve visited Barbados and the neighbouring islands in 1909, staying for some little time at Porters. She was a descendant of the Willings, one of the oldest families of Philadelphia, and took her second name "Willing," from her grandmother. One of her sons was drowned when the *Victoria* was rammed by the *Camperdown* in June, 1893, and another was killed while coaling off Dundee five years ago. Mrs. Grieve left a large family and will be much missed by her many friends.

News has reached us from New York of an interesting amalgamation of two old and respected West Indian firms. Frame & Co., of London and New York, themselves an offshoot of the late and still older firm of Gregor, Turnbull & Co., of Glasgow and Trinidad, founded early in the nineteenth century have taken over the business of Leaycraft & Co., established in New York since 1828, and the Leaycraft Trading Co. From March 1st, Frame & Co.'s "General" and "Spanish American" Departments will trade under the name of Frame, Leaycraft & Co., at 64, Wall Street. Mr. Reginald Roosevelt Leaycraft and Mr. Alastair Marr Macgregor Frame are joint managers of the first, and Mr. David Stone continues the management of the second department. Mr. Leaycraft is a cousin of Theodore Roosevelt, ex-President of the United States. Mr. Alastair Frame is the eldest son of the senior of Frame & Co., and he and Mr. Stone are the grand nephew and the grandson respectively of the late Gregor Turnbull, truly a very interesting and auspicious combination. We wish them every success.

MR. EDWARD J. CAMERON, Governor Elect of the Gambia, was entertained by the members of the West Indian Club at their fortnightly dinner on March 18th. Sir Robert Llewelyn presided, and praised Mr. Cameron for the work which he had done in the West Indies, to the value of which he, Sir Robert, could testify, having been with him both in St. Vincent and Turks Islands. After the dinner, the company adjourned to the billiard room, where the final tie for the Sir Alfred Jones cup was played by Mr. A. H. L. Richter and Mr. W. A. M. Goode, the game resulting in a victory for the former. Among those present were: Sir Charles Cox, K. C. M. G., Mr. C. F. L. Cox, the Hon. A. C. Pousonby, Dr. H. A. Nicholls, C.M.G., Mr. Guy F. Cameron, Mr. J. S. Westwood, Mr. S. Haines, Mr. P. Somerville, Mr. H. D. Morrison, Mr. Cecil Richter, Captain L. G. Tebbis, Mr. E. C. Hamley, Mr. Basil Binyon, Mr. A. A. Nathan, Mr. H. M. Graham, Mr. G. C. Johnstone, Mr. R. W. Smith, Mr. G. C. A. Wyatt, Mr. C. J. Bosch Reitz, Mr. E. B. Charig, Dr. Pinnock, Dr. E. Sturridge, Mr. Alexander Elder and Dr. J. M. de Freitas.

THE LONDON LETTER.



THE Home Rule crisis becomes daily more acute. We have in fact reached the point at which the situation must either improve or become worse. The atmosphere is electrical. The Government stand by their offer to exclude Ulster for six years. On the other hand the Opposition desire the feeling of the country to be tested by means of a Referendum. Optimism, however, is not wholly absent. There has been much talk of civil war, but it is noteworthy that as the prospect of catastrophe looms nearer, leaders on both sides become increasingly desirous of taking steps, and of making sacrifices in order to avert the worst. Our statesmen are, or should be, patriots before they are politicians, and the national honour and repute should stand higher than party triumphs.

MEANWHILE one Imperial problem has been solved. Recommendations made by the Commission are expected to remove the Indian trouble in South Africa. Chief among the proposals for peace stands the abolition of the £3 licence. High praise is bestowed on the labours of Sir Benjamin Robertson, the delegate of the Government of India, and it is a bright omen that the recommendations made satisfy the Viceroy and his advisers. Should the Natal Indians indulge in further agitation, sympathy with the discontent need not be expected from the responsible authorities in India. It is to be regretted that the aggrieved parties declined to appear before the Commission in order to furnish testimony regarding the alleged ill-treatment of Indians imprisoned in connection with the strike disturbances last year. The Commission were satisfied regarding the employment of force to suppress the outbreak.

SURGEON GENERAL GORGAS, whose brilliant hygienic successes on the Panama Canal Zone have brought him well-earned fame, has arrived in England. He comes here from South Africa, where, at the request of the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines, he has been investigating the sanitary conditions under which the miners live. Pneumonia is the disease chiefly prevalent among the 200,000 negroes employed, and General Gorgas, who was accompanied by two colleagues has spent three months in Johannesburg, and has been enabled to offer valuable suggestions. In conversation with Press representatives in London, General Gorgas paid generous tribute to the work of Sir Ronald Ross, Sir Patrick Manson and other British investigators.

THE Official Receiver's report throws further light on the operations of the Peruvian Amazon Co., Ltd. It will be remembered that this Company which went into voluntary liquidation in September,

1911, became famous, or perhaps more truly, infamous, in connection with the Putumayo atrocities. Those atrocities affected directly the Barbadian employees of the Company. In the Official Receiver's opinion the failure of the concern is due to the property sold to the Company not being of the value set out in the prospectus, to the lack of effective control by the English directors, and to gross mismanagement by its employees in South America. No surprise need be felt that Nemesis has overtaken the project. Honest men everywhere will rejoice that no financial enrichment has followed in the wake of that appalling record of murder, mutilation and oppression of the innocent Indian.

POPULAR impatience with the suffragette outrages seems likely to materialise. Expressions of indignation and disgust at each fresh outbreak no longer meet the case. The wanton attack on the *Rokeya* "Venus" marked the limit of tolerance of this propaganda. Questions in Parliament and letters to the Press indicate a demand for the strengthening of the law. Divided feeling in the Cabinet for and against votes for women has undoubtedly stood in the way of sterner measures. The Government are now being awakened to their first duty to the public, and it is improbable that they will be able to resist a determined feeling in favour of terminating this frenzied warfare against law and order.

THE Royal Colonial Institute bears a title which its Council would like to see altered. Apparently there is a feeling in some quarters that the name "Colonial" implies some disparagement. Hence at the annual meeting last week a proposal was brought forward to substitute the designation "Royal Britannic Institute." The Council, however, found very little support for their motion. An amendment was carried by a large majority that the title of the Institute should not be changed without the consent of a majority of the Fellows obtained by means of a postal referendum.

It is announced that the customary service in connection with the Order of St. Michael and St. George will be held in the Chapel of the Order, St. Paul's Cathedral on St. George's Day, April 23. This year there are to be removed with the usual ceremony, an exceptionally large number of banners of deceased Knights Grand Cross. These include the flags of Lord Minto, Lord Wolsley, Lord Knutsford, Lord Strathcona, Lord Belmore and Sir Walter Hely-Hutchinson (whose early career in the colonies was spent in the West Indies). Mention of the name of Lord Wolsley reminds us that subscriptions are now being raised for a statue of the distinguished Field Marshal to be placed in Trafalgar Square.

ON April 1st the warships *Renown* and *Scylla*, both well known in West Indian waters, are to come under the hammer. The former vessel will be remembered as the splendidly fitted up flagship of Admiral Sir John—now Lord—Fisher.

NATURE NOTES.

NEW cheese which has been subjected to an alternating electric current for twenty-four hours is said to possess all the consistency, taste, and appearance of a fine two-year old cheese.

IN the March issue of the *Bulletin de l'Association des Planteurs de Caoutchouc*, Mr. M. O. Filkens gives a description of the method of preparation of palm oil followed on the Congo. There are four operations, which are invariably done by women, viz., the breaking of the nuts for the extraction of the kernels; the roasting of the kernels; the pounding of the roasted kernels, and the treatment with boiling water of the pounded mass for the separation of the oil.

THE first of these is done by bruising the nuts in a mortar, formed by a cavity in a stone, with a wooden pestle. The kernels are thus easily separated from the shells. The roasting is done on a gentle fire, the kernels being constantly stirred with a stick to prevent burning. The roasted kernels are immediately transferred to a large wooden mortar, and pounded to an oily paste. Some of the oil separates and is collected at the bottom of the mortar. The paste thus obtained is placed in one and a half times its volume of boiling water, and stirred well during boiling. When the cooking is considered finished, the vessel is taken off the fire and allowed to cool. The oil thus obtained is skimmed off and put into bottles.

THE *Tropical Agriculturist* points out that an addition to the number of plants suitable for green manuring exists in the *Desmodium hirtium*. This plant which is an oxygen absorber, grows rapidly, forming a dense cover, capable of preventing the development of weeds and of protecting the soil from the effect of too heavy rains and sun. The plant exists largely in tropical Africa. It is herbaceous and climbing, the branches attaining a length of from three to six feet. The production from seed is not very easy, and a nursery is best adapted for its propagation.

TREATING of tropical soils, Mr. Oscar Loew writing in the *Porto Rico Station Reports* considers that the intense red colour frequently found in tropical soils is partly due to a higher degree of chemical disintegration, whereby the ferric silicates are further split into the brown ferric hydrate silica, and the former is further changed to red ferric oxide, and partly to the frequent absence of humus, which would impart a dark colour to the original red soils. This absence of humus forms the second characteristic of tropical soils. A third characteristic is the loss of lime due to rains at high temperature, whereby there is an excess of magnesia over lime in the soils.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



THE R.M.S.P. *Trent*, which left Barbados on March 4th, with a full complement of passengers reached Southampton at 2.30 p.m. on the 16th. Newspapers received by the mail contain correspondence between the Governor of British Guiana, who complained of the inadequacy of the accommodation for intending passengers from the colony, and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. Mr. E. C. Skinner pointed out that the rush of intending tourists had necessitated turning the whole of the 2nd class accommodation into 1st class in the *Danube* due to sail at the end of the month, and advised intending passengers to book well ahead and thus avoid inconvenience. The weather when the mail closed was generally speaking more favourable, though the south-eastern parishes of Jamaica were suffering severely from drought. A further example of the manner in which residents in the various islands are now co-operating had been afforded by the West Indian Work Exhibition, at which all the islands were represented. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—New Golf Links at Cassada Garden.

Writing on February 28th, MR. A. P. COWLEY said that the weather conditions during the fortnight had improved somewhat. On that day a fairly general rain of 1 in. to 1½ in. fell over the island. The wind had abated somewhat but was still very gusty. Passengers by the Canadian Royal Mail steamer had a nasty experience on Sunday last. The wind was blowing a perfect gale from N.W. and the Government launch was not running, being laid up for repairs. Consequently small boats had to be used by passengers, who suffered much discomfort.

Proposals were being considered for lighting St. John's with electricity, and the Colonial Secretary had issued circulars asking householders for information as to number of lights, etc., that might be required. It was to be hoped the citizens of St. John's would make the most of the opportunity. Certainly some improved form of lighting both for private and public purposes was much to be desired.—At a meeting of the Horticultural Society held on February 27th, roses were the subject of discussion. A paper was read by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. S. Archer, on their cultivation, and an illustration of pruning given by Mr. T. E. Peters, and one of budding, by the Bishop.

His Excellency Sir Hesketh Bell opened the new course of the Antigua Golf Club at Cassada Garden on the 4th. Mrs. Best, wife of the Colonial Secretary, driving off the first ball. Messrs. A. M. Hart and H. Tempary v. W. Hart and G. W. Smith, playing an exhibition foursome the former completing. The course was about fifteen minutes from St. John's, and was possibly the best in the West Indies. It should certainly be an attraction to tourists.

The Antigua Dramatic Society gave a very pleasant evening on February 24th, presenting A. W. Pinero's "Money Spinner." This Society was doing a good work, and their efforts compared more than favourably with those of residents in larger communities.—The Rev. T. Shako, rector of St. Philip's, was leaving for England.

BAHAMAS—Many Visitors from Canada.

No fewer than 90 visitors from Canada were at Nassau when the last mail left on February 24th. They organised a very successful garden party at which the Governor and Mrs. Haddon Smith were present.

BARBADOS—The Price Paid for Canes by the Factories.

Reaping had become general when SIR FREDERICK CLARKE wrote on March 3rd, but the return was not very satisfactory, as the canes were not ripe. Prices were very bad, and with a crop not above the average, the planter's lot was not a happy one.—The writer deeply regretted to announce the death of Mr. W. Horne, late superintendent of the Colonial Bank, in a carriage accident. His death under such tragic circumstances was a great shock to his many friends, by whom his loss was deeply felt.

Regarding climatic conditions the *Barbados Advocate* of March 4th stated that February gave some light showers, with a soaking rain on the 23rd, which was very welcome. March opened showery. The Central Factories were all at work. The prices paid for canes varied from \$2.40 to \$3 per ton, the estate supplying the haulage at the lower price. The yield had been low owing to the exceedingly dry January, and the fact that a large portion of the burnt canes was unripe. The fire epidemic was dying out.

BERMUDA—An Alleged Shipping Combine.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council held on March 5th, it was decided, at the instance of His Honour P. M. C. Sheriff, to send a message to the Governor to enquire if there were any truth in the statement that an agreement had been entered into between the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company and the Canadian Steamship Lines, Ltd.; and, if so, when such agreement was made, and to ask for any further information His Excellency might have in his possession, and a copy of the contract between the Colony and the Canadian Company.—The number of tourists who reached the islands during February was 2,727, as compared with 4,217 for the same month in the previous year. The decrease was due to the fact that last year the visitors included upwards of 1,500 transient passengers in various ships which called at the island for a short time only. This year no similar visits had been made during February.

BRITISH HONDURAS—The Tropical Exhibition.

ION ALAN DREWSE reported on February 26th, that the Hon. Robert Walter, late of Wei-hai-Wei, had arrived in the Colony and assumed his duties as Colonial Secretary. Mr. J. S. Rae, the newly appointed District Commissioner for Belize arrived on the 8th, and had assumed the duties of his office.—The Legislative Council met on the 17th, and was still sitting, the chief work of the Session being the consideration of the Estimates for the Financial Year 1914-15. In addition to this several Ordinances were being put forward, including an Ordinance amending the Labour Law with a view to preventing the undue consumption of alcoholic liquor by labourers in camps, and an Ordinance whose object was to mitigate the dog nuisance in Belize and other townships.—It was understood that another Session of the Legislative Council would be held in April for the purpose of passing certain Ordinances then under consideration before His Honour Chief Justice W. S. Slaw, who had been appointed Commissioner for the revision of the Consolidated Laws of the Colony, and was leaving for England to superintend the publication of the Revised Edition.—The Committee appointed to ensure as far as possible the adequate representation of the Colony at the Tropical Products Exhibition to be held in London this year hoped to be able to forward quite a representative group of exhibits.

BRITISH GUIANA—\$2,800,000 Sea Defence Scheme.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN reported on February 28th that high winds during the fortnight had blown away the heavy rain clouds, and only a few light showers had fallen. Generally the young cultivation was much in need of good heavy showers. There was nothing doing in the Sugar market.—A meeting of the Planters' Association had been held on the 23rd, when it was decided to ask the Government

to endeavour to secure the services of a competent authority from the United Kingdom in connection with the epidemic of so-called "Mal de Caderas," which, in view of the number of recoveries, was not believed to be that disease, and also to urge on the Government the question of compensation.—Mr. H. Y. Delafons was a passenger to England by the out-going mail.

The Annual Session of the Combined Court was opened on the 16th with the usual formalities. The meeting was adjourned until the 23rd when the work of the Session commenced, and after sitting three days stood adjourned until March 2nd. The retirement of Dr. Godfrey was announced at this meeting.—Mr. Buck's (Colonial Civil Engineer) Scheme of Sea Defence work for the whole Colony had been published. The estimated cost was put down at nearly \$2,800,000.—Lady Egerton had lost no time in getting the Baby Saving League into shape. Several meetings were held on the 24th, when members and associates were enrolled.—Professor Harrison had sent in a report to the Government with reference to the "new or dry disease" of the sugar cane.

DOMINICA—Major Burdon's Road Programme.

Writing on February 28th, MR. E. A. AGAR said that Major Burdon's road programme, which was embodied in correspondence between himself and the Dominica Road Board was the most refreshing piece of literature seen for a long time. Naturally everyone was not agreed as to all the details of the roads to be constructed under this programme, but all recognised it as being what had long been felt to be the only method of setting the island permanently on its way to prosperity. Here were not suggested any half measures, but a carefully thought out capital scheme to occupy five years and to cost £28,000. An excellent by-product of this road construction programme was the making of a reliable map of the island during the progress of the work, with special reference to the roads. Anyone who had attempted to discuss a particular locality with a person unacquainted with the island would understand what a boon a reliable map would be. It should be of real commercial value to Dominica.—The half-year's balance sheet of the Dominica Savings Bank (to September 30th) had been published, showing that there were 981 depositors with the respectable amount of £17,280 to their credit. Nearly half the depositors (473) had less than £5 in the Bank, which indicated that it was largely used by the labouring population.—The three years term of the Legislative Council had now run out and the Council had been dissolved. Various rumours were afloat as to the composition of the new Council, but until the nominations were actually known it were better not to repeat any. Hitherto it had been the custom to re-appoint *en bloc* all the old members who were available, and it might not be found after all that this would be done again.—The weather for the fortnight had been all that could be desired, enough rain and very little wind.

GRENADA—Scientific Research in the Island.

Dr. Andrew Balfour had been visiting the island during a tour through the West Indies on behalf of the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research.—The Granton Estate comprising 600 acres had been offered for sale—60 acres of it were in cacao and nutmegs.—The death had occurred of Mrs. Wells, widow of the late Mr. John Wells, for many years clerk of the old House of Assembly, at the advanced age of 90 years.—Two five seater cars were to be placed on the mail coach route between St. George's and Sauteurs in July.

JAMAICA—The Blue Mountain Coffee Industry.

MR. BERESFORD GOSSET, writing on February 27th, said that last year's coffee crops in the Blue Mountains were about the average, and the prices realized in Liverpool, though they did not touch the highest of the year before, averaged the same per tierce as in 1912. Owing to the exodus to Central America of so many young labourers from the Mountains, who mostly did the weeding of the coffee fields, the rates for job weeding ruled very high in 1913. Many of those who left had now returned and come out to work, so that prices had got back to normal rates.—

There was a good demand for Planters' steers last autumn in the West End of the island, and the consumption of beef cattle was steadily increasing; it was now about double what it was some thirty-five years ago.—The South-eastern side of the island was suffering from a very severe drought; this, while good for the coffee plantations in the mountains was bad for most other industries.—The prospects for this year's coffee crop were not at all good. Small crops were the rule on all the plantations.

Mr. Simon Soutar has been elected President of the Merchants Exchange in the place of the late Colonel Hon. C. J. Ward. In returning thanks, Mr. Soutar said he did not think enough interest was taken in the general affairs of the mercantile community, the whole of the work seeming to be left to a few, which was most undesirable. He hoped that in future more interest would be shown in the Society. Mr. Arthur George had been again elected Vice-President.

HON. J. H. PHILLIPS, writing on March 6th, said that the matter of wharf accommodation for the United Fruit Company had so far ceased to engage public consideration. The Government had made the position clear, by showing that possessing only the limited wharf accommodation that they did, it would be unwise for them to tie up such accommodation to only one shipping firm, as other lines which took fruit from the island might need at any time to obtain shipping facilities, and with the one shipping point in private hands, such other companies now or to come would be precluded from handling fruit brought by railway for them, as the railway pier might be blocked at any time.—There appeared to be an absence of demand for bananas—very little, if any, fruit was being bought in the open market, and even contractors were being asked to keep back. The drought continued to be very severe, but Jamaica planters were a great people for dealing in "Futures," and so they were looking forward to the April showers.—Business generally had been almost at a standstill. Native food crops were abundant. It was rumoured that the Royal Mail Company would shortly be taking off their coastal service. This would be terrible for the ports that were not served by railway. Mr. Allwood, the member for St. Ann, made a resolution in Council asking for a Committee to consider the question of subsidy, and it was to be hoped that a subsidy would be offered to this Company. It had been alleged that Jamaica once had two coastal steamers without a subsidy, but this was not quite so, as the *Jamaica* of the late Direct Line, was included in the subsidy given to that line. The mere fact of an existing coastal service had an effect on buyers of produce, for if sellers were squeezed they would be able to resort to it.

St. Kitts—Demerara Sugar "Made in Greenock."

Mr. E. J. SHELFOED, in a letter dated February 27th, said he assumed that the Lambeth case would not be allowed to pass without strong protests from the producers of genuine Demerara raw sugar. The process this particular sugar underwent in Greenock took away its distinctive raw properties, which buyers of the sugar valued, and anyone receiving such a sugar as genuine Demerara had a perfect right to consider himself swindled. The genuine Demerara raw could always be picked out from the other by the peculiar rich sticky lustre left by the thin coating of molasses on the crystals.

The eighth Agricultural Show was held at the Grammar School grounds on the 20th, and as usual its success was largely due to the unflagging zeal of Mr. F. R. Shepherd, Curator and Hon Secretary of the Agricultural and Commercial Society. The live stock showed a falling off with previous years both in numbers and quality. Some fine canes were on show—both stools and cut canes—also some very excellent samples of both seed cotton and lint. Preserves and syrups, too, made an attractive display, and showed most careful preparation. It was a pity that the output of these commodities was not sufficient to become a commercial asset. The Art and Needlework, of all classes, was of a superior character. When opening the Show His Honour the Administrator took the opportunity of presenting to Mr. A. E. Owen, overseer at Molyneux Estate, his

first-class Final Certificate for the Imperial Department Examination in Practical Agriculture. This was the first first-class result obtained in the Leeward Islands, and the interesting announcement was made that Mr. Owen had been appointed to succeed Mr. C. Forbes Todd in the control of the Molyneux Estates. This should be an incentive to the young men to go and do likewise. The writer believed that many who left the West Indian islands to take up menial work for a few more dollars per month in New York or elsewhere would be just as well off, and more comfortable as overseers on the largest estates. Major G. Molyneux Montgomerie and Sir Hugh Brisco, proprietors of local estates were visiting the island.—There had been quite a considerable spell of boisterous weather, and the wind shifting to all points of the compass had severely handled many of the finest cane fields. Estates were about commencing reaping operations, and with the exception of the Valley District, crops should be up to the average. Most people were making sugar for local sale or consumption.

St. Lucia—A Satisfactory Absence of Crime.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON reported on February 27th that February had not yielded over two inches of rain in the more humid districts, yet there had been some nice showers well distributed, and consequently the dryness had not been severely felt. All flowering of fruit trees, such as limes, mangoes, cashews, etc., was abnormally forward this year, and even cacao was already showing signs of main crop stem flowering, which should give August pickings. All the sugar factories were of course hard at work, while some cacao estates which picked nothing in the main crop were now getting their best yields. Generally speaking, however, cacao pickings in January and February had been smaller than usual, and there was nothing in sight for May, June and July.—His Excellency Sir James Hayes-Sadler and Lady Sadler arrived by the mail to take over the Government for a month until Mr. Douglas Young arrived. His Honour Chief Justice Collier disposed of the Criminal Assize list of five cases in one day's sitting, the principal prisoner, a coolie murderer, being judged insane.

St. Vincent—New Five-Seater Mail Motor-Cars.

MR. W. N. SANDS stated in a letter dated February 28th that the first five seater motor car for the Government mail and passenger service for the Windward route arrived a few days previously, and the Administrator had taken out in it from Kingstown the Honble. Mrs. Murray and the Chief Justice and Mrs. Roden to Georgetown on its first trial trip. The journey was successfully and comfortably accomplished in about 1½ hours each way. The Administrator on arriving at Georgetown pushed on to try the car in the Carib Country and visited Orange Hill Estate.—The late Administrator of St. Lucia, Mr. E. J. Cameron, called last mail en route for the Gambia to take up the Governorship of that Colony.—Telegrams announced that the West Indian Needlework Exhibition at Trinidad had been opened by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, and that it was a splendid success. It was also pleasing to read that the needlework sent from St. Vincent was particularly good.—His Excellency the Governor and Lady Sadler, who passed on their way to St. Lucia on the 25th were expected to visit St. Vincent at the end of March.—The weather continued fine and seasonable.

TOBAGO—The Profits of Tobacco Cultivation.

Writing on February 27th Mr. ROBERT S. REID said that light showers had continued since last mail, and almost three inches had fallen for the month. This was keeping the fields fresh and green, but the next two months which are generally very dry, had still to be faced, and it was useless to speculate on a June cacao crop. Pickings were tailing off already, and would be on a small scale for some months to come. Local prices were still fairly good at \$12.90 to \$13.25. Cacao-nuts for March delivery were reported sold at \$25 selects, \$15.00 Culls for the New York market, but better figures were expected in the second half of the year. From the Leeward it was reported that the natives were taking considerable interest in Tobacco growing, and gross returns of £25 and even £30 per acre

had been realized. All depended on sound cultivation methods, which unfortunately was not yet a strong point with peasant proprietors, but the efforts of the Department of Agriculture were gradually improving matters in this respect. Meetings had been held at Scarborough in connection with agricultural banks, and with careful supervision, such as seemed to be exercised in St. Vincent, much benefit might be realized from this useful institution.

In the previous week Tobago was visited by Mr. Jardine, representing paper manufacturers, to report on the suitability of the island for producing bamboos. Tobago with its seaboard and fine shipping facilities, ought to prove attractive. Besides existing groves of bamboos there were large tracts of land available for its growth to be had on very reasonable terms.—All were greatly pleased at the Governor's encouraging references to Tobago in his opening speech at the Legislative Council, which only confirmed the kindly interest he had always taken in the little island.

TRINIDAD—Princess Marie Louise's Visit.

MR EDGAR TRIPP wrote on March 3rd as follows: "This has been a fortnight somewhat crowded with local incident.



The Secretary General.

The *Mirror* has found in Mr. Vicenti Marryat grand-nephew of the late Captain Marryat, R.N., and son of Mr. A. P. Marryat, a caricaturist of ability. Above is a specimen of his work, the subject being the worthy Hon. Correspondent of the West India Committee for Trinidad. It appeared in the issue of our contemporary for March 2nd.

The Princess Marie Louise has been a guest at Government House, and has attended several social functions. Her Highness opened the West India Work Exhibition last week.

It is now my pleasure and privilege to record one of the most satisfactory and extraordinary facts ever heard of in the history of Crown Colonies, or for the matter of that, Dominions either. It was at the opening of the Session of the Legislative Council, and it was fortunate that a Royal Princess was present to note so remarkable an event. The Governor was delivering his message, and, under the head of Finance, made the grateful announcement that in view of the extra work and responsibilities of the position, the Secretary of State had directed that the salary of the Colonial Secretary would be raised from £1,200 to £1,350 rising to £1,500. Before his fellow members had time to congratulate our justly popular Colonial Secretary upon this well earned increment His Excellency added:

'But in view of the financial position, Mr. Knaggs was the first to say that the increase to which he was entitled could not be given him this year.' No such profound impression has been made for many a long year both upon the Council and the Colony. That a high official should decline to receive emolument has hitherto been looked upon as an absolutely impossible circumstance. This action will surely make him famous. May others in the service follow his worthy example!

His Excellency then publicly decorated Mr. Bell with the C.M.G., accompanying the act with a high encomium on the services of that officer, to which Mr. Bell responded shortly and with becoming modesty. The estimated revenue for 1914-15 is £950,336 and the expenditure £963,012. Otherwise there was no matter of special interest in the message. Things it seems are just jogging along, and we are barely paying our way, trusting for something to turn up in improved crops, and trade, or it may be huge developments in the oil fields.

Meanwhile, Trinidad had been very gay as it always is for a week or two before Lent. Dances or concerts nearly every night. How the young people and some of the elder ones too stand it is a marvel. One charming entertainment was given by the Venezuelan Community 'Como Homenaje a la Gran Bretaña en la Persona de su Alteza la Princesa Maria Luisa de Schleswig-Holstein,' and was carried out with signal success. Another was a fancy dress dance at the Princess Building, organised by Miss Scott, which means that everything was well done, and all guests sent home happy. The *Victoria Luise* has been in the Gulf with nearly 500 tourists and the *Grosser Kurfurst* with nearly 300.

This is the Jubilee year of the St. Mary's College, and they have celebrated it in the most appropriate manner by gaining all three of the island scholarships.

The Bicycle races for the Championship of the West Indies were held at the Athletic Sports of the Queen's Park Cricket Club, the Princess being present. There was an enormous gate, the keenest interest being felt as to the result of the final test between Mikey Cipriani, who, having passed his final for a solicitor, announced that "win or lose it would be his last race," and the combination of three Jamaicans, Weir, Johnson, and Hall, the best of the Isle of Springs, who had come specially to haul down the colours of our local crack. The races were very close and exciting, but it was evident that Mikey was not quite the man he was at a finish before his awkward football accident. However, he managed to pull off the half-mile and the three, losing the one mile to Weir, the five mile to Johnson, and the nine mile to Weir. The aggregate of points, 1.2.3, also went to him, so that, if not the triumphant close of his cycling career to which his supporters were confidently looking forward, it was a creditable one, and more than that when one remembers that his knee was in splints in December.

The shipments of cacao during February, 1914, were as follows:—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	688,846
B.N. America	149,000
Other British Colonies	4,704
France	2,861,140
Germany	121,300
Holland	44,600
Italy	24,600
United States of America	4,288,251
Austria Hungary	78,200

Total for February	8,262,641
Shipped previously	8,151,685

Total from 1st January	16,414,326
To same date, 1913	12,580,241
" " 1912	18,966,873
" " 1911	16,879,541
" " 1910	15,764,034
" " 1909	14,841,342
" " 1908	16,103,829

St. THOMAS—The Harbour Works make progress.

According to the *St. Thomas Tidende* substantial progress is being made with the new harbour work. The main quays are being constructed of reinforced concrete and a concrete mixer is working day and night. Meanwhile the harbour is being steadily dredged and an electric power house is nearing completion. To facilitate coaling operations a big electric coal crane is being installed.—The death had occurred of Mr. August Burnet, a well-known local politician.

BIRTH.

Mousir.—At Montreal, Canada, on February 16th, to Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn P. Mousir (née Argent Adelaide Southey), of 1554 Hutchinson, Mount Royal, a daughter. China, Japan, Straits, Indian and Peru papers kindly copy.

DEATHS.

Horne.—On February 24th, as the result of a carriage accident in Barbados, Mr. W. Horne, ex-Superintendent of the Colonial Bank, and proprietor of Salters-Bigerton Plantations.

Richmond.—In London on March 20th, Mr. James Richmond, C.M.G., M.L.C.E., late Director of the Jamaica Government Railways.

WANTS.

Wanted.—Overseership on estate, by William J. Maher, Birdhill, Limerick. Age 23, height 5 ft. 11 in., strong and athletic, used to out-door life and farm work. Can ride, drive, train and care for horses, and is a good shot. Educational qualifications adequate. Excellent references.

Stenographer (Junior).—After a year's tuition in a copying office, wishes to obtain an appointment as junior. Reliable and well recommended.—Apply Campbell, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

For Sale.—Bound volume of *The Sugar Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timetri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of *Timetri* for 1891. For sale: Part I., 1886; Part II., 1889; Part I., 1893, and Part I., 1894. Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under this heading the principal features of the West Indian Official Gazettes are recorded for reference purposes.

Mr. J. Sydney Dash, B.S.A., has arrived in Barbados and assumed his duties as Assistant Superintendent of Agriculture.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Oruba</i>	Mar. 26, midnight
West Indies	Glasgow	<i>Crown of Aragon</i>	" 25, 4.30 p.m.
West Indies	Dartmouth	<i>Salybia</i>	" 27, noon
Demerara	Liverpool	<i>Malatka</i>	" 30, 6 p.m.
Bermuda	London	<i>Caya Gilano</i>	Apl. 3, 6 p.m.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Trent</i>	" 7, midnight

HOMEWARD.		Due.
Southampton	West Indies	<i>Orotava</i> March 30.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica. ‡ Owing to a collision the sailing of this Steamer has been postponed to this date from March 14th.

OUR LIBRARY.

Coco-nuts, the Consols of the East, by H. Hamel Smith and F. A. G. Pape. Crown 8vo, 7½ by 5, pp. 644, second edition. London, John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, 12s. 6d. nett. It was a foregone conclusion that this useful little book, the first impression of which we noticed in November, 1912, would run into a second edition. This new edition is now before us, and we can confidently commend it to all concerned with coco-nut planting. Sir W. H. Lever contributes a second foreword, in which he calls attention to the unfair use which has been made of some of his remarks in his earlier remarks by unscrupulous company promoters, these individuals having picked out such statements of the writer as served their purpose, while ignoring the context, which did not. "I know of no field of tropical agriculture that is so promising at the present moment as coco-nut planting, and I do not think in the whole world there is promise of so lucrative an investment of time and money as in this industry," wrote Sir William Lever. There the promoters stopped, ignoring the context, which issued a warning against over-capitalisation and stated that "the amount of capital required to become the possessor of a rich coco-nut plantation is not excessive, and should not exceed £10 or £12 per acre, including every expense except the planter's own labour and interest on capital." Many notable additions have been made to the second edition of this valuable book, which has the advantage of a very complete index.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Demerara Railway Company.

The Directors have decided, subject to audit, to recommend the following dividends on the stocks of the Company for the half-year ended 31st December last:—(1) at the full rate for the half-year on the 4 per cent. extension preference stock; (2) at the full rate for the half year on the 7 per cent. perpetual preference stock; (3) a dividend for the half-year at the rate of ¾ per cent. per annum on the preferred ordinary stock.

Dividend	Latest Quotations.		PRICE
4 %	Antigua	4 % Redeemable 1919-44	98-100
3 ½ %	Barbados	3 ½ % Redeemable 1925-42	87-89
4 %	British Guiana	4 % Redeemable 1935	99-101
4 %	British Guiana	4 % Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
4 %	Grenada	4 % Redeemable 1919-42	97-101
4 %	Jamaica	4 % Redeemable 1924	102-103
3 ½ %	Jamaica	3 ½ % Redeemable 1919-49	88-90
3 %	Jamaica	3 % Redeemable 1922-44	79-81
4 %	St. Lucia	4 % Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4 %	Trinidad	4 % Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
3 %	Trinidad	3 % Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
6 %	The Colonial Bank	6 %	54-64
12 %	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchange)		82-85
7 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary		105-110
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference		99-103
4 ½ %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 ½ % Debentures		102-105
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures		101-104
4 ½ %	Imperial Direct Line 4 ½ % Debentures		100-104
6 ½ %	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)		21/32 27/32
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 4 % Debenture*		
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. (5) 5 % Non-cum Pref		
6 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures		
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.		
7 %	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)		
7 %	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)		
7 %	United British of Trinidad "A" shares " (£1) ...		
7 %	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock		31-34
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref.		108-111
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.		83-86
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures		90-93
4 ½ %	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 ½ % Debentures		97-99
4 ½ %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary		94-96
6 ½ %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 ½ % Cum. 1st Pref		94-101
6 ½ %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " " and "		92-94
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures		97-99

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson
 Professor P. Carmody
 Mr. R. Duporet
 Mr. S. Gattaway
 Mr. R. Bryson, of Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 29, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
 Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton.
 Mr. H. S. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. J. C. Henderson, 7, Eaton Rise, Ealing, W.
 Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meirion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
 Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, Helensburgh, Scotland.
 Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, c/o G. C. Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.
 Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
 Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Beltinge Road, Herne Bay, Kent
 Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Trent (Captain W. G. Mason), Southampton, March 16th:—

Miss L. Ainley	Mr. J. C. Gibson	Mr. J. J. Peat
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Atkave	Mr. P. P. Gardiner	Mr. N. Padgett
Miss I. M. Atkinson	Mr. J. C. Gilkerson	Miss Pepys
Mr. F. Adams	Miss A. Hewitt	Mrs. A. Belle
Miss W. F. Atkins	Captain and Mrs. G. M. Hicks	Miss E. Perkins
Misses Beare (2)	Miss Haines	Mr. C. J. Quille
Hon. A. G. Barnes	Mr. Thomas Inglis	Mr. M. J. Quille
Mr. J. R. Blow	Mr. R. M. C. James	Mr. G. Rowe
Mr. P. Bolton	Mr. Stanley James	Mr. F. J. Robinson
Mr. F. K. Borrow	Mr. W. C. Kenny	Major C. Robertson
Mr. H. D. Brassington	Major & Mrs. A. Kennard	Mr. T. Robinson
Mr. Frank Barrard	Mr. M. J. Lepingwell	Mr. A. Seidel
Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Burnham	Mr. J. H. Lucas	Mr. A. Suarez
Mrs. K. Bancroft	Mr. W. J. Long	Mr. & Mrs. G. L. C. Schooner
Mrs. J. A. Burdon	Mr. W. C. Laurence	Mr. H. E. Steinberg
Mr. and Mrs. E. Chadwick	Mr. & Mrs. F. J. Marshall	Mr. & Mrs. L. Stokes
Misses Corcos (2)	Mr. & Mrs. MacMartin	Mr. Stokes, Jun.
Mr. W. W. Cutler	Mr. L. J. Macquarrie	Mrs. T. Sunley
Mr. T. Crestall	Mr. H. L. Martin	Miss Sergeant
Mr. Casey	Major J. Mellon	Rev. & Mrs. T. Sireator
Miss E. C. Corte	Miss Marshall	Mr. R. Suars
Miss Corlett	Mr. W. H. S. Mitchell	Mrs. St. Hill
Dr. W. Briggs-Clarke	Mr. E. F. Noyes	Major E. Gariside-Tippinge
Mr. and Mrs. R. Cummings	Mr. G. R. F. Noyes	Mrs. James Taylor
Mrs. E. J. Dallman	Mr. A. Narvaez	Mrs. Taylor
Mr. R. A. Delafons	Mr. A. E. O'Connell	Miss Taylor
Mr. E. J. Delafons	Rev. H. A. Orpen	Mr. C. Taylor
Mr. E. J. Flanagan	Mr. J. Oswald	Miss Vickers
Mr. E. D. Forte	Mr. Onions	Mr. G. Vowdell
Mr. W. Fletcher	Mr. W. J. Papps	Mr. A. Whitworth
Lord and Lady Gorell	Mr. S. J. Prior	Mr. T. M. Watson
	Miss M. Pool	Miss F. Wells

HOMEWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Orotava, due at Southampton, March 30th.

Mrs. Ainsworth	Mr. Ewing	Mr. Pearson
Mr. Aikinson	Mr. Fleming	Mr. P. F. Richards
Captain Adeave	Mr. & Mrs. Grace	Mr. & Mrs. C. Russell
Captain Alexander	Dr. Gillilan	Miss Rogers
Mr. R. J. Burtell	Mrs. Greenwood	Mr. Keiffenhem
Mr. Breslau	Mr. W. Gordon	Mr. Reid
Mr. Brown	His Honour G. J. Van Grel	Mr. D. Hope Ross
Mr. J. S. Barrail	Mr. J. McGilchrist	Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Thornton-Sharp
Miss du Boisseries	Mr. Huttenheim	Mr. W. Vanderbilt
Mr. A. C. Combe	Mrs. Hutson	Miss Vanderbilt
Miss Clowes	Mrs. Lloyd	Mr. & Mrs. Weeks
Mr. W. Christie	Mr. A. Lewis	Mr. Wildash
Mr. F. W. Collier	Major Montgomerie	Mr. Wilmer
Mr. & Mrs. Devaux	Miss McHugh	Mr. W. H. Wright
Mrs. & Mrs. Dare	Major & Mrs. Maitland	Mr. Willis
Misses Dare (2)	Mr. & Mrs. McWilliam	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Dewhurst	Miss Noel	
Miss Ewing		

SHIPPINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Oruba (Captain J. G. K. Cheret,) Mar. 25th

Mr. H. Gelling	Mrs. B. Renwick	Mr. A. Pole
Lt. Colonel A. M. B. Gage	Miss H. Jarvis	Rev. H. R. Barnett
Mrs. and Miss H. H. Daves	Mr. C. T. Craig	Mr. J. R. Hill
Mr. A. G. King	Mrs. & Miss Murray	Mrs. M. D. Hill
Mr. C. L. Bony	Miss L. B. Licorish	Miss L. de V. Hill
Mr. & Mrs. J. Livingston	Mr. Justice & Mrs. Earnshaw	Mr. L. C. Hanjays
Mr. & Mrs. J. Hogg	Rev. H. McDonald	Mr. & Mrs. M. Rapins
Mr. C. P. H. Metz	Mr. S. Vassalls	Mr. B. Lau
Mr. H. S. P. S. S. S. S.	Mr. K. Reid	Miss E. M. E. Loche
Mr. R. Stanton	Lady Fenwick	Rev. and Mrs. M. M. Longshore
Mr. L. W. Robinson	Miss Fenwick	Mr. E. H. Laris
	Mrs. A. Allen	and
	Captain & Mrs. Bramston-Newman	Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Wells

OUTWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Trent, (Captain W. G. Mason) April 8th:—

Lieut. & Mrs. F. Wood	Mrs. P. MacKintosh	Mr. G. Bunting
R. N.	Mrs. & Miss Buck	Mr. H. L. Boardman
Miss A. S. Cuninghame	Mr. E. S. Plant	Mr. J. A. B. Sherrill

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Orotava (Captain R. Hayes), April 22nd:—

Mrs. F. de Zalles	Mr. & Mrs. R. Pando	Miss N. Rickford
Mrs. A. de Zalles	Misses Pando (2)	Mr. & Mrs. F. W. Onion
Miss C. de Zalles	Miss P. Zalles	Miss M. R. Onion
Mr. E. de Zalles	Mrs. M. L. Vijthuis	

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs Wilkison and Gaviller), March 19th, "A few light showers have fallen, but more rain would be acceptable." **Demerara** (Messrs. H. K. Davson & Co.) **Berbice**, March 11th, "Rain would be welcome." March 17th, "Good rains in the Springland's district." (Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.) March 19th, "Weather dry and unfavourable." **Jamaica** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), week ended March 11th. **PORT ANTONIO**, "Fair" **KINGSTON**, 5th, "Showery." 6/11th "Fine."

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
Jan. 1 to Feb. 26.	1914	Jan. 1 to Feb. 24/15.	1913
Sugar ...	16,147	11,666 Tons	689
Molasses ...	617	399 Puns.	96
Rum ...	770,921	645,740 Galls.	65,625
Molasses, &c. ...	709	1,566 Tons.	10,469
Cacao ...	20,037	lbs.	
Coffee ...	33,497	34,540 "	2,136,016
Coco-nuts ...	395,237	97,736 No	545,440
Oranges ...			1,129,356
Bananas ...			2,863,500
Cotton ...			2,970,630
Pimento ...			775,400
Ginger ...			1,504,670
Honey ...			2,029,917
Dyewoods ...			16,923
Gold ...	8,085	6,029 ozs.	18,659
Diamonds ...	4,377	350 carats.	923
Rice ...	4,441,955	1,248,572 lbs.	14,612
Balata ...	170,430	60,125 "	6,702
Rubber ...			5,597
Timber ...	38,883	32,596 cubic ft.	
Lumber ...	23,119	17,162 feet	
Lime (hydrate of) ...			

Trinidad.		Barbados.	
Jan. 1 to Mar. 3.	1914	Jan. 1 to Feb. 27.	1913.
Sugar ...	1,348	432 Tons.	384
Molasses ...	263	275 Puns.	49
Rum ...	204		824
Coco-nuts ...	2,418,085	1,488,470 No.	
Asphalt ...	14,724	28,069 Tons.	
Manjak ...	62		
Biters ...	3,165	2,621 Cases.	
Coffee ...	4,000	640 lbs	
Crude Petrol ...	963,539	214,790 Galls.	
Cacao ...	16,897,360	13,079,000 lbs.	
Cotton ...			
Seed ...			
Copra ...	1,562	977 Bags.	
Spice ...			
Rola ...			

Grenada.	
Oct. 1 to Mar. 1	1913/14
Cacao ...	5,734,260
Cotton ...	355
Bales ...	37
Spice ...	101
477,400	354,690
2,600	1,391

The figures of exports for November not having been received, those for the month of December only can be given, pending their arrival.

The Official Gazette of Dominica does not appear to have recorded the exports from that island since October 31st last.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 8% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½% 75½)

SUGAR.—In New York quotations last week advanced from 2.95 cents for 96% centrifugals to 3.01 cents, equal to 9s. 3d. c.i.f. New York and from 2.51 to 2.57 cents for muscovados. The American market was steadier last week, but not very active; buyers who were holding off latterly bought more freely. Sellers, however, have not pressed sales.

In the London speculative beet market the large Cuban supplies have been the central factor and under the influence of crop movements prices gradually fell away; towards the close, however, there has been a slightly hardening process displayed and quotations have improved to 9s. 2½d.

The heavy receipts in the Island seem to warrant the belief that the maximum estimate of the full crop will be realized; although there are some persons who hold that cane is being utilized more rapidly than last year and that the final out-turn will be disappointing to those who adhere to the optimistic view. So far production to the end of February totals 916,000 tons against 782,000 last season. The stock of the 6 ports was given last week as 401,000 tons against 284,000 tons last year, and the receipts at all the ports as 117,000 tons against 116,000 tons the week before and 284,000 tons last year.

The future if normal weather prevails in Europe depends in some degree on Cuba; more sales have been made to Europe, and it remains to be seen whether Cuba will want to sell larger quantities, and that also is contingent upon the size of the crop and storage facilities, which it is said have been increased.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: Mar. 10th, 9s. 1½d.; 11th, 9s. 0¾d.; 12th, 9s. 0¾d.; 13th, 9s. 1½d.; 14th, 9s. 1½d.; 16th, 9s. 1½d.; 18th, 9s. 1½d.; 19th, 9s. 1½d.; 20th, 9s. 2½d.; 21st, 9s. 2½d.; 23rd, 9s. 2½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914	1913	1912
Europe (1 & 14 Mar.)	3,522,260	3,484,520	2,443,230
United States (18th Mar.)	164,000	159,880	143,670
Cuba (6 p'al pts. (18th Mar.)	401,000	284,000	230,000
Cargoes afloat (19th Mar.)	—	—	48,930

Total ... Tons 4,087,260 3,928,400 2,865,830
Quotations of 88% Beet,
March 23rd. ... 9s. 2½d. 9s. 10¾d. 14s. 8½d.

Grocery West Indian.—The crystallised market has continued very dull, and business has been restricted. At public auctions the small offerings have met with a slow demand, and only a few lots sold at the prices ruling privately. The business recorded has been as follows, Demerara at 13s. to 15s. 6d.; Trinidad at 13s. 9d. to 14s.; and Surinam at 13s. 3d. to 14s.

Syrups.—Demerara partly sold at 10s. to 10s. 9d.; Surinam sold at 11s. 3d. to 12s. 3d., was well competed for and realized full values.

Muscovados.—No business reported.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	5,505	6,396	3,204	7,044	4,617
Deliveries ...	5,943	5,690	6,698	7,227	7,198
Stocks (Mar. 14)	12,169	2,547	996	4,173	2,494
Quotations of medium qualities, crystallised, March 20	18s. 6d.	16s. 7½d.	20s. 6d.	15s. 9d.	19s. 6d.

RUM.—Stocks in London, March 14th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica ...	5,681	5,700	7,394	8,114	8,250
Demerara ...	10,259	8,459	8,302	7,730	9,523
Total, all kinds	22,852	21,878	23,547	24,381	26,003

The proof market is nominally steady with quotations unchanged. The heavy arrivals (1,000 puncheons in excess of last year) exercises a deterrent effect on intending buyers and consequently the business effected is small. Jamaica is firm and arrivals which are beginning to come to hand command steady prices.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, March 14th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad ...	6,269	3,561	5,657	5,346	7,699
Grenada ...	8,701	6,526	10,985	14,784	17,820
Total of all kinds	86,974	78,082	112,452	113,831	93,158

The market has been very quiet and prices were generally easier. The offerings at the two auctions of Trinidad, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Vincent, and Demerara amounted to 2,586 bags; of these 1,068 bags were sold at a decline in Grenada of about 18. 6d., Trinidad which was only offered at the second sale, partly sold at previous rates. Plantation marks of Trinidad being sold at 64s. which may be considered steady. Other West India sold at about 18. decline.

Quotations after the last auction were:—Trinidad middling red, 62s. to 63s.; good middling red, 63s. 6d. to 64s.; fine and superior, 64. 6d. to 67s.; Grenada ordinary to good fair, 56s. to 59s.; middling to fine, 60s. to 63s. 6d.

In Trinidad on March 2nd the report stated that liberal quantities continued to arrive. Increased enquiries from abroad imparted considerable firmness, prices reaching \$13.25 to \$13.50 per fanega, equal 60s. to 61s. cost and freight for 50 kilos.

COFFEE.—Santos, March, 40s. 3d.; July, 41s. 3d.; Sept. 41s. 10½d. The spot market for full supplies, chiefly of Costa Rica and East India, offered the week before last showed irregularity and mostly sold at easier rates. Last week, however, there was a good demand and steady prices were realized; some fine descriptions being full up.

Futures were weak and prices declined about 1s. 3d. in a day on a further fall in the Brazilian Exchange and lower Continental markets.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended 19th March 161 bales of British West India were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland state that a fair business has been done in West Indian Sea Island since last report, viz., Barbados at 19d.; St. Kitts 17½d. to 21d., Nevis 17d. to 18d., Montserrat 16½d. to 18d., St. Vincent 20d. to 22d., and a few bales of extra quality St. Kitts at 22d. Prices continue steady.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice—(Raw)—Jamaica sold up to 1s. 8d. for good, Dominica unchanged and no sales to report. **Essential Oil** (distilled) steady at 1s. 10d with a small business passing. **Otto of Limes** (hard pressed)—Steady, no present scarcity; a few small sales have taken place at 9s. 6d. **Concentrated**—Again much dearer, the small supplies realizing about £31. The high prices are due to the temporary extreme scarcity of raw material and cannot be expected to last if fair supplies of Sicilian citrate come to hand shortly which are fully expected. **PIMENTO.** Dull. **NUTMEGS.**—100's/80's 5½d. to 6d.; 100's/20's 5d. to 5½d.; 140's/20's 4½d. to 5d.

GINGER.—Very quiet. **MACE.**—Good to fine 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.; red to good 1s. 7d. to 2s. 11d.; broken 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. **COPRA.**—Fair merchantable West India, rather steadier at the lower prices, value £27. **ARROWROOT.**—Business reported extremely small, about 50 barrels chiefly at 3½d.; quotations 3d. to 4½d.

RUBBER.—Plantation No. 1 Standard crepe spot, 2s. 5½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 6½d.; fine hard Para, 3s. 0½d. as against 3s. 11d. in 1913; do. soft., 2s. 11½d. as against 3s. 10½d. in 1913; Castilloa sheet, 1s. 8d. as against 3s. 6d. in 1913; scrap 1s. 4d. as against 3s. 2d. in 1913; **BALATA** Sheet 2s. 7d. c.i.f. as against 3s. 2d. in 1913; Block 1s. 11d. c.i.f. as against 2s. 2d. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL.—Russian, 7½d.; American, 8d.; Water white, 9d.; Roumanian, 7½d.; and Galician, 7½d.

TORTOISESHELL.—The second auction in 1914 was held on the 12th inst. The supplies were very small as usual at this period of the year, and with good competition almost all sold without much change in prices, but irregular and sometimes dearer for good coloured lots. Loggers' heads and Turtle Shell sold at 18s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. and 9d. to 3s. 3d. respectively. **ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.**

The . . . West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms.

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15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.4.
April 6th, 1914.

WEST INDIAN STATE PAPERS OF 1702-3*

MOST readers who wish to consult official despatches of a by-gone day have little or no opportunity of visiting the Public Record Office, where these papers are deposited, and even when such opportunity exists the difficulty of mastering the original hands in which they are written deters many people from consulting them. To meet the difficulties of such aspirants for knowledge is the object of the Calendar of State Papers. A new volume of this valuable work, dealing with America and the West Indies for the year December 1st, 1702-1703, has just been published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls. The editor is MR. CECIL HEADLAM, who has also been responsible for the compilation of the four preceding Calendars. Readers of the latest volume will regret to learn that the preface, which has hitherto afforded such a complete and engaging guide to the contents of the documents calendared, is in future to be curtailed, though their disappointment will be in some measure alleviated by the knowledge that the effect of this curtailment will be to hasten the process of making these Colonial papers accessible to the public, and to save space which will be devoted to printing further documents. At the opening of the period covered by the Calendar now under review the war which was being conducted so brilliantly by Marlborough at home, produced, says MR. HEADLAM, nothing but inglorious failures in the West Indies. It had been planned that an expedition under the

leadership of the EARL OF PETERBOROUGH should destroy the French settlements on Martinique and Guadeloupe, possibly make a descent upon the Spanish towns on the mainland, and then deliver a blow against Placentia and the French fishery in Newfoundland. Hungry eyes, too, were turned upon Havana. But the forces under COMMODORE WALKER wasted over two months at Barbados before sailing for the Leeward Islands, where Codrington was eagerly waiting with a regiment he had raised. Sickness, desertion and the hospitality of the planters, coupled with the delay, led to failure. Barbados appears to have been a West Indian Capua in those days. Referring to his soldiers and seamen, GOVERNOR CODRINGTON wrote home: "The best, as I am told, are gon of, nor could better be expected from their long stay at Barbados, where the planters think the best way to make their strangers welcome is to murder them with drinking; the tenth part of that strong liquor which will scarce warme the blood of our West Indians, who have bodies like Egyptian mummys, must certainly dispatch a newcomer to the other world." The Barbadians' hospitality is still proverbial, but we should be doing them an injustice if we did not state that it is not nowadays carried to such excess. At the end of August, 1703, the Bahamas were raided by a joint expedition of French and Spaniards, who put the male population to the sword, carried off the President, and would have burned the women "had not the humanity of one of the French officers interposed." This led to the Assembly of Jamaica desiring the Governor "to send up to Providence for the reliefe of the inhabitants of that place, and if they are willing to come, to bring 'em downe to this Island." The invaders, however, only remained in New Providence for about a fortnight and then sailed away. The fact that there are upwards of one hundred references in the index to Port Royal affords evidence of the importance of that place which the Rector described as "the fairest town of

* Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series, America and West Indies. December 1, 1702-1703. Preserved in the Public Record Office. Edited by Cecil Headlam, M.A. London, H.M. Stationery Office, 1913.

all the English plantations" and "the best emporium and mart of this part of the world." On December 9, 1702, this wealthy town was visited by a fire which completed the work of destruction caused by the earthquake ten years before. The occurrence is thus described by CHRISTIAN LILLY, the engineer entrusted with the work of laying out the new town of Kingston in 1695. "Between 11 and 12 of the clock in the morning a fire hapn'd thro carelessness to break out in a warehouse at Port Royall which before night consumed all ye Town, and left not one house of it standing, by which meanes a great many people, especially merchants are ruin'd. For this Town being scituated upon a small Cay, now, of about Thirty Acres of Land, surrounded with the sea, and the whole place taken up with houses and the streets and lanes extreamly narrow, the poor people had not that conveniency of saving their goods as might have been expected in a place where they might have been more at large." Bearing in mind the trouble that arose through the sufferers from the fire in Kingston in 1907 being assisted by the sailors, it is interesting to note that at Port Royal "most all the merchands have saved their money and books, and some of them considerable quantities of goods through the assistance of boats from the ships of war, etc." After the earthquake of 1692, 200 acres of land in St. Andrew's were acquired by the Council from SIR WILLIAM BRESTON, Lieutenant Governor, as a site for a new town, and the destruction of Port Royal by fire prompted the Assembly of the Island to arrange for "the people of this place to settle upon the mainland of Jamaica at a place called Kingston." Of even greater interest than LILLY's account of the Port Royal fire are VICE-ADMIRAL BENBOW's despatches to the Secretary of State (published as addenda) regarding the disastrous engagement with du Casse—disastrous because of the cowardice of the English captains. But if we were once to start quoting from the pages of this Calendar, there would be no end, so full is it of entertaining information. It is clear that MR. HEADLAN, in making his selection of documents to be printed, has exercised a rare discretion, and it is to be hoped that he will be responsible for many more volumes of the Calendar of State Papers before he hands over his duties to another.

THE PROBLEM OF SOIL INOCULATION.

A FEW years ago great hopes were entertained in agricultural circles that a valuable means of increasing crops would be found in the inoculation of soils with cultures of those bacteria which possess the power of taking nitrogen from the atmosphere and converting it into a body available for plant food. Extensive experiments were carried out in this direction, notably in Germany and the United States, and it will be remembered that special cultures prepared by PROFESSOR BOTTOMLEY of King's College for use in sugar cane cultivation were sent out by the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE to the

several Agricultural Departments of the West Indies which subsequently conducted experiments with them. Except in isolated cases, no satisfactory results were obtained. From some cause or other, the bacteria, when added to the soil, failed to multiply and perform the natural functions expected of them. The subject has now been revived in a new and important form. On the 11th of March PROFESSOR BOTTOMLEY read a paper at the Royal Society of Arts, on the subject of the "Bacterial Treatment of Peat, and its Application as a Fertiliser," in which the results of extremely interesting experiments were given and points brought forward which look very much like throwing a new light on plant nutrition. Peat was taken, treated by certain bacteria with the result that the quantity of humates were largely increased, sterilized and then bacterized with *Azotobacter*, the nitrogen-acquiring bacterium of soils. Striking results were, in every instance, obtained by the use of this preparation added to the soil in both agricultural and horticultural experiments, while samples of soil inoculated with the "bacterized" peat, in a short time showed the presence of an increased percentage of nitrogen. At first sight it would appear that the improved growth obtained was merely due to the presence of an increase of available nitrogen in the soil. This hypothesis, however, is somewhat shaken by the facts that the improved results were obtained in the presence of large amounts of available nitrogen in the soil, that in many instances better results were obtained with small quantities of bacterized peat than with larger, and that in flowering plants, where addition of nitrogen leads to leaf and stalk growth, and not to blossom, the increased development was uniform throughout. This suggested that there was some agent, apart from the nitrogen fixing bacteria in the prepared peat which, although present in small quantity, exercised a powerful influence on the growth of plants, and the theory was advanced that the prepared peat contained a food "accessory" which was essential to proper assimilation of the constituents of the plant food itself. The malady known as beri-beri results from a diet of polished rice—that is rice from which the grain coatings have been removed. Recently cases of this disease have, it is stated, been cured by the administration of small quantities of a body prepared by extracting with alcohol the husks and coatings of the rice grain. It is also recognised that in the diet of infants, something more is wanted than proteins, fats, carbohydrates and mineral bodies, and this is something which exists in milk, although, up to now, in an unidentifiable form. Reasoning from analogy, PROFESSOR BOTTOMLEY concludes that there was some body present, in minute quantities, in the prepared peat which exercises in respect to the plant the functions of the food "accessories" necessary for proper animal nutrition. Whatever may be claimed for the properties of "bacterized" peat, there is no doubt that PROFESSOR BOTTOMLEY has put before the world of agriculture a subject of

extreme interest, and the propositions given rise to by his researches will be sure to receive attention in scientific circles. In the same way that protein, fats, carbohydrates and minerals, while being the prime constituents of diet, are not in themselves the length and breadth of a perfect diet, so something more than nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium is wanted for plant life. As to what this something is, it is quite possible that PROFESSOR BOTTOMLEY'S researches may afford the clue.

A PETITION "POUR RIRE."

WE have had occasion to peruse many petitions but never such a peculiar document of this description as one recently submitted by the Governor of British Guiana to the local Planters' Association for comment. The portentous petition in question emanates from "a large number of persons purporting to be of the labouring and middle class population of the Colony," and we cannot help suspecting that the Government Secretary must have had his tongue in his cheek when transmitting it, for it virtually pleads for the legalisation of thieving. Briefly, the memorialists ask that for the present, at any rate, no charge should be made sustainable in the Courts of Law against genuine labourers on plantations or other lands, "who in the course of their employment make personal use of ripe agricultural productions of the plantations or lands"; nor when they "remove at close of work time from the scene of labour less than five feet of sugar cane or 3 lbs. of ripe provisions." They further suggest that employees of any factory in the Colony producing foodstuffs, who "make personal use" of a pound of the production of it should be equally immune. Could anything be more naïve? Let our readers imagine the position of an estate employing, say, 2,000 labourers if such a system were to be established; let them imagine the blank look of despair on the face of the manager, as he saw his men marching off at the close of the day's work, each with 5 feet of sugar cane, 1 lb. of sugar, cacao or citrate of lime, as the case might be. The whole idea is too humorous for words. If the prayer of the petitioners were to be granted where would it end? Even editorial offices would not presumably be exempt, and we cannot view without apprehension the prospects of the staff leaving at the close of the day with pencils, pens, ink and paper and similar articles in the absence of comestibles. We are really rather surprised that this strange petition should have got beyond the pigeon holes of the Government Secretariat of British Guiana.

MR. JOHN BURNS' new Sale of Food and Drugs Bill will soon be brought forward by the President of the Local Government Board, Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., in a modified form. A strong feeling has been expressed by traders against many of the proposals in the new Bill as it stands at present.

THE PROPOSED WEST INDIAN FLAG.

In the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of February 25th, 1913, the suggestion was made that the British West Indies might with advantage adopt a joint flag for display on ceremonial occasions, and on May 5th, the following letter was addressed to the Governors of the various colonies on the subject:—

The West India Committee,
15, Seething Lane, E.C.
May 5th, 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a leading article in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR in which the suggestion is made that a joint flag might be provided for the British West Indian colonies in addition to their individual flags, for display on ceremonial occasions.* It is pointed out that in comparison with other colonies of the Empire, the West Indies at present suffer on occasions of pageantry through having no collective flag, and that this was particularly noticeable on the occasion of the Coronation festivities in this country in 1911.

I wrote to the Privy Council on this subject, and received a reply from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, informing me that if the various Governors of the West Indian colonies should desire a common flag, the proper course for them would be to discuss the matter and to submit their representations regarding it to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

May I, therefore, venture to ask if this matter may receive your Excellency's consideration?

I have, etc.,

(Signed) ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,
Secretary.

To the West Indian Governors.

As already recorded in these columns, the replies received from the Governors were favourable. The Governor of Trinidad and Tobago consulted the neighbouring colonies on the subject, and the following letter received from His Excellency indicates that there is good reason to hope that a joint West Indian Flag will soon be adopted, the suggestion having already met with approval throughout the islands. Indeed a design for such a flag is even now under consideration.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Trinidad.
28th February, 1914.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which you addressed to the Governor on the 5th May last, enclosing a copy of a leading article in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, in which the suggestion is made that a joint flag might be

* Not reprinted. See the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, No. 376, of Feb. 25th, 1913, page 73.

provided for all the British West Indian Colonies in addition to their individual flags, for display on ceremonial occasions.

2. In reply His Excellency instructs me to inform you that the Governments of the Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Barbados and Jamaica have expressed their willingness to join in the scheme, but that the Governments of British Guiana and British Honduras will not join.

3. I am further to inform you that a design of the proposed flag, which has been forwarded by the Governor of Jamaica for the consideration of the Governments concerned, has been sent to the other joining Governors with the request that it be eventually returned to this Government which has decided to join the scheme and has accepted the design.

I have the honour, etc.,

S. W. KNAGGS,

Colonial Secretary.

TRINIDAD AT THE OIL EXHIBITION.

The two illustrations facing this page are reproductions of two photographs of the Trinidad stand at the World's Oil Industries Exhibition at Earl's Court, London, which was closed on Saturday last. As was pointed out in last CIRCULAR this was the first occasion on which Trinidad had taken part in an Oil Exhibition, and it was generally agreed that the West India Committee, acting for the Permanent Exhibition Committee of the Colony, had succeeded in getting together a very representative collection of samples and pictures. The assistance of the New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Company, Ltd., the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company, Ltd., Messrs. Thompson & Hunter, and Mr. Alexander Duckham was invoked and ungrudgingly given. The two first named companies sent panoramic views of their oil-fields, and the Pitch Lake, which was also depicted on a transparency lighted by electricity. The photographs showed the striking change which has come over the aspect of the country in the neighbourhood of the Pitch Lake since the oil operations were commenced, large areas of virgin forest having been cleared, and innumerable tanks and derricks erected.

The New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Company, Ltd., showed Trinidad Lake asphalt, crude, refined and cement, Trinidad petroleum and gasoline, turpentine substitute, lamp oil, engine distillate and other products of petroleum won in Trinidad. They also distributed many hundreds of leaflets descriptive of the Pitch Lake and neighbourhood, called "The Wonderland of Trinidad."

Messrs Thompson & Hunter showed photographs taken on the properties of the Trinidad Central Oilfields, Ltd., the Guayo (Trinidad) Oil Co., Ltd., and the Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd., designs of mosquito proof houses, typical light railways, spouters under control and otherwise, mud volcanoes and a complete model of an oil-well equipped for pumping from rig, besides a great number of specimens of

crude petroleum, distillates, etc. An interesting feature of the exhibit was the range of oil and gas burners representative of those used by the petroleum mining and refining industry of Trinidad. Examples of the "Texas," the "Rockwell," and the "Kermode" were shown, and also the "Hunter" gas burner, which is proving a great boon in reducing working expenses by the utilization of natural gas for boiler firing, thereby saving a ton or more of oil per boiler per day. Mr. A. Duckham lent photographs of derricks, scenes of the oil-fields, and the staff bungalow of the Trinidad Central Oilfields, while Mr. Raymond Warner showed a sample of crude petroleum obtained in Trinidad as far back as 1894, and referred to by Sir Boverton Redwood in his book on Petroleum.

Sir George Le Hunte, Governor of Trinidad and Tobago kindly lent a box of oil samples which were given to His Excellency by Mr. Davies at Guayaquayare in 1911.

Three times daily cinematograph displays were given, and the films shown included a series lent by the New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co., and the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Co., illustrating in a striking manner operations on the Trinidad Oilfields, and the Pitch Lake, and the uses to which Trinidad asphalt is put in the United States, the spectators being able to follow on the screen the asphalt from the lake to a road in America on which it is being laid. The Exhibition was well attended, and among those who visited the Trinidad stand were: Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Slade, K.C.I.E., K.C.V.O., Prince Tchelokayeff, Lord Murray, Mr. J. W. Previt , Captain C. B. Lecky, R.N., Mr. W. M. C. Howatson, Mr. H. F. Previt , Mr. A. Duckham, Mr. C. M. Hunter, Mr. R. H. May, Mr. Corbet Woodall, Dr. Schwartz, Mr. E. J. Previt , Mr. H. C. B. Underdown, Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. J. T. Riccalton, Mr. C. Guy A. Wyatt, Mr. Raymond Warner and Dr. F. E. Chandler.

In order to enable visitors to see at a glance the state of the petroleum and asphalt industries large statistical tables were prepared—they can be recognised in the illustrations—giving the following figures:—

SHIPMENTS OF TRINIDAD OIL. (GALLONS.)			
1911	...	...	7,685,374
1912	...	...	4,205,707
1913	...	...	13,570,152
SHIPMENTS OF TRINIDAD ASPHALT. (TONS.)			
1890	78,841	1902-3	157,139
1891	95,959	1903-4	188,720
1892	112,222	1904-5	128,612
1893	89,779	1905-6	103,708
1894	98,595	1906-7	117,875
1895	86,572	1907-8	141,006
1896	96,777	1908-9	133,208
1897	124,672	1909	138,280
1898	100,195	1910	158,983
1899	137,210	1911	169,027
1900	150,747	1912	176,077
1901-2	143,395	1913	208,164



THE TRINIDAD STAND

AT THE
WORLD'S OIL INDUSTRIES EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1914.

These figures were also embodied in an eight page pamphlet prepared and distributed by the West India Committee, in addition to a leaflet sent over by the Permanent Exhibition Committee and the now familiar brochure "Trinidad, the Land of the Humming Bird," some hundreds of which were distributed during the run of the Exhibition.

The Permanent Exhibition Committee of Trinidad and Tobago is at present constituted as follows: Mr. Hugo Hoffmann (Chairman), Mr. E. C. Skinner, Mr. C. W. Scott, Mr. Edgar Agostini, B.Sc., F.L.S., Mr. W. G. Freeman, and Mr. Edgar Tripp, Hon. Secretary.



An Inscription painted by King George V.

then Prince George of Wales when he visited English Harbour, Antigua in H.M.S. *Canada* in 1884. It is on a partition in one of the Dockyard buildings.

On the occasion of the opening of the session of the Legislative Council of Antigua on March 10th, His Excellency Sir Hesketh Bell mentioned that he had sent to the King a photograph of the inscription "A Merry Xmas & Happy New Year 2 You All," which His Majesty—then Prince George of Wales and a Lieutenant in H.M.S. *Canada*—painted on a partition in the Dockyard at English Harbour in 1884. A gracious acknowledgment was received in the following terms: "His Majesty remembers forming one of the party which went ashore to paint this inscription, although he does not believe that he, himself, painted the whole of it. The King preserves the most pleasant recollections of the time he spent in Antigua just thirty years ago, and trusts that the inhabitants continue to prosper and flourish." The above illustration is from a photograph by Dr. Louis W. Sambou.

PLANTATION WHITE SUGAR.

The Clarification Processes.

In a previous issue the Battelle process of clarification for making white sugar was dealt with, as viewed through the results of the experiments conducted by Mr. R. S. Norris in Honolulu. The great interest shown in the subject of the manufacture of white sugar direct from the cane juice justifies the supposition that a brief review of the other clarification processes, in actual operation or in the experimental stage, will be of interest to those readers of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR who are not conversant with this modern branch of cane sugar manufacture.

The process of clarification for white sugar most in vogue at the present moment is that known as the defecation process, so-called on account of the impurities of the juice being separated by being subsided, instead of being filtered as in the carbonation processes, or removed by upward movement as in the French process. In this process much more lime is used than in the ordinary clarification for refining or yellow sugars, sulphurous acid gas being used in large quantities to neutralise the excess. The quantity of lime used is a variable one, depending upon the initial acidity of the juice. It may, however, be taken at from 3 to 5 lbs. of lime per ton of canes, equivalent to, say, 14 to 23 lbs. per 1,000 gallons of dilute juice, when a 11-roll mill plant is employed.

The cold juice is usually limed in the first instance and then treated with sulphurous acid until the neutral point is reached. It is then passed through heaters where its temperature is raised to 212° F. and then run into tanks where it remains until the impurities separated have subsided. Improved results are obtained if, before subsiding, the juice is subjected to a smart boil for two or three minutes. The clear juice after subsidence passes on to the evaporator, while the "bottoms" are "blown up" with steam, subsided and filtered in the usual way. In some instances, in place of some of the sulphurous acid, phosphoric acid is used. The effect of the large quantity of lime is to precipitate thoroughly the gums and other impurities, the sulphite of lime which is formed also contributing to this result. The defecation process as applied to white sugar may be looked upon as an intensive form of the ordinary clarifying process. Very thorough clarification is necessary for white sugar manufacture, and a large excess of lime has to be used to this end. As, also, cane juice cannot be boiled in an alkaline condition without great discoloration, a proportionately large quantity of sulphurous acid is required. Apart from the question of neutralisation, the presence of sulphites is good, as these bodies are powerful reducing agents, preventing by their presence the darkening of the juice from oxidation during treatment. In addition they exert an important action in freeing the juice from gummy matters.

It has been mentioned above that the juice is

"sulphured" to neutrality. If the juice be made neutral to litmus, that is to say, using litmus as an indicator, it will be acid to phenolphthaline as an indicator, and if neutral to the latter, alkaline to litmus. The former condition results in a brighter sugar, while with the latter there is danger of discoloration during concentration, although the tendency to inversion, that is, the conversion of some sugar into glucose is avoided. The sulphuring is done either by pumping the sulphurous gas into the juice, or else by passing the juice down a tower with perforated trays, up which they are charged while the gas is ascending.

The other class of clarifying processes, known as the carbonation processes, consists of those in which carbonic acid gas is used, instead of sulphurous acid. A very large quantity of lime is used, and a carbonate, insoluble, is formed, which by virtue of its presence, materially assists the separation of the impurities. On account of the quantity of insoluble matter formed, the juice is filtered through filter presses.

These processes are especially adapted to gummy juices, but are relatively costly on account of the large quantities of lime used, extra filtration and handling.

In the single carbonation process the juice is treated with milk of lime representing about 1 per cent. of lime to the ton of canes, say 100 lbs. per 1,000 gallons of dilute juice. The temperature is now raised to 130° F., and carbonic acid forced into it until the juice is faintly alkaline to phenolphthaline. It is now heated to 195° F., and filtered through frame presses. A modification of this process consists in sulphurous acid being substituted for a part of the carbonic acid. This process is usually held, however, not to be adapted to the make of white sugar, and is modified in the *double carbonation process*, in which the carbonating is done in two operations, the object of the division being to obtain a liquor free from the objectionable colour liable to occur with the single process. The first operation of the double carbonation process is that the juice is limed as with single carbonation; more lime being required, however, than in the single process, this item going up to 150 lbs. per 1,000 gallons, or 1½ per cent. of the weight of cane. The juice is then heated to 140° F. Carbonic acid is introduced until the alkalinity of the juice resulting from the excess of lime is brought down to .05 per cent. of quicklime. The whole of the juice is now filtered; the object of the carbonating process being stopped at this stage being to secure the separation of objectionable bodies which further carbonating would render again soluble, and affect the colour of the clarified juice. The filtered juice is then treated with a small quantity of lime, and carbonating carried out until the juice is neutral. The juice is then boiled, and again filtered through filter presses. The carbonic acid is obtained from the kilns in which the lime is burned.

The Battelle process, of which a description was

given in a recent number of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, and which is still *sub judice*, includes the double carbonation process, but differs from it in that the juice is first boiled with the lime which is used in quantities nearly double that of the double carbonation process. The object of this operation is to destroy the glucose, and thus make the molasses fit for treatment with the beet Steffen process. Double carbonation goes on after this preliminary step.

In the Hadu process the liming and carbonating are done in several alternate operations, until the desired point is reached; the idea being that better results are thus obtained than if the whole of the lime and the whole of the carbonic acid were used in one operation.

The extra cost of the double carbonation system of clarification is considerable. With a supply of limestone readily available, it may be put down as something in the neighbourhood of five shillings per ton. With the carbonation process no greater extraction of sugar, under ordinary conditions, is obtained than with the defecation process, although, as mentioned above, the process is of special advantage with gummy juices.

Another process which is being advanced in Louisiana is the Gordon process. In this the juice is boiled and cooled before treatment with the single carbonation process. It is claimed that by the previous boiling the free albumen is precipitated at once, with great advantage to the subsequent clarification.

The above gives a summary of the present position of the clarification processes used for the manufacture of estates' white sugar. The treatment of the massecuite, an important factor in white sugar manufacture will be given in a future article.

THE Victoria League is to hold a Health Conference and Exhibition at the Imperial Institute from May 18 to 24. The object of the Conference, which will be opened by Mr. Harcourt, is to secure an interchange of views between different parts of the Empire regarding such matters as housing and the care of child life. Particular attention will no doubt be given to the West Indies where, as we have shown, infantile mortality is so deplorably heavy. Meanwhile it is to be hoped that the example of British Guiana, where a Baby Saving League has just been successfully founded, will be followed in the West Indian islands.

ACCORDING to Dr. F. Mollwo Perkin, the oil production of the British Empire only represents 2.66 per cent. of the world's output. India at present produces more every year than any other British possession, but Trinidad, New South Wales, and other colonies all add a little to our scanty supplies. Dr. Perkin believes that rubber seed and sunflower oils would if attention were turned to them and to the plants from which they are obtained, be of great value to the Empire.

THE BOURBON CANE IN TRINIDAD.

Mr. Carlee's Interesting Experiment.

BY EDGAR TRIPP.

Mr. J. J. A. Carlee, who recently succeeded Mr. H. E. Murray as Planting Attorney of Waterloo Estate, the property of Messrs. Kleinwort, Sons & Co., is taking time by the forelock and is making far reaching changes which it is hoped will result in much good to all concerned. At his kind invitation I recently spent a day on the estate and had the pleasure of inspecting the cultivation and marking the contemplated improvements. Amongst other notable developments is the unique experiment—unique because of its magnitude—of throwing down 2,000 acres of high woods in the course of a few months, with a view to letting out the whole of them to cane farmers. The Waterloo factory is capable of making 10,000 or 12,000 tons of sugar, and the area hitherto cultivated has been 3,600 acres, of which 2,400 are always in cane, and the remaining 1,200 resting. The average production having been about 4,000 tons sugar, a large proportion of the factory's power has not been utilised. On the estate, and within easy distance of the factory, were 2,000 acres of practically virgin soil in highwoods. The previous policy had been to take in a comparatively small portion of these each year. Then Mr. Carlee startled the planting fraternity by his bold idea of taking them in all at once. Of course there are the usual labour and other difficulties in the way, but he is young and sanguine, and what is important has had much scientific and practical experience for his age, and he is confident of success.

On arrival at the nearest railway station Mr. Carlee's motor car quickly conveyed me to the busy scene in the forest. The whole of it had been mapped off into twenty acre blocks. The agreement with the farmers lays down that the Estate shall make and maintain the main traces and drains round these lots, the tenants paying \$3.50 per acre per annum for their allotments, and, of course, being bound to deliver their canes to the factory at the regulation price current. All timber cut by the tenants is to be their property except cedar and watercaer.

Work was going on in every direction, and as we passed up the traces, the axe was heard all around. Every now and again the crash of some falling forest giant would be heard. Almost every acre has been leased already, and the list of farmers has increased from 170 last year to 1,200 at the present time. Most of the underbrushing and tree felling has been done, and many of the farmers are only waiting on March to "fire" and plant up for next crop. The Estate traces run to 15 miles, the drains to 14 miles. It is expected that the virgin soil now opened will yield cane for 2,000 tons sugar in 1915 and 4,000 tons in 1916, at the factory, which is of the most modern description, with machinery for continual operation. A pleasing and essential fea-

ture of the scheme is that the mistake of leaving no provision for bird life, which has been so generally made on sugar estates, will not be repeated at Waterloo. At stated intervals half an acre of forest will be reserved for nesting. Mr. Carlee has established extensive nurseries of over 40 acres where selected types of plant will be cultivated. The cane to be employed on the newly leased lands is the Bourbon which is confidently expected to act up to its old reputation under the favourable conditions now obtaining.

Many conflicting opinions have been vouchsafed regarding the new and active operations now being carried on. Doubts were expressed as to whether a sufficient number of reliable farmers could be obtained at one time, and as to the effect the partial withdrawal of the men from ordinary labour in the vicinity would have; but so far all difficulties seem to have been surmounted. Mr. Carlee is an untiring worker; he has up-to-date ideas; he has considerable capacity, and his enthusiasm is unbounded. I am not an expert in such matters, but if he does not succeed I shall be vastly surprised. Of one thing those interested may be quite sure, if he fails it will not be for want of commendable enterprise and endeavour.

SUGAR IN HAWAII.

The following particulars as regards the financial results of some of the Hawaiian sugar properties for 1913, are taken from the *Louisiana Planter*.

ONOMEA SUGAR COMPANY.—The output of this plantation for 1913 was 16,883 tons, and the net profit per ton a little under \$7.50. 12 per cent. dividend was declared on the capital stock, to do which the brought over profit and loss credit had to be reduced by \$12,283.47.

MANI AGRICULTURAL COMPANY.—The crop was 24,633 tons as against 34,612 tons in 1912. The crop was sold at 3.489 cents per lb. as against 4.188 cents the previous year. The profit was equal to \$6.30 per ton of sugar.

WAIMANATO SUGAR Co.—The output for 1913 was not given, but the estimated crop for 1914 is 4,600 tons. The profit made on the crop was only \$3,384.65. The company was able to pay, out of past accumulations \$60,480 in dividends, equal to 24 per cent. on the capital stock.

WAILUKU SUGAR Co.—A profit of \$161,007.81 was made on a crop of 13,988 tons or \$11.80 per ton. Six per cent was paid on capital.

PIONEER MILL COMPANY, LTD.—27,804 tons of sugar were reaped. The net profit, after paying interest on bonds, amounting to \$352,224.40 or \$12.64 per ton, equal to 8.8 per cent. on capital.

KOHALA SUGAR COMPANY.—Out of a crop of 5,675 tons, this plantation shows a profit of only \$1,549.10. This corporation is capitalized at \$480,000. No dividends were paid during the year.

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

V.—Descriptive List of the Principal Woods

A.—Hardwoods.

(Continued.)

7.—WALLABA (*Eperna falcata*) S.G. 1.045. Grows abundantly over extensive tracts of country. A dark, purplish-red wood, saturated with a red sticky resin, rendering the freshly exposed surface sticky, and giving the wood a characteristic and very disagreeable smell when sawn or adzed. It is extensively used for foundation timbers, house frames, posts and paling pickets, vat staves and roof shingles, which have been known to last thirty or forty years. It is a most durable wood, standing exposure to all conditions of weather, wet or dry; but above ground is subject to attack from wood ants, especially the sap wood. In the erection of the large iron market at Stabrock, Georgetown, in 1880, the Wallaba foundation timbers of the old wooden structure, built more than 40 years before, were found as perfect as when first laid down, and were used again in the foundations of the new building. The wood cleaves easily and straight, staves, paling pickets and shingles being prepared in this way; but its resinous nature renders it unsuitable for furniture, although when old and well-seasoned it takes a good polish. The roof shingles collecting the rain-water, as well as the vats storing it, tend to discolour the water and give it a disagreeable taste at first, until the wood becomes seasoned, but it is not otherwise harmful.

Trees grow to an average height of 80 feet, and logs are available 40 feet to 60 feet long by 12 ins. to 20 ins. square.

Wallaba blocks have recently been used for wood paving on some of the streets of New York.

8.—KAKARALLI (*Lecythis ollaria*) S. G. 1.000. One of the species bearing a peculiar fruit or nut, known as "Monkey Pot," by which name the tree is sometimes called.

The wood is of a speckled brown colour, close grained and tough, saws well, but planes with difficulty, turns satisfactorily and polishes well. It is not much used for furniture, but is as valuable as Greenheart for submerged work, and is said to be equally durable, resisting the attack of barnacles and teredo worms. It is worthy of more extensive use for wharves, dock gates and sluices, but unfortunately it cannot be had in such large logs as Greenheart, seldom exceeding 40 feet in length and 10 ins. to 16 ins. square.

In Surinam, Dutch Guiana, this wood under the name "Bruinhart," is largely used in substitution for Greenheart for piles and wharf flooring.

9.—TOWRANERO (*Humirium Floribundum*) S. G. 1.014. This tree, which is more commonly known as "Bastard Bullet Tree," grows plentifully

throughout the colony, attaining an average height of 90 feet, and can be had in logs up to 18 ins. square, free of sap.

The wood is of a red-brown colour, dense and straight grained, and makes durable furniture; the colour when polished is a rich lustrous red and looks very effective. It is useful for house frames, and, out of water, most of the other purposes for which Greenheart is used.

10.—KABUKALLI (*Goupia tomentosa*) S.G. 1.048. Plentiful all over the colony, and one of the tallest of forest trees, growing to an average height of 120 feet; and the wood can be had in logs squaring as much as 24 ins. to 30 ins. It is little inferior to Mora, and is largely used in boat building and for furniture. The wood is distinguished by an abominable smell when freshly sawn or cut. Authorities differ as to its technical characteristics, one describing it as "a close grained brown wood easily worked and taking a fine polish," whereas Mr. Stone, who was evidently much impressed by its bad smell, describes it as "very hard to saw, will not plane at all, turns very badly, and is extremely troublesome and unsatisfactory to polish."

The wood is heavy and tough, and does not split on exposure to the sun, for which reason Indians of the open unshaded savannahs prefer it for making their dug-out canoes.

11.—LOCUST OR SIMIRI (*Hymenæa courbaril*) S.G. .942. The tree grows abundantly in the Essequebo river districts, and the Indians make wood-skin canoes from its bark. This tree yields the Gum Animi of commerce, locally known as Locust Gum, which is found in large quantities in the forests, where some old giant tree has fallen and rotted away, many barrels-full being often taken from the same spot. The wood is hard, heavy and close-grained, easily worked and takes a fine polish of a beautiful streaked brown; it is a good furniture wood, and can be shipped in logs, squaring 12 ins. to 18 ins. The polished top of the Council Table in the Town Hall, Georgetown, is a good example of this wood.

12.—LETTER WOOD (*Brosimum Aubletii*) S.G. 1.320. This wood, sometimes called "snake wood," is well known for its extremely beautiful markings, reddish brown mottled with black, from which it derives its name; but owing to its scarcity it can hardly be classed as one of the ordinary commercial woods of the colony. Letter wood, which is really only the heart of the tree, is close grained, turns well, takes a high degree of polish and is very heavy, sinking like a stone in the water. Being generally procurable of small dimensions the wood is mostly used for inlaying, cabinet work, walking sticks and ornamental turnery in fancy articles; it is usually sold by weight instead of measure.

The sap wood, which is generally abandoned and left to rot in the forest, has a distinct value of its own as a furniture wood, being of a yellow colour, resembles box wood and polishes well.

B.—Lighter woods.

1.—PURPLE HEART (*Capaifera pubiflora* and *bracteata*) S.G. .900. This might properly be classed amongst the Hardwoods, its specific gravity being as often over as under .9, which we made the dividing point. There are two varieties of this tree, known under the native names of "Kooroo-booiilli" and "Marawinaroo." It is one of the loftiest of forest trees, attaining a height of from 150 feet to 180 feet, its round top easily distinguishable, rising above the surrounding bush. The wood is primarily of a brown colour, turning purple on all cut and exposed surfaces; it saws hard but cleanly, planes fast and well and takes a good polish, but is difficult to turn and work on account of its hardness and toughness. It makes handsome furniture, and is very durable for house framing, and engine and mill-bed timbers, being very tough and capable of resisting great strains and shocks; and for this reason should prove an excellent wood for street paving. Can be shipped in long lengths, squaring anything up to 24 ins.

The Indians make "corials" or dug-out canoes from the trunk of the tree, and large "wood-skins" from the bark, capable of carrying from twelve to sixteen persons.

2.—HOUBOBALLI (*Mimosa guianensis*) S.G. .890. The tree grows to an average height of 100 feet, and is plentiful in the Essequibo district. The wood is extremely beautiful, of a light brown colour streaked with variegated veins of black and dark brown, and is a valuable material for furniture and cabinet-making work of any description; saws easily and well, planes fairly fast, turns unusually well and takes an excellent polish. It is very durable under water, and on the bottom of a punt or boat the planks will outlast almost any other wood. Can be shipped in logs up to 60 feet long by 20 ins. square. This is a remarkably fine wood, deserving of more attention than it receives at present in the English and American timber markets.

3.—SURADANNI (*Meliaceae cedrala*) S.G. .846. A deep red or dark brown wood with black streaks; works well, takes a fine polish and makes good furniture much resembling dark mahogany or walnut. It grows to a large size, and can be had in logs to square as much as 24 ins. The Indians use it for making dug-out canoes or corials; and it is much used for planking boats, and is suitable for many other purposes. The tree grows plentifully on the Essequibo river.

(To be concluded.)

Sir Claude Mallet, British Minister at Panamá, will shortly arrive in England on leave of absence. His position was never a sinecure, and his many friends hope that his health will benefit from the well deserved holiday which he is about to take. When in London Sir Claude will be entertained at a dinner by the West Indian Club.

THE WEST INDIAN CLUB.

A Dinner to Dr. H. A. Nicholls, C.M.G.

Dr. H. A. A. Nicholls, C.M.G., senior Medical Officer of Dominica, was the guest of the members of the West Indian Club at a dinner in London on April 1st. Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., presided, and in proposing the health of the guest spoke in high terms of praise of the work which Dr. Nicholls had done, not only for medicine but also for agriculture. He reminded the company that when Dr. Nicholls first went out to Dominica it was as partner to Dr. Inray, the accomplished botanist, and, for many years, correspondent of the Royal Gardens at Kew, from which he received collections of living plants. These, Dr. Inray planted at St. Aroment, where he started many agricultural experiments, which proved of great and lasting benefit to the island. Dr. Nicholls eventually inherited St. Aroment, and Dr. Inray's mantle had fallen on worthy shoulders. Incidentally Sir Daniel Morris referred to his visit to Dominica, where he collected many fire flies which he subsequently brought alive to England and showed at a meeting of the Linnean Society, and he recalled how, the room having been darkened, the amusing spectacle presented itself of the august members of that learned body scrambling for those beautiful insects. (Laughter). Dr. Nicholls had entertained many notable visitors to Dominica including Froude and Sir Robert Herbert, and he was the centre of intellectual life in the island. His work would undoubtedly prove of permanent benefit to the island. He was a member of the Legislative Council and of the Town Board. He was, too, the author of many valuable reports and treatises, and the winner of the £100 prize offered by the Government of Jamaica for the best text book on tropical agriculture.

In responding, Dr. Nicholls thanked the Club for their hospitality, and for paying him the compliment of asking his old friend Sir Daniel Morris, whose work for the West Indies he warmly eulogised, to preside. Dominica was the coming island of the West Indies. It was not generally realised that it was the third largest of our possessions in the Caribbean. Its development in the past had not been so rapid as that of some of the neighbouring islands because it had been for so many years left in the undisturbed possession of the Caribs. To show how rapidly Dominica was now advancing along the path of prosperity he recalled the fact that fifteen years ago the Colonial Bank announced their intention of closing their branch in Roseau. Fortunately they reconsidered their decision and the bank was doing such good business in the island that they had been compelled to increase their staff. The trade of the island was advancing by leaps and bounds, and young Englishmen of the type that years ago went out to Ceylon had begun to settle in the Colony. The results of their enterprise were beginning to be felt and the exports were rising rapidly.

Proposing the health of the Chairman, Mr. H. E. Previté said that Sir Daniel Morris was one of the oldest friends of the West Indian Club, besides being one of the best friends of the West Indies, and Sir Daniel Morris having responded, the company adjourned to the smoking room.

Amongst those also present at the dinner were :—

Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Mr. J. Rippon, Mr. G. R. Alston, Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., Mr. F. Becerra, Mr. Alleyne Leechman, Mr. Mark Kerr, Mr. A. E. Messer, Mr. A. E. Messer, Jun., Mr. C. G. A. Wyatt, Mr. Harold Hamel Smith, Mr. Hamel Smith, Dr. Angus Wylie, Dr. E. Sturridge and Mr. W. A. M. Goode.

BANANA IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The development of the banana trade with this country is shown by the figures of imports of bananas into the United Kingdom from all sources which are given below :—

	Bananas	Value.
1900	1,287,442	548,956
1901	2,228,672	875,540
1902	2,804,700	1,060,263
1903	3,087,516	1,196,889
1904	3,919,511	1,382,572
1905	5,737,914	1,770,256
1906	6,425,704	1,903,639
1907	6,232,158	1,771,095
1908	6,385,449	1,769,249
1909	6,238,065	1,752,190
1910	6,094,579	1,698,556
1911	6,714,479	1,837,686
1912	6,978,867	1,964,200
1913	7,539,984	2,172,688

In connection with this table it may be recalled that from 1901 to 1911 the subsidised Imperial Direct Mail Service was running between Jamaica and this country. One result of this subsidy was to demonstrate for the first time that bananas could be profitably imported into the United Kingdom from the New World, many earlier experiments with the shipment of the fruit across the Atlantic on a large scale having resulted in failure. All the fruit—other than that imported from the Canary islands, and to a small extent from Barbados—sold in the English market was at first called "Jamaica bananas," but since the imports from Central and South America exceeded those from Jamaica this term has been dropped in favour of "West Indian bananas."

THE Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have given notice that no arrangements have yet been made for the continuance of the Jamaica coastal service after the expiration of the charter of the vessel now on the station, and that the last sailing on the usual itinerary from Kingston to out-ports will be on about March 23rd.

IMMIGRATION INTO THE WEST INDIES.

Its Early History after the Emancipation of the Slaves.

In any scheme for developing the interior of British Guiana the question of population must necessarily be of primary importance. In British Honduras and in many of the West Indian islands the need for increasing the labour supply is a constant subject for discussion, and if a programme of road construction for Dominica is carried out it is certain that some system of immigration of labourers into that island will ultimately have to be adopted. This being so, it will be of interest to recall the steps taken to meet the demand for labour after the abolition of slavery as recorded in the Colonization Circular of 1877. This publication was issued by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and the information contained in it may be taken as absolutely reliable.

The Imperial Act 3 & 4 Will. cap. 73. declared that from the 1st of August 1834 slavery throughout the British possessions should be for ever abolished. The Act, however, provided that the negroes should continue to labour under a system of apprenticeship until the first of August 1838 in the case of non-prædial apprentices, and the 1st August 1840 in the case of prædial apprentices. In some colonies, however, this period was shortened by local legislation.*

The natural indisposition of the emancipated negroes to work except in an uncertain and desultory manner and their aversion to any system of long contracts, compelled the planters to look abroad for a supply of that steady and continuous labour which they could no longer command at home, and which they found to be indispensable for the successful management of sugar establishments. The principal quarters to which they at first directed their attention were Africa, China, and the East Indies.

African Immigration.

Permission to take emigrants willing to emigrate from the British possessions in Africa was first granted by the home government in 1840.† Between that year and the end of 1872, 32,838 free and liberated Africans were imported into the West Indies, viz., into Jamaica 7,971, British Guiana 13,355, Trinidad 6,375, St. Lucia 1,298, St. Vincent 1,036, Grenada 1,442, St. Kitts 455, Tobago 517, and the Bahamas 389. They came indirectly from Sierra Leone, St. Helena, Havana, Rio de Janeiro, and directly from captured, and wrecked slavers. The "emancipados" from Havana (347) were Africans liberated and sent to Jamaica under certain arrangements made with the Spanish government, and the Africans from Rio (879), were liberated from slave

* In Barbados the apprenticeship of prædial labourers was made to cease on 1st August 1838. Act No. 17 of 1838.

† Emigration Commissioners Annual Report for 1848, p. 31. In 1838, however, 91 Africans were imported into British Guiana.

ships condemned at that port, under the mixed commission that sat there, and sent to Trinidad. The remaining 31,612 were taken from slavers, with the exception of a few hundred Kroomen and some settled inhabitants of Sierra Leone. The suppression of the Brazilian slave trade in 1852 put an end to the supply of captured Africans, but importations of free negroes from Sierra Leone and St. Helena continued on a small scale till 1867, since which year no Africans have been introduced into the West Indies.

In the beginning of 1853 273 Kroomen were landed in Jamaica direct from the Kroo coast. But immigration from that coast was then prohibited by the home government, as it was apprehended, and not without grounds, that it might lead to internal wars and slave trading.

Chinese Immigration.

Immigration from China to the West Indies commenced in 1852; and in the early part of 1853 647 Chinese landed in British Guiana and 988 in Trinidad. In the following year 267 arrived in Jamaica. No further immigration from China took place until 1859, when it recommenced, and continued without interruption until 1866. It was then suspended in consequence of a convention* entered into by the British and French ministers at Peking with the Chinese government, which the British and French governments declined to ratify, as it contained provisions rendering the emigration too costly to be acceptable to the planters. Previous to 1866 it had been carried on under an arrangement concluded in 1860 between the allied English and French Commanders and the Chinese authorities. Early in 1874, however, under an arrangement between the British consul at Canton and the Governor General of the two Kwang provinces, a ship (the *Corona*) was again despatched from Canton by the agent there of British Guiana with 388 Chinese.

In the 23 years from 1853 to 1875 inclusive, 16,710 Chinese were introduced into British Guiana, Trinidad, Jamaica, and Honduras at the expense of colonial funds.†

Prohibition of Indian Immigration.

British India has been the great resource of our sugar colonies for labour since the abolition of slavery. But in 1838 emigration from thence to all colonies was prohibited by a notice of the Indian government dated 28th November of that year, and in the following May by the Indian Act No. 14 of 1839. Previous to the prohibition, however, Indian labourers had been imported into Mauritius and British Guiana. As far as can be ascertained at least 7,000 left Calcutta for Mauritius between August 1834 and May 1837, and 7,411 more followed between the 1st of May 1837 and August

1838. Upwards of 25,000, however, are said to have been imported into the colony from the three presidencies between August 1834 and August 1838; but the figures are doubtful. Between May 1837 and August 1838, 424 went from Calcutta to British Guiana (406 were landed there), of whom 236 returned to India in 1843, taking with them savings to the amount of 20,000 dollars.*

Removal of the Prohibition.

On the 15th January 1842 the home government, by an Order in Council of that date, and on the 23rd December following the Indian government, by Act No. 15 of 1842, removed the interdict against emigration so far as Mauritius was concerned, leaving it in force as regarded other colonies. The emigration to Mauritius was, however, temporarily suspended in 1866 by a notification of the Indian government, dated 24th October of that year in consequence of defective quarantine arrangements on the part of the island. When these were remedied, it was again reopened by a notification dated 25th April 1857.

The interdict against other colonies was at different times removed as follows: Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad, by Indian Act No. 21 of 1844; St. Lucia and Grenada, by Act No. 31 of 1855; St. Vincent, by Act No. 12 of 1860; Natal, by Act No. 33 of 1860; St. Kitts, by Act No. 41 of 1860; Seychelles, by Act No. 22 of 1862; Nevis, by Indian government notice, dated 11th April 1873; and Queensland, by Indian government notice, dated 1st July 1864. No Indian emigration, however, has yet taken place to Queensland, nor is that colony included in the list of 15 British and Foreign colonies specified in the last Indian Emigration Act, No. 7 of 1871, as places to which emigration from India is lawful. The total number of Indians landed in Mauritius and the Seychelles from the beginning of 1843, after the prohibition against emigration had been removed, to the end of 1875, was 370,371; and the total number landed in the British West Indies (including 1,100 in Honduras) between 1835 and 1875 inclusive was 172,870.

But besides the 222,334 Indians, Chinese, and Africans landed in the West Indies in the above period of 41 years, those colonies received from other sources 37,264 immigrants, making a total of 259,598. This is exclusive of an inter-colonial immigration of 39,387.

The *India Rubber World*, referring to the statements made in the English Press that the Admiralty are engaged in a series of tests on a new kind of plate for English Dreadnoughts to consist in part of rubber, in alternating plates of rubber and steel, considers that it is quite possible that a very effective protection may be thus obtained.

* Dated 5th March 1866, and printed at page 65 of the Colonization Circular of 1873.

† Between 1843 and 1856,—840 Chinese arrived in Mauritius, but none since.

* Note on Emigration from India, by Mr. J. Geoghegan, Under Secretary to the Government of India. (1873.)

ARTESIAN WELL BORING IN BRITISH GUIANA.

Professor Harrison's Report to the Combined Court of British Guiana on the subject of the recent successful artesian well boring at D'Urban Park has just been published. The earlier experiments in this direction were based, it is stated, on the assumption that the coast land deposits rested at varying depths of from 50 to 200 feet on a granite bed, and that the maximum depth would be found on the east coast of Demerara. On this theory the earlier artesian well borers did not consider it worth their while drilling into depths below those which yielded water in some quantity, being misled by the idea that the deposits were in regular strata instead of, as regards the sand, more or less elongated lenticular masses, which held "pockets" of water. The water thus obtained was either ferruginous or saline in nature, and only in a very few cases of satisfactory quality for dietetic, domestic, or manufacturing purposes.

The inception of the D'Urban Park boring was, says Professor Harrison, based on other grounds. Geological investigations in the North-West District and the Essequibo-Potaro River District in 1897 and 1898 had shown that the residual sand deposits were merely surface covering to pervious lateritic earths, and the opinion was formed that the lateritic and lithomarges deposits were practically inexhaustible residues of organically uncontaminated water. It was considered that good water would be found under the coast lands at depths of from 500 to 600 feet, and on the recommendation of the Drought Committee of 1912, it was decided that trial deep wells should be drilled, D'Urban Park being selected as the site of the first experiment. After passing through the usual five feet of soil and subsoil found in that part of Demerara, one hundred and seventeen feet of various coloured clays were traversed. Midway in this strata of clay, a streak of yellow sandy clay yielded a small supply of somewhat ferruginous very saline water. The next strata struck was one of sand, five feet in thickness, which also yielded a fair supply of a somewhat saline water. Thirty-eight feet of compact bluish clay were then passed through. An eight foot bed of white sand also yielding a ferruginous saline water, now made its appearance. In it were found pieces of blackened decayed wood and a few, more or less "lignitised," seeds of plants of modern types. Gas in small quantity, smelling of sulphuretted hydrogen, came off from the water, and thin films of petroleum were noticed floating on its surface. Five feet of stiff blue clay were now encountered, and at 178 feet a thick deposit of white sand was arrived at. The grains of this sand consisted of quartz, the bulk of which were rounded and suggested that at one time this was desert sand at the mercy of the winds. At 252 feet this dune sand merged into six feet of an argillaceous sand containing thin

seams of brownish pipe clay. This sand was evidently aqueous. Both the dune and the argillaceous sands were of aqueous origin.

At 258 feet the argillaceous sands passed into a six foot thickness of sandy pipeclay. Between 264 and 276 feet the boring passed through a loose, aqueous sand. Black sandy silt was then encountered containing lignite in fragments.

Below 280 feet the beds were distinctly of marine origin, up to 356 feet being of mud, silts and sandy clays. Water in small volume was obtained from the lower part of these strata at 353 feet. Up to 402 feet great thicknesses of sands were traversed, apparently of estuary origin. These sands yielded water freely. From 402 to 515 feet the strata traversed were clays. A bed of exceedingly fine grained angular white quartz sand was now encountered which yielded water of good potable quality in abundance. Up to 559 feet sands and clays were found, and at this point rock was struck. The uprush of sand and water was now so great that it was not considered economically feasible to continue the drilling in order to ascertain the nature of the rock.

At first the water which spouted from the working levels at two to three feet above the ground yielded approximately 1,000,000 gallons a day. This yield gradually decreased during the first three weeks, when it became practically constant, the average daily flow being 192,000 gallons.

The composition of the water showed that it is excellent for dietetic, domestic and manufacturing purposes. It is a soft, faintly alkaline water, and its only defect is stated to be that after aeration and standing, or after suitable filtration it retains a very small proportion, .03 grain to the gallon, of carbonate of iron in solution. The total solids only amounted to 5.01 grains per gallon. As regards the constancy of the composition, it is Professor Harrison's opinion that the chlorine and other saline constituents will increase somewhat in quantity during the latter part of, and for some time after, the dry season in the interior, and decrease during the latter part of, and for some time after, the rainy season. The temperature of the water was 90.4.

MR. ALLEYNE LEECHMAN, Science Lecturer of the Department of Science and Agriculture of British Guiana, who is at present in England on leave will deliver a lecture on the colony before the members of the Ashmolean Society in Oxford on May 26th next. The lecture will be illustrated by the lantern slides recently presented by the Government of British Guiana to the West India Committee.

THE R.M.S. *Chaudière* will replace the *Cobequid* on the Canada-West Indies service, sailing from St. John on May 10th. She takes her name from the falls at Ottawa, which were once famous for their beauty, but have now lost a great deal of their charm owing to much of their water being used for power purposes.

OBITUARY.

SIR HUBERT JERNINGHAM, K.C.M.G.

We regret to state that Sir Hubert Jerningham died on April 3rd, from pneumonia, at his London residence, 14, Bruton Street, Berkeley Square.

Sir Hubert Edward Henry Jerningham, who was the eldest son of the late Mr. Charles Edward Jerningham, of Painswick, Gloucestershire, and heir presumptive of his cousin, Sir Henry Stafford Jerningham, 10th Baronet, was born on October 18, 1842. He was educated at the University of France, a circumstance to which he owed his great knowledge of languages, and entered the Diplomatic service in 1866. After serving in Paris, Constantinople, Karlsruhe, Darmstadt and Vienna, he acted for a while as Agent and Consul General at Belgrade. In 1881 he retired and was elected to Parliament as Liberal member for Berwick-on-Tweed, a constituency which he continued to represent until 1885. Two years later he was appointed Colonial Secretary of British Honduras. From there he was transferred to Mauritius, where he was successively Colonial Secretary and Governor, and in January, 1897, he was appointed Governor of Trinidad and Tobago, a position which he held until 1900, when he retired. It was during his Governorship that Tobago, which had been amalgamated with Trinidad by an Order in Council in 1889, became a Ward of the larger island. His administration was also marked by the extension of the Government Railway from Arima to Sangre Grande and from Cunupia to Tabaquite, and his name was given to the junction on the last named line. Sir Hubert was the author of many books, in one of which, "West to East," he recounted some of his experiences in Trinidad. He married in 1874, Annie, daughter of Mr. E. Liddell, of Benton Park, and widow of Mr. C. T. Mather, of Longridge Towers, Berwick-on-Tweed, who died in 1902. As a member of the West India Committee and a director of the Colonial Bank, Sir Hubert Jerningham maintained his interest in Trinidad and Tobago until his death, the news of which will be received with deep regret in the United Colony.

DR. W. J. BRANCH.

We regret to state that Dr. W. J. Branch died in St. Kitts on Friday, March 6th.

Mr. E. J. Shelford writes from St. Kitts:—

St. Kitts has been very proud of the "old doctor" as we all fondly called him, for his skill as a keen and successful surgeon and physician was well known in these islands and in wider circles. Born in Barbados in 1838, Dr. Branch took his degree at Edinburgh University in 1860. He returned to Barbados, but resided in Carriacou from 1861 to 1863, when he moved to St. Kitts, where he spent the rest of his life. It is not too much to say that there are very few families of all classes here that in the course of years have not received the benefit of his skill and kindness, and have cause to be grateful to him. In 1879, after filling some country posts he was appointed Superintendent of the Cunnigham Hospital, Surgeon of the Gaol, Analyser of Vital Statistics, and Health Officer for the Port, which offices he held until his retirement in 1903. He was the first doctor in the West Indies and one of the first in the world to introduce the internal antiseptic treatment for yellow fever and dysentery, methods which he very successfully employed in the epidemics which occurred here in 1865 and 1874. Articles from his pen with reference to the treatment of cancer with papain appeared in the *British Medical Journal* in 1906 and 1907. He was a very skillful and successful surgeon and invented several surgical instruments. He was a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health and the Institute of Hygiene. Apart from his medical work Dr. Branch was an ardent freemason and Master of the Mount Olive Lodge in St. Kitts for about twenty years. He was also a keen scientist and naturalist. He was very charitable and kind to the poor and afflicted

members of our community, and until quite recently the "old doctor's" advice and counsel have been of great service and comfort to many. The doctor was twice married, and leaves a widow and grown up family. His son, Dr. Edmund Branch, is in practice in St. Kitts, and succeeded him as Superintendent of the Cunnigham Hospital.

HON. WILLIAM PATERSON.

The Hon. William Paterson, late Minister of Customs of the Dominion of Canada, died at Picton, Ontario, on March 18th, aged 75.

Mr. Paterson will be best remembered in British West Indian circles as a member of the Royal Commission of 1909 on trade relations between Canada and the West Indies, which paved the way for the reciprocity agreement now in force. Born at Hamilton in 1839 he was left an orphan when only ten years of age, his parents having both died of cholera. He was adopted by the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, who took him to Caledonia, where he completed his education. In 1863 he entered a biscuit factory and thirteen years later became sole owner of the business. In 1872 he entered the Dominion Parliament as member for Brant, having defeated Sir Francis Hincks. He held the seat until 1896 when he was beaten and found a seat in North Grey. From 1900 to 1904 he represented North Wentworth, and he sat again for Brant from 1904 to 1911, when, being again defeated, he retired. As Controller of Customs under the Laurier Government, Mr. Paterson had much to do with the framing of the tariffs of 1897 and 1907. During the absence of Mr. Fielding he frequently acted as Finance Minister, and he assisted in framing the reciprocity pact which led to the downfall of the Laurier Ministry in 1911. In the West Indies Mr. Paterson made many friends.

NEW WEST INDIAN MAIL STEAMERS.

The R.M.S.S. "Essequibo" and "Ebro."

What the much appreciated "A" steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company are to passengers between this country and South America, the new "E" steamers promise to be, before long, to those whom business or pleasure takes to the West Indies. The twin screw steamers *Essequibo* and *Ebro*, which are now nearing completion at Belfast, will be in every respect greatly superior to the vessels running on the transatlantic West Indian mail route which they will replace in the autumn. Each has an over-all length of 467 feet, a breadth of 58 feet and a tonnage approaching 8,500 tons.

Each steamer will have a Social Hall on the Promenade Deck, fifty feet long by forty broad, with bay windows and a raised dais for the orchestra. This focus of social life on board ship will be tastefully decorated in white and grey and will have comfortable lounges and easy chairs. An electric lift will communicate with the four passenger decks, and take passengers to the Dining Saloon on the main deck, which will be panelled in white and gold. Here the tables will be arranged on the restaurant plan for parties of two, four, or six, accommodation being provided for 200 persons taking their meals at the same time.

A welcome innovation will be found in the Verandah Café adjoining the smoking room at the after end of the Promenade Deck. Equally welcome will be the provision of bedsteads in place of the old-fashioned berths in all the first-class cabins, which

will be amidships and well above the water line. By the adoption of the tandem system every room will have access to light and air, and there will be no stuffy "inside" cabins.

The enterprise of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company in providing these new vessels and in equipping them in such a palatial style should have its reward through the increasing number of passengers who will now find in the West Indian route all the comforts and conveniences which have hitherto tempted many of them to travel to and from the West Indies via America.

AT WESTMINSTER.

The Road Programme for Dominica.

In the House of Lords on March 23rd the Duke of Sutherland asked whether a scheme for improving the roads in Dominica had been submitted to the Colonial Office; whether a loan, and if so of what amount, had been promised for the maintenance of roads in the island; and whether, having regard to the urgency of the matter in the interests of the island, His Majesty's Government could now complete the arrangements so that the scheme might be proceeded with as soon as possible.

Lord Emmott, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, said: "My Lords, the more recent history of the question about which the noble Duke has asked is this. In November, 1912, the Governor of the Leeward Islands wrote a Despatch to His Majesty's Government drawing attention to the question of the roads and asking for a vigorous policy of road construction and improvement. Early in February, 1913, a most sympathetic reply to that Despatch was sent by the Secretary of State. I will quote one passage from it:—

"The question of a programme of construction of roads has been postponed from time to time on various grounds, but now that the Colonial Engineer is available I consider that there is no reason for further delay, and that a definite programme of road construction, to be spread over a period of years, should be drawn up."

"Major Burdon, the Acting Administrator, worked with great energy. He rode or walked over nearly every road in the island; he also climbed the mountains, descended into the gorges, and forced his way through the forests looking for possible roads; and on December 20 he submitted to the Secretary of State a comprehensive programme calculated on the basis of an expenditure of £28,000 during the next five years, and asking for leave to submit to the Legislative Council a proposal for an expenditure of £5,681 for the financial year 1914-15.

"Before the final decision was taken on this proposal a telegram was received from the Governor of the Leeward Islands saying that he heartily agreed with the programme, but that he considered the cost had been under-estimated. The Secretary of State replied by cable expressing his high appreciation of the work done by Major Burdon in preparing this Report, and sanctioning the submission to the Legislative Council of a proposal for spending £5,681 during the forthcoming financial year; but he said he could not sanction the details pending the arrival of the new Administrator, Mr. Drayton. In the Despatch confirming this cable he pointed out that it would hardly be proper to commit the Government to an expenditure of this amount before the arrival of the principal officer who would have to carry out the expenditure. On February 3 a Despatch was received from the Governor confirming his telegram, and throwing considerable doubt on the reliability of the estimates that had been submitted in Major Burdon's Despatch. He thought an insufficient amount

was allowed for the maintenance of the roads, and he thought whatever amount was spent on the maintenance of roads should not be put to capital. The Secretary of State replied suggesting that further expert advice should be selected, and he said that he would try to find one on receipt of the Governor's reply. The expert was in the first place to make detailed estimates with regard to the roads suggested, and not to undertake construction until the programme was approved. There has not been time to obtain a reply to our last communication.

"With regard to the question of the loan with the noble Duke mentions, no proposals for a loan have been put before us. The Secretary of State has expressed in the Despatch of February 5, 1913, an opinion adverse to a loan. He said that whatever programme may be adopted it should be financed out of general revenue and accumulated balances without recourse to a loan or entrenching on the reserve. Major Burdon's Report also says that it is not necessary to resort to a loan. The intention is to use a considerable part of the surplus of revenue and some portion of the surplus balances, which amount to about £10,000, the condition of the island having been very prosperous during the last ten years. The roads in Dominica want constant repair because of the exceedingly heavy rainfall, amounting to between 100 and 200 inches in a year, and in some parts greater than that. In fact, there is rather a tragicomic story of a boiler getting away down one of these roads and running over two children. The children were found, when the boiler had passed, to be practically uninjured, because the ruts into which they had fallen were so deep that the boiler did not hurt them. That is the kind of road that prevails here and there in Dominica.

"I think it is a much sounder system for Dominica, where the repairs are so heavy, not to use borrowed capital for the purpose of providing roads. The wear and tear of the floods there is so great that the roads require constant heavy repairs. Fortunately the financial position is such that it seems highly probable that an expenditure of £28,000 may be made in the next five years without any recourse to a loan at all. I should like to say, in conclusion, that the Secretary of State is most anxious to see the work proceeded with. The cause of the delay that has occurred has been the necessity for reliable estimates to be prepared, the desirability of waiting for the arrival of the new Administrator, the necessity for the proposal to spend £5,000 odd going before the Legislative Council, and the fact that we are waiting for any local criticism that might be made on the scheme put forward by Major Burdon. I can promise on behalf of the Colonial Office that there will be no delay when we get an agreed programme."

The Earl of Selborne: "Can the noble Lord tell us how many roads can be made for the sum which he has mentioned?"

Lord Emmott: "I am afraid I cannot. The expense of making roads through the forests is, of course, very large. I think it costs £350 a mile to cut a track through the forest, and about £200 to make the road; but I do not give those as reliable figures. The cost of making roads is very heavy; but in the case of the roads to which the programme refers, many of those are roads already existing in some form or other."

The Duke of Sutherland: "May I ask how soon the Administrator will be there, so that he can commence his work?"

Lord Emmott: "I do not know exactly, but I think he is due to arrive about this time. No doubt after he does arrive he must make himself master of the situation before he can reply."

Shortly after Easter, Lord Emmott, on behalf of Mr. Harcourt, will receive a deputation of Dominica proprietors, to be introduced by the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE, to urge the construction of roads in the island.

NATURE NOTES.

SOME interesting experiments have recently been conducted in Java on the effect of sugar cane crops on other crops grown on the same soil. Thirty-two plots were laid out in the same series, one series being planted with sugar cane and the other with earth nuts. The next year the whole of the plots were planted with maize. The result was that on the plots which had been planted with sugar cane the yield of maize was about 81 lbs., while on the series which had been planted with ground nuts the yield was only 54 lbs.

THE next year the whole was planted with rice, the results being again in favour of the plots which had been planted in the first instance with sugar cane. It would appear from these experiments that the sugar cane takes less out of the soil than ground nuts. The constant growing of cane on the same soil without rotation, is in itself evidence of the very small call which the sugar cane makes upon the soil. In some cane lands there have been uninterrupted crops for scores of years.

ACCORDING to the *India Rubber World*, a coagulating machine for rubber latex is about to be placed on the market. It is the invention of Mr. J. S. da Costa of Rio de Janeiro. The latex is coagulated on an endless mandrel in thin pellicles by the use of smoke. The pellicles or thin films of rubber are wound round a bobbin and made into a ball, which is subjected to just enough pressure to expel the surplus moisture and give it a shape convenient for handling.

DEALING with the results of observations and experiments in connection with the cultivation of rubber in Hawaii, Mr. W. A. Anderson states that propagation of rubber trees from cuttings does quite as well as from seeds, and concludes that the best means of extending plantations is by means of selected cuttings from the best yielding seeds. When the plantation is started with seedlings, Mr. Anderson considers that close planting followed by selective thinnings, with a final spacing of about 20 by 20 feet, appears to be more advantageous than initial plantings of 20 by 20 feet.

MR. N. HANSON has been experimenting with cassava bran, a refuse material obtained in the manufacture of cassava starch, and said to be especially valued for pig feeding. It contains 13.49 per cent. of moisture, 2.6 per cent. of protein, 0.59 per cent. of fat, 80.74 per cent. of carbo-hydrates and 2.15 per cent. of ash. As compared with diet into which barley and peas entered, one part of cassava bran was found to be equal for fattening purposes to .86 part of peas and .90 part of barley. The bran was found to have a decidedly beneficial effect on the quality of the pork.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

Members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting of the West India Committee will be held at 15, Seething Lane, at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 30th.

LECTURES on the West Indies and Bermuda will shortly be published by Messrs. George Philip and Son, Ltd., on behalf of the Visual Instruction Committee of the Colonial Office.

THE Stirling Boiler Co., Ltd., have moved into more commodious offices at 54, Victoria Street, Westminster. Their telephone number will be as before—4821 and 4822 Victoria.

MR. ARTHUR W. HILL, Assistant Director of Kew, is to deliver a lecture on "The History and Functions of Botanic Gardens," before the Royal Horticultural Society on April 15th next at 3 p.m.

THE Medical Officer of Health for Paddington is responsible for the statement that the Local Government Board is conducting an enquiry into the method of manufacture of lime juice and lime juice cordial.

THE New York-Havana cable is the property of the Commercial Cable Company of New York, and not of the West India and Panama Telegraph Co., as stated in last issue. We much regret having attributed to the last named company a break for which they were not responsible.

THE engagement is announced of the Honourable Allan Grannum, Receiver General of Mauritius, second son of the Honourable Edward T. Grannum, C.M.G., Auditor General of Barbados, and Mrs. Grannum to Marjorie, second daughter of the Honourable Dr. Francis Watts, C.M.G., Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, and Mrs. Watts.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1579. Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms. During the year to date 27 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

Trinidad	4	St. Vincent	1
Grenada	3	Canada	1
British Guiana	1	New South Wales	1
Dominica	1	Country	7
Jamaica	1	London	5
Nevis	1	New York	1

THE LONDON LETTER.

DURING the past fortnight Home Rule has monopolised attention. The movement of troops to Ulster, with large supplies of surgical dressings, and of ships of war, with field guns for exercising the crews ashore, for the ostensible purpose of protecting Government stores of arms and ammunition, following an inflammatory speech by Mr. Churchill at Bradford, in which, referring to the threats from Belfast, he suggested that the time had come to "put these grave matters to the test," precipitated a crisis. Offered the alternative of proceeding to Ulster or resignation, followed by dismissal, the majority of the officers at the Curragh Camp, headed by General Gough, the Commander-in-Chief, chose the latter rather than march against the Ulster volunteers as they believed they would have to do.

SUMMONED to London, General Gough received a written guarantee, signed by Colonel Seely, the Secretary of State for War, Field Marshal Sir John French, the head of the Army Council, and General Sir Spencer Ewart, stating that the Government would not employ the forces of the Crown to crush opposition to Home Rule. The resignations were thereupon withdrawn. It was then claimed that this guarantee was not authorised by the Cabinet, and Colonel Seely promptly resigned. Mr. Asquith declined to accept his resignation; but meanwhile a cry of "the Army against the People" had been raised, and the assertion of the supremacy of the people by the labour member, Mr. John Ward, raised such enthusiasm in a section of the Liberal camp that Colonel Seely's retirement from the Cabinet became inevitable. That gallant officer again tendered his resignation, which was now accepted.

THEN came the announcement that the King had approved Mr. Asquith's appointment to the vacant post and in a moment the Liberal ranks were reunited. This decision, of course, necessitated Mr. Asquith's withdrawal from the House of Commons, pending re-election, and on Friday last, the Premier left for East Fife, amid scenes of great enthusiasm at the railway station, where he was given a cordial send off by some hundreds of supporters. On the following day an immense meeting was held in Hyde Park to protest against the use of the Army and Navy to coerce Ulster, and to demand that the Government should submit the question of Home Rule to the People. At Ladybank on the same day Mr. Asquith—whose *locum tenens* in the House, Sir Edward Grey has repudiated the Army versus the People cry—said that the Army would hear no politics from him, and that he would expect in return to hear nothing of politics from the Army.

CAMBRIDGE has won the Boat Race for the first time since 1908. The race was notable also for the ease with which it was won. It was in fact decided

at the end of the first two minutes. Thereafter the Light Blues maintained the lead throughout, and ultimately won by $4\frac{1}{2}$ lengths in 20 minutes 23 seconds. This easy victory robbed the contest of some of its interest for the spectators, but the admirers of Cambridge are none the less pleased to make an addition to their list of victories.

THIS country has been mourning the death of one of our most distinguished artists, Professor Sir Hubert von Herkomer, R.A. Sir Hubert, who was in his 65th year, represented one of the most remarkable instances in modern times of the triumph of genius over the most chilling adversity. A poor emigrant from Bavaria, Herkomer attained to a position of the highest honour in his profession and earned titular distinctions both from Great Britain and Germany. A fact of interest to our readers is that Sir Hubert painted the portrait of Sir Nevile Lubbock, which was presented to the President of the West India Committee on November 25th, 1903.

THIS reference to Sir Nevile reminds us of the wedding recently of the widow of his younger brother, Mr. Edgar Lubbock, to Lord Kesteven. The bride, who is the only daughter of Mr. Christopher Gilbert Peacock, has been resident latterly at Ayot Place, Welwyn, Herts. At the ceremony, which took place at Greatford Parish Church near Stamford, Lincolnshire, the bride was given away by her brother, Mr. Hugh Peacock. Lord Kesteven, who is prominent in the public life of Lincolnshire, was accompanied by Mr. Ernest Trollope as best man.

DR. LOUIS W. SAMBON has now settled down again at his residence at Shoot-up Hill, near London, after his West Indian tour which he undertook under the auspices of the Colonial Office, with a view to investigating Pellagra and other diseases. It will be recalled that it was Dr. Sambon who proved the correctness of the theory first enunciated by Sir Ronald Ross that malaria was communicated by the *Anopheles* mosquito. This he did by practical experiments on the Roman Campagna, near Ostia. With Dr. Low he lived there for several months during the most malarial season of the year, withdrawing very evening near sunset to a mosquito-proof house where they remained until sunrise. Though malaria was rife in the neighbourhood and no one escaped outside, both remained quite free from infection.

ON his recent tour, Dr. Sambon visited the United States, where an expert entomologist was placed at his disposal, while several doctors accompanied him as far as Jamaica. Dr. Sambon then visited the Canal Zone, Trinidad, the northern islands and Demerara. He brought back upwards of a thousand photographs, some of which will, no doubt, embellish his report. It is hoped that in the early summer Dr. Sambon will deliver a lecture at the West India Committee Rooms.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



A Royal Visit to Kaieteur.

The R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, which left Barbados on March 18th, arrived at Southampton at 12.50 p.m. on March 30th.

The recurrence of cane fires was causing some trouble in Barbados when the mail left, and it was generally believed that the returned labourers from Panama knew rather more about them than they should do. Drastic measures will certainly have to be taken to put a stop to such wanton incendiarism in the future. Princess Marie Louise was about to leave for the Kaieteur Fall. The visit of a Royal Princess to this wonderful fall, which is five times as high as Niagara, should help materially to bring it into prominence. The new Legislative Councils had been constituted, and it is gratifying to notice among the members a very large proportion of members of the West India Committee. The remarkable progress which is being made in Dominica—which as reported elsewhere has just had a debate in the House of Lords to itself—is further demonstrated by the figures of revenue and expenditure and trade for the year just ended, given by Mr. E. A. Agar. The perusal of the letters of our Hon. Correspondents, extracts of which are given below, leaves an impression that matters are beginning to look brighter in the West Indies after last year's set-back.

ANTIGUA—Steam Communication with Barbuda.

In a letter dated March 14th, Mr. A. P. COWLEY stated that the newly appointed Legislative Council met on the 9th, the unofficial members being: Hons. D. McDonald, J. D. Harper, J. F. Foote, R. A. L. Warneford and J. J. Camacho, R. Bryson, Henzell R. McDonald. The General Council of the Leeward Islands was to meet on April 11th, Messrs. Warneford, Camacho, and D. McDonald being selected to represent Antigua.—The first payment for peasant cane at the factory in the previous week was 8s. 2½d. per ton.—The S.S. *Yare* had made her first trip under the new contract, many young men from Antigua making the trip to Barbuda.—Messrs. Symons, Studeley and Clarke, Wesleyan Ministers, left on the 13th to attend the Synod in St. Kitts.—Dr. McDonald had been appointed Health Officer for St. John's.—The community had been much distressed at the almost sudden death of Mr. E. T. Cleeve, cashier of the Colonial Bank who was at business on the 2nd and died on the following Saturday. Kindly disposed to all, always willing to put his talents at the disposal of any good cause, a good musician, he was a real loss to Antigua, and would be much missed.—The St. John's Magistrate's Court had been reopened for the hearing of an Obeah case. The members of a certain lodge had been brought up by the police, charged with practising Obeah under cover of a so-called "lodge meeting." The case was being watched with much interest, Messrs. R. McDonald and Camacho defending the accused.—The onion crop was coming in, and the Antigua Onion Growers' Association was doing good work.

BARBADOS—Further Outbreaks of Cane Fires.

Planters were very busy reaping their crops when Sir FREDERICK CLARKE wrote on March 17th. The results were not as good as one might hope, but they would improve

as the canes became riper. Prices were very low and the outlook for the unfortunate planter was anything but rosy. As reaping became general it was hoped that cane fires had become a thing of the past, but on the night of the 14th there were two, one of about four acres, and the other (about the biggest for many years) of 50 acres. The insurance companies had been hard hit. There had been another fire in Roebuck Street. The fire brigade, under Mr. Clark, the Superintendent, and Captain Thorne, did quite excellent work and confined the fire to the one building.—Mr. W. H. Trollope, a brother of the late Colonel Trollope, had arrived by the last mail on a visit to his properties, Pool Plantation and Long Bay Castle.

The *Barbados Advocate* reported in their Mail Edition that the weather had been suitable to reaping conditions, and with sufficient showers to help the establishment of the young crop and to promote the growth of the corn and fodder crops that were put in with the first rains in February. These showers had also benefited the ratoons. The yield was less than might have been well expected, possibly due to the blistering winds of January. The average yield was one and a half tons to the acre, round; but it was expected that there would be some improvement later. The centrals were paying between 10s. and 12s. 6d. for canes, and owing to the low price of syrup—11 cents per gallon—there was no lack of offers.—The Codrington College Estates were being offered on lease.—The *Advocate* also contains an account of the presentation of the King's flag, won in the recent competition by the Combermere School of Scouts, His Excellency, on receiving the flag from Sir Frederick Clarke, Commissioner and Head of the Scouts in Barbados, referred to the great advantage derived from the movement, and it was particularly satisfactory to know that although it had only been started such a short time in Barbados, one of the local bodies and scouts had achieved the triumph by winning the King's flag.

BRITISH GUIANA—Princess Marie Louise and Kaieteur.

Princess Marie Louise had arrived from Trinidad by the mail. She was to leave for the Kaieteur Fall on the 15th, and would be accompanied by the Hon. C. Clementi, Government Secretary, and Mr. A. F. White, of the Consolidated Balata Co., her Equerry, Mr. Fraser; and Miss Hawkes, lady in waiting.—A disastrous fire occurred at New Amsterdam on the morning of the 2nd.—The Abary Company had decided to extend the cultivation in rice, and purposed bringing the area up to nearly 4,000 acres.—Sales of yellow crystals had been made for local consumption at \$2.60 to \$2.70, according to quantities. There was nothing doing in refining crystals for export; price for local consumption was quoted at 2 cents.—There had been some nice showers during the past few days, but more rain was wanted generally.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. had opened their new offices in Water Street under the management of Mr. W. L. Harris.—Two blocks of buildings were destroyed by fire in New Amsterdam on March 1st, including the office of the *People* newspaper, whose insurance with the Hand-in-Hand had lapsed.—It had been decided to use reinforced concrete for the new Roman Catholic Cathedral.

DOMINICA—Substantial Progress in many Directions.

Writing on March 14th, Mr. E. A. AGAR said that the comments in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, No. 102, regarding Major Burdon's road scheme, accorded with opinion in Dominica. Of course details were criticised, particularly as to the comparative value in point of time between the feeder or valley roads and the main arteries. The splendid results of the financial year then coming to a close made it look as if the programme could be accelerated.—On the 7th, a public meeting was called by Captain H. Peebles, D.S.O., at Fort Young to put forward a scheme for the organisation of a Defence Force to take the place of the existing Defence Reserve, which indeed could hardly be said to be in existence. His Honour the Acting Administrator presided, and a large number of men, mostly potential volunteers, attended. After Captain Peebles had outlined the scheme (it was understood that he had already done good work in this direction elsewhere),

Major Burdon addressed the meeting at some length. Few persons who had heard of the movement failed to recognise the immense good it would do to the community from the social and internal point of view. The organisation and maintenance of 100 men, mounted and foot, which was the number suggested by Captain Peebles as what was required to begin with, must add to the feeling of self respect and reliance, but many were sceptical of the actual military value for defence of such a body. Major Burdon's arguments, however (which were largely those used on a similar occasion in Barbados), convinced most, if not all, of those present that under conditions such as might reasonably be expected should war with a foreign Power arise, the existence of a well organised and well equipped Defence Force, might prevent raids by the enemy. The cost of the Force with an establishment of 100 men was set down at one per cent. of the revenue, a small sum for insurance, as the Administrator pointed out. One expected a meeting of this sort to appear enthusiastic, but this one was genuinely so, and at the close between 30 and 40 men put down their names as willing to join when the Force became a reality. That such a movement could be discussed with every prospect of its going through, showed what an enormous stride forward the island had made in the last few years. Looking back upon Dominica as the writer first knew it some twenty years ago, it was almost incredible.

The new Legislative Council was opened by His Honour Major Burdon on the 9th. Of the old Council, the Hon. A. D. Lockhart and J. Colin Macintyre, and Messrs H. A. Frampton and H. Rolle had been re-appointed. Mr. F. E. Everington was in place of Mr. Sowray, while Mr. Francis Potter had been given a seat in the place of the late Hon. L. A. Giraud. The new appointments were generally popular, both men having a large stake in the country, and bearing an excellent personal reputation. The Hon. J. Colin Macintyre and (now) the Hon. F. E. Everington were elected members of the Federal Council. The Acting Administrator's speech was good. Of course in Dominica they had long learned to expect that the greater part of the speech should consist of a catalogue of the various steps made in advance by the Presidency during the year, but the advance made during the year then closing was a surprise to most. And into his speech Major Burdon had infused a spirit of enthusiastic optimism which enhanced the value of the figures given. The principal item under this head was the Reserve Fund, which on March 31st, 1913, stood at £28,165 and had increased to £28,825 on February 28th, 1914, in spite of appropriations from this and current Revenue of nearly £10,000 for Public Works. The Revenue for the eleven months was within £2,000 of the total Revenue for the preceding year. The exports for the calendar year 1913, excluding bullion and whale oil in transshipment, amounted to £174,305 (1912, £142,373). This increase had been in lime products; prices had ruled very high, and another contributory cause to the increase was the taking of a new basis for valuation, but to the surprise of most persons, the actual output had increased. The year was a very bad one, hardly a single established estate but fell considerably short of the previous year's crop, and the shortage had not only been made good by the new areas coming into bearing, but this had been sufficient to more than counterbalance it. Imports rose from £148,977 to £157,121. To turn to Public Works, besides increased expenditure upon the roads, the colony was the richer by a Public Hospital at Portsmouth, a Maternity Cottage in Roseau, an Export Warehouse and Export Jetty, and the new Post Office was nearly completed.—Mr. Drayton was expected on the 26th, and Major Burdon would leave with the regrets of the whole community at his departure, and their good wishes for his future. His road programme would remain to keep his memory bright.—The Yare had resumed her station at Dominica. The new itinerary, which was on trial for two months, was probably adequate out of crop, though a good deal of criticism was being heard as to the apportionment of the subsidy now paid her. That the time accorded to Dominica during crop would be very inadequate was beyond a doubt. But there was one feature that was giving great dissatisfaction. Hitherto the

steamer had been carrying produce at half the legal rates, she had now raised her tariff, in some cases to the legal limit, and some shippers found that this prohibited their using her. Mr. Agar did not know that any notice of such intention was given to the public before the arrangement of the new itinerary. It did not seem fair that Dominica should pay in two ways, once by loss of time and again by increase of freight rates, especially as the second method of payment was certainly not generally known beforehand.—There had been excellent rains during the past fortnight (there was enough dry weather for the soil and trees in December and January) and practically no wind. In fact conditions for the lime crop had been as favourable as one could wish.

GRENADEA—The Island's Cacao Shipments.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON wrote on March 16th that in consequence of indisposition, an "At Home" on the Fort Rocks by the Administrator and Mr. Drayton had to be postponed.—Mrs. Johnstone's "At Home" at the Richmond Hall Tennis Club Court on the 12th, proved a very pleasant function.—The Volunteers went into camp at the Quarantine Station on the 14th for the week-end.—Mr. W. H. Bagot, the new Assistant Inspector of Schools, arrived by the mail steamer.—The shipments of cacao from the 1st October, 1913, to date, had been 41,862 bags. In the corresponding period in respect of last crop, the figures were 41,353, so that, at date, shipments were 509 bags to the good. To these figures, for this crop, must be added about 5,000 bags that the S.S. *Sawan*, which was then loading, would take away that day.—Major Mellon, who recently succeeded Major Capell as Chief of Police, left by last mail to take up an appointment in Ireland, and Mr. H. Allan O'Way, of the Treasury Department, had been appointed to act, and had taken over the duties of that office.—A provisional programme of the St. Andrew's Race Club Easter Monday Meeting had been published. It provided for eight events.—Mr. Peter Dawson, of whisky fame, was a passenger in transit by the mail steamer, on February 25th.—According to the *Chronicle and Gazette*, that the popularity of the Carnival is not on the wane was proved by the large number of people from all parts of the parish who came into town (St. George's) to witness or take part in this year's festival. There were fewer well-dressed maskers, but the number of people who wore disguises was rather above the average.—The business premises and timber yard on the Carenage owned by Mrs. L. R. Mitchell had been sold to Messrs. J. Hankey & Co., for, it was understood, £2,500.

JAMAICA—The Kingston Wharf Scheme revived.

Writing from Green Island on March 11th, MR. ARTHUR CLOND said that a few showers of rain had fallen lately, followed by very high winds, which had dried up all the goodness received from the rain. Only a few bananas had been blown down, but it was feared that anything like an early spring crop had been prevented.

A deputation, consisting of Mr. Arthur George, Mr. Lionel de Mercado and Mr. S. Buckland Cockell, representing city wharf owners and others waited on the Governor to urge upon him the necessity of having the various wharves connected with the railways.

MONTSERRAT—The Agricultural Show at Plymouth.

MR. K. P. PENCHON reported on March 14th that the weather had been dry during the first week of the fortnight and showery during the last week. Some estates had started cotton planting since last month and the germination was satisfactory. The S.S. *Sumai* of the East Asiatic Line of steamers (Captain Taffe) took 274 bales and bags of cotton from Montserrat on the 6th; this was the largest shipment of cotton sent at one time from the island and was practically the last of the crop for 1913-14, there being only a few bales of stains left to be ginned and shipped. The island had made a short crop and the shipments would be under 300,000 lbs. of lint, including stains.—The Agricultural Show was held in Plymouth on the

11th. The number of exhibits exceeded last year by 100, and the stock was considered better than last year's.

NEVIS—Still no Motor-boat Connection.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, writing on March 14th, said that he had had the pleasure of accompanying Mr. Darnell Davis to the steamer on his departure for St. Kitts, and believed his visit to the island had benefited him as he looked very well indeed. The weather for the past four weeks had been fairly good with a few showers here and there and a down-pour on two occasions. A little more moisture would, however, be welcomed, the canes being very backward for the time of the year. The cotton crop was nearing a close. For the past two weeks three of the leading gentlemen of Dominica had been in Nevis. On their visit they blended business with pleasure, and proved a splendid benefit for many who had mules, horses, molasses, etc., to dispose of, they paid liberal prices. These gentlemen left that day for home. It was hoped they would soon come back. Much regret had been felt in the island at Mr. Malone's resignation as a member of the Legislative Council.—Mr. P. Mills was his successor.—All hoped to hear something soon of a motor boat, and having waited so long it was not hoping for too much that when she appeared she would be a good one.

ST. KITTS—A plea for extension of the Factory railway.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, in a letter dated March 12th, stated that the Central Factory and Muscovado Estates had commenced reaping during the past fortnight; but the canes were still green and the density weak. The urgent necessity for the extension of the railway line to the St. Mary's and Christ Church parishes should be evident to the Central Factory people by that time, for the canes in the Basseterre Valley were light again this season. The most favourable weather conditions and the heaviest canes grown in St. Kitts were nowadays to be found on the North side of the island, where labour was most scarce, and the prospect of a Central Factory very much in the air at present; a sad condition of things which the inconsistent and unsympathetic attitude of the Government tended to aggravate. Prices were very low for both sugar and syrup, and there was no inducement to force the reaping. The weather was dry with high winds and all this week the promise of rain which did not come.—Mr. Edgar Meggs, barrister, and Mr. A. M. Reid, planter, of West Farm Estate had been appointed the new members of the local Legislative Council.

ST. LUCIA—A quick voyage from Jamaica.

HON. GEORGE S. HURSTON reported on March 13th that the dry weather continued, with high winds, the rainfall for February averaging less than 2½ in., and in the same proportion for March to date. There had been occasional showers that prevented the drought becoming acute, yet, more rain would be beneficial to all agriculturists, even the sugar factories, who were in the midst of crop activities. His Excellency Sir James Sadler arrived a fortnight previously, and would probably leave by the mail for Grenada. His Honour Douglas Young was expected on the 26th. During the interval the Hon. Anthony de Freitas, Attorney General, would administer the Government. Sir James and Lady Sadler had been "At Home" at Government House on the past two Wednesday afternoons, and on the last occasion the Dutch ship of war *Kortenaar* was in harbour and her officers attended the "At Home" H.M.S. *Berwick* arrived at Castries on the evening of the 10th, coaled all night, taking in 1,000 tons of coal, and was off immediately for Brazilian ports where there was apparently trouble. The *Berwick* covered the distance between Jamaica and Castries in 56 hours, which, accustomed as the people of St. Lucia were to regard that island as four or five days steaming distance away, gave one some idea of the speediness of these new cruisers when they were in a hurry.—At a first meeting of the newly constituted St. Lucia Agricultural and Commercial Society, Mr. F. G. Bennett, K.C., was elected President, Mr. Floissac, sen., Vice-President, and Captain Louis Mallet-Paret, Secretary and Treasurer.

ST. VINCENT—Many Canadian and American visitors.

MR. W. N. SANDS stated in his letter of March 14th that the last issue of the local Government *Gazette* contained the rules and regulations for the new Motor Car mail and passenger service, and the rates to be paid by passengers on different sections of the Windward route to Georgetown, also the rates for the private hire of the cars. The fact that the cars could be hired at very reasonable rates when not in official use should be a great boon to residents and tourists.—The Permanent Exhibition Committee were collecting exhibits for the International Exhibition of Tropical Products to be held in London, and displayed on their behalf by the West India Committee. The writer had been appointed to act as the official representative of the Colony at the Exhibition.—Quite a number of tourists had landed recently from the steamships of the Canada-West Indies Mail Service, notably the *Chaleur* and *Caraguet*. It was understood that besides Canadians, there were many Americans carried who had been picked up at Bermuda and were doing the round of the West Indies from that place. It looked as if this would be quite a prominent side-line of the new and already popular service.—The weather was fine and cool with a few light showers at night.

The success gained by St. Vincent at the West Indian Art and Needlework Exhibition in Trinidad was very gratifying. Lady Owen Phillips' special prize for the best piece of work in the Exhibition was won by Miss A. Campbell, and the writer understood that the prize piece was purchased by Lady Le Hunte and presented to Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein. The Colony Prize and the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR'S prize were also won by local ladies, as well as two other important awards.—Mr. C. De S. Dunn, the new Chief of Police, arrived by the mail. Mr. Dunn greatly distinguished himself in the last Somali-land fight, and was awarded the King's Police Medal. He would hold the rank of Major in the local forces.

TOBAGO—A Sugar Revival on the Metayer System.

MR. ROBERT S. REID reported on March 13th, that since last mail some fine showers had fallen and the country looked much greener than for years past in March. They came rather late to help the Spring cacao crop, but if followed up, the Autumn crop might be much earlier than usual. Pickings were falling off and would shortly be on a very small scale. Those blessed with coco-nut trees were busy picking and shipping, and the coastal steamer was likely to have a busy time of it. The *Kennel* being in dock, the *Jamaica* had had to do double duty (round Trinidad and Tobago) and several ports were left out. No previous notice being given, complaints were rampant, and in some places shop goods were very scarce. Although the *Jamaica* was a general favourite, all would be pleased to see the new steamers.—Studley Park had resumed sugar growing under the Metayer system and so Metayers were reported to have signed on. The machinery had been improved, and it was to be hoped that this brave venture would prove successful. Mrs. Aefounder, wife of the proprietor, was an energetic Australian lady who had decided to make Tobago her home. Friends from Australia were paying her a visit and that week several tourists from the old country had also been in the island. When a good hotel was established, Tobago would get its full share of visitors as well as Trinidadians, whose prejudice against the little island must gradually wear off.—At St. Mary's (Pembroke), the Prize Competitions for the encouragement of Agriculture had just been decided. For essays on cacao growing, collections of local wood etc., prizes contributed by his Lordship Bishop Welsh and local proprietors were awarded. The Rev. Mr. Hammond was to be congratulated on this first attempt at local agricultural effort, which would no doubt be followed up in other quarters.—Mr. J. de Vertenil, Inspector of Government Experiment Plots was visiting the various cacao, coco-nut and rubber plots. His keen and practical interest in cultivation was greatly appreciated by planters and must eventually be of interest to the island generally.

TRINIDAD—Some matters before the Legislative Council.

Writing on March 17th, MR. EDGAR TRIPP said that a special At Home was given at Government House on the 6th, "To meet Her Highness, the Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein," and was largely attended. Her Highness proceeded by last mail steamer to Demerara and whilst there would visit the Kaieteur Falls.—At a meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 11th, unofficial members indulged in unusual heckling of the Government, who could not be said to have come out victoriously from the unexpected assault. The Estimates for 1913-14 were under discussion. The Colonial Secretary had stated that the surplus balance at 31st inst. would be £80,506, being £12,454 more than anticipated, and that the estimated revenue for next financial year was £952,336 and the expenditure £965,241. He then went into details, and referred to the Preferential Tariff, which he said had resulted in a loss of Custom's revenue of £7,198, of which £1,208 was in respect of articles imported from the United Kingdom, and £5,990 on articles imported from Canada. Then the inevitable and ever disputable question was raised by Dr. Lawrence: Who benefited, the consumer or the importer? The honourable member wanted to know exactly what the consumer got by it. The Collector of Customs did his best to reply to the problem as to the particular benefit each consumer derived from a difference in duty of 25 cents on a barrel containing 196 lbs. of flour. Dr. Prada and Mr. Alcazar pressed the attack, but failed to draw the Collector further. The Hon. Sir Townsend Feawick then drew a lance on behalf of the poor fire insurance companies who were called upon to pay, between the thirty-three of them, £100 more than last year as a contribution to the support of the Fire Brigade. Then there were questions as to how much longer the Crown Lands were to be withheld from sale on account of possible oil concessions, but the Government sat tight on previous decisions. The Hon. Adam Smith objected to the expenditure of £1,207 on new rifles for the Constabulary, in the present state of the Colony's finances, but Colonel Marshall stifled opposition with the warning that the rifles at present in use were dangerous, and it would be absolutely impossible to keep up the efficiency of the force without the new weapons. On October 5th, 1913, the Council unanimously had passed a resolution that "In the opinion of this Council it is desirable that future vacancies in the Magisterial Bench be filled whenever practicable by a gentleman possessing legal training." The Government, according to Mr. Hobson, had shown its appreciation and respect for this resolution by promptly appointing a clerk of the Peace to the Magistracy of Arima, and he wanted to know the reason why. His Excellency undertook the explanation himself. "There were exceptional circumstances in this case which justified the Government." Mr. Hobson, with all respect, did not think so, and he explained the faith that was in him at some length. Again His Excellency explained, and again Mr. Hobson was unsatisfied. Then Mr. Alcazar, K.C., lent his formidable aid to his learned friend and drove the attack further home. Then the Governor chivalrously said that he accepted the responsibility for the appointment and that he had made the mistake of not informing the Council. On further remarks being made His Excellency closed the debate by stating that he had no further information to give.

Mr. H. F. Murray, lately Attorney at the Usine Saint Madeleine, who was leaving the colony, and would reside in Demerara in future, had resigned from the Vice-Presidency of the Agricultural Society. At the last meeting of that body on the 13th, full expression was given by His Excellency the President and the members of the high measure of appreciation in which the Society, which he had consistently supported in and out of season, since he first came to the island, held the services of Mr. Murray. He was a staunch supporter of cane farming. He believed in, and practised a conciliatory and kindly method with native and Indian labour, and he had reduced labour troubles on the estates he managed to a minimum. In this respect alone he had done an incalculable amount of good, and the best wishes of all, high and low, went with him to his new home.

BIRTHS.

- Giles.**—At the Rectory, St. Andrew, Grenada, B.W.I. on February 16th, the wife of the Rev. Edwin E. Giles, of a daughter.
Hambro.—On the 3rd inst., at 18 Moore Street, S. W., the wife of Bertram Hambro, of a daughter.
Savill.—At Herne Bay, Kent, on March 26th, the wife of Stanley Savill, Tobago, of a son.
Fielding Deerr.—On the 20th March, at a Nursing Home, North London, Mrs. Noël Fielding Deerr, née Wilson, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

- Bulmer.**—On March 27th, at Piley, Yorkshire, Mr. James Alfred Bulmer, ex-Postmaster-General of Trinidad and Tobago.
Cleeve.—On March 7th, in Antigua, Mr. E. T. Cleeve, Cashier of the Colonial Bank, in that island.
Branch.—On March 6th, at his residence in Basseterre, St. Kitts, Dr. W. J. Branch, M.D., etc., in his 76th year.
St. John.—On the 31st of March, at 3, Merton Road, Bedford, the wife of the Hon Rowland St. John (Durham Light Infantry), of a son. Jamaica papers please copy

WANTS.

- Back Number** of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR wanted. 6d. will be paid for each copy of No. 404, dated March 24th, returned to the Manager, WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.
Young Man, age 21, seeks appointment as Assistant Overseer, Good Education, Sober and Reliable, Strong and Healthy in all climates, and can be well recommended—"A. H." West India Committee, Seething Lane, E.C.
Wanted.—Wanted to purchase July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.
For Sale.—Bound volume of *The Sugar Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West 1891. For sale: Part I., 1886; Part II., 1889; Part I., India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.
Employment wanted by capable secretary and accountant, aged 45, who thoroughly understands West Indian Sugar business. Thirty years with the New Colonial Co., Ltd. Excellent references. G. M. Ohlson, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.
Travelling Representative, with connection amongst Doctors, Druggists, and Stores in West India Islands, by leading London Wholesale Druggists. Commission and part expenses.—Apply "B. D." c/o The West India Committee, 15 Seething Lane, E.C.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

RECENT ADDITIONS.

The undermentioned volume has been added to the Library of the West India Committee by purchase.

A Tour through the British West Indies, in the years 1802 and 1803, giving a particular account of the Bahama Islands, by Daniel McKimmen. London, Printed for J. White, Horace's Head, Fleet Street, by R. Taylor, Black-Horse-Court. 1804.

The following books have been presented to the Library of the West India Committee by Mr. George Carrington.

The Groans of the Plantations; or a True Account of their Grievous and Extreme Sufferings, by the Heavy Impositions upon Sugar, and other Hardships relating more particularly to the Island of Barbados. London, Printed by M. Clark in the Year MDCXXXIX.

This rare work voices the grievance of the colonists over the 4 per cent. duty on all exports from Barbados. After the Restoration, Lord Willoughby, lessee of the island of Barbados from the son of the Earl of Carlisle who had received a grant of it from Charles I., having been compelled to relinquish the Government of Barbados after its capture by the Parliamentary Fleet, agitated for a revival of his rights. On June 13, 1663, the Privy Council decided that half the annual profits derived from Barbados should go to him for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government and half towards the discharge of a claim made by the Earl of Marlborough, under whose protection Sir William Courteen's expedition had settled the island. In 1832 the colonists complained that this duty had cost them no less than £6,000,000. Two years later the Legislature of Barbados passed an Act rescinding the duty; the tax was still, however, collected until 1838 when it was abolished by a special Act of the Imperial Government. Incidentally, the "Groans" throw some light on the cost of production and profits on the sale of muscovado sugar in the 17th century. The cost of manufacture was 10s. per cwt., while the "Cask, Freight and other Charges of the Transportation" came to 10s., and the ordinary clear profit about "3s. or hardly so much." The writer enlarges upon the heavy charges of maintaining the estates, including as they did the need of purchasing fresh negroes every year, to keep up the stock, and the cost of providing men for the Militia. "Moreover the Charge of our Militia is exceeding great upon us. In Barbados, every twenty Acres must find a Footman and every forty Acres a Horseman. So that an estate of five hundred Acres feeds five Horsemen and fifteen Foot, which is more than is done here by the greatest Peer in England." The writer then gives his views regarding those who impose the taxes, in terms of which the following is a fair sample: "A Quack pretending great Skill, makes a woman give her Child Arsenick; he facing her down that Arsenick is not poyson, the Child is kill'd, and the Quack is hang'd. Even to our dear Mother hath been a Cup of dealy Poyson, given to her Children the Plantations: these men (who would be thought great Quacks in Trade) giving the highest assurances that the Drench should do no harm: by which means the Plantations are murder'd and destroyed. And shall not these Men be hang'd? Some think they deserve it better, than all that have been hang'd at Tyburn this twice seven years."

The Barbados Packet; containing several Original Papers. London, Printed for S. Popping at the Black-Raven in Pater-Noster-Row. 1720 This volume, which is also rare, concerns the affair of Mr. Jonathan Blenman, Rev. William Gordon and Governor Robert Lowther. The Governor accused Gordon, who was rector of St. Michael's, of forgery, and caused him to be indicted at the Court of Grand Sessions, over which he (the Governor) presided as prosecutor and Chief Justice. Blenman and another attorney named Hope defended Gordon so ably that the reverend gentleman was acquitted. Blenman, who openly contradicted the Governor in Court was thereupon committed to jail, and only liberated on bail in £1,000, with two sureties, to appear at the next Court of Grand Sessions on a charge of high treason. Blenman, Hope and Gordon then went to England to get redress, and the Lords Justices on being consulted declared the charge against Gordon groundless and malicious, and that against Blenman arbitrary and illegal. Blenman afterwards became Attorney General of Barbados. "The Barbados Packet" contains a petition to the King, George I., in favour of Mr. Gordon from "the Gentlemen, Clergy, Merchants, Traders, and other Inhabitants of His Majesty's Island of Barbados, and Particularly those of Bridge Town in the said Island." It also contains among other correspondence the answer of "John Smalridge, One of the Attorneys of the Reverend and Honourable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and Manager of the Estates here," to charges made by Governor Lowther.

Elementary Tropical Agriculture. W. H. Johnson, F.R.S. Crosby, Lockwood and Son. London 3s. 6d. net.

Although this work is primarily intended for use in connection with the study of the principles of Agriculture in West African schools there is no doubt that it will prove of great service for a similar purpose in other tropical countries. Part I. deals in a simple form with the various points connected with the soil and plants, the diseases of the latter, and insect pests, giving details of demonstration to bring out the various points. In Part II. the School garden is dealt with, and the work closes with a chapter on General Cultural Instructions. A most useful work for the tropical agricultural instructor.

Diseases of Tropical Plants. Melville Thurston Cook, Ph.D. Macmillan & Co., Ltd., St. Martin's Street, London. There are few subjects in connection with scientific agriculture, which have received so much attention as that of plant diseases. As might be expected, it was in the temperate zone that early progress was made with their study, but the tropics were not long in being associated with an enormous development of work in this direction. It has been with the view of gathering together the literature on the subject that this work has been given to the public. After dealing with the nature and symptoms of diseases, the structure and functions of plants, the classification of fungi, and of other causes of plant disease, the author goes on to describe the diseases in detail of various tropical economic plants. The diseases of forest and ornamental trees are then dealt with, and the work concludes with chapters on the prevention and control of disease, with descriptions of fungicides and spraying apparatus. The work, which is well illustrated, does not pretend to be an exhaustive treatise on plant diseases, but contains in a concise and clear form, a summary of what has been done throughout the tropical world in the important subject of which it treats.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The United British Oilfields of Trinidad, Ltd.

At a meeting of this company held on March 23rd., a resolution was confirmed making more stringent the British character clause of the memorandum of association. As amended the memorandum states that the company shall at all times be and remain a British company registered in Great Britain or a British Colony, and have its principal place of business within his Majesty's Dominions; also that the chairman and managing director (if any) and a majority of the other directors shall be British subjects, and that so long as the company shall hold an oil-mining lease in Trinidad neither the company nor the premises demised by the lease shall be directly or indirectly controlled by foreigners.

The Colonial Bank.

The accounts for the half year ended December, 1913, show a net profit of £29,870 os. 10d. (as compared with £25,375 os. 3d. for the same period in 1912) making with £29,056 18s. 3d.—(£31,905 18s. 6d.) the balance of profit from the preceding half-year £58,926 19s. 1d. (£60,280 18s. 9d.). After setting aside £10,000 (£10,000) as further provision for depreciation of investments the directors recommended the payment of a dividend of 3 per cent. (3 per cent.) for the half-year which will absorb £28,000, leaving £30,926 19s. 1d. (£32,280 18s. 9d.) to be carried forward. The directors regret that the continued depreciation in Securities as on 31st December last, rendered it necessary to make the above further provision. They felt, however, justified in replacing to the Reserve Fund £25,000—out of the £50,000—taken from it and placed to a Special Reserve for Depreciation of Investments some years ago. The business of the Bank during the period under review was, they state, well maintained.

Presiding over the 152nd Half-yearly General Meeting on April 1st, Mr. Charles R. Gurney Hoare said that perhaps the most satisfactory item to shareholders was that the Directors were able, after making full provision for bad and doubtful debts, to show an increased profit as compared with the same period of 1912, of over £4,000, and as compared with the last half-year of over £5,000. The half-year had been a rather exceptional one, the long drought caused the 1912-13 crop to be somewhat short, and in some cases there had been considerable delay in realisation. On the whole the banks prospects were good, and if, as he hoped, the drain from the constant fall in the value of securities were at last checked, they might look for increased prosperity in the future. Mr. Hoare proceeded: "Before I sit down I regret that I have another communication to make to the shareholders. My old friend, Mr. Morrison, is retiring from the management, I regret to say, under the advice of his doctors. He joined us some 19 years ago, and during that period there have been many causes of anxiety and difficulty in the West Indies, as there always are. I have had an experience of over 30 years, but these 19 years have been very trying ones, especially in the sugar industry, on which even now their prosperity so much depends. I wish to take this opportunity of saying to the shareholders how valuable, how indefatigable his energy, his great experience of banking procedure, and his warm loyalty to the Bank have been. I cannot say personally how much I regret that he has found it necessary to retire." Mr. Hoare concluded by moving the adoption of the Report, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Gurney. Mr. Fogarty then rose and expressed the opinion that the sugar industry was the ruin of British Guiana. The estates proprietors said they were on the brink of ruin, but one had admitted that he had made from one estate something like 75 per cent. The sugar proprietors were draining the West Indies. The chairman pointed out that Mr. Fogarty's remarks were irrelevant and Mr. Gurney asked if Mr. Fogarty could deny that sugar was a very important industry—in fact the chief industry in the West Indies—to which Mr. Fogarty replied "Yes, but look at Trinidad."

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

In consequence of the departure from Grenada of Major J. A. Meldrum, Chief of Police, who has received an appointment in Ireland, Mr. H. A. Otway, Chief Inland Revenue Officer, has been appointed to act until further notice, as Chief of Police, and Dr. G. Paterson as an official member of the Legislative Council.

Mr. C. de S. Dunn, Somaliland Camel Corps, has been appointed Superintendent of Prisons, Chief Relieving Officer, Chief Sanitary Officer of St. Vincent, Officer Commanding the Volunteer Force and Commandant of the Local Forces.

Mr. O. Nugent, Supplementary Magistrate, Antigua, has returned from leave of absence and resumed his duties.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under this heading the principal features of the West Indian Official Gazettes are recorded for reference purposes.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX.—No. 19. Legislative Council, February 24th. House of Assembly, February 17th. No. 20. House of Assembly, February 24th. Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1914. Deep Sea Fishing Boats Further Amendment Act, 1914. No. 21. Financial Report for quarter ended March 31st, 1913. Legislative Council, March 3rd. Interim Report on Railway. No. 23. Bridgetown Tramway Regulations. **British Guiana, Vol. XXXVIII.**—No. 18. Crown Lands Regulations, 1914. No. 20. Report on Sisal Hemp Disease. No. 21. Regulations for Scholarships and Prizes, Hospitals and Asylum Funds. **Trinidad Vol. 83.**—No. 11. Legislative Council, March 4th. Board of Industrial Training, February 23rd. **Grenada, Vol. 32**—No. 7. Bank Notes Ordinance, 1914. **St. Vincent, Vol. 47.**—No. 7. Motor Mail Service Regulations. Licences Ordinance, 1914. Motor Car Ordinance, 1914. **Leeward Islands, Vol. XLII.**—No. 11. Governor's Address, March 9th. **Dominica, Vol. XXXVII.**—No. 11. Appropriation Ordinance, 1914. Administrator's Address, March 9th. **St. Kitts-Nevis Vol. XI**—No. 10. Bakeries Regulations. **Turks and Caicos Islands, Vol. 62.**—No. 9. Revenue and Expenditure, 1913.

Dist. Jond.	Latest Quotations.	PB1028
4 %	Antigua 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	99-101
3 1/2 %	Barbados 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1925-44	87-89
4 %	British Guiana 4 % Redeemable 1935	99-101
3 %	British Guiana 3 % Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
4 %	Grenada 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
4 %	Jamaica 4 % Redeemable 1934	100-102
3 1/2 %	Jamaica 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49	88-90
4 %	Jamaica 4 % Redeemable 1927-44	79-81
4 %	St. Lucia 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4 %	Trinidad 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
3 %	Trinidad 3 % Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
6 %	The Colonial Bank ...	57-61
12 %	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchange)	\$274
10 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	105-110
10 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	99-102
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	103-105
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures	101-103
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	98-101
6 1/2 %	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	...
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd. 4 % Debentures	...
4 %	New Colonial Co., Ltd (£5) 5 % Non-cum Pref.	...
6 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co 6 % Debentures	105-108
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	...
...	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)	...
...	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	...
...	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1) ...	...
...	" " " " " B " shares (£1) ...	...
...	" " " " " C " shares (£1) ...	...
...	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	33-34
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref.	108-111
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref. ...	83-86
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	97-91
4 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	97-99
10 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd Ordinary ...	23-24
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd 6 1/2 % Cum. 1st Pref	98-100
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " 2nd " ...	9-9 1/2
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures ...	97-99

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson
 Professor P. Carmody
 Mr. D. S. Dougall
 Mr. R. Dumortet
 Mr. R. Bryson, 210 Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.

Mr. S. Garraway
 Mr. E. R. L. Henderson
 Mr. A. R. G. Hunier
 Dr. G. L. Latour

Mr. W. C. Robertson
 Mr. Wm. Smith
 and
 Mr. D. Hope Ross

Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton.
 Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C.
 Mr. H. Y. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. J. C. Henderson, Martindale, Beaconsfield, Bucks.
 Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
 Mr. D. McPhail, 22, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.
 Dr. H. A. Alford Nicollis, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.
 Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Fernbridge Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
 Mr. Stanley Savill, "Brabourne," Bellings Road, Herne Bay, Kent.
 Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.

"The Banana: Its Cultivation, Distribution, and Commercial Uses," recently published under the auspices of the West India Committee, continues to meet with ready appreciation, and has received excellent commendation from those interested in the subject. The price of the volume, which can be obtained from the Committee Rooms, is 7s. 6d., or post free 7s. 10d. in the United Kingdom, and 8s. abroad.

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Orotava (Captain R. Hayes), Southampton, March 30th:—

Captain H. R. A. Adeane Mrs. L. L. Ainsworth Mr. A. B. Alexander Mr. C. C. Anderson Mr. C. K. Archer Mr. C. T. A. Atkinson Mrs. & Miss Barker Miss M. Barnett Mr. J. S. K. Barratt Mr. J. K. Bateman Mr. & Mrs. Harrison Benn Captain R. E. Berkeley, R.S. Mr. A. R. Berkeley Miss de Boisserie Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Booth Mr. H. Brassington Mr. & Mrs. R. S. Breslau Miss A. Breslau Mrs. Brown Mr. N. E. Buckingham Mr. R. Burrell Miss D. V. Butt Mr. J. Charley Mr. & Mrs. H. Chatterton Mr. W. R. Chiken Sir William Christie Mr. C. M. Clark Mrs. & Miss Clarke Mrs. Clowes Mr. F. W. Collier Mr. J. Concanon Mr. P. Conisky Mr. A. C. Coombe Mr. & Mrs. Curry Mr. & Mrs. A. St. F. Dare Mrs. & Miss L. Devaux Dr. & Mrs. J. H. Dewhurst Miss G. E. Manly-Dixon Miss E. Dixon Mr. J. M. Dixon Mr. W. Douglas	Mr. James Dove Mr. & Mrs. H. H. Evans Mrs. J. R. Ewing Paymaster S. W. Finch, R.S. Mr. U. A. T. Fincken Mrs. J. M. Fleming Mr. F. B. Gall Dr. Gillilan Mr. W. Gordon Colonel H. Graham Mr. J. Green Mr. J. W. Green Mrs. H. S. Greenwood Mr. & Mrs. E. Grice H. E. Grigg His Honour G. J. Van Grol Miss Hayes Mrs. W. L. Harris Mr. G. R. Hayman Mrs. & Miss Heal Miss K. Howson Mr. P. R. Huettenebeim Mrs. E. Hutton Sir Clarendon G. Hyde Mr. J. J. Jeffers Staff Surgeon J. R. Johnston, R.N. Mr. & Mrs. W. Campbell Jones Mrs. W. Kenny Mr. W. Kitto Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Kruger The Hon. W. Lascelles Mr. G. C. Lemottee Mr. A. H. Lewis Mr. E. M. Lloyd Mr. & Mrs. G. V. Long Mr. J. Lundberg Mr. J. Macdonald Mr. B. F. N. Macrone Miss L. McHugh Mr. J. McGilchrist Mr. & Mrs. G. McWilliam	Mr. W. Measures Major G. F. M. Montgomerie Mr. J. Morrish Mr. H. K. Morrish Lieut. J. B. Newill, R.N. Mr. W. G. Newton Miss A. Nobman Miss Noel Mr. & Mrs. J. F. Parsons Mr. J. Pascoe Mr. J. Pengelly Mr. & Mrs. R. Phillips Mr. H. Rauschenberg Mr. J. M. Reid Misses Reinberg (2) Mr. P. F. M. Richards The Very Revd. Dr. Page Roberts The Hon. Mrs. Page Roberts Misses Page Roberts (4) Mr. & Mrs. T. A. Robinson Mr. & Mrs. G. S. Rodriguez Miss Silva Rodriguez Miss C. M. Rogers Mr. D. Hope Ross Mr. & Mrs. C. Russell Mr. & Mrs. A. Schmidt Mr. J. W. Scrivens Mr. J. B. Seattle Mr. & Mrs. M. L. Thornton-Sharp Mrs. L. E. Starmer Mr. W. Vanderbyl Miss Vanderbyl Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Weeks Mr. S. Wildash Mr. Worthington Wilmer Miss M. Wilson Mr. J. White Mr. H. E. Wood and Mr. W. H. Wright
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26th: "Weather continues too dry." (Messrs. Booker, Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.) March 30th, "Some acceptable rains have fallen in Berbice." (Messrs. H. K. Davson & Co.) March 31th, "Two inches of rain generally." (Messrs. Curtis, Campbell & Co.) April 4th, "Very dry, but some rain has fallen in Berbice." **Jamaica** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd), week ended March 25th. **PORT ANTONIO**, "Fair." **KINGSTON**, 19/21st "Fine." 22/24th "Showery." 25th, "Rainy."

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

		OUTWARD.		Post to London.
To.	From.	Packet.		
West Indies	Southampton ...	Trent		Apr 7, midnight
Jamaica	Liverpool ...	Asian		" 8, 6 p.m.
West Indies	Dartmouth ...	Spheroid		" 9, 6 p.m.
Barbados	Liverpool ...	Magician		" 10, 6 p.m.
Trinidad	Southampton ...	Orotava		" 21, midnight
West Indies	Southampton ...	Danube		Due, April 13.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
Jan. 1 to Mar. 12.	1913	Jan. 1 to Feb. 28.	1913
Sugar ...	16,957	13,152 Tons.	831
Molasses ...	617	399 Puns.	986 Tons.
Rum ...	792,279	889,000 Galls.	105,260
Molasevul, &c. ...	710	2,342 Tons.	18,583 Galls.
Cacao ...	22,557	lbs.	1,448,160
Coffee ...	57,134	45,930 "	744,576 Lbs.
Coco-nuts ...	502,657	299,536 No.	3,234,784
Oranges			1,728,160
Bananas			4,284,070
Cotton			4,444,005 No.
Pimento			973,250
Ginger			1,233,220 "
Honey			410,268
Dyewoods			410,268 Stems
Gold	10,347	7,533 ozs.	31,274
Diamonds	1,679	820 carats.	2,320
Rice	4,933,845	1,767,532 lbs.	2,647
Balata	490,295	185,795 "	15,832
Rubber			1,435 Galls.
Timber	38,883	53,048 cubic ft.	5,324
Lumber	76,459	35,589 feet	
Lime (hydrate of)			

Trinidad.		Barbados.	
Jan. 1 to Mar. 27.	1913	Jan. 1 to Mar. 23.	1913
Sugar ...	5,118	2,270 Tons.	4,070
Molasses ...	553	285 Puns.	72
Rum ...	272		624
Coco-nuts	3,273,325	2,020,320 No.	
Asphalt	12,565	15,969 Tons.	
Manjak	62	128 "	
Bitters	4,132	3,662 Cases.	
Coffee	4,000	640 lbs.	
Crude Petrol	1,526,667	214,790 Galls.	
Cacao	24,031,800	15,972,200 lbs.	
Cotton			
" Seed			
Copra	1,860	1,726 Bags.	
Spice			
Kola			

Dominica.		Grenada.	
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.	1913	Oct. 1 to Mar. 16.	1913
Cacao	1,070,720		1,310,224 Lbs.
Limes	43,832		37,038 Barrels.
Lime Juice, raw	336,728		508,796 Galls.
" concentrated	119,974		141,318 "
Clarified oil	4,733		3,150 Cwts.
Lime Oil, distilled	5,379		4,150 Galls.
" equalled	1,505		1,063 "
Hardwood	37,000		1,102,804 feet.
Bananas	5,536		5,536 Stems.
Coco-nuts	448,747		539,797 No.

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Trent (Captain R. Hayes), April. 8th:—

Mr. & Mrs. A. J. C. Brookes Lieut. & Mrs. F. R. Wood Mr. J. Marsh Mr. P. Craddock Miss A. D. Sock Cooingbams Mrs. P. MacKintosh Mrs. Jamison Mr. A. Stuckberg Dr. A. Kidd Mr. J. Black	Mrs. & Miss Buck Mr. E. E. Rudden Mr. P. P. Smith Mr. J. Roro Mrs. Bancroft Mr. G. Bunting Mr. H. L. Boardman Mr. T. A. B. Sherriff Mr. P. D. W. Moore Mr. J. T. Ward Lieut. G. R. H. Deane Miss Pougnet Mr. W. P. Branch	Mr. W. H. S. Mitchell Dr. & Mrs. George Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Heurtrey Mr. & Mrs. C. Richter Mrs. J. Fraser Misses Fraser (3) Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Ridsdale Mr. R. Ridsdale and Hon. & Mrs. H. C. A. Pelham
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ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Orotava, April 22nd:—

Miss M. Windsor Mrs. F. de Zalles Mrs. A. de Zalles Miss C. de Zalles Miss P. Zalles Mr. E. de Zalles Mr. & Mrs. R. Pando Misses Pando (2) Miss Robinson	Miss I. Gravely Mrs. M. L. Vythuis Miss N. Rickford Lieut. V. C. Green Mr. D. R. Ballard Lieut. Col. & Mrs. G. L. D. Swain Mr. A. D. Lowton Captain & Mrs. Benson	Major E. F. Beeber Mrs. P. Thomas (2) Mrs. J. Kohler Mrs. & Miss Onion Mr. F. W. Oniun Mrs. P. P. Reidy and Mrs. & Miss White
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ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Danube (Captain W. C. Barrett) May 6th:—

Mr. E. S. Plant	Mrs. S. Edwards	Mr. D. H. Bellech
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WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), April 2nd, **Demerara** (The Demerara Co., Ltd.) March

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½% 78½)

SUGAR.—In New York quotations last week were 2.51 cents for 89% Muscovados and 2.95 cents for 96% centrifugals, equal to 9s. c.i.f. New York, but declined 3 points last Saturday and on this basis a large business was done, estimated at fully 200,000 bags of Cuban and Porto Ricos.

The London speculative beet market still continues to be dominated by the movements of the Cuban crop and the weekly arrivals at the shipping ports. These have easily constituted a record, for in one week at the end of March the very large tonnage of 138,000 from all the ports was announced; while the accumulation of sugar had raised stocks to 617,000 tons on 28th March, with the probability that they will reach 630,000 on the 31st of March, against 397,000 tons last year. The exports, too, have been quite abnormal, amounting to 95,500 tons. The estimate of the total crop is now in the light of these figures put by Mr. Guina at 2,480,000 to 2,550,000 tons, whilst Mr. Himely's forecast remains unchanged at 2,570,000 tons. Notwithstanding that American refiners have made extensive purchases of these sugars (having in one day bought 100,000 tons) British refiners have been successful in securing several cargoes for March-April shipment at 9s. 9d. to 9s. 6½d., basis 96% polarisation on floating turas. It is therefore not a matter for wonderment that the speculative beet market has been in a lethargic condition and that quotations have remained stationary for the best part of the fortnight and dwindled away towards the close of last week, when the full force was felt of these large supplies of cane sugar coming to hand from Cuba. First products of beet are now quoted at 9s. 1½d. for prompt and 9s. 2½d. for May delivery f.o.b. Hamburg basis 88% analysis.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: Mar. 24th, 9s. 2½d.; 25th, 9s. 2d.; 26th, 9s. 2d.; 27th, 9s. 2½d.; 28th, 9s. 2½d.; 30th, 9s. 2½d.; 31st 9s. 1½d.; April 1st, 9s. 1d.; 2nd, 9s. 1½d.; 3rd, 9s. 1½d.; 4th, 9s. 1½d.; 6th, 9s. 1½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914.	1913.	1912.
Europe (1st & 28th Mar.)	3,524,650	3,493,270	2,444,560
United States (1st March)	172,000	190,950	176,400
Cuba (6 p'pal ports 1 March)	485,000	336,000	242,000
Cargoes afloat (2nd March)	—	—	67,280

Total Tons 4,181,650 4,020,220 2,930,240
Quotations of 88% Beet, 6th April ... 9s. 1½d. 9s. 10½d. 14s. 8½d.

Grocery West Indian. In the crystallised market there have been three auctions in the fortnight, but no improvement in the demand can be reported, and as a consequence where business has been effected prices although irregular show some decline. The business recorded in Demerara at from 13s. to 15s. 9d., Trinidad from 13s. 3d. to 14s. 1½d. and Jamaica at 13s. 6d.

Syrups.—Neglected. 20 bags Jamaica sold at 11s. 9d. Muscovados. — Inactive. 20 bags Barbados at auction sold at 12s. 6d.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	6,141	6,740	4,338	7,555	5,700
Deliveries ...	6,741	6,182	7,335	8,241	8,160
Stocks (March 28)	12,006	2,397	1,492	3,672	2,615

Quotations of medium qualities, crystallised Mar./3 April.
13s. 4½d. 16s. 0d. 19s. 10½d. 15s. 9d. 20s. 0d.

RUM.—Stocks in London, March 28th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	5,506	5,507	7,567	7,943	8,691
Demerara	10,196	8,727	8,525	7,328	9,441
Total, all kinds	22,828	22,426	24,007	23,920	25,627

The market for proofs is dull and there is scarcely any business to report. The approaching Budget, in addition to bad trade all round, checks any demand for the present from dealers. When, however, it is known that spirits will be left without change of duty possibly a better tone will develop. Jamaicas are arriving more freely now, and a small business has been transacted at about previous rates.

GAGAO.—Stocks in London, March 28th:—

	1914	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910.
Trinidad	6,772	4,224	7,101	5,098	8,132
Grenada...	8,939	6,009	15,856	13,973	19,942
Total of all kinds	90,924	79,086	123,030	118,017	97,731

The market has been dull with an easier tendency. At the auction last Tuesday the large quantity of 13,091 bags was offered; of which 9,768 bags consisted of Trinidad, Grenada and other West Indian kinds. The trade seemed disposed to buy freely at a lower range of prices, and as importers were willing to meet the market 6,569 bags were sold, mostly of Grenada at a reduction of 2s. to 3s. for fine and 1s. to 2s. for medium qualities; Trinidad being held for last prices, only 69 bags out of 1,279 bags were sold at 6d. decline for Estate marks. Other West India, comprising Dominica, Jamaica and St. Vincent sold at 1s. 6d. to 2s. decline.

Quotations after last auction were Trinidad middling red 61s. 6d. to 62s. 6d. good middling red, 63s. to 63s. 6d., fine and superior, 64s. to 67s.; Grenada ordinary to good fair, 54s to 57s., middling to fine, 58s. to 61s.

In Trinidad circular of March 16th, it is stated deliveries were more liberal than anticipated and still there was considerable produce to come forward. After frequent fluctuations quotations settled at \$12.50 to \$13.00 per fanega, the equivalent of 56s. 6d. to 58s. 6d. cost and freight Havre per 50 kilos, at which considerable business had been done.

COFFEE.—Santos, Mar. 45s. 3d.; May 43s.; July 43s. 7½d. The spot market early in the fortnight developed a satisfactory demand and fairly large supplies met with buyers for a good portion at steady to partially higher prices for very fine grades. Last week full supplies at auction consisting chiefly of Costa Rica were in the majority of cases sold at full to dearer rates. Futures under the influence of the Brazilian exchange and rumours of financial aid to be given by the Brazilian Government improved the trade demand and imparted a cheerful tone, and sent prices up nearly 1s. 6d. from the lowest point; but statistical figures for March not turning out so favourably as anticipated weakened the position slightly.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended 2nd April 1156 bales of West India were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland state that since last report the demand for West India Sea Island cotton has been restricted and sales limited to about 50 bales, half Montserrat at 17½d. to 18d., and the rest St. Vincent at 21d.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice (Raw).—Dominica unchanged; Jamaica has sold up to 1s. 9d. for good. Essential Oil (distilled).—Dearer with fair sales of good at 2s. per lb. Otto of Limes. (hand pressed)—Neglected; nominally worth about 9s. per lb. Concentrated.—Dearer, the bulk of arrivals sold at £32 10s., but some business done since at £31 10s., which is the present quotation. **PIMENTO.**—Quiet. **NUTMEGS.**—100's/80's 5½d. to 6d., 100's/20's 5d. to 5½d., 140's/20's 4½d. to 5d. **MACE.**—Good to fine 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d., red to good 1s. 9d. to 2s. 1d., broken 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d. **GINGER.**—Quiet. **COPRA.**—Fair merchantable West India steady value £28. **ARROW ROOT.**—About 300 barrels sold at 3½d. to 4½d. Quotations nominal at 2½d. to 4½d.

RUBBER.—Market quiet and closes slightly easier. Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 7½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 7d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 11½d. as against 3s. 5d. in 1913; do. soft, 2s. 11½d. as against 3s. 5d. in 1913; Catilloa sheet, 1s. 9d. as against 2s. 9d. in 1913; scrap, 1s. 6d. as against 2s. 5d. in 1913. **BALATA.**—Sheet, 2s. 10d. landed as against 3s. 1d. in 1913; Block, 1s. 10½d. c.t.f. as against 2s. 1d. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL. Russian, 7½d.; American, 8d. Water White, 9d.; Roumanian, 7½d.; and Galician, 7½d.

ALGERNON B. ASPINALL.

The . . . West India Committee Circular.

Vol. XXIX.

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The West India Committee Rooms.

Telephone: 15, SERPENTINE LANE.
CENTRAL. LONDON, E.C.,
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.
April 20th, 1914.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

IT is really deplorable that the work of so useful a body as the Advisory Committee for the Tropical Diseases Research Fund should be hampered through lack of funds. According to the report for 1913, the total revenue of the Committee for the year amounted to £3,445 only, towards which the Imperial Government contributed the truly magnificent sum of £1,000. No detailed accounts are furnished; but it appears that, as in the previous year, there was an excess of expenditure over income which could only be met by drawing on the accumulated balance of the fund, and it is in the circumstances hardly surprising that SIR WEST RIDGEWAY, the Chairman, should have placed on record the importance of increasing the amount at the Committee's disposal, having regard to the many directions in which important research could be carried on if the financial resources could be permanently increased. In the House of Commons on June 8th last, MR. HARCOURT stated that His Majesty's Government made direct grants of £3,500 a year for the prevention of tropical disease. What a pittance that is compared with the thousands of pounds spent—and so profitably spent too—on hygiene and sanitation in the Panama Canal Zone and Havana. Meanwhile the Colonial Office has to depend very largely upon the generosity of individuals for the funds wherewith to secure the improvement of health in the colonies under its control, and we regret to have to say, too, that it depends very largely upon foreigners. We constantly hear of expeditions of scientists from the United States visiting the British West Indies, and latterly of actual grants being made by American institutions

towards the cost of hygiene in the British Empire. Only by last homeward mail, for example, we learnt that the Rockefeller Sanitation Commission, whose talented expert, DR. H. H. HOWARD, was in British Guiana, had made grants to Antigua and British Guiana for the purpose of combating ankylostomiasis, or hook-worm disease, which is very prevalent there. These grants have naturally been accepted with gratitude; but, while we are second to none in appreciating the magnificent work which is being done by the Rockefeller Foundation, we would fain wish that His Majesty's Government had taken the initiative, and had obviated the need for this dependence upon the generosity of foreigners. Fortunately, however, we are not without patriotic Englishmen who are alive to the possibilities which the enunciation of the theory of insect-borne disease and the subsequent proof of its correctness have opened up for the tropics. What SIR ALFRED JONES did for the cause of tropical medicine is common knowledge. He was succeeded as President of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine by SIR WILLIAM LEVER, whose open-handedness, especially where the welfare of the people is concerned, is also well known. Then, again, only recently, MR. WELLCOME set a noble example by contributing a handsome sum of money to the cost of the expedition headed by DR. LOUIS SAMBON, which visited the West Indies under the auspices of the Colonial Office to investigate that distressing disease known as pellagra. We hope that this example will be followed by others, for though the West Indies are, comparatively speaking, healthy, their condition is capable of improvement in many respects, and their loyal and hard-working medical service would no doubt be the first to welcome additional funds to enable them to carry on still more actively the great work which they are doing. It should, we are assured, be possible to render the West Indian islands absolutely immune from all the more serious forms of tropical disease, and here they have a dis-

tinct advantage over the Panama Canal Zone. For on the Isthmus, the moment the present campaign is relaxed to the least extent, the mosquitoes will swarm back, and the expenditure must therefore be continuous. In the islands, on the other hand, it should be quite possible to close the door against disease and keep it shut once for all. For some years a considerable expenditure would be necessary; but when once the disease were stamped out, it could be kept out for a very modest annual appropriation. How interesting it would be if the Government, or failing them, some philanthropist, were to take one particular island in hand and treat it as an object lesson for the others. We have been assured by DR. SAMBON that it would be quite possible to rid Barbados, for example, of such terrible complaints as elephantiasis, pellagra, leprosy, etc., within so short a space of time as three years. Would that funds were forthcoming to put this belief to a practical test!

CANADA AND THE TRADE AGREEMENT.

THOSE who support the action of Canada in admitting Mauritius and Fiji to the benefits of the Canada-West Indies Tariff Agreement without insisting upon their giving reciprocal advantages have urged that there is no chance whatever of produce from those colonies competing with West Indian produce in the markets of the Dominion. If that is so, what, one might ask, would be the object of extending a barmecide preference to Mauritius and Fiji? Is it merely eye-wash for the Free Trade Government at home, or are there ulterior motives? As a matter of fact, events are already proving that there were good grounds for the objection taken in British Guiana and the West Indies to the course of action which Canada has followed, apart from the question of principle. The official returns which have just been published show definitely that in the ten months to the end of last January sugar was imported into Canada from with Fiji, which gets, for nothing, advantages in ing only to 2,850 tons, and it is to be assumed that the sugar went to the western sea-board; but it has been the hope of the West Indies that when the Panama Canal is opened the market of Western Canada will be available for their sugars. Now, however, it appears that they will have to compete with Fiji, which gets for nothing advantages in the Canadian market for which British Guiana and certain of the West Indian islands have to grant a reciprocal preference. We have no wish to labour the point, but we cannot help thinking that if the Secretary of State had placed these matters before the Canadian Government when he was requested to do so—and as he should have done as guardian of the interests of the colonies concerned—the Dominion Ministers could not have been blind to the unfairness of the present arrangement. In a debate in the Canadian House of Commons recently, MR. FOSTER stated that though the

Canada-West Indian mail service was at present subsidised entirely by Canada, it was expected that the West Indies would, in future, contribute their share. It is, we imagine, hardly likely that they will consent to do so while the present anomalous state of affairs with respect to the tariff agreement is allowed to continue. It will be interesting to see what the attitude of Canada will be towards Jamaica and the other colonies which were to receive the benefits of the agreement for a limited time only. In the event of Jamaica not coming in, will that island receive the same treatment as Mauritius and Fiji, and be admitted to its advantages by Order-in-Council, without having to give any reciprocal advantage, or will Canada refuse to give a preference to Jamaica without reciprocity, and thus differentiate between her and Mauritius and Fiji? Owing no doubt to the fact that sugar and cacao are by far the largest items of export from the West Indies, attention has been concentrated on those products in estimating the advantages likely to accrue from the tariff agreement. It appears to have been overlooked that quite a number of articles figuring under Schedule B. "to enjoy the benefits of the Customs preferential tariff when imported into Canada" still remain on the free list and therefore enjoy no preference whatever. Among these are bananas, asphalt, coffee, cotton seed oil, uncleaned rice, rubber, balata, timber, logwood and logwood extract, bulbs, annatto, turtle shells, bay leaves and vanilla beans. It is true that several of these commodities do not bulk very largely among the exports from the West Indies, but it was certainly the general expectation that they would be given preferential treatment though there is nothing in the agreement to make it obligatory where goods are on the free list. We have no wish to be constantly criticising the attitude of the Dominion Government in connection with the agreement, but it is certainly disappointing to find that so many West Indian products are still without a preference. We had hoped that in the Budget for 1914 some, at any rate, of these products would have figured, but the only announcement of an interesting nature to West Indians which the Hon. William T. White made on introducing his financial statement into the House of Commons at Ottawa, on April 7th, was that cassava flour, when used for gunpowder making, and dried and evaporated bananas (which, by the way, are only exported to any extent from Jamaica, an island not party to the trade agreement) are henceforward to be admitted free of duty. We had hoped, too, that steps would have been taken for the adjustment of the cacao duties so that manufactured cocoa, to enjoy the benefits of the preferential tariff, would have to be made from British cacao, and we had also hoped that some differentiation would have been made between molasses cattle food exported from the West Indies and cattle food made from foreign beet sugar molasses when exported from the United Kingdom, which both, however, remain subject to the same duty.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

MR. W. MIDDLETON CAMPBELL presided over the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee on Thursday, April 9th. Those also present were: Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. H. F. Previtte, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary, the small attendance being due to the beginning of the Easter holidays.

The Income and Expenditure account for 1913 and the Balance Sheet were submitted by the Hon. Treasurers, and approved.

The following were admitted members of the West India Committee:

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
Charles Adrian James Butter	H. F. Previtte. W. M. Campbell.
Sir Henry Spencer Berkeley	Mrs. Bromley. W. P. B. Shephard.
Jocx H. Charley (Jamaica)	Arthur Clodd. W. Fawcett.
J. C. McCowan (British Guiana)	W. M. Campbell. W. P. B. Shephard.
H. J. Phillips (British Guiana)	Fred. Driver. W. M. Campbell.

The Secretary reported that two members had died since the preceding meeting. The resignations of five members were accepted and the names of thirty members whose subscriptions were in arrears were removed from the list of members and the country office of a firm added, making the total membership 1548.

Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms. During the year to date 32 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

Trinidad ...	4	St. Vincent ...	1
Grenada ...	3	Canada ...	1
British Guiana ...	3	New South Wales ...	1
Jamaica ...	2	Country ...	9
Dominica ...	1	London ...	5
Nevis ...	1	New York ...	1

MOTHER ST. GEORGE, one of the devoted helpers of Florence Nightingale during the Crimea war, whose death took place at Croydon on April 14th, at the advanced age of 87, assisted in the foundation of the Convent at Roseau, Dominica, between 1857 and 1860. For over thirty years she was Superior of the Convent of the Faithful Virgin at Folkestone, and for the last six years of her life she lived in retirement at the Convent of the Faithful Virgin at Upper Norwood.

SUGAR PRODUCTION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Modern Methods of Manufacture.

MR. A. R. G. HUNTER, who left Frome Estate in Westmoreland, Jamaica, last year, to take up an appointment in the Philippine Islands, has formed a high opinion of their sugar producing capabilities. In a letter from Batang under date March 8th, he writes: "This is quite one of the finest countries for sugar growing, and seems to have a great future before it. At present, of course, the sugar industry is only in its infancy here. The old methods are very primitive—consisting in most cases of just boiling down juice from very imperfectly crushed canes, until it solidifies. Practically no clarification of any sort is attempted. This last year or two, however, one or two absolutely modern factories in every detail have been erected and are doing well. This factory is one of two erected for this crop. The other is in the island of Negros. Both were supplied by Messrs. John McNeil & Co., of Glasgow, and are equipped with every modern appliance from eleven roller mills driven by one engine downwards. The mills have a rated capacity of 240 tons per day, and are doing excellent work.

"This one, Central Carmen, belonging to one of the wealthiest proprietors out here, is situated in the southern part of Luzon—the island on which Manila stands. We have been running only a few weeks, and already the employees, none of whom had ever seen a sugar factory before, are beginning to do their different tasks as though they had been accustomed to nothing else. The Filipino is a very apt pupil indeed, and seems to take to new ideas and methods very quickly. It is hard to realise now, after only a few weeks' grinding, that about 50 years progress in sugar manufacturing has been jumped over in one year—straight from the most primitive to the most modern. I certainly anticipated very much more trouble and setbacks, before getting everyone accustomed to the modern methods of West Indian manufacture, and to all the modern appliances of an up-to-date sugar factory.

"At present there are large imports of sugar into the islands; but these will probably be very much reduced in the near future, and large exports take their place when the resources of the Philippines begin to be really developed."

Negotiations have been reopened for the use by the United Fruit Co. of one of the Government railway wharves at Kingston, Jamaica. The Company has now offered to carry freight from England in return for the lease of a wharf for £2,750 per annum, and it is hoped that the steamers of Messrs. Elders & Fyffes, Ltd., will resume the passenger service between England and Jamaica next month. The resumption of a direct service for cargo as well as passengers, which Jamaica has not yet enjoyed since the termination of the subsidy to the Imperial Direct Line in 1911, would be cordially welcomed.

THE FINE SPINNERS' REQUIREMENTS.

Some Hints to Cotton Growers.

An interesting article on Cotton Growing is published in *The Textile Mercury* from the pen of Mr. J. W. McConnell. In this he points out that what the spinner wants in cotton is (1) Freedom from waste, due to extraneous dirt and brash, to fibres which are shorter grown than the rest, and to fibres which are not properly developed, and which break up in all the processes of a spinning mill. (2) Uniformity of type, which is probably more important than anything else. It is not sufficient that the average length of fibre should be about what is required, but that every fibre should be as nearly alike in this respect. (3) Strength. The qualities that make for strength in yarn are required. This is not so much the actual strength of the individual fibre as the readiness of the fibres to bind together, a condition supposed to be closely related to the convolutions in the fibres. It must also depend on the flexibility as well as length. (4) Fineness, which enables fine yarns to be spun. Length and fineness are the conditions required. (5) Colour. This is entirely a matter of fashion or custom. But colour is chiefly important as an index to quality. Here, again, says Mr. McConnell, uniformity is essential.

BANANA IMPORTS INTO AMERICA.

In an article entitled "The World's Trade in Bananas" in the *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal* for March, Mr. John J. Macfarlane gives the following table of banana imports into the United States for the last two fiscal years:—

	Bunches. 1911-1912	Bunches. 1912-1913	Value. 1912-1913	Price per Bunch. Cents.
Jamaica	15,467,918	11,163,269	\$3,488,498	31.2
Honduras	7,151,178	7,983,591	2,435,006	30.5
Costa Rica	7,053,664	6,973,684	2,744,813	39.3
Panama	4,581,500	4,438,300	2,082,502	46.9
Colombia	1,542,988	2,684,749	1,107,429	41.2
Guatemala	2,017,650	2,359,250	600,041	25.4
Cuba	2,478,581	2,213,733	834,206	37.7
Nicaragua	2,270,100	1,681,944	348,064	20.7
Mexico	817,006	1,541,504	412,315	26.7
B. Honduras	557,160	651,054	163,249	25.0
S. Domingo	304,000	475,500	222,626	46.8
Guiana	261,548	184,498	39,932	21.1
Canada	10,299	4,398	4,111	
Other British W. Indies	6,595	1,625	466	
Totals	44,520,539	42,357,109	\$14,484,258	

The decrease of 2,173,430 bunches was caused by a falling off of 4,304,649 bunches in the imports from Jamaica, which was only partially made up by the increase of 1,141,761 bunches from Colombia, 832,000 from Honduras and 670,498 from Mexico.

COPIES of the Handbook of Jamaica for 1914 can now be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. price 6s. or 6s. 6d. post free inland, 7s. abroad.

A BALLAD OF THE BENGAL BEAN.

It is claimed that the Bengal Bean exercises a beneficial effect on lime trees by ridding them of scale insects.

In the land of the British West Indies,
There grows a most wonderful Bean,
Over Lime trees infested with scabies,
And it makes the trees beautif'ly clean.
At least it is said that this is so,
And how may we think it untrue,
When planters have seen that it is so,
Have seen the Bean scrape as it grew?

But the real way this Bean has of working,
Is by shading a fungus that feeds
On the scale which we always find lurking
On Lime trees, their leaves and their seeds.
But the Bean seems to some an enigma;
Though from Limes, scale it means to get free,
Yet the tree all the same feels a stigma,
For the Bean has to scale up the tree!

The faces of Ballou and Robson,
And Watt's the man's name in St. Kitts?
Used to wear the expression of Hobson—
What choice but tear Lime trees to bits?
Once hurricanes lowered the tree-es,
And made our Limes perfectly clean;
But we can't get any more breezes,
So put in the Bengalie Bean!

The Bean and the Lime now entwining,
For mutual assistance of both,
Expect Dominica combining,
St. Kitts and Barbados in troth.
The joint, although symbiotic,
Would to all of us certainly seem,
It might turn out idiotic—
Like this tale of the Bengalie Bean!

W. R. D.

Last year there were 81 sugar plantations in Peru, supplying 38 factories with canes. The area in cultivation was 91,708 acres, producing 192,754 tons of sugar, and 2,002,335 gallons of rum. 19,945 labourers were employed on the sugar estates. *Peru To-day* states that many plantations are producing sugar at £6 per ton, and that it can be produced at £6 per ton.

ALTHOUGH, says the *British Trade Journal*, our Government accords preferential treatment to the beetroot sugar factory in Norfolk, and pays a subsidy to the beet-sugar interest in this country, the Secretary of State for the Colonies shelters himself behind the Brussels Convention in declining to sanction a guarantee by the St. Kitts Government of interest for a central sugar factory in that island. When home consumers were concerned the Convention had to be denounced; when the interests of a Colony are in question the Convention must not be infringed.



GEFLOWSKI'S STATUE OF QUEEN VICTORIA.



SOME OF THE PALM TREES IN THE PARK.

VICTORIA PARK, KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

BANANAS FOR EUROPE.

New Steamship Services to be Started.

The European market for bananas is likely to occupy the foremost place in future in the minds of the planters of the fruit in Central America and the West Indies. Enormous as the export to the United States has become—varying from 40 to 50 million stems per annum—the belief is entertained by experts that the trade with Europe will ultimately equal if not exceed that total. In our recent article on the history of the firm of Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., it was shown that concurrently with the growth of the export to England there had been built up a trade with other European countries, which now embraces the chief centres of population on the Continent. The fortnightly service of three steamers from Central America to Rotterdam and Hamburg which the firm established in June last has now been converted into a weekly service, to be maintained by six steamers. The service was inaugurated by the S.S. *Chagres* which left Rotterdam on February 22nd, and returned to that port on March 30th.

The increasing consumption of bananas on the Continent has also attracted the practical attention of the Atlantic Fruit Co. This concern which came into existence a few years ago represents a consolidation of the interests of a number of companies which had been engaged in the banana trade for many years. Registered in the State of Delaware, U.S.A., with a capital of \$13,500,000, the Atlantic Fruit Co. has long been intimately associated with Jamaica. One of the directors is Sir John Pringle, K.C.M.G. The vice-presidency is held by Mr. A. H. Rowley, for many years manager of the Kingston branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Its plantations are situated in Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Honduras, Cuba and Colombia. Hitherto its fruit has been exported solely to the United States. Thither it has been conveyed by the large fleet of vessels under its control. The Company also holds a contract with the Hamburg-America Co., for the use of the latter company's tonnage between the West Indies and the United States.

The Company has now decided to cater for the European market. To that end a fortnightly service of three steamers is being established between Jamaica, Central America and Rotterdam. For the present this number of steamers is being detached from the company's existing fleet, and the first boat has already reached Europe. Three steamers destined to carry on the new service are now under construction in the yards of Messrs. Swan, Hunter and Wigham Richardson at Wallsend-on-Tyne. These steamers will carry from 50,000 to 60,000 stems on each voyage, and will provide accommodation for some forty passengers. The first is to be delivered in May, to be followed by the other two at intervals of a few weeks. The steamers will be owned by strong interests on the Continent

with whom the Atlantic Fruit Co. propose to cooperate in the development of the Continental trade.

An interesting feature of this enterprise is that it provides for the possibility of a call at an English port. The conditions of the banana trade in England are being carefully studied, and should the result of the enquiries now being made justify the course, a bid for the trade of Great Britain will undoubtedly be made.

THE TIMBERS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

V.—Descriptive List of the Principal Woods (Concluded.)

B.—Lighter Woods.

4.—CIROUABALLI (*Nectandra pisi*) S.G. 0.775
There are two varieties of this wood, commonly known as brown and yellow "Silverballi," both largely used in boat building, the wood being most durable for planking, etc., for which purpose it seems to be specially adapted. Other varieties of Cirouaballi are known under the names of "Waibaima" and "Lallifer," all being allied to the Greenheart family, but of much lighter specific gravity and of smaller size. The trees grow plentifully in the Demerara, Essequibo and Pomeroon river districts, and logs can be obtained 60 feet long, squaring 12 ins. to 16 ins., but occasionally much larger.

The wood much resembles cigar-box cedar in appearance, texture and smell, and might be used for the same purpose; and is also suitable for masts and spars, as well as for furniture. It resists attacks of worms, works easily, turns well and takes a fine polish.

5.—KURAHARA (or Karahura?) S. G. 0.684. A straight tree with dark green leaves, growing in sandy soil on the edge of swamps, to a height of 90 ft., squaring 20 ins. free of sap. The wood is of a brownish red colour, resembling cedar, and is used for masts and spars, making dug-out canoes and planking boats; has a well-defined grain, easily worked, takes a fine polish and is a good furniture wood.

6.—FOGLEKOP. Specific Gravity 0.610. Grows plentifully on the Essequibo and Pomeroon rivers. Average height about 70 feet, squaring 12 ins. A light brown coloured wood, close grained, easily worked and takes a good polish. Sawn into planks and boards, it makes good lumber, useful for indoor work, doors, partitions, etc.

7.—CRABWOOD (*Carapa guianensis*) S.G. 0.660. As Greenheart may be deemed king of the Guiana hardwoods, so may Crabwood be considered king of the lighter woods of Guiana.

It is sometimes called Demerara mahogany, and in the United States and Canada it is known as South American mahogany; indeed, along with red cedar, it is easily mistaken on account of its appearance, grain and colour for what is commonly known as Spanish mahogany, chiefly grown in Honduras and

San Domingo. Although true mahogany (*Suietenia mahogani*) is not indigenous to the colony of British Guiana, introduced plants and seeds grow well there, and the writer can recall two very large and fine specimens of mahogany tree growing in Georgetown, one at the old Colonial Bank, cut down in 1888 to make room for the new building, and the other, still standing in front of the Bishop's residence, Kingston House. There is also an avenue of mahogany trees on the main road of Le Repentir Cemetery, Georgetown.

There is considerable difficulty and vagueness in the identification of real mahogany, both from the Spanish Main and Africa; and many varieties are classed under the generic name of "Cedrela," which is really the Spanish word descriptive of all West Indian red woods, and is, therefore, of wide application.

Crabwood is very plentifully distributed throughout all the valleys and lower portions of the forest lands of Guiana, and is a tree of considerable size, and the timber is said to be known in logs as long as 170 feet by 30 to 40 ins. diameter, but is more generally marketed in logs 40 to 60 feet long by 14 to 16 ins. square. The heartwood is of a deep reddish brown, well defined from the lighter coloured sap wood, much resembling mahogany, turns well, is easily worked, takes a fine polish and makes handsome and most durable furniture. It is an excellent wood for flooring boards, partitions, etc., in house building; and is also used for masts and spars.

Some prejudice has been expressed against this wood on account of alleged liability to split; but this is entirely a matter of selection, time of felling, previous "ringing," and proper seasoning, or curing before being used. It is now being increasingly used in the colony in substitution for North American pitch pine and white pine lumber, the imports of which have considerably fallen off in consequence. Being of comparatively light specific gravity, Crabwood can be floated down the rivers and creeks in ordinary timber rafts, without the aid of punts to float it, as in the case of Greenheart and other heavy woods.

The seeds of this tree, which are contained clustered together in large globular pods, yield the valuable and well known Crab oil, used for burning and lubricating purposes, as a high dressing and insecticide, and as a remedy for certain skin diseases; it should also prove an excellent material for soap making. The bark of the tree is used for tanning.

8.—RED CEDAR or KURANA (*Icica altissima*) S.G. 0.560. A reddish brown wood, most serviceable and valuable for cabinet making, joinery, panelling, etc. It is pretty generally distributed throughout the colony, but is not very plentiful. The tree averages 100 feet in height, and the timber can be had in long lengths squaring anything up to 24 ins. or even 30 ins.

White Cedar, also known as "Waracoori," is quite a different species, which grows plentifully in swampy places and on the coast savannahs. It does

not attain a large size, but the wood is very durable under ground for foundation timbers, for which purposes it was largely used by the old Dutch colonists for foundations of their brick sluices, and other heavy structures.

9.—DETERMA. Specific Gravity 0.525. A reddish brown wood, much resembling cedar, and another good substitute for mahogany. Used for cabinet making, planking boats, in the construction of railway carriages and for other purposes, where a light but strong wood is required. The tree is fairly plentiful, growing best in a clayey-gravelly soil, attaining an average height of about 100 feet, and the timber can be had in logs squaring up to 24 or 30 ins., and has actually been seen as large as 42 ins. square. It is also most suitable for masts and spars, being obtainable from 70 to 90 feet long by 14 ins. diameter at the smaller end.

10.—SIMARUPA (*Picraena officinalis*) S.G. 0.445. A most useful wood for partitions and other inside work in house building, as it is bitter in taste and resists the attacks of wood ants and other insects, but it will not stand exposure to weather. It is of a light yellow colour, saws easily, planes well, and takes a good polish, finishing a lustrous yellow. It is cheap and plentiful, can be had in logs up to 24 ins. square, and could be used more extensively than it is for inside work, in substitution of pine lumber from northern countries.

11.—KERITEE or KRETTI (*Nectranda* sp.) S. G. 0.516. This wood is a species of Cirouaballi, and related to the Greenheart family, but of lower specific gravity, resembling cigar-box cedar in colour, appearance and scent. The tree grows to an average height of 80 feet, squaring up to 20 ins., and is plentiful in several localities. Useful for partitions, inner furniture work, and the upper planking of boats.

12.—OOLU. Specific Gravity 0.305. A very light corky wood of a pale yellowish brown colour. The tree grows plentifully on most of the tributary creeks, in loose sandy soil, to an average height of 90 feet, and can be obtained in logs squaring up to 18 ins. The tree yields a resinous gum resembling "Hiawa" or incense gum. The wood has an aromatic scent, and is useful for inner frames in furniture work, but is not ornamental. This, in common with many other varieties of the softer Guiana woods, should be very suitable for the manufacture of wood pulp for paper stock.

Reviewing the foregoing descriptive list of the principal commercial timbers of British Guiana, the following selection of four each of the more plentiful and best woods, adapted for special purposes, may prove useful and convenient:—

(a) For shipbuilding, engineering and constructional work:

Greenheart,
Kakaralli,
Mora,
Wallaha.

(b) For furniture panelling and decorative work :

- Crabwood,
- Houbouballi,
- Cirouaballi,
- Red Cedar.

In conclusion it may be mentioned that any of these timbers may be obtained, either in logs or sawn scantlings and planks, from or through the following local firms : Sproston, Ltd., M. Bugle & Co., Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Sandbach, Parker & Co., Smith Bros. & Co., Jas. E. Perot & Co., S. Davson & Co., and the Berbice Steam Saw Mill Co. (David Baird & Co., London).

WEST INDIAN BLUE-BOOKS.

BY A CORRESPONDENT.

Defects of Compilation.

It is to be regretted that it does not seem to be recognised in the West Indies how much more valuable the Blue-books of those colonies would be if a greater degree of uniformity with regard to their compilation and arrangement were to be secured. At present these volumes leave much to be desired in both respects. We are given too often a mere hotch-potch of facts and figures. Sequence, whether alphabetical, logical, or financial, is rarely studied. The matter is merely "slung together" in perfunctory fashion. Prompt reference is impossible, and prompt reference is the only method of reference of any value in these days. Let us glance at one or two Blue-books. We will select those of Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados and British Guiana as typical of the rest.

Baffling Lists of Contents.

Immediately we open the Blue-book we are confronted with cause for complaint. Here is the list of contents : Taxes, fees, revenue and expenditure, comparative yearly statements of revenue and expenditure, recapitulation of expenditure showing personal emoluments, assets and liabilities, municipalities and other bodies, military expenditure, public works, legislation, councils and assemblies, pensions, foreign consuls, population and vital statistics, ecclesiastical, education, currency, imports and exports, shipping, agriculture, etc.

A glance at this order, or rather disorder, of contents will show that there is no attempt whatever to arrange them according to any intelligible plan. Neither alphabetical order, nor sequence of importance is studied. Take the first item, "taxes, fees." Why should not these be given in an appendix at the end of the book? The first question arising in the mind of the student is: what is the present position of the colony? Alphabetical order would be served also by placing at the head of the list "assets and liabilities." Agriculture represents the chief industry of the colony. Yet where do we find it

located—far down the end of our list; traceable only by first reading each preceding item. Then, again, why should "foreign consuls" be sandwiched between "pensions" and "population?" This again would be a fit subject for an appendix. Criticism might well be applied to the place assigned to other items.

Let us now turn to the table of imports. In Summary Class I. (food, drink, tobacco) we find in the Jamaica Blue-book, 1912-13, the countries arranged in the following order after the United Kingdom and the United States :—

Germany	19,417	0	0
China	69	0	0
Danish West Indies	2	11	8
Syria	112	0	0
India	8,921	0	0
Gibraltar	38	0	0
France	2,853	0	0
British West Indies	7,847	0	0
Cuba	175	0	0
Denmark	4,422	0	0

And so on and so forth. Far down the list we encounter Belgium (£2,465) and Austria (£5). It will be seen that there is no attempt to grade the items. Only by an elaborate "sorting out" process is it possible to ascertain the import from any particular countries. It was quite open to the compiler to group the British possessions, and then foreign countries either alphabetically or in order of amounts. The reader, however, is presented with a conglomeration of figures, the relative importance and value of which he must ferret out for himself. When we come to the classification of commodities the alphabetical order finds favour. Thus "toys" follow "tea" and "soap" follows "sausages," but there is no endeavour to grade the countries contributing these items. Take tobacco for instance. Early in the list comes Cuba whose export is valued at £12, while further down stands Canada which sends tobacco valued at £30 16s. The same lack of order is apparent in the summary of exports from Jamaica. Thus the British West Indies, the seventh country in order of value, occupies the twenty-fourth place in the list.

In the case of Barbados we find the same defect with regard to the index—an index that leads nowhere. The table of the yearly expenditure yields no greater satisfaction. Why should the "Powder Magazine" (£64) be placed between "Customs" (£16,898) and the "Post Office" (£7,648)? There is the less excuse for this lack of sequence, seeing that the summary of imports is compiled alphabetically.

Trinidad gives cause of complaint in regard to its summary of revenue. Why should "Land Sales" (£34,502) take precedence of "Immigration Tax Receipts" (£35,262)? In the summary of expenditure we note that "Transport" (£78) is followed by "Ecclesiastical" (£10,520). No order is observed in regard to the many items of public works expenditure. A reader of the Blue-book desiring at a moment's notice to locate any particular feature of this

expenditure would find himself confronted by a tiresome task involving a careful perusal of the entire list.

One discovers, gladly, that the British Guiana Blue-book is equipped with an alphabetical index. This favourable impression, however, is largely spoiled by finding, as in the case of Jamaica, that the list of taxes and fees is given the first place, instead of being assigned an appendix at the end. This prominence is out of all proportion to its importance. Further on, the colony's assets give trouble. A study of the complete table is compulsory in order to ascertain any particular item. Lack of arrangement again is observable in regard to the list of imports. The prompt appearance of Bermuda gives hope of alphabetical order; but the hope is short-lived, seeing that the island is followed by Newfoundland, Hong Kong and Australia. Why not Australia at the outset? In the table of exports Russia with £1,274 takes precedence of Portugal with £4,369, which in turn is given pride of place over Denmark (£8,321).

Acreage under Cultivation.

The Blue-books of several colonies give cause for complaint under this heading. We can generally rely upon finding grand totals, but the acreage under a particular product is not so commonly reported. Jamaica sets an example which might well be followed by all her sister islands. Her Blue-book contains the name of every parish and the precise number of acres in each parish assigned to bananas, coffee, coco-nuts, and so forth. Such details are not furnished by the Grenada Blue-book at all. Barbados tells us the number of acres under sugar, and the amount of pasture land. But why are we left in the dark in regard to cotton? Trinidad gives us the estimated acreages of cultivated and uncultivated lands, the number of sugar estates, etc., but we are presented with no subdivisions. British Guiana tells us both the number of sugar estates, and the acres assigned to the staple produce. But what of the rice industry?

Returns of Population.

Again, there is room for improvement under the heading of "population and vital statistics." The proportions of white and coloured people, and the population of the chief towns as distinct from that of the colony as a whole, are by no means uniformly presented. As in the case of the acreages, so here, Jamaica furnishes no cause of complaint. On the contrary, the care bestowed on these details is most commendable. Separate tables set forth the number of white and coloured persons and particulars are available in regard to every parish. British Guiana gives the estimated populations in nationality and race, such as Europeans, other than Portuguese, Portuguese East Indians, Chinese, aborigines, Africans, blacks, mixed races; but we are given no information in regard to the number of inhabitants of Georgetown and New Amsterdam. Trinidad sets forth the population according to counties,

Port of Spain being included in the County of St. George, and San Fernando in that of Victoria. In the Blue-book for 1912-13 columns were provided headed: Area in square miles, Whites (male and female) and, Coloured (male and female), but for some reason unexplained, these five columns were all left blank. Barbados, like Jamaica, gives us the necessary details.

Currency Anomalies.

Here again, there is conspicuous lack of uniformity. In Barbados accounts are kept by the Government in English currency, and by the public in American currency. This system may, perhaps, be justified to some extent by the fact that there is a certain amount of American coin in circulation. But what can be said in favour of British Guiana? Here accounts are kept in dollars and cents while the coin in circulation is purely British. English and American gold is legal tender, but the production of a gold piece of either coinage would be a notable event in the life of the colony. It would be undoubtedly to the public convenience if gold were in circulation. It would certainly be preferable to the existing alternatives: heavy pocketfuls of silver or notes only too often ragged and filthy. Trinidad follows the example of Barbados, the currency being kept by the Government in sterling, and by the public in dollars and cents. In Jamaica both accounts are kept in sterling. In this island, Mexican, Colombian and Australian, as well as English gold is legal tender.

Delay in Publication.

Our complaints are not yet exhausted. There is one more. It relates to the haphazard arrangements attending the publication of the reports. It remains to be determined whether the fault lies with the colonies themselves or with the Colonial Office. Certain it is that at the present time the Blue-books appear at intervals so irregular that one never knows when to expect them. The publication, moreover, is not only irregular, but dilatory. Cases can be cited in which the Blue-book has been issued twelve or eighteen months after the expiry of the year under treatment. A notable sinner in this respect is British Honduras. The report on St. Lucia for 1908 was issued on October 19, 1909. The Grenada report for the same year was sent out on December 23rd, 1909. The British Guiana report for 1909-10 saw the light on February 2nd, 1911.

The evils here complained of will never be remedied until absolute uniformity of arrangement and publication of the Blue-books has been secured. If the colonies will lend themselves to the attainment of this object, the day will be hastened when the West India Committee will be able to execute a long cherished scheme—the issue of a West Indian Year Book in England. Such a Year Book would make a notable addition to available works of reference and would thus constitute one of the best advertisements which the islands could obtain on this side of the water.

From what has been written it will be seen that errors of compilation are not peculiar to any one colony. The magnificent disregard of logical sequence which has been exposed may represent compliance with rule and regulation. The compiler may act strictly in accordance with instructions. His hands may be tied. In that case we can only hope for a speedy amendment of whatever rule or regulation may be at fault. Sufficient, at any rate, has been written to demonstrate some of the shortcomings of the Blue-books. The conference of customs officers to be held, it is understood, in the West Indies this summer, will, we hope, devise classification under customs and so render reference and comparison easy. Unless ready reference



The West India Committee Prize for Tropical Produce.

is kept in view as the primary object of publication, the value of Blue-books is, to a great extent, lost. To that object every other influence and opinion must be subdued.

THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.

In the CIRCULAR of March 10th, an illustration was given of the Silver Cup offered by the West India Committee for the best comprehensive exhibit of tropical products shown by a Permanent Exhibition Committee at the Tropical Products Exhibition to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, from June 24th to July 9th next. The silver cup shown on this page is one of the two—also presented by the West India Committee—for the best sample of rubber from an individual exhibitor, and for the best individual exhibit of any article or articles of tropical produce.

OIL PRODUCTION IN TRINIDAD.

The following list of the more important producers of oil in Trinidad is given at the request of a correspondent:—

The Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company, Ltd.
The United British Oilfields of Trinidad.
The Trinidad Central Oilfields, Ltd.
Mr. C. Stollmeyer.
The Cruse Syndicate, Ltd.
The Trinidad Silverstream Oilfields, Ltd.
The Venezuelan Oilfields Exploration (Trinidad Section).

The first four own refineries which are at present producing benzine, kerosene and fuel oil. The following companies are also operating in the colony.

The Oil Concessions of Mayaro (Trinidad) Ltd.
The Trinidad Consolidated Oilfields, Ltd.
The Trinidad Leaseholds, Ltd.
Iacos Syndicate, Ltd.

The largest producer, so far, has been the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company. Its total production for the year ended January 31, 1912, was 141,233 barrels—an average of 387 per day—and for the year ended January 31, 1913, 247,208 barrels—an average of 675 per day. From February 1st to April 22nd, 1913, the production averaged no fewer than 875 barrels daily. With regard to the

other companies the production of oil may be taken approximately as 1,600 tons weekly.

Mr. E. R. Davson, who is at present in British Guiana, will shortly be visiting several of the West Indian Islands, on his way home via Canada, with a view to discussing with the various commercial—and in some cases agricultural and commercial—bodies his proposals for the formation of an Association of Chambers of Commerce for the West Indies. In principle these proposals have already been generally approved, and it is hoped that the British West Indies will be represented at the next meeting of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire collectively as well as individually. Mr. Davson will probably leave Georgetown in the *Caraquet* on April 30th.

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS.

By FRANK CUNDALL.

Victoria Park and Victoria Statue, Kingston.

When Colonel Christian Lilly laid out the town of Kingston soon after the earthquake which destroyed Port Royal in 1692, he left in the centre a plaza or square after the Spanish method of colonial town-planning. In the eighteenth century barracks were erected to the north-west corner of this square, and the space to the south was for many years utilized as a parade ground, as shown in Adolphe Duperly's view in his "Daguerian Excursions in Jamaica," published about 1844. Later on the barracks were abandoned by the troops, and they are now utilized

ferred with the project, the statue was erected at the top of King's Street, on the base erected for the statue of Lord Metcalfe when it was removed from Spanish Town; Metcalfe's statue being removed to the bottom of King's Street to make room for the Queen. Owing to its small size it is to be regretted that the statue was not placed somewhere indoors, or at all events not on so high a pedestal.

It is a replica of a statue erected in the Hall of the Colonial Office at Singapore in connection with the Jubilee of 1887, by E. Edward Geflowski, who exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1867 to 1872.

The statue cost in all about £800. A plaster cast that was used for the unveiling, in connection with the Jubilee rejoicings, is now at King's House, Spanish Town.



THE PARADE GROUND, KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

This illustration of the old Parade Ground, afterwards the Parade Gardens, and now Victoria Park, in Kingston, Jamaica, is from a lithograph in "Daguerian Excursions in Jamaica," by Adolphe Duperly, published about 1844.

for police-court purposes. They may be seen through the trees to the left of the statue in the accompanying picture. The ornamental gardens were laid out in 1870 in the centre of the old military parade, whence they became known as the Parade Gardens; a wide space being left as roadway to the south.

At the instance of a Committee appointed to report on the most suitable way to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, £800 was voted by the Legislature in March 1897 for a statue, in addition to £700 for local rejoicings.

It was originally intended to place the statue at the front of the block of buildings which was in contemplation; but, as retrenchment then inter-

In February of this year (1914) the Victoria League of Jamaica asked the Mayor and Council of Kingston to consider the desirability of renaming the Parade Gardens the Victoria Park, and suggested that, if they approved, occasion should be taken of the presence of Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, the granddaughter of Queen Victoria, on the 4th February, to ask Her Highness to perform the ceremony, as it was felt that it would be well if the memory of Queen Victoria should be perpetuated in the centre of the principal town of the colony, the more especially as it was in close proximity to the statue of her late Majesty. The Mayor and Council fell in with the suggestion, the consent of the Governor was

obtained and Her Highness the Princess renamed the Gardens on the 4th of February.

Although the Gardens have been fittingly named after Queen Victoria, dear to the hearts of all Jamaicans, it is to be hoped the surrounding buildings will still retain the name of Parade, and thus help to recall the days when the central part was made gay by many a military uniform.

The illustrations of the Victoria Park and the Victoria Memorial Statue, which face page 172, are from photographs taken by Mr. Brennan.

MISS EDITH ALSTON'S MARRIAGE.

A Picturesque Wedding at Chislehurst.

The marriage took place on Wednesday at the Parish Church, Chislehurst, of Mr. George Croll, of Camden Place, Chislehurst, with Miss Edith Graham Alston, second daughter of Mr. George R. Alston and Mrs. Alston, of Rosemount, Chislehurst.

The service was conducted by the Rev. G. H. Pole, M.A., Vicar of Christ Church, Chislehurst, who was assisted by the Rev. J. F. Johnson, M.A. While the guests were arriving, Mr. Hodson played selections on the organ, and during the signing of the register Miss Gladys van der Beeck sang "Where'er thou goest," by Hildach. The bride was given away by her father. Her wedding gown was of *crêpe andine*, draped with fine cream and silver lace, the bodice being sewn with an embroidery of seed pearls. Her court train of silver brocade was lined through with ruffled tulle, and finished with a large bow of tulle, caught down by a spray of white heather and silver thistles. Her only ornament was a pearl necklace, the gift of the bridegroom, and she carried a shower bouquet of lilies of the valley and white orchids. The bride's train was carried by a tiny train-bearer, Miss Lorna Williams, her god-daughter, who wore a frock of soft white satin embroidered with daisies, and a little cap to match. There were two bridesmaids—Miss Mildred Alston and Miss Winifred Alston (sisters of the bride). Their picture dresses were of white satin mouve, over pink, the bodices being of tulle and lace. The skirts were draped, and caught with clusters of the palest pink satin rosebuds. They wore hats of tagel straw, with streamers of pale pink ribbon, and carried sheaves of pink American roses tied with tulle. The bridegroom's presents to the bridesmaids were: Miss Mildred Alston, diamond and pearl earrings; Miss Winifred Alston, diamond pendant; Miss Lorna Williams a pearl and platinum brooch.

After the wedding a reception was held by Mr. and Mrs. Alston, at Rosemount, where the numerous presents were on view and which was largely attended. Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. George Croll left by car for London, en route for Italy. The bride's going away costume was of powder blue taffeta, with which she wore a hat of white mouve lined with powder blue, and trimmed with a small bunch of deep purple pansies.

AT WESTMINSTER.

The Proposed British Guiana Railway.

In the House of Commons on April 16th Mr. Pointer asked whether steps were being taken in British Guiana to secure a loan from the British Government for the building of a railway to develop the hinterland; whether, in connection therewith, the Governor, or any of the elected representatives had been, or were, suggesting that in order to increase the security of the British Government the Colony ought to surrender its elective system; and, if so, what was the attitude of the Colonial Office.

Mr. Harcourt: I have received certain proposals from

the Governor of British Guiana for the construction of a railway into the interior. These proposals are at present under consideration, and I am not in a position to make any statement on the subject.—Mr. Pointer: Can the right hon. Gentleman assure me that there has been no suggestion in regard to giving up the elective system? Mr. Harcourt: I would sooner not give any assurance as to what has been suggested until I am able to deal with the whole matter.—Mr. Pointer: Can the right hon. Gentleman assure us that he will not give way to any suggestion of that kind? Mr. Harcourt: The whole matter is under consideration, and I could not give any assurance now.—Major Archer-Shee: Is it not a fact that the consideration of this question has been going on for over two years? Mr. Harcourt: Quite recently new suggestions have been made.

NATURE NOTES.

IN some bee-keeping experiments conducted in Texas recently it was found that when the capacity of the brood chamber was increased 50 per cent. prior to the development of the swarming impulse, there was either no swarming, or else the swarming was delayed from two to three weeks.

WHITE ants form a serious source of trouble on young coco-nut plantations, and Mr. Chadwick in the *Tropical Agriculturist* advises as a remedy the saturation of the soil round about the young palms with a solution of crude perchloride of mercury, or corrosive sublimate, in ten gallons of water.

MASSEE has found that the spores of fungi are, as a rule, killed by an hour's immersion in hydrogen peroxide, and that no spores experimented with germinate after similar treatment for two hours. The germination of seed treated with this reagent is retarded, but for practical purposes seeds may be soaked in hydrogen peroxide for three hours without injury to the seed.

AN ingenious method of strengthening glass has just been devised. A sheet of celluloid is cemented between two sheets of glass, either plate or sheet glass. Complete adhesion is secured by considerable pressure. The result, says the *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*, is a product which it is difficult to break and apparently impossible to shatter. The diminution of the transparency seems to be considerable, the glass being almost, if not quite clear.

ONE of the most striking discoveries of modern times is that just communicated to the Paris Academy of Science in a note from Mme. Victor Henri, a worker in the Pasteur Institute. This lady has discovered that when the bacillus of anthrax is subjected to the prolonged action of the ultra-violet rays, an entirely new microbe is obtained. This new microbe communicated to guinea-pigs an entirely different disease to that of anthrax, and the new microbes are different in every way from the anthrax bacilli. This discovery is regarded by biologists as possibly marking a step towards the discovery of some protoplasmic form of the origin of life.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES.

In order that readers of the CIRCULAR may have an opportunity of studying the development of trade between Canada, the West Indies and British Guiana, as the outcome of the reciprocal trade agree-

ment which came into force on June 2nd last, it is proposed to publish in the CIRCULAR, periodically, tables showing the imports into the Dominion of the principal articles now receiving preferential treatment under the agreement. The first of these tables, which gives the imports for January last and for ten months of the fiscal year, appears below.

Imports entered for consumption in Canada.

	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.				GENERAL TARIFF.			
	JANUARY.		10 months to Jan. 31st.		JANUARY.		10 months to Jan. 31st.	
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Sugar, above 16 D.S.	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
From G. Britain	125,793	2,865	517,097	150,441	15,476	548	247,294	8,144
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	2,112	117	55,315	2,848
.. B. W. Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	280	6
.. Hong Kong	—	—	—	—	409,574	12,938	2,970,120	99,643
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	2,928	80	21,814	639
	125,793	2,865	517,097	150,441	430,090	13,683	3,294,823	111,280
Sugar, below 16 D.S.								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,744,202	384,365
.. B. Guiana	27,406,546	604,500	90,213,983	2,005,144	—	—	—	—
.. B. W. Indies	520,143	9,727	92,522,375	2,018,012	16,314	401	188,873	3,159
.. Fiji Islands	2,860,000	62,000	5,698,600	122,249	—	—	—	—
.. Cuba	—	—	—	—	5,758,828	121,361	119,014,741	2,482,432
.. Dutch E. Indies	—	—	—	—	108,000	2,500	28,621,042	708,456
.. Germany	—	—	—	—	5,600	175	39,424,125	833,552
.. Peru	—	—	—	—	2,200,000	40,000	20,724,360	456,862
.. San Domingo	—	—	—	—	72,230	1,336	113,103,996	2,319,679
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	2,292,171	46,509	20,210,770	420,168
	30,786,689	676,227	188,434,958	4,145,405	10,453,143	212,292	359,032,109	7,608,673
Syrups and Molasses	galls.	£	galls.	£	galls.	£	galls.	£
From G. Britain	66,898	3,214	849,343	40,132	—	—	6,032	280
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	225,931	7,036	2,354,122	56,638
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	360	11	450	22
	66,898	3,214	849,343	40,132	226,291	7,047	2,360,604	56,940
Molasses, over 20° and under 35°								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	11,782	883	148,107	12,128
	—	—	—	—	11,782	883	148,107	12,128
Molasses, cane, not less than 35° and over 56°								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	2,957	1,196	49,468	12,043
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,324	599
	—	—	—	—	2,957	1,196	54,792	12,642
Rice & Sago, Flour, Common Flour & Rice meal	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
From G. Britain	1,888	75	48,814	1,651	800	48	1,320	83
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	67,813	2,030	245,667	13,309
From B. Straits Settlements	—	—	134,383	3,345	56,054	883	56,054	883
From Other Countries	—	—	—	—	122,198	3,521	229,444	6,253
	1,888	75	183,197	4,996	246,865	6,482	532,485	20,528
Petroleum, crude					galls.	£	galls.	£
From U. States	—	—	—	—	206	31	38,290	4,284
	—	—	—	—	206	31	38,290	4,284
Oils, Coal and Kerosene distilled, purified or refined.					galls.	£	galls.	£
From U. States	—	—	—	—	2,230,031	169,987	15,924,521	1,118,684
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	1,740	490	2,205	563
	—	—	—	—	2,231,771	170,477	15,926,726	1,119,247
Coco-nut Oil	galls.	£	galls.	£				
From G. Britain	910	1,030	16,324	19,685	—	—	14	14
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,296	1,441
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	45
	910	1,030	16,324	19,685	17	30	1,360	1,500

	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.				GENERAL TARIFF.			
	JANUARY.		10 months to Jan. 31st.		JANUARY.		10 months to Jan. 31st.	
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Ginger and Spices, unground	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	51,709	4,922	676,079	74,206	4,929	644	149,348	15,683
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	30,746	3,056	481,778	51,860
.. B. W. Indies	18,902	545	376,117	21,859	—	—	6,131	552
From B. Straits Settlements	129,778	15,210	471,309	56,234	—	—	22,301	2,701
From Other Countries	79,800	7,124	368,841	34,064	10,279	431	333,526	20,684
	280,189	27,801	1,892,346	186,363	45,954	4,131	993,084	91,480
Ginger and Spices, ground								
From G. Britain	626	179	18,942	6,607	15	2	543	470
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	4,389	650	69,293	12,546
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	179	13	7,143	474
	626	179	18,942	6,607	4,583	665	76,979	13,289
Limes								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	3,934
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	248
						14		4,182
Coco-nuts, imp. direct			No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
From B. W. Indies	—	—	366,730	9,261	—	—	66,106	2,198
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	1
			366,730	9,261			66,156	2,199
Coco-nuts, N. O. P.								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	6,316	339	141,808	6,740
.. B. W. Indies	—	—	—	—	24,000	750	45,113	1,664
					30,316	1,089	186,921	8,404
Coco-nut, desiccated	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	260	29	16,199	1,828	—	—	81	15
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,357	642
.. B. E. Indies	148,024	15,152	770,224	73,663	—	—	11,438	1,239
.. Other Countries	—	—	8,870	883	40	1	5,010	502
	148,284	15,181	795,293	76,374	40	1	20,886	2,398
Copra								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	324	19
							324	19
Rice, cleaned								
From G. Britain	369,401	5,138	6,341,145	197,055	31,338	1,127	465,422	12,895
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	66,965	3,287	770,125	35,864
.. Hong Kong	—	—	—	—	335,377	9,231	2,302,062	54,371
.. China	—	—	—	—	38,550	1,049	356,662	8,944
.. Other Countries	—	—	55,000	1,856	194,284	7,099	597,933	22,266
	369,401	5,138	6,396,145	198,911	666,514	21,793	4,392,304	134,340
Nutmegs and Mace, whole or unground								
From G. Britain	7,852	982	160,451	18,376	—	—	343	37
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	1,107	152	18,570	3,542
.. Other Countries	14,776	1,999	75,764	8,745	—	—	6,992	2,007
	22,628	2,981	236,215	27,121	1,607	152	25,905	5,586
Arrowroot								
From G. Britain	250	29	32,324	2,782	—	—	251	33
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,868	309
.. Other Countries	2,870	196	37,613	2,518	175	10	1,031	84
	3,120	225	69,937	5,300	175	10	5,150	426
Salt, in bulk					cwt.	\$	cwt.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	22,773	3,948	408,393	65,337
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	420	102	420	102
					23,193	4,050	408,818	65,439
Salt, in bags, barrels and other cases.								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	5,317	2,080	145,231	63,876
					5,317	2,080	145,231	63,876
Sponges		\$		\$		\$		\$
From G. Britain	—	1,522	—	7,196	—	64	—	5,665
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	6,064	—	64,993
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	28	—	3,624
		1,522		7,196		6,156		74,282

	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.				GENERAL TARIFF.			
	JANUARY.		10 months to Jan. 31st.		JANUARY.		10 months to Jan. 31st.	
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Potatoes, Sweet, & Yams			Bush.	\$	Bush.	\$	Bush.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	347	110	—	3,317	67	141
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	4,078	460	60,298	51,900
.. Other Countries	—	—	22	11	425	—	7,323	1,397
			369	121	4,503	3,777	67,688	53,438
Tomatoes, fresh							Bush.	
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	260,173	406,863
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	452	1,550	678	1,172
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	325	525	—	—
					777	2,075	260,851	408,035
Honey	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	14,075	1,310	—	—	1,576	146
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	5,928	890	245,165	35,244
.. B. W. Indies	—	—	238,026	14,491	1,326	93	2,050	133
.. Other Countries	—	—	960	118	425	42	1,916	88
			253,059	15,919	7,679	1,025	250,707	36,611
Bees Wax			lbs.		lbs.		lbs.	
From G. Britain	—	—	136	35	—	—	750	307
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	2,372	834	43,114	14,598
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	2,397	846	24,916	7,574
			136	35	4,769	1,680	68,780	22,479
Oils, essential					lbs.			
From G. Britain	1,185	1,744	12,698	23,325	1,911	2,339	14,349	30,643
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	11,281	12,755	135,282	201,489
.. France	—	—	—	—	536	3,060	5,266	20,466
.. Germany	—	—	—	—	1,088	2,189	18,969	18,756
.. Other Countries	400	714	470	743	2,293	6,195	5,989	14,431
	1,585	2,458	13,168	24,068	16,389	26,538	179,855	285,785
Cattle Food containing molasses		\$		\$		\$		\$
From G. Britain	—	2,885	—	64,663	—	—	—	483
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	32	—	41
.. Other Countries	—	259	—	1,654	—	—	—	—
		3,144		66,317		32		524
Pecans, not shelled, and shelled Peanuts				\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	45,959	1,823	12,520	674	285,678	15,598
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	97,993	7,983	2,246,944	156,117
.. Dutch E. Indies	—	—	—	—	250,697	12,102	425,925	20,123
.. France	—	—	—	—	88,195	4,685	748,091	36,247
.. Other Countries	—	—	54,704	2,374	421,372	18,809	1,229,860	56,921
			100,663	4,197	870,777	44,253	4,936,498	285,006
Lime Juice, crude	Galls.	\$	Galls.	\$	galls.	\$	galls.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	233	106	233	106
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	976	244
					233	106	1,209	350
Lime Juice, fortified, with or containing not more than 25% of Proof spirit						\$		
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	92
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	8	28	517	771
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	144	88	498	501
					152	116	1,063	1,364
Lime Juice and Fruit Juices and Syrups								
From G. Britain	1,426	2,018	34,500	44,584	12	22	4,194	4,522
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	1,369	1,745	61,571	93,169
.. Other Countries	450	675	474	684	46	90	2,218	4,046
	1,876	2,693	34,974	45,268	1,427	1,857	69,973	101,737
Cacao beans, not roasted, crushed or ground					Cwt.	\$	Cwt.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	130	2,062	792	12,956
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	1,128	15,542	23,742	341,308
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	198	3,641	4,852	71,899
					1,456	21,245	29,386	426,163

NOTES OF INTEREST.

DR. LOUIS SAMBON has consented to deliver a lecture at the West India Committee Rooms in June.

A DEPUTATION of Dominica proprietors will wait on Lord Ennott within the next few weeks to urge the importance of the development of their island—the third largest of the British West Indies.

THE rate of insurance against a reduction of the sugar duty in the Budget, which is to be introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer next week, has risen to 25 per cent., while 15 per cent. is being quoted to cover the risk of the total abolition of the duty.

MUCH interest is being taken in the suggestion that the West Indian islands should have a joint flag, and the correspondence on the subject which appeared in the last CIRCULAR has been given wide publicity by the newspapers, and has been the subject of much favourable comment.

THE West India Committee map of the West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras will be published at an early date. It will be obtainable either mounted on rollers or in sheets. The map has three insets, one showing the trade routes to Canada and the United States, another the Panama Canal and a third diagrams to show the comparative areas and populations of the British West Indian Islands.

MR. E. H. S. FLOOD, Canadian Trade Commissioner in Barbados, refers, in a recent report, to the growing tendency of Canadians to visit Barbados which will in time become one of their recognised tourist resorts. Many tourists from the Dominion combine business with pleasure. Thus during February, the flour and fish trade, the hardware and jewellery trade, softwear, and Canadian acetylene lighting industry, in turn were represented by a Canadian traveller. This is a good beginning for the year, and as the future Canadian trade nearly altogether depends on such visits, we agree with Mr. Flood that it is most desirable that they should continue.

It is a common belief among the Christians in the tropical countries of the East, says Mr. Macfarlane, whose paper on the banana is referred to elsewhere in this issue, that the banana was the tree of good and evil in the Garden of Eden. They say that the serpent hid itself in a bunch of bananas when he tempted Eve to eat of its fruit, and that when Adam and Eve became ashamed of their nakedness they covered themselves with the large leaves of the banana plant. "This belief no doubt influenced the early botanists in giving the names *Musa Paradisiaca* and *Musa sapientum*, 'Fruit of Paradise' and 'Fruit of Knowledge,' to two species of the banana plant."

A Slavery, Peonage and Forced Labour Bill presented by Dr. Chapple, M.P., and supported by Mr. Murray Macdonald, Mr. Herbert Craig, Sir Godfrey Baring, Mr. Aneurin Williams and Sir James Yoxall, was introduced into the House of Commons, on March 23rd. Its main objects are "to consolidate and amend enactments relating to the Slave Trade, and to make further and better provision with respect to slavery, peonage and forced labour." Among other provisions of the Bill is one making it compulsory for companies employing, or intending to employ, coloured labour, to notify the Foreign Office, and to furnish such information as may be required from time to time.

AMONG the papers to be read at the International Congress of Tropical Agriculture, which is to be held concurrently with the Tropical Products Exhibition, the following should prove particularly interesting to the delegates from West Indians: "The Gold Coast Cacao Industry" by Mr. W. S. D. Tudhope, "Notes on Cacao Cultivation" by Professor P. Carmody, "Cacao in the Southern Provinces of Nigeria" by Mr. W. H. Johnson, "Cocoa" by Mr. N. P. Booth and Mr. A. W. Knapp, of Cadbury Brothers, "The Classification of Sugar Canes" and "The Sugar Cane in India" by Dr. C. A. Barber. The Leeward Islands will be represented at the Conference by Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls.

SINCE the earthquake of January 1907, Kingston, Jamaica, has been without a Parish or Town Clock. The clock, which was in the steeple of the Parish Church, was damaged by the earthquake and removed. The historic bell of the clock inscribed

*"I am for Kingston in Jamaica, God prosper this place,
Abra. Rudhall of Gloucester, Bell Founder, cast me in 1715."*

was, however, saved, and has since been laid by in the Churchyard, awaiting re-erection. It is now proposed to erect a "Memorial Clock Tower" at the top of King Street in the Victoria Park, as the Parade Gardens are now called, near the Church and Queen Victoria's Statue. It is proposed that the clock shall have four transparent dials each 4 ft. in diameter, and that a marble statue of His Majesty King George V. (5 or 6 feet in size) be placed in an alcove or niche of the tower and about 20 feet from its base. A sum of £1,200 will be required for the Memorial. An appeal is being issued by Mr. L. A. Rattigan, of Belgravia, Brown's Town P.O. Jamaica, the originator of the proposal. His Excellency the Governor, Brigadier General Sir William Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B., and His Grace the Archbishop of the West Indies have consented and promised to become patrons and supporters to the scheme; and it proposed to appoint a select committee later on to carry out the necessary details. It is to be hoped that Mr. Rattigan will be as successful in securing a clock tower for Kingston as he was in providing one for Halfway Tree last year.

THE LONDON LETTER.



EASTER has enabled the millions of workers to gratify the holiday spirit to the full extent. A glad farewell was bidden to March—a month of rain—and the brief vacation was warmly welcomed. The weather prospects, however, did their best to depress the outlook; clouds and showers and general unsettlement being predicted. For once, however, the forecasts were hopelessly wrong. A week of sunshine has conferred benefit on the health of countless holiday makers, and sent up the returns of every railway company. A feature of the holiday was the popularity of the motor-buses, which on one day carried no fewer than 2,500,000 passengers.

THE keynote of the Easter sermons has been a plea for political peace. Short though the Parliamentary recess was, the nation has undoubtedly returned to calmer mood. No further steps have yet been taken towards a Home Rule settlement, but the atmosphere is more favourable. The Army has promptly and properly reverted to its accustomed place, and has ceased to furnish a weapon for the political armoury. The minds of many thinking men are now disposed towards honourable compromise. The prospect of civil war is becoming happily remote. Ulster is winning support for her claims. Sir Edward Carson has spent the vacation in reviewing his forces, and the moderation of his language has eased the situation. He was at pains to impress upon his followers that their military forces are intended for peace rather than war.

THIS subsidence of excitement has enabled the nation to turn to pleasanter topics. There is a wave of philanthropy over the land. Sympathy, warm and practical, with sufferers in various directions is manifest. The recent visit of the King and Queen to the National Institute for the Blind has attracted general attention to those deprived of sight. Subscriptions amounting to thousands of pounds are coming in freely for the cheapening of literature for the blind. Side by side with this movement, generous help is being furnished to Newfoundland. The recent disaster to the sealing fleet has opened up the channels of compassion, and the many women and children thus deprived of their main support are being remembered in their hour of distress.

By the time this issue of the CIRCULAR is in the hands of our overseas readers the King and Queen will have become the guests of the French nation. It is an auspicious moment. The Entente Cordiale has been consolidated by ten years' experience of its benefits, and the welcome awaiting King George and his Consort, will be characterised by sincerity and enthusiasm to a very remarkable degree. Our

French neighbours are greeting King George not only as the Sovereign of a friendly nation, but as the son of the chief author of the Entente.

THE Imperial Institute will become a centre of increased interest to our readers in June. In that month it is to be the scene of the third annual international Congress of Tropical Agriculture. Delegates from all countries are being invited to attend. During the week of session—23rd to 30th—discussion will embrace technical education and research, labour organisation and supply, rubber cultivation, development of cotton growing, fibre production, agricultural credit banks, tropical hygiene and preventive medicine, etc.

THE late Sir Hubert Jerningham, ex-Governor of Trinidad was buried in Berwick Roman Catholic Churchyard. The mourners included Mr. C. E. W. Jerningham (brother), Mrs. Cranston (sister), Mr. C. Cranston and Mr. George Cranston, of Borehouse (nephew), Mr. Liddell Grainger, of Ayton Castle (nephew), Mrs. Liddell Grainger, Sir Henry Jerningham (cousin), Major Gordon (nephew), Mr. Frederick Corballis (cousin), Sir John Haggerston, Sir F. Blake, Sir G. Houston-Boswall, the Hon. Frederick Lambton, and Lord and Lady Francis Osborne.

SALT has recently been acclaimed as a preventive of yellow fever. Its deposit in water has been declared fatal to the breeding of mosquitoes of the fever carrying type. This view, however, is by no means universally supported. Dr. E. Halford Ross—brother of Sir Ronald—writing to the *Times* from the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, controverts the theory. He states that where the experiment was tried at Port Said it was found that the *Stegomyia calopus* and the *Anopheles pharaensis* simply thrive in salt water, and it became necessary to fall back on petroleum. Dr. Ross finds a supporter in Mr. Arthur Conning Hartley. In a letter to the *Times*, Mr. Hartley says that only two months ago in the Gatun district of the Panama Canal Zone, 30 per cent. of salt water was allowed to mix with fresh water. Result: An increased fertility among the *Anopheles* and many cases of malaria.

ACTING on the recommendations of a Committee of which Mr. Henry Warner was chairman, the Board of Agriculture has issued a warning signed by the Vice-President and Secretary and officers of the Agricultural Society, Chamber of Commerce and Cacao Planters' Association, against the excessive claying of cacao, which, it is claimed, is calculated to cause serious injury to the reputation of Trinidad cacao in foreign markets. The above-mentioned bodies announce that if such excessive claying is not discontinued, it will be necessary, in the general interest of the Colony, to bring the matter to the notice of the Government with a view to the introduction of legislation making excessive claying a punishable offence.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The letters of our Hon. Correspondents, received by the R.M.S.P. *Danube*, which left Barbados on April 1st, and reached Southampton on April 13th, contain several outstanding items of interest. Mr. Edward Drayton and Mr. Douglas Young had taken up their new duties in Dominica and St. Lucia respectively. In St. Kitts, for the first year the exports of crystals had exceeded those of muscovado sugar, and keen disappointment continued to be felt at the Home Government, while handsomely subsidising English grown beet, declining to sanction a local guarantee of interest on capital for a second central sugar factory. Princess Marie Louise had returned from her trip to Kaieteur in British Guiana charmed with all she had seen, and in the same colony an influential committee had been appointed to consider the correspondence with regard to the Hinterland Railway. On the reverse of the shield was the closing of the Three Houses to St. Andrews section of the still unfortunate Barbados railway. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our hon. correspondents.

ANTIGUA—Locomotives Running on Trinidad Oil.

Mr. A. P. COWLEY reported on March 28th that the weather during the preceding fortnight had been exceedingly dry and windy, and, therefore, favourable for crop operations. Gunthorpe's were taking advantage of it, and were making the largest output week by week that they had ever done. Bendals started in the previous week, so crop operations were proceeding over the whole island. The alterations and additions to Bendals were complete, and the factory under its new aspect looked very compact and business-like. It was hoped to handle 25,000 to 30,000 tons cane that crop. A noticeable feature, among many, in this connection was the use of two locomotives driven by oil fuel—the first in Antigua.

The Onion Growers' Association was doing first class work; the packing and grading of onions was a distinct success, and as the outcome of the Association's work a cable order had been received from Canada for 10,000 lbs. of onions. The Association had already made a small shipment to St. John's, N.B., and as the cable was received after the shipment had arrived at that port it was evident that the goods had given satisfaction. A direct outcome of the Association's work had been the better packing and grading of onions by individuals who were not members.

The Federal Council had been in session from March 19th to 24th, and very sympathetic reference had been made to the loss sustained by the death of Hon. S. J. Horsford. Several bills were presented and passed in the usual formal manner, but the Government were defeated over the wording of the Supreme Court Act. The Administrator of Dominica not attending the Council put the Government in a minority. The Act provided for the holding of office by a Judge "at His Majesty's pleasure." Hon. J. T. Mansfield pointed out the danger of this placing a Judge at the mercy of anyone, and moved that the words "during good behaviour" should be inserted, the other to be deleted—which was carried, all unofficial voting in favour, official against.

It was the intention of the Government to reorganise the Agricultural Department and reduce the central establishment in Antigua, and provide local laboratories in St. Kitts and Dominica. Considerable discussion arose with

reference to granting a pension to the late Inspector of Schools, the Nevis and Dominica representatives being very much opposed to it. Ultimately the pension was granted by a ten to five vote.

The Rockefeller Health Association of New York had placed at the disposal of the Government a sum of £1,000 to defray expenses for a thorough scientific enquiry into the causes, etc., of ankylostomiasis, or hook-worm disease, which was very prevalent in Antigua, the labouring classes suffering very much, and the writer was sure that many cases of anæmia amongst the white population could be traced to the same cause. The Health Association promise an increase of this amount if necessary. All were very grateful that steps would now be taken to track down the disease, and if possible find a cure, and on behalf of Antigua Mr. Cowley was anxious to record a very grateful appreciation of the grant made.

BAHAMAS—The New Customs Tariff. Some Reductions.

The West India Committee have received from the Colonial Secretary a copy of the new Tariff Act, which reduces the duty on unenumerated articles not exempted or on the free list from 25 per cent. to 20 per cent. ad valorem, and the duty on flour from 3s. 6d. to 3s., while those on ale, brandy, gin, porter, rum, whiskey and cigarettes are increased. The duty on motor boats is reduced from 10 per cent. to 5 per cent., the maximum duty being £5 per boat. Other alterations are definition of passengers' baggage and numerous additions to the free list. Through the courtesy of the Colonial Secretary, the new tariff can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms.

BARBADOS The Railway in Trouble Again.

A crisis in the affairs of the Barbados Railway has again been reached. Acting on the report of the Inspector, Mr. George Lingwood, M.I.C.E., on the condition of the line, which was published as an Official Gazette Extraordinary on March 12th, the Government have discontinued the payment of the subsidy at the rate of £2,000 per annum, and the line between Three Houses and St. Andrews was closed on March 25th.

The death of Lieut.-Colonel J. O. Will, which took place at Duntun Green, Kent, on March 9th, had caused general regret in the island where Colonel Will served from 1895 to 1903. He left a widow, who is second daughter of Mr. T. H. Stokes, formerly of C. F. Harrison & Co., and eight children.

The *Agricultural Reporter* states that March was a month of high winds with moderate, showery weather. The showers had been favourable, both to the old and young cane crops, and had renewed the life of the cotton trees, while conveying a boon to the potato fields. On one estate in the red soils a return of 300 lbs. of seed cotton per acre was reported from the first pickings, and reaping was in progress everywhere.

Mr. F. S. Reece, for over 29 years head of the Postal Department, was to retire at the end of the month.—The Glossop Harris-Frank Cellier Shakesperian Company had just brought to a close a successful season in the island.

BERMUDA—The Steam Communication Act.

In the House of Assembly Mr. C. A. V. Frith had given notice that he would move an address praying the Governor to request the Secretary of State to advise His Majesty to disallow the New York Steam Communication Act, 1914, in view of the fact that the contract was not in accordance with the information furnished to the House as the basis of it, that there had been serious misrepresentations in connection with it, and that the contract did not, in the opinion of the House, adequately protect the interests of the colony. On April 1st, after a debate of an hour and a half, during which Mr. Dill submitted as an alternative proposition that if it were found that there had been misrepresentation, the Governor should be asked to prorogue the House, and that in the next session a Bill could be introduced to repeal the New York Steam Communication Bill, the discussion was adjourned.

BRITISH GUIANA—The Hinterland Railway Committee.

Mr. J. C. McCOWAN, writing on March 28th, said that

Princess Marie Louise, who left for the Kaieteur Fall on March 16th, had returned to Georgetown on the 26th. She had been accompanied by Hon. C. Clementi (the Government Secretary), Miss Hawkes, Mr. Fraser and Mr. A. F. White. Her Highness had been met on her return by the Governor. The party spent a whole day at the Fall, and also a day at Tukeit. The arrangements, which were made by Sproston, Ltd., had been carried out without a hitch.

The Government were considering a scheme of citizen defence for the colony which had been prepared by the Attorney General. Meanwhile a new militia company was to be formed in place of the volunteer companies which were to be disbanded at the end of the month.—A committee had been appointed to discuss the correspondence with regard to the hinterland railway proposals; it was composed as follows:—Executive Council: The Government Secretary (Hon. C. Clementi), the Attorney General (Hon. J. J. Nunan, K.C.), the Immigration Agent General (Hon. J. Hampden King) and the Hon. R. G. Duncan, J. B. Laing and D. M. Hutson, K.C. Chamber of Commerce: Mr. John Duke Smith. Planters' Association: Mr. J. Gillespie. Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society: Mr. J. Cunningham. Combined Court: Hons. A. B. Brown, J. P. Santos, F. Dias, J. Downer, A. P. Sherlock, C. F. Wieting and Wm. Whyte, and Messrs. C. W. Prest, G. Russell Garnett, R. E. Brassington, S. S. Wreford and Dr. J. M. Rohlehr; and Mayors: Mr. J. S. McArthur (Georgetown) and Mr. J. A. Abbensetts (New Amsterdam).

A Board had been appointed to conduct the examination of Inspectors of Nuisances. Lectures were to be begun in July, and the examination would probably take place in September.—Mr. Watson Griffin, Special Commissioner to the Canadian Government, had arrived in the colony, and was the subject of an interview published in the *Daily Argosy* of March 28th. Dr. H. H. Howard, of Washington, U.S.A., the expert on ankylostomiasis, was also a visitor to the colony on behalf of Mr. Wickliffe Rose, Director of the International Health Commission formed by the Rockefeller Institute to study tropical diseases.—At the monthly meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society on March 18th, Mr. J. J. Rodway read a paper on "The Story of our Constitution."—The new Worthington engine installed by the Georgetown Waterworks was inaugurated on March 21st.

The weather during the fortnight had continued very dry and the cultivation throughout the colony was suffering for want of moisture. Good heavy rains were wanted generally.—Refining crystals for export were quoted at \$t.8s, but no transactions were reported.

DOMINICA—His Honour Edward Drayton Sworn in.

Writing on Friday, March 27th, Mr. E. A. AGAR said that the mail arrived early that morning, instead of on the previous afternoon, and Mr. Drayton was forced to land at an unpleasantly early hour. At 11.30, accompanied by Major Burdon and the Secretary to the Administrator, he went to the Court House to take the oath as Administrator. There was a considerable number of persons present, besides those whose positions necessitated attendance, and the oath was administered by His Honour Mr. Justice Parker. After the oath had been taken, Mr. Drayton made a short speech—a speech that had made a very good impression. Mr. Rolle, the senior unofficial member of the Legislative Council present, replied on behalf of the people of Dominica, and those present fully endorsed his remarks. But in spite of the good impression that Mr. Drayton had made, all could not help regretting the departure of Major Burdon, and the writer felt sure that the former, whom they did not yet know, would fully sympathise with their regrets at losing a man whom all had learnt to appreciate very highly during the months he had been in Dominica.

There had been good rains during the past fortnight, and except for two or three days, very little wind. Prospects for the lime crop were therefore as good as one could wish.

GRENADA—Cacao Shipments Increasing.

Mr C. FALCONER ANTON stated in a letter dated March 30th, that addresses had been presented by the Legislative Council, the District Boards and certain of the Public Officers to the Hon. Edward Drayton, C.M.G., before his departure for Dominica. His Hon. R. S. Johnstone was administering the Government pending the arrival that afternoon of the Governor from St. Vincent.

A sub-committee appointed to make suggestions for increasing the success of the Cacao Prize Holdings Scheme, had recommended, among other things, that a competition confined to mountain lands be tried for one year in the parish of St. Andrew.—A meeting of the sub-committee appointed to make recommendations for re-arranging the work of the Agricultural Department with a view to making it of greater practical utility to the staple industry of the colony had been arranged for April 3rd.

Messrs. G. M. Frame and R. R. Leaycraft, of the new firm of Frame and Co., had been spending a short time in Grenada. They were leaving for Trinidad in the mail steamer this afternoon.—Mr. H. E. McEwen, who bought Carlton from the Hon. John S. Martin not long ago, had sold it to the Government, and intended residing in England.—From information kindly supplied by Messrs. Martin Dean & Co., the shipments of cacao for the current crop to date had been 48,975 bags. In the corresponding period for the last crop, the figures were 43,044 bags, so that so far exports were 5,931 bags to the good.

The Addresses presented to Mr. Edward Drayton, for a copy of which the CIRCULAR is indebted to Mr. C. Falconer Anton, express high appreciation of Mr. Drayton's services, especially during the last twenty-four years in which he filled the office of Colonial Secretary. The members of the Legislative Council stated their belief that the Land Settlement Scheme in Carriacou, and afterwards in Grenada, would undoubtedly be associated with his name. His career had been uniformly marked by such consummate skill, unflinching industry and strength of character as had won for him the esteem of his colleagues and the recognition of the community at large. In a memorandum the Governor, Sir James Hayes Sadler, warmly supported the sentiments expressed in the Address.

JAMAICA—Mrs. Flora Annie Steel's Estate.

Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, the well-known novelist, who has been visiting the island, must henceforward be added to the roll of West Indian proprietors, her family having established their claim to Cousin's Cove Estate in Hanover, as a result of the decision in the case of John Webster et al v. Isabel Hay Kennedy et al. It appears that many years ago, in the days of the depression of the sugar industry, James Gray Webster, who inherited the estate from his mother, never communicated with the Attorney, who remained for many years in undisturbed possession and endeavoured without success to get into touch with the owners of the estate. Mrs. Steel is a daughter of the late George Webster and Isabel Macallum. The case, during the hearing of which Mrs. Steel gave evidence, is reported at length in the local papers.—The United Fruit Company had offered to run a steamer between Belize and Kingston for a subsidy, and the proposal was being warmly supported. —Hon. P.C. Cork had announced his intention of retiring immediately.

NEVIS—Sugar Canes sent to St. Kitts Factory.

Mr. E. WILLIAMS, in a letter dated March 27th, gives the following statement of shipments of cotton from Nevis to Liverpool:—

Month.	Bales	Weight of lint
October (1913)	53	21,074
November	73	27,813
December	56	21,358
January (1914)	223	90,276
February	154	55,388
March 1st to 16th	84	38,362
Total	643	254,261

The writer had no possible method of checking the very large amount of cotton that was shipped from St. Kitts, but purchased in Nevis; and a couple of estates in Nevis ginned their cotton in St. Kitts, and it was shipped from there. Of these shipments Mr. Williams had no record. The rains proved so very partial for the season just closing, that quite one half of the area planted in cotton was a dismal failure, or the figures given above would have proved much more interesting. However, everyone had been busy for the past four weeks making the necessary preparation for the next crop, and all the experience of years was being used up in this year's preparation; the weather being for the time very good.

Of the cane crop there was little to say, the estates growing sugar cane on the north side of the island would send their canes over to St. Kitts to the factory there, for sale, and facilities to expedite the loading of the boats at the pier at Charlestown, with canes, were just finished. This opened up a great question of what might not be done in the near future for Nevis canes. The estates on the southern side of the island had commenced their grinding, despite the low price of muscovadoes, and their antiquated machinery. Thus a ton of canes on the north side that could be sent to St. Kitts and sold to the Factory there, was worth more than a ton on the south side, where shipping to the Factory was impossible.

The s.s. *Guiana* of the Quebec Line came into port on the 15th inst., with quite a lot of tourists; her stay was short. The rainfall for the month to date was 2.74 inches.

ST. KITTS—Improved Methods of Sugar Manufacture.

Mr. E. J. SHELFORD wrote on March 26th that the weather had been generally favourable during the fortnight with a few showers; reaping was proceeding quietly, but there were complaints of unsatisfactory yields and unripe canes.

There were several points of interest in the Administrator's address to the Legislative Council on the 9th. For the first time the quantity of crystals exceeded muscovado sugar—the figures for 1913 being 6,515 tons crystals and 4,797 tons muscovado. Cotton was the salvation of several estates last year, 722,122 lbs. of lint being exported worth about £58,000. It was rather unfortunate that cotton cultivation, in these bad times for sugar, was not so large as it would be on the Leeward side and the Basseterre Valley owing to the estates having to keep their contracts for cane areas with the central factory. While on the north side of the island, where cotton did not flourish to the same extent, planters were greatly handicapped by the scarcity of labourers and the need of a central factory. One could not but feel that things would be easier for many concerned if the conditions were reversed. The revenue had dropped from £57,097 in 1912-13 to £53,003, the principal deficit being in customs, due principally to the loss caused by the tariff reductions under the reciprocal Trade Agreement with Canada. This was a matter that would require serious consideration and revision in the future.

The Wesleyan Annual Synod had been held in Basseterre during the fortnight, and one heard of largely attended and enthusiastic meetings.

The Hon. J. T. Manchester had been appointed member of the Federal Executive Council.

ST. LUCIA—His Honour Douglas Young arrives.

Hon. GEORGE S. HUDSON reported on March 28th that the weather continued dry with occasional strong breezes—ideal sugar crop weather but much too dry for planting canes. The factories were all in full swing, and shipments of sugar had already been effected. Cacao pickings were good at the moment, but there seemed very little to follow on the trees, however, were flowering very early, which should result in main crop pickings commencing at the end of August; this forward flowering was so far principally in well sheltered and humid plantations and on heavy soils.

His Honour William Douglas Young, C.M.G., arrived by the incoming mail, with Miss Young, and was sworn in as Administrator at the Court House. There was a large attendance of prominent St. Lucians and their wives and

daughters. Addresses were read welcoming him by His Honour Chief Justice Collier, the Hon. Emanuel Du Boulay (senior unofficial) and the Hon. William Degazon, chairman of the Castries Town Board. Mr. Young replied suitably to these addresses and he and Miss Young were introduced to those present. The Volunteers, Police and Cadet Corp formed a guard of honour.

H.M.S. *Berwick* stayed over a week in Castries, waiting for orders which arrived on the 22nd, ordering her to Jamaica. Cricket, rifle and billiard matches were played between the ship and shore, and the *Berwick* people largely assisted in a concert in aid of the Castries Guild.

ST. VINCENT—The New Nurses' Home Opened.

Mr. W. N. SANDS stated, in a letter dated March 29th, that the Princess Marie Louise Nurses' Home at the Colonial Hospital was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor and Lady Hayes Sadler on the 28th. The building, which had been erected by the Government at a cost of £800, was most conveniently arranged for the accommodation of ten nurses. The completion of this home was another step forward along that line of progress which had been so marked in the Colony during the past five years. His Honour the Administrator and the Hon. Mrs. C. Gideon Murray were unfortunately unable to be present at the opening ceremony as they left for England via Bermuda and New York on the 26th. The Administrator had gone on six months leave. Both Mrs. Murray and he had a splendid "send off" from a large gathering of all classes of the community.

The Governor had been out to Georgetown in one of the new Mail motor cars, and also visited the Mesopotamia Valley over the Vigie in the same manner. Already the motor cars were proving a great boon to public officers and the general public, in that they enabled journeys to be expeditiously and comfortably performed at reasonable cost. People were now wondering why on earth they did not have them long ago. Like the telephone they would soon become absolutely essential.

The Governor and Lady Sadler were leaving by the mail for Grenada. His Excellency had mentioned that this would be their last visit to the Colony. The news was received with general and very genuine regret.

TOBAGO—The Absence of Hotel Accommodation.

Writing on March 27th, Mr. ROBERT S. REID said that all would be glad to welcome the new coastal steamers, as the *Kennel* was said to be getting rather worn out. That week Tobago was deprived of the double run of the *Jamaica*, and the mails were a day late in consequence of the ocean steamer arriving a day behind time. People complained of this all the more because it was well known that the ocean steamers could make up time if the captains chose to do so, but the question of coal doubtless encouraged them to make the most of the conditions of the contract.

Since last mail, the weather had been extremely hot, with fairly high winds, and the cacao flowers, stimulated by the previous rains, could hardly stand the great heat much longer. The Spring cacao crop had been very erratic and was nearing an end. Not much cacao was expected during the next few months, and the Autumn crop would be early or late according to the rainfall in the interim. The drop in prices was disappointing, but the huge deliveries in Trinidad, doubtless tempted speculators to make cheap forward sales, and thus demoralize the market. Planters devoutly hoped they might be "caught" again by an unexpected stoppage of supplies, but meantime they must console themselves with the reflection that their concern was to produce cacao and leave market manipulation to others. Coco-nuts had been shipped very freely that month, and the *Jamaica* had been getting some thousands of bags, sold chiefly before the recent drop in prices took place. A recovery in value was expected before the June/July gatherings took place. Several large coco-nut properties on the Leeward had recently been taken over by local companies, who would doubtless be able to carry on high cultivation, and thus bring the palms into earlier bearing. The Government experiment plots had greatly improved with forking and manurial treatment, both in quantity and

size of nuts. Following the recommendation of Mr. Jos. de Verteuil, the superintendent of experiments, cleaner cultivation was now being attempted, and good results were confidently expected.

Several visitors from Trinidad and abroad had been arriving that fortnight again in the *Jamaica*, and the regret was constantly expressed that there was no suitable hotel in which they could make a prolonged stay in the island. H.H. Princess Marie Louise was also expected to pay Tobago a visit, and she would no doubt appreciate the scenery and surroundings of the quaint little island.

TRINIDAD—Ex-President Castro in Port-of-Spain.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP wrote on March 31st that the debates at home on the Home Rule question, and especially the proffered resignation of officers, which had been cabled out with a greater freedom than usual, had excited much interest in Trinidad, where opinions were about as equally divided as in England, religion there, as elsewhere, dominating the question to an unfortunate extent. But it was to be hoped whatever happened that the amenities of debate in the Legislative Council of Trinidad would continue to be more rigidly observed than they appeared to be in the Imperial Parliament. Still, they were not without their sometimes caustic differences even in Trinidad. The legislators so far had not got to the extent of charging opponents with uttering "infamous lies," or amending it with the words "wilful falsehoods," but they had a brush occasionally, when hasty words are said and soon repented.

There was a little mild excitement the other day when the constabulary made a simultaneous raid upon a Spanish hotel down town and a house in the upper part. In the former they found some ammunition, and in the latter the ex-Dictator of Venezuela, Castro. There was a Gilbert and Sullivan taste about the whole thing. Castro had one revolver. In the hotel were some trunks containing a quantity of cartridges, one Winchester rifle, one old muzzle loader, and one old Colt's revolver. These for the invasion of Venezuela! Castro, it seemed, had been there for some months. He was, quite naturally, very indignant at his treatment. General (El Mocho) Hernandez was in Trinidad the other day. He also was a candidate for the Presidency of the neighbouring republic. He had been treated as an honoured guest at Government House.

The theatre scheme had taken another step forward. The proposals of a syndicate had been accepted by the Town Board, and would, it was hoped, materialise this time.

The United British Oilfields of Trinidad, Ltd., lately the Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd., had been doing excellent work of late, and seemed on the high road to much success. The weekly production was increasing, and bore favourable comparison with that of many celebrated oil companies. They had just loaded a tanker for London with 7,000 tons, and had a large quantity more stored ready for shipment.

The *Laurentic* with more tourists had been at Trinidad and these with the passengers in transit from the Lamport and Holt and other fine steamers trading to South American ports that called there regularly, and others from the various Royal Mail boats, of which this was the headquarters, made the streets and stores quite lively. Mr. Tripp could remember the time when the appearance of a stranger in Frederick Street caused everyone to turn and enquire who he was. The Harkins Dramatic Company had been performing to good houses, and giving excellent entertainment, and last week there had been a Wild West Show, the biggest thing of its kind yet known in the island, so that amusement of varied nature had been provided.

The shipments of cacao for March constituted a record for that month, being, approximately, 14,000,000 lbs., or about 7,400,000 above the next highest, viz., 7,438,360 lbs. in 1913. The weather, on the whole, was favourable, especially in the eastern districts, although some more rain in other quarters would have been welcome.

Under the pressure of large receipts, and in conformity with weaker markets abroad, spot prices declined continuously, and were on 31st March,

\$11.75 to \$11.80 for Ordinary.

\$12.00 to \$12.10 for Estates.

\$12.25 to \$12.40 for Venezuelan.

TURKS & CAICOS IS.—Satisfactory financial position.

MR. F. H. WATKINS, I.S.O., Commissioner of this Dependency of Jamaica in his annual summary of revenue and expenditure shows that, for the year ended December 31st last, the total revenue was £10,867 4s. 9d., the largest recorded since the islands were attached to their present mother colony. Of this total the customs were responsible for £3,971 5s. 1d., the largest sum ever collected in the islands. With the balance of £6,413 7s. 3d. brought forward for 1912 the total on the credit side at the close of the year was £17,280 12s., and as the expenditure for the year was only £8,505 0s. 8d., the substantial balance of £8,775 11s. 4d. is shown, in spite of such extraordinary payments during the year as £1994 for salt relief grants, and £350 for erection of schools and public improvements. The statement of assets and liabilities shows a credit balance of £8,775 11s. 4d., or more than one year's average revenue. No small credit is due to Mr. Watkins for having placed the finances of the colony on such a satisfactory basis.

MARRIAGE.

Croll-Alston.—On the 15th inst. at the Parish Church, Chislehurst, by the Rev. G. H. Pole, M. A., Vicar of Christ Church, Chislehurst, assisted by the Rev. I. F. Johnson, M.A., George Croll, son of John Croll, Aberdeen, to Edith Graham, second daughter of George R. Alston and Mrs. Alston, of Rosemount, Chislehurst.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

Life and Adventure in the West Indies, by "Vaquero." London, John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, Oxford House, Great Titchfield Street. "Vaquero's" previous book of "Adventures in Search of a Living in Spanish-America," prepares one for much of interest in his present venture. He assumes, and quite rightly, that the ordinary tourist, or "globe-trotter," is unlikely to learn anything but that which is absolutely on the surface of the people amongst whom he travels. The tourist journeys first-class and is lodged in more or less comfortable hotels, whose *raison d'être* is his reception and entertainment. He moves exclusively amongst the white colonists of the better sort, and is therefore likely to hear one side only of social questions. But probably it will not in any way surprise "Vaquero" to be told that, even going about as he has done, and mixing with all classes, it requires far more than a few weeks' sojourn amongst the black and coloured people of our West Indian possessions to know really very much of them. Years and years of dealings with them in all kinds of capacities only leaves one a trifle more perplexed than at the start. *Crede experto*, one has to change one's impressions a hundred times as various sequences of fact and circumstance crop up, and the only wise conclusion with regard to that everlastingly debated problem the colour question is to "wait and see." There is the question as to what education may do when it has had a fair chance; and when one says education, it is in the sense of real education, not the mere parrot teaching of spelling and arithmetical tables, which had for so many years been merely the means of securing the Government grant. Then again, there is a large field open for the anthropological student in the classification of the various race-mixtures which go to make up the population of the West Indian islands. To the casual observer, a negro is a negro, and a mulatto a mulatto. Never was a greater mistake. There is as much difference in temperament between a so-called Congo and a Coromantee as exists between a Teuton and a Celt, and a whole ocean divides a negro English mulatto from a Spanish

half-breed. But returning to "Vaquero's" book, there can be no doubt of the simplicity and honesty in which he has recorded his observations and his descriptions of some seldom visited parts of the West Indies are full of interest. His account of his stay in the Cayman Islands as Government Medical Officer, induces the desire to know more of their people; but even though they were for the most part white, the doctor, though one would have thought he had unique opportunities, does not seem to have got any deeper than the epidermis. There is just one of the problems that the author more than hints at when he is somewhat querulous about the non-existence of a white middle class (by which presumably he means a lower middle class) in the West Indies. Perhaps a little detailed study of the physical and intellectual conditions of these same whites, living under the circumstances obtaining in these isolated places, and a comparison with the corresponding conditions amongst the Scotsmen, red-legs, or poor whites of Barbados the Floridan crackers and the poor white population of the Bermudas and Bahamas, or say, the lower reaches of the Mississippi, might have given him some data on which to found—to use a favourite expression of Sir Charles Bruce—a well digested scheme for the introduction of a white lower middle class in the West Indies. Honestly, though, it would seem that this idea carries in itself its own contradiction. The existence of a white lower middle class always implies the existence of a white lower class, and it has yet to be demonstrated that such a class could exist in the West Indies. It is true that many thousands of white men were forced to servile labour in Barbados at the time of the Commonwealth and after. But they left few survivors, and the descendants of those, though quite worthy people have not yet demonstrated that they possess any more brain power than the average Barbadian black, who certainly is no fool. "Vaquero's" observations on the colour question, however, deserve more space than can be given to them in a review of this description. The book is well and profusely illustrated by over one hundred photographs taken by the author. The published price is 10s. 6d. net, and as one of the most recent contributions to West Indian bibliography it can be confidently recommended.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX.—No. 24. Report on Volunteer Force, 1912-13. Legislative Council, March 3rd. House of Assembly, February 24th. No. 25. Estimates, 1914-15. No. 27. House of Assembly, March 3rd. British Guiana, Vol. XXXVIII.—No. 22. Local Government Ordinance, 1914. Report on Balata trees. Regulations for Fine Funds. No. 23. Georgetown Town Council Amendment Ordinance, 1914. No. 24. Demerara Mutual Life Assurance Society's Ordinance, 1914. Berbice Lutheran Fund Amendment Ordinance, 1914. No. 25. Customs' Duties Ordinance, 1914. Jamaica, XXXVII—Supplement No. 3. Report on Blue-book Returns, 1912-13. Report on St. Catherine's District Prison Reformatory. Trinidad Vol. 83.—No. 12. Legislative Council March 17th. General Board of Health, March 3rd. No. 13. Legislative Council, March 18th. Grenada, Vol. 32.—No. 8. Legislative Council, February 19th. No. 9. Addresses to His Hon. Edward Drayton, C.M.G. St. Lucia, Vol. 83.—No. 14. Administrator General Amendment Ordinance, 1914. Dominica, Vol. XXXVII.—No. 13. Legislative Council, January 29th. No. 15. Legislative Council, March 9th. Report on Sanitary Conditions. St. Kitts-Nevis Vol. XI.—No. 13. Administrator's Address, March 9th. No. 14. Rules for Fire Brigade. British Honduras, No. 13. Supreme Court Ordinance, 1914. Customs' Regulation Ordinance, 1914. Stann Creek Trade Licensing Ordinance, 1914. Turks and Caicos Islands, Vol. 62.—No. 13. Wild Birds Protection Ordinance, 1914.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The Introduction of the Lime into Montserrat TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

Sir, Permit me to point out an error in the interesting article in the CIRCULAR on the lime industry in Montserrat. Therein it is stated that the lime industry was started in Montserrat in 1852 by Mr. Burke of that island; that the industry prospered there; that for many years the island was the chief source of supply of limes and lime products; and that *then* (the italics are mine) Dr. John Imray did for Dominica what Mr. Burke had done for Montserrat.

My old friend and predecessor Dr. Imray was, I believe, the originator of the lime cultivation in the West Indies, and in "the seventies" he and I often discussed limes and lime cultivation. The facts are these. Dr. Imray owned the Batalie Estate in Dominica. When he acquired the property it was cultivated in sugar, but there were on it two very long lines of old lime trees, the abundant fruit of which fell and rotted on the ground. Dr. Imray determined to utilise if possible this waste product of the estate. He went to Sicily to inquire into the lemon juice industry there, and he found that the lemon juice was concentrated in open pans to increase the citric acid content of a given quantity, and so to save freight and packages. He then entered into communication with Messrs. Evans and Co., a firm of Liverpool wholesale druggists, regarding a market for concentrated lime juice, and he obtained through them deep enamelled iron pans for the concentration. He made to that firm a shipment of lime juice concentrated on the Batalie Estate, and the monetary result was so satisfactory that he set to work to plant limes instead of sugar canes. The sugar planters in the island thought he was crazy, and a standing joke amongst them was that Dr. Imray was digging out sugar cane stools to plant limes!

After Dr. Imray had begun the systematic cultivation of the lime and had established nurseries of young plants, a sloop arrived from Montserrat carrying a letter from Mr. Burke begging Dr. Imray to supply him with some lime plants as he had determined to enter into the new lime cultivation. Dr. Imray sent a considerable number of lime plants by the sloop to Mr. Burke, and gave him in writing all the information necessary for the cultivation.

These interesting facts, of course, could not have been known to you when you wrote your article, and it is well to place them on record in the pages of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

I am, etc.,

H. A. ALFORD NICHOLLS.

Artillery Mansions, Westminster, S.W.

April 4th, 1914.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Hon. Herbert Ferguson is acting as Colonial Secretary of Grenada, besides carrying out his duties as Treasurer.

Mr. G. Ball Greene, Acting Assistant Government Secretary, British Guiana, has been granted six months' leave of absence. His duties are being performed by Mr. William James Gilchrist, who is also acting as Clerk to the Executive Council.

Mr. P. Stevens has been appointed Inspector of Mines, Trinidad.

His Honour R. B. Roden is acting as Colonial Secretary of St. Vincent, in connection with his duties as Chief Justice, during the absence of the Hon. C. Gideon Murray, who is taking six months leave of absence.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" may be obtained of the West India Committee at the nominal price of 1s. or 1s. 3d. post free.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Demerara Railway Company.

The accounts for the half-year ended December 31st last show a gross revenue of £28,433 (as compared with £24,095 0s. 8d. for the same period of 1912) and gross expenditure £19,501 (£18,525 1s. 8d.) leaving £8,931, less Debenture interest £1,400, leaving net revenue £7,531 (£4,169 19s.), after adding the Government subsidy £6,250, the amount withdrawn for renewal fund £800 7s. 7d., and the amount carried forward for the preceding half-year £353 18s., there remains a balance of £15,374 15s. Out of this there falls to be paid the dividend for the half-year at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum on Four per cent. Extension Preference stock £6,250, and the directors recommend that the remainder should be dealt with as follows: (a) Dividend for half-year at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum on Seven per Cent. Preference stock, £4,025; (b) dividend for half-year at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum on Preferred ordinary stock, £563; (c) appropriation to renewal fund, £3,000, leaving to carry forward £1,536. The number of passengers carried was as follows:—Demerara Railway, 215,212, against 164,732 last year; Berbice Railway, 30,118, against 27,127; West Coast Railway, 92,722, against 76,761—a total of 338,052, against 268,620. The tonnage of goods was:—Demerara Railway, 36,129, against 27,087; Berbice Railway, 5,482, against 4,946; West Coast Railway, 1,777, against 1,778—a total of 43,388, against 33,811. The receipts of the Demerara Railway show a very considerable increase as compared with the corresponding half-year, but the comparison is against part of the period which was so badly affected by the drought. The recovery, however, places the receipts upon a level of those of the corresponding half-year in 1911. The ordinance to confirm the contract entered into with the Government for the extension of the West Coast Railway to Parika was passed by the Colonial Government in due course, and the construction of the line is being proceeded with. The directors have every confidence that the work will be completed by 30th June next, and that the estimated cost will not be exceeded. The Government service of new steamers, which will operate in connection with the railway service, commences on 1st July next, and negotiations are in progress for effecting an arrangement under which the company will work the traffic of the steamer service on behalf of the Government. At the half-yearly meeting in August last the shareholders were informed that the Government had approached the company with a suggestion that additional wharfage and warehouse accommodation should be provided at the Georgetown terminus. The directors at that time were advised by the Demerara Committee that the circumstances made it improbable that this would be taken advantage of by the existing traffic, and that the scheme would not be sufficiently remunerative to pay its working expenses, and the directors accordingly delayed arriving at a decision upon the suggestion until the prospects of some development on the West Coast of Berbice yielding new traffic became more definite. This stage they believe has now been reached, and they have instructed negotiations to be opened with the Government with a view to the suggestion being given effect to. A canal is being projected by the owners of certain sugar estates on the east coast of Demerara, the traffic of which is now conveyed by the railway. The directors are at present engaged in negotiations with the estate owners interested for an agreement on the question of rates, which, if arrived at, will enable the traffic to be retained. In view of the matters referred to in the immediately preceding paragraphs the directors think it advisable to conserve the financial position of the company. They are, therefore, making a substantial addition to the renewal fund, and accordingly do not recommend a dividend on the Ordinary Stock.

Presiding over the half-yearly meeting on April 17th, Mr. R. A. Robertson, moving the adoption of the report, said that while the rice farmers' crop had been practically a failure, owing to dry weather, the Abary Plantation Com-

pany's property, which was irrigated, had given an excellent yield. If the scheme under the consideration of the Government for the irrigation of a large block of land to the east of the Abary Company's land went through successfully, it would be of great benefit to the district, and ultimately to the railway. The extension of the West Coast Railway to Parika was nearing completion, and should be in operation by July 1st next. They were endeavouring to make an arrangement with the Government under which they would work the traffic on the Government steamers. Several communications had passed between the Governor and the Company with regard to the provision of additional wharfage and warehouse accommodation at the Georgetown terminus, and the Directors had come to the conclusion that they would be justified in accepting the proposals that the Combined Court should be asked to sanction an advance to the Company, free of interest, for providing the accommodation, subject to the Government receiving a percentage of the charges levied for the use of the wharf.

DIVIDEND		Latest Quotations.		PRICE
				Apr. 21
1	Antigua	4 %	Redeemable 1919-44	99-101
1	Barbados	3½ %	Redeemable 1924-42	87-89
3½	British Guiana	4 %	Redeemable 1935	98-100
4	British Guiana	3 %	Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
3	Grenada	4 %	Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
4	Jamaica	4 %	Redeemable 1924	100-102
4	Jamaica	3½ %	Redeemable 1919-49	88-90
3½	Jamaica	3 %	Redeemable 1922-44	79-81
1	St. Lucia	4 %	Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
1	Trinidad	4 %	Redeemable 1919-42	98-100
1	Trinidad	3 %	Redeemable 1923-44	77-79
1	The Colonial Bank	...	...	58-61
12	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchange)	...	...	523½
1	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	...	...	105-110
1	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	...	...	100-103
4½	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4½ % Debentures	...	...	101-103
4½	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures	...	...	101-103½
4½	Imperial Direct Line 4½ % Debentures	...	...	98-101
6½	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	...	...	1-1
6	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	...	...	105-108
7	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	...	...	1-1
7	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)	...	...	1-1
7	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	...	...	1-1
7	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1)	...	...	1-1
7	" " " " " " " " (£1)	...	...	1-1
7	" " " " " " " " (£1)	...	...	1-1
7	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	...	...	100-101
7	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref.	...	...	97-99
4	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.	...	...	89-91
4	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	...	...	89-91
4½	Direct West India Cable Co. 4½ % Debentures	...	...	97-99
6	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	...	...	2½-2
6	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 % Cum. 1st Pref.	...	...	98-104
6	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " " and "	...	...	9-9
5	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures	...	...	97-99

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson	Hon. E. A. Granum	Mr. D. Hope Ross
Mr. Geoffrey Brooke	Mr. E. R. L. Henderson	Mr. H. Seedoff
Mr. D. C. Cameron	Mr. J. C. Henderson	Mr. W. J. Slack
Professor P. Cermody	Dr. G. L. Latour	Mr. Wm. Smith
Mr. Wm. Durno	Mr. James Peet	and
Mr. S. Garraway	Mr. W. C. Robertson	Mr. Thos. Thornton
Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.		
Major the Hon. J. A. Burdon, c.m.g., Artillery Mansions, Victoria St., S.W.		
Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton.		
Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C.		
Mr. H. Y. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.		
Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.		
Mr. George Farmer, "Fernside," New Malden, Surrey.		
Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meriton House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.		
Dr. D. McPail, 22, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.		
Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, c.m.g., Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.		
Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.		
Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Beltinge Road, Herne Bay, Kent.		
Mr. Justice A. F. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Ealing, W.		

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Dunube* (Captain W. C. Barratt), Southampton, April 13th:—

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Mr. F. Asie | Mr. A. Fyfe | Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Marment |
| Mrs. P. McAdam | Mr. & Mrs. J. A. French | Mr. O. M. Mears |
| Mr. G. F. Ashpitel | Mrs. M. E. Flanagan | Rev. and Mrs. J. Millar |
| Misses Ashpitel (2) | Mr. A. Findlater | Major and Mrs. C. May |
| Mr. & Mrs. H. H. Ardagh | Mr. T. D. Farmer | Sir C. Major |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Bond | Mr. G. Fleming | Lady Major |
| Miss B. Bremner | Mr. R. B. Gould | Miss M. Margetts |
| Mrs. W. J. Benson | Mr. W. B. Gibbs | Mr. C. Morrow |
| Miss D. Benson | Mr. B. N. Gibbs | Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Noar |
| Mrs. C. E. Benson | Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Goddard | Mr. P. H. Nosworthy |
| Miss S. Benson | Mr. G. B. Greene | Lieut. H. C. Porter |
| Misses Bellay (2) | Mrs. J. S. Gamble | Admiral Sir Francis Powell, & c. n. c., c. n. |
| Mr. W. R. Brierley | Mr. A. Grannum | Lady Powell |
| Mr. H. Buchanan | Miss Gallop | Mr. F. Parson |
| Mr. & Mrs. C. H. Benton | Lady Glyn | Mr. W. Podmore |
| Misses Benton (2) | Mr. W. J. Holberton | Mr. E. W. Roper |
| Major The Hon. J. A. Burdon, c. n. c. | Mr. C. W. Henderson | Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Buchanan-Rogers |
| Dr. J. F. Baeza | Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Hayes | Mr. A. C. Radford |
| Mr. F. O'Brien | Miss Hayes | Mr. H. S. Roake |
| Mr. G. Butler | Mrs. J. S. Hayes | Mr. C. Reid |
| Captain & Mrs. Bentley | Mrs. A. M. Hill | Mr. D. Rubery |
| Miss Cameron | Mr. A. W. How | Miss D. Radford |
| Mr. H. V. Cholmeley | Mr. F. A. W. How | Captain and Mrs. D. T. Seymour |
| Miss Corbett | Mr. A. Holland | Sir John Smiley, Bart. |
| Mr. L. Cunningham | Mr. J. H. Irvine | Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Speaker |
| Mrs. Gooden Chisholm | Mr. H. Ingram | Mr. and Mrs. H. Seedorff |
| Baroness de Cartenskiold | Mrs. H. Ivers | Miss D. Seedorff |
| Mr. & Mrs. F. Cellier | Misses Ivers (2) | Mr. W. J. Sousa |
| Miss M. Cox | Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Johnson | Mrs. C. H. Smith |
| Mr. T. Brailsford-Crewe | Miss Johnson | Mr. L. de Tollenaere |
| Brig. General & Mrs. F. R. C. Carleton | Mr. H. S. Jones | Miss E. M. Taylor |
| Misses Downie (2) | Mr. M. Jerome | Col. F. T. Townshend |
| Mr. W. Doyle | Mr. and Mrs. N. S. B. Kidson | Mr. E. Tennant |
| Mr. J. Dixon | Mr. McKimming | Mr. and Mrs. P. Ulrich |
| Mr. W. Durno | Mr. R. W. Laing | Mr. and Mrs. J. Ulrich |
| Mr. W. J. Douglas | Misses Laing (2) | Mr. T. C. R. Udall |
| Mrs. Davies | Misses Law (2) | Mr. and Mrs. J. Wood |
| Mr. M. Dunn | Mr. A. Lindsay | Mr. J. Wade |
| Mr. E. Dunstan | Miss Lawrence | Mrs. K. Woodruff |
| Dr. & Mrs. J. W. Eakin | Miss J. Lloyd | Mr. A. Willis |
| Mr. O. Edisa | Miss Minnie | |
| Miss S. East | Mr. S. Milligan | |
| Miss M. Elford | | |

The Booker Line—SAILINGS FROM LIVERPOOL TO DEMERARA, per S.S. *Imataka*, April 1st:—

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Dr. P. M. Earle | Mr. C. Johnston | Mr. J. Geddes |
| Mr. & Mrs. C. K. Osborne | Mr. Armstrong | Mr. J. Garden |
| | Mr. D. Fraser | |

HOME ARRIVALS FROM DEMERARA per S.S. *Arakaha*, LIVERPOOL, April 13th:—

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| The Misses Nurse (4) | Mr. A. J. Mayes | Mr. G. F. Powell |
| The Masters Nurse (3) | Mr. J. Parrett | Sergeant Major & Mrs. Petty |

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), April 16th, "No rain since last message." **Demerara**—(Messrs. Curtis, Campbell & Co.) April 20th. "Weather very dry, but some rain has fallen in Berbice. Drought still continues Essequibo." **British Guiana**—BERBICE. (Messrs. Henry K. Davson & Co.) April 15th. "Showers have fallen." **Jamaica**—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.) week ended April 8th. PORT ANTONIO, "Fair." KINGSTON, "Fine."

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

	OUTWARD.		
	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Orotava</i>	Apr. 21, midnight
Barbados	Liverpool	<i>Orotava</i>	" 22, 6 p.m.
Trinidad	Dartmouth	<i>Serrana</i>	" 24, noon.
West Indies	Liverpool	<i>Arakaha</i>	" 29, 6 p.m.
	Southampton	<i>Danube</i>	May 5, midnight

HOMEWARD. Due. Southampton ... West Indies ... *Tagus* ... April 27. * Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Mar. 26, 1914	1913	1914	1913
Sugar	12,215	13,461 Tons.	984	1,003 Tons
Molasses	617	309 Punis.		
Rum	864,528	911,513 Galls.	357,759	49,880 Galls.
Molasses, &c.	752	2,831 Tons.		
Cacao	23,357	lbs.	1,558,816	843,024 Lbs.
Coffee	78,350	57,958 No.	3,450,270	1,807,008 "
Coco-nuts	561,657	238,016 No.	4,719,720	4,558,005 No.
Oranges			1,718,550	2,574,170 "
Bananas			1,705,463	505,728 Stems
Cotton				
Pimento			24,708	26,565 Cwts.
Ginger			3,049	3,352 "
Honey			17,732	2,463 Galls
Dyewoods			10,429	7,758 Tons
Gold	11,899	9,512 ozs.		
Diamonds	2,008	850 carats.		
Rice	6,299,691	7,123,234 lbs.		
Balata	210,795	491,938 "		
Rubber		48 "		
Timber	30,650	103,732 cubic ft.		
Lumber	77,170	39,386 feet		
Lime (hydrate of)				

	Trinidad.		Barbados.	
	Jan. 1 to 1914	1913	1914.	1913.
Sugar	7,939	3,265 Tons.	4,159	132 Tons.
Molasses	712	258 Punis.	7,105	2,440 Punis
Rum				
Coco-nuts	3,001,425	2,768,590 No.		
Asphalt	35,533	47,802 Tons		
Manjak	69	362 "		
Bitters	4,886	5,072 Cases.		
Coffee	4,160	630 lbs.		
Crude Petrol	2,674,910	214,790 Gallons.		
Cacao	29,649,800	20,383,600 lbs.	8,815,500	7,747,920 Lbs
Cotton			255	346 Bales
Seed			860	982 Bags
Copra	1,862	1,726 Bags	101	52 "
Spice			527,345	419,345 lbs.
Kola			2,660	1,490 "

	Grenada.	
	Oct. 1 to Mar. 30, 1914/15	1913/14
Cacao	26,891	33,969 "
Cotton	44,726	104,720 "
Seed	143,020	124,786 "

HOMEWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, due at Southampton, April 27th:—

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mrs. Archibald | Mr. C. Devaux | Mr. and Mrs. Longworth |
| Miss Ashton | Mr. F. R. Dorken | Miss Mustard |
| Mrs. and Miss Aelouder | Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Ellis | Mr. and Mrs. Macintosh |
| Miss L. Ainley | Mr. and Mrs. N. Garnett | Mrs. Hables Muir |
| Mr. W. L. Anderson | Garnett | Mr. Batten-Pool |
| Miss F. O. Anderson | Miss G. Garnett | Mrs. and Miss Paterzon |
| Miss Arthur | Mrs. Gray | Mr. and Mrs. Heber-Percy |
| Miss G. Andra | Mr. Gossett | Mr. and Mrs. Retwell |
| Mr. R. E. Brassington | Mr. and Mr. Barker | Mr. D. W. Russack |
| Mr. Brassington | Hahlo | Mr. A. J. Ramsey |
| Miss Brassington | Mr. Herriot | Mr. Sadler |
| Mr. and Mrs. Blofeld | Mr. Reece Harisa | Mr. P. T. Stolterfoht |
| Mr. Buswell | Mr. R. A. Henderson | Mr. and Miss Moody Stuart |
| Miss Bretherton | Miss Houldsworth | Miss Scott |
| Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Brown | Mr. and Mrs. Harsh | Miss Simonds |
| Mr. Bury | Rev. J. D. Henderson | Mr. Seager |
| Mrs. Campbell | Mr. C. N. Howatson | Mr. Taylor |
| Sir W. Cunningham | Mr. and Mrs. Haycraft | Mrs. Tullock |
| Col. and Mrs. Collens | Miss Haycraft | Mr. W. F. Wright |
| Mrs. A. Campbell | Dr. and Mrs. E. Jackson | Mr. and Mrs. Walker |
| Colonel Challiner | Mr. E. J. Johnstone | Hon. C. F. Wieting |
| Mr. Collier | Mr. A. S. Kirnaham | Mr A. Wight |
| Mrs. Challinor | Mr. R. L. Knubley | |
| Captain Davis | | |

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Orotava* April, 22nd:—

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Miss M. Windsor | Miss J. Gravely | Mr. J. Lowry |
| Mr. F. G. Macintosh | Mrs. M. L. Vifhuis | Major E. F. Becher |
| Mrs. F. de Zalles | Miss N. Rickford | Mrs. F. Thomas |
| Mrs. A. de Zalles | Lieut. V. C. Green | Misses Thomas (2) |
| Miss C. de Zalles | Mr. D. R. Ballard | Mrs. I. Kohler |
| Miss P. de Zalles | Mr. E. McLeod | Mrs. E. Hazelwood |
| Mr. & Mrs. E. Harbin | Lieut. Col. & Mrs. G. L. B. Swain | Mrs. & Miss Onody |
| Mrs. P. de Zalles | Mr. D. W. Onion | Mr. F. W. Reidy |
| Mr. & Mrs. Fleming | Mr. A. D. Lawson | Mrs. P. Reidy |
| Miss E. Dinzey | Mr. W. J. Hofstra | and |
| Miss Robinson | Captain & Mrs. Benson | Mr. T. F. Halpin |
| | Mrs. & Mrs. Rose | |

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½% 76½)

SUGAR.—In New York after the recent heavy business raws became, early last week, less active, and with some pressure of Porto Ricos afloat quotations gave way 3 points. On the lower basis of 2.95 c., 25,000 bags of Porto Rico were sold; but a revival took place later and the market became firmer and recovered, the decline leading to a large business in Cuban and Porto Ricos on the higher level of centrifugals at 2.98 c. and muscovado 2.54 c.

In the London speculative beet sugar market business has been curtailed through the closing for the Easter holidays from the 9th April to the 14th; but the tone has been steadier, and a moderate improvement was brought about by showery weather in the western part of Cuba announced in cable of 8th inst., the delay, however, in grinding was said to be unimportant. The Cuban weather, however, seems unsettled, although rains in some parts of the island have stopped; but they continue in Matanzas and Santa Clara. The business is mainly confined to the liquidation of the May account by transfer to August, and so far this is causing no trouble.

Cuban exports for the week were 39,000 tons, stock 560,000 tons. Most factories ceased working from Friday to the following Monday on account of the Easter holidays, and many stopped longer as a consequence of the rains. Czarnikow, Ltd., state "the receipts must not remain much longer at or above last year's level, otherwise the 250,000 tons excess already produced would extend into an unexpected total." In Europe the weather has cleared up and sowings begin under favourable conditions.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: April 7th, 9s. 2d.; 8th, 9s. 2½d.; 9th, 9s. 2½d. (from 9th to 14th closed for holidays); 14th, 9s. 3½d.; 15th, 9s. 3d.; 16th, 9s. 2d.; 17th, 9s. 2½d.; 18th, 9s. 3d.; 20th, 9s. 3½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, and to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914	1913	1912
Europe (1st & 11th April)	3,088,110	3,073,130	2,184,990
United States (15th April)	246,000	257,740	181,330
Cuba (6 p'pal ports 11 April)	687,000	492,000	338,000
Cargoes afloat (16th April)	4,300	—	61,250

Total	Tons	1914	1913	1912
Quotations of 88% Beet, 20th April		9s. 3½d.	9s. 9d.	13s. 8½d.

Grocery West Indian.—The crystallised market has been very dull since the resumption of business after the holidays, and last Friday at auction when 800 tons were offered the demand was very slow and only a few lots found buyers at steady and slightly easier rates. In some quarters the opinion is held that the duty on sugar may be abolished in the forthcoming Budget, and consequently the trade hesitate to take in stock until this question is set at rest. The business recorded ranges for Demerara from 13s. to 15s. 9d. for fine colory, for Trinidad from 13s. 3d. to 14s. 1½d., for Antigua from 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d. and Surinam 13s. 4½d. to 13s. 9d.

Syrups.—Demerara part sold in auction at 11s. to 11s. 9d. **Muscovados.**—Barbados and Jamaica up at auction last Friday were bought in. Both this and syrups are practically neglected.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Tons
Imports ...	8,193	9,180	6,479	8,318	6,716	
Deliveries ...	7,585	6,809	8,026	9,119	9,252	..
Stocks (April 11th)	1,3208	4,210	2,942	3,557	2,530	..

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised 17 April.
13s. 4½d. 15s. 9d. 19s. 6d. 15s. 6d./15s. 9d. 19s.

RUM. Stocks in London, April 11th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	5,326	5,265	7,439	8,194	9,138
Demerara	10,744	8,739	8,586	7,159	9,479
Total all kinds	23,010	22,017	23,936	24,011	26,178

The proof market is quiet, and in the absence of demand on the spot, no change in prices can be reported. Recent supplies mostly consist of shipments sold to arrive, and the buyers thereof are not interested for the time being in free parcels; the Budget, too, has been postponed, and therefore the question of any change in the spirit duties remains in abeyance. Jamaicas are steady and a moderate business has been passing at about recent quotations.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, April 11th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad	6,570	5,486	7,278	5,662	8,674
Grenada...	14,910	10,536	15,990	18,769	18,405
Total of all kinds	98,170	91,018	126,013	125,410	99,078

This market has been flat and at the auctions on the 7th inst., when 4,270 bags of all descriptions were offered there was practically no bidding. Out of 3,289 bags consisting of Trinidad, Grenada, St. Lucia, Jamaica, etc., only 468 bags were sold. A small quantity of Trinidad sold at 2s. decline, Grenada was irregular, a lot or two realising steady rates; while the balance sold at a decline of 1s. 6d. Other West India was nearly all bought in, only a few lots being disposed of at easier rates.

Quotations after last auction were Trinidad middling red 59s. to 60s., good middling red, 60s. 6d. to 61s., fine and superior, 62s. to 64s.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair, 58s to 56s., middling to fine, 57s. to 60s.

In Trinidad circulars of March 30th it is stated that the deliveries during the fortnight had been quite up to expectations and were drawing to a close. Quotations have ranged from \$12.25 to \$12.65, the equivalent of 55s. 6d. to 57s. cost and freight per 50 kilos, and quite a fair business was done.

COFFEE.—Santos, May 41s.; July 41s. 4½d.; Sept. 42s. 1½d. Public auctions were resumed on 16th inst., and a large quantity was offered of East India kinds, which met with a slow demand; but previous rates were generally maintained, while Costa Rica was partly sold at barely steady prices. Futures declined about 2s. early in the fortnight in consequence of heavier receipts in Santos, lesser Brazilian exchange, and "bull" liquidation before the holidays; but last week the market was firmer with a slight improvement in values.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended 16th April 575 bales of British West India were imported into the United since last report between 250 and 300 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton were sold, including Antigua 19d. to 22d., with a few superfine bags at 24d., St. Kitts and Nevis 19d. to 20d., Barbados 20½d., Tortola, St. Eustatius, Barbuda and Montserrat 15½d. to 16½d. Prices for the finer sorts remained very firm, but the medium and lower qualities were pressed for sale and buyers were indifferent.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice (Raw).—More enquiry, but no business to report; values unchanged **Essential Oil** (distilled).—Dearer, and a good business done at 2s. 3d. for good quality. **Otto of Limes** (hand pressed).—Neglected; no sales to report and value 8s. 9d. to 9s. per lb. **Concentrated.** Value not now over 4½d.

PIMENTO.—Dull **GINGER.**—Very dull. **NUTMEGS.**—100's/80's 5½d. to 6d., 100's/20's 4½d. to 5½d., 140's/20's 4½d. to 4¾d. **MACE.**—Unchanged. **COPRA.**—Fair merchantable West India steady value £27 10s. **ARROWROOT.** Business interfered with by the holidays. About 100 barrels reported as sold at previous rates. Quotations 2½d. to 3½d.

RUBBER.—Firm. Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 11½d.; smoked sheet 2s. 9d.; fine hard Para 3s. against 3s. 4½d. in 1913; do. soft. 3s. as against 3s. 6d. in 1913. Castilloa sheet, 1s. 10d. as against 2s. 6d. in 1913. scrap 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. as against 2s. in 1913. **BALATA.**—Sheet, 1s. 10½d., sellers landed terms 2s. c.i.f. as against 2s. 10d. in 1913; and block 2s. 8½d. c.i.f. landed terms 2s. 9½d. as against 2s. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL. Russian, 7½d.; American, 7d.; Water White, 9d.; Roumanian, 7½d.; and Galician, 7½d. **ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.**

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

Vol. XXIX.

TUESDAY, MAY 5th, 1914.

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No. 507

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The West India Committee Rooms.

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May 4th, 1914

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

SINCE we last went to press, the report of the West India Committee and the accounts for the year ended December 31st last have been circulated, and on April 30th they were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the members, over which MR. W. MIDDLETON CAMPBELL presided. The report shows that during the year further progress was made by this body, which, having been established prior to 1750, can substantiate its claim to be far the oldest, and therefore the doyen of the now numerous associations concerned with the welfare of the colonies. It shows, too, we venture to think, that the West India Committee is by no means the least active of these organisations. On December 31st last, the total membership of the Committee was 1598—the highest figure yet reached—while at the close of the year there remained a balance of £327 19s. 9d. of income over expenditure, the surplus of assets over liabilities being thus raised from £1,735 os. 7d. to £2,063 os. 4d. These figures are not large in themselves; but when they are compared with those of membership and of the accounts for 1899, the year which followed the reorganisation of the West India Committee, they furnish satisfactory evidence of the substantial progress which this ancient body has made in recent years. At the Annual General Meeting DR. NICHOLLS referred to the belief which was generally prevalent in the West Indies before the reorganisation above referred to, that the West India Committee was an oligarchy composed of a few wealthy sugar planters, whose sole interest lay in the sugar-cane and in the many political and economic problems which the introduction of that grass into the West Indies brought in its train. Having regard, however, to the overwhelming preponderance of the exports of sugar compared with what were then only considered minor products, such as cacao, limes, and fruit, which have now become staples of immense importance, it would perhaps have been surprising if there had not been

some grounds for such a belief. But that the Committee was not even in the old days solely self-centred has been proved by the many extracts from the old minute books which have appeared in these pages from time to time showing how the merchants and planters contributed large sums of money for the relief of distress resulting from hurricanes and other cataclysms, and we have been reminded only recently by the publication of a new edition of SIR JOHN BARROW'S book "The Mutiny and Piratical Seizure of H.M.S. *Bounty*," that it was instrumental in securing the introduction of that now ubiquitous tree the bread-fruit into the West Indian islands. To quote the author:—

"In the year 1787, being seventeen years after Cook's return from his first voyage, the merchants and planters resident in London, and interested in the West India possessions, having represented to his Majesty, that the introduction of the bread-fruit tree into the islands of those seas, to constitute an article of food, would be of very essential benefit to the inhabitants, the king was graciously pleased to comply with their request."

This decision was announced at a general meeting of the West India Committee at the London Tavern on February 20, 1787, by the following letter dated "Downing Street, February 13, 1787," from Mr. Pitt, which is recorded in the minutes: "Mr Pitt presents his Compliments to Mr. Long, and begs leave to acquaint him that directions have been given for collecting as many of the Bread Fruit Trees as possible, and that every Opportunity be taken to have them conveyed to our West India Islands."

Still, there can be no doubt that at a later period the feeling of which DR. NICHOLLS spoke, did exist and was very widespread; and we are glad to learn from the same authority that other views now prevail, and that the West India Committee is very generally regarded as the real and true friend of the British West Indies. This is what its Executive and officers intend it to be, and it will be gratifying to them to know that their work is appreciated. Since the days to which DR. NICHOLLS referred, the membership has risen from under 300, at which it stood in 1898, to no less than 1598, and it now includes representatives of every branch of industry and trade in the islands and great colonies on the mainland. The scope of the operations of the West India Committee has been ex-

tended to embrace all the industries, and we believe we can truthfully say that its objects as laid down in the Royal Charter granted by King Edward VII. have been, and are being, faithfully carried out.

THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.

IT is announced that a local Board of Examiners has been appointed for conducting the Examinations of the Royal Sanitary Institute in British Guiana. It comprises the Surgeon-General, Dr. E. P. MINETT, who acts as local Hon. Secretary, Hon. E. C. BUCK, Colonial Civil Engineer, and Dr. K. S. WISE—names which will inspire confidence and satisfy the Council that its objects will be faithfully carried out in the Colony. It is some fifteen years since the Royal Sanitary Institute, which was founded in 1876, and enjoys the patronage of the King, first extended its operations to the colonies, and it now has centres in almost every part of the Empire, including India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The advantages are manifold. Not only do aspirants for the position of Sanitary Inspectors have the opportunity of securing the Certificate of the Institute without journeying to England, but it has also been demonstrated that the mere fact of holding these examinations has a stimulating effect in the centres in which they are held. Sanitation has to be studied and the authorities as well as the candidates are kept in close touch with the latest developments of sanitary science. The Syllabus of subjects of which candidates are expected to have a practical as well as a theoretical knowledge is complete and comprehensive, covering as it does nuisances and their prevention, methods of inspection of dwellings, dairies, etc., the characteristics of drinking water, disinfectants, ventilation, drainage, etc. In order to facilitate the technical training of candidates, the Institute is providing a collection of typical appliances, models, and sanitary fittings, and placing them at the disposal of the Board in Georgetown for purposes of demonstration. Last year no fewer than seventeen examinations were held in the colonies, the system followed being identical in each case. To begin with the Royal Sanitary Institute appoints the Board of Examiners, seeing to it that the three sides of sanitary science are represented on it—medicine, engineering and architecture. The local Board then sets the questions, and after conducting a viva voce examination forwards the written answers to the headquarters with their recommendations. The staff in London then scrutinises the papers, in order that a high and uniform standard may be maintained, and makes its award. In selecting centres in the colonies for its work the Royal Sanitary Institute is guided by the number of candidates likely to come forward and the availability of a sufficient number of officers suitable to form the Board of Examiners. Both these requirements should be met in Jamaica and Trinidad, and we hope, some day, to see those islands embraced in the operations of the Royal Sanitary Institute,

whose valuable work for the community is fully recognised and appreciated in this country. We are indeed not without hope that the local health and sanitary authorities of the several colonies will eventually contribute largely to the success of the movement by employing on their staffs of inspectors only such persons as have gone through a regular course of study and training, and secured a qualifying certificate of competency in the particular branch of sanitary science in which he, or she, seeks employment.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

WE have frequently had occasion to refer to the importance of the subject of the abnormal mortality among infants in the West Indies in its close relationship with the general death rate and health statistics. It will be remembered that in our issue of 12th August, 1913, during the sitting of the special congress on infantile mortality held in London last year, we wrote at some length on the subject in its application to the islands, but more particularly as to the remedial measures already adopted in British Guiana in an endeavour to cope with the evil. At that London congress, delegates were present from eight of our West Indian colonies, namely: British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia and the Leeward Islands. In some of the islands embraced in the last named group, the infantile death rate attains its highest figures, which are simply appalling. We have not available at the moment the latest statistics from the several colonies, but in 1912 the recorded infantile death rates of a few of them were as follows: British Guiana, 229; Barbados, 263; and St. Kitts and Nevis, 438 per 1,000 births. We are pleased to learn that an active interest is being aroused throughout the West Indies in initiating and extending practical efforts towards reducing the great waste of human life arising from this continuous "slaughter of the innocents," the main causes of which we have already attempted to point out. We are pleased to see that British Guiana still takes the foremost place in the good work, under the able and enthusiastic leadership of LADY EGERTON, who with the ready assistance of Dr. J. E. GODFREY, the Surgeon General, and other prominent members of the community, has recently established a Baby Saving League in that colony, with central committees at Georgetown and New Amsterdam, and numerous branches and sub-committees appointed for the villages and throughout the country districts. A few strange misapprehensions have arisen in some quarters as to the objects and aims of the League, some fearing that it might have the effect of relieving poor parents of their natural responsibilities in regard to their offspring, and thereby indirectly tending to the encouragement of illegitimacy, which, unfortunately, is already a strong contributing cause to the excessive infantile mortality prevailing throughout the West Indies.

The main object of the League is, however, to instruct ignorant and inexperienced mothers as to the proper feeding and care of their infants, and to provide proper nursing at a critical time, as well as suitable milk-food where that is found to be necessary through the poverty or inability of the mother; but the encouragement of natural breast feeding is one of the aims of the League, and in this particular direction it seeks the aid and co-operation of its female members and associates, who are recruited from all classes of society, so as to keep in close touch with actual and prospective mothers in every walk of life. The infantile death rate for the towns is naturally found to be higher than over the colony as a whole. In the town of New Amsterdam, Berbice, where practically no remedial measures had been adopted until the recent inauguration of a branch of the Baby Saving League, the infantile mortality for last year was 315 per 1,000 births, and in Georgetown, as we learn from the last annual report of DR. WISHART, Medical Officer of Health for the city, 235, notwithstanding its much larger and denser population. These figures, indeed, mark a record for Georgetown, representing a decline of 56 per thousand, as compared with the average of the twelve preceding years. This very satisfactory improvement may be set down as a direct result of the measures taken within the last few years, as an outcome of SIR FREDERIC M. HODGSON'S Mortality Commission, to check the excessive death rate amongst young infants, embracing the provision of mid-wife nurses, the appointment of lady health visitors, and the establishment of mothers' baby clubs, as a practical educational branch of the Children's Protection Society, and of which LADY ECERTON'S Baby Saving League is a further development. This pleasing result, whilst leaving plenty of scope for still larger reductions in the infantile death rate, should prove an incentive to renewed efforts in the future throughout our West Indian colonies. Milk being the most natural and suitable food for young infants, we take this opportunity of emphasising a suggestion made by us some little time ago on milk supply* that the keeping of goats should be more encouraged throughout the West Indies as a means of providing a pure domestic milk supply for every family, the milk of this animal being proved to be entirely free from tuberculous germs. In the course of that article reference was made to the Toggenburg variety of goat, the breeding of which was being encouraged by LADY DUNLEATH, in co-operation with the Women's National Health Association of Ireland. In a recent number of *Country Life*, her ladyship contributes some interesting data showing the superiority of the Toggenburg goat, its milking period extending over seven to eight months, as compared with three months for ordinary breeds, and the general kidding time being some three months later in the year, both these points being of importance.

* See the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of August 25th, 1912.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

The Annual General Meeting of the West India Committee was held at 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 30th. Mr. W. Middleton Campbell, Chairman, presided, and those members also present were: Mr. Robert Rutherford, Deputy Chairman, Mr. W. J. Aldenhoven, Mr. George R. Alston, Mr. W. H. Alty, Mr. H. Berger, Mr. D. D. Bryson, Mr. George Carrington, Mr. Gordon Davson, Mr. Ivan B. Davson, Mr. E. A. de Pass, Mr. George Farmer, Mr. William Fawcett, B.Sc., Mr. William Gillespie, Mr. Lionel Harvey, Mr. Howard Marsh, Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall, Mr. A. F. McConnell, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Mr. C. Sandbach Parker, Sir Owen Philipps, K.C.M.G., Mr. H. F. Previtè, Mr. A. Rankin, Mr. Frederic I. Scard, F.I.C., Mr. Wallwyn P. B. Shepheard, Mr. Harold Hamel Smith, Mr. G. Westall, Mr. Harold H. White, Mr. C. H. White, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary.

Mr. W. Middleton Campbell, rising to move the adoption of the Report and Accounts said: We are pleased to welcome this afternoon Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, whose name is very well known in connection with the West Indies, and who has a great reputation not only in his own profession but also as an agriculturist. He lives in a singularly beautiful island, which is also very healthy—no doubt owing to his ministrations.

Turning now to our Report, I am very glad to say that the obituary list is not quite so heavy as last year. Still, we have lost no fewer than thirty members, many of whom were well-known men, such as Mr. S. L. Horsford, of the Legislative Council of St. Kitts and the Federal Council of the Leeward Islands, Mr. Forster M. Alleyne, for many years our valued Hon. Correspondent in Barbados—and all of us who knew him must feel that the West Indies are the losers by his death—Mr. C. Leotaud, of the Legislative Council of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. C. J. Simmons, Member of the Legislative Council of St. Vincent, and since the close of the year, Sir Hubert Jerningham, a former Governor of Trinidad and Tobago, and Mr. Frederick McConnell, whose loss we mourn extremely. Only those who have known what he did in British Guiana can fully realise what a loss Mr. McConnell's death is to us.

With regard to the past year, there is nothing heroic to record; but the Secretary has described it all very nicely, and I congratulate him and those responsible with him for drawing up the Report. The number of members on December 31st was 1598, and the surplus of assets over liabilities was £2,063 os. 4d., as against £1,735 os. 7d., while this year we have a balance of £327 19s. 9d., as compared with £223 9s. 11d. last year.

We have, we think, every reason to congratulate ourselves that we are making progress, and slowly improving our financial position, and I think that it will be agreed that the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR is becoming more and more interesting.

At all events, I always feel that I have forgotten something if I have not read the CIRCULAR as soon as it comes out, and I think that is the general feeling throughout the West Indies. It is a little disappointing that more progress has not been made with regard to cable communication. However, we are living on promises, and in the hope that as the expenses come down, we shall see improvement.

I am quite sure we all wish that the new steamer service with Canada may be a success, and I must say that we are very grateful to the Dominion Government for their enterprise in trying to place communication with the West Indies on a better basis, and I can only regret that the Imperial Government has not agreed to share the expense. In conclusion I must say that we are immensely indebted to our Honorary Correspondents for keeping us informed as to the wants and requirements of the colony, and for their letters which add so much to the interest of the CIRCULAR. I now have pleasure in formally moving that the Annual Report of the Executive Committee, the audited Statement of the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended December 31st, 1913, and the Balance Sheet, be adopted.

The motion was seconded by Mr. R. Rutherford, and carried unanimously.

Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls: Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you for the altogether too flattering way in which you have alluded to me, and to what I may have done for the West Indies. Secondly, I would like to give expression to my admiration for the way in which the work of the West India Committee is carried on. If I carry my memory back many years, I remember that the West India Committee was then a small body very seldom heard of, and thought by many to be an organisation got up in the interests of the West Indian merchants and the sugar planters. The result was that the institution did not attract very many men in the West Indies to become members. After a time, doubtless those in charge began to doubt whether sugar and the West Indies were synonymous terms, and to that end they sent out their Secretary, Mr. Aspinall, whom everybody in the West Indies regards as a most useful and valued friend. He went through the West Indies and made himself acquainted with their wants and conditions, and I may perhaps say that it was my good fortune, as President of the Agricultural Society in Dominica, to be able to introduce him to the planters of that island and enable him to address them on the work of the West India Committee. After the visit of Mr. Aspinall a good deal of attention was attracted to the Committee, and I think I may say that from that day the number of members began to increase, and went on increasing year after year, until we find that the membership has now attained to a very considerable figure. The West India Committee has shown that it is a real friend to residents in the West Indies, and anxious and willing in every possible way to push forward the interests of those connected with the islands, and British Guiana and

British Honduras. It gives me much pleasure to be here this afternoon, and to assist in these proceedings, and I now beg to move the following resolution:—

THAT the following members, who retire by virtue of Article VI. of the Royal Charter of Incorporation, be re-elected to the Executive Committee: R. Rutherford, Esq., Cyril Gurney, Esq., G. R. Alston, Esq., W. Gillespie, Esq., A. N. Lubbock, Esq., N. Malcolmson, Esq., W. Mitchell-Thomson, Esq., M.P., Sir Owen Philipps, K.C.M.G., and H. A. Trotter, Esq.

These gentlemen are all well known in the West Indies, and we feel perfect confidence that they should be asked to continue their labours on behalf of the colonies.

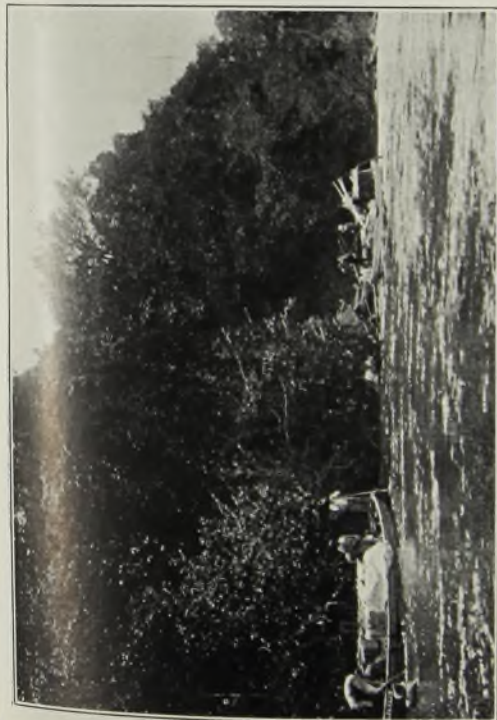
The resolution having been seconded by Mr. E. L. Marshall and carried unanimously, the proceedings terminated.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES.

The figures given below showing the aggregate trade of Canada with the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras are taken from the Report of the Department of Trade and Commerce of the Dominion for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1913, which has just been published at Ottawa.

	Imports from.	Exports to.	Total Trade.
	\$	\$	\$
1913			
British West Indies ...	6,058,959	3,690,625	9,749,584
British Guiana	3,384,434	630,480	4,014,914
British Honduras	296,122	10,399	306,521
	9,739,515	4,331,504	14,071,019
1912			
British West Indies ...	5,545,861	4,034,425	9,580,286
British Guiana	5,004,630	583,536	5,588,166
British Honduras	114	9,191	9,305
	10,550,605	4,627,152	15,177,757
1911			
British West Indies ...	6,469,382	4,113,270	10,582,652
British Guiana	3,793,201	622,735	4,415,936
British Honduras	85	9,798	9,883
	10,262,668	4,745,803	15,008,471
1910			
British West Indies ...	5,448,199	3,109,825	8,558,024
British Guiana	3,556,222	588,047	4,144,269
British Honduras	10,523	60,239	70,762
	9,014,944	3,758,111	12,773,055
1909			
British West Indies ...	7,387,056	2,549,043	9,936,099
British Guiana	1,701,540	505,030	2,206,570
British Honduras	13,421	3,572	16,993
	9,102,017	3,057,645	12,159,662

It appears from the same Report that the total imports of sugar into the Dominion in 1913 amounted to 285,800 tons as compared with 262,519 tons in the preceding year, and those of cacao beans to 6,613,083 lbs, as against 5,604,940 lbs. in 1912.



HAULING BATTEAUX UP RAPIDS ON THE ESSEQUIBO.



"JUMBI ROCK" ON THE RUPUNUNI RIVER.



FIRST VIEW OF THE GREAT SOUTHERN SAVANNAH.

(Foot-hills of Kanuku Mountains on the left.)



A CAMP KITCHEN ON THE SAVANNAH.

(Kanuku Mountains beyond.)

SOME SCENES IN THE INTERIOR OF BRITISH GUIANA.

From Photographs by His Excellency Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G.

A NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

ANTIGUA'S ONION INDUSTRY.

A West India Committee Publication.

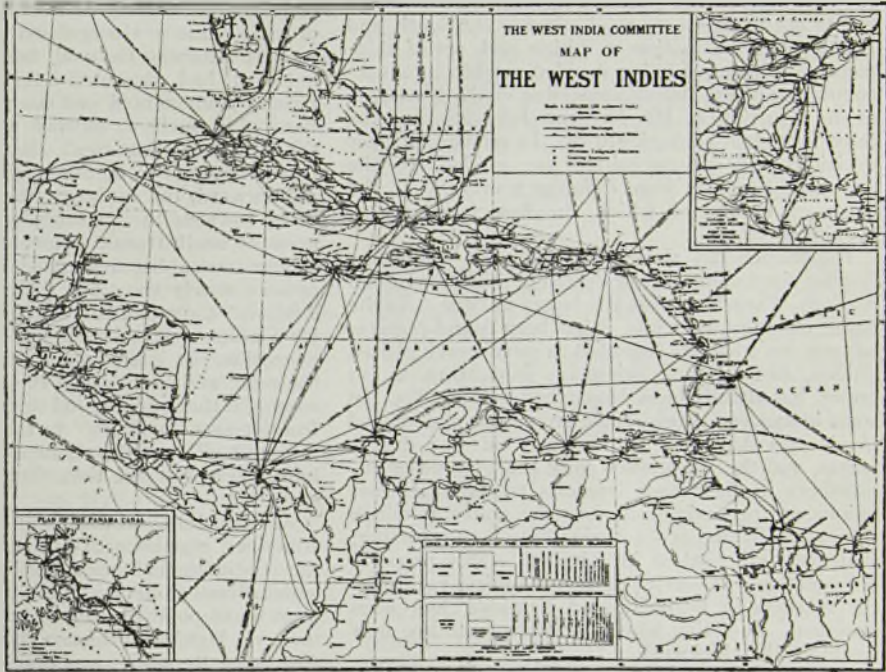
The need for a map of the West Indies including British Guiana and British Honduras, our colonies on the mainland of South and Central America respectively, has long been apparent. This will be now met by the publication to-day of the West India Committee Map of the West Indies. The size of this new map, which has been specially drawn by the London Geographical Institution under the superintendence of a sub-committee, consisting of Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. E. R. Davson, Mr. E. A. de Pass, Mr. H. F. Previt  and the Secretary, is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches.

A reproduction of it in miniature is given on this page. It will be noted that while no attempt has been made to give the physiographical features of the individual islands — this being impracticable in view of the relative size of most of the islands in relation to the mainland — the principal railways, sea distances in nautical miles, cables, wireless telegraph stations, coaling stations and oil stations are all clearly marked. The map has three insets, one showing the routes and distances between Canada and the United States and the West Indies, another a plan of the Panama Canal,

and a third showing by diagrams and figures the area and population of the various British West Indian colonies. The map is coloured, and can be obtained either varnished and mounted on rollers, or in sheets. It is believed that it will prove useful in the offices of those firms which have dealings with our West Indian colonies, and also for educational purposes in schools; and it is hoped that the distribution of the map among Government Offices and Chambers of Commerce and other public bodies may help in some degree to stimulate interest in the British West Indies. The price to members of the West India Committee is : 7s. 6d. mounted and varnished, or 5s. in sheet.

The Central Drying House proves successful.

The establishment of an Onion Growers' Association in Antigua has already resulted in the gain of experience as to a number of points of importance in connection with the onion industry. According to a memorandum recently issued the establishment of a central drying house has proved in every way successful. The system adopted is briefly as follows: The onions are weighed on delivery, unsound onions being rejected, and the sound onions graded and, after grading, placed on the shelves to cure for a week. At the end of that time they are packed separately according to grades, stamped with the



The West India Committee Map of the West Indies.

The size of this map which is brightly coloured is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches, and the price to members of the West India Committee is : mounted and varnished 7/6 post free, or in sheet 5/- post free. To others than members the price is 10/6 and 7/6 respectively.

Association's mark and shipped. In each crate is enclosed a leaflet stating that the onions have been exported by the Association; special care has been devoted to packing, in this way it has been found possible not only to improve the security of the packing, but also to increase the actual amount of onions in each crate; thus the average weight of a crate packed in the Association's packing house is from 58 to 60 lbs., a figure considerably in excess of the average amount packed in the crates as usually exported from Antigua.

In the original project for working the drying house the total amount of onions which it was ex-

pected to handle was 15,000 lbs. But in view, however, of the heavy demand for accommodation which was encountered, it was decided to increase the size of the operations and to double the capacity of the drying house.

Though it is too early as yet to say what the financial result will be, very favourable reports on the produce have already been received from Barbados, while the first shipment to Canada resulted in a cabled repeat order for 200 crates being received. Up to the present shipments have been made to Barbados, St. Lucia, Dominica, Martinique, and St. John, N.B. In each of these places the Association has been in communication with firms of merchants who have agreed to act as special agents for them, and to these agents the produce is consigned. Shipments are made every week alternately South and North; the destination to which each set of shipments is consigned being decided weekly by a sub-committee of the Board, consisting of the Chairman of the Association, Mr. N. Scott Johnston, and the Superintendent of Agriculture. In arriving at their decisions the sub-committee are guided by the fortnightly reports from different sources as to the price of onions of which the Association are in regular receipt.

Experience has shown already that while the smaller sized onions are preferred in the West Indian markets, Canada prefers the larger variety. As the result of extensive trials, it has been found possible to turn out what are regarded as satisfactory plaited onions, and the first shipment, amounting to 13 crates, has already been despatched to Barbados. In some instances a considerable proportion of damaged goods was delivered by members of the drying house, and the Association very properly urges the members in their own interests to see that their onions are properly packed in the crates in which they are delivered at the curing-house, and, further, that they are packed in standard crates properly put together. A service of cabled advices regarding the markets in Barbados and Trinidad has been arranged, and the whole arrangements are now working like clockwork.

THE marriage took place at St. Mark's Church, Surbiton, on Tuesday, April 14th, of Miss Mary Kenrick Gibbons Chambers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Chambers, of Rodmill, Kenwyn-road, Cottenham Park, and formerly of Rodmill, Weybridge, and Mr. Henry Grattan Bushe, barrister-at-law, son of the late Hon. John Scott Bushe, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Trinidad. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. F. C. Chambers, Vicar of Hanmer, assisted by the Rev. Canon J. Hasloch Potter, Vicar of the Parish, and the bride, who is a grand-daughter of the late Sir George Chambers, was given away by her father. After the ceremony a reception for the immediate relations of the bride and bridegroom was held at "Collyns," Berrylands, Surbiton, kindly lent by Mr. and Mrs. C. Kenrick Gibbons, uncle and aunt of the bride.

THE HINTERLAND OF BRITISH GUIANA.

Through the courtesy of Sir Walter Egerton, Governor of British Guiana, we are able to reproduce in the present issue four of the photographs taken by His Excellency during the tour which he made in the interior of the colony last year in connection with the railway scheme.

At a meeting of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana on March 31st, Sir Walter Egerton delivered an informative address on this subject. At the outset he mentioned that the idea of a railway from Georgetown to the Brazilian frontier was probably first made more than thirty years ago. More recently the late Colonel Link had endeavoured to promote a scheme for the formation of such a line to Georgetown, and Mr. Numan, the present Attorney General, both in the Colony and out of it, had advocated interior development by a railway and pointed out the possibility of the extension of such a railway as a main trunk line through South America. He, the speaker, did not therefore claim to be the originator of the schemes put forward, but he hoped that he might do something towards their realization. Many believed a north to south trans-continental line was quite possible of accomplishment and its construction did not present nearly the same difficulties as the famous African "Cape to Cairo" scheme, except that British Guiana yet lacked a Rhodes to push it on to execution. It was said that the opportunity found the man, and he believed the man would be forthcoming if they constructed their line to the Brazilian frontier as a "pointer" to the Southern Cross and the great cities of Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Ayres lying under it which were the proper termini of any such line.

After dealing with the manner in which the South American republics of the Atlantic watershed of the continent had been developed by railways, of which Brazil alone has 16,000 miles, His Excellency went on to point out the direct route from Georgetown via Manãos to Buenos Ayres, the capital of the Argentine Republic, was practically due north and south. The audience must realise what an enormous traffic such a railway line was certain to develop if it was ever constructed. The total distance would be approximately 3,000 miles. At 30 miles an hour, this would take a little over 4 days, one third of the time it now took to reach Jamaica from Georgetown; at only 20 miles an hour, 6½ days. The saving in actual distance from any of the large cities of the south-east coast of South America to any part of North or Central America, or to any place west of Georgetown on the northern coast of South America, would be nearly 1,000 miles, but the saving in time would be much greater than proportional to the shortening of the distance traversed. A substitution of 3,000 miles of travel by land in place of say 3,900 miles in a steamship on a turbulent ocean would attract people travelling for pleasure as well as those travelling on business to whom time was money.

Surely if the first section—Georgetown to the Savannah country on the Brazilian frontier—were constructed, the continuation to Manãos, either by the Brazilian Government or private enterprise was not likely to be long delayed, and if the line once reached Manãos, the missing link necessary to connect the northern 800 with the southern 38,000 miles of railway *already* in existence, together bridging more than two-thirds of the total distance, could not long be delayed.

Georgetown had an excellent harbour, the approach from the sea being safe but shallow. It was, however, even now the best on the mainland between Trinidad and the Amazon, and was one which was capable of being deepened so as to make Georgetown a first-class port with depths sufficient for the largest ships in the South American trade; it was free from earthquakes and hurricanes were unknown.

As to the direction of the railway Sir Walter said that there were two distinct routes to the interior on the east bank of the Demerara River, and there were also two routes on the west. He should prefer a route to the east bringing the railway right into the present city of Georgetown—rather than making the terminus on the west bank, but probably the cheapest route to construct and the easiest to finance would be the conversion of the existing West Coast Railway to metre gauge and its extension up the eastern side of the water-shed between the Demerara and Essequibo Rivers with a station opposite Bartica to serve the Mazaruni and Cuyuni traffic. The West Coast Railway was being continued to Parika in order to correct the error made in 1897 of not giving that railway a terminus on the Essequibo Estuary. The extension was nearly completed and if the financial result was favourable, no doubt the Combined Court would be asked and would readily approve a further extension up the right bank of the Essequibo River to a spot opposite Bartica. The extension from Parika to Bartica at £3,500 a mile as estimated by Mr. Roy, the present General Manager of the railway, would cost £90,000.

Summarising the case for the hinterland railway, Sir Walter said that the cultivated and populated portion of British Guiana was but a narrow strip along the coast; almost all of it was swamp, much below the level of the sea, and to render it habitable, costly sea defence works were required and in addition empoldering, drainage and irrigation systems costly to construct and expensive to maintain. Thus all cultivation required considerable capital expenditure. It was only by combination in village communities that the farmers could cultivate and most of these communities had the immense advantage of taking over their properties from ruined sugar planters at a small cost, ready equipped with all these requisites. Now this coast strip would never have been cultivated at all but for its amazing fertility. It had long been known as the best land in the world for sugar, and within recent years it had been proved to be equally suitable for rice. It would

be a bad day for the colony when the cultivation of the coast land had to be given up. He did not think they need fear that, but rather that they might expect extension in cultivation if only long talked of drainage and irrigation schemes were carried out, but it was not everyone who was attracted by the prospect of a life on the flat coast land. In most countries there were plains, hills and valleys that could be cultivated without any such exceptional expenditure, and to attract immigration from other countries they must be able to offer new-comers fertile land for settlement similar to their own. At present the population was hemmed in on the coast; behind the cultivation were swamps, turned for long distances into shallow reservoirs, then a wide belt of undulating sand-hills, generally forest-covered, made familiar by the Wismar-Rockstone railway. Near where the sand began the rapids on the rivers were also met with and all further progress into the interior became slow, wearisome and costly; otherwise, along the rivers and small streams many fertile areas were met with. This wide sandy belt was exactly like the sand dunes of some ancient seashore, but Professor Harrison with his microscope assured them it was not a seashore but merely due to the disintegration of rocks *in situ*. In amongst the sand-hills, but generally to south of them, was highly fertile and mineralised country with gold and diamonds in unusual quantity. During the financial year ending that night the production of gold totalled 82,706 oz. and of diamonds 93,752 totalling 11,119 carats. Since 1890 gold to value over 2,300,000 oz. had been produced, almost entirely from the primitive surface workings of the "pork-knockers!"

These workings were still reached and all supplies for the miners had to be sent by toilsome journeys up rivers cursed with dangerous rapids, cataracts and falls, the miners and their supplies taking weeks to reach their destinations. Cheaper and better transport to the interior was urgently needed.

With a railway, immigration from Barbados and possibly other islands, should be attracted, and much of the labour employed in building it would probably settle along the line. Any railway scheme should include provision for considerable immigration expenditure to make good the labour supply on the coast depleted owing to local labourers working on the line. But the dislocation of labour due to railway construction should surely not be greater than at the time of the first gold discoveries.

The land would grow all tropical products, it was growing already in the savannah country cotton, excellent tobacco, ground provisions, and fruit trees. There was no reasonable doubt that with a railway to the savannahs, not taking into account branch light lines from Potaro linking up the Mazaruni, Cuyuni, Barawa and Barima, much more fertile agricultural land would be made accessible than many generations could exploit.

Turning to the financial aspect of the question, His Excellency said that if they could get capitalists

to build the line on reasonable conditions, by all means let the offer be accepted, but he would remind them that a hundred years had passed without such an offer being received and money would not be forthcoming without fair certainty of profit. If there was to be profit let that go into the colony's chest. With a Government built line they would have the rates under control. They would ensure that the line was worked for the benefit of the country and not for that of private shareholders. They would facilitate, too, the building of branches. He would ask those against a Government line to consider the experience not of our Dominions with temperate climates and a white population, but that of our tropical colonies.

Let them look at the piteous history of the Jamaica railway. Built by a private company, purchased by the colony, sold to a company and extended, and the colony then forced to re-purchase as the company failed, and its capital cost was now £14,300 a mile. The railway still failed to pay all interest on capital, though, of course, the colony could not prosper without the line, but if it had been kept as a Colonial line, and constructed by Government at a reasonable cost it would be a most profitable undertaking. Under Government management financial equilibrium was being rapidly established, notwithstanding the enormous over-capitalisation burden. Let them again take the Trinidad railway—a Government line—which was paying well. Ceylon, Federated Malay States, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, Mauritius, British East Africa, all had Government railway systems, and all, even the last, with its much decried Uganda railway, paying well.

TRINIDAD is to be represented by Dr. H. M. Alston, British Guiana by Mrs. Isabella M. May, and the Leeward Islands by Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., at the Imperial Health Conference to be held under the auspices of the Victoria League at the Imperial Institute from May 18th to 21st next. Among the contributors of papers is Dr. Angus Macdonald, Health Officer of Kingston, Jamaica, who has prepared one for the section which is to deal with "The Care of Child Life."

We regret to learn of the death in Demerara, on the 31st March, of Mr. W. B. St. Aubyn, Superintendent and Secretary of the Lamaha and East Demerara Water Supply Schemes, whose genial personality will be remembered by many visitors to the colony who were fortunate enough to spend a week-end fishing at his picturesque bungalow on the Lama Creek, Mahaica. Mr. St. Aubyn, who was 56 years of age, was the son of Captain St. Aubyn, a British officer stationed in Barbados in the 'fifties. He was formerly for several years a well known sugar planter in Demerara at Plantations Non Pareil and Bel Air, in the employ of the late Mr. Quintin Hogg. He was a keen sportsman and first class rifle shot.

EARLY ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS IN GUIANA.

BY N. DARNELL DAVIS, C.M.G.

The voyages of Raleigh and of Raleigh's men had drawn attention to Guiana. The tendency to go thither was noted by Hall, afterwards Bishop of Norwich, in the couplet:—

Vent'rous Fortunio his farm hath sold,
And goes to Guiana-land to search for gold.

They led to attempts at settlement in different parts of that vast country, and eventually to the founding of Colonies in some of the Caribbean islands. Even the Pilgrim Fathers had discussed the question of removing to Guiana, from Holland, and some "and none of the meanest" were "earnest for Guiana." The decision to go to New England was, however, a wise one.

At the instance of Henry, Prince of Wales, Sir Thomas Roe, afterwards Ambassador to the Great Mogul, and to the Grand Turk, and sent on missions to various Courts; went on a voyage to the West Indies, when Sir Walter Raleigh was a prisoner in the Tower.*

Roe sailed along the Coast of Guiana, from the Amazon to the Orinoco, and visited the Island of Trinidad. He reported in 1611, that the Spaniards treated Englishmen "worse than Moors."

The first attempt by Englishmen to colonize in Guiana was made in 1604, under the leadership of Captain Charles Leigh, who, in the *Olive Plant*, "a proper barke of some fiftie tunnes, accompanied with six and fortie men and boyes," set up the St. George's Cross on the left bank of the river Wia-poco, now known as the Oyapok. This river, called by the Spaniards, the river of Canoes, now forms the boundary between the Colony of French Guiana and the Republic of Brazil. † Leigh was a member of a family of London merchants of high standing, and a brother of Sir Oliph Leigh, "a worshipful Knight of Kent"; but the humdrum life of a merchant did not suit his adventurous spirit. He took to the sea himself, and did some bold privateering in the waters of New France and Newfoundland. Later on, he explored part of the Coast of Guiana, and then undertook to found a settlement at the Oyapok, where he hoped to do trade with the Indians, and to search for gold.

He took possession of the country "in the sight of the Indians," who received him kindly as a

* Justice has yet to be done to the services rendered by Henry, Prince of Wales, as a promoter of English Colonies. After the Prince's too early death, Digby, the Ambassador at Madrid wrote, that the Spaniards hoped the Plantation in Virginia would fall of itself, and that "business of that nature" would grow colder after the death of Prince Henry.

† Although Alcado says that the Oyapok was not the river discovered by Vincente Yanez Pinzon, the contrary appears to have been clearly proved before the Swiss Court of Arbitration which decided the questions of Boundary between Brazil and French Guiana. The Portuguese called the Oyapok, the Ryo Fresco. The Indian name for it was Quachipuru.

countryman of Sir Walter Raleigh. The little village where he made his head-quarters he called Principium, because it was "the first place of our settled abode." He named the hill on which it stood, Mount Howard, "to honour the remembrance of my Lord Admiral, of whom heretofore I have received many favours."* After himself he renamed the Oyapok, the Caroleigh. One river he named the Oliveleighe and another the Jotramleighe. A hill was named Mount Oliphe. Leigh's men proved unfit to be colonists. The most part had been householders in England, and were so discontented that "they cried to their Captaine, home, home." But for the necessities that were supplied by the friendly Indians these cockney colonists would have been in a bad way, when they suffered from sickness and were short of provisions.

Leigh shipped away some of the misfits, and wrote to Sir Oliph Leigh to send him "a supply of one hundred men at least, to abide here, all labouring men and gardeners, for such are the fittest here for a time, with a few carpenters." He sent by the ship which carried his letter four Indian chiefs, who had been delivered to him as hostages for the safety of the English settlers. As he sorely needed an interpreter, he begged his brother to procure "Sir Walter Raleigh's Indian, or my Lord Admiral's." As the Indians had asked that ministers should be sent to teach them to pray, Leigh begged Sir Oliph to send "Preachers, sober and discrete men, and such as are well persuaded of the Church Government in England, &c." In January, 1606, the *Phœnix* arrived in the Oyapok, with thirty men "of sundry trades," and with supplies, sent by Sir Oliph Leigh, along with a "Preacher." The newcomers found the settlers "for the most part extream sick and some of them dead." Others died soon after the *Phœnix* arrived, and the General (Leigh) himself was very weak and much changed. There had been a great want of victuals, as the Indians could not provide all that had been needed. Things looked so unpromising, that discontent arose among the "fresh-water souldiers" aboard the *Phœnix*, and they wished themselves in England again. Soon afterwards, Leigh set out with a number of Indians on an expedition, inland, against the Caribs; but the enemy fled into the woods and nothing came of the undertaking. Leigh now decided to go to England; but, he "sickened of the Flux, and died aboard his ship" and was secretly buried on the land on the 20th of March, 1626. On the 2nd of April, Master Tederington, the preacher, and others set sail for England. No relief came to the colonists from England, although such a vessel had been despatched to their aid by Sir Oliph Leigh, which, however, never reached the Oyapok. Of the 35 settlers

who now remained, a few died, and the remainder took passage by some Dutch vessels that called at the Oyapok.* The Indians, who had shown much kindness to the colonists, were very sorry that the English should leave the country. One of the colonists records that: "They had often speech of Sir Walter Raleigh, and one came farre out of the Maine, from Orenoque to enquire of us of him, saying he promised to have returned to them before that time." Those who have any idea of the distance between the Orinoco and the Oyapok, and of the difficulties of the journey, especially three hundred years ago, will realise how very much in earnest the Indians of the Orinoco were, to get news of the Great Englishman.†

An Oxfordshire Squire, Robert Harcourt, of Stanton Harcourt, was the next Englishman to attempt a settlement in Guiana.‡ Accompanied by his brother, Captain Michael Harcourt, and by his cousins, Thomas Harcourt, Captain Fisher and Unton Fisher, and by a hundred other men, he arrived in the Oyapok in 1609. The newcomers were welcomed by the Indians as countrymen of Sir Walter Raleigh; and Leonard, an Indian chief, who had been with Sir Walter Raleigh in the Tower of London, came above a hundred miles from his own country, only to visit Harcourt and his company, "for the great love he did bear to Sir Walter Raleigh and our nation." After formally annexing the vast territory between the Amazon and the Orinoco, by the ceremony of twig and turf, to the Crown of England, Harcourt returned to England, leaving his brother Michael in the charge of the settlement. In 1613, Harcourt obtained a grant of all the land between the Amazon and the Essequibo, not already in the possession of any Christian Prince. The settlers were sometimes visited by Dutch ships; and in 1617, Captain Harvey, who had already lived at the Oyapok for three years, took out a batch of seventy men. The plantation seems to have just lingered on. A delightful little book, written by Harcourt, was published in London in 1613, under the title of "A Relation of a Voyage to Guiana." In that he gives an entertaining account of the Indians, their "Manners, Customs, Behaviours, and Dispositions"; and he describes the country generally and tells of its

* It is noteworthy that so early as May, 1605, a Holland ship had put in at the Oyapok in order to sell negroes to Raleigh. It will be remembered that in 1629, a Dutch ship sailed to Virginia the first negroes sold to settlers of that Colony.

† Captain John Smith, the famous Pioneer of the colonization of Virginia, has placed on record that he "should have been a partie" in Leigh's attempt at a plantation on the Oyapok. One cannot but wonder how much that energetic man would have influenced matters for the better.

‡ Harcourt married a de Vere, of the House of Oxford. His eminent descendant, Sir William Vernon Harcourt, as is well known, claimed to be descended "from noble, may, Royal ancestors." There is a letter in the Bodleian Library, dated 27th February, 1632, from Harcourt's second son, Francis, to Sir Henry Spelman, Treasurer of the Amazon Company, from which it appears that Harcourt died in Guiana.—*Tanner MSS.*, LXXI, 154.

* The Lord Admiral seems to have been held in high regard by the adventurous spirits of those days. Keymis had called the harbour at Cayenne, Port Howard, in 1596. After the "Swashing blow" dealt the Spaniards at Cadiz, Queen Elizabeth had created Lord Howard of Effingham, Earl of Nottingham.

various products. It is dedicated to Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I., whose then deceased brother, Henry, had helped Harcourt to obtain his Patent, "for the planting and inhabiting of all that tract of land, and part of Guiana, between the River of Amazonas and Dessequebe, situate in America, under the Aequinoctial Line."* His ventures in the colonization of Guiana seriously crippled Harcourt's finances, and, as a consequence, he had to sell two of his English estates. †

Captain Roger North, a brother of the Lord North of that day, had been one of the comrades of Sir Walter Raleigh in his last voyage to the West Indies. North had then been sent home by Sir Walter to report to James I. what had taken place at San Thomé. Assisted by his brother, and by Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, and "others of great estate," North projected a company of adventurers to the River Amazon. In June, 1620, North with fresh colonists arrived in the Amazon, where they were welcomed by some Irish as well as English, who, between 1612 and 1620, had settled, along with some Dutchmen, in the land of the Tupujusu Indians, between Jary and Macapa, on the left bank of the great river. Leaving a hundred men behind, under Captain Thomas Painton, as his lieutenant, North returned to England with about 7,000 lbs. of tobacco, and other articles. ‡ On his arrival he was sent to the Tower, where he remained from January to July. King James, bullied by Gondomar, had on North's departure for Guiana, issued a proclamation declaring that "North and his fellow adventurers had, contrary to command, secretly embarked for the intended plantation near the River Amazon"; and declaring the King's utter dislike of their rash and insolent attempt. His Majesty, further, revoked any commission they might pretend to hold from him, and commanded their immediate return and surrender, or their seizure by any vessels that might meet them. North's goods were seized, on the pretence that they had been taken in Spanish possessions. When released, they had spoiled from want of care.

Harcourt having represented that the Amazon Company had been granted land within his own grant of the 28th of August, 1613, in 1626 the two grants were amalgamated and a new Amazon Company was incorporated, with the Duke of Buckingham as President of the Company and Captain North as Governor of the settlements, which already

existed and which were to be formed on the left bank of the Amazon. Two of these were on the Cajary River, one at Taurage at the mouth of the Maracapucu, and one at Fort Camau. North revisited the Amazon in 1629, but without avail. One by one the scattered settlements were destroyed by the Portuguese; Fort Camau, the last to fall, being carried by assault on the night of the 9th of July, 1632, by a force under Feliciano Coelho de Carvalho. In 1638, the Company was said to be doing nothing in Guiana.

It was in Surinam, now a part of Dutch Guiana, that the next attempt to found an English settlement was made. Captain Marshall, who had himself settled there many years before, was employed in 1643 by the Earl of Warwick and others to establish some 300 families at Surinam, Suramaca, and on the Corentyne, which now separates British from Dutch Guiana. The colonists are said to have lived peaceably until 1645, when they were cut off by the Indians for siding with the French against them.

The last attempt at an English settlement was the only successful one, and resulted in the Colony of Surinam, or Willoughby Land, upon the founding of which, Francis, Lord Willoughby, the Royalist Governor of Barbados, is said to have spent a sum equal in value to £100,000 in the money of the twentieth century. The success of this venture in colonization must be ascribed to the fact that the settlers were colonists from Barbados, for the most part. The first lot arrived at Surinam in 1650, under the leadership of Colonel Anthony Rouse, who himself had lived long in the West Indies. Soon after landing, Rouse came to a peaceful understanding with the Indians, "and reviving the name of Sir Walter Raleigh, gave the Englishe firme footing in these parts, and it soon became a hopefulle Collonie." On the Restoration, a grant of Surinam was given by Charles II. to Lord Willoughby, and to Lawrence Hyde, second son of the famous Lord Clarendon.

In spite of want of more negroes, and of squabbles among the Colonists, who were a mixture of Cavaliers and Roundheads, the Colony continued to prosper under Lord Willoughby's deputies, Rouse, and then Major William Byam. It enjoyed, moreover, a constitution of the old King-Lords-and-Commons type, in a Governor, Council and Assembly. Its chief town was Tavarica. Things were in this hopeful state when, in March 1667, the Colony surrendered to a squadron of Dutch ships of war, under Commodore Crynens. In October of the same year, Surinam was retaken by the English, with a force sent from Barbados, under Sir John Harman, the distinguished admiral, and Henry Willoughby as military Commander-in-Chief. Meanwhile, however, by the Treaty of Breda, it had been arranged that England and Holland should retain what each had taken during the war; so Surinam had to be given up to the Dutch, in whose possession it remains; although it has since then been from

* The *Relation* is to be found in the *Harleian Miscellany*.

† Those who undertook the founding of Colonies in the New World paid dearly for their enterprise. Sir Walter Raleigh spent £40,000 upon attempts to colonize Virginia: a sum equal in value to £200,000 in the twentieth century. Others reaped where he sowed.

‡ On Paington's death, he was succeeded by Captain Charles Parker, who had been one of Sir Walter Raleigh's captains in 1617-18 voyage. Parker was a brother of Lord Monteaule who received the letter of warning about the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Lord Monteaule was a supporter of English Colonization.

time to time retaken from them by England. By the operation of the provision of *uti possidetis* in the Treaty of Brada, the Colony of New Netherlands, or New York, became an English possession. This exchange of Surinam for New York caused an outcry in England; at the time, as it was considered that the Dutch had got the best of the bargain; the point of view of that age being that a Colony was a place for colonists to make money in quickly, and then retire to England, rather than a region to be developed into an expansion of the Homeland where Englishmen should remain and increase and multiply.

The name of Mrs. Aphra Behn, the first English lady novelist, and a well known character of the Restoration period is identified with Surinam, where she spent some years of her girlhood. In her story of "Oroonoko," upon which Southerne founded his tragedy of the same name, she has given a glimpse of life in the Colony, at the end of the English rule. She is said to have introduced into England the West Indian beverage known as milk punch.

THE ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE.

An Impressive Service in St. Paul's Cathedral.

The annual service of the Order of St. Michael and St. George was held in St. Paul's Cathedral on St. George's Day, April 23rd, when the usual impressive ceremony of removing the banners of departed Knights Grand Cross and affixing those of the new Knights was duly observed, in the presence of many members of the Order, the Knights wearing uniforms with orders and decorations.

The service began with the hymn "Let saints on earth in concert sing," and the lesson from Eccles. xlv. 1-16., "Let us now praise famous men." Sir William Baillie Hamilton, Gentleman Usher of the Blue Rod, then read the list of members of the Order who died during the year, including Mr. J. K. G. T. Spencer Churchill, Sir Cornelius A. Moloney, Sir Walter F. Hely-Hutchinson, Lord Strathcona, and Mr. James Richmond; and after the hymn "The Saints of God! their conflict past," and prayers, the Prelate of the Order, Bishop Montgomery, removed the banners of the deceased Knights Grand Cross, each being handed separately to the Prelate, who laid them on the Altar in the presence of the relatives of the deceased Knights. This having been completed, the Officers of the Order proceeded to the Chapel of St. Dunstan, where they were handed the banners of the new Knights Grand Cross, which were then placed in position with fitting ceremonial by the Clerk of the Works, who received them from the Prelate. After the prayers, the service was brought to a close with the singing of "God Save the King," accompanied by the band of the Coldstream Guards.

The Officers of the Order present were the Duke of Argyll, Chancellor, Sir John Anderson, Secretary,

and Sir George Fiddes, Registrar, and the congregation included Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Lord Emmott, G.C.M.G., Sir Gilbert T. Carter, K.C.M.G., Sir Charles T. Cox, K.C.M.G., Sir William Grey-Wilson, K.C.M.G., Sir Frederic M. Hodgson, K.C.M.G., Sir Everard im Thurn, K.C.M.G., Sir Robert B. Llewelyn, K.C.M.G., Sir Charles Lucas, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Sir Willoughby Maycock, K.C.M.G., Sir Sidney Olivier, K.C.M.G., Mr. C. Atchley, C.M.G., I.S.O. (Librarian of the Colonial Office), Major J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., and Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G.

THE WEST INDIAN CLUB.

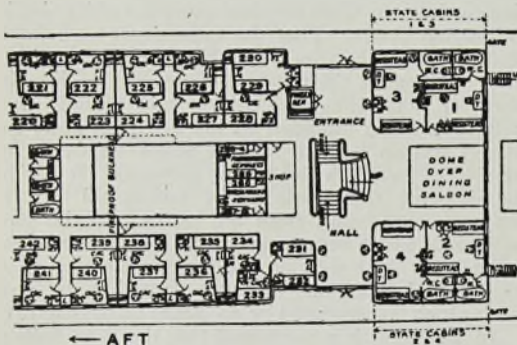
The annual report of the West Indian Club is of special interest in view of the fact that it is the first issued since the Club acquired premises of its own in Whitehall Court. That the Committee were justified in taking the step which they did in the direction of securing their independence of the discomforts of hotel life—and this is said without any reflection being intended on the generous hosts for nearly sixteen years in Norfolk Street—is shown by the list of members and by the accounts. It was to be expected that some slight falling off in the former would result from the increase in the subscriptions which became necessary; but at the close of the year there were on the books 219 members in the United Kingdom, and 542 abroad, a total of 761, which is considered by no means unsatisfactory.

In the report it is mentioned that the West Indian Club is now the only organisation of its kind representing any one portion of the British Colonies which has its own residential quarters, a fact of which the Committee of Management may well be proud. Apart from the amenities which the Club affords to its members who now enjoy the advantages of a real London "house," it performs a useful function in bringing West Indians together socially at fortnightly dinners and otherwise. Of these dinners thirteen were held last year, at which the average attendance was 43. The Club also had the honour of entertaining Royalty, Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein having been their guest at an evening party given at Claridge's on July 4th.

From the sporting standpoint it is seen from the report the Club is doing good work, having presented a Rifle Challenge Cup for competition among West Indian volunteers and Defence Forces, and a Tennis Challenge Cup, the latter being rendered possible by the generosity of one of the members. The Club also took a prominent part in the arrangements for a West Indian tour of the M.C.C. Cricket team, and won a match at Wembley Park against the Universities and Public Schools Athletic Club, a circumstance which serves as a reminder that its foundation resulted from a cricket match organised at Richmond by Dr. G. B. Mason.

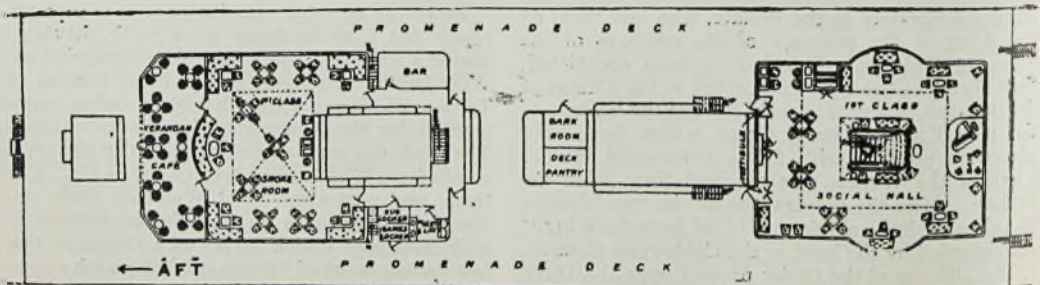
THE NEW WEST INDIAN LINERS.

In the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of April 7th, some particulars were given of the new transatlantic steamers *Essequibo* and *Ebro*, which are being built at Belfast for the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and will be put into commission in the autumn. It was mentioned that, by the adoption of the tandem system, every room would have access to light and air, and that there would be no stuffy inside cabins. The arrangement of these tandem cabins is clearly shown on the portion of the plan of one of the decks of the *Essequibo*, reproduced on this page. The tandem system is now a common feature of passenger steamer construction, but there must still be many readers in the West Indies who have not yet had the opportunity



Plan of Part of Deck of "Essequibo" and "Ebro."

of testing the advantages which are justly claimed for it. Another part of the plan, which is also reproduced—but on a smaller scale—shows the position of the Verandah Café and the Social Hall, which promise to add greatly to the amenities of the transatlantic voyage. The position of the bar will also be noted, and it will be seen that there is a dark room for photographers on the promenade deck. It is expected that the R.M.S.P. *Essequibo* will make her maiden voyage to Barbados and Trinidad on October 21st next, and that she will be followed six weeks later by her sister ship the *Ebro*.



The Social Hall, Smoking Room and Cafe of the new West Indian Liners.

COLONIAL REPORT.

The Leeward Islands.

Mr. T. A. V. Best, Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, in his report on the Blue-book of the Colony for 1912-13 gives the following table showing the revenue of the Presidencies (exclusive of Imperial grants in aid of the Agricultural Department) during the last five years:—

Presidency.	1908-9	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13
Antigua	51,502	48,583	52,326	52,292	53,490
St. Kitts-Nevis	47,133	47,343	52,748	58,002	57,078
Dominica	40,500	38,937	42,473	43,719	45,185
Montserrat	10,950	10,612	12,262	12,945	11,932
Virgin Islands	4,248	4,195	5,566	7,860	4,795
Total	154,333	149,670	164,375	174,818	172,480

The expenditure in the same years was:—

Presidency.	1908-9	1909-10	1910-11	1911-12	1912-13
Antigua	49,964†	49,204‡	53,495	53,652	53,193
St. Kitts-Nevis	45,722	47,932	49,872	50,737	53,415
Dominica	36,541	41,276	39,950	38,399	49,123
Montserrat	9,296	7,807§	11,366	10,030	10,556
Virgin Islands	4,993	3,587	5,480	6,107	4,980
Total	146,216	149,906	159,263	158,925	621,267

The net public debt, after deduction of sinking funds, stands at £180,000, and only represents an indebtedness of £1 8s 4d. per head of population. Such a rate, says Mr. Best, must be one of the lowest in the Empire. The following tables show the value of the imports and exports during the last five years, exclusive of internal trade:—

Year.	Imports.				
	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.
1908	£ 175,587	£ 184,002	£ 150,651	£ 28,195	£ 8,315
1909	£ 139,496	£ 171,939	£ 124,685	£ 87,524	£ 7,382
1910	£ 170,033	£ 192,541	£ 140,925	£ 29,718	£ 8,496
1911	£ 181,331	£ 302,865	£ 161,101	£ 34,166	£ 9,226
1912	£ 168,274	£ 252,637	£ 154,776	£ 37,492	£ 10,153

Year.	Exports.				
	Antigua.	St. Kitts-Nevis.	Dominica.	Montserrat.	Virgin Islands.
1908	£ 179,106	£ 180,539	£ 109,393	£ 41,434	£ 6,995
1909	£ 114,122	£ 172,659	£ 100,018	£ 26,550	£ 7,451
1910	£ 196,184	£ 195,506	£ 109,529	£ 30,003	£ 6,610
1911	£ 161,064	£ 203,166	£ 122,365	£ 51,198	£ 8,676
1912	£ 164,968	£ 187,961	£ 147,962	£ 36,594	£ 7,218

† Included £1,542 repayment of loans. ‡ Included £500 repayment of loans. § Included £500 repayment of loans.

It is worthy of note that the year under review was the first in which grey crystal sugar constituted more than half of the total sugar output of the Colony. During the crop the Antigua Sugar Factory manufactured 6,235 tons of sugar and crushed 59,371 tons of cane, thus taking 9.6 tons of cane to make one ton of sugar. On account of the unfavourable season, the quality of cane handled was poor. The shortage of water encountered during the previous crop was met by increasing the capacity of the reservoir attached to the factory. In consequence of this, it was possible to take off the crop without serious inconvenience by reason of water shortage, in spite of the continued dry weather experienced during the reaping of the crop. During the year, 2,664 tons of peasants' canes were purchased. The first year's work of the St. Kitts Factory resulted in the production of 3,660 tons of grey crystal sugar, 35,439 tons of cane being crushed to produce this. Owing to the dry character of the previous season, poor yields of cane were obtained in the districts tapped by the factory, while in quality the canes were indifferent. Work was further handicapped by labour difficulties, partly due to changes in the method of payment for reaping canes consequent on the erection of the factory.

Lime plantations in Montserrat continued to suffer from the attacks of scale insects and other plant diseases. During the year much attention was devoted to the subject by officers of the Agricultural Department, but so far no great amount of success has attended efforts to find a palliative. Evidence exists to show that the trouble is complex in character and has probably been greatly aggravated by a succession of unfavourable seasons and climatic conditions. The total exports of lime products from Montserrat during 1912 were valued at £9,370, and consisted of raw and concentrated lime juice, green limes, citrate of lime, and essential oil. Interest in limes increased in Antigua during the year, and further considerable extensions of the area planted took place, mainly in the southern districts of the island. The exports of lime products from Antigua during 1912 were valued at £1,209. Some interest continues to be shown in lime growing in Nevis and efforts were continued to foster their cultivation by the peasantry of Tortola. The lime crop of Dominica for the past five years, calculated in barrels of fruit, is recorded below:—

	Barrels.
1908	277,000
1909	284,000
1910	369,000
1911	355,000
1912	370,000

Mr. Joseph Jones who contributes the notes on the lime industry of Dominica points out that adherence to the calendar year as the export year is not satisfactory. For instance, the increase in the crop of 1912 was largely due to the considerable carry-over from the 1911 crop, and not altogether to increased yields during 1912. The low rainfall did not appear to check the good work of fungus para-

sites in controlling the scale insects on lime trees, though a prolonged spell of dry weather would probably tend to do so. The effect of two years' heavy rainfall was to cause a noticeable increase of root disease on lime plantations. Several of the outbreaks were investigated by the Mycologist of the Department during his visits, and found to be due to two species of fungus, one being *Sphaeosilbe* sp., known as the red root disease, and the other *Rosellinia bunodes*, the black root disease. Planters concerned were advised in respect to remedial measures which, on being carried out, should effectively control the diseases.

Evidence of continued confidence in the industry is shown by the development of planting during the past six years. Within that period no fewer than 326,000 lime plants have been sold from the Government nurseries to local planters. Large numbers of these plants have also been raised in private nurseries. It would appear that under normal climatic conditions a gradual increase in the export of lime products is assured for a number of years. Apart from the planting of lime seedlings during recent years by settlers on Crown lands, steady planting is being continued on nearly all of the older properties. Except in a few instances in which the available areas are entirely planted, it may be stated that development of lime cultivation is proceeding on all the plantations in the island. Concentrated lime juice and citrate of lime continued to command excellent prices on the market. The number of barrels of limes exported during 1912 was 37,038, an increase on the shipments during 1911 of 518 barrels. Of the total, 35,046 barrels went to New York, 301 barrels to Canada and 1,323 barrels to the United Kingdom. The shipments direct to Canada do not represent the demand for limes in that country, as it is well known that a good deal of this fruit enters Canada by way of New York.

St. Vincent still on the up-grade.

St. Vincent continues to make satisfactory progress. In the report on the Blue-book of the colony for 1912-13 is recorded the collection of the largest revenue in its history. The revenue and expenditure and imports and exports for the past five years were as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908-9	31,395	27,200
1909-10	28,440	31,330
1910-11	30,125	30,343
1911-12	34,852	33,735
1912-13	38,088	33,993

The surplus of assets on 31st March, 1913, was £11,869. In addition to this there stands to the credit of the colony £25,000, the unexpended remainder of a fund contributed by private subscription at the time of the eruption of the Soufrière volcano in 1902-03. It is invested in trust securities and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any possible future disaster.

The total imports and exports for the last five calendar years were as follows:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1908	113,713	94,739
1909	87,810	88,698
1910	97,737	101,180
1911	110,926	118,625
1912	129,142	111,684

Cotton has been the salvation of the island. During the year 4,344 acres were under Sea Island and 1,100 under Marie Galante. The table given below shows the acreage planted in Sea Island cotton in each of the past eight seasons; the yield of lint and the yield per acre.

Crop.	Acreage planted.	Weight of lint in pounds.	Yield of lint per acre in pounds.
1905-6	790	137,460	174
1906-7	1,533	268,275	175
1907-8	3,200	432,000	135
1908-9	3,000	372,000	124
1909-10	2,528	356,139	141
1910-11	3,587	561,526	156
1911-12	5,068	487,116	96
1912-13	4,344	428,032	98

The average yield of lint per acre during the period was 136 pounds. Thanks, no doubt, to the operations of the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' Association, the value of arrowroot exported continues to increase. The following table shows the exports and value of this product and cassava starch in each of the last five years.

Year.	Arrowroot in pounds.	Value.	Cassava Starch in pounds.	Value.
1908	4,886,379	27,713	236,502	1,352
1909	5,594,498	31,792	195,166	1,009
1910	5,302,725	30,089	138,112	781
1911	4,254,130	40,430	221,562	1,269
1912	3,948,681	48,854	177,820	1,257

In his general observations Mr. Gideon Murray refers naturally to the visit of Princess Marie Louise and adds "if exquisite scenery and a healthy climate be inducements to travellers then as years speed on we may well expect to see St. Vincent one of the most favoured tourist spots amongst the many beautiful West Indian Islands." But if the visitors are to be more than birds of passage, improved hotel accommodation must be provided.

On March 31st, 1913, the total surplus was £31,246, while the Public Debt was £142,229 11s. and the accumulated sinking fund £20,670 2s. 9d.

The imports and exports for the past five years were:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1908	289,775	252,668
1909	266,228	250,674
1910	277,207	239,955
1911	318,590	273,111
1912	315,361	287,716

The coaling industry continued to thrive as the following table shows:—

Year.	Tons.	£
1908	85,460	102,288
1909	96,462	115,754
1910	97,384	116,861
1911	139,056	152,962
1912	134,783	166,312

It is noteworthy in this connection that only twelve ports in the Empire outside the United Kingdom were ahead of St. Lucia in steam tonnage, namely, Hong Kong, Singapore, Colombo, Gibraltar, Malta, Penang, Aden, Port Natal, Cape Town, Calcutta, Victoria, B.C., and Bombay.

Sugar and cacao head the list of the Colony's important products. Lime cultivation is, however, making very rapid strides, and in the course of a year or two there is likely to be a very marked development in the cropping capacity of quite a number of estates, while the area planted in limes is steadily being added to. The value of exports of lime juice rose from £148 in the preceding year to £1,007. The position of the two staples is shown by the following table:—

	Cacao.		Sugar : Usine.		Other sugar, muscovado, & products thereof.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	Saga of 200 lb.	£	Tons.	£	
1908	6,775	30,488	4,881	53,691	2,813
1909	10,850	54,275	5,360	59,623	2,265
1910	8,187	40,935	5,199	64,988	2,674
1911	10,368	46,656	4,288	52,535	1,955
1912	9,573	43,099	4,246	48,830	2,117

St. Lucia's Growing Prosperity.

The report on the Blue-book of St. Lucia for 1912-13 is Mr. Edward J. Cameron's "swan song" as Administrator of the island, and in his general observations he is optimistic. Thus, he says:

The bright spot on the St. Lucia horizon is the growth of the lime industry and the prospect it affords of remunerative return to the different classes of land holders, both large estate owners and the smaller men. It is in the development of its agricultural possibilities, to the attraction of capital and men, and the opening up to useful cultivation of its large areas of unused or only partially used lands, that the Colony must look for its real expansion and ascent to importance.

The hope which he expresses that the last five years may find a favourable mention as a period of some slight progress towards the island occupying a more prominent position in West Indian affairs will certainly be fulfilled. Modesty, no doubt, prevents Mr. Cameron recording the important part which he played in bringing about a settlement of the acute political crisis which had led to the resignation of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council *en masse* before he reached the island.

During the last five years the revenue and expenditure of the colony was as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908-9	65,694	65,037
1909-10	65,739	64,446
1910-11	65,066	67,288
1911-12	71,978	69,328
1912-13	66,292	67,824

East Indians in Dutch Guiana.

In the House of Commons on April 20th, in reply to Mr. Shirley Burt, who asked how many Indian subjects were in Dutch Guiana in 1913 under indenture, the Under-Secretary of State for India (Mr. Charles Roberts) said that the latest figures received from the Netherlands authorities stated the number as 4,669 on the 31st December, 1912.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

MR. BALLOU, M.Sc., Entomologist of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, recently visited Montserrat, amongst other places, where he co-operated with Mr. Robson in carrying out spraying.

THE Government of Antigua have circularised the local planters regarding the extension of the cultivation of Indian corn. They are importing and erecting a machine for kiln drying the corn with a view to ascertaining whether by such means the keeping properties of locally grown maize can be improved. The total quantity of shelled grain which it is proposed to handle in the course of the trial has been fixed provisionally at 1,000 bushels.

MR. GILBERT AUCHINLECK in a recent progress report on the Agricultural Department of Grenada, calls attention to the value of limes as a new industry well suited to the island. Mr. Tom Archer's enterprise with this crop in Carriacou has helped to direct attention to it and orders for 50,000 plants have been placed with the Department for Grenada for 1914. The limes yield by the experiment plot at Morne Rouge were of excellent size and quality, and scale insects, though present, had not proved a serious obstacle.

IN St. Lucia, limes were flowering and setting fruit during February, and, as is the case in Dominica, the crop prospects are very satisfactory. The green lime crop began in Dominica as early as two months ago, and the price unpacked for this fruit in Roseau was over 20s. per barrel. Routine work at the Botanic Gardens, Dominica, has lately included tapping and preparing of Para rubber, while a special line of work has been in the direction of experiments with dynamite. The results of these, together with those which have been carried out in Antigua and Trinidad, will be awaited with interest.

IN the Report of the manurial experiments conducted by the Imperial Department of Agriculture in Antigua and St. Kitts, the conclusions arrived at were that under average conditions the amounts of manurial constituents supplied in a dressing of pen manure at the rate of twenty tons to the acre before the crop of plant canes is established provide sufficient food for the production of a crop of plant canes, first ratoons and possibly second ratoons; that the augmentation of this supply by additional dressing of pen manure or artificial manures is unattended by corresponding substantial increases, a result attributable to the limitation of the water supply available for growth. With an increase in potential productivity consequent on a more regular water supply, it seems reasonable to suppose that such all-chemical manuring would be likely to prove profitable. The use of molasses as a fertilizer failed to produce any extra yield.

NATURE NOTES.

A NEW discovery is announced in connection with rubber. The rubber is treated with vanadine, and while it loses none of its resiliency, it is stated to be able to stand nearly double the strain of the ordinary best grade. It will not deteriorate, is practically oil-proof, and is difficult to cut.

ACCORDING to the *Tropical Agriculturist*, the juice of the stem of the banana plant is an antidote to snake poison. Instances are given in which a dog bitten by the cobra di capello, recovered after treatment thanks to plantain juice administered internally. Human beings have also been treated in this way with successful results.

THE sterilisation of milk by electricity bids fair to become a success. A high tension electric current is used with an extremely brief exposure. There is no change in the taste or flavour of the milk. All dangerous bacteria are killed by the process, and perfect sterilisation, it is stated, can be secured by longer treatment.

QUITE a good substitute for cement can, according to the *Cuba Review*, be made from slaked lime, linseed oil and cotton fibre. It is prepared by first pouring oil on a handful of cotton, after which the lime is dusted in. It is then kneaded until the whole is thoroughly mixed and about the consistency of dough. The more it is kneaded the better it becomes.

MR. F. F. LERBAU, who has been experimenting on the injurious nitrogen compounds in juices of the sugar-cane, states that neither leucin, asparagine, glutamin or glycocoll had been definitely identified. The experimenter, as the result of the investigations, has found that the mercuric precipitate from sugar-cane juice contains mostly asparagine, with small amounts of glutamin and tyrosin.

A FACTORY for the manufacture of synthetic milk is about to be established in Liverpool. A prominent constituent is soya bean, which contains 40 per cent. of casein under conditions which render it particularly suitable for the purpose. One hundred gallons of artificial milk is prepared by mixing 100 lbs. of finely ground soya beans, with 100 gallons of water and 350 grains of phosphate of soda. The mixture is allowed to stand about an hour, then slowly brought to the boiling point and just allowed to boil. It is then filtered and the residue pressed. After it has been cooled to about 120° F., 24 lbs. of milk sugar or other suitable carbohydrate, about 280 grains of common salt and about 6½ oz. of carbonate of soda are dissolved in the filtered liquor, and 10 lbs. of sesame oil or other suitable mixture of oils or fats mixed with it.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



THE R.M.S.P. *Barima* left Southampton on April 25th, for the West Indies, to take up her position on the Trinidad and Tobago route, and the coastal service.

MR. E. LUXMOORE MARSHALL, on behalf of the West India Committee, will introduce a deputation of Dominica proprietors to Lord Emmott at the Colonial Office on Thursday next to urge the desirability of the adoption of a programme of road construction for that island.

SIR EDWARD MORRIS, Prime Minister of Newfoundland, is to be the guest of the West Indian Club at dinner on Thursday, May 7th. Sir John Anderson, Under Secretary of the Colonies has accepted an invitation to be present and the Chair will be taken by Mr. W. A. M. Goode.

THE *Towy*, the first of the three new coasting steamers constructed by Day, Summers and Company for the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, left Southampton on April 25th for St. Lucia. Her sister ships *Taff* and *Teign* will shortly be completed. Each of the steamers is of 199 tons gross register, and has shelter accommodation for 25 first class passengers and 50 deckers.

A PROOF reader, who evidently thought it too good to be true that crab-oil could be used as a hair-dressing, substituted another word for "hair" in an article in last issue. As a matter of fact, crab-oil is very largely used by the native Indians of Guiana as a hair oil. It would be interesting to know if this is in any way responsible for the notable absence of bald and grey-headed men among them.

THE engagement is announced of Harold Lucas Quixano, third son of the late David Quixano Henriques, and of Mrs. Henriques, of 17, Sussex Square, Hyde Park, and senior partner in the firm of Messrs. D. Q. Henriques and Company, and Frances Lois, youngest daughter of Ernest Baggallay, late Metropolitan Police magistrate, and Mrs. Baggallay, of Ashurstwood House, East Grinstead, Sussex, and granddaughter of the late Lord Justice Baggallay and the late Sir Walter Wyndham Burrell, Bart.

THE CIRCULAR is authorised to state that arrangements are in progress for the amalgamation of Boddington and Company, of 9, St. Helen's Place, E.C., and Pickfords (Colonial), Ltd., of 57, Gresham Street. Boddington and Company, the well-known

West India merchants, is one of the oldest established firms in the City of London, and its name is recorded in the London Directory of 1677, the earliest list of merchants and bankers of London. The title of this firm will be retained, and Mr. E. L. Marshall, the surviving partner, will continue to supervise the business for the present.

Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms. During the year to date 32 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

Trinidad	4	St. Vincent	1
Grenada	3	Canada	1
British Guiana	3	New South Wales	1
Jamaica	2	Country	9
Dominica	1	London	5
Nevis	1	New York	1

REVIEWS AND PERIODICALS.

The first quarterly issue of the BULLETIN OF THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE for the present year (Vol. XII.) just published by Mr. John Murray, contains among the reports of recent investigations at the Institute, an article on the little known economic products of Somaliland, and a report on the composition of monazite, which is used extensively in the manufacture of incandescent gas mantles, and is a source of radio-active substance known as mesothorium. A special article, by the Director-General of Agriculture of the Colonial Office, Brussels, deals with the advances made in developing the agricultural resources of the Belgian Congo. An illustrated article describes an important plant of rubber-testing machinery which has been set up at the Imperial Institute for the purpose of carrying out a systematic scientific investigation of samples of plantation Para rubber specially prepared (in Ceylon) in different ways, in order to secure accurate data for comparison. The cultivation and preparation of rice (Part II.) and the preservation of hides and skins for export are dealt with, among the general notices. A note on Agriculture in the Gold Coast states that the cultivation of cacao is still being extended, and that, according to a cable received at the Colonial Office from the Gold Coast, the cacao crop in 1913 amounted to the record quantity of 113,239,980 lbs., valued at £2,484,218. It is not commonly known that over one-third of the world's production of cacao is produced under the British flag.

THE LONDON LETTER.



THE death of that staunch Imperialist, the Duke of Argyll, which took place on May 2nd, will cast a gloom over the opening weeks of the London season. It will be remembered that in the eighties Princess Louise and he visited Bermuda where they enjoyed great popularity.

THE King, fresh from the triumphs of his visit to Paris, delighted the countless patrons of football—75,000 of whom were present—by his attendance at the final for the Association Cup, played at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, April 25th. Burnley, the victors—by the goal to none scored by their opponents (Liverpool)—were honoured by receiving the Cup from the hands of His Majesty.

In the following week, the King won the acclamation of race-goers by his successes on the turf at Newmarket. Two victories—on Wednesday and Thursday respectively—fell to His Majesty. On the former day his Friar Marcus won a Maiden Two Year Old Plate. Next day His Majesty's Symbolism (20 to 1 offered) carried off the Wilbraham Plate. The Two Thousand Guineas went to Sir J. Thursby's Kennymore (20 to 1).

THE Royal visit to France, of which our overseas readers will find full accounts in the newspaper files, has been rendered notable from a standpoint other than political. Their Majesties' passage to Calais was photographed by a cinematograph operator, seated in an aeroplane, who followed the progress of the Royal Yacht over sea. The pictures shown at the Coliseum thus secured represent a further stage in the progress of the cinema.

WESTMINSTER HALL, one of the most ancient of our architectural glories, and an object of supreme interest to all colonial and foreign visitors, has become a cause of concern. The magnificent timber of which the roof is constructed, has suffered severely from the corrosion wrought by beetles. Happily, restoration is readily possible, and it is to be carried out at cost of some £60,000 or £70,000.

A VALUABLE addition to our pictures of historic scenes will result from the latest commission entrusted to Mr. Solomon J. Solomon. The famous R.A. is to reproduce the spectacle at the Guildhall on the occasion of the Coronation luncheon to King George and Queen Mary. The picture will include portraits of members of the British and Foreign Royal Families, and of members of the Cabinet and other celebrities present on the occasion. Mr. Solomon takes up the task originally assigned to

Mr. J. H. F. Bacon, who died ere he had well started on the work.

ALL England attended in spirit the unveiling at Southampton of a fine memorial to the engineers of the *Titanic*, all of whom perished in their heroic devotion to duty. In the gallant band was included young Mr. Dodds, of Demerara. Ten thousand persons witnessed the unveiling ceremony, which was performed by Sir Archibald Denny, President of the Institute of Marine Engineers.

ADVOCATES of the Baconian theory have lost their leader in the person of Sir Edwin Durning Lawrence, Bart., who has just passed away. His death strangely enough occurred during the period of the Shakespeare Birthday celebrations at Stratford-on-Avon. Representatives of fifty-two countries unfurled the banners of their respective nations, the first place in this tribute of flags being occupied by a banner presented by King George.

TARIFF Reformers have been deprived of one of the ablest spokesmen of the cause—Sir George Doughty, M.P. for Grimsby, who died suddenly. In addition to his political activities Sir George rendered remarkable public services to Grimsby, of which port he had long been the most prominent townsman. It is a tribute to his popularity among men of all shades of opinion, that a message of sympathy was received from Mr. Lloyd George.

EMPIRE DAY celebrations are fixed for Saturday, May 23. Boys' Brigades will parade in Hyde Park, and the flags of the overseas Dominions will be trooped in salute to the Union Jack. Possibly on the advent of Empire Day, 1915, the common banner of the West Indies will find a place in the display.

THE great services of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and of Mr. Austen Chamberlain, to the cause of tropical medicine will be commemorated on June 29th. On that day a tablet in honour of these two right hon. gentlemen is to be unveiled in the Seamen's Hospital to which the London School of Tropical Medicine is attached.

THE most interesting event in the recent history of professional tennis has been the victory of Walter Kinsella, of New York, over Edward Johnson, professional to Mr. C. T. Garland. The struggle lasted 2½ hours, Kinsella winning by 3 sets to 2. In the Amateur Tennis Championship, Major A. Cooper Key beat Mr. H. W. Leattem, in the second round.

GOLFERS have been excited by the success of Mr. H. H. Hilton in winning the competition for the *Golf Illustrated* Gold Vase at Sunningdale. The interest of the competition lay in the duel between Mr. Hilton and Mr. Ouimet, the famous American player. Mr. Hilton won with an aggregate of 151. Mr. Ouimet tied for sixteenth with a score of 166.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



A Plea for Quicker Ocean Transit.

No reason has been given for the delay in the arrival of the R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, which did not reach Southampton until 3.40 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28th, though she left Barbados at 5 p.m. (an hour earlier than the *Orotava* which arrived punctually a fortnight before) on her scheduled date, April 15th—the voyage thus occupying nearly thirteen days. It is certainly much to be hoped that the *Essequibo* and *Ebro* will make a better showing. At present the voyage, even under normal conditions, takes almost as long as it did in the days of the old *Moselle*. Twenty-eight years ago when Froude sailed in her to Barbados, he reached the island in a few hours only over twelve days. Among the passengers in the *Tagus* were the following members of the West India Committee and relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Mackintosh, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Da Costa, Dr. J. P. Tulloch, Mr. A. H. Wight, Mr. and Mrs. G. Brown, Mr. J. W. Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Mewburn Garnett, Mr. George Moody Stewart, a member of the Executive, who has spent some months in the West Indies, Mrs. and Miss Moody Stewart, Mr. A. E. Robinson, Mr. R. E. Brassington, Miss Brassington, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Garnett and their daughter. Progress in several directions is reported by our Hon. Correspondents, extracts from whose letters are given below. The most noteworthy communication in this respect is the letter of Mr. E. A. Agar, who forwarded a statement of the exports from Dominica for the year 1913. To state that the island is on the high road to prosperity hardly does justice to its position, so rapid has been Dominica's agricultural development recently, and with many new areas reaching the productive stage the progress of the island should be still more marked in the next few years, provided that Major J. A. Burdon's enlightened "road" policy is followed. From Barbados comes the satisfactory intelligence that after a brief interval the local railway has been passed as sound by Mr. Lingwood, the Government Inspector, and that through passenger traffic to and from St. Andrew's has been resumed.

ANTIGUA—Gunthorpe's Factory establishes a record.

Writing from "Lavington's" on April 11th, Mr. A. P. COWLEY said that the sugar crop was making satisfactory progress. Gunthorpe's factory was handling far more canes than ever before. Local sales of sugar were being made at the flat price of £6 5s. without test, and molasses was quoted 14 cents.—The weather had been very dry, with high winds prevailing. This was good for the crop, but rain was wanted for the young sugar canes.—Mr. P. G. Thompson had won the "Mackie" Cup, which was presented by the makers of White Horse Whisky, and Mr. A. M. Hart was "runner up."

BARBADOS—Several Sugar Estates Changing Hands.

The crop was being got in as quickly as circumstances would permit when SIR FREDERICK CLARKE wrote on April 13th, and the yield of sugar had improved. The weather had been very dry and fairly windy, very favourable for reaping, but some rain was badly wanted for the young canes.—Mr. W. G. Watson, of Lowther's plantation, was reported to have agreed to lease Society and College plantations, the property of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Staple Grove plantation was advertised for sale. Hon. J. C. Lynch was advertising his plantations Pine and Friendship for lease.

The College Bridge having been put in order, passenger traffic on the railway between Three Houses and St. Andrew was resumed on April 8th. Mr. Benjamin Inniss, for many years a prominent merchant, died on Good Friday, at the advanced age of 83, after a brief illness. Mr. Inniss, who was generally respected, sat in the House of Assembly on several occasions, and otherwise took a prominent part in public life.

BRITISH GUIANA—A Proposed Irrigation Scheme.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, writing from Georgetown on April 11th, stated that the weather continued very dry. Some rain had fallen, 50 parts to the inch being recorded on the estates in Demerara; but this was not heavy enough for the planters' requirements.

Princess Marie Louise left the colony on April 2nd, after a stay of three weeks, her destination being Trinidad, whence she proposed to visit Tobago and Venezuela before leaving for England on May 12th.—The Governor, Sir Walter Egerton, accompanied by Hon. E. C. Buck, Civil Engineer, and his A.D.C., visited New Amsterdam on April 6th, and received a deputation on the subject of the irrigation of the Corentyne. His Excellency, replying to the petitioners, said that one object of the Government was to do what was to the advantage of the general taxpayer, and if they could carry out the scheme to make the Corentyne coast prosperous, there would then be more revenue flowing from that district to the colony's exchequer for other parts of the colony. He hoped that they might do something for the coast without undue delay. He suggested that it might be cheapest to sink a number of wells for small areas. He had watched very carefully the progress of the Abary Rice Company, and would like to see other capitalists coming forward and starting similar schemes. Prior to the Governor's visit, a public meeting had been held in the Town Hall on April 4th, at which Mr. Davson moved the following resolution, which was carried unanimously: "That this meeting in view of the depressed trade conditions of the country of Berbice, and being agreed that these would be relieved by the development of the lands of the Corentyne and West Coast of Berbice by a system of irrigation and drainage, respectfully but strongly urges upon the Government the immediate need of their undertaking such schemes as may be necessary for this purpose." The Governor delivered an address on the Hinterland railway question at a meeting of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society on March 31st, in the course of which he gave some interesting statistics regarding what the great republics of the Atlantic watershed of South America had done in the matter of railway development. At this meeting opportunity was taken to present the Governor with the Illuminated Address sent to him from the European and native sections of the community of Southern Nigeria.—Mr. Russell Garnett was a passenger to England by the mail.

DOMINICA—The rapid increase in the Colony's exports

MR. E. A. AGAR, writing from La Haut, on April 9th, forwarded a tabular statement of the exports of Dominica for the year 1913, which can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms. The year was memorable as being the first since the decline from the prosperous days of 1904 in which the exports exceeded the imports. This had occurred in 1906 also, but on that occasion it was accidental than real. The prices realised for all the products in 1913 were magnificent, and besides showing the truer value of the exports, they contributed to swell the

total, though the crop was a bad one and the output of limes had only increased through young cultivation coming into bearing. Bad crops might occasionally cause a temporary set back, but there was every indication of a steady increase in prosperity for an almost indefinite period. Reduced to the basis of barrels of fruit, the lime exports rose from 372,219 barrels in 1912 to 390,208 barrels in 1913, while the total value of lime products exported, which was £9,567 in 1912, rose to no less than £142,662 in 1913. The figures are given in detail below.

	1912	1913
Limes, fresh*	37,038 Brls.	43,833 Brls.
" pickled*	724 Brls.	616 Brls.
Lime Juice, concentrated*	141,318 gals.	158,374 gals.
" " raw*	508,766 gals.	316,728 gals.
" " cordial*	5,160 gals.	4,654 gals.
Citrate of Lime*	3,910 cwt.	4,753 cwt.
* Reduced to barrels of fruit.	(372,219)	(390,208)
Lime Oils	4,834	9,833

Almost every other item showed a small decrease, and the island was in danger of having all its eggs in one basket. Coco-nuts might in a few years form another article of export of some consequence, and Dominica might easily in time come take the place of the Seychelles as a source of supply of vanilla.

The table of the direction of trade of the island for the year shows that the exports to the United Kingdom rose from £85,725 to £104,444; and those to Canada fell from £4,477 to £1,405, while the exports to the United States rose from £34,128 to £63,334. The United Kingdom still supplies the bulk of the imports.

The Hon. J. Colin Macintyre had been appointed a member of the Federal Executive Council, a position which he well deserved to occupy.

The Registrar General had issued his annual Report on the vital statistics of Dominica for 1913. The birth rate was 34.70 and the death rate 23.17 per 1,000, giving an estimated total population of 35,242. This, however, in the absence of any figures relating to immigration and emigration, could not be considered accurate. One very serious feature of these statistics was the fact that the deaths of children under one year exclusive of still born were 20.78 per centum of the total. This showed a very serious state of affairs and especially so in a country which could support many times the population it had at present, and when the cry on all sides was shortage of labour.

The Administrator and Mrs. Drayton gave their first "At Home" on the 8th, and every one who could go, attended.

A great deal of rain continued to fall, but there was, fortunately, not very much wind.—The Report of Dr. R. St. John Brooks on the sanitary conditions of Dominica (and particularly Roseau) had been issued. No signs of plague infection were found among the rats examined. Dr. Brooks was not complimentary on the apparent sanitary condition of the town of Roseau, though he had to admit, grudgingly, that it was on the whole superior to the other parts of entry in the Leeward Islands that he had visited. The members of the Town Board were probably as good a body of men as one could collect, but the funds at their disposal were quite inadequate. The town grew fast in population, but natural boundaries kept its area restricted, so that the increase of population brought little increase in rateable value, and the lack of space forced the better-to-do classes to settle as much as possible outside the town.

In the final test match played in February last for the Young Cricket Challenge Cup between Dominica and Model Ovals, the latter were victorious by two runs and two wickets, thereby becoming holders of the cup for a season at least. At the termination of the match, His Honour Major Brillon arrived at the pavilion, accompanied by Captain and Mrs. Peebles. Mr. C. G. Harris, Chairman of the Cup Committee, after introducing the captains of the competing teams, called upon His Honour to present the cup. The Acting Administrator addressed some very encouraging remarks to all cricketers in Dominica, regretted his inability to be present in time to see the match, and promised to give Mr. Young, whom he hoped to meet

shortly an account of the presentation. After the presentation, the cup was filled with champagne and passed round.

JAMAICA—The Coastal Service in Jeopardy.

Hon. H. A. L. Simpson, Mayor of Kingston, presided at a meeting at the Merchants' Exchange on March 31st to consider what steps should be taken in view of the decision of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company to discontinue their coastal service. The resolution pointing out that in the interest of the trade of the island regular coastal service was necessary, was adopted. Captain W. P. Forwood then announced that he had just received a telegram from his company, the Hamburg America Line, stating that they were prepared to start a coastal steamer service, and that they had chartered the Norwegian steamer *Ulter* for the purpose. Further resolutions were passed advocating the payment of a subsidy for a permanent service and the invitation for tenders, and a committee was appointed to investigate the matter, the members being: Hons. W. A. S. Vickers, R. P. Simmonds, C. W. Hewitt and H. Cork (planters); Messrs. L. de Mercado, Wm. Wilson, E. R. Mordecai, Eugene Finzi, Arthur Solomon and S. L. Williamson.

Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, now a Jamaica proprietor, lectured at the Institute of Jamaica on "The Three Great Moguls," on March 30th.—The *Gleaner* announced the retirement from business of Mr. Frederick L. Myers.

GRENADA—Sir James Hayes-Sadler's retirement.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, in a letter dated April 13th, stated that the Governor, Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., had announced his intention of resigning, and would leave about the end of May.—The cable ship *Henry Holmes* arrived on the 9th, landed Mr. Kingsford, the chairman of the West India & Panama Telegraph Co., and left again at midnight to repair a defect in the Grenada-Trinidad cable. She returned at midday on the 11th, and left again at 6 p.m. the following day for Barbados to attend to a defect, taking Mr. Kingsford away.—The St. Andrew's Race Club races were to start at 1 p.m. on the day of writing, and quite a number of the St. George's folk had gone over to them.

The Boys' Secondary School sports took place at the Queen's Park on the 2nd. There was quite a large gathering, and the boys acquitted themselves in excellent style. The prizes appeared to be quite above the average on such occasions, particular mention being made of a very fine silver cup presented by Mr. F. H. Copland of "Mount Rodney," in St. Patrick's.

The Annual Conference of the Grenada Literary League was held at the St. Paul's R.C. School House on the 2nd, followed by an open session to which the public were invited, the Hon. N. J. Paterson, Attorney General, presiding.

News had been received of the retirement of Mr. S. J. Garraway from the management of The Stores (Grenada), Ltd., St. George's Branch. It was understood that the management had been entrusted to Messrs. W. Slinger, V. Mahy and C. E. Bain, under the supervision of Mr. George Paterson, the manager of the Grenville Branch of the business.—Mrs. George Paterson and Miss Linda Paterson were among the passengers for England by the mail—"Granton" estate, the property of Mr. F. W. R. Carter, had been sold to Mr. I. M. Henry, harrister-at-law, for the sum of £2,500.—On the motion of the Attorney General, Mr. M. Byron Cox was, on the 7th, admitted to practice as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Grenada.

In response to Lady Hayes Sadler's invitation, a meeting of ladies was held at Government House on the 9th to arrange for the celebration in Grenada of "Alexandra Day," and a committee of ladies was appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

ST. KITTS—The Central Factory doing good work.

Writing on April 10th, Mr. E. J. SHELFORD said that on the factory estates the canes were disappearing rapidly before the cutlasses, and the factory was understood to be doing good work. The cane supply was regular, and the yield satisfactory. There was to be an extension of the

railway line for the 1915 crop. The weather was favourable for reaping, with a few light showers, chiefly at night. On Friday night, the 3rd, there was a lovely rain in the Basseterre Valley, and the estates above the town—4 inches to 1.50 falling in about three hours, with only a few drops elsewhere.

The local sugar market was heavily overstocked and prospects for syrup and molasses were very poor at the time of writing.

ST. LUCIA—Lime juice exports increasing.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON reported on April 10th, that the island was then experiencing the full force of the dry season, which had now lasted since the beginning of December, relieved only by occasional light showers, totalling only 11 inches for four months, and planters would be very grateful for a good soaking rain. Cacao was flowering freely, but it seemed doubtful if fruit would materialise from these earlier flowers without more moisture. The sugar factories would be closing down soon, and so far as the writer could gather they had not done exceptionally well. The export statistics for 1913 had just been issued by the Treasury. The following are comparative figures of the principal crops, in which the increasing production of lime juice was the only encouraging item:—

	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Cacao	2,170,068	1,637,400	2,073,600	1,914,541	1,633,066 lbs.
Sugar	5,350	5,199	4,258	4,246	4,602 tons.
Lime Juice				5,595	7,058 gals.

Other exports for 1913 included 27,644 gallons rum, 5,625 gallons molasses, 2,340 tons logwood, and 4,000 lbs. cotton.

His Honour W. Douglas Young visited the Mabouya Valley that week by the Barabara road, so he was certainly losing no time in making himself acquainted with the road conditions on that side of the island, which were calling for improvement.

ST. VINCENT—The Arrowroot Growers' Association.

MR. W. N. SANDS stated in a letter dated April 11th, that the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association at a general meeting held on the 8th, decided unanimously to ask the Government to renew the Arrowroot Ordinance for a further term of two years. This action, provided the Government agreed, would ensure the continued life of that excellent Association, which had done so much, and promised to do a great deal more for the arrowroot industry. The *Sentry* in its issue of the 10th, contained the important announcement that provision had been made for grading in London of the lower grades of peasant and estate grown arrowroot so that these would not suffer in competition with the higher grade qualities. The way was now open for every grower to join the Association with absolute confidence that his interests would be directly protected and advanced. It was understood that this grading would be done by the Association's Committee of Brokers.—Belair, the latest estate purchased by the Government under the Land Settlement Scheme, was being rapidly taken up. There was very keen competition among the peasantry for small holdings there.—The Government Mail Cars were doing a good passenger business on the Windward road, and seats had to be booked some days in advance by those wishing to travel in them.—The Acting Attorney General and Mrs. Noble left with their family for England on the 7th, for a holiday.

TOBAGO—The Island remarkably green.

Writing on April 10th, MR. ROBERT S. REID said that two of the Tobago planters had just returned from holidays in the old country. By the previous mail Mr. Buchanan went home, and by the present mail Mrs. Alefounder and family, Mrs. Archibald and baby, and Mr. Harries were travelling, and on the 28th Mr. Orde, of the Rubber Plantation Syndicate, was leaving for a short visit.—Mr. Cathcart, a Scot from Trinidad, had just purchased Agenza estate, near Speyside, and it was hoped he would soon come to reside there.

The School Garden Show was recently held in Scarborough, and was said to be quite a success, although at that season very little garden produce was obtainable.

October or November would be a more suitable time for such functions. The Easter holidays promised to be lively. At Scarborough some fine animals had been entered for the races and good sport was expected. Cricket matches, etc., would be held all over the island, and it was evidence of improvement in conditions that the people took such keen interest in sport.—The weather continued dry, with occasional light showers. Excepting in the Leeward, which looked bare as usual at that season, the country looked remarkably green, much more so than in the last two years at that time. Cacao still came dribbling in, but not much was expected during the next few months. With early rains, which the hot atmosphere seemed to indicate, the Autumn cacao crop was likely to be earlier than last year.

TRINIDAD—Substantial Increase in Cacao Shipments

MR. EDGAR TRIPP wrote on April 14th that there had been nothing of special interest to record during the past fortnight. Two meetings of Council were principally occupied in discussing a local road-side drain bill, which led to some discussion, but was carried by the Government in face of much opposition. The Agricultural Society had before it a letter from the President of the Cacao and Chocolate Manufacturers' Association of New York in which attention was directed, and not before it was time, to the depreciation of Trinidad cacao, owing to its excessive claying and the mixture with Estates marks of dirt and refuse, apparently with the object of increasing weight. The efforts of the Society and of the Board of Agriculture to discourage these malpractices, which had been made lately, seemed to be having beneficial results.—The bunkering trade was again looking up. 10,275 tons were delivered to 44 steamers in March in quantities ranging from 20 tons to 967 tons.

All were sorry to hear of the death of Sir Hubert Jerminham. Personally, as one to whom the late Governor was specially kind, both to him and his, Mr. Tripp was sincerely grieved. His term of office was not distinguished by anything remarkable excepting, perhaps, the abolition of the Borough Council, which was now about to be re-established, but His Excellency and Lady Jerminham would always be remembered for the splendid and gracious hospitality of Government House during their time, and he specially for the dignity and courtesy of his administration.

Other rather sad news by telegram was that of the *Renown* coming under the hammer. After the Jubilee in England, she was flagship on the Trinidad station under the then Sir John Fisher, and it was in February, 1898, Mr. Tripp thought, that Trinidad Society enjoyed the most magnificent entertainment on board her ever given in the waters of the Gulf. The Jubilee illuminations were repeated and broke forth suddenly as the launches from the shore brought the hundreds of guests. It was a sight no one who saw it would ever forget. The question of "Jacky" Fisher's popularity was always a vexed one in the Service and elsewhere, but there was no doubt about it in Trinidad. He did them royally there.

Cacao was still coming in with gratifying increase on previous years, and reports from the sugar districts continued good. It was only price that the latter wanted, for the crop seemed bound to prove beyond the average. Taken altogether the weather had also been favourable.—Every one who could get away, and could get accommodation, had been at "The Islands" for Easter. With glorious weather, and a full moon, a phosphorescent sea, fair fishing, cool breezes and goodly company, there was nothing more enjoyable.

Shipments of Trinidad cacao from January 1st to March 31st for the last seven seasons were:—

Total from 1st January	...	...	...	29,743,676
To same date, 1913	...	...	...	20,018,604
" " 1912	...	...	...	24,110,100
" " 1911	...	...	...	17,364,848
" " 1910	...	...	...	21,370,585
" " 1909	...	...	...	21,472,378
" " 1908	...	...	...	19,957,706

Shipments during the month of March were as follows:—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	1,288,723
B.N. America	5,980
British Guiana	1,000
France	3,917,105
Germany	99,900
Holland	438,400
Spain	5,000
Italy	66,544
Austria Hungary	309,850
Denmark	58,800
United States of America	7,433,548
South America	4,500
Total for March	13,329,350
Shipped previously	16,414,326
Total from 1st January	29,743,676

MARRIAGE.

Trotter-How.—On the 23rd April, 1914, at St. Mary's Church, Headley, Surrey, by the Rev. R. Sheppard, Grosvenor Chapel, London, assisted by the Rev. C. J. Vernon, rector of Headley, and the Rev. M. W. B. Dawe, rector of Walkington, Yorkshire, Henry Alexander, younger son of the late Mr. W. Trotter, King's Beeches, Ascot, and Mrs. Trotter, 25, Berkeley Square, to Madeline Dorothy, only daughter of Major J. Herbert How and Mrs. How.

WANT.

Gentleman requires position in London wholesale house in dry goods trade. Has complete knowledge of dry goods and boot and shoe trade. Good linguist. Apply J.J. The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

Dental Electro Therapeutics by Ernest Sturridge, L.D.S., Eng., D.D.S. London Henry Kimpton. Glasgow Alexander Stenhouse. 12s. 6d. nett. Dr. Sturridge's book will be read with great interest, not only by surgeon dentists, but by members of the medical profession generally, both in this country, and in the colonies and India. The first two hundred pages are merely a very necessary introduction into the domain of electro-physics, and are intended for those members of the profession who are possibly at a distance from any means of acquiring up-to-date knowledge on these points. The important chapters of the brochure are those on ionic-medication. Of dentistry one can say there is always something new from the United States. That may be so; it is as the introducer of a system of periodontal medication by means of ions that Dr. Sturridge in his extremely concise, lucid and well-arranged book lays down instructions for technique in this undoubtedly important method of treatment. In these days, when so much can be laid to the door of alimentary toxemia, the medical profession undoubtedly looks to the dentist for the care of the buccal cavity. If oral sepsis is present, it is the duty of the dentist to diagnose its cause and apply the proper remedies. It is his business to deal with that very general and often stubborn complaint pyorrhœa alveolaris. Irieny as distinguished from mere cataphoresis, ionisation

is brought about by the disintegration into ions of the molecules of any medication to be applied to the periodontal tissue by means of the electric current and the consequent permeation of the area to be treated by these ions even to the extent of their penetrating the minute tubules of the dentine. Dr. Sturridge's work will be specially interesting to West Indians, whether professional men or laymen, from the fact that the author was born in the West Indies—in Manchester, Jamaica—in 1864. Dr. Sturridge's father enjoyed the distinction of being the first to ship oranges from that island, and, together with Mr. Tom Powell, to start the export fruit business. Dr. Sturridge was educated in Jamaica, and subsequently studied dentistry in New York. He practised in Kingston from 1886 to 1897, and then, coming to England, started at 29a Wimpole Street, where he has an excellent practice. He has both English and American diplomas—L.D.S. (Eng.) and D.D.S.—and is a member of the leading dental societies in London.

Practical Anæsthetics, by H. Edmund Boyle, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. London, Henry Frowde, Hodder and Stoughton, Oxford University Press, Warwick Square. We cannot claim to speak with authority on the subject of anæsthetics, but as assistant anæsthetist at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Dr. Boyle should have ample practical experience, and as demonstrator on his special subject to the medical school of the same institution, he has been able to arrange, systematise and enumerate the rules which in this little book he enunciates for the benefit of those who have not leisure to study the larger and more compendious works on the subject. Even in this country, any medical man may be called on to act as chloroformist—in the case of a railway accident say—and in fact at a distance from any hospital, it is a daily occurrence for the ordinary medical practitioner to administer an anæsthetic for the surgeon who is operating. We may be certain then that this book, which is concise and well illustrated, will serve a useful purpose. As laymen, however, our chief interest in it lies in the fact that its author is an Anglo-West Indian. Dr. Edmund Boyle is grandson of the Hon. Benjamin Gaskin, sometime President of the Barbados Legislative Council. His father was vice-President of the Barbados Agricultural Society, and his uncle was Dr. T. Law Gaskin, Surgeon of the Barbados Hospital and a member of the House of Assembly. Dr. Boyle's medical career has been such as to bring honour to his native island by his knowledge and skill.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The West Indian Blue-books.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR.—I was greatly pleased to read the article on West Indian Blue-books in the last CIRCULAR. If anything, your correspondent has rather underestimated the defects which characterise these portentous volumes. In many cases the onus of adding up long columns of figures is thrown on the unfortunate reader. The information given is also very often inaccurate and vague; thus, in the Trinidad and Tobago Blue-book, with regard to the latter point, we are given the total population of Trinidad and Tobago in 1912 as 333,552, (incidentally it may be noted that to get at the population of Trinidad alone, the reader has to add together the males and females in Tobago and subtract them from the total), while in a footnote he is told that the "population 31st March, 1912, as per Registrar-General's Report" was 340,223. To these are added the excess

of births over deaths and of arrivals of immigrants over departures, making "estimated population 31st March, 1912," 345,397. So here we get on a single page no fewer than three different figures for one year.

Your suggestion that the West India Committee should publish a statistical year book for the West Indies is an admirable one, but I fear that they will find it heart-breaking work unless greater uniformity and accuracy can be secured in the compilation of the West Indian Blue-books. I hope that your efforts to secure both of these advantages will meet with success.

Yours obediently,

STATISTICIAN.

[We should be glad to have the views of other readers on this subject.—ED.]

The Moon's Influence on Forest Trees.

Referring to the recent articles on the "Timbers of British Guiana," which appeared in these columns, Mr. E. A. Agar writes, under date March 27th: "On page 104 in the paragraph on the moon's influence on Forest Trees, the writer appears rather diffident in accepting the popular view that the moon has a very strong influence on the keeping qualities of felled timber. I should have thought that no observant person who had been resident in the West Indies could doubt this influence."

[The writer of the articles on the "Timbers of British Guiana" is a thorough believer in the popular view of the moon's influence on the proper times for felling; and any diffidence expressed by him, applied more to the belief of other people. He is pleased to know that the theory has the support of our Dominica correspondent.—ED.]

etc. Private Company. The first directors are: E. Moreau, C.W. Woodall and E. Escombe.

Divid.	Latest Quotations.		Prices
dend.			May 2.
4%	Antigua	4% Redeemable 1919-44	99-101
3%	Barbados	3% Redeemable 1925-42	87-89
4%	British Guiana	4% Redeemable 1935	99-101
3%	British Guiana	3% Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
4%	Grenada	4% Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
4%	Jamaica	4% Redeemable 1934	100-102
3%	Jamaica	3% Redeemable 1919-49	88-90
3%	Jamaica	3% Redeemable 1922-44	79-81
4%	St. Lucia	4% Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4%	Trinidad	4% Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
3%	Trinidad	3% Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
6%	The Colonial Bank	...	58-64
12%	The Royal Bank of Canada	\$100 (Montreal Exchange)	\$223
7%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co.	Ordinary	100-105
7%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co.	Preference	100-103
8%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co.	4% Debentures	103-105
5%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co.	5% Debentures	104-105 1/2
4 1/2%	Imperial Direct Line	4 1/2% Debentures	98-101
6 1/2%	Angostura Bitters	Preference (£1)	101
7%	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co.	5% Debentures	105-108
7%	Consolidated Rubber and Balsa Estates	Prof.	...
7%	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad	(£1 shares)	...
7%	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd.	(£1 shares)	...
7%	United British of Trinidad	"A" shares (£1)	...
7%	"	"B" "	23 1/2-27 1/2
7%	"	"C" "	8-9
7%	Demerara Railway Company	Ordinary Stock	33-38
7%	Demerara Railway Company	7% Perp. Pref.	105-108
4%	Demerara Railway Company	4% Ex. Pref.	81-84
4%	Demerara Railway Company	4% Debentures	88-91
4 1/2%	Direct West India Cable Co.	4 1/2% Debentures	97-99
1/6%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd.	Ordinary	32-34
5s.	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd.	6% Cum. 1st Pref	30-34
6s.	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd.	" 2nd "	27-28
5%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd.	5% Debentures	97-99

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

Subject to audit of the Accounts the Court of Directors recommend the payment for the six months ended 31st December, 1913, of the usual dividend on the Preference Stock, and a dividend of 3 1/2 per cent., less income tax, on the Ordinary Stock, making together with the interim dividend paid on 1st November last, a total of 6 per cent. for the year 1913. The dividend on the Ordinary Stock issued in May last will be calculated from the dates of payment of the instalments.

In their report the Directors state that in spite of the increased competition of foreign lines the Company's position has been well maintained. The profits, however, show a reduction from £489,400 in 1912 to £437,700 for 1913. Interest charges rose from £155,300 to £187,000, but new issue expenses which amounted in 1912 to £15,900, were not a charge against the profits last year. £37,000 is again applied to the insurance fund, but the appropriation to reserve is reduced from £130,000 to £100,000. Regarding the new Canadian-West Indian service, the directors express the view that the new line will prove a useful addition to the company's operations. The company's own fleet has now a tonnage of 342,667 tons, as against 301,935 tons a year ago, while that of the fleets of associated companies is 1,404,041 tons, as against 1,196,000 tons. The present grand total of the tonnage controlled is, therefore, 1,746,708 tons.

Ortoirie Syndicate, Ltd.

This private company was registered on April 25th, by Aylward and Cobbett, of 16, Clifford's Inn, E.C., with a capital of £40,000 in £1 shares. Its objects are to acquire any lands, mines and mining rights, and any licences, options and rights, in oilfields, minerals and lands in Trinidad, West Indies; to carry on the business of producers, refiners, importers and exporters of and dealers in mineral and oils, asphalt, pitch and other minerals and substances,

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

- | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. S. Garraway | Mr. D. Hope Ross |
| Mr. R. E. Brassington | Hon. E. A. Grannum | Mr. H. Seedoff |
| Mr. Geoffrey Brooke | Mr. E. R. L. Henderson | Mr. W. J. Slack |
| Mr. G. G. Brown | Mr. J. C. Henderson | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| Mr. D. C. Cameron | Mr. A. S. Kernahan | and |
| Professor F. Carmody | Dr. G. L. Latour | Hon. C. F. Wisting |
| Lt. Col. J. H. Collins | Mr. James Pez | Mr. A. H. Weight |
| Mr. Wm. Durmo | Mr. W. C. Robertson | |
| Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C. | | |
| Major the Hon. J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria St., S.W. | | |
| Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton. | | |
| Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C. | | |
| Mr. H. Y. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea. | | |
| Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea. | | |
| Mr. George Farmer, "Fernside," New Malden, Surrey | | |
| Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meliron House, New Quay, Cardiganshire. | | |
| Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W. Helensburgh, Scotland. | | |
| Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W. | | |
| Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W. | | |
| Mr. Stanley Savill, "Bradbourne," Belling Road, Herne Bay, Kent. | | |
| Mr. Thomas Thornton, 31, Grassmere Street, Burnley, Lanc. | | |
| Mr. Justice A. P. C. Weber, 38, Woodville Road, Basing, W. | | |

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post to London.
West Indies	Southampton	"Danube"	May 5, midnight
West Indies	Glasgow	"Crown of Granada"	" 8, 4.30 p.m.
Jamaica	Liverpool	"Oranien"	" 8, noon
West Indies	Dartmouth	"Satan"	" 8, 6 p.m.
Bermuda	Swansea	"Cayo Solo"	" 9, 6 p.m.
West Indies	Portland	"St. Croix"	" 15, 11 1/2
West Indies	Southampton	"Tagus"	" 19, midnight
HOMEWARD.			
Southampton	West Indies	"Magdalena"	Due. May 11.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica. ‡ In E.C. district up to 1 p.m.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½% 78th)

SUGAR.—In New York quotations have advanced—despite the fact that Cuban receipts have been larger—to 3.04 c. for raw centrifugals, and 2.60 c. for Muscovados, the former equal to 9s. 4½d. c.i.f. New York. There has been a continued demand from refiners and speculators for Cubans, both for prompt and for all May shipments which were sold on the higher basis with a firm market.

In the London speculative beet sugar market quotations as will be seen below, have been almost stationary for half of the fortnight, a slight improvement taking place, however, towards the end of last week, notwithstanding larger Cuban receipts, which on the first blush caused a check, but was quickly succeeded by an active demand and a considerable business was transacted at the advance. A very steady tone has developed owing to dry weather on the Continent, which is causing some anxiety; but it is too early for actual damage to have yet been done.

The Cuban American reports are firm; there have been showers in Cuba, but no rainy season. The weather has been favourable for sowings of beet, but rain will soon be required.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: April 21st, 9s. 3½d.; 22nd, 9s. 3½d.; 23rd, 9s. 3½d.; 24th, 9s. 3½d.; 25th, 9s. 3½d.; 27th 9s. 3½d.; 28th, 9s. 4d.; 29th, 9s. 4½d.; 30th, 9s. 4½d.; May 1st, 9s. 4d.; 2nd, 9s. 4½d.; 4th, 9s. 4½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914.	1913.	1912.
Europe (1st & 25th April)	3,091,020	3,067,370	2,189,060
United States (29th April)	283,000	286,370	210,460
Cuba 6 p'pal ports (25th April)	707,000	591,000	410,000
Cargoes afloat (30th April)	9,000	—	61,110

Total ... Tons **4,090,020** **3,944,740** **2,870,630**
 Quotations of 88% Beet,
 4th May ... 9s. 4½d. 9s. 8d. 13s. 7½d.

Grocery West Indian.—The crystallised market has been quiet with little business doing; but last Friday there was rather more enquiry at the one auction held, and the Surinams offered all sold at fully previous rates. The records of business done are Trinidad at 13s. to 13s. 6d., with a few at 14s. 3d.; Demerara at 13s. to 15s.; Jamaica at 13s.; Surinam at 12s. 9d. to 13s. 6d. **Syrups.**—Surinams have sold at 10s. 9d. to 11s. 3d. steady. **Muscovados.**—Neglected. Barbados bought in at auction.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	12,135	10,312	8,839	12,336	10,411
Deliveries ...	8,599	7,995	9,201	10,156	10,173
Stocks (April 25)	16,136	4,156	4,127	6,538	5,313

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised 1st May.
 13s. 3d./13s. 6d. 15s. 10½d. 19s. 3d. 15s. 19s. 3d.

RUM.—Stocks in London, April 25th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica ...	5,765	5,184	7,287	8,246	10,045
Demerara ...	10,663	8,437	8,216	6,539	9,351
Total, all kinds	23,526	21,473	23,191	23,492	26,691

The proof market is lifeless in face of the excessive imports, which constitute a record for the last five years. Such heavy arrivals at a time when trade is quiet and the Budget again delayed, make it extremely difficult, if not almost impossible at the present time to effect sales. Janicatas for commoner kinds are in poor demand, and the tendency is to easier prices; good home trade marks, however, command a ready sale to arrive. The earlier crop and heavier arrivals have contributed to bring about the present condition of trade in this market.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, April 25th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad ...	7,734	6,747	7,906	5,912	9,065
Grenada ...	16,892	9,649	13,616	18,588	19,554
Total of all kinds	101,111	90,679	121,811	130,100	102,178

The market has been tested with two series of auctions, at which 115,330 and 4,734 bags were offered respectively; but the demand was slow, nearly all with the exception of Ceylon, being bought in, and what was sold realised lower prices. Trinidad at the first sale was nearly all bought in, 210 bags only sold at about 3s. decline. Grenada, of which 7,336 bags were offered sold for a good part at 1s. 6d. decline for fine, and common at 2s. to 3s. decline also for a part only. Other West India, consisting of Jamaica, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago and British Honduras, etc., meeting with a slow demand at about 2s. decline. Trinidad at the second sale sold at fully previous prices, and Grenada, which was quiet, realised for 375 bags rather irregular prices. Other West India only partially sold at about unchanged rates.

Quotations after last auction were Trinidad middling red 57s. to 57s. 6d.; good middling red 58s. to 59s.; fine and superior 60s. to 64s.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair, 51s. to 53s.; middling to fine, 54s. to 57s. 6d.

In Trinidad circular of 13th April, it is stated that a continuance of dry windy weather had favoured the picking and curing of cacao, and deliveries had been arriving on a liberal scale. Through these free receipts and the reticence of buyers in consuming markets, the local situation has weakened, and quotations had declined to \$11.25 to \$11.60 per fanega, equal to 51s. 6d. and 53s. cost and freight per 50 kilos.

COFFEE.—Santos, May 40s. 9d.; July 41s. 6d.; Sept. 42s. 1½d. The supplies brought to auction, although still large have not affected the demand and as home traders and exporters have been in competition full to dearer rates have been secured for East India and Central American kinds. Futures exhibit a slight decline as compared with quotations last mail.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended 30th April 689 bales of British West India were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland state that about 200 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton had been sold since last report at prices ranging from 17½d. to 20d., chiefly Montserrat 17½d. to 19½d., and Barbados 18d. to 20d., with stains at 7½d. to 7½d.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice (Raw).—More enquiry. Dominica has sold at 1s. 1½d. for ordinary, and Montserrat at 1s. 3d. for fair. The market is now rather better. **Essential Oil** (distilled).—Again dearer; sales have been made up to 2s. 6d. per lb. **Otto of Limes**. (hand pressed).—Neglected. Nominal value 8s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. **Concentrated.**—The arrivals were sold at £32, but this price is now unobtainable. **PIMENTO.**—Quiet. **GINGER.**—In fair demand without change in prices. **NUTMEGS.**—100's/80's 5½d. to 6d.; 100's/20's 4½d. to 5½d.; 140's/20's 4½d. to 4½d. **MACE.**—Good to fine 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.; red to good 1s. 9d. to 2s. 1d.; broken 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d. **COPRA.**—Fair Merchantable West India, steady, value £27. **ARROWROOT.** About 270 barrels sold; quotations 2½d. to 4½d.

RUBBER. Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 7½d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 11½d. as against 3s. 5d. last year; do. soft, 2s. 10½d. as against 3s. 4½d. last year; Castilloa sheet, 1s. 10d. as against 2s. 6d. last year; scrap, 1s. 5d. as against 2s. last year. **BALATA.** Sheet, 2s. 9d. landed terms as against 2s. 8d. last year; block, 2s. c.i.f. as against 2s. last year. In last issue quotations were unfortunately reversed. The quotations should have read: Sheet 2s. 8½d. c.i.f. and 2s. 9½d. sellers landed terms, and block 1s. 10½d. c.i.f. and landed terms 2s.

PETROLEUM OIL.—Russian, 7½d.; American, 7½d. Water White, 8½d.; Roumanian, 7½d.; and Galician, 7½d.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone: 642 CENTRAL.
15, SERPENTINE LANE,
LONDON, E.C.,
May 18th, 1914.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOMINICA.

ON May 7th, LORD EMMOTT made the important announcement to a deputation of the West India Committee which waited upon him that the Secretary of State for the Colonies proposed to send out to Dominica a fully qualified engineer to report on the question of the construction of roads in that island. As we have repeatedly stated in these columns the improvement of the means of communication in what is the third in size of our West Indian Islands and second in fertility has become a very pressing need, especially having regard to the new estates now coming into bearing, and the decision now arrived at will, we believe, be received with as much satisfaction in Dominica as it has been by the firms and individuals interested in that progressive island who are resident in this country. But for fitful and not always successful efforts—such as the construction of the Imperial road—comparatively little has been done in the direction of road improvement in Dominica since the failure of the ambitious scheme put forward by Governor SIR WILLIAM HAYNES SMITH in 1888. The objects of that scheme were to improve the existing roads, to complete a chain of bridges round the island, to convert the bridle path from Roseau to Layou into a road for wheeled traffic and to continue it across to the windward side, thus opening up the fertile Layou flats, and to obtain the services of a coasting steamer. How eventually a sum of no less than £40,000 was devoted to these objects and how there were only a new road about 20 miles in length from Portsmouth to La Soye and a few bridges to show for it in 1894 is recorded in the report of SIR ROBERT HAMILTON who went out as Royal Commissioner in that year to investigate the condition of affairs in the island. The episode, indeed, is best forgotten, and we only mention it to show the grounds for our opinion that MR. HARRIS has been well advised to decide to send out an expert with full technical knowledge of road

building before a start is made on MAJOR BURDON'S programme which, as we have been glad to record, has already been approved by the local Legislative Council. Meanwhile, it is to be hoped that the announcement as to who is to be appointed will not be unduly delayed, and we trust that the expert will be selected from among the officers of the Royal Engineers. Among them there are several we could name who are particularly well qualified to carry out the mission. It will be remembered that under the former scheme, to which we have referred above, it was an officer of the Royal Engineers—the late SIR ARTHUR MACKWORTH, whose death we regret to say was recently recorded—who was sent out when difficulties arose between the local engineer and the Road Board, and who condemned much of the work already done as faulty both in design and execution. Now it should be possible to profit from past experience, and a repetition of the blunders of 1888-1894 need not be looked for. Apart from other considerations it must be remembered that the position of Dominica is now very different to what it was in 1888. In spite of the absence of roads the progress of the island has been little short of remarkable, and its finances are particularly sound. From £17,309 in 1888 the revenue of Dominica had risen to £45,300 in 1912-13, and the exports had also risen from £42,221 to £152,458. The result is that a loan is not now considered necessary and that it will be possible to carry out a less ambitious but more business-like and practical scheme on the lines of MAJOR BURDON'S road programme without pledging the credit of the colony.

IS IT EL DORADO?

A DISCOVERY of rich gold-bearing land is reported to have recently been made in British Guiana, in the extreme hinterland, close to the Brazilian frontier, on the head waters of the Takutu River. The prospectors who made it were two American citizens, Messrs. James and Hart, who for some months past have been inspecting the Rupununi district, and seem to have struck and located several rich claims, yielding—so it is said—satisfactory returns, with every promise of profitable and continuous working. Owing to the present difficulties

of transport from Georgetown, the new goldfields are more readily accessible from Manaos, the capital of the State of Amazonas in Brazil, and the discovery has, naturally, created considerable interest and excitement in Brazilian territory across the boundary. The difficulty of access will probably check any great and inconvenient rush of impecunious "pork-knockers," as the independent prospectors and workers are called, from Georgetown; but nevertheless, the Governor, SIR WALTER EGERTON, has issued a timely warning to gold diggers not to attempt the long and arduous journey without being well provided with food and provisions for the double journey, and entering into an arrangement for the despatch of relief expeditions, with reserve stores of provisions, from time to time. Ever since the Spanish soldier who had been separated from his companions during an expedition up the Orinoco returned with his extravagant story of El Dorado—the city roofed with gold, in quest of which Sir Walter Raleigh visited Guiana in 1595—the country has been credited with possessing rich stores of gold as well as other valuable minerals; and the possibilities of their re-discovery have always been favourably considered by subsequent travellers, amongst others, SIR ROBERT SCHOMBURGK, BROWN and SAWKINS, and FLINT and EDDINGTON, who found specimens of precious stones in the interior. A former Gold Commissioner of British Guiana, MR. E. P. WOOD, now residing in England, has frequently expressed his opinion, based on the similarity of the physical conditions of the Rupununi district with those of the veldt in the neighbourhood of Kimberley in South Africa, that important discoveries of gold and diamonds would some day be made in the rivers and mountain ranges bordering the Rupununi savannahs. The question arises, are these now about to be made? If they are, they may have a very important bearing on the hinterland railway from Georgetown, now under consideration by the Government and people of British Guiana.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

WE have recently dealt at some length with the problem of infantile mortality, and we are pleased to notice in this connection a paper by DR. C. V. DRYSDALE which appears in the current number of *United Empire*, the official organ of the Royal Colonial Institute. DR. DRYSDALE, writing of the Empire as a whole, does not take a pessimistic view of the decreasing birth-rate, having regard to the more satisfactorily decreasing death-rate, especially amongst infants. In this connection he very pertinently says: "When we are considering the growth of population, it is not the *births* but the *survivals* that count. The child that perishes before entering on a productive existence is not an asset to the numbers or efficiency of the community, but a drain upon it, for which there is no compensating gain." To illustrate this proposition he submits a number of very interesting and instructive

diagrams showing a comparison between birth-rate, death-rate and infantile mortality in the United Kingdom, the Overseas Dominions and some foreign countries, prepared from records extending over many years. These show that what we may term the margin of safety, or the excess of births over deaths, has remained fairly constant notwithstanding the general decrease in the birth-rate; and DR. DRYSDALE comes to the conclusion that what tells most in the rise and fall of population, combined with national efficiency, is food supply and wages as its purchasing power, expressing the opinion that "high birth-rates invariably mean high general and infantile death-rates, and, when accompanied by humanitarian legislation, a serious process of reversed selection."

OSTRICH FARMING FOR BRITISH GUIANA.

SIR WALTER EGERTON in an address which he recently delivered at a meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of British Guiana referred to the possibilities of ostrich farming on the high savannahs of the interior. Speaking of the very large fortunes which had been made in South Africa by those engaged in this industry, the value of which has reached over £2,000,000 a year, he said that he was convinced, having been on the spot, that the savannahs were very suitable for ostrich-farming. He alluded to the progress that the industry has made in Australia, Egypt, and the Soudan, and stated that SIR FREDERICK LUGARD had promised to let him have a few ostriches later on, so that, if the Combined Court should grant the small amount required for their introduction, it would be possible to have a fair stock available in the course of a few years. With regard to this suggestion as to ostrich-farming, one may supplement the remarks of SIR WALTER EGERTON by some of the results of an investigation into the methods employed in this industry in America, embodied in a report presented to the Government of New South Wales by MR. N. NEILSEN. MR. NEILSEN states that not only has the industry been established in close proximity to many of the big cities of Southern California and Arizona, but that in the latter State large ranches have been purchased and converted from cattle country to the use of ostrich feeding. The only part of the United States suitable for ostrich farming appears to be the south-western corner to the north of Mexico, as the birds cannot stand much cold weather. It would appear that the State of Arizona possesses more ostriches than the whole of the rest of North America and here the birds are kept as nearly as possible under natural conditions and in enormous colonies. These observations are of value to Australia which is similarly situated inasmuch as neither country is the natural habitat of the bird, and they should be equally valuable to the Government of British Guiana. One remark contained in the Report is especially worth noting, and that is to the effect that

an infusion of Nubian or red-necked blood into the South African stock has not only increased the stamina of the birds, but also their capacity for producing valuable feathers. As to the fitness of the Guiana savannahs for the purpose of ostrich breeding, one may safely reason that if the Rhea or Nandu, as it is called in Brazil, can flourish as it does from Paraguay and South Brazil almost to Patagonia, there does not seem to be any valid reason why the ostrich which it so closely resembles should not thrive to the north of the equator. The Pampas, where Rhea Americana used to be found in great numbers before the high commercial value of its feathers led to its wholesale destruction, have at their highest point much the same elevation as the savannahs of the Rupununi, while the serotes of North-eastern Brazil where Rhea macrorhynca is found are of less elevation and geographically nearer. A very important question is that of food supply for the birds. In Arizona as in South Africa, lucerne appears to be the staple food, while the prickly pear (*Opuntia vulgaris*) and the American aloe (*Agave Americana*) are both pressed into service.

Prima facie, there does not appear to be any reason why alfalfa or lucerne should not grow perfectly well on the more fertile portions of the savannah or on the alluvial soil bordering the creeks and rivers, and with regard to magney or agave, one would expect the soil and climatic conditions of the savannahs in British Guiana to be ideal for it. These, however, are matters on which PROFESSOR HARRISON'S department is likely to be well-informed, and it is probable that SIR WALTER EGERTON has already satisfied himself as to the possible food supply. There is one point, in conclusion, that it is well to bear in mind, and that is that the price of ostrich feathers is very likely to go up at an early date, at any rate so soon as the proposed law forbidding the importation of the feathers of wild birds becomes operative. In the most recent report of the South African Department of Agriculture, MR. DUERDEN remarks on the ignorance existing in England and on the Continent as to the methods of taking the plumes of the ostrich, and the assertion that cruelty is involved in the plucking. It was, no doubt, owing to these misconceptions that, in the original draft of the Plumage Act, ostrich feathers were included with egret and osprey plumes and the feathers of other birds, in the collection of which a great deal of cruelty has been proved to exist. Apart from the constant and regular demand for Court plumes, which after all is limited, there can be little doubt that in the absence of other forms of decoration, the ostrich feathers will come into vogue to such an extent as will tend to increase the demand. It will be well worth the while of the authorities in British Guiana to keep themselves well informed as to the results of the experiments now being carried out in Curaçao, especially with regard to the available foods suitable for the ostrich, and to the strains of bird found to thrive best under climatic conditions which are not dissimilar to those of British Guiana.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. Middleton Campbell presided over a meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee, at 15, Seething Lane, on Thursday, May 14th. Those also present were Mr. Ivan B. Davson, Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. E. A. de Pass, Mr. H. F. Previtè, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported that since last meeting one member had died. The resignation of four members was accepted, and the name of one member whose subscription which had been in arrears had been paid was restored to the list of members. The following were then admitted to membership:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
F. E. Morrish (British Guiana)	{ Hon. Adam Smith. W. Robertson.
Lewis J. Seidensticker (St. John, N.B.)	{ W. Middleton Campbell. James S. Harding.
Joseph J. L. Bellot (Dominica)	{ Sendall & Wade. W. Fawcett, B.Sc.,
Robert Thom	{ H. F. Previtè. R. Thom Cameron.
G. Rae Fraser	{ George Carrington. R. Rutherford.
F. O. Cecil Potter	{ F. Potter. W. P. B. Shephard.
H. M. Graham	{ A. McConnell. Ivan B. Davson.

Correspondence with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company with regard to the overcrowding on the homeward mail steamers was read, and the Secretary was instructed to enquire further into the matter.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Marshall had introduced a deputation of Dominica proprietors to Lord Emmott, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies on May 7th, and that his Lordship had given a favourable reply to their representations, as recorded elsewhere in the CIRCULAR.

Pursuant to Article V. of the Royal Charter of Incorporation the Committee then proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year. On the motion of Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, Mr. W. Middleton Campbell was re-elected Chairman, Mr. R. Rutherford, Deputy Chairman, and Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. Cyril Gurney and Mr. E. A. de Pass, Hon. Treasurers.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1551. Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc.,

addressed to the Committee Rooms. During the year to date 39 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

British Guiana	... 4	St. Vincent	... 1
Trinidad	... 4	Canada	... 2
Grenada	... 3	New South Wales	... 1
Dominica	... 2	Country	... 11
Jamaica	... 2	London	... 7
Nevis	... 1	New York	... 1

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE MAP.

The new Map of the West Indies just published by the West India Committee can be seen both mounted and in sheet at the Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., at Messrs. George Philip and Son, Ltd., 32, Fleet Street, E.C., or at Messrs. Sifton, Praed and Co., Ltd. (The Map House), 67, St. James's Street, S.W. It is too early as yet to say what the verdict of the colonies regarding this latest publication of the West India Committee will be; but the sales so far effected indicate that the Map is much appreciated by firms and individuals interested in the West Indies in this country. The main features of the Map were outlined in last CIRCULAR, and it is only necessary to add here that the specially reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination) for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

The current number of the *Kew Bulletin* contains a notice of Fawcett's "The Banana: Its Cultivation, Distribution and Commercial Uses" which was published under the auspices of the West India Committee earlier in the year. "This book," says the writer, J. H. H., "fulfils a want that has grown with the remarkable development in the trade in a fruit so universally popular. From the cutting of the bunch to the retailing of the hands and single fruits in our streets, the regulation of the times of cutting, carriage, storage, delivery and distribution is an elaborate system, requiring probably more skill than the growing of the plant itself. . . . The book has evidently been prepared with great care and the author's many years of experience in Jamaica, referred to in the foreword by Sir Daniel Morris, is a sufficient guarantee of the value this book will be to planters and all interested in the botany, agriculture or commerce of the Banana." The price of "The Banana," which is obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, is the same as that of Hart's "Cacao: A Manual of the Cultivation and Curing of Cacao," namely 7s. 6d., or post free 7s. 10d. in the United Kingdom, and 8s. abroad.

MR. FRANK CUNDALL, the Secretary of the Institute of Jamaica, has left the island for England on leave of absence.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF DOMINICA.

A Road Expert to be sent to the Island.

In accordance with the resolution adopted at a meeting of the Dominica Estates' proprietors at the West India Committee Rooms on Thursday, March 13th, a deputation waited upon Lord Emmott, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies at the Colonial Office on May 7th.

Those present at the first meeting included Mr. E. L. Marshall, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Mr. A. F. Anderson, Major E. F. Becher, Mr. P. R. K. Esdaile, Mr. J. C. Henderson, Mr. Charles Mackintosh, Mr. Hugh G. Rose, and Mr. Herbert Scrutton; and the deputation which was introduced by Mr. Marshall on behalf of the West India Committee comprised Mr. Duncan Mackintosh, Mr. Charles Mackintosh, Mr. C. M. Rose, Mr. J. B. Rose, Mr. H. A. Frampton, Mr. P. R. K. Esdaile and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary. Lord Emmott was accompanied by Major Burdon, C.M.G., late Acting Administrator of Dominica, Mr. G. E. A. Grindle and Mr. J. A. Wiseman.

Mr. Marshall, in introducing the deputation said: This deputation, which your Lordship has been good enough to receive, though a small one, is fairly representative of Dominica estate owners and other interests, proprietors of the older established estates on the coast and the more accessible districts, and also the important body of new settlers by whose energy and the expenditure of a considerable amount of capital, many hundred acres of Crown land jungle have been transformed into valuable lime and cacao plantations. At present, however, all enterprise is sadly handicapped for want of roads, and it is an unfortunate fact that one of the largest, most beautiful and most prosperous islands in the British West Indies is still as regards road transport facilities one of the most backward and neglected, and it is easy to understand that Major Burdon's comprehensive and carefully thought out scheme, the crowning work, if I may say it, of his successful administration, has been received with such warm approval, as an indication that this vital question of roads is at last to receive attention. Of course, individual opinions may be expected to differ in regard to the details of any scheme, however perfect, but I think I may say that there is practical unanimity in support of immediate action on the broad lines of this scheme, and that the present and future requirements of Dominica demand not only the maintenance, improvement and extension of existing roads, especially the Imperial Road, but also the opening up of the island by new trunk roads with ample provision for branch roads and feeders, in order that every estate owner shall be in a position to transport his supplies and ship his crops in a proper and convenient manner, which is in so many cases practically an impossibility under present conditions. I have confined myself to general remarks leaving details and figures and other points, such



A FLOWERING TALIPOT PALM IN ST. KITTS.



THE OLD STOCKS IN GRAND TURK.

as finance, labour, etc., to gentlemen fresh from Dominica, who will give you them at first hand; but personally I would like to add that I know Dominica and its capabilities, and also the enormous disadvantage it labours under for want of proper road communication, and I sincerely trust the Government will realise the necessity of dealing promptly with this undoubted grievance and will sanction the necessary outlay—such generous outlay indeed as we maintain is warranted by the increasing revenue and general prosperity of the island.

The Case of the New Settlers.

Mr. Duncan Mackintosh then said: Lord Emmott, I have been asked to say a few words from the point of view of the 'new settlers,' that is, those who were invited by the Government in 1900 to take up land in the interior and elsewhere, on the strength of a project which was widely promulgated for the construction of a central trunk road. This road, which was to open up a large tract of country hitherto consisting of virgin forest was made the basis of a kind of manifesto issued by the then Administrator. Several settlers with a fair amount of capital took up land, planted it, and awaited the completion of the carting road which was to convey their produce to the coast as soon as it was apparent in any quantity. It was definitely stated that the sum of £15,000 was to be spent on the central trunk road, but as a matter of fact something over half that amount was forthcoming for that purpose. Consequently the road was never completed, and although the settlers had performed their part of the implied bargain, the road which was begun under such fair auspices was allowed to remain at the best a bridle track, and in rainy weather a very bad one at that.

Although ox and mule carts can on occasions traverse a length of the Imperial Road from Riversdale to the coast, it is in the nature of a feat which cannot be accomplished except at great risk both to draught animals and to their loads, consequent on narrow gauge and sharp turns. Maiming of beasts and damage to produce is of common, almost invariable, occurrence, and, owing to the tendency to gail due to climatic conditions, the employment of pack animals is found equally unsuccessful. As it is, taking into account the above disabilities, it has been found more convenient economically to 'head' down our loads, at a cost which in times of normal prices would be prohibitive. It can be easily understood that speaking generally the new settlers are far from satisfied with developments during the last thirteen years.

As I formed one of the original party which set out towards the close of 1900 to select and take up locations in the interior, and found that since that time the Government had failed to carry out its obligations—in spite of repeated representations—I considered the time had come to take more decisive action in the matter, and accordingly I proceeded to Dominica a few months ago with the full intention of making some unpleasantness on the subject. On

arrival, however, I found myself somewhat disarmed by the fact that it suddenly became apparent that something really was going to be done to retrieve in a great measure the unfortunate past, and that at last someone had come forward who possessed a real grasp of the needs of the island in respect of communications. I found that Major Burdon had visited every corner of the island, and had satisfied himself by personal investigation of local conditions and necessities. I can only say that having read his scheme, I approve most cordially of the general principles on which it is based, because I see clearly that its carrying into effect will attract both capital, labour and goodwill to the island, and increase its trade and revenue incidentally. Also because it will benefit us individually, and this is one of the cases where what is good for one is good in the long run for all.

Mr. J. B. Rose: My firm have recently established a Central Factory in Roseau specially for dealing with the produce of small inland estates, but have experienced great difficulty and expense in transport. We consider Major Burdon's scheme a good one, which we understand includes the repairs of existing roads. Labour conditions during crop time are an important factor, and consideration of this in connection with any road making should have careful attention.

Mr. H. A. Frampton said that generally speaking he was in favour of the proposals for developing Dominica by main roads and feeders. The great need was for roads to enable planters in the interior to get their produce to the coast. He emphasised the importance of steps being taken to secure an adequate supply of labour for the construction of the roads, and pointed out that it would be disastrous if the labourers were to be attracted off the estates during crop time.

Mr. C. M. Rose: I should like to say a few words in reference to the difficulty we have always experienced in connection with the transport of quantities of raw lime juice from some of the estates near Roseau. The existing roads are very often in such a bad state that ordinary carts or wagons could not be used, and we have had to send out to Dominica specially made carts to take the produce down from certain estates; these carts having to be so made that only small quantities of the juice in casks could be taken at one time. Some two years ago we had under consideration the construction of wire rope and pipe lines to overcome the difficulties of bringing in the produce, but it was found that these schemes had to be abandoned on account of their cost. There can be no question that a system of good roads throughout the island is most essential to the prosperity of Dominica.

Lord Emmott said that the Colonial Office appreciated the importance of securing the development of Dominica by the construction of roads. He could bear testimony to the energy which Major Burdon had shown in dealing with the subject while he was Acting Administrator of the island, with every part

of which he had acquainted himself. It was the intention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to send out to the island a fully qualified road engineer with technical knowledge regarding road construction, to report on the whole question. Meanwhile he was glad to know that there was such unanimity of opinion as to the need for road construction. He could not state when the engineer would be appointed, but the members of the deputation would satisfy themselves that such an appointment would be made.

Mr. Marshall having thanked Lord Emmott for receiving the deputation, the members of it then withdrew.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES.

It is understood that the Government of British Guiana is communicating direct with the Ministers of the Dominion regarding the extension by Canada of the preference under the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement to colonies not party to it, other than the colonies mentioned in Schedule D, which it is claimed is contrary to the spirit of the agreement. In this connection it will be recalled that at the Inter-colonial Conference held in Trinidad on June 13th last, the following resolution was adopted:—

"That in the opinion of this Conference the Preferential Tariff under the Reciprocity Treaty with Canada should apply to all British possessions which are parties to the Canada-West Indies Convention, or which may hereafter become parties thereto."

Meanwhile it may be noted that the unofficial members of the General Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands, in their reply to the Governor's Address on the occasion of the opening of the recent session expressed their dissatisfaction at the colony having to make concessions to obtain preferential treatment in Canada, while Mauritius and Fiji were obtaining the preference without being called upon to make any return.

It is noteworthy in this connection that in the eleven months ended February last, 9,568,320 lbs. of sugar entered Canada from Fiji under the preferential tariff.

At the close of last year the London Teachers' Association were in communication with the West India Committee regarding the possibility of their making the West Indies the centre of one of the summer tours arranged for the members, and arrangements have now been completed for a party of teachers to visit Jamaica. They will leave Avonmouth on Monday, July 20th, in Messrs. Elders and Fyffes' steamer *Changuinola*, and after calling at the Azores will reach Kingston on Monday, August 3rd, at 6 p.m. They will remain a full week in Jamaica, leaving again by the *Paluca* on Monday, the 10th, for Port Limon on their way home to Avonmouth, where they are due to arrive on August 30th.

PLANTATION WHITE SUGAR.

In the issue of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR for April 7th, a brief account was given of the clarification processes in use in the manufacture of plantation white sugars. It is now proposed to add a few words as to the treatment of the massecuite, the other important item in connection with this branch of the manufacture.

Perhaps the most important point in connection with this subject is that of double curing. In this process the molasses is first removed from the sugar by curing in the ordinary way, without any washing. The dry sugar thus obtained is then mixed with syrup, or the washings of the white sugar, and cured in another set of centrifugals, where washing is effected by water and steam. In this way the maximum amount of white sugar is obtained at a minimum loss from washing. As a modification of this process, the operation of double washing can be carried out in the one centrifugal by the use of a double gutter. By these means the molasses proper is run into the one gutter, while the washings of the dry sugar are turned into the second gutter, and thus kept separate. This process, however, is not so efficacious as the first-named, since the effect of the reconversion into a magna of the dry sugar in itself materially helps the subsequent washing. The use of crystallizers is important in this connection. As to the best method of using them there is considerable difference of opinion, based, in every probability, on the different kinds of juices worked up. It may be taken, however, that the best results are obtained when the first sugars are boiled without any mixture of molasses, either in the vacuum pan or crystallisers. As to the advisability of the use of these for first sugar, there is a considerable amount of doubt. It may be considered, however, that a few hours spent in the crystallisers, helps the yield from the massecuite, without materially affecting the facility of washing, but that the best results are obtained with hot curing. As regards the second products these must be grained with syrup, or seed grain may be used for the purpose, unless the molasses is of such purity that it can be readily grained. The second products are run in crystallisers for two or three days and then can be submitted to double curing in the same way as the first sugar. The molasses from these are reboiled, being grained with syrup, and the sugar, which is of lower grade than that from the second boiling, is remelted, preferably in the clarified juice.

If a high quality white sugar is required, it is preferable either to ship the second sugars as such without conversion into white, or to remelt them in the same way as the third sugars. This is a great point with the manufacture of good white sugar. The sugars are preferably melted in the juice before clarification, so that they should get the full benefit of the latter.

As regards the preparation of molasses for re-boiling, special care must be taken to secure that these are properly clarified. Sulphuring and liming, with boiling, skimming, and subsiding, are absolutely necessary for satisfactory work. Another lesser, but still important, item in this connection, is the treatment of the filter liquor. This should also be returned to the raw juice. The only modification in the treatment of the molasses is in the Battelle process. In that process of clarification, as already mentioned, the glucose in the juice is destroyed by the excess of lime used. The molasses are thus freed for the use of the Steffen process, in which the sugar is converted into an insoluble saccharate of lime by the use of very large quantities of lime. This is separated by filtration and decomposed by carbonic acid, the sugar being treated in a solution from which it is subsequently crystallised. The treatment of the molasses in this way secures a much more favorable condition for obtaining a good quality of sugar.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Stocks in Grand Turk.

The existence of stocks in the gaol of Grand Turk serves as a reminder that the anachronistic Lord's Day Observance Act, which has been defied for so many years by an enterprising shop-keeper in High Wycombe, is still in force in the Turks and Caicos Islands. This Act "for the better Observation of the Lord's Day commonly called Sunday" was passed in the 29th year of the reign of King Charles II. and provides inter alia "That no drover, horse-courser, waggoner, butcher, higler, their or any of their servants, shall travel or come into his or their inn or lodging upon the Lord's day, or any part thereof, upon pain that each and every offender shall forfeit twenty shillings for every such offence; and that no person or persons shall use, employ, or travel upon the Lord's day with any boat, wherry, lighter, or barge, except it be upon extraordinary occasion, to be allowed by some justice of the peace of the country, or head officer, or some justice of the peace of the city borough, or town corporate, where the fact shall be committed; upon pain that every person so offending shall forfeit and lose the sum of five shillings for every such offence." It further lays down that, in the event of the offender not paying the fine or of the penalties not being met by distress, "the party offending be set publicly in the stocks for the space of two hours." The old stocks, for the illustration of which facing page 220 of the present issue, the CIRCULAR is indebted to Mrs. Robertson, are now used only occasionally for taming refractory prisoners. If they were to be applied to the purpose laid down in the Act above referred to, they would, it is to be feared, be in constant demand. On Sundays there would be quite a queue of Turks Islanders waiting their turn to be set in them for the two hours.

A Talipot Palm in St. Kitts.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Wigley, we are able to reproduce on another page a photograph taken by Mr. Losada of a Talipot Palm which was in bloom in the grounds of her residence, Spencer House, Basseterre, St. Kitts, when the last home-ward mail left. It will be remembered by many of our readers that five years ago we published a picture of two similar palms, one of which was then in flower on St. Aroment, the estate of Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls in Dominica.*

The height of the magnificent palm now depicted can be gauged by the figure at its base, which is that of Mrs. Wigley. The flowering of this particular tree is of special interest by reason of the fact that its entire life history can be recorded. It seems that in the year 1873 three seeds of the Talipot were sent to St. Kitts from Ceylon by a native of the former island. One of them was given to the late Mr. F. S. Wigley, who, with Mrs. Wigley, had only gone out to live at Spencer House in the preceding year. Mr. Wigley first planted the seed in a pot, and when the tiny palm which grew from it was big enough he transplanted it in the place where it now rears its gigantic form. For a number of years it was rather overshadowed by an India-rubber tree planted about the same time; but that tree was destroyed by the hurricane of 1899. Thenceforward the palm grew rapidly, until it attained its present imposing dimensions. For the past seven or eight years it has been a truly beautiful tree, and now its life is nearly ended, for after the supreme effort of breaking into flower the palm dies. This being the only specimen of the Talipot Palm, which is known to botanists as *Corypha umbraculifera*, in St. Kitts, it is to be hoped that seeds which it should bear will prove fertile and that the plants from them will be as carefully tended as Mrs. Wigley's tree has been.

THE interest attaching to the Barnardo Institutions is well-known to all English-speaking people, but it is not every visitor to the Old Country who has had a favourable opportunity of seeing anything of their practical working. The Council is therefore arranging two special receptions of overseas visitors to take place at the Girl's Village Home, Barkingside, on Wednesday, June 17th, and the Boys' Garden City, Woodford Bridge, on Saturday, June 20th, in the afternoons at 3 o'clock. The functions will be of a semi-private but very attractive character, the children taking part in the same with displays of their drill and country dances. Opportunities will be afforded for the inspection of the cottages and other most interesting features in the Homes. Any visitors from the West Indies or any other parts of His Majesty's Dominions "beyond the seas" are invited to send their names to the Senior Deputation Secretary, Dr. Barnardo's Homes, 18-26, Stepney Causeway, London E., when they will receive invitation cards and all particulars.

* THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, No. 272, March 2nd, 1909, facing page 101.

"DADDY QUASHIE."

BY J. GRAHAM CRUICKSHANK.

Saturday comes round, and with it Daddy Quashie for his weekly pension. He is a little early, and so sits upon the back steps full in the sun, and falls to sleep.

"Hullo, old man."

"Eh—eh! Howd'ye, massa."

"Taking a little sleep?"

"Sleep a full me yeye. Old age a tek place."

That is true. Daddy Quashie is "ageable." His black face is withered and wrinkled, and his head is as white as cotton. Teeth he once had—the fine, strong teeth of the old black people, kept white by the daily application of a twig of black sage—but they have gone, and he is reduced to kongotay and kalalu. His eyes, sunk in the head, look out at you brightly with a look in which humour, shrewdness, suspicion and curiosity are mingled. Once upon a time he could read favourite passages of the Old Testament, in big print, spelling out the words "one-one," but this is impossible now. "My yeye a get li'l dark."

I once asked Daddy Quashie how old he was. He was greatly amused. "Massa! youse'f too! Awee Nation no got age. Awee no write um down a book, like Bakara." He thought deeply. "Maybe you sa find um a Estate Journal." Maybe I would, but the Estate's Journal was never in the custody of a jealous archivist so far as I am aware. Probably it was burned or mouldered to dust many many years ago. The Estate itself was abandoned, "mash-up," before I was born. Its name even has been forgotten. Its nigger-yard and coffee-pieces and the tumble-down pillars of the old Great House have been swallowed up in bush.

Daddy Quashie remembers when "Freedom fall," and so must be upwards of eighty. Full freedom came to the negroes in 1838. When I worked this out in a few figures of complex arithmetic he was thunderstruck. He put his hand on his mouth. "Bakara eh! Notice um. Berry well."

It is a providential trait in the human mind that bad and bitter memories seem to shrink and shrivel with the lapse of time, while happy memories become deeper-rooted as time goes on. This is particularly so, I think, in the mind of the black people. "Quashie," it is who knows how to be thoroughly happy in to-day's blink of sunshine, and to be happy over again in the memory of the sun that shone yesterday. Hence most of the old man's reminiscences relate to the unaffected merriment that took place when the "Good Days" came round in Slavery Time.

"Christmas time. Ky! Da was good day. Roastin' pig an' beef an' rum."

"You had music too, didn't you?"

"Eh—eh (laughing) Youse'f too! Dem boy a knock drum fo' true."

"Did you dance?"

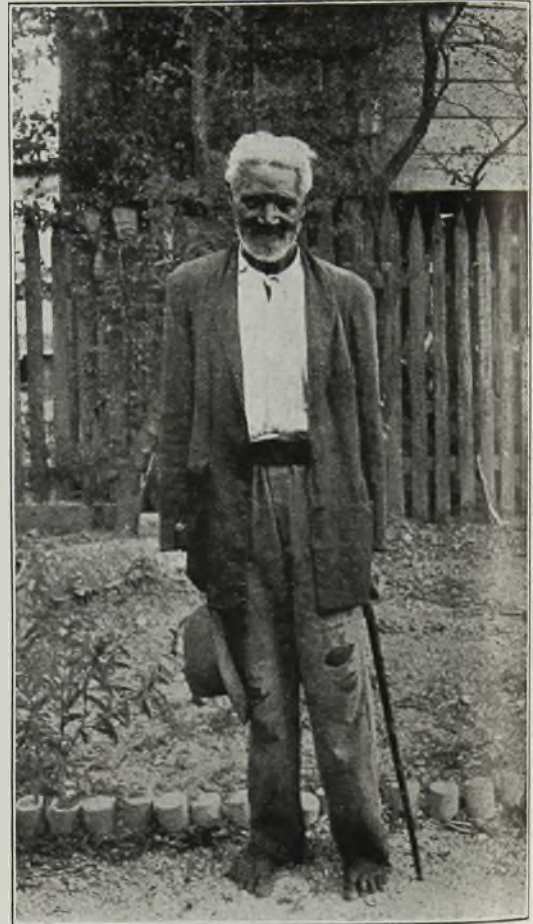
"Sah, ah was a dance-man you see me hey. Ah greedy dance too bad. If old age no tek place to-day, ah sa mek couple figga gi'e you."

"Where did you hold the dances?"

"Awee keep dance anywhere. Logie O! nigger yard O! Great House, O!"

"Did you ever dance in the Great House?"

"Yessa. One Kotchman we had a Des Kinderen, name McFashion. He an' de missy a gi'e dance one Christmas. Dey clear the Great House, put up all dem table dem an' chair an' anticassa (anti-macassars), so gi'e ball."



"DADDY QUASHIE."

"He was a good master, then?"

"Yessa. Da Bakra good me a tell ayon."

"Did they both dance,—Mr. and Mrs. McPherson?"

"All two. Fore day morning a dance break up."

"Where are all the other slaves of the plantation?"

"All a dem dead out."

"You don't think a few may be still alive?"

"Well, a few must be dey dey, but all the rest dead out."

That is the pity. Most of the old slaves are "dead out." Here and there, in the villages, one may yet find an old man, but more likely an old woman, whose memory goes back to "before time." They are the survivors of a day that closed not so very long ago in the West Indies, but in its contrast with the present appears like a bit of ancient history. Remarkably wiry, they hang on to life, sometimes, long after its last vestige would appear to have fled from the withered body. The West Indian negro in general has not lost the respect for old age which is characteristic of the African, and unless where the descendants are very badly off, the "Daddy" or "Uncle" or "Granny" is kindly taken care of, and religiously taken out for a sun-bath when the weather is dry. Like most Africans, old or young, they feel the damp, and are never more miserable than on a wet day.

It is difficult to touch the African mind in the West Indies. The negro is getting sophisticated. Among the old negroes you do get a little of Africa with the veneer off. If they are Creole negroes, as all the few surviving old slaves must be, they speak none of the African dialects. Here and there in their talk, unconsciously, an African word peeps out. Curiously allied with it will be a bit of old English, a word or word-sense, which has gone out in Old England, and is kept green only by the negroes in America. Africa shows itself again in gesticulation and emphasis: indeed the old negro's habit of speaking in italics makes it almost impossible to reproduce his talk on paper. Nor has he shed all the superstitions of Africa, despite attendance at church or chapel when he can get there. For this one is glad from an anthropological standpoint. It makes him more interesting, more racial, and I do not observe that it makes him a worse worker, or a less faithful friend, in everyday life. Kiuna, "jumbies" (the zombi), the lively properties of the silk-cotton tree—these are yet the source of wonder and of talk at night. And it is from the old negro alone that one can hear, amid chuckles, a true Anansi story. The younger generation do not believe in them.

Shrewd, with a fund of common sense wonderfully useful in the common affairs of the world, humorous, with an instant perception of the ludicrous, faithful, not ungrateful, keenly appreciative of just, open, kindly and firm treatment—the old negro has played his part in the West Indies, and has many points worth remembering. Not infrequently illiterate, he is a living example of the fact that a man does not live by books alone.

But old Daddy Quashie is going. He is the richer by a giddy sixpence, which is even now burning a hole in his pocket. It will put him in luxury to-morrow and the day after. During the two succeed-

ing days, so far as he and I can see, until the poor law dole comes in, he will subsist upon the bracing properties of the sea air and the mercy of a Providence in which he trusts absolutely in every detail.

He goes down the path, leaning upon a stick.

"Walk, good old man. Come back next Saturday."

"If life spare," says Daddy Quashie.

THE WEST INDIAN CLUB.

A Dinner to Sir Edward Morris.

Sir Edward Morris, Premier of Newfoundland, was the guest of the West Indian Club at a dinner held on Thursday, May 7th, at Whitehall Court. Mr. W. A. M. Goode, Hon. Secretary of the Club, presided, and in proposing the health of Sir Edward Morris, said he did not think it necessary to remind those present that between the West Indies and Newfoundland there existed a bond, both sentimental and practical, as old as the Empire itself; in fact, they were the starting points of Empire. They shared in common the trials and misfortunes that visited island communities whose financial and other resources were limited. The Chairman extended to Sir Edward sympathy in connection with the recent disaster which befell the sealing fleet of Newfoundland. The guest had been Premier of Newfoundland for five years, and during that period had brought that island to its high-water mark of prosperity. His encouragement of the great new pulp and paper industry, pioneered and undertaken with such amazing success by Lord Northcliffe, his progressive railway policy and his sympathetic understanding of what his country really needed had combined to make him not merely a political Premier, but a spokesman who was implicitly trusted by all his fellow-countrymen.

In reply to the toast of his health Sir Edward Morris expressed his appreciation of the Club's hospitality. He would, he said, like to take the present opportunity, on behalf of the people of Newfoundland, to thank publicly those who had so splendidly subscribed towards the fund in aid of the sufferers from the disaster which overtook the Newfoundland sealers. He also particularly wished to thank the newspapers for their help in raising the fund. The way London and other great cities responded to appeals of this character did much to cement the feeling of loyalty and patriotism throughout the Empire. Referring to the Canadian Trade Agreement, Sir Edward said that he hoped that it might be possible to make reciprocal arrangements also between the West Indies and Newfoundland.

The toast "Prosperity to the West Indies" was proposed by Sir John Anderson, K.C.B., who said he hoped the reciprocal arrangement between the West Indies and Canada would lead to a great increase in the commerce of the two colonies. He thought the sugar industry of the West Indies was still very much alive and he was glad the trade in

bananas was increasing. The development of oil in Trinidad was being watched with very keen interest and he hoped the opening of the Panama Canal would greatly advance trade in the West Indies.

Sir Owen Philipps, in responding, said that it was a matter for satisfaction to members of the Club to feel that the president and organiser of the Grand Falls Paper Company, of which Sir Edward Morris had spoken was the former secretary of the Anti-Bounty League, Mr. Mayson M. Beeton. He, the speaker, thought the colonies were fortunate in having officials at the Colonial Office who took such a deep interest in the development of the great colonies of the Crown. They had seen what had been done by the progressive officials at the Colonial Office in the development of Darkest Africa, and he felt sure that the same progressive spirit could develop the vast Hinterland of British Guiana, where, he was certain, would be found the raw materials that were so necessary to the development of many of the great industries of this country. Sir Owen said he looked forward to the time when the West Indies would be able to speak in London with no uncertain voice and speak with one representative. The fact was not generally known, he said, that the late Sir James Ferguson had been offered by the Conservative Government the post of Governor General of the West Indies, which, he much regretted, Sir James could not accept. The opening of the Panama Canal and the cheaper cable rates, promised by the Colonial Office last July, should, Sir Owen added, do much for the prosperity of the West Indies. Mr. Hamar Greenwood, M.P., proposed the health of the Chairman, who briefly responded. Amongst those present were :—

Lord Glenconner, Hon. A. C. Pousoy, Sir Charles Cox, K.C.M.G., Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart., M.P., Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., Hon. Eyre Hutson, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Fiji, Mr. T. Marlowe, Mr. J. Holland, Mr. Frank Pedley, Mr. Stanley Machin, Mr. Harry Brittain, Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. H. F. Previté, Mr. A. Hirsch, Captain L. G. Tebbs, Mr. C. E. L. Cox, His Honour R. A. Swan, Mr. H. H. Etheridge, Captain Pett, Mr. A. H. Massey, Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, Mr. Alexander Elder, Mr. C. C. Bryce, Dr. G. B. Mason, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Mr. Edward Baynes, Mr. J. W. Clark, Dr. Cyril Horsford, Mr. W. F. Lawrence, Mr. Ernest Young, Mr. S. C. E. Irvine, Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall and Mr. C. G. A. Wyatt.

EXPERIMENTS in the direction of elucidating the cause of sewage sickness in soils have recently been carried out by Messrs. E. J. Russell and J. Golding. The results point to this condition being an abnormal development of the protozoa harmful to bacteria always present in ordinary soil. In these experiments small land filters were made in the fields, some being treated with untreated soil and others with treated or sterilised soil. Periodical examination of the effluents showed that those from the treated filters retained their efficacy for months, whereas the effluents from the untreated filters became sewage sick.

ROMAN DUTCH LAW IN BRITISH GUIANA.

The Commission appointed in British Guiana to report upon the Roman-Dutch Law which has been in force in the colony, since the units of which of which it is composed were finally ceded to us by the Treaty of Amiens in 1814, has now made its Report.

Speaking generally the Commissioners, (the Hon. J. J. Nunan, Attorney General, and Messrs. D. M. Hutson, K.C., Hon. J. B. Laing, W. S. Cameron, P. N. Brown and A. P. Sherlock), recommend the introduction of English common law in regard to all mercantile matters, to all domestic relations (including marriage, judicial separation and divorce, the law of husband and wife, parent and child, guardian or curator and minors, and master and servant) to the law of delicts or torts, agency, suretyship, liens, intestate succession, and in fact to all the law of persons, things, obligations, inheritance and every other description of matters whatsoever not dealt with by legislation or otherwise expressly exempted. They consider, however, that the English law of real property should be expressly excluded, and that the law relating to trustees should be dealt with by legislation adapted to the requirements of the colony as to which they propose to make later a separate recommendation.

The English Bills of Sale Act, the Report says, might be adopted with a modification introducing the local requirement of advertisement and replace the Roman-Dutch mortgage of movables and the notarial mortgage. With regard to immovable property it is recommended that for purposes of intestate succession and for all other purposes except that of transfer, the treatment should be on the same footing as with movables. The complicated incidents of real property have never existed in this colony under the Roman-Dutch system, and it is not desired or considered advisable to introduce them.

Title to land by prescription should be valid after 25 years adverse occupation *nec vi nec clam nec precario*, but only after a declaration of title has been obtained from a Judge of the Supreme Court after application by petition or originating summons or otherwise in accordance with any Ordinance or Rules of Court. The title should then be recorded or registered by the Registrar.

The Law of Intestacy.

As regards intestacy, at the present moment the father succeeds to the inheritance of a child who has no direct heirs, and the mother is excluded. They should, it is considered, share and share alike. The mother should not be bound to share with the brothers and sisters in case the father is dead. These should rank after the mother. The illegitimate children should succeed to their mother in all cases whatsoever just as if they were legitimate, thus preserving the Roman-Dutch rule *De Moder magt keen Bastard*. In English law the bastard is still *filius nullius*.

The husband should succeed to the wife's property only to the extent to which the wife succeeds to the husband's, viz., one-third if there are descendants, one-half if none. In the case of no parents or brothers and sisters or brothers' or sisters' children the surviving spouse should take the whole estate. The half blood will take as in English law. Movable and immovable property should be treated alike for all purposes of succession.

Marriage and Legitimation.

While the law as to marriage is considered suitable to the general population, the attention of the Government is directed to the possibility of dealing in some more simple way than now with the union of East Indians, who continue to rely upon their own customs in this respect. East Indian children therefore, are often legally illegitimate; a position of things not encouraging to the interests of the East Indians in the Colony, and full investigation should, it is thought, be made into all the conditions.

In respect to legitimation, the Report is in favour of its retention as an encouragement to the ultimate establishment of an orderly family life "in a community which has not recovered from the social disorganisation which slavery conditions entailed upon the human chattels." It is recommended that marriage should have the effect of automatically legitimising all children born during the concubinage (as well as all children recognised at the time of the marriage) unless a sworn declaration of repudiation is made as to unrecognised children within six months of the marriage and recorded with the Registrar of British Guiana. Marriage should also have the effect of revoking a will as under the present English law.

The Law of Divorce.

The Commissioners are divided as to divorce, the Chairman and Mr. Laing being in favour of the retention of the Roman-Dutch law, which grants a divorce for adultery by either husband or wife, or in the case of malicious desertion, leaving out the question of cruelty. On the whole this question is avoided, it being considered that if any of the recommendations of the recent Divorce Commission in England are carried out in practice, it will undoubtedly be in the direction of the Roman-Dutch jurisprudence. The Commissioners think that the presumption of death from absence which in Roman-Dutch law is not less than one hundred years, failing any special enactment should be that of English law. An order for judicial separation should not bar proceedings for divorce even without formal revocation of the order unless the Supreme Court so decide.

Damages for Death by Negligence.

Statutory provision, it is considered, should be made for the preservation of the Aquilian right of an action for damages for negligence causing death, which now belongs to the wife, ascendants and descendants (but not to collaterals) who depended upon

the deceased for their support, the measure of damages being retained on the insurance basis laid down by Schorer's Notes to Grotius (III. 33.2). The Commissioners are not prepared to express any opinion as to whether this legislation should be supplemented by the incorporation of any English statutes later than Lord Campbell's Act, which is based on the Lex Aquilia and is clearly borrowed in principle from Scots jurisprudence.

Transfers, Transports and Leases.

In regard to the transfer of immovable property, the registration of letters of decree, transports and leases, the Commissioners are not in favour of abolishing or shortening the system of advertisement. They consider that a Registrar's or Registry Office Ordinance should be passed dealing specifically with the examination and registration of all titles to immovable property, of mortgages and of all leases of ten years and upwards, the Registrar being constituted examiner and registrar of titles. It is clear that the present system is somewhat unsatisfactory owing to the difficulty of fixing responsibility and owing to the conflicting theories as to the exact position of the Judge. The responsibility should be definitely located, the examination of title made more systematic and the authority of the Registrar in such matters prescribed by law.

They also consider that the present transport system, which has been in force since 1629, will be found most suitable to the Colony, at least for the moment. While the Chairman is in favour of placing the sole responsibility upon the Registrar and of relieving the Judges of what appears to him to be an onerous and somewhat formal function, the rest of the Commission is in favour of the Judges' retention in the system. They consider that the presence of the Judge is a deterrent to perjury and fraud and that it lends a solemnity to the transaction of transfer which it is desirable to retain. They agree, however, that the primary responsibility for the examination of title should be placed upon the Registrar, but that in the examination of the documents of title and in the examination and passing of the transport the Judge should continue to exercise the same functions as at present and to fulfil the same duties but with the added safeguard that the authenticity of the allegations has also been ascertained as far as possible by the Registrar. The present form of Letters of Decree, it is thought, might also give place to an ordinary transport from the Marshal or Registrar passing title, the ordinary procedure being adhered to. The draft Bill for the Partition of Lands appears to be capable of rendering valuable assistance in regard to placing title to undivided lands on a satisfactory basis. Transport practice should no longer be governed by Rules of Court but by Ordinance and Regulations made thereunder by the Governor and Court of Policy.

Title Deeds.

At the present moment original Title Deeds are kept by the Registrar, the purchaser receiving an

unstamped copy which is valueless as security. There is, therefore, in British Guiana no equitable mortgage or deposit of title deeds. Without making any recommendations, the Commissioners consider that if a duly stamped and certified copy replaced the present unstamped copy, and if no fresh document were issued by the Registrar to replace it in case of loss without due advertisement of intention to apply for a duplicate, the community would be encouraged to ascribe value to the actual documents of title.

Administration and Probate.

The Report is in favour of the Government introducing an Ordinance conferring upon the Public Trustee the powers formerly exercised by the Administrator General. These powers included the right of taking over intestate estates and estates of absentees for which there is now no adequate machinery with the result that there must be in such matters much fraudulent appropriation and a considerable but unascertainable loss to the public revenue, especially in regard to East Indian properties over \$240 in value. Minors' estates and estates of absentees are now dealt with by the Public Trustee under the Public Trustees Ordinance, 1910, on order made by the Court which has to be formally moved by some creditor or other person interested. There is no automatic machinery. There is also no simple method of enforcing an account from administrators or executors although they are supposed by law to account to the Court if appointed by the Court. In this respect the South African system of requiring formal recognition by the Court of administrators and executors in all cases, whether appointed by the will or not, and of requiring them to pass their accounts before the trustee, offers considerable advantages. As the law stands, the executor is regarded as merely the agent of the heir who is still clad with some of the vestiges of the universal successorship of the deceased as created by the Roman law. Under the new method the executor and administrator should have all the power of the English personal representative.

The Law as to Wills.

In regard to wills an Ordinance adopting the English system of probate should also be considered, as the present method of recording the first will presented accompanied by an affidavit does not appear satisfactory. In this respect the Commissioners think it their duty to call attention to one statutory modification of the law which adversely affects common law rights. The provision of section 16, subsection 4 of Ordinance 4 of 1898 that no will or act of alienation shall be received by the Registrar for deposit for record unless the death duties have been first paid to the Receiver General should be repealed. It compels heirs and executors to raise money on their personal security to pay the estate duty, sometimes a large amount, before they can be placed in legal control of the property from which the amount

is due to the revenue. It is an unfair provision and is no real protection to the revenue which can take more effective measures to secure the payment of the duty. It must lead in practice to the suppression of wills, for the revenue, as already related, has no present machinery for dealing with intestate estates.

The Commissioners conclude their interesting Report by drawing attention to a draft code drawn up by the Chairman with the view of carrying into effect the more urgent of the measures above recommended.

AT WESTMINSTER.

Our Imports of Foreign Sugar.

In a written answer to Mr. Barnston dated May 4th, Mr. Robertson has furnished the following statement showing the quantities and values of raw beet sugar, raw cane sugar, and refined sugar, respectively, imported into the United Kingdom from the undermentioned countries during the year ended 31st December, 1913:—

Country from which consigned.	Cwts.	£
Raw Beet Sugar—		
Austria-Hungary	3,217,169	1,618,042
Belgium	49,323	23,596
Denmark	628,996	307,826
France	—	—
Germany	9,428,937	4,727,472
Netherlands	217,687	104,114
Russia	—	—
Other countries	—	—
Total	13,542,112	6,781,240
Raw Cane Sugar—		
Austria-Hungary	—	—
Belgium	—	—
Denmark	—	—
France	358	207
Germany	11,583	5,953
Netherlands	6,467	3,504
Russia	—	—
Other countries	7,373,773	3,924,631
Total	7,392,181	3,934,295
Refined Sugar—		
Austria-Hungary	3,961,277	2,632,654
Belgium	995,288	668,837
Denmark	227	148
France	531,436	357,274
Germany	9,309,064	6,161,380
Netherlands	3,571,332	2,477,347
Russia	58,798	37,924
Other countries	23,475	15,522
Total	18,450,897	12,351,686

[It will be noted that the imports of Russian sugar into the United Kingdom during the year amounted to 58,798 cwt., although under the terms of the Sugar Convention, Russia was permitted to export 50,000 tons of her bounty fed sugar westward. It was owing to the refusal of the High Contracting Powers to agree to Great Britain's demand that Russia might export 500,000 tons of bounty-fed sugar westward that the British Government denounced the Convention, to the provisions of which they are, however, as they subsequently announced, determined to adhere.—ED.]

East Indian Immigration.

Mr. Pointer recently asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether, in all Crown Colonies and Protectorates to which Indian labourers are admitted under indenture,

it is a condition that Indians who have completed their indenture shall be in all respects free men, subject to no labour ordinances and with personal and civic rights in no way inferior to those of any other class of people resident in the Colony or Protectorate; and whether encouragement is held out to them to become peasant proprietors of agricultural land and holdings.

Mr. Harcourt, in a written reply dated May 8th, said: The reply to both parts of the hon Member's question is an affirmative one. The Committee which reported on emigration from India to the Crown Colonies laid down the general principle that immigration under indenture for private employers should be permitted only to such Colonies as offer the opportunity to the time-expired immigrant to settle in an independent capacity on the land. [See paragraph 102 of Cd. 5192].

The Georgetown Town Council.

Mr. Pointer asked the Secretary for the Colonies whether he was aware that, against the expressed wish of the Georgetown Town Council and the ratepayers of the city of Georgetown, the officer administering the Government of British Guiana was carrying through certain amendments to the Georgetown Town Council Ordinance, 1898, in the Court of Policy, where the unofficial members are always in a minority; whether he was aware that if these amendments took effect it would destroy the elective principle of the Georgetown Council by introducing the right of nomination by the Governor; and, if so, whether he proposed to give assent to it.

Mr. Harcourt, in a written reply dated May 13th, said that he was not aware that any such legislation as that referred to was being carried through, but, if it was he proposed to await the arrival of the Ordinance before considering what advice he should tender to His Majesty in regard to it.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

It being apparent that there is no immediate prospect of funds being forthcoming for the establishment of an Agricultural College in the West Indies, Mr. W. G. Freeman, the Acting Director of Agriculture in Trinidad, has, at the suggestion of the Secretary of State submitted to the Governor certain proposals for extending and improving one branch of the system of practical Agricultural Education already conducted by his department, which if carried out may form the germ of a larger scheme.

Mr. Freeman proposes that the expenses of his scheme shall be defrayed from the profits made on the River and St. Augustine estates managed by the department. These are estimated on a conservative basis at \$14,470.43 for the two years 1913-14 and 1914-15. The Government has, at the suggestion of the Agricultural Education Committee included in the estimates for 1913-14 provision for two exhibitions of £25 each for agricultural pupils under the scheme, and these will be increased to four next year and to six in the following year.

Provisions regarding the admission of candidates, who it is suggested should not be less than 16 years of age, have already been drawn up and it is proposed that the course should be for three years, to be spent as follows: 1st year at River Estate; 2nd year at St. Augustine Estate and Government Farm; and 3rd year on an approved outside estate, in the case of exhibitors whose exhibition is renewed, and of other students if arrangements can be made.

The curriculum on the River Estate should, it is suggested, include:—

(1). Practical work in all branches of estate work under the direction of the Manager. This would occupy every morning and about three afternoons each week. In this the boys would work under ordinary estate conditions, keeping the usual hours, being subject to ordinary estate discipline and those not exhibitors being paid according to the value to the estate of their work as at present.

(2). Lectures, practical demonstrations on, or time for reading, writing up notes, etc., two afternoons each week. It is suggested that the following lectures might for example be given:—

Acting Director of Agriculture.—General life of a plant and its relation to its surroundings and special reference to crops dealt with. Principles underlying pruning, seed selection, grafting, budding and other agricultural practices.

Superintendent, Field Experiments.—Soils and Manures. Superintendent, River Estate; or Manager, River Estate.—Cacao cultivation and preparation. Estate practice and management. Estate book-keeping, etc.

Mycologist.—Fungoid diseases, their causes and treatment. Entomologist.—Insect diseases, their causes and treatment.

In most cases a lecture would be followed by a practical demonstration in the field and in particular those of the Manager of the Estate would be primarily field demonstrations of estate operations.

During the first year, all pupils would have to do the work of the elementary stage of the Home Reading Course of the Department and take the examination at the end and not be allowed to proceed to the second year's course until they have passed.

In the second year the general division of time between practical estate work and theoretical instruction on the St. Augustine Estate and Government Farm would be similar to that of the first year; the crops dealt with would, however, be different and there would also be the work on the Farm.

Director or Assistant Director.—As in the first year but with special reference to plants or crops dealt with.

Manager, St. Augustine and Government Farm.—Estate practice and management. Care of stock, etc.

Superintendent, Field Experiments.—Soils and manures.

Mycologist.—Fungoid diseases, their cause and treatment. Entomologist.—Insect diseases, their cause and treatment.

Government Veterinary Surgeon.—General veterinary knowledge.

Farriery Instructor.—Farriery.

During this year pupils would have to work for the Intermediate Home Reading Course Examination and pass the same before proceeding to approved estate; failure would, as in the first year, entail loss of exhibition.

In the third year, exhibitors who made satisfactory progress in their 1st and 2nd years would be recommended for a third year which would be spent on an improved estate or estates, the managers of which were willing to accept and house pupils and possibly give them some remuneration for their work. Pupils would remain on each estate for a time to be agreed upon before-hand, and their exhibitions paid subject to satisfactory monthly reports from the manager.

A list of publications for sale is obtainable from the West India Committee Rooms, post free on application.

REVIEWS AND PERIODICALS.

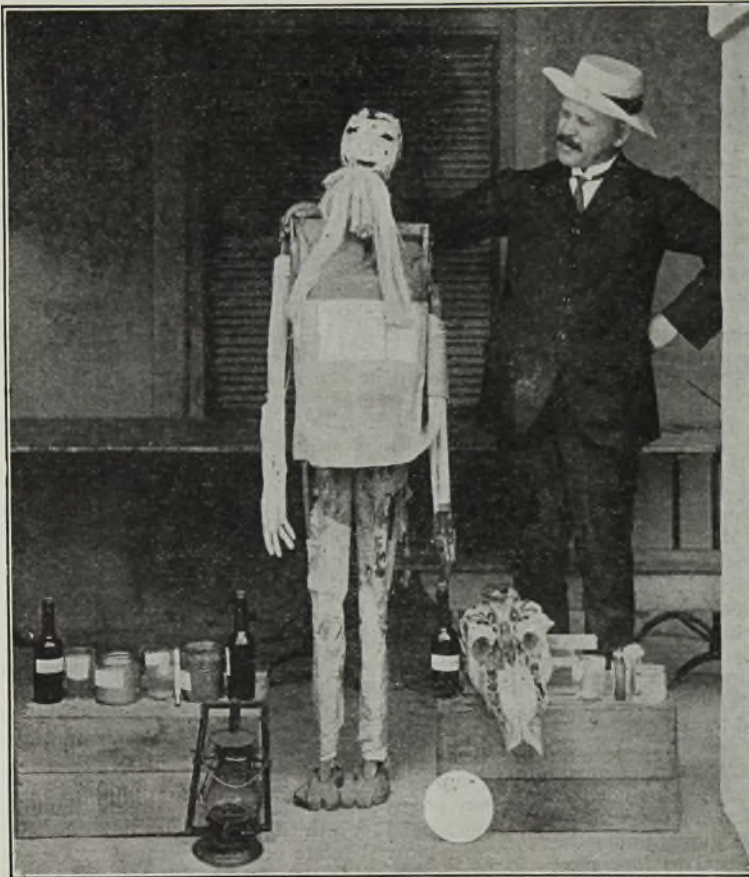
Mr. Harold Hay-Tracy contributes an article on "The Canada-West Indies Preference Dilemma" to the first number of the *BRITANNIC REVIEW*. He refers to the fact that owing to the action of Canada any other colony is able to obtain for nothing a preference for which the West Indies have had to pay a good price; and further to obtain it to the direct prejudice of West Indian trade, and states that a deep sense of injustice is being felt and expressed in the West Indies owing to the unsatisfac-

State for the Colonies, emphasising the importance of the matter and again asking him to arrange for the means of settlement with Canada. If this request is refused, it will be necessary for Trinidad and British Guiana, the two greatest participators in the Agreement, to apply to Canada direct for immediate arbitration and relief from an intolerable position. It has been suggested in influential quarters that the preference to the United Kingdom might be temporarily withdrawn as a formal protest against the extraordinary attitude of the Colonial Office, and to place on record the obligation of the British Government to develop the trade of the

West Indies, an obligation which has been but too little regarded throughout the last century: the imminent question, however, is this unprecedented refusal, not merely to give redress, but even to provide the opportunity for seeking it."

OBEAH.

In spite of the fact that the practice of the cult lays the offender open to very severe penalties, Obeah dies hard in the West Indies. At an Obeah case heard recently in St. John's, Antigua, a really remarkable collection of exhibits was brought into court. They were seized on the occasion of a police raid on a secret "Lodge" called "Porter's Union," and comprised a cow's skull, a mirror, grains of rice, juices from poisonous bushes, rum, white zinc, pieces of dirty rag of all colours, rotten eggs, and other kinds of nastiness, besides the strange figure, supposed to represent a "jumbie," which is depicted on this page. The head was made of a calabash, which was lighted up at night with a candle and the whiskers of a decor-



Sub-Inspector P. Ruane with "Mac" and Muck.

tory development of the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement. Dealing with the refusal of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to forward to Canada the protests of the commercial bodies of British Guiana and Trinidad, Mr. Hay-Tracy says: "With a pertinacious desire to act with the utmost propriety, the Chamber has requested the Governor of the Colony to return the papers to the Secretary of

ticated dagger plant. The figure is of wood covered with old newspapers and rags, and the fact that while it wears a black glove on one hand and a white one on the other has no doubt some peculiar significance. This strange figure was called by the votaries of the Lodge "Mac." He is supported in the illustration, for which we are indebted to Mr. José Anjo, by Sub-Inspector P. Ruane.

NOTES OF INTEREST



WE regret to state that Mr. J. J. Cater for many years a director of the Colonial Bank died on May 14th.

"West Indies and Guiana" is the title of the book of lectures which will shortly be published by George Philip and Son on behalf of the Visual Instruction Committee of the Colonial Office.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been, Mr. A. H. Wight, Mr. George Farmer, Mr. H. A. Frampton, Mr. John Charley, Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Mr. Hugh F. Wilby and Mr. W. N. Sands.

SIR CAVENDISH BOYLE will be the recipient of many congratulations upon his forthcoming marriage to Miss Sassoon. Sir Cavendish who lately retired from the position of Governor of Mauritius was for several years Government Secretary of British Guiana, where he was very popular.

MAJOR J. A. BURDON, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Barbados, who recently acted as Administrator of Dominica, is to be the guest of the West Indian Club at the dinner to-morrow night. Mr. G. Hudson Pile will preside, and will be supported by Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., and Mr. H. M. Graham.

THE engagement is announced of Maurice H. Cane, third son of the late Leonard Cane, M.D., of Peterborough, and Mrs. Cane, now of Eastbourne, to Marjorie Amy, second daughter of H. I. Perkins, F.R.G.S., F.G.S., I.S.O., Surveyor General, British Honduras, and Mrs. Perkins, Wimbledon Park, and grand-daughter of Major-General Norman Perkins, Bengal Staff Corps.

SUCH rapid progress is being made with the arrangements for the train ferry service that it is expected that next tourist season tourists will be able to reach Havana from the United States without leaving their railway carriage. Extensive piers are being built at Key West to accommodate the ferry ships which will be the largest in the world. According to the *Cuba Review* these vessels will be 550 feet long with a beam of 100 feet, and will accommodate a complete train of Pullman cars.

MR. F. DE G. ENGLISH, M.A., Mus. Bac. Oxon., F.R.G.A., the Examiner appointed this year by the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music, reached Jamaica on the 3rd April, and from that date until he left for

Canada on the 23rd April, he was busily engaged examining candidates in the various grades of the examination of the Board, including two for the L.A.B. There were 391 candidates in all, and six centres outside Kingstown, a new centre being Montpelier

MUCH sympathy will be felt with Mr. George Grant upon the loss which he has sustained through the death of his wife, which, we regret to say, took place on Sunday, May 17th, after a few months' illness. Mrs. Grant, who had many friends in Trinidad, was a daughter of the late Dean Wilson, of Fyvie, Aberdeen, and sister of Sir David Wilson, K.C.M.G., Commissioner of the Northern Province and Sub-Intendent of Crown Lands in Trinidad from 1878 to 1897 and subsequently Governor of British Honduras.

A FIRM of manufacturing chemists is circularising West Indian proprietors as to the merits of its dyes for use in sugar manufacture. In a pamphlet it says: "If sugar manufacturers and refiners are to maintain their old position for "Demerara" crystals, it must be by availing themselves of the use of (*here follows the name of the dye*), which has been adopted by refiners in all parts of the world." It is to be hoped that no planters will swallow the bait. No sugar made with aniline dye is entitled to be called Demerara crystals, and it is really rather absurd to expect makers of Demerara sugar to drop a process which can only be used by a limited number of estates in favour of one which could be used all the world over, and which was only introduced for purposes of imitating the genuine product, apart from the question of the giving away of their birth-rate for such a mess of pottage.

In an article on the Tarpon in the *Academy* of May 9th, Mr. F. G. Aflalo states that the geographical distribution of the tarpon is far more extended than most people imagine. He attributes the prevalent impression that this splendid fish can be caught only on the coast of three States bordering on the Gulf of Mexico—Florida, Mexico, and Texas—mainly to the efficiency with which the three best-known resorts, Boca Grande, Tampico, and Aransas Pass, have been advertised in tourist literature. While not denying that the conditions of shallow, sheltered water are peculiarly favourable to sport at those places, Mr. Aflalo points out that these are by no means the only haunts of tarpon, and he adds that he would even hesitate to describe the Gulf of Mexico as what naturalists call the tarpon's centre of distribution, since the fish is found throughout the West Indies and along the Spanish Main, and has been caught with rod and line on coasts as far distant as those of West Africa, at Lagos, and Northern Queensland. In conclusion, he predicts that, long after the too popular American resorts are fished out, excellent tarpon-fishing will still be available under the British flag in other seas.

THE LONDON LETTER.

THE visit to England of the King and Queen of Denmark has revived interest in a neighbouring country with which our commercial relations have long been of importance. Moreover, the family of Queen Alexandra are always assured of a cordial welcome from the British Public. During his stay in London, King Christian took occasion to visit the offices of the East Asiatic Company, whose ships are now so well known in West Indian waters.

AN amending Bill, which it is hoped will embody a solution of the Home Rule problem, has been promised by Mr. Asquith. While the anticipations of Liberals and of Unionists have become brighter, the Nationalists regard the promised measure with some misgiving, and it is quite probable that fresh trouble may arise in a quarter hitherto fairly quiescent.

SIR NORMAN LAMONT, Bart., represented the Argyllshire County Council at the memorial service in Westminster Abbey for the late Duke of Argyll. The "passing" of the Duke has called forth many tributes to his genial and kindly character, the Press devoting much space to the Chief of the Campbells.

In the *Times* files will be found a striking article from that journal's Toronto correspondent on the Americanisation of Canada. The article suggests certain misgivings regarding the future of the Dominion viewed from the Imperial standpoint. Attention is drawn to the enormous amount of space devoted by Canadian newspapers to American news as compared with the brief dismissal of important occurrences in Great Britain. The personality of Prince Alexander of Teck, the prospective successor of the Duke of Connaught in the Governor-Generalship excites no unkind criticism, but opinion in Canada appears fairly divided as to the desirability of the continuance of a policy of Royal Administrators.

UNUSUAL interest attaches to Sir Joseph Beecham's opera season at Drury Lane which opens this week. Its importance is derived largely from the fact that it represents an unprecedented attempt to carry on an extended season concurrently with that at Covent Garden. Of fifteen performances to be given between June 8th and June 26th, eight will consist of operas and ballets never yet produced in England.

THE movement of practical sympathy with the sufferings of the blind has found a warm supporter in Lord Howard de Walden. His lordship has just sent a munificent donation of £3,000 to the Royal National School for the Blind to help the college authorities in the erection of a new pianoforte tuning and typewriting building required by the Education Department.

PLAYGOERS have read with interest of the new topical play on the Ulster question, entitled "An Irishman's Home." The piquancy of the announcement is to be found in the names of the joint authors—Mr. Redmond-Howard, nephew of the Nationalist leader, and Mr. Harry Carson, son of Sir Edward.

THE Derby sensation has preceded the Derby. "A bolt from the blue" has descended upon sportsmen by the news of the striking out of the favourite—Tetrarch. Since his first appearance in a Maiden Plate at Newmarket in April of last year, the colt's career has excited universal attention, the horse having won in seven races £11,336. All hopes of his carrying off the "Blue Ribbon of the Turf" have been dashed by the injury to his leg.

CRICKETERS are mourning the death at the early age of 36 of R. E. Foster, one of the most brilliant batsmen of his generation. It was in 1900 that Foster established his fame as captain of an Oxford eleven which played nine matches without a defeat. The crowning point of his career was reached in 1903 when he toured Australia with the M.C.C. team. In the first of five test matches at Sydney he played an innings of 287—a record for test matches.

STRIKING tributes have been paid to the Rev. C. Sylvester Horne, M.P., the famous Free Church leader, whose body, brought home from Canada, has been interred in Shropshire. The Parliamentary vacancy thus created will enable Mr. Masterman, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster—defeated in Bethnal Green on appointment to that office—to seek afresh the suffrages of his fellow-countrymen. Mr. Masterman is opposed by Mr. Ganzoni, who is the son of one of the senior directors of C. Czarnikow, Ltd., the well-known firm of sugar brokers. Mr. Ganzoni's return would strengthen the sugar party in the House of Commons.

THE selection of the Polo team, which is to represent this country in the United States has not been accomplished without considerable difficulty. However, its constitution has now been definitely settled. The team will comprise Captain F. W. Barrett, Captain the Hon. Denis Bingham, Captain H. A. Tomkinson, and Captain Leslie Cheape.

THE country is looking forward to the maiden trip of the latest and greatest of British liners—the *Aquitania*, which is to leave the Mersey for New York on May 30th. Built for the Cunard Line, the *Aquitania* is 116 feet longer than the *Lusitania* and *Mauretania*, and her tonnage 15,000 tons more. Consequently there is provision for more cargo and more passengers, but her speed will be less than that of the two other great Cunarders, the intention being that the *Aquitania* shall make the round voyage to New York in sixteen days with adequate time to "turn about" at New York.

NATURE NOTES.

THE monthly *Bulletin of Agricultural Intelligence and Plant Usines* states that the natives of German East Africa are accustomed to feed their cattle on banana stems during the dry season. One stem is considered sufficient food to supply an adult animal one day. It is presumed that the stems are cut into long slices.

ACCORDING to the *Tropical Agriculturist* too much maize is not good for fowls as it brings on liver disease. Fowls fed liberally on it get lined with yellow fat, especially in the abdomen, and the egg organs become so weak that the hens lay shell-less eggs. Boiled corn with hard corn to finish up with is the best diet.

THE large quantity of glucose present in molasses presents an obstacle to the recovery of the sucrose. Mr. Leon Pellet, in *La Sucrierie Indigene et Coloniale*, states that for the last two years experiments have been conducted by Mr. H. Pellet, in which a yeast is employed which destroys the glucose by fermentation, but does not affect the sucrose present. This yeast is stated to have been discovered by M. Pairault in Martinique. After fermentation, the molasses mixture is distilled, the alcohol collected and the residual liquor treated in the same way that molasses is treated in beet processes.

MR. H. B. HUTCHINSON states that the known actions of lime in improving the physical conditions of a soil, neutralizing acidity, and rendering plant foods available for chemical action are not sufficient to account for many of the results obtained by the application of lime. It is now shown that caustic lime in sufficiently large quantities produces effects intermediate in character between those produced by volatile antiseptics and by high temperatures. The larger protozoa and many bacteria are killed and the organic nitrogenous constituents of the soil are decomposed. When the lime has been converted into carbonate, a period of active bacterial growth ensues with increased production of plant food.

IN the Report of the Rothamsted Experimental Station for 1913, the interesting fact is brought out that while samples of soil collected and bottled in 1874 behaved normally on moistening, the bacteria, amoebæ and flagellates being found, on partial sterilization, the protozoa were killed and the bacterial numbers rose in the usual way. Samples of soil collected and bottled in 1846 and dried in 1880, behaved, however, like soil already partially sterilized, on moistening the bacterial numbers rose considerably, no protozoa were found and no further change was produced by partial sterilisation. It is thus shewn that long storage in dry condition causes the soil to lose the factor detrimental to bacteria, while it also loses its protozoa.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Low prices of sugar, the fall in the prices of cacao in Europe, and adverse weather conditions continued to cause some feeling of depression in the West Indies when the last homeward mail left. Still, progress of a substantial nature can be reported with the oil industry in Trinidad and the lime industry, upon which Dominica is now so largely dependent, and which is making such rapid strides in St. Lucia and British Guiana. The tourist season was nearing a close, and the returning mail steamers being fully booked up for several voyages ahead, several intending passengers were complaining of their inability to secure berths, a difficulty which it is to be hoped will be obviated next year. Among the passengers in the R.M.S.P. *Magdalena* which left Barbados at 6 p.m. on April 29th, and reached Southampton with commendable punctuality at 1.50 p.m. on May 11th, were the following members of the West India Committee from Barbados: Hon. W. K. Chandler C.M.G., Mr. W. N. Sands, Mr. A. S. Kernahan, Mr. C. E. Drayton, Mr. Carl F. Wieting, Mr. W. Morris Fletcher, Mr. Hugh F. Wildy and Mr. J. B. Gun-Munro. Mr. Cowley, in his letter, again reminds us of the remarkable attitude adopted by the present Free Trade Government with regard to sugar. While protecting English grown beet by relieving it of the payment of a duty—though colonial sugar is subject to a customs duty—and feeding it with a bounty from the Development Fund, they decline to allow the local Government in the West Indies to guarantee interest on capital for the erection of central sugar factories, on the ground that this would be an infringement of the Brussels Convention. What could be more illogical or more grossly unfair? The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—British West Indians and the "Big Ditch."

Writing on April 25th, MR. A. P. COWLEY, commenting upon the report of Dr. Cornish's lecture on the Panama Canal, pointed out that the Canal could not have become an accomplished fact but for the West Indian labourer. Science, capital and brains would have been useless without "the man behind the spade." It was the West Indian labourers who made it possible for the sanitary regulations to be carried out. Many of them paid the toll with their lives, while making the country fit for others to live in. The West Indian labourer had many faults, but he had proved by his work on the Canal that under proper supervision and organisation he was capable of working under climatic conditions which would render it impossible for any European to work.

The remarks in the CIRCULAR regarding the refusal of the Home Government to sanction a guarantee by the St. Kitts Government of interest on capital for a central factory, because it would be an infringement of the Brussels Convention, "to the principles of which they were determined to adhere," applied equally to Antigua, where the factory system had been proved a success. Owing to the fiscal policy of the Government, it was impossible to interest capitalists in such matters.

On Easter Monday the Antigua Defence Force had a rifle match, the Fleming Cup and Lee Cup being both won by Sergeant Richardson. The shooting at the Bisley Target showed the following results: 200 yards, Lieut. Dyett 1st, Sergeant Richardson, 2nd; 500 yards, Sergeant Richardson, 1st, Private Weatherhed, 2nd; 600 yards, Private Bird, 1st, Private Weatherhed, 2nd. Sergeant Richardson was the winner of the Sir Bickham Sweet-Escott Cup for the highest aggregate, while the winner of the Lady Sweet-Escott prize was Private Peters. The following scores were made at the Regulation Targets: 200 yards, Private Peters, 1st, Private Lloyd, 2nd; 300 yards, Private Lloyd, 1st, Private Peters, 2nd; 400 yards, Private Lloyd, 1st, Private Peters 2nd; 500 yards, Private Cranston, 1st, Private Peters 2nd. The prizes were presented by the Governor, who had offered a cup to the member making the best scores at musketry classification practice.

The 1st Antigua Troop of Boy Scouts gave a most successful entertainment on the 16th, and had been camping out at English Harbour for four days. The entertainment included staff drill, songs and sketches by the scouts, and piano and violin solos.

The S.S. *Croydon*, loaded with coal and dynamite, and bound from Philadelphia to a South American port, had gone ashore to the north of Barbuda and become a total wreck. This again raised the old question as to the need of some warning signal being erected at that dangerous part of the Leeward Islands. Lloyds' Agents, Messrs. Bennett, Bryson and Co., were looking after matters connected with the wreck, and a sale of ship's stores, sails, etc., was held on their premises on the 20th.

Rev. C. H. Branch, rector of Parham, was leaving the Diocese of Antigua, having accepted an appointment in Barbados as Chaplain to Glendairy Prison.

The weather had been very dry, and rain was badly needed. The old canes were drying out and becoming hollow, and the young plants were growing indifferently.

THE BAHAMAS—The Women's Self Help Association.

During the winter season to the end of the second week in April 2,606 tourists reached Nassau. In addition 1,241 tourists visited the island by excursion steamers in transit.

The *Nassau Guardian* gives some particulars regarding the progress of the Women's Self Help Association, whose sale room was opened on November 21st last. The Association now has 180 members of whom 113 contributed articles for sale. The total sales amounted to £214 11s. 2d. It is proposed to hold an Arts and Crafts Exhibition under the auspices of the Association next winter.

BARBADOS—Ten years penal servitude for incendiary.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE reported on April 29th that the weather continued dry and favourable for reaping. There had been some showers on the hills, but where it was most wanted, in the coast parishes, it had not fallen. It was unusual for planters to wish for rain during the reaping season; but as there had not been any since December the young canes were having a bad time of it, and planters were naturally concerned about them.—The Chief Justice had sentenced a prisoner convicted of setting fire to a field of canes at Henley Plantation to ten years penal servitude. A Commission had been appointed to enquire into the causes of these frequent fires.

The *Advocate* reports that at the meeting of the Synod on April 15th the Bishop announced that an endowment fund of £5,200 had been raised for the establishment of a separate Bishopric of the Windward Islands, and that a suitable residence for the new bishop had been obtained in Kingstown.—Writs for the election of a House of Assembly were soon to be issued.

BERMUDA—The last two Tourist Seasons.

The number of tourists who arrived in March was 2,445 as compared with 3,649 for the same month in 1913. The total for the year 1913 was 21,595 as compared with 22,918 in 1912.

BRITISH GUIANA—Roman Dutch Law an anachronism.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, in a letter dated April 25th, said that the Hinterland Railway Committee held its first meeting on

the 20th, when Hon. J. B. Laing was appointed Chairman, and the following sub-committee was appointed to consider the points raised during a discussion which was held in camera: the Chairman, the Government Secretary, the Attorney General, the Colonial Civil Engineer, the Immigration Agent General, the Mayor of Georgetown, Mr. Prest, Hon. A. F. Sherlock and Mr. John Duke Smith.—The Combined Court and Court of Policy met on the 15th and 16th.

The recommendations of the Common Law Commission, which consisted of the Attorney General (Chairman), and Messrs. D. M. Hutson, K.C., J. B. Laing, W. S. Cameron, P. N. Browne and A. F. Sherlock, are published in the local papers. They advocated the substitution of English Common Law for the Roman Dutch Law at present in force. The Commissioners laid stress on the importance of dealing with the matter without delay in view of the pending development of the colony, and they suggested that the Chairman might consult the legal advisers of the Colonial Office on the subject when in London.—The two local insurance companies had ordered a new fire-boat, which would be handed over to the Town Council on its arrival from England.—The *Argosy* Mail Edition gives an account of the discovery of gold to the south of the Rupununi, between the head of the River Takutu and ten miles north-west of the Uritow mountains in forest country about 25 miles from the savannah. The discovery was made by Messrs. James and Hart, who had applied for twelve gold claims.

Mr. N. Darnell Davis, C.M.G., late Auditor General of the Colony, had been visiting Georgetown, and had been interviewed by the *Daily Chronicle* (Mail Edition, page 1).

The quarterly meeting of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce was held on April 17th, Mr. C. W. Prest presiding. He mentioned that in the main everyone was in favour of the railway scheme being carried through, and the two chief points to be considered were finance and labour. It was on the latter that the whole question turned. He favoured the Government having control of the Colony's finances.—Dr. Howard delivered a lecture on Ankylostomiasis at Agricola on April 17th.

Sales of refining crystals had been made at \$1.92½ to \$1.95 for export; for local consumption 2 cents was being paid.

BRITISH HONDURAS—Products for the London Exhibition.

HON. ALAN DREDGE reported on April 23rd that the S.S. *Sarsston* of the Scrutton Line sailed from Belize that day with 47 packages of exhibits for the Tropical Products Exhibition. Hon. W. I. McKinstry, Treasurer, was returning home on the same steamer.—There was little to report, the time of year being a dull one except in the bush, where work in connection with the export of timber appeared to be proceeding satisfactorily, and it was thought that a successful season might be anticipated. A spell of dry weather, which had been wanted, was being experienced.

DOMINICA—Interest in the Road Programme.

Writing on April 25th, MR. E. A. AGAR said that the debate in the House of Lords on Dominica roads was interesting and must do good by calling attention to the island. Lord Selborne's question as to how many roads could be made for £28,000 was rather like asking what was the size of a lump of chalk. The Under Secretary of State's reply was the only possible one. It was to be hoped that the construction of these roads would not be too long delayed.—The weather continued wet; limes were swelling rapidly, and should be in good shape to catch the early demand in New York, but the absence of sun was not good for the prospects of a second flowering.

GRENADA—Many matters of interest.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON wrote on April 27th that Mr. Daniel Hagley, barrister-at-law, having resigned his seat on the St. George's District Board, a bye election was to be held, in the event of a contest, on the 30th.

Preparations were being made by the St. George's Branch of the Grenada Literary League for a Concert to be held at York House on the 6th May, under the patronage of the Governor and Lady Hayes Sadler.—Five matches had been

played, so far, in the Inter-Parochial Tennis Competition for the Challenge Cup presented by His Excellency the Governor, with the following results: (1) St. John's beat St. Mark's; (2) St. George's beat St. Patrick's; (3) St. Andrew's beat St. Mark's; (4) St. George's beat St. Andrew's; and (5) St. Patrick's beat St. John's.

Mr. G. F. Branch, Agricultural Instructor, had accepted the post of manager of the estates owned by Messrs. Rose, Ltd., in Dominica, and would resign his appointment in Grenada at the end of three months' leave, which he had been granted.

Among the passengers who arrived from England by the last mail were Messrs. W. P. Branch, W. H. S. Mitchell, and H. J. J. Freeman and Mrs. Peter Macintosh, and Bishop Swaby and Miss V. McConney from Barbados. In transit were Dr. and Mrs. George for St. Vincent and Dr. Kidd for St. Lucia. By the *Caraquet* the same day there arrived, among others, Messrs. H. R. Noble and C. Colvin, Inspectors of the Royal Bank of Canada, Dr. and Mrs. Massiah and Mr. and Mrs. Rice. Among the departures by the *Berbice* were Messrs. D. Akeman, E. Ince, and Rupert Otway for St. Vincent, and Mrs. Holland for St. Lucia.—The following had been provisionally decided on as the list from which the team to represent Grenada in the Cork Cup Cricket Tournament to be played at St. Lucia this year, would be finally selected: A. W. Duncan, Geoffrey Haynes, C. A. O. Phillips, Earle Hughes, Norris Hughes, H. W. Mignon, W. Fortune, H. Bagot, L. Taylor, Ira Bain, B. McCarroll, T. Harvey, Walter Bertrand, L. Donelan and C. Ramsey.

The report of Messrs. Coode, Matthews, Fitzmaurice and Wilson, and that of the local Harbour Improvement Committee respecting the proposed improvements to the harbour of St. George, were published in the Government Gazette of the 15th.—The Sub-Committee appointed by the Agricultural and Commercial Society to make recommendations for re-arranging the work of the Agricultural Department with a view to making it of greater practical utility to the staple product of the Colony, had unanimously recommended that the Society strongly urge upon the Government the necessity for an increase of expenditure on the Department, so as to provide for the appointment of an additional chemist during the current financial year, and another qualified officer to assist in the country districts in connection with experiment plots and peasant instruction during the next financial year.—The shipments of cacao to date were 55,957 bags. In the corresponding period in 1913 the figures were 49,155 bags, so that, at date, shipments were 6,802 bags ahead of last crop.

The St. George's Club was arranging a farewell dinner to the Governor on or about the 14th May. His Excellency proposed to leave for England, via New York, on or about the 23rd of May.

The Standing Industrial Committee and the Home Industries Committee had decided to hold a joint exhibition at York House in November next, probably on the 5th, and had invited the Agricultural and Commercial Society to join them with an exhibit of fruit and vegetables.

The report of the Superintendent of Agriculture on the subject of the possibility of erecting and working a sugar cane mill in the Grand Roy-Concord District had been referred by the Committee of Management of the Agricultural and Commercial Society to the next general meeting, as also the question of the desirability of holding an island exhibition.

JAMAICA—A railway needed for north-west St. Mary.

Vere remained as dry as ever, when Mr. A. St. G. Spooner wrote on April 30th, and everyone was eagerly looking for the "May rains" to put life into the parched pastures and to revive the young canes, which were looking as though they were having a very thirsty time of it. The series of dry years that had been the lot of Jamaica had resulted in a general lowering of the water table and the amount of water obtained from the wells for the purposes of irrigation had been steadily lessened. Wells in the villages were running low, and some would have to be deepened if the dry conditions lasted much longer.

The factories were still grinding, with the exception of Bog Estate which had finished crop. Considering the low rainfall of last year and the comparatively small amount of irrigation water available, the weight of canes had been better perhaps than was expected. Prices, of course, remained very low, and this coupled with the good prices obtained for bananas from irrigated lands, contributed towards making the planters long for the day when the plain of Vere would be a network of irrigation channels and a green sheet of banana plants. The water was there; the trouble was to get it pumped and flumed from the Cockpit River.—The fruit steamers were calling at Salt River for bananas; this would be a considerable further inducement to the cultivation of the fruit in Vere.—Referring to the ridiculous statements recently made by Dr. Arbour Stephens it was fortunate that appendicitis did not appear to attack people who ate bananas in Jamaica, whatever it might do in England. The whole of the population would be on the sick list if bananas brought appendicitis in Jamaica.

The people in the Gayle district in North West of St. Mary are agitating for an extension of the railway from Highgate siding.—Miss D. Donet, daughter of the late Mr. George Donet, was married on April 29th to Mr. Harold Roper, of the Atlantic Fruit Company.—The Governor had just returned from a visit to Montego Bay during which he motored up the valley, when last mail left.

NEVIS—A visit from Mr. T. Laurence Roxburgh.

Writing on April 25th, Mr. E. WILLIAMS said that the weather for the past four weeks had been ideal for cotton preparation, with just enough moisture to have the work well done, and everyone was taking advantage of what appeared to be a splendid send-off for the season's crop. His Honour the Administrator and family were in residence at Government House, and would be in Nevis for a month. Mr. Roxburgh was a large favourite with Nevisians and they liked to think of him as their Administrator.—Cane reaping was in progress, the bulk of it going across to St. Kitts to the factory there. One of the great needs of the island was a high school for boys. It seemed unthinkable that in a community such as that of Nevis there was not such a school.—The rainfall for the past two weeks was 2.50.

ST. KITTS—An old cause for complaint revived.

When Mr. F. J. SHELFORD wrote on April 24th he said that in his neighbourhood (Estridge's) it was becoming dry, but the north side and Basseterre district had been getting nice showers. Reaping was progressing smoothly, and cotton planters were busy planting up their areas.

In the Pickford and Black Steamship days there was cause on occasion to complain of the shutting out of St. Kitts produce by the steamers going north. With the advent of the Royal Mail Service it was generally thought that such a circumstance would be practically impossible, that engagements would be kept and shippers to the south kept in hand. The steamer going north on the 13th gave a flagrant sample of the old evil! She accepted no cargo in St. Kitts although there was a consignment of syrup from one estate, some of it actually afloat, and a few hundred bags of sugar from others waiting for her. Space for these parcels had been asked for and accepted at headquarters in Trinidad. These steamers also would not call at Sandy Point as former lines had done, but shippers had to drogher all their produce round to Basseterre.—So far as the writer knew neither Canada or the West Indies at the Ottawa Conference laid great stress on a mail tourist service with the West Indies; trade was put in the foreground, and shippers' requirements should certainly receive more attention than had been evident to the present with the new service.

ST. LUCIA—Exports to the first quarter of 1914.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON reported on April 24th that the showers that had fallen within the last few days had been an immense boon to agriculturists, and the colony generally; previous to that the situation had been one of unmitigated drought, and sugar, cacao and lime plantations were

all commencing to suffer severely. At the time of writing cane plants could be put in, cacao pods and flowers were holding well for early pickings in August, and limes were commencing to swell and have some juice in them for the May/June crop. The 11 inches of rain that had fallen within the past four days had been worth at least £20,000 to St. Lucia. The exports of principal crops from 1st Jan. to 31st Mar. for the last three years were as follows:—

	1912	1913	1914
Sugar	1,512	854	1,217 tons.
Cacao	563,200	575,796	812,850 lbs.
Lime Juice	—	7,500	1,670 gals.

The increase in cacao exports was more due to a late crop than to increased production; but combined with an early coming crop it might help to make a "record" for 1914.

In view of the difficulty that was being experienced, not only in Demerara, but in all the West Indies (except perhaps Trinidad), in getting a decent cabin or any berth at all at reasonable notice, in the Royal Mail Transatlantic Steamers to Southampton, it was welcome news to hear that larger and better steamers were to be put on the route. The writer was credibly informed that not a berth was then to be obtained in the next three mail steamers, and his own experience was that booking three months in advance he was allotted a cabin in the forepeak as the best available. Under these circumstances, Mr. Skinner's soothing advice to book well in advance did not seem adequately to dismiss the difficulty. More of those "E" class mail steamers would be required during the busy seasons, for sometimes people had to travel hurriedly and unexpectedly, and it was a little disconcerting then to be told that a berth could not be got for eight weeks. Mr. Hudson wrote under the belief and hope that the ventilation of such a grievance might do good.—St. Joseph estate in the Denney quarter had been purchased by Mr. Thomas de Gale of Grenada for £1,500; the cultivation was confined to cacao.

ST. VINCENT Favourable weather for crop operations.

Mr. W. N. SANDS, who has just arrived in England on six months leave of absence, writes that just as the mail left there were nice rains, which would help planters to finish their reaping operations and enable them to make preparations for planting the new season's crop.

TOBAGO—Her Highness Princess Marie Louise's Visit.

When Mr. ROBERT S. REID wrote on April 28, Tobago was quite excited over the proposed visit of H.H. Princess Marie Louise and the Governor in the following week, and a strong Committee was making preparations for their reception. Perhaps the occasion might be utilized to open the fine iron girder bridge at Goldsborough, which was approaching completion.

The dry season still continued, but light showers kept vegetation comparatively green and conditions were much better than in the last two years. Excepting little lots of cacao and sugar there was not much produce available. The natives were clearing up their gardens in readiness to plant provisions with the first rains.

TRINIDAD—The quality of Trinidad Cacao.

MR. EDGAR TRIMP, writing on April 28th, said that everyone interested was very gratified at the success of the Trinidad exhibit at the Oil Show, and appreciated the excellent illustration appearing in the CIRCULAR. The export of raw oil went on steadily, and the returns for the present year would show a large increase over any previous ones. The steady output both from the Lake Petroleum Co. and the United British Oilfields was most satisfactory. Good practical work was going on elsewhere and other fields would doubtless soon be added to those at present producing. The celebrated Stollmeyer well still continued to yield its golden harvest to the enterprising owner, the only one in the colony who had gone into the business off his own bat.

On April 15th there had been a brilliant ball at Government House in honour of the Princess Marie Louise. It was said that 700 invitations were issued, and there must certainly have been 500 guests present. The illuminations

were very beautiful, and the approach, with the numberless motor cars flashing to and fro in the drive through the gardens, made a scene to be remembered. The ball itself was an unqualified success. Dancing was kept up until 3 a.m., and nothing was omitted to ensure the comfort and satisfaction of guests young and old.—On the 16th Her Highness left with the Governor on a visit to Bolivar, where she was right royally entertained by the Governor of the State, the British Consul, Mr. de Lemos, and others. Her Highness would proceed to Tobago, where great preparation was being made for her reception. It was hoped that a visit to Robinson Crusoe's Cave would not be omitted. Then there would be a visit to Caracas, in which the Governor would join.

The draft of the Corporation Ordinance, for Port of Spain, had been published. It was a formidable document of 192 pages, something for budding councillors to ponder over.—At a meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 22nd, the Hon. Carl de Verteuil continued his laudable crusade against the practices which had resulted in the depreciation of Trinidad cacao in the European and American markets. His motion was: "That in view of the depreciation of Trinidad cacao in the foreign markets, due to causes which are preventable, it is advisable that the Government should take immediate steps to remedy the evil, either by a system of inspection of all cacao exported or by such other means as may be considered expedient, and that the necessary legislation should be introduced." In the result it was decided to appoint a representative committee to consider and report. Cacao had been again coming in very freely, but in spite of this and of the serious fall in the European market, local prices had been well maintained, indicating that considerable April contracts remained to be filled. Prices that day were for Ordinary, \$11.25 to \$11.30, and for Estates, \$11.50 to \$11.60. Rain was much wanted except in the eastern districts, where the season had been in every way favourable.

BIRTH.

Jones. On April 23rd, at the Bank House, St. John's, Antigua, the wife of W. McLaughlin Jones, of a son.

DEATH.

Grant.—On the 17th inst., at North Havant, Hants, Alice Gordon Grant, the beloved wife of George Grant, of Redhill House, formerly of Trinidad.

WANT.

Experienced sugar and agricultural chemist thoroughly up in all branches of the industry, is now at liberty to undertake the management of a sugar estate, factory, or refinery. Highest references. Apply A. M., c/o The West India Committee, 25, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

COLONIAL REPORT.

Bermuda as a Tourist Resort.

Mr. R. Popham Lobb's report on the Blue-book of Bermuda for 1912, shows that the number of tourists visiting the colony rose from 5,418 in 1908 to 24,830 in 1912. For 1911 the figures were even higher owing to the voyages of the *Oceana*, late *Scot*, the owners of which, however, were reduced to bankruptcy owing to rate cutting.

In 1st issue of the CIRCULAR under the heading Colonial Reports some statistics regarding St. Lucia found their way—like the plates which come-a-two in Eliza Jane's hands—under the sub-heading of St. Vincent. From "On March 31st the total surplus," etc., in the first column of page 206 should fall under the heading of "St. Lucia's growing prosperity" in the next column.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

Handbook of Jamaica, 1914. Comprising historical, statistical and general information concerning the island, compiled from official and other reliable records. By Joseph C. Ford, of the Jamaica Civil Service, and Frank Cundall, F.S.A., Secretary and Librarian of the Institute of Jamaica. Jamaica: The Government Printing Office. Demy 8vo, pp. 652 + xx, 2 maps. Obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E. C. Price 6/- post free 6/6.

Many very notable improvements have been effected in both the matter and the compilation of this valuable Handbook since it was first published three and thirty years ago, and it now stands as the most comprehensive and informative of all such works in the West Indies. Among the new features in the present volume may be mentioned a catalogue of the portraits in the Jamaica History Gallery in the Institute of Jamaica, collected by the gifted Secretary and Librarian, Mr. Frank Cundall. A brief biography is given of the subject of each portrait, which will be greatly appreciated by visitors to Jamaica, to whom the Handbook must already be indispensable. Among the members of the commercial community, the book is so well-known that no encomium will be needed to stimulate its sale. We need only add that the lists of sugar, coffee, cacao, and banana estates and of grazing pens appear to have been most carefully revised and that the statistical information leaves nothing to be added. Mr. Ford and Mr. Cundall are certainly to be congratulated upon the high standard of accuracy reached and maintained during their partnership as joint editors.

The Settler's Guide. Greater Britain in 1914. A Summary of the opportunities offered by the British Colonies to settlers of all classes. With coloured maps. Edited by G. Gordon Brown, F.R.G.S. and G. Noel Brown, F.G.S. London: Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent and Co. Demy 8vo, pp. 442, 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 10d.

The British West Indies and the mainland colonies of British Guiana, and British Honduras, with Bermuda, are given thirty-two pages in this volume which should prove helpful to intending emigrants and settlers. The information is on the whole more accurate than is usually the case in books of this kind; but in future issues the authors might with advantage be more explicit as to the class of settlers for which the West Indies have openings, the capital required and so on. Still, like port wine, guides of this kind improve with age, and it must be understood that we are only noticing this book from a West Indian standpoint.

Saint Vincent Handbook, Directory and Almanack for 1914. Edited by Robert M. Anderson, Kingstown, St. Vincent, 1914. Size 7½ in. by 4½ in. pp. 434. Great credit is due to Mr. Anderson for his enterprise in compiling and publishing this book, which should prove a valuable and indispensable vade mecum on all that concerns St. Vincent. It may seem a strange thing to say of a Handbook and Directory; but, if the book has a fault it is that it is too complete in some respects, for we cannot help thinking that the inclusion of verbatim reports of speeches and telegrams, etc., relating to a recent Royal visit to the island, and such matters as the grant of permission to residents to fish from Georgetown pier, are hardly what one expects or wants to find in a work of reference. The meticulous care with which the author deals with recent events and the extended space devoted to them is apt, perhaps, to obscure some far more important matters in the island's story, some of which are disposed of in a very few lines. With this reservation we can confidently state that Mr. Anderson's historical summary, which is admirably compiled, is quite adequate for the purpose required. In future issues the "special contributions" which are quite in-

teresting in their way, and the laudatory notices regarding earlier handbooks—which seem unnecessary—might be relegated to an appendix. In a word the arrangement of the matter seems to us to be capable of improvement. The book is, however, well indexed, and the "business" as well as the general information given is all that could possibly be desired. It would indeed be difficult to find any matter concerning St. Vincent which does not find a place in the pages of this valuable handbook, of which every firm and individual interested in that progressive island should have a copy.

[The West India Committee will be pleased to obtain copies of the St. Vincent Handbook for those members desirous of having them. The price is believed to be 5s. per copy.]

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E. C.]

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

Presiding over the annual General Meeting on May 13th, Sir Owen Philipps, said that the business of the company had been more than maintained. There was a substantial increase in the revenue in 1913, both from passengers and cargo. Wages and nearly all working expenses had again risen and were record figures, with the exception of coal, which cost 4d. per ton less than in the previous year.

Notwithstanding the increase in working expenses, the actual profits on voyages were slightly larger than in the previous year, but sundry receipts from other sources were less, and the net profit, after allowing for depreciation, was less than in the previous year. They had written off slightly over 5 per cent. depreciation on the first cost of the steamers, and were satisfied that they were now standing at a fair price. The reserve and insurance funds now together amounted to £700,000, and as they only took a limited amount of risk on each steamer and covered the remainder with underwriters, nearly the whole amount might be looked on as a reserve fund. At the present time they owned £1,500,000 shares in the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, £990,000 shares in the Nelson Lines, £880,000 stock in the Union-Castle Line, £603,000 shares in Elder, Dempster and Company, Limited, and £100,000 shares in Lamport and Holt, Limited—the total nominal value of the shares being £4,073,000 (all fully paid up), and they stood in the books at £4,543,126, or, say, £470,000 over their par value; and in his opinion they were worth very considerably more, as all the fleets of the various companies were properly written down. (Applause). Of the total figure, the shares in the companies represented £4,543,126. The balance was the present written-down value of the R.M.S.P. fleet, including payments on account of steamers building. The present book value of the fleet, exclusive of steamers building, was £14 3s. 8d. per ton register, and whilst the average age of the R.M.S.P. fleet was 11½ years, the average age of the tonnage owned is 8½ years.

After referring to the condition of trade in South America Sir Owen announced that in future the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's Steamers from Liverpool which had hitherto gone as far as Callao only would proceed to Panama in view of the approaching completion of the Panama Canal, which should, he added, be ready for commercial shipping by August 1st next. Regarding the discussion over the question of Canal dues, Sir Owen said that he hoped that this might draw the attention of the American people to the great advantage, not only to the residents on the West Coast of America, but to American trade as a whole, of making the Panama Canal a free waterway for the benefit of all nations. The sacrifice of dues would be a comparatively small matter to a great nation, while the benefit it would be to the Western States of America was incalculable. What effect the opening of the Panama Canal would have on the British West Indies was yet to be seen, but it was almost certain to draw more public attention

to these old and interesting Colonies, with which the R.M.S.P. Company had such a long and close historic connection. He was pleased to say that the Company's two new West Indian mail steamers, *Essequibo* and *Ebro*, were nearing completion, and would be ready for next winter's tourist season.

They had just recently despatched the *Barima*, the first of the two new boats building for the Trinidad and Tobago local mail service. The second would follow immediately, and three small new steamers would very shortly replace the *Taw*, *Tees* and *Wear* on the St. Lucia and Grenada coasting services. The first six months of the Canada-West Indies service showed signs of a gradual expansion in the trade between Canada and the West Indies, which the object of this subsidy was, of course, to promote. The years 1912 and 1913 witnessed what was commonly called a "shipping boom," during which time most tramp steamers earned very large profits, as well as those regular lines which carried large quantities of rough cargo and loaded their boats homewards with general cargoes at open market rates. Some of the associated companies in which they were interested made large profits during the late boom and were able to set aside large sums to reserves, etc., with the result that they were all now in a very strong position and were quite capable of meeting times of depression without financial anxiety. The large passenger lines in most cases did not receive a corresponding benefit, while they had to face the enormous growth of expenditure brought about by the general activity of trade, and experience showed that, while expenditure increased during a period of trade activity, it took a considerable time to get back to the old level. The Royal Mail Company from the nature of its business, did not receive much direct benefit from the boom, but it suffered from the great increase for the last two years in the price of coal.

Sir Owen concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts. Mr. Alfred Williams having seconded the resolution, Mr. H. K. Scott, in a speech of some length, complained of the lack of information given, and suggested that the report contained much unnecessary matter. Sir Owen Philipps said that he had given as many particulars as he could, and Mr. Birch pointed out that it would be a mistake to show competitors all that the Company was doing. The resolution having been adopted and Mr. William Charles Kenry having been re-elected a director, and the auditors having also been re-elected, the proceedings were terminated.

The Central Mining Co. and Trinidad Oil.

Mr. F. Eckstein, presiding over the 9th ordinary general meeting of the Central Mining and Investment Corporation, Ltd., in London on May 14th, referred to the interests which that concern has acquired in the oilfields of Trinidad. The shareholders would have observed from the report of the directors that the negotiations carried on by the corporation with his Majesty's Government during the year under review were brought to a successful issue, and that the corporation, together with the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, formed and registered a company under the style of Trinidad Leaseholds (Limited), with a capital of £550,000 in shares of £1 each (of which 417,500 have been issued) to acquire from the Government an oil mining lease over some 71,000 acres of Crown lands situated in the Island of Trinidad. The first steps taken to establish this undertaking on a sound footing were to send out a staff of competent geologists to make a careful examination of the lands already referred to. The nature of the country, which to a great extent was covered by forests did not favour the rapid progress of such work, but it was thought more in the interests of the company to delay the commencement of drilling than to start same without first having a thorough geological knowledge of portions of the concessions, in so far as the same can be obtained apart from actual drilling operations. It was decided to sink the first wells on what was known as the Forest Reserve in localities recommended by the geologists. Roads had first to be constructed to obtain the necessary access to the land, and after all preparations had been completed and derricks erected, actual drilling

started on April 8. The first well struck oil sand at a depth of 100 feet. He could state that this was quite in accordance with the anticipations of the geologists, but might say that they did not expect this sand would yield oil in commercial quantities; the field manager, nevertheless, reported that he estimated the yield at approximately 20 barrels per day by baling. The sinking of this well had been proceeded with and the company received on Tuesday morning cable information to the effect that at a depth of 158 feet the well was still in the same oil sand and flowing at a rate of about 75 barrels per day. This result might be looked upon as being very satisfactory, the more so as the oil sands to which the geologists looked for the chief production were only expected at a depth of approximately 300 feet. Meanwhile the geological exploration of other parts of the land comprised in their concessions was being continued, but up to that time this work was not sufficiently advanced to allow their geologists to give them a very definite opinion on the value of such land as oil-bearing properties.

Div. dand.	Latest Quotations.	Prices May 16.
34	Antigua ... 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	99 101
34	Barbados ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1923-42	87 89
4	British Guiana ... 4 % Redeemable 1915	99 101
4	British Guiana ... 3 % Redeemable 1923-45	77 79
4	Grenada ... 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	98 100
4	Jamaica ... 4 % Redeemable 1934	100 102
34	Jamaica ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49	88 90
3	Jamaica ... 3 % Redeemable 1922-44	79 81
4	St. Lucia ... 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	97 99
4	Trinidad ... 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	99 101
3	Trinidad ... 3 % Redeemable 1922-44	77 79
	Trinidad 1 1/2 % 95 % 74pd	74 75 1/2
	The Colonial Bank ...	58 64
12	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchange)	222 1/2
	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary ...	95 100
	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference ...	98 101
4 1/2	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	103 105
4 1/2	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures	104 106 1/2
4 1/2	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	104 106 1/2
	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	3 1/2
6	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	105 108
	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	
	General Petroleum Properties of T'ad (£1 shares)	
	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd (£1 shares)	
	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1)	2 1/2
	" " " " " " " " (£1)	3 1/2
	" " " " " " " " (£1)	4 1/2
	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	33 38
7	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref.	105 108
4	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.	81 84
4	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	88 91
4 1/2	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	98 100
1 1/2	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co. Ltd Ordinary ...	100 102
6 1/2	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co. Ltd. 6 1/2 % Cum. 35t Pref	100 102
6 1/2	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co. Ltd. " 2nd "	100 102
5	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co. Ltd. 5 % Debentures	97 99

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

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|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. S. Garraway | Mr. G. Railton |
| Mr. Geoffrey Brooke | Hon. E. A. Granum | Mr. W. C. Robertson |
| Mr. D. C. Cameron | Mr. W. Morris Fletcher | Mr. D. Hopp Ross |
| Professor P. Carmody | Mr. E. R. L. Henderson | Mr. H. Seedorf |
| Hon. W. K. Chandler | Mr. J. C. Henderson | Mr. W. J. Slack |
| Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa | Mr. A. S. Kernahan | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| Mr. C. E. Drayton | Dr. G. L. Latour | Mr. Carl F. Wieting |
| Mr. Wm. Durno | Mr. James Peet | Mr. A. H. Wight |
- Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.
 Mr. G. G. Brown, 50, Hazlewell Road, Putney, S.W.
 Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
- Major the Hon. J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria St. S.W.
 Mr. G. Cress, "Greylands," Asburyton
 Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C.
 Mr. H. V. Dutton, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. Reginald A. Deane, c/o, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. George Farmer, "Fernside," New Malden, Surrey.
 Hon. G. Russell Garnett, Rose Cottage, Berkhamsted.
 Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
 Mr. D. McPhail, 75, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.
 Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, S.W.
 Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.C., Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, W.C.
 Mr. M. A. Paraira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
 Mr. W. N. Sands, "Logmore," Taylor Road, Wallington, Surrey.
 Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandlands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E.C.
 Mr. Thomas Thornton, 35, Gramere Street, Burnley, Lanc.
 Mr. Hugh F. Wildy, 49, Church Lane, Hottensay, N.

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Magdalena*, Captain E. W. Morrison), Southampton, May 11th:—

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mr. J. E. Atkins | Mr. A. D. Ferguson | Captain Nicolson |
| Mr. Alefounder | Captain A. E. Harding | Rev. Father Nolan |
| Mr. and Mrs. Abrams | Mrs. and Miss Haynes | Mr. E. Nicolson |
| Mr. A. Abado | Mrs. J. K. Hollano | Mr. and Mrs. C. Newlan |
| Mr. R. Allison | Rev. J. B. Hill | Mr. T. L. M. Orde |
| Miss Ambridge | Mr. J. W. Hawes | Mr. T. Preedy |
| Mr. P. Arato | Mrs. and Miss Hudson | Mr. and Mrs. Page |
| Sir Hilton Brisco, Bart. | Mr. J. Harbottle | Misses Page (2) |
| Mr. R. Balbin | Miss H. Henry | Miss Payne |
| Mrs. A. Brown | Miss Ince | Dr. Pope |
| Mr. A. Blot | Mrs. R. S. Johnstone | Mr. C. L. Rutley |
| Miss Chads | Miss K. Jardine | Mr. J. C. Reddie |
| Mr. A. L. Cockerill | Miss V. Kirk | Mr. A. H. Richards |
| Mr. C. F. Condeil | Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Keep | Mrs. Robertson |
| Mr. M. Cleave | Mr. H. A. Kruger | Mr. J. R. Roberts |
| Mr. R. H. Chamberlain | Mr. A. S. Kernahan | Sir John Swinburne, Bart. |
| Mr. F. Chandler | Miss Kirton | Lady Swinburne |
| Misses Chandler (4) | Mr. and Mrs. Lucie Smith | Dr. Seccombe |
| Mr. J. Creighton | Misses Smith (3) | Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Sands |
| Mr. L. Del Valle | Mr. W. B. Lough | Mr. Singh |
| Mr. A. H. Dobree | Mr. and Mrs. J. Lullington | Mr. F. Smith |
| Sir John and Lady Daser | Rev. Father Laughlin | Mr. A. G. Turner |
| Rev. Davies | Mr. W. Lowe | Mr. W. H. Trollope |
| Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Drayton | Mr. T. D. Labon | Mr. R. Taylor |
| Misses de Gale (2) | Miss S. Musson | Mr. R. Vargas |
| Captain H. Daly | Mr. W. J. Messervy | Miss S. Wild |
| Miss M. Dickenson | Mr. B. Murray | Mr. L. Wolf |
| Miss M. de Parra | Miss Murray | Miss M. Warner |
| Madame D. de Bozzy | Mr. J. P. Marae | Mr. C. Wiener |
| Miss de Borry | Mr. E. W. Midleton | Lieut. and Mrs. F. R. Wood |
| Mr. A. Driscoll | Miss M. Moody | Mr. E. Wilson |
| Mr. P. R. Ellis | Rev. and Mrs. Moody | Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Whyham |
| Mr. and Mrs. F. M. English | Miss N. Moody | Mr. H. F. Wildy |
| Miss M. Edwards | Rev. and Mrs. McGill | Mr. John Walker |
| Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Edwards | Miss McGill | Mr. B. Wilson |
| Miss M. C. Edwards | Miss Ida Malone | Mr. J. Young |
| Mr. W. Fletcher | Misses Malone (2) | |
| | Mr. Madhoo | |
| | Mr. and Mrs. Moseley | |

HOMEWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. *Oruba* due at Southampton, May 25th:—

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|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Miss Akman | Mr. R. W. McCall | Mr. L. Mills |
| Miss Alexander | Miss Clowes | Mr. G. Meyers |
| H. E. Sir Hesketh Bell, R.C.U.G. | Mrs. Corea | Mr. J. Mullin |
| The Bishop of Trinidad | Mrs. Coe | Mr. and Mrs. Morrison |
| Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Baker | Mr. Devonish | Mr. Hutchinson |
| Miss Bladen | Mr. Fern | Mr. Martin |
| Mr. Bodkin | Miss A. Penning | Mrs. Nocton |
| Mr. Bryant | Misses Fernandes | Mrs. Nunan |
| Mr. Birrington | Miss Fullerton | Mr. G. M. Oliver |
| Mr. S. Bartlett | Mrs. S. W. Fitt | Miss K. Oliver |
| Mr. and Mrs. Bovell | Mr. H. H. J. Freeman | Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Oliver |
| Miss Blain | Mrs. and Miss Ferguson | Mr. Pollard |
| Mr. Best | Mr. G. W. Garwin | Mrs. Pillai |
| Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Burke | Dr. and Mrs. Godfrey | Mrs. C. F. Peebles |
| The Misses Bowes | Mr. Gall | Mr. Riviere |
| Mr. and Mrs. Bryson | Miss Gooding | Mr. G. Stedall |
| Miss Bryson | Mr. and Miss Hunter | Mr. and Mrs. Scone |
| Mr. and Mrs. Blaker | Mr. J. Heasley | Mrs. Scully |
| Mr. Baynes | Mr. C. Harris | Miss Shankland |
| Mr. and Mrs. Bacous | Miss Hawkes | Mr. Smith |
| Mr. C. W. H. Calver | Mr. A. T. Hammond | Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Sworden |
| Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Cole | Mr. S. Knowles | Mr. and Mrs. Tempany |
| Mr. S. Cameron | Lady La Honie | Misses Tomlinson (3) |
| Miss Cochran | Misses Lastic (2) | Mrs. Thwaites |
| | Miss Leared | Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams |
| | Mr. Leander | Mr. Winston |
| | Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein | Miss Williamson |
| | Mrs. Meyer | Mr. A. F. Wight |

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, (Captain S. W. Plunkett), May 10th:—

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|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Mr. J. P. Tolloch | Mr. R. T. Dennis | Mr. S. W. Bubb |
| Mr. G. Carver | Mr. D. D. Deekes | Mr. G. Springbaet |
| Mr. H. A. Thompson | Mr. C. Johnson | Mrs. A. M. Conry |
| Mr. F. W. Smith | Mr. W. Hamer | Miss H. E. Coner |
| Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Cohen | Mrs. L. A. Ibbett | Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bullbrook |
| Mr. B. Charlesworth | Miss M. Alston | Mrs. and Miss Cunningham |
| Dr. W. B. Clark | Mr. P. G. Safra | Miss D. Brice |
| Mr. A. Friedrich | Dr. L. R. Sharpes | Mr. H. Wenzel |
| Misses Sheehy (2) | Mr. A. J. Sumner | Mr. E. Fricke-Lemoine |
| Miss A. Clarke | Dr. and Mrs. Ebbin | |
| | Mr. T. L. L. Orde | |

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM COLON PER S.S. *Bayano*, Avonmouth, May 10th:—

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Sir Claude Mallet, C.M.G. | Mr. Holden | Miss M. Jimenez |
| Lady Mallet | Mr. Cant | Mr. and Mrs. de Jong |
| Mr. and Mrs. Andie | Mr. Venn | Mr. L. Ricoy |
| Mr. and Mrs. Kinohr | Miss A. Heaton | Miss Helmschmidt |
| Mr. and Mrs. Montelegre | Mr. P. Luthmer | Mr. P. Gonzalez |
| Montelegre (2) | Mr. and Mrs. P. Odellmann | Mr. J. B. Acuna |
| Mr. Bentley | Mr. J. Pradilla | Mr. A. W. Bowley |

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post Int. London.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Tagus</i>	May 19, midnight
West Indies	Bathmouth	<i>Caroni</i>	" 22, noon
West Indies	Glasgow	<i>Slaba</i>	" 27, 4.30 p.m.
Demerara	Liverpool	<i>Imaika</i>	" 27, 6 p.m.
Jamaica	Liverpool	<i>Novian</i>	" 27, 6 p.m.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Oruba</i>	June 2, midnight
HOMEWARD.			
Southampton	West Indies	<i>Oruba</i>	May 25.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—
Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), May 15th, "Rain much wanted, crops suffering." **British Guiana—Demerara**—(Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.), May 5th, "Weather showery and favourable for cultivation" (Messrs. Curtis Campbell & Co.) May 6th, "Moderate rains generally, weather favourable for cultivation." (The Demerara Co., Ltd.) May 14th, "Rainfall generally on all our estates, 3 1/2 ins." (Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.) May 15th, "Moderate rains have fallen generally since last message. Weather favourable for cultivation." **Berbice** (Messrs. Henry K. Dawson & Co., Ltd.) May 7th, "2 ins. of rain generally, 3 ins. Corentyne." May 14th, "Good rains generally." **Jamaica**—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.) week ended April 29th, PORT ANTONIO, 23/28th "Fair," 29th, "Heavy rain." KINGSTON, 23rd "Rain," 24/25th "Fine," 26th, "Rain." 27th/28th, "Fine." 29th, "Rain."

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Apr. 23.	1914	1913	1914
Sugar	30,092	15,937	2,583	1,829
Molasses	627	505	280,755	102,738
Rum	1,109,480	998,677		Galls.
Molasses, &c.	781	3,030		
Cacao	23,357		1,948,352	1,006,096
Coffee	117,428	57,468	4,440,528	2,052,064
Coco-nuts	695,886	343,096	6,517,155	6,248,915
Oranges			1,512,100	3,723,666
Bananas			2,653,345	788,540
Pimento				4,495
Ginger			33,138	31,220
Honey			3,638	6,431
Dye-woods			40,730	14,077
Gold	19,285	13,710	16,809	8,201
Diamonds	3,405	1,499		Tons
Rice	6,971,527	3,350,823		
Balata	273,051	221,651		
Rubber		48		
Timber	87,403	125,211		
Lumber	121,418	110,880		
Lime (hydrate of)				

	Trinidad.		St. Vincent.	
	Jan. 1 to Apr. 23.	1914	1913	1914
Sugar	15,001	14,355		
Molasses	1,443	718		
Rum	340	231		
Coco-nuts	4,833,186	4,734,498		
Asphalt	47,997	69,473		
Manjak	69	161		
Bitters	6,006	6,318		
Coffee	4,480	1,200		
Crude Petrol	5,214,793	259,600		
Cacao	38,090,200	26,561,600		
Cotton				
Seed				
Copra	2,187	2,520		
Spice				
Kola				

	Barbados.	
	Jan. 1 to Apr. 23.	1914.
Sugar	11,954	1,631
Molasses	23,250	80,627

	Grenada.	
	Oct. 1 to Apr. 23.	1913/14
Asphalt	10,072,260	8,847,900
Cacao	551	870
Manjak	1,769	3,368
Copra	105	70
Spice	659,303	533,680
Kola	2,900	1,740

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½% 74½)

SUGAR.—In New York, raws continued very firm with little offering and refiners keen buyers. They paid 3.20 c. New York basis last Thursday equal to 10s. 1½d. c.i.f. New York, and for a late shipment of Cubans in June 3.26 c. is reported to have been paid by a speculator. Some cargoes of Cubans held this side are reported to have been re-sold to America during last week. Official quotations are 3.20 c. for 96% centrifugals and 2.76 c. for 89% muscovados.

In the London speculative beet sugar market the movements have only been fractional, but the tendency has been slightly in an upward direction. The best part of the time has been devoted to the liquidation of the large account open for May delivery, and as in most instances holders have shown no unwillingness to transfer to forward positions the process has been unattended by any violent disturbance in values. The upward movement in the New York market referred to above has not been followed here by a corresponding advance. Refiners have been deterred from purchasing owing to the increasing list of Cuban charters for the United Kingdom and Continental ports—33 steamers as compared with 28 in 1913 carrying well over 300,000 tons, but since reduced to 280,000 tons through the deviation to New York of some of these steamers.

In Europe beet sowings have been completed under favourable weather conditions, and on the whole the crop has made a good start.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: May 5th, 9s. 3d.; 6th, 9s. 2½d.; 7th, 9s. 3½d.; 8th, 9s. 3½d.; 9th, 9s. 3½d.; 11th, 9s. 3½d.; 12th, 9s. 3½d.; 13th, 9s. 4d.; 14th, 9s. 5d.; 15th, 9s. 4½d.; 16th, 9s. 5d.; 18th, 9s. 6½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914	1913	1912
Europe (1st & 9th May)	2,870,880	2,638,520	1,932,700
United States (12th May)	293,000	316,980	186,320
Cuba (6 p'pal ports 9th May)	775,000	667,000	482,000
Cargoes afloat (14th May)	9,000	—	55,950

Total ... Tons **3,897,880 3,822,500 2,856,970**
Quotations of 88% Beet,
 18th May ... **9s. 6½d. 9s. 3½d. 12s. 1½d.**

Grocery West Indian.—The crystallised market has been inactive and only a small business has been transacted at about previous rates. The question of any alteration in the sugar duties was set at rest the week before last when the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced his Budget in the House of Commons in which he made no change in the direction of "a free breakfast table." At the first small auction there was scarcely any demand and all was bought in; while at the second one last Friday only a small demand prevailed, but a portion sold at steady rates. The business recorded ranged for Trinidad from 13s. to 14s. 3d.; for Demerara from 14s. 9d. to 15s. 6d.; for Jamaica at 13s. 1½d., and for Surinam from 12s. 9d. to 13s. 3d. **Muscovados.**—Neglected. Barbados and Antigua bought in, a small sale of Barbados at prices not reported has taken place. **Syrups.**—Quiet. Demerara at 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 11s. 9d.; 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d.; Jamaica at 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Imports ...	14,014	15,523	11,466	17,226	11,730	Tons
Deliveries ...	9,715	9,191	10,556	11,519	11,823	"
Stocks (May 15th)	16,904	8,171	5,379	10,067	4,982	"

Quotations of *medium* qualities crystallised 15th May.
 18s. 3d./13s. 6d. 16s. 3d. 18s. 14d. 10½d. 19s. 6d.

RUM. Stocks in London, May 9th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Jamaica ...	6,621	5,438	7,412	8,843	10,684	Puns
Demerara ...	10,772	8,062	7,548	6,591	9,050	"
Total, all kinds	24,465	21,037	22,389	24,742	26,932	"

In the proof market business has been passing on a small scale at rs. 4d. to rs. 4½d. for Demerara; but although the Budget has left spirits unchanged as regards duties the Trade have not displayed any greater eagerness to get into stock; heavy imports have checked any development of business. Jamaicas are much in the same position as advised last mail, a quiet business having been transacted at steady rates.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, May 9th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Trinidad ...	8,448	7,828	7,935	5,726	9,494	Bags
Grenada ...	14,939	8,128	7,936	20,179	16,860	"
Total of all kinds	103,985	87,262	116,019	131,940	98,490	"

The market is firm. At the auctions last Tuesday the good supply of 8,857 bags met with a fair demand and mostly sold. Trinidad partly sold at fully steady prices and in some cases at rs. to 2s. advance. Grenada, of which about half the supply consisted, was mostly disposed of at generally steady rates to rs. advance. Other West Indian also sold at last prices. Quotations are Trinidad middling red 50s. to 60s.; good middling red 61s. to 62s.; fine and superior 62s. 6d. to 65s.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair 52s. 6d. to 54s.; middling to fine 55s. to 58s.

In the Trinidad circular of 28th April the market on the spot, suddenly changed and prices hardened during the fortnight under review, and quotations on that date were \$11.10 to \$11.20 for "El Dorado" and \$11.50 to \$11.60 for "Montecito" marks. The demand was exceedingly active.

COFFEE.—Santos, May 41s. 6d.; July 42s. 3d.; Sept. 43s. The spot market taking into consideration the large supplies brought forward has shown a very steady tendency, but later on competition fell off. East India, however, at auction the end of last week was steady with a good demand. In "Futures." Steadiness has been imparted to the market by the publication of an estimate for the coming Santos crop as well as by the advance of one-eighth in the Brazilian Exchange.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended 14th May 699 bales British West India were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland state that since last report about 400 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton have been sold at 15½d. to 22d. Firmer rates have ruled for the finer qualities, but easier prices have been accepted for the medium sorts.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice (Raw)—Rather a better tone, but business only on a small scale. **Essential Oil**—Again higher. Small sales reported at 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d. per lb. **Otto of Limes.**—Lower. Sales down to 8s. per lb. **Concentrated**—Arrivals per the mail steamer have sold at a further advance at prices not reported.

PIMENTO.—Dull. **GINGER.**—Steady. Fair sales made of African at 16s. 3d. Liverpool transit. **NUTMEGS.**—100's/80's 5d. to 6d.; 120's/100's 4½d. to 5½d.; 140's/120's 4½d. to 4½d. **MACE.**—Good to fine 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.; red to good 1s. 9d. to 2s. 1d.; broken 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West India steady value £26 5s **ARROWROOT.**—About 200 barrels reported as sold at 3½d. to 4½d. Market again very quiet.

RUBBER.—Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 6d.; smoked sheet 2s. 6d.; fine hard Para 2s. 9d. as against 3s. 9d. in 1913; do. soft 2s. 8d. as against 3s. 8d. in 1913; Castilloa sheet 1s. 10½d. as against 1s. in 1913; scrap 1s. 4d. as against 2s. 7d. in 1913. **BALATA.**—Sheet 2s. 8½d. landed against 2s. 9d. in 1913; block 2s. 2½d. c.i.f. against 2s. in 1913.

PETROLEUM OIL.—Russian, 7½d.; American, 7½d.; Water White, 8½d.; Roumanian, 7d.; and Galician, 7d.

TORTOISESHELL AND TURTLE SHELL.—The third sale of the year was held on 14th inst. The supplies were moderate as usual in May, and with a good demand nearly all sold at firm prices. Reddish yellow belly rather dearer. Next sales July 9th.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms.

Telephone: 6642 CENTRAL. 15, SEETHING LANE.
 Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON. LONDON, E.C.4.
 June 1st, 1914

EMPIRE DAY.

IN spite of the continued refusal of the Government to give it official recognition, Empire Day was observed with more than usual enthusiasm this year, and in a manner which must have been extremely gratifying to LORD MEATH, its founder. The birthday of our late beloved Queen Victoria, Empire Day is now observed wherever the British flag flies and it serves as a reminder of our great Imperial responsibilities. Falling this year on a Sunday, the celebration was kept partly on Saturday, when there was a great parade of school-children in Hyde Park, where they performed the picturesque ceremony of saluting the flag, and partly on Monday, which was marked by two events of considerable interest and importance to all who have the welfare of the Empire at heart. In the morning, in the presence of a distinguished company, the Lord Mayor of London, SIR VANSITTART BOWATER, formally opened the new premises of the Overseas Club in Aldwych, an organisation which owes its inception and development to the organising ability and energy of MR. EVELYN WRENCH, and its development to the generous support of LORD NORTHCLIFFE, who, as announced at the luncheon which followed the inaugural ceremony, has guaranteed the rent of the premises for three years. This Club has now no fewer than 120,000 members, drawn from every part of the British Empire, and including a large proportion from our West Indian colonies, whom it seeks to bring together in bonds of fellowship while extending to them a hearty welcome when they visit the old country. The Club also seeks to create and foster an independent interest in the welfare of the British Empire by placing before the individual a clear idea of the duties, responsibilities and privileges implied by British citizenship. The great number of congratulatory messages which LORD NORTHCLIFFE read at the luncheon at the Waldorf Hotel, which followed the opening ceremony, including cables

from many Governors, should prove an encouragement, if any were needed, to the Council of the Club, which will work in co-operation with existing bodies in carrying out the objects for which it has been formed. The second event to which we should like to refer was the Banquet of the Royal Colonial Institute, which was presided over by PRINCE ARTHUR OF CONNAUGHT, who was supported by PRINCE ALEXANDER OF TECK, Governor General designate of the Dominion of Canada. At this dinner, as at the luncheon earlier in the day, a high Imperial note was sounded by the speeches, which were of a degree of excellence rarely attained at a public banquet. Perhaps the most striking feature of a memorable evening was the spontaneous and prolonged outburst of cheering which greeted the remark of that great Imperial orator, DR. GEORGE R. PARKIN, that while the prestige of the great House of Commons had steadily gone down in the Dominions, that of the Crown had steadily risen, and that that was the one anchor and hope which they had in every part of the Empire. Though subsequent speakers were inclined to deplore the introduction of politics, there could be no mistaking the feelings of the company and no doubt that the sentiments expressed by DR. PARKIN were cordially endorsed by the representative gathering present, and it is not too much to hope that when the Irish question is out of the way, a little more attention may be paid by our salaried legislators to Imperial affairs.

TROPICAL AGRICULTURE.

WE are glad to learn that the British West Indies are to be represented at the third International Congress of Tropical Agriculture which is to be held at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, under the presidency of PROFESSOR WYNDHAM DUNSTAN from the 23rd to 30th inst. Among the delegates will be PROFESSOR P. CARMODY and LT.-COLONEL J. H. COLLENS from Trinidad and Tobago, MR. H. A. TEMPANY from Antigua and MR. W. N. SANDS from St. Vincent, and we may be certain that these gentlemen will have something of interest to tell their colleagues regarding agricultural matters in the islands which they repre-

penses of the first eight years be paid as follows:—

First 8 years nothing will be paid; after eight years half interest on the £1,400,000; after sixteen years full interest on the whole amount plus interest on first eight years' deferred interest, plus half interest on second eight years' deferred, plus Sinking Fund on entire amount for 34 years; or such other terms as the Secretary of state may deem fit, taking into consideration the financial condition of the colony.

10. The loan to extend over a period of fifty years.

The Hinterland Railway Committee as first constituted comprised: Representatives of the Executive Council: The Government Secretary (Hon. C. Clementi), the Attorney General (Hon. J. J. Nunan, K.C.), the Immigration Agent General (Hon. J. Hampden King) and the Hons. R. G. Duncan, J. B. Laing and D. M. Hutson, K.C. Chamber of Commerce: Mr. John Duke Smith. Planters' Association: Mr. J. Gillespie. Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society: Mr. J. Cunningham. Combined Court: Hons. A. B. Brown, J. P. Santos, F. Dias, J. Downer, A. P. Sherlock, C. F. Wieting and Wm. Whyte, and Messrs. C. W. Prest, G. Russell Garnett, R. E. Brassington, S. S. Wreford and Dr. J. M. Rohlehr; and Mayors: Mr. J. S. McArthur and Mr. J. A. Abbensetts.

Mr. Garnett and Mr. Brassington were granted leave of absence from the Combined Court, and therefore could not attend. The Hon. A. B. Brown, regretted that owing to pressure of business he could not accept the invitation. Mr. Mewburn Garnett resigned, as he was leaving the colony.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES.

Mr. Foster and the trade disagreement.

Mr. G. F. Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce of the Dominion of Canada, has sent the following reply to a letter from the Government of British Guiana with regard to the extension of the benefits under the Canada-West Indies trade agreement to colonies which are not parties to it.

Ottawa, March 14th, 1914.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of February 4th, in which, by direction of His Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, you state certain impressions and ask for certain information with respect to the Canada-West Indies trade agreement. For convenience I will take up your letter in order of its paragraphs.

1. Section 3, of the Agreement provides that the concessions under Section 2 shall be extended to all the colonies named in Schedule D, for a period of three years, and may then cease and determine in the case of any of the colonies which have not granted to Canada the advantages set forth in Section 1 of the Agreement. That is, they are to enjoy

this concession for three years unconditionally and entirely irrespective of any intimations or pledge on their part that they will be prepared to reciprocate at the end of the three years' period. Schedule D, includes Jamaica, Honduras, Bahamas, Bermuda, and Newfoundland, all of which belong to the group of British colonies in the Atlantic, but there is no provision in the agreement which affects the then existing tariff relations between Canada and any other of the British dominions or which contemplated their alteration.

2. The Canadian tariff of 1907 which was operative at the time the agreement was discussed and concluded, was then in the hands of the delegates constituting the conference and its provisions were well known to them, especially in so far as they had relation to the articles under discussion.

Item 135 of that tariff read as follows: "Provided that all raw sugar including sugar specified in this item the produce of any British colony or possession shall be entitled to entry under the British preferential tariff when imported direct into Canada from any British colony or possession."

Under this item raw sugar from Mauritius and Fiji was free of Customs duty upon entry into Canada and has continued to be so, and without these colonies giving any advantage of reciprocal interchange. It seems clear, therefore, that the agreement was concluded with the full knowledge that these tariff concessions had been and were then in force and without any provision being made in the agreement to exclude them or to place them on a parity with the group of colonies mentioned in Schedule D. It was a fundamental principle observed by the delegates from the first that (a) the United Kingdom should enjoy all the advantages in tariff concessions made by the two parties to the agreement to each other, and (b) that both parties to the agreement were to remain free to arrange their respective tariffs as they pleased, provided that only the stipulated degree of preference should be preserved.

I have carefully read again the minutes and proceedings of the Conference as published and find

(a.) That no question of changing the treatment accorded by Canada to Fiji and Mauritius or any British colony was raised by the West Indian delegation;

(b.) That frequent mention appears in the proceedings as to the freedom of Canada to preserve or extend preference to other British possessions as also of the West Indian colonies to do the same, subject always to the maintenance of the preference agreed upon between the two countries; and

(c.) That the discussion of the delegates proceeded on the basis that the preference was to be against foreign countries in favour of either of the parties and involved no change of preference then being given or which otherwise might be given, by either of the two parties to the agreement and other British colonies.

It is true that the Order-in-Council of January

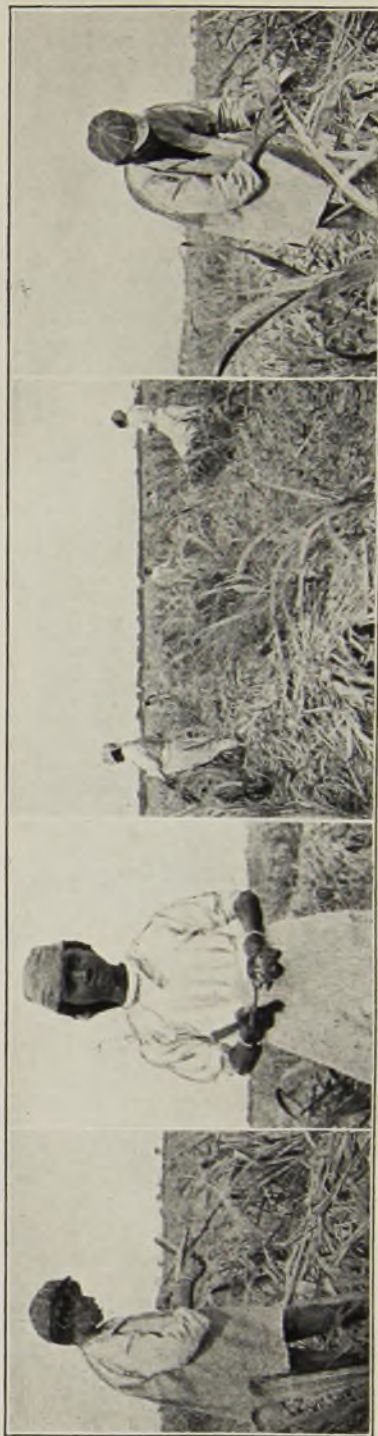


A. A typical Moth-Borer Gang.

B. Digging for the Grub of the Giant Moth-Borer.

C. East Indian boy with net for catching the Castnia Moth.

D. East Indian girl cutting a cane shoot affected with Borer.



E. East Indian boy slicing cane shoot to obtain the enclosed Borer Grub.

F. East Indian girl showing her catch of Borer Grubs.

G. The Moth-Borer Gang at work.

H. An East Indian Boy looking for *Diatraea* eggs.

CONTROLLING CANE BORERS IN BRITISH GUIANA.

(See Article in this issue by G. E. Rodden.)

25th, 1913, extended the British preference to all the products of those two colonies, but their situation and capabilities preclude any appreciable competition with the West Indies and British Guiana in any product other than sugar. I have been at pains thus to set out expressly everything in order to do away with any impression that might exist that Canada has desired or now desires to infringe in the least on the advantages granted to the sister colonies by the agreement. The whole history of Canadian tariff relations to the West Indian islands negatives any such idea and fully maintains the goodwill and desire of Canada in facilitating trade exchanges of the West Indies.

In 1897 Canada granted freely to these colonies the British preference without return asked or given, and since 1913 continues on most items the same full British preference though it is substantially greater than the preference stipulated for by the letter of the agreement.

Recognising also the burden imposed by heavy cable charges, Canada has undertaken to provide for a period of ten years a contribution of £8,000 per year toward obtaining cable communication to the West Indian islands and has established at a cost of £70,000 per year to her Treasury, an improved steamship service for the mutual benefit of both parties to the agreement.

These facts are mentioned simply for the purpose of indicating the perfect goodwill and desire for closer kinship in commerce and communication and as proofs that she has no desire to contract or restrict the advantages of the second party to the agreement.

Nor in fact does it seem that the comparatively small quantities of the raw sugar which come into Canada as shown by the appended figures of import from Fiji and Mauritius affect appreciably the position of the West Indian exporters. From an examination of those figures it will be seen that Canada imported in 1913 from Fiji 10,954,200 lbs. of sugar, and from British East Africa, which includes Mauritius, nothing. The average of the preceding three years' imports from Fiji was a little over 10,000,000 lbs. and from British East Africa about 20,000,000 lbs. The total of imports of raw sugar into Canada in 1913 was 620,000,000 lbs., and for the preceding three years an average of about 500,000,000 lbs. The British West Indies and British Guiana furnished 320,000,000 lbs. in 1913 and an average for the preceding three years of about 366,000,000 lbs. The gap left to be filled in, in 1913, after all imports from above sources was 290,000,000 lbs., and for the three years preceding an average of 110,000,000 lbs.

Canada's consuming population is rapidly increasing, and took 100,000,000 lbs. more of raw sugar in 1913 than in 1910. There appears, therefore, to be little reason to doubt that for the future Canada will require to go outside the preferential area for a large proportion of her raw sugar. The question therefore as to whether Canada will on the expiration of her three years' period withdraw her prefer-

ence from Fiji and Mauritius does not seem to have any practical bearing upon the position of the West Indian colonies which are parties to the agreement of 1912, and will have still less if, after that period, the Canadian preference be withdrawn from the sugar producing colonies mentioned in Schedule D.

3. The preference granted to Mauritius and Fiji is susceptible of termination by Order-in-Council at any time, and when at the expiration of the three years' period the question of the withdrawal of the concessions granted to the colonies mentioned in Schedule D is considered the question in reference to Mauritius and Fiji can be raised and discussed if any of the adhering colonies consider it desirable. But it must be understood that if this is done, it is of goodwill and not from any obligation imposed by the agreement, which fully recognises the right of each party thereto to arrange its tariffs with other British countries not mentioned therein.

As to why the list in Schedule D did not include other British colonies to whom the preference had been extended by Canada, it may be said that the trade arrangement was being negotiated between Canada and the West Indies and it was desired that all of these, if possible, should be included and to that end it was considered advisable that a period of three years should be given these before the provisions of the agreement as concluded, should be applied to them. Had it been an agreement between Canada and all British countries then other colonies might have been included in this Schedule. As, however, the agreement was confined to Canada and the West Indian colonies no question arose as to the inclusion of outside British colonies in the schedule.

Newfoundland was mentioned because she was a close neighbour of Canada and comparatively so to the West Indian islands, and was included on the ground of good neighbourhood.—Yours sincerely, (Sgd.)

GEORGE E. FOSTER.

The following figures were appended.

Sugar N.O.P. not above No. 16 D.S. in colour, etc. Years ended March 31st.

	Quantity lbs.	Value. Dols.
From British E. Africa.		
1909	20,237,564	369,802
1910	31,047,298	982,463
1911	16,632,590	473,557
1912	10,255,589	249,237
1913		
From British Guiana:		
1909	103,311,429	2,311,295
1910	121,772,024	2,953,202
1911	127,363,416	3,371,107
1912	180,036,606	5,301,042
1913	142,165,728	3,520,437
From B. W. Indies.		
1909	218,945,469	6,357,968
1910	149,421,959	3,399,540
1911	206,083,319	5,225,968
1912	171,174,352	4,176,383
1913	138,429,397	4,106,677
From Fiji.		
1909	23,267,900	499,573
1910	8,040,509	185,547
1911	15,198,337	353,282
1912	8,002,260	192,907
1913	10,954,200	269,845

THE CONTROL OF CANE BORERS.

By G. E. BODKIN, B.A., Dip. Agric. (Cantab),
F.Z.S., F.E.S.

*Government Economic Biologist, Department of
Science and Agriculture, British Guiana.*

Sugar-cane Borers have been known in British Guiana for more than a quarter of a century; but it is only during more recent years that serious and combined efforts have been made to reduce the numbers of these undoubtedly pernicious pests. To-day the control of insect pests on a sugar estate in British Guiana is a recognised part of the routine and in the majority of instances excellent results have been obtained. "Borers" is a collective term used for the caterpillars of the Giant Moth Borer (*Castnia licus*) and also the Small Moth Borers (*Diatraea saccharalis*, Fab, and *Diatraea canella* Hps.)

The Giant Moth Borer confines its ravages more to the stools of the cane, while the Small Moth Borer attacks the cane itself, especially during the first four months of its growth. The organised gangs employed for the destruction of these pests consist almost exclusively of native born East Indian children, though on some estates adult East Indians are employed. These gangs range in size from twenty to as many as a hundred individuals, the larger gangs being invariably split up into smaller gangs which work on different parts of the estate. Illustration A, which faces page 244, is a typical "Borer gang," consisting of individuals of different ages.

The Giant Moth Borer, which has received the creole nickname "Gold Digger" owing to the comparatively large sums of money earned by these gangs, is destroyed in several ways. The most effective method is to send a gang through a field of canes as soon as possible after they have been cut. The gangs thoroughly search the stools for traces of the "gold digger." A long wire, hooked at the point, is inserted into the boring, and after some manipulation the unfortunate caterpillar is dragged by means of the hook from its temporary home. At times it is necessary to dig up a portion of the stool in order to secure the grub. Illustration B shows two members of the gang thus employed. Small gangs of boys, armed with nets, spend their time catching the adult moths, which may occasionally be seen on the wing. Illustration C shows an East Indian boy with his *Castnia* net. When the Giant Moth Borer is scarce, a cent apiece is paid for the grubs and sometimes more for the butterflies; these prices of course fluctuate according to the abundance of the pest.

The Small Moth Borer is destroyed principally by the method known as "cutting out." The gangs are put through the canes at intervals until they become too far advanced in growth for "cutting out." Two individuals are usually made to work along a bed of canes. The borer, when it attacks young canes, bores into the centre of the plant thus destroying the growing point and causing the cen-

tral shoot to die. These "dead hearts" as they are termed are easily discernible. Whenever a dead heart is observed it is cut off as close to the ground as possible and sliced down the centre, the contained borer being thus secured and placed in the Capstan tobacco tin carried for the purpose (D). Illustration E shows the method of cutting the cane to obtain the enclosed grub borer, the end of the knife for this purpose being cut off square and sharpened. Illustration F shows an East Indian girl showing her catch of borer worms in the Capstan tobacco tin.

Illustration G shows a borer gang at work on a sugar estate. Remarkable astuteness is displayed by the children in this kind of work and many of them take a real interest in it. Eight cents a hundred is generally paid for the grubs or chrysalises, though this price fluctuates. External Hymenopterous parasites of the borer grubs are at times met with, and these have become well known to the gangs who term them "doctor worms."

Another method of control which has recently come into vogue is the collection of the egg masses of the borer. These eggs are to be found on both sides of the leaf blades of the cane. They are at times parasitized, which causes them to turn black. Naturally, only the unparasitized ones are collected. This kind of work is usually only undertaken by a few specially trained children and is well paid. Illustration H shows an East Indian boy thus employed.

The photographs were taken through the courtesy of the Hon. R. G. Duncan, Planting Attorney for Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Company, who is one of the pioneers of sugar-cane insect control work in British Guiana.

OUR contemporary *La Croix*, published in Port Louis, Mauritius, dealing with the agitation in the West Indies against that island being permitted to enjoy the benefits under the Canada-West Indies trade agreement without having to give reciprocal advantages, admits that some cargoes of Mauritius sugar went to Vancouver before the Convention. Since then there have, however, been none. It goes on to point out that the geographical position of the West Indies gives them an advantage which no reduction of duty could equalise and that the factories in Mauritius are equipped for turning out a high grade sugar, so that it would not be worth their while to produce refining sugar. The lower qualities, too, are getting less and less, and could not constitute a formidable export. This being so, Mauritius would, we take it, not object to Canada withdrawing the preference, the granting of which has rightly or wrongly caused offence in the West Indies.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" is a handy volume obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 1s.

CITRUS FRUITS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Mr. P. J. Wester, Horticulturist in charge of the Lamao Experiment Station in the Philippines has written an interesting article on Citriculture, for the following extracts from which we are indebted to the *Tropical Agriculturist*.

The following advantages, Mr Wester states, are derived from budding or grafting :—

1. A stock best adapted to the soil and climatic conditions can be used and by this means citrus fruits can frequently be grown in sections where this would be impossible if they depended upon their own root system.
2. Any variety desired can be grown in any quantity desired.
3. By planting budded trees the uniformity of quality and appearance of the fruit is insured, which is highly important in a discriminating trade.
4. Budded trees are more precocious than seedlings, less spiny, and do not grow so tall; they therefore (a) yield a profit earlier than the seedlings; (b) the gathering of the fruit is performed with more facility; (c) if insect pests and diseases gain entrance into the orchard their control and eradication is more easily effected in low-headed than in tall trees; (d) they are not so liable to injury by storms; and (e) by shading a larger area of ground they assist in conserving better the moisture of the earth during the dry season.
5. The season of maturity can be controlled to a large extent by the planting of early or late fruiting varieties.
6. Finally, even with the greatest care in seed selection, seedlings will always vary in productiveness.

Many people are under the impression that a budded tree must of necessity be superior to a seedling irrespective of where the bud came from, as if the budding process had effected some magical transformation in the plant; nothing can be more erroneous, however. *Budded trees produce fruit identical with that of the trees from which the buds were obtained* except in so far as it may be very slightly influenced by a different stock and a different environment. The process of budding itself is not an improvement, but the means by which the betterment is effected in the grove. Therefore, in order to be an improvement upon this seedling, the bud must be procured from a tree bearing superior fruit.

Horticulturally speaking, the "stock" is a seedling upon which is budded or grafted another variety of the same or another species; sometimes a plant belonging to one genus can be grafted upon one of another genus. Contrary to the general public opinion, the stock has a greater or less influence upon the scion or the budded part of the tree, and vice versa, while the climate also is a determining factor with regard to flavour or quality. Therefore, it is not possible to guarantee the behaviour of any imported variety until it has been actually tested. A most striking example of this fact is the Bahia, or Washington navel orange, which has made California famous as an orange-producing country. In Florida, while it grows well, and produces a thin-skinned, well-flavoured fruit, this variety is so unproductive that it cannot be grown profitably there and the quality of the fruit itself differs greatly from that grown in California. In California the

Bahia is highly coloured, thick-skinned, and rather acid. In October, 1912, the author had an opportunity to sample a fruit of the first Bahia orange grown in Manila, and while retaining its size, seedlessness and the navel characteristics, the skin of the fruit was very thin and "silky" and the flesh rather too sweet. Without knowing the facts no one would have ventured to state that it was the ordinary Bahia.

In Florida, California, the Mediterranean countries, and Australia, the sour and sweet orange, pomelo, rough lemon, trifoliolate orange, and the lime are used as stocks. In the Philippines we may, in addition to those enumerated above (excepting the trifoliolate orange which is unsuited to conditions here), use the mandarin, cabuyao, calamondin, and taboc, *Aegle glutinosa* Merr.; furthermore our choice is not limited to these, regarding them as entities, for the Philippines have a large number of very distinct citrus types belonging to these species, many of which are, as previously stated, evidently natural hybrids and should perhaps be regarded as species. From the great range of variations among these types it is evident that their influence on the stock must likewise vary for better or worse. Generally speaking, the sweet orange, sour orange, pomelo, and lime can be recommended as stocks in the Philippines within the limitations set forth in the discussion of these species, without fear that they will adversely affect the quality of the fruit. The qualities that determine the value of a certain stock are vigour, resistance to certain diseases, its influence on the scion with respect to productivity and quality of the fruit produced, and also to some extent its influence with respect to the habit of the top.

As far as Mr. Wester is aware only one test orchard has ever been planted on any considerable scale with the object of determining the value of a certain stock for a certain variety of citrus, and this test was limited to two stocks only, the trifoliolate orange and the sour orange. The influence of the stocks upon the scions was here, as in other instances where this has been noted, very marked, and considerable variance has been likewise observed in many other instances, both as regards the growth and productiveness; from the accumulated evidence it is reasonable to believe that all cultivated varieties are more or less susceptible to stock influence.

For the reasons stated above and in order to prevent losses later it is highly important that now, in the initial stage of the establishment of the citrus industry in the Philippines, as complete a stock and variety test as possible be made in the various districts of the Archipelago where it may seem desirable to establish a citrus industry.

The sweet orange was exclusively used as a stock in all citrus-growing countries until mal-di-goma appeared in Italy and Florida, since which time its use has been almost entirely discontinued in these countries because of its susceptibility to this disease.

It is still extensively used as a stock in California and Australia. The sweet orange should never be used as a stock on low, moist or poorly drained lands, but rather on well drained, light soils, where trees budded to this stock make a satisfactory growth and develop a shapely symmetrical top. The sweet orange has a well-developed root system and in rapidity of growth it is surpassed only by the pomelo, the rough lemon, and the cabuyao.

The pomelo is one of the most vigorous species in the genus and is in this respect surpassed by none save certain forms of the cabuyao. Judging from the experience in other citrus-growing countries the pomelo is unrivalled as a stock on dry soils and it succeeds well in those with an intermediate degree of moisture content. The root system of the pomelo is well developed and as far as known it is exempt from mal-di-goma. In south-west Florida the pomelo has won favour as a stock in preference to other species and is to some extent replacing the orange as a stock in California.

The mandarin is not so vigorous as the species already discussed, but considering that the mandarin seedling orchards in the Philippines have been so successful during the past it is believed that this species is well worthy of trial as a stock, as well as the other species of the genus.

The ordinary lime is used as a stock to a slight extent in south east Florida on stony, calcareous soil; the fruit produced on this stock—oranges, mandarins, and pomelos—is of excellent quality. The root system of the lime is weaker than that of any of its congeners heretofore mentioned and the tree is less vigorous and not so long-lived. In some parts of India the so-called "sweet lime," a variety of vigorous growth bearing large, watery, sweetish, insipid fruits, is commonly used and considered a satisfactory stock for the mandarin and the orange.

The sour orange, *Citrus vulgaris* Risso, and the rough lemon, are used to a great extent in Florida as stocks and have recently been introduced by the Philippine Bureau of Agriculture. Both of these are resistant to the mal-di-goma. The sour orange is better adapted to moist though well-drained lands of moderate fertility, while the rough lemon is recommended for dry poor soils. The rough lemon has a tendency to increase the size of the fruit and its acidity, is comparatively shortlived, and is in south-east Florida being gradually replaced by the sour orange. It is very doubtful if this stock rough lemon would be of much value in the rich soils of the Philippines.

Of late years several citrus fruits have been worked successfully upon the taboc, *Aegle glutinosa* Merr., which is considered very drought resistant, and while this as well as related species may prove desirable stocks for the citrus fruits their value for practical purposes is still problematical and as yet their use on a large scale cannot be recommended.

A list of publications for sale is obtainable from the West India Committee Rooms, post free on application.

THE LEEWARD ISLANDS COLONY.

Dominica's plea for self government.

Following the adoption of a resolution in the Legislative Council on the subject, many planters, merchants, professional men and shopkeepers residing in Dominica are forwarding a memorial to the Secretary of State for the Colonies praying that the political connection of the island with the Leeward Islands Colony may be severed, and that a separate Government may be constituted for Dominica. The memorialists state:—

(1) That the existing form of Government where Dominica forms an integral part of the confederation of the Leeward Islands does not meet the needs of the island and has never met with the approval of the people of Dominica.

(2) That political connection with other Presidencies forming the Leeward Islands Colony has never been a success, and, in view of the fundamental differences in physical features, in climatic conditions, in products, in language, in religion and in the sentiment of the people, which exist between Dominica and the other units of the confederation, real political union between the islands never can be possible.

(3) That the steady increase in the amount of Dominica's contribution to the Federal Government due to the increase in the revenue of this island while the revenue of the other Presidencies remain practically stationary causes grave concern to the inhabitants of this island, who regard the services rendered by the Federal Government as not at all commensurate with the contribution levied on this island.

(4) That the growing prosperity of Dominica and the contemplated inauguration of schemes involving large expenditure renders it more than ever imperative that the responsibility for and the unfettered control of local affairs should be vested in the head of the local Executive, subject only to direction and control by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

In this connection we desire to draw your attention to the failure of the very costly scheme of road improvement and extension in this island twenty-five years ago, mainly owing to the fact that the head of the local Executive had no power of control over local affairs.

We further desire to point out that the need for a certain measure of local autonomy was recommended by Sir Robert Hamilton in his report on the condition of Dominica in 1894 and that every Administrator who has presided over the affairs of the island since then has been strongly of the opinion that a political existence separate from, or independent of, the Federal Government was one of the prime necessities for the successful government of Dominica; and that this view was also strongly held by Sir Gerald Strickland, while he was Governor of the Leeward Islands Colony.

(5) That the very great success which has attended the experiment of partial independence of the Federal Government which Dominica has enjoyed during the last 17 years justifies the belief that a still greater measure of local autonomy would be of benefit to the island, and we point out that any such extension of local control would be but a step in the direction of West Indian Federation, should such a measure ever become practicable.

(6) Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray that you will be pleased to give this matter your most earnest consideration with the view to granting to this island the relief which they seek in the severance of the connection, which at present exists with the Leeward Islands Colony, and the constitution of a separate government for Dominica.

(7) Such a step we are convinced would not only result in

more efficient and satisfactory administration control of the island's affairs but would satisfy one of the most cherished wishes of the people of Dominica.

As stated by the memorialists Sir Robert Hamilton in his report on the condition of Dominica published in 1894, recommended that Dominica should be withdrawn from the Leeward Islands Federation and be placed under a Lieutenant Governor. He was, however, in favour of federation on the lines of local self-government in the several islands, with a Central Assembly for the West Indies as a whole. He felt, however, that the time had not then arrived for the establishment of such a federation, but believed that meanwhile much advantage would accrue from an administrative union of all the British Antilles under one Governor-General.

GRU-GRU OIL.

BY A. W. KNAPP.

This oil, which has not yet been exploited, is of interest because it so closely resembles coco-nut oil. Coco-nut oil has always been of great value to the soap maker, for it produces a fine white soap with excellent lathering properties. It is only in recent years that it has been found possible to so refine coco-nut oil as to produce a good edible fat. Six years ago every margarine examined by analysts was found to be made chiefly of animal fat: to-day it is exceptional to find a sample of margarine which does not contain a large percentage of coco-nut oil. Coco-nut oil is also the basis of nut lard and cooking fats. These facts explain why the price of coco-nut oil has advanced so much in recent years. The soap maker can now only afford the poorer qualities of coco-nut oil, and is looking in every direction for fats to take its place.

The Gru-gru palm is well-known in Trinidad, Grenada and elsewhere. It will grow in the poorest of soils. The fruits are oblate spheroid in shape, the size of a large plum, and dark green in colour. The skin is very tough, but if the fruits are allowed to fall to the ground this rots off leaving the nuts behind, the kernels remaining sweet. The shell of the nut is about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, and hard; the kernel ($\frac{3}{8}$ inch across) has the appearance and flavour of coco-nut, but is tougher and more transparent. The kernel contains about 49 per cent. of oil. Not only the odour and taste, but also the analytical figures* of the oil are very similar to those of coco-nut oil and palm kernel oil. It would make an excellent soap; or, the 'stearine' from it an excellent edible fat.

It is not at present cultivated in the West Indies, and hence, although widely distributed is only thinly scattered, so that the gathering of sufficiently large quantities presents considerable difficulty. Further, the nuts are very hard. The shells when

cracked can readily be separated from the kernels by immersion in brine. It was reported in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR that copra was prepared from gru-gru nuts in St. Vincent last June. The copra should fetch £22 a ton in Liverpool.

THE WEST INDIAN CLUB.

Major J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Barbados, was the guest of the West Indian Club at dinner on Wednesday, May 20th. Mr. G. Hudson Pile presided, and spoke in very high terms of Major Burdon's work as Colonial Secretary, and said that their guest had also done splendid work as Acting Administrator of Dominica, his crowning achievement in that capacity having been his road scheme. Supporting Mr. Pile, Dr Nicholls said that Major Burdon had explored the length and breadth of the island, by main roads, bye roads, lesser roads, and he also went through the primeval forest. He found that facilities for transport needed much improvement, and Dr. Nicholls thought he was justified in saying that Major Burdon's report and recommendations on the road question was one of the ablest state papers ever issued from Dominica. The Chairman read several letters from members regretting their absence, including one from Sir Owen Philipps, who wrote "Apart from the high reputation which Major Burdon has earned as Colonial Secretary of Barbados, I know something of his work as Acting Administrator of Dominica, and have been impressed by his administrative ability."

In responding to the toast of his health Major Burdon said that it was extremely pleasant to learn that one's work was appreciated. His interest in Dominica started with his landing in the island, and he always found everyone willing and anxious to help him. He wished to congratulate Dominica upon its splendid financial progress. How much stronger the financial position would be when capital began to pour in from London he would not care to predict. The more roads that were built, the more capital would the island get, and the more capital the island got the more roads they would be able to build. The recent deputation of the West India Committee to Lord Emmott on this subject had met with a most sympathetic reception. Lord Emmott was most sincerely anxious to carry through the roads and it had been decided that an expert road engineer should be sent out to estimate carefully, and to make recommendations for bettering the scheme. This engineer would, in all probability, be in charge of the scheme when it was started. Active road construction would, he thought, be taken in hand in Dominica, and the island would make great strides within the next few years. In conclusion, Major Burdon spoke highly of the ability of Mr. Drayton, the newly-appointed Administrator.

Amongst those present were:—

The Hon. A. C. Pousonby, Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, Mr. G. Carrington, Mr. H. F. Previte, Dr. H. E. G. Boyle, Mr. A.

* For analysis of the oil see paper by A. W. Knapp in the Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, January 15, 1914.

de Pass, Mr. A. A. Nathan, Mr. J. W. F. Grahame, Mr. G. C. Johnston, Mr. H. M. Graham, Mr. J. Fitzpatrick, Mr. T. Greenwood, Mr. Leon Belman, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. E. R. L. Henderson, Mr. Alexander Elder, Dr. G. B. Mason, Mr. W. H. Trollope, and Mr W. A. M. Goode.

THE ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE.

The annual banquet of the Royal Colonial Institute was held at the Savoy Hotel on Monday, May 26th. Prince Arthur of Connaught, who presided, in proposing the toast, "Prosperity to the Royal Colonial Institute," said they had the pleasure of welcoming Prince Alexander of Teck, the Governor-General designate of the Dominion of Canada, who would have been the right person to propose that toast, if only his Serene Highness's appointment had been officially announced in time. Prince Arthur congratulated the Institute on having secured the services of such an excellent president as Lord Grey, and referred to the telegrams from similar gatherings from all parts of the Empire, which had been read by Mr. J. R. Boose, Secretary of the Institute, as speaking well for the cause which they all had so much at heart.

Mr. F. Dutton, who replied, referred to the progress made by the Institute, the membership having risen from 4,000 to 9,700.

Dr. Parkin, in proposing the toast of "The British Dominions and British Communities Beyond the Seas," said that the prestige of the great House of Commons had steadily gone down in the Dominions, but the prestige of the Crown had steadily risen, and that was the one anchor and hope which they had in every part of the Empire—a sentiment which was received with a prolonged outburst of cheering.

Prince Alexander of Teck, in reply, said he had always been deeply interested in the oversea Dominions since he accompanied his Majesty—then Duke of York—in his famous tour in the *Ophir*, and he had the liveliest recollection of the enthusiasm and loyalty with which their Majesties were everywhere received and of the boundless hospitality extended to them all. (Cheers.)

Turning to the great Dominion he said that it was a matter for congratulation that the resources of Canada were so vast that any set-back in the tide of her prosperity could not be lasting, as was shown by the fact that the recent financial stringency, which caused for a time some contraction in the development of Canadian trade, was so rapidly passing away. A striking feature in the immediate development of Canada was the increased importance which had been attached to the Government action with a view to render more easy the settlement of newcomers into the provinces, the examples of which, on the one hand, were the provision of partly prepared farms by the enterprise of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and on the other of the institution in Saskatchewan of a system of State loans to agriculturists on a somewhat novel basis. From the Imperial point of view, an important step had been taken by

the introduction into the Imperial Parliament, and simultaneously into the Parliament of the Dominion, of Naturalization Acts, the results of which would be to remove the anomaly by which an immigrant naturalized in Canada was not a British subject outside the limits of the Dominion. (Cheers.) The passing of these measures, which might be anticipated shortly, would have the undoubted effect of emphasizing the unity of the Dominion and the Empire.

Sir John Madden, Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, and Sir Reginald Tower, Minister Plenipotentiary to the Argentine Republic, also responded.

Sir George Reid, High Commissioner for Australia, then proposed the toast of "Imperial Defence," to which Admiral Sir Day H. Bosanquet replied. Sir Hugh Clifford, Governor of the Gold Coast, and formerly Colonial Secretary of Trinidad and Tobago, brought the proceedings to a close by proposing "The Chairman," to which Prince Arthur responded with a few words, which were received with rounds of applause.

Among the large company present were:

Lt.-Colonel W. J. Slack, Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., Sir Charles Cox, K.C.M.G., Mr. Robert Duff, Mr. Justice A. F. Earnshaw, Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Mr. H. de Courcy Hamilton, Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., Sir J. Henniker Heaton, Sir Owen Philipps, K.C.M.G., Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, and Mr. C. Guy Wyatt.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE MAP.

The West India Committee Map of the West Indies, which continues to meet with a ready sale, has been the subject of many complimentary remarks by our readers. Until its publication, there was no map giving the whole of British Guiana and British Honduras besides the West Indian islands, which did not include too much of the mainland to render it serviceable. The inclusion of the principal railways, sea distances in nautical miles, cables, wireless and coaling stations, etc., besides diagrams showing the area and population of the various islands, make the map invaluable to all who have business dealings with the West Indies. The inset showing routes and distances between the West Indies and Canadian and United States ports is also a useful feature. The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen both mounted and in sheet at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., at Messrs. George Philip and Son, Ltd., 32, Fleet Street, E.C., or at Messrs. Sifton, Praed and Co., Ltd. (The Map House), 67, St. James' Street, S.W. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination) for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

It is believed that the map will prove useful for the Primary and Secondary schools throughout the West Indies.

ADMIRAL NEVELL'S EXPEDITION.

A Journal of the Seventeenth Century.

EDITED BY FRANK CUNDALL.

The Institute of Jamaica recently acquired for the West India Library certain manuscripts at the sale of the Phillipps Collection. Of these the most important is the Journal kept by Admiral Nevell on what proved to be his last cruise.

Vice-Admiral John Nevell was a descendant from a junior branch of the Nevilles of Abergavenny, and was, except on his final expedition which forms the subject of this Journal, very successful in his career. He served as a volunteer in the early part of the third Dutch war, and in 1673 was promoted to be a lieutenant. In 1675 he was in the Mediterranean in the *Sapphire* under "Clowdisley" Shovell with whom he formed a life-long friendship. In the January of 1676 he was the first captain of the *Britannia* carrying the flag of the three admirals, joint commanders-in-chief. In 1690 he was captain of the *Royal Sovereign*, the flagship of Torrington, in the action off Beachy Head. In 1693 he was made a rear-admiral, and three years after he was appointed commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean; but, almost immediately, he was made a vice-admiral and received orders to go to the West Indies to counteract the influence of the fleet sent out, at the expense of the French West Indian merchants, under de Pointis, to co-operate with du Casse, who was already there.

The information which he gives us in his journal can be supplemented by a reference to the "Calendar of State Papers."

As he himself tells us he reached Barbados on the 17th of April, 1697. He had written in advance by the *Bristol* "off Palma 1 April," to ask that a sloop might be sent to Martinique to see if the French squadron were there.

On his arrival he was welcomed by the Councillors Cranfield and Bromley, who were "very kindly received by him."

News of the fleet's arrival was sent to all the British Colonies both in the Caribbean and on the American mainland.

On April 27th a Proclamation was issued offering a reward for the apprehension of several seamen deserted from Nevell's ships.

On leaving Barbados Nevell took with him the *Newcastle* and the *Virgin* in addition to his fleet, but left the *Bideford* for patrol work. He convoyed the merchant ships as far as Descada.

At Nevis, a joint committee of the Council and Assembly was appointed to provide "a handsome treat" for Nevell and his squadron.

On the 3rd May he touched at Antigua, and left on the 5th.

At a council of war held at Antigua early in May, we learn from Clowes's "Royal Navy," it was determined to proceed to Porto Rico, there to pick up the Spanish treasure galleons which were about

to sail for Europe; but, almost immediately afterwards, news was received to the effect that a French force of twenty-six men-of-war under de Pointis had already sailed from San Domingo; and, as Jamaica appeared to be threatened, vice-admiral Nevell steered for that island, but before he reached it he learnt that the French squadron had attacked Cartagena.

On the 19th of May, Sir William Beeston, Lieutenant-Governor, wrote home from Jamaica to the Duke of Shrewsbury: "The approach of M. Pointis' squadron obliged me to detain H.M.S. *Southampton* and despatch the merchant ships without convoy. A fortnight past the *Morning Slave* of Holland, Abraham Leonardson, master, ran ashore on the island 12 leagues from here. He had been trading with the Spaniards. With the consent of the Council, I allowed him to sell what he had saved from the wreck. We made what preparation we could to resist M. Pointis, expecting his attack daily and putting ourselves to great expense. About March 20, he stood away for the Spanish Main. Had he come upon us I much question if we could have sustained the shock. On May 16, Vice-admiral Nevell arrived with his squadron. Bad weather keeps him in port."

Nevell was not able to leave Jamaica until May 25: he had heard on the 24th (as Beeston wrote home to Shrewsbury) that the galleons had by that time quitted Porto Rico and were on their way to Jamaica for provisions. It appears, however, that they never put in at Jamaica, but went on to Havana, where Nevell found them.

Nevell, with true instinct, decided that his first duty was to seek his enemy. He therefore sent word to the galleons that he was looking for de Pointis in the direction of Cartagena, and that he would return to Jamaica later. He was about half-way to his destination when, on May 27th, he sighted de Pointis with the men-of-war and two fly-boats, laden with Spanish plunder. As narrated in the journal the Vice-admiral chased for five successive days. But in the chase, as we learn from the same source, several of the ships of the allies sprang their topmasts and otherwise damaged themselves; and at last the pursuit had to be relinquished. But one of the French ships was taken and carried into Jamaica. Beeston gives its value at £20,000. Wynne in his "General History of the British Empire in America, 1770"—gives it as £200,000.—probably an error.

As Cartagena had been given to the squadron as the rendezvous, Nevell went thither and arrived to find that, after the departure of the French, the buccaners had harassed the place, and that the Spaniards were in great distress.

He sailed again with very little delay, sending one of his smaller vessels to Havana to apprise the Spanish governor there of what had happened. He tried to make Cape Tiburon at the western end of Haiti; but, failing that, he went on to San Domingo, off which town he anchored on June 19th.

On the way thither he destroyed a number of privateers, and took one buccaneer of twenty-four guns.

From San Domingo, captain Mees with nine ships was despatched to destroy the settlement of Petit Guavos. This he did by a *coup de main*: but, unfortunately, his men, in spite of all that their officers could do to prevent them, began to loot, and within a couple of hours most of them were so drunk as to be utterly incapable. In these circumstances, Mees judged it best to collect the few men who remained sober, and, after firing the town, to withdraw with as much semblance of good order as was possible. The enemy did not pursue, and a few days later the detached force rejoined Nevell, who had proceeded to sea in search of it. The squadron then headed for Jamaica, and thence steered for Havana, before which city it arrived on July 22nd. On the 20th of that month, Mees had died of fever on board his ship the *Breda*.

On the 13th of June, Sir William Beeston wrote home to William Blathwayt: "The *Princess Ann* and *Hollandia* came in to-day from Nevell's fleet. They met Pointis' squadron with all the wealth of Carthage, but were outsailed, and took only one ship with 800 barrels of powder and 100 negroes, which is said to be worth £20,000. Mr. Nevell is gone on the coast of Hispaniola in search of them, but we doubt they are out of the West Indies before now and hastening home. All this loss is by the delay of our ships. Had they been here but ten days sooner they had secured all. The French have left Carthage and brought away the guns, but not demolished the town nor the walls. The galleons we suppose to be gone to the Havanna, whither I guess Admiral Nevell will shortly follow them."

On July 15th, Beeston wrote home to the Council of Trade and Plantations: "Admiral Nevell has unfortunately missed Mons. Pointis and the plunder of Petit Guavos, but he has carried away a considerable number of privateers from the French whom they took in some prizes. Hereby they have eased us of some of that load, insomuch that unless force be sent from France they cannot do any public harm, but I fear the burning of Petit Guavos will exasperate them to burn the poor people's settlements in the out-parts of this island, which we want a nimble fifth-rate ship to prevent."

Although Beeston was able to write home on September 11th: "The island is very healthy and has continued so throughout the hot season which is now over, so we hope that the distemper which has appeared at every hot season for the last seven years is now departed from this island, for no place can be more healthy than this is now and has been for a year past," it was not so elsewhere; and the fever took a fearful hold on Nevell's squadron.

Beeston gave Nevell cause for complaint, which was duly lodged through the Admiralty with the Council of Trade and Plantations, to the effect that he refused to supply him with men, money, or provisions, and also neglected to advise him of the French squadron in those parts. Beeston denied his

ability to seek for information, and stated that he had no money to give, which was probably true.

Nevell wrote from on board the *Cambridge* off Havana, on the 22nd July to the governor, asking to be allowed to enter the city for the purpose of selling provisions.

Three days later he complained that the Governor treated them "more like Turks and Moors than Christians and Englishmen in denying us water, when we have come for so many leagues to serve His Catholic Majesty. You were misinformed when you were told that we wanted bread and flour. We have enough of them, and want only water. Since you refuse it, and since the river Matanzas is ill-suited for watering so many ships I shall leave the island to-night and seek water among the Indians, from whom I doubt not that we shall find more friendship than from you. If we were Turks or Jews we could not, by the law of nations, be refused admission into any port for forty-eight hours in case of such necessity as we are now in for water to carry us to England; for thither I must go by my master's orders if the General of the Galleons refuses to accompany me to Cadiz."

It was of no avail, entry into Havana was denied him, and the general of the Spanish Galleons refused his offer of escort to Cadiz.

This being so Nevell could only retire. He steered for Virginia, the governor of which reported his arrival in James River on August 11th. Soon after reaching there he died on board the *Cambridge*, a victim to fever, like Mees and many another gallant officer who served in those days on the West India station. Captain Thomas Dilkes, as senior officer, brought the squadron home.

The King, on the advice of the Privy Council, granted a pension of £200 to Nevell's widow

NEVELL'S JOURNAL OF HIS VOYAGE.

I am gott here having in our voyage mett with the variety of misfortunes that ever any people mett with, as you will find by the Relation I have sent you by the way of Journall.

December 20th. 1696.—Being at Cadiz I received his Mats. Order of the 30th of November, for my getting the Ships which were in a Condition of sailing with all diligence, also his Mats secret order of the first of December, our Tents with our Coopers were then ashore a Trimming our Casks. I gave ordrs. to the Comanders to gett their water aboard with all expedition and order Capt. Allin, the Store-keeper, to press all the Carpenters of the Merchant men for fitting of the Ships' Masts, for their cleaning of them, and Repairing of the Ships' hulls, and by the 8th of Janey. we were all in a Condition of sailing, having six months provisions on board with 200 tunns of wine and thirty-five Tunns of oyle above our own, according to his Mats. Orders.

Janey. 9, 96/7.—The wind coming Northerly I sail'd out of the Bay of Cadiz.

12.—I opened my secret orders being then S.W. B W. 5 Lgs. from Cadiz. I made all the sail I could for the Island of Madera.

16.—Being thirty Leagues short of Madera, I sent the *Warwick* with an order to the Comander of the English that were there, to come out and Joyn me, believing that the Ships from England must have been there a month or three weeks a waiting for my coming.

19.—. . . I saw the Island of Madera.

20.—. . . I gott near the Island and seeing no Ships there nor no news of any, I anchor'd in the Road, and order'd all the Ships to fill their Water Cask.

22.—. . . In the morning, having fill'd all our water, wee putt under sail and kept plying to the Easward of the Town of Muncoill, 58 dayes, sending our Longboats every batch of fair weather to keep our Cask full expecting the Ships every day.

March 20.—Rear Adml. Meese with the *Bristol* and *Lightning* Fireships in Company came to me, and acquainted me that the English and Dutch ships that were to come with them was parted from him in a flogg, off of the Isle of Wight, and that their Rendezvous was at Barbadoes, the wind then was at West, I stood to the Southward—to gett into the Tread winds way.

25.—Being then off of the Salvages, I mett with Easterly winds which held untill I gott to Berbadoes, wee carrying our Top gall. sails, and shedding sails night and day.

April 1.—Being then 400 Leagues S.W. of the Madera, I sent the *Bristol* which sail'd well to the Berbadoes with a Letter to the Chief Governour of the Island desiring him to send a small vessell or sloop to Martinigo to gain intelligence of Monsr. Pointy, or any other considerable force of French that might be there.

17.—Wee anchor'd in the Berbadoes where I found all the Ships, the Dutch, *Gosport* and *Blaze* Fireships. wanting.

21.—The Sloop that the Governour sent to Martinigo for Intelligence arrived at Berbadoes bringing me an accot. that 2 small ships being there which they judged to be privatiers.

26.—The Dutch and *Gosport* anchor'd at the Berbadoes I sent our longboat aboard them to gett their water on board, and went myself on board the *Capt. Vanzele*, they desired two dayes time to Logg their Ships and gett water.

27.—. . . The *New Castle* and *Virgin* prize anchor'd for Cruising, having but three dayes Provisions on board, I ordered each of them two months Provisions out of our Ships, took the *Virgin* prize along with me and ordered the *New Castle* to sail the next day in Company of the Merchant men as far as the Island Discado and to come to Antego to me, leaving the *Biddesford* to attend on the Island.

28.—In the evening I sent a Lieutenant on board *Capt. Vanzele*, to know if they were ready to sail, who sent word, they should be ready by the next morning at six.

29.—At six this morning I made a signall for un-mooring and at 10 gott under sail, severall of our Ships lost their anchors being foul of Rocks, the Dutch had hook'd the Rocks and could not gett up their anchors, I ply'd to windward untill it was night, I seeing them still ride fast I boar away for Antego the place of Rendezvous, going away with an easy sail for the Dutch coming up with me.

May 1, '97. . . . I saw 4 sail a long way a Sterne which judged to be the Dutch, I lay by till they came up with me.

May 3, 1697. . . . In the evening I anchor'd in St. John's in the Island of Antego.

4.—I went ashore to discourse Genl. Codrington, who told me he had advice from St. Thomas Croix and Providence that the enemy's designes was upon St. Domingo, that the French for severall months past had been making a path through the woods to march by land from Pettit guavis to St. Domingo.

5.—Wee had a Consultation of all Officers, English and Dutch, where it was resolved for Poynt, Delagua* on the N.W. side of Port a Recco which is the place the Fleet always use to Refresh their people when they come from Spain to Laver-de-cruze, † and to remain there untill we had some farther Intelligence of the Enemy; that if wee should go for Jamaica, wee should never be able to beat it up to windward to the relief of St. Domingo, or any other place on Hispainola, the french should ataque, the afternoon wee sail'd from Antego, I taking the *Colchester* with me, and leaving the *Jersey* to attend ye Island.

6.—I sent away the *Gosport* to St. Thomas to take in a Pylot to carry him to Porto Recco, to gain Intelligence of the Enemy, from thence he was to go to Point Delagua the place of Rendezvous, and that if I should not come there in seven dayes after his arrivall he was to make the best of his way to Jamaica, the same day I sent the *Dolphin* to St. Thomas to gett me a Pylot to carry us through the Virgin Islands to our place of Rendezvous.

8.—The *Dolphin* came to me from St. Thomas who brought me the inclosed advice from Mr. Vanbell, a Dutch Merchant belonging to Brandenburg factory on the Island Seal, so brought me one prize a Comander of an English Merchant man taken into Petit guaves, and 2 Spaniards, one of them the Lieutenant of the Margareta, taken on the Cost of Crockas and the other the Lt. of the *St. Cristo*, Vice Admirall of the Barlovento fleet, all three coming from Pettit guaves, the 11th of March old stile the Day after Monsr. Pointy sailed from Pettit-guaves, to Leeward 26 sail of small and great, upon which intelligence wee had a Consultation, where it was resolved wee should make the best of our way for Jamaica, the same day I order'd the *Bristol* to call in at St. Domingo and put ashore the Lieutent. of the *St. Cristo*, who was brother to the President of St. Domingo, bad weather put her by that she could not fetch the Town by three or four miles.

(To be continued.)

* Punta de la Aguada.

† Vera Cruz.

OBITUARY.

SIR THOMAS CROSSLEY RAYNER.

We regret to state that Sir Thomas Crossley Rayner, Chief Justice of British Guiana, died suddenly on the bench at Georgetown on May 15.

Sir Thomas Crossley Rayner, who succeeded Sir Henry Bovell as Chief Justice of British Guiana in 1912 was born in 1860, and, after being educated at Owen's College and London University, was called to the Bar as a member of the Middle Temple in 1882. Five years later he was appointed a District Commissioner in the Gold Coast Colony where he remained until 1890, when he left for the West Indies, his first official position there being that of Magistrate in Trinidad. In that island he acted as Puisne Judge for some months in 1891 and did good work also as Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry into the Registry of the Supreme Court.

After acting for some months as Commissioner of Tobago and again as Puisne Judge, Sir Thomas returned to the Gold Coast in 1894 as Puisne Judge. In the following year he was promoted to be Chief Justice of Lagos, where he remained until 1902, when he went to British Guiana as Attorney General, a position which he held until he became Chief Justice. Sir Thomas, who was a staunch Churchman, was Chancellor of the Diocese of Guiana. He always had the welfare of British Guiana at heart, and by his lectures on the Kaieteur Fall, which he visited some years ago, he interested many people in the colony both in Canada and this country. A warm advocate of the federation of the West Indies with British Guiana, he frequently referred to this topic in his public speeches.

REVIEWS AND PERIODICALS.

The Imperial Department of Agriculture has published a BULLETIN, comprising papers by various local authorities on the subject of Peasant Agriculture in the West Indies. Dr. Watts mentions that in St. Vincent 5,060 acres have been acquired for the purpose of land settlement by the Government. As regards this scheme, Mr. Tatham, who reported on it a few years ago considered that the full benefits could not then be estimated. Progress is necessarily slow, "as it needs many years of patient persistence and labour to induce the peasants to realise that it is for the betterment of their condition, and the relief of their wants that the work has been carried on." But, he goes on to say, the results are justifying this system of proprietorship. The success of the St. Vincent co-operative cotton factory is referred to, and allusion is made to the successful starting of the Agricultural Credit Societies on the Raffeisen system, while the working of the New Agricultural Credit Ordinance whereby loans can be made to properly accredited societies is being watched with much interest. As regards St. Lucia, where the Land Settlement system is also being initiated on a small scale, there has been progress in the direction of the erection of a small lime factory worked on co-operative lines. In Antigua the establishment of the Central Sugar Factory system at Gunthorpe's and Bendal's has led to large quantities of sugar-cane being purchased from the peasantry, while the Government has reserved for rent on easy terms, a consider-

able acreage of land. As regards Grenada, it is stated that one of the unexpected results of the Land Settlement system being put into operation is that it is found to be practically impossible to draw settlers from districts beyond ten miles from the site of the settlements. At the present moment there are nearly 1,000 acres acquired for settlement, in lots of two to three acres, of which 128 had been sold up to the date of the report. The position, says Mr. Dunlop, of the West Indies in this respect makes it appear that in those colonies two systems of agricultural credit are required, including two classes of landowners, those which can offer real security and those which cannot. As regards the former what is wanted is a co-operative loan bank, which would assist in providing working capital. As regards the latter societies of the Raffeisen type, Mr. Dunlop concludes with reference to the probable value in the West Indies of co-operative seed, manure, and insecticide societies.

AT WESTMINSTER.

In the House of Commons on May 18th, Mr. Stauier asked where the sugar beet, amounting to 8,000 cwt., which was charged duty in 1873-4, as reported in the Inland Revenue Commissioners' Report (Cd. 4474) of 1885, was grown; and what was the duty charged.

Mr. Runciman in reply said: The sugar beet in question appears to have been grown in the neighbourhood of Lavenham, Suffolk. The duty from 1870 to May, 1873, was from 4s. to 6s. per cwt., and from 1873 to 1874 from 2s. to 3s. per cwt.

[At the present time while British Colonial cane sugar pays a duty of 1s. 7d. per cwt. (96° test) on entering this country, English beet sugar is duty free. English beet sugar which also receives a bounty from the Development Fund is thus being protected against Colonial cane sugar by the present "Free Trade" Government.—Ed].

East Indians in Trinidad.

Mr. Pointer asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the Protector of Immigrants in Trinidad was about to retire; whether this gentleman stated before Lord Sanderson's Commission that scarcely any complaints were made to him by coolies; and whether, in filling the position vacated by this gentleman, he would endeavour to secure an official in whom the coolies had confidence.

Mr. Harcourt, in a written reply dated May 19, said: I have received no information as to the date at which the Protector of Immigrants will retire, though in view of his age he will no doubt do so before very long. My hon. friend no doubt refers to Commander Coombs' statement that complaints by coolies grew less and less every year, a gratifying testimony to the general contentment of the immigrant population of the Colony, which I hope his successor may be able to confirm.

The Revolution in San Domingo.

Sir E. Grey, on May 19th, said: The Provisional President appears to have held his ground against the Revolutionary forces in San Domingo. A blockade of the ports of Puerto Plata and Monte Christi was proclaimed by Presidential decree on 9th May. The United States ship *Ward* proceeded from Cuba to Puerto Plata at the end of April with orders from the United States Government to protect British subjects and United States citizens. As far as I know she is still at Puerto Plata.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



LORD BASIL BLACKWOOD, formerly Colonial Secretary of Barbados, has been appointed Secretary to Lord Buxton, the new Governor General of South Africa.

THE Permanent Commission sitting at Brussels have increased the countervailing duty on sugars coming from Australia and Japan and reduced those for Canadian and Roumanian sugars.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the past fortnight have been Mr. W. L. McKinstry, Mr. Harry Delafons, Mr. W. N. Sands, Lt.-Col. J. H. Collens, Mr. C. W. Anderson, Mr. A. T. Hammond, Mr. D. Hope Ross, Mr. G. Farmer, and Mr. H. A. Tempany.

GOOD progress is being made with the Parika extension of the Demerara West Coast Railway. The new terminus will be $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Greenwich Park and 18 miles from Vreed-en-Hoop. Trains will run in connection with the new Government steamers for Bartica on the Essequibo.

THE difficulties which attend the development of the market for limes in this country were exemplified last week when in one day the temperature fell 26 degrees—from 74° Fahr. to 48° . While London was basking under the rays of a tropical sun it was impossible to get limes for love or money. Now they are plentiful again.

MR. and MRS. GIDEON MURRAY entertained some friends from St. Vincent at tea at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Thursday, May 21st, among them being Mr. R. Noble, Acting Attorney General, and Mrs. Noble, Mr. W. N. Sands, Agricultural Superintendent, and Mrs. Sands, and Miss Ince, Headmistress of the Girls High School.

COMMANDER W. H. COOMBS, R.N., who is expected to arrive in England at the end of June on leave of absence will retire from the Public Service in September. He will then have filled the post of Protector of Immigrants for Trinidad and Tobago for 18½ years, following 29 years service in the Royal Navy. To have served the Crown for forty-seven years and a half is a record of which Commander Coombs might well be proud.

THE Advisory Committee for the Imperial Institute has just been reconstituted. Its members now are Lord Emmott, Lord Allerton, Sir H. Llewellyn Smith, Sir A. E. Bateman, Sir Owen Philipps, and Mr. George Miller (appointed by the Board of

Trade); Sir Cecil Clementi Smith and Mr. C. Alexander Harris (appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies); Sir John Hewitt and Mr. F. C. Drake (appointed by the Secretary of State for India); Sir Sidney Olivier (appointed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries); Sir T. H. Holland (appointed by the Government of India); Sir Thomas Skinner (appointed by the Government of the Dominion of Canada); Captain R. H. Muirhead Collins (appointed by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia); and the Hon. Thomas Mackenzie (appointed by the Government of the Dominion of New Zealand).

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

MR. W. N. SANDS, Agricultural Superintendent of St. Vincent, and Mr. H. A. Tempany, Superintendent of Agriculture in the Leeward Islands, have arrived in London on leave of absence.

THE attendances at the model gardens in British Guiana keep well above the average of those of the first few years. In the first quarter of 1914 they numbered 1,134 at Bourda, 1,245 at Belfield, East Coast, and 1,014 at Suddie, Essequibo, the latter marking a notable advance.

PROFESSOR CARMODY is to read papers on the methods of tapping cultivated *Castilloa* trees and the yield of rubber therefrom and notes on cacao cultivation at the International Congress of Tropical Agriculture, which is to be held in London from June 23rd to the 30th, and Mr. F. A. Stockdale will contribute a paper on the fibre industry of Mauritius.

AN editorial in the *Agricultural News* of May 9th emphasises the economic importance of cacao budding, a practice in which considerable success has been achieved in the West Indies and the Philippines. In the latter islands, the vegetative form of propagating cacao by budding has met with remarkable success, over 90 per cent. of the stocks budded by the T method being successful in a recent experiment.

MUCH valuable work has been done by Mr. J. J. Quelch, formerly curator of the Georgetown Museum, in the direction of the control of the small moth borers (*Diatraea Saccharalis* and *D. Canella*) of the sugar-cane on behalf of the firms of Curtis, Campbell and Co., and Booker Bros., McConnell and Co. In a privately printed report, Mr. Quelch gives figures showing the result of the systematic examination of the egg clusters collected by an estate gang in the eight weeks to April 14th. They are extremely interesting and instructive, and exhibit in a striking manner the direct result in lessening borers and in encouraging the development of parasites for the protection of the young plants in the early stages of cultivation.

THE LONDON LETTER.



THE beginning of June finds us still awaiting the advent of summer. Alternations of heat and cold marked the latter days of May, and fruit and flowers have been nipped by the night frosts. The days are bright, but a rise of temperature is eagerly awaited.

HOME Rule has passed the Commons by a majority of 77, after some angry scenes, and the Bill has been read a first time in the Lords. The Whitsuntide Recess will afford opportunity for reflection and possibly for informal conversation. Happily the atmosphere is favourable to discussion of the terms of a settlement, which, if reached, is to be embodied in the Amending Bill, the text of which is to be made known first of all in the Upper House.

THE loss of two seats within a week must have been sufficiently disquieting for the Government. North East Derbyshire was expected, and was explained by the Liberals on the usual ground of the appearance of a Labour Candidate. No such solution was possible in the case of Ipswich. Here Mr. Ganzoni carried the day with a majority of 532, or 137 over Liberal and Labour combined. The mortification of Mr. Masterman can be fully appreciated only by himself. His next problem will be the retention of his seat in the Cabinet.

LONDON will lose something of that sense of loneliness which depresses visitors from abroad, now that the doors of the Overseas Club have been opened. This social centre, designed to promote the cause of Imperial Unity, in an atmosphere of personal friendliness and goodwill, is situated at General Buildings, Aldwych. Within four years the membership has arisen to 120,000. The Lord Mayor performed the opening ceremony, at which speeches were delivered by Lord Northcliffe—the founder and president—Lord Selborne and Lord Buxton, past and future Governors General of South Africa, respectively, and Sir George Reid, High Commissioner for Australia.

THE mention of Lord Buxton reminds us that his Secretary in South Africa is to be Lord Basil Blackwood, still remembered in Barbados as Colonial Secretary in recent years. Since his return to England, Lord Basil has been actively engaged in the Civil Service, his latest appointment being in connection with the Development Commission.

DETAILS of his will just published justify the popular conception of the great wealth of the late

Lord Strathcona. Five and a half millions sterling represents the value of his property at home and abroad, and the duty payable, coming within measurable distance of a million sterling—£837,838 is the precise figure—will be considered a boon by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whose increase of the supertax is a recent memory.

THE Derby has provided a sensation. With the disappearance of the Tetrarch, His Majesty's Brake-spear and Sir J. Thursby's Kennymore divided popular attention, but the "Blue Ribbon" was destined for neither. An outsider, who started at 20 to 1, was to carry the day, and Mr. H. B. Duryca's Durbar II takes a place among the immortals of the Turf. Lord Harewood and Lord Howard de Walden were among the members of the Jockey Club who dined with the King at Buckingham Palace in the evening.

FRELING against the Government will not be confined to their political opponents if the crimes of the suffragettes continue to escape stern repression. Public resentment is becoming acute. A riot outside Buckingham Palace wantonly provoked; further damage to art treasures, and outrageous language addressed to the King in person in public places represent developments in the militant campaign which invite retaliation from exasperated taxpayers.

THE launching of *Shanrock II* by the Countess of Shaftesbury at Gosport brings us a stage nearer the contest for the America Cup. Sir Thomas Lipton's latest challenger is an extremely light craft. Every feature of her construction has been governed by the paramount consideration of speed. Her water-line length is 75 ft., length over all 110 ft., beam 23 ft., draught 13 ft. 9 in., to which 10 ft. will be added when the centre board is down.

ALL England has deplored the untimely disappearance of the intrepid aviator Hamel, who had just entered for the £10,000 prize offered by the *Daily Mail* for a waterplane flight across the Atlantic in 72 hours. Starting to fly the Channel from France to England, nothing has been seen or heard of him since his departure from the French coast. Only in his 25th year, he had recently enhanced his fame by "looping the loop." The Admiralty has paid a notable tribute to his skill and bravery.

THE sensation among golfers has been the defeat of the American, Francis Ouimet, by H. S. B. Tubbs, of Littlestone, by two holes in the second round of the Amateur Golf Championship at Sandwich. The Championship went finally to J. L. C. Jenkins, of Troon, who defeated Mr. C. O. Hazlet of Royal Portrush by three holes up to two to play. In this connection we note with interest that Mr. E. R. Campbell, son of Mr. William Middleton Campbell, Chairman of the West India Committee, played in the fifth round of the Golf Tourney.

NATURE NOTES.

MR. O. F. FREED has been at work on the important subject of the quantity of salt which should be used with bread, and the conclusion arrived at is, that, with an increase of salt up to a certain point, the colour is improved and the texture and grain greatly benefited. This quantity is stated to be $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. to the barrel of flour. More salt should be used in hot weather than in cold.

A NEW field for the use of radium is in its application to agriculture. For some years experimenters have been working in this direction. According to the *Scientific American* the results obtained show that most plants are remarkably stimulated by it, and give a better yield both in size and quality. Plants thus treated are in a better position to resist disease, and radium may be said to act as a preventive.

EXPERIMENTS conducted by Mr. J. R. Johnston in Porto Rico show that where cane plants are disinfected before planting there is a considerable increase in the percentage of germination, whether the cane be good or infected. While the presence of diseased leaf sheaths on cane plants does not, according to this investigator, affect germination or subsequent growth, he claims that they should be removed when mealy bugs are abundant, and before treatment with disinfectants.

SEVERAL investigators have recently reported results in shortening the rest period of a number of woody plants by immersing the dormant shoots in weak nutrient solutions or by injecting solutions of alcohol, ether and various acids into the twigs. During the last two years, says the *Journal of Agricultural Research*, similar and additional results on a much larger scale have been made by spraying dormant fruit trees with strong solutions of certain commercial fertilizers, especially nitrate of soda. The results tend to the opinion that an increase of fruit yield takes place, and the earlier blooming of certain varieties of fruit trees when thus treated is a satisfactorily established fact.

In experiments conducted with rice soils in Hawaii by Mr. W. P. Kelley, in connection with manures, it was found that an application of 150 lbs. of ammonia sulphate per acre produced notable increases in the yield, but that 300 lbs. per acre proved the more profitable. The use of potash and phosphoric acid was without effect. Application of ammonia sulphate to both the spring and the full crop was considerably more profitable than application to the spring crop only. The soils are of basaltic origin, but also contain small amounts of coral limestone. As a rule they are clay loams, containing approximately equal quantities of fine sand, silt, fine silt, and clay.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Many visitors from overseas.

Every homeward steamer is bringing an increasing number of visitors to this country from the West Indies, in spite of the depression which many of those colonies are passing through in consequence of the low price of sugar. In Barbados many estates were being offered for sale; but it is satisfactory to note that good prices were being realised, which points to confidence in the future of the local sugar industry. Tobago has been brought into prominence—in this its centenary year as a British colony—by the visit of Princess Marie Louise, who in a few days saw more of the island than many residents have seen in a lifetime. Her Highness was presented with an address illuminated by Mr. James Fraser, and framed in local coco-nut wood. The Princess was a homeward passenger in the R.M.S.P. *Oruba*, which left Barbados at 8 p.m. on May 13th and arrived at Southampton at 1.20 p.m. on May 25th. Among other passengers were the following: Col. H. J. Blagrove, C.B., Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Perkins and son, Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Godfrey, the Right Rev. Edward A. Parry, Lord Bishop of Guiana, Mr. G. E. Bodkin, Mr. W. M. B. Shields, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Tempny, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bryson and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. Morrison, His Excellency Sir Henry Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G., Mr. F. B. Shand, Mr. D. O. Riviere, Mr. W. C. Hutson, Lady Le Hunte and Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hammond. The following notes are extracted from the letters of the Hon. Correspondents of the West India Committee.

ANTIGUA—The new kiln drying plant for corn.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, MAY 8th.—The weather had been dry, very hot and close, with occasional showers, which culminated in a heavy downpour on the 4th and 5th. The windward and middle districts of the island got the largest share, amounting to 2.3½ inches, the Pope's Head and Valley, with the exception of Bendal's district, receiving 1.1½ inches. The rain had been badly wanted, both by the old canes, which were getting dry, and also the young canes, which were suffering. At the time of writing the weather was still sultry and cloudy, and not, therefore, at all favourable for muscovado sugar making.

The Address of His Excellency the Governor to the Legislative Council on April 23rd dealt with many points of local interest, but the matter as to how a second sugar factory could be erected by Government loan or guarantee of interest had been left severely alone. The minor industries referred to would help very much, but the prosperity of Antigua was bound up with sugar, and until the staple product could be made on proper and economical lines, Antigua could never be prosperous as a whole, so the absence of any forecast of Government assistance in the Governor's speech had caused disappointment. Gunthorpe's had been the salvation of that part of the island in which it stood, and if that factory had not come into existence, many of the estates in connection with it would have been thrown out of cultivation.

The kiln-drying plant for corn was formally opened by the Governor on May 4th. Sir Hesketh Bell said that what he hoped would be ascertained was (1) whether it would be possible to kiln-dry corn locally, (2) whether such

corn would be equal in value to imported corn, and (3) whether it would keep as well as the imported article. He mentioned also that experiments were to be made in growing corn on a commercial basis. At present it was grown as a catch crop, and, as such, it was remunerative. If it could be grown as a main crop it would prove a great boon to the community.

The question of the destruction of old cotton was an important one. Under existing conditions it was always almost impossible to get the old trees destroyed in time to prevent the spread of disease and pests. A committee of planters, comprising Hon. R. Warneford, Captain J. T. Dew, Miss Johnstone, Hon. J. J. Comacho, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, Mr. Robert Goodwin, Mr. T. Jackson and the writer had been appointed to report on the desirability of a law being passed to make it compulsory to destroy old cotton plants.

The death of Miss Mary Louisa Brookes had been the cause of general regret. She had been an elementary school teacher for upwards of 40 years, and was a lady in the true sense of the word, who was looked up to and respected by all classes of the community. Trained at the Moravian Training College, Spring Garden, she had devoted her whole life to teaching in the Moravian schools in different parts of the island.

During the absence of Sir Hesketh Bell, the Hon. T. V. Best was to administer the government.

THE BAHAMAS—A proposed cable to Miami, Florida.

In view of the faulty condition of the cable, the Government propose to invite cable companies to tender for laying and working a new one. It was estimated that the cost of a new cable to Miami, which is twenty miles nearer than Jupiter, would cost £30,000, and that the installation would take about a year.

BARBADOS—Writs issued for the General Election.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., MAY 13th.—The reaping of the crop was everyone's chief concern. The weather had been favourable for it, and in the lowlands some of the crops had been finished, and in a short time many more would be closed. The want of rain was becoming a very serious matter indeed. The young crop was suffering, and no provision or fodder crops could be planted. Several plantations were advertised for sale, the latest being Mr. Fellowes' leeward plantations.

Writs had been issued for the election of members of the House of Assembly, and the Session of the Legislature would be opened on the 26th inst.

There had been a railway accident, which might have been attended with grave consequences but for the prompt action of the driver of the engine. The points had been maliciously set to shunt the train on to a siding. The train ran beyond the siding into a field and was stopped before any great damage had been done. The passengers were very much shaken, but were none the worse for their adventure. The accident was in no way the result of any defect in the line or rolling stock.

The *Barbados Advocate* records the sale of Endeavour plantation, St. Thomas, the property of Mr. J. W. Parris, to Mr. S. Manning for £3,300. Rugby, the property of Mrs. Bagot, remains unsold, the owner asking £6,000 for it. Mr. T. N. McConney offered £4,020, but the offer was refused. Mr. Irvine Skinner, M.C.P., proprietor of Prior Park and other plantations, has leased Pine plantation, St. Michael, from Hon. J. C. Lynch. The plantations advertised for sale when the mail left included Bank Hall plantation, St. Michael, containing about 175 acres; Spring Hall, Mount Poyer, and Spring Garden plantations, St. Lucy, containing about 759 acres, Bakers, St. James, Staple Grove, St. George, and Rugby. Mr. Watson of Lowthers had leased College and Society plantations for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel for £800 a year.

BERMUDA—Proposal to advertise in Toronto.

The *Bermuda Colonist* records the death at Memphis, of the Rev. Oliver Kingsbury, who was well-known in the island.—The issue of May 11th contains a full list of the prize winners at the Bermuda Agricultural Exhibition,

which had proved a great success. The same organ advocates advertising Bermuda at the Toronto National Exhibition.

BRITISH GUIANA—Fire prevention in Georgetown.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, MAY 9th.—Nice rains had fallen throughout the colony during the fortnight, the lightest having been in Essequibo. Though insufficient for requirements, they had proved of considerable benefit to the cultivation.

The Hinterland Railway Committee had sent in to the Government resolutions which were adopted at a meeting on May 4th. (These are published elsewhere.) Dr. Godfrey was leaving for England; he had been the recipient of an address on his retirement from the Village Chairmen Conference and the Leper Asylum staff and inmates. Dr. Godfrey and Mr. S. G. T. Bourke, Stipendiary Magistrate, were entertained at dinner at the Georgetown Club on May 6th. The mail editions of the local papers contained the report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the adequacy of the existing arrangements for preventing the outbreak and for suppressing the spread of fires in Georgetown, which, with a minority report by Mr. J. S. McArthur, had been published as a Sessional Paper. The report contained various recommendations. In his covering letter, Mr. C. Clementi, Chairman, expressed regret that he had received so little help from Mr. J. S. McArthur, who only attended three meetings out of eight. Among other recommendations, the Commissioners advocated the encouragement of brick construction, the selection of trained town overseers only, and the adoption of an independent water supply for fire purposes.

The Governor, Sir Walter Egerton, had visited the villages of Triumph, Golden Grove, Nabaclis, and Beterewagting. His Excellency advised the villagers to plant coco-nuts, and said that if they had done so some years ago, there would have been less hardship suffered.—The mail edition of the newspapers contained the letter of Mr. Foster with regard to the extension of the benefits under the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement to colonies outside that agreement without such colonies giving reciprocal advantages. The mail edition of the *Daily Chronicle*, devoted a leading article to the subject, criticising Mr. Foster's explanation adversely and advocating the holding of another West Indian Conference.

Mr. J. C. McCowan had been appointed Secretary to the Lamaha Committee and East Demerara Water Supply Commissioners. Mr. J. W. Shaffer had been appointed Superintendent of both schemes in the place of the late Mr. St. Aubyn.

Refining sugar for export was quoted at \$1.95, and \$2.05 for local consumption.

DOMINICA—The development of the island by roads.

MR. E. A. AGAR, MAY 8th.—Most people recognised that the West India Committee's continually voicing of the advantages of Dominica had helped to set the island where it was. There was no doubt that now that there was a definite prospect of roads, not tracks that were just capable of transporting produce or of allowing a careful man to arrive at his destination, being constructed. A good hotel would do much to hasten the accession of capital into the island. Visitors who came now, and very few could come as there was so little accommodation, doubtless heard much of the fertility of the soil and of the marvellous way in which young lime trees thrived in many parts of the interior, but they had no opportunity of seeing this for themselves, and so were unlikely to look upon Dominica as a promising field for friends and relatives.

Mr. Watson Griffin, an emissary from the Department of Trade and Commerce of Canada, was touring through the West Indies, and recently spent a few days in Dominica. His mission appeared to be to make a few general enquiries and to appoint representatives of his Government in the various islands.

The past ten days had been almost rainless, and everything looked better for it; another fortnight of such weather and there would be a second lime flowering that would make this crop a bumper one. The Treasury had not pub-

ished export statistics for some months; why, the writer did not know; there must be a good advance on the same period last year.

GRENADE—Sir James Hayes Sadler's retirement.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, MAY 10th.—A farewell dinner to Governor Sir James Hayes-Sadler was to be given at the St. George's Club on May 13th. At the meeting of the Board of Primary Education on April 22nd, members took the opportunity of thanking His Excellency for the courteous manner in which he had discharged his duties as President, and expressed the general regret which was felt at his approaching departure. A resolution was also passed recording appreciation of the services of the Rev. I. P. Owen, Superintendent of the Wesleyan Church, who left later to take up a similar position in St. Lucia. Mr. Owen had been succeeded in Grenada by the Rev. Mr. Huckerby.—Dr. Cockin, House Surgeon of the Hospital and Bacteriologist, had resigned.—The Governor and Lady Hayes-Sadler were to give their last dance at Government House on May 15th.

The local cricket team left for St. Lucia on May 6th to compete in the Cork Cricket Cup Tournament. They were beaten in a two day match by ten wickets, but on the following day they won by one wicket. The Grenada Force had won the Hayes-Sadler Windward Islands Police Cup for rifle shooting, the scores being Grenada 508, St. Vincent 552.—Mr. Arthur Darrell, Acting Private Secretary to the Governor, had accepted a position in the Treasury in Nigeria. Mr. Oscar Charles Heideustam, from Cyprus, had been appointed Chief of Police. Among visitors to the island was Mr. Darnell Davis, C.M.G.—Hon. G. S. and Mrs. Seton-Browne of Dunfermline in St. Andrew's celebrated their silver wedding on April 20th, and were presented on that day with a largely signed Address of congratulation at the Court House in Grenville.—The St. Andrew's Race Club Derby Sweepstake was drawn at that town on May 12th, 3,480 tickets were sold, realising £870, of which £87 would go to the Race Club.

As a precautionary measure, the Governor had prohibited for one year the importation of animals from the Guianas and Venezuela, where Mal-de-caderas was prevalent.

The shipments of cacao for the 1913-14 crop were 61,487 bags to date, compared with 52,492 bags for the corresponding period of the previous year.

JAMAICA—Montego Bay pleases Sir W. Manning.

MESSRS. J. F. KERR & CO., LTD., reported on May 6th that His Excellency the Governor had paid his official visit to St. James. He received a most cordial reception from the people of St. James, and his visit was very much appreciated. His Excellency was much pleased with the conditions in Montego Bay, and he stated publicly that he considered that it should be the most interesting tourist resort in Jamaica.

The Legislative Council have passed a resolution recording appreciation of the services of Brig.-General Dalrymple Hay, who is about to retire. Mr. Stubbs, a member of the Harkins Dramatic Company, had successfully played and landed two tarpon in Kingston Harbour at the foot of King Street.

MONTSERRAT—Good prices encourage cotton planters.

The news that Montserrat cotton had fetched 19½d. per lb. was encouraging the cotton planters. Last crop amounted to 300,000 lbs., a figure some 6,000 or 7,000 lbs. above the average. The revenue to March 31, was £1,000 ahead of that for the preceding year to the same date.

NEVIS—The local telephone service now installed.

MR. F. WILLIAMS, MAY 9th.—The weather for the past fortnight had been very favourable for a start in the new season's cotton crop, which was being universally taken advantage of. The health conditions of the island were excellent.—The grinding of canes had become general with the exception of Ouse in the district near St. Kitts.

The telephone had been installed and was much appreciated by all classes of the community.—The old and much respected firm of R. R. Kirkwood and Co., Ltd., of St. Kitts, Nevis and Glasgow, merchants, had withdrawn its

activities from Nevis, Messrs. Degrasse Bros. having bought the branch store in Charlestown.

ST. KITTS—Some amateur theatricals at Basseterre.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, MAY 8th.—The neighbourhood was becoming very dry, but May came in very hot, with a low barometer, and heavy rain and a thunderstorm on the night of the 3rd. The two following days were sultry, with heavy rain showers. All parts of the island had benefited, returns of rainfall for May to date varying from 3 to 5 inches.

The Island Dramatic Musical Society provided a very enjoyable evening's entertainment on April 30th, at the Grammar School Hall, presenting "My Lord in Livery," by Charles Hawtrey, and a rollicking farce "My Turn Next." Talent of a high order was displayed, and not only the acting, but the staging and lighting reflected great credit on all concerned.

Mr. H. Pouquet with his family arrived from Mauritius by the last mail to take up the appointment of Superintendent of Public Works. Mr. C. Forbes Todd and family were leaving by the mail for Trinidad.

ST. LUCIA—The control of the Anopheles mosquito.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON, MAY 8th.—The fortnight had been most uncompromisingly dry, and rain was again much wanted; fortunately the weather was unsettled at the time of writing, and promised rain soon. It was understood that all cane planting this year had failed owing to want of moisture, and this should seriously interfere with next year's crop. The rainfall for the past five months only showed about 13½ inches in the humid belt. The rains a fortnight ago did much good, and cacao was rapidly coming into full flower, and the lime crop looked promising, but these promises would not mature without more rain.

The newspaper *The Herald of St. Lucia*, had retired from the field owing to lack of adequate support; this was to be regretted, for although many could not always agree with its doctrines, still it filled a want and would be missed.

Dr. Kidd had arrived in the colony and taken up his duties as house surgeon at Victoria Hospital, bacteriologist, and the care of the lunatic asylum.—The writer lately had the opportunity of visiting some work done by Dr. King in the Castries River for controlling Anopheles and malaria which was undoubtedly one of many steps in the right direction; it was on the same lines as that undertaken by Dr. Ross in Mauritius. Still, it was very difficult to do much permanent good when small sums only were available for work of that kind. Dr. Sambon's ideals were admirable on the "hitch your wagon to a star" principle, but they were not within the scope of practical sanitation in St. Lucia. Yet much was being done, and more every year. Dr. Ferguson's example of daily doses of "Beta Naphthol" (or "Thymol") for ankylostomiasis was being tried by Dr. King, and the writer believed it could be beneficially extended to animals afflicted with this parasite. The cable repairing ship *Henry Holmes*, which was always a popular visitor, lately stayed a week in Castries.

The Grenadian Cricketers were playing, in Castries, the St. Lucia team for the Cork Cup; at the time of writing the chance of success seemed to hang to neither side, and an exciting finish was probable. Mr. Duncan, who was captaining the visitors, had distinguished himself by some unusually smart fielding. Mr. Gregor Peter was captain of the St. Lucians.

ST. VINCENT—A new cotton seed oil plant.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, MAY 9th.—At a meeting held on April 14th, the Legislative Council was chiefly occupied with the final discussion and settlement of matters introduced at previous meetings. Concrete proposals for providing a much needed new post office building that would be a more roomy and imposing structure than the present one, which was very congested in its accommodation for both the staff and the public, were agreed to. The total cost of the new building, including the purchase of the site, was estimated at £1,212.

Planters were looking forward to the erection of the plant for extracting cotton seed oil, which had arrived in the

colony. The value of cotton seed meal as a manure was being more fully recognised and hence the prospect of the colony manufacturing this article for itself was greatly appreciated.

The passenger motor mail service was still patronised to such an extent that seats could seldom be obtained unless booked at least a week in advance.

On April 22nd Dr. W. A. S. George, L.R.C.P.S., arrived in the colony to take up his duties as Medical Officer for District No. 4. The Agricultural Superintendent went on six months vacation leave on April 27th.—Mr. E. R. Davson, on May 7th, spent a few hours in the colony and discussed with a few members of the Agricultural and Commercial Society, proposals for the formation of an Association of Chambers of Commerce for the West Indies. His proposals met with the approval of the members present and a meeting of the Society would shortly be held to discuss them.

The weather continued very dry and the green hillsides were of a much browner tint than usual.

TOBAGO—Her Highness Princess Marie Louise's visit.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, MAY 11th.—Tobago had an exciting week of it during the visit of Princess Marie Louise and the Governor, Sir George Le Hunte. Besides the popular welcome at the Jetty, where floral arches were erected, and the natives loudly expressed their pleasure at beholding a veritable Princess, there was a Reception at Government House, and the presentation of addresses, etc. The gracious and tactful manner of the Princess at this function was a great source of pleasure to all. Visits were paid to such places of interest as the French and Dutch Forts, Robinson Crusoe's Cave, etc., but the Princess's movements were rather interfered with by an accident to the Governor's dogcart.—The weather continued dry and the scorching sun did not improve cacao crop prospects, while the streams were running extremely low, without, however, causing actual scarcity of water. Heavy rains were much needed, and Mr. Reid hoped next mail to record a break in the weather.

TRINIDAD—Sugar factories burn oil.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, MAY 12th.—Princess Marie Louise during the fortnight visited both Caracas and Tobago. At the latter place the honorary correspondent there of the West India Committee was honoured with a visit at his estate, King's Bay, where the distinguished party embarked on the Government revenue schooner, *Pomenah*. In the brave days of old someone distinguished himself for "holding a bridge." Mr. R. S. Reid went one better. He built a bridge specially to convenience Her Highness in getting on board, and the act would long be remembered in the roll of gallant deeds in Tobago. The Princess was leaving by the Packet that day, and would be accompanied by Lady Le Hunte, who made her final farewell to Trinidad.

The Municipal Ordinance was making its way through Council. The women had received the vote without asking for it. It was wondered what use, if any, they would make of it. But Mr. Adam Smith had carried his point about limiting their privilege to voting. The majority of his fellow legislators shared his very impolite disinclination to share the honours of the Board with the fair ones. Mr. Bell pleaded hard for them, but in vain.

Mr. Davson was in Trinidad, but only for a week end. He had to go on north by the Canadian steamer, so there was no time for a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce to consider his suggestions as to an Association of Chambers. But he met a hurriedly summoned meeting of the Committee, and the matter was threshed out, and preliminaries agreed on subject to assent of the Chamber.

The Blue-book for the year 1912-13, signed by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. S. W. Knaggs, was an interesting document, but lost some of its attraction by reason of the fact that it was only issued to the public on April 30th, 1914. It was accompanied by useful maps of Trinidad and Tobago prepared by the Public Works Department.—Outside capital continued to come in and not for oil alone. An important deal had just been concluded by the Felicite Estate Company of London, who had acquired the well-known

Felicite Estate in the Chaguanas district, for the sum of £35,000. The estate comprised 2,900 acres. Of these 1,000 acres were now under cane cultivation by farmers. The balance would be laid out as a coco-nut estate, and in the planting of rice, for which the lands were specially suitable. In this connection it was understood that a complete system of irrigation would be introduced. With excellent soil and all the advantages of good roads and proximity to both rail and sea, the prospects of the new company, given efficient management, seemed very healthy. They commenced by obtaining value for their money, which was a considerable, if, in the case of companies, rather an unusual step to success. Progress in the oilfields was steady. Another tank steamer had cleared from the Lake Company, and the United British Oilfields, as would be seen by the weekly returns sent to London, must have by now a very considerable reserve in their tanks. The Tenant's Estates, the Usine St. Madeleine, and Bronte were burning oil exclusively. The Trinidad Leaseholds had, it was reported, made a successful strike at the Forest Reserve, L'Enfer, where they had been prospecting.

At the last meeting of the Agricultural Society, Mr. Henry Warner was elected Vice President in the place of Mr. H. E. Murray resigned, and Mr. W. G. Freeman was appointed to act as Deputy Vice President during the absence of Lt.-Colonel Collins.

The new steamer, "*Barina*," for the Tobago service arrived on the 10th, after a good run of 15 days from Southampton. She seemed quite up to expectations.

The cacao shipments for April again constituted a month's record second only to that of the preceding month. They amounted to the highly satisfactory total of 11,601,015 lbs. This quantity added to shipments for the first quarter of 1914, brought the total to 30th of that month to 41,344,691 lbs. against 29,743,676 lbs. for corresponding period in 1913, and over 10,000,000 more than ever previously shipped from the colony in any four months.

In sympathy with lower prices in Europe and United States, the weaker tendency reported in March manifested itself during nearly the whole of April, and values gradually declined until touching \$11.00 for Ordinary and \$11.30 for Estates grades. The quantity arriving in town being exceptionally large had also much to do with this. But suddenly at the close of the month there was a decided change for the better, and with plenty of orders in the market prices jumped, closing at \$11.40 to \$11.60 for Ordinary, \$11.80 to \$12.00 for Estates, and \$11.90 to \$12.25 for Venezuelan.

Since May 1st, deliveries from the country had continued to be above the average, but local demand had more than kept pace with the supply and prices a few days previously touched over \$13 for Estates, and up to \$11.70 for Ordinary. At the time of writing, quotations varied, but ranged about \$11.75 for Ordinary and \$12 to \$12.25 for Estates.

The shipments of cacao during April were as follows:—

Destination	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	1,026,755
B.N. America	67,010
Other British Colonies	6,794
France	4,057,617
Germany	345,550
Holland	898,950
Spain	13,595
Italy	19,600
Austria Hungary	68,600
United States of America	5,048,124
South America	78,400
Total for April	11,601,015
Shipped previously	29,743,676
Total from 1st January	41,344,691
To same date, 1913	27,503,212
" " 1912	30,702,105
" " 1911	23,699,791
" " 1910	25,498,039
" " 1909	25,101,356
" " 1908	23,558,790

MARRIAGE.

Stanton-Clark-Hunt.—At St. John's Church, Barbados, on April 29th, the Rev. Frederick George Stanton, Assistant Curate of St. Michael's Cathedral, to Edith Mary, second daughter of the Rev. C. G. Clark-Hunt, Rector of St. John's Parish.

DEATH.

Murray.—In Barbados, on May 2nd, suddenly, Mr. Ormond A. Murray, proprietor of the Sea View Hotel.

WANTS.

Experienced sugar and agricultural chemist thoroughly up in all branches of the industry, is now at liberty to undertake the management of a sugar estate, factory or refinery. Highest references. Apply A. M., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Member of leading Engineering and Chemical Institutions is open to Buy, Inspect, and Ship all classes of Engineering and Building Materials and Machinery, and act generally as Representative in England, for Engineers, Merchants, Planters, etc.—Address, B. I. S., West India Committee Circular, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

For Sale.—Bound volume of *The Sugar Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timehri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of Timehri for 1891, Part II. 1893, Part II. 1895 and Part II. 1898. **For Sale:** Part I. 1886, Part II. 1889, Part I. 1893, and Part I. 1894.—Apply M. L. P., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Employment wanted by capable secretary and accountant, aged 45, who thoroughly understands West Indian Sugar business. Thirty years with the New Colonial Co., Ltd. Excellent references. G. M. Ohlson, c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX.—No. 32 Report of Auditor General, June 30, 1913. Documents relating to "Wireless" station. **British Guiana**, Vol. XXXVIII.—No. 33. Report of Mayor of Georgetown for 1913. No. 34 Order under Sen Defences Ordinance. **Trinidad** Vol. 83.—No. 16. Legislative Council, April 8 and 15, Board of Education, April 3. Board of Agriculture, March 20. No. 17. General Board of Health, April 6. **Grenada**, Vol. 32.—No. 13. Report on proposed harbour improvements. **St. Lucia**, Vol. 83.—No. 19. Primary Education Amendment Ordinance, 1914. **St. Vincent**, Vol. 47.—No. 15. Regulations under Motor Car Ordinance. **Legislative Council**, Feb. 2 **Leeward Islands**, Vol. XLII.—No. 17 **Dominica**, Vol. XXXVII.—No. 20 Wild Birds Protection Ordinance, 1914. **Opium Ordinance**, 1914.

CONSIDERABLE attention has been paid by the Agricultural Department of Mysore to the question of the growth of sunn hemp as a preparatory crop to rice. Sunn hemp is a plant that makes very good progress under normal conditions. In the course of eight or ten weeks it is capable of a height of six or eight feet, and of yielding up to 8,000 lbs. of green cuttings to the acre, and the results show that this plant is well suited for green manuring.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Dr. H. B. Dodds, Medical Officer, St. Vincent, has been transferred to the Straits Settlements as a Medical Officer.

Dr. R. W. Brace, Colonial Surgeon, Bahamas, has resigned his appointment.

Mr. D. E. Fouguet, Government Surveyor, Mauritius, has been transferred to St. Kitts, West Indies, as Superintendent of Public Works.

Mr. H. H. Hancock is acting as Inspector of Schools, Trinidad, during the absence on leave of Lieut.-Col. J. H. Collens, V.D.

The Hon. W. L. McKinstry, Treasurer and Collector of Customs, British Honduras, has been granted leave of absence for six months, during which his duties are being performed by Mr. Harold E. Phillips.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Slack, Officer Commanding the British Honduras Volunteer Force, has arrived in England on six months' leave of absence. The duties of his office have been assumed by Major L. H. Elphinstone.

The Hon. J. H. W. Park, Director of Public Works, Jamaica, has been appointed a member of the Privy Council of that island, subject to confirmation by his Majesty the King.

Mr. J. P. K. King, Senior Assistant Collector of Taxes, Jamaica, has retired from the Public Service of that Colony. Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Puisne Judge of British Guiana, has been offered and has accepted the office of Junior Puisne Judge of the Straits Settlements. He is at present in England, and will leave to take up his new duties in September.

Hon. W. K. Chandler, LL.D., C.M.G., Judge of Assistant Court of Appeal, etc., Barbados, has been granted three months leave of absence from April 29th.

Mr. Cecil Richter has returned to British Guiana and resumed his duties as Consul for the Netherlands and Consular Agent for France.

Mr. C. W. Anderson, I.S.O., etc., Forestry Officer, British Guiana, has been granted three months leave of absence.

Mr. George F. Branch, Agricultural Instructor, Grenada, has been granted three months' leave of absence.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

The accounts for the half year ended December 31st last, show that the amount to credit of revenue was £38,699 0s. 11d., against £38,505 10s. 2d. for the corresponding half-year of 1912, and the expenses £25,629 16s. 4d., against £24,427 15s. 7d. The result is, therefore, a balance of £13,069 4s. 7d., to which is added £1,836 15s. 9d. interest on investment and £3,184 15s. 7d. brought forward from last account, making an available total of £18,090 15s. 11d. The Directors propose that this amount be applied as follows: Dividend 6s. per share on First Preference Shares (£10,368 18s.), the same on the Second Preference Shares (£1,400 14s.) and Dividend of 1s. per share (free of income tax) on the Ordinary shares (£4,416 18s.), leaving a balance of £1,905 2s. 11d. to be carried forward. The Directors in their report state that the traffic receipts for the six months show an increase of £201 6s. 5d. as compared with those for the corresponding period. In the Director's Report for the 31st December, 1911, it was stated that the exclusive rights granted by Spain to the Company for landing cables in Porto Rico, expired on the 15th February, 1912, and that the United States Government had not acceded to the Company's application for an extension of those rights. The Government subsequently granted permission to the Compagnie Française des Câbles Télégraphiques to land their cable in Porto Rico; and since December last that Company has been competing for Porto Rico traffic.

María Estate (Trinidad) Oilfields, Ltd.

This Company was registered on May 15th, by Armitage, Chapple and Macnaghten, 80, Bishopsgate, E.C. The capi-

tal is £160,000 in 5s. shares, and the objects: To acquire lands, farms, mineral oil, pitch, asphalt and other properties, grants, concessions, leases, claims, etc., in Trinidad, British West Indies, or elsewhere, and to adopt an agreement with R. W. Cater. The minimum cash subscription is 240,000 shares. The first directors (to number not less than three nor more than seven) are to be appointed by the signatories, who are W. B. Pyrkio, E. Richardson, A. E. Brain, H. H. Thompson, W. C. Stroud, W. E. Bowley, and W. H. Young.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), May 28th, "No rain since last message." **British Guiana**—(Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), May 18th, "Four inches of rain during the last seven days." May 23rd, "Heavy rains generally." (The Demerara Co., Ltd.), May 20th, "During the last few days rainfall general on all our estates." **HERBICE**: (Messrs. H. K. Davison and Co.), May 18th, "Abundant rains have fallen." **Jamaica**—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), Week ended May 13th, **Puerto Antonio**, "Fair," **Kingston**, "Fine."

Dividend	Latest Quotations.	Prices
4%	Antigua 4% Redeemable 1910-44	99-101
3 1/2%	Barbados 3 1/2% Redeemable 1925-42	87-89
4%	British Guiana 4% Redeemable 1935	99-101
3%	British Guiana 3% Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
4%	Grenada 4% Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
4%	Jamaica 4% Redeemable 1934	100-102
3 1/2%	Jamaica 3 1/2% Redeemable 1910-40	88-90
3%	Jamaica 3% Redeemable 1922-44	79-81
4%	St. Lucia 4% Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4%	Trinidad 4% Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
4%	Trinidad 4% Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
4%	Trinidad 1ss 99% 74pd	74 1/2-75 1/2
12%	The Colonial Bank	58-64
12%	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchange)	\$221
7%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	96-101
7%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	98-101
4 1/2%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2% Debentures	103-105
4 1/2%	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2% Debentures	98-101
6 1/2%	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	410
6%	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6% Debentures	105-108
7%	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref	410 6/10
7%	General Petroleum Properties of T'adad (£1 shares)	
4%	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (1/2 shares)	2 1/2
4%	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1)	23 1/2-27 1/2
	"B"	
	"C"	
	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	33-38
7%	Demerara Railway Company 7% Perp. Pref.	105-108
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Ex. Pref. ...	81-84
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Debentures	85-91
4 1/2%	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2% Debentures	98-100
1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	98-101
6 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 1/2% Cum. 1st Pref	98-101
6 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " " and "	98-99
5%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5% Debentures	97-99

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Oruba, (Captain J. G. K. Cheret), Southampton, May 25th:—

Miss M. L. Alexander	Mrs. Ferguson	Mrs. Nightingale
Miss R. Aikman	Misses Ferguson (2)	Staff Capt. and Mrs.
Mr. P. Ashmead	Mr. H. J. Freeman	General M. A. Freytes
Mr. H. I. Buchan	Mr. L. Green	Mr. J. J. Nunan
Colonel H. Blagrove,	Mrs. S. Pitt	Mr. and Mrs. Vere L. Oliver
	Mrs. Garnett	Miss K. L. Oliver
Miss Bailey	Misses Garnett (2)	Mr. G. M. Oliver
Mrs. M. V. de Bassadre	Mrs. Greentree	Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Perkins
Mr. B. Bradley	Misses Greentree (2)	Mr. Herman Pinedo
Mr. A. Barreda y Laos	Mr. Garcia	Mr. A. C. Perkins
Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Baker	Hon. J. E. and Mrs. Godfrey	Mrs. Peables
Mr. G. E. Bodkin	Mr. G. W. R. Garvin	Right Rev. Edward A. Parry, D.D.
Mr. and Mrs. S. Baccus	Major G. J. L. Golding	Mr. W. H. Pollard
Miss Blain	Mr. and Mrs. M. Grieg	Mrs. J. Pillai
Mr. and Mrs. R. Bryson	Mr. H. Gall	Mr. S. Quass
Miss Bryson	Mrs. Gaskin	Mr. W. H. Revill
Mr. P. Baynes	Mrs. Hutchinson	Mr. S. Roche
His Excellency Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G.	Mr. A. C. Hunter	Mr. and Mrs. R. Reyes,
Miss Bladen	Miss Hunter	
Mr. D. Barnes	Mr. C. H. Harria	Mr. D. O. Riviere
Mr. J. D. Barrington	Mr. T. S. J. Heasley	Mr. G. Schmitt
Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Blacker	Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Hammond	Mr. Alfred Salt
Mr. E. P. Boyce	Mr. R. G. Humphrey	Mr. W. M. B. Shields
Mr. W. C. Boyce	Miss Haynes	Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Seaton
Mr. A. W. Boyce	Mr. G. Hogg	Mr. P. B. B. Shand
Mr. and Miss Bowen	Mr. and Mrs. L. Insignares	Mrs. and Miss Scully
Mr. H. Bergersen	Mrs. Jarrett	Mr. G. W. Smith
Dr. and Mrs. H. Castle	Capt. A. B. Jorgensen	Her Highness
Misses Castle (2)	Mr. H. Knowles	Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holsten
Miss Crossley	Mr. Stanley Knowles	Miss Hawkes
Mrs. L. del Castillo y Boza	Miss Lewis	Mr. Fraser
Mr. I. A. Correa	Mr. Budhar Lal	Mr. G. Stedall
Mr. R. Clements	Miss E. Leared	Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Sworder
Mr. M. A. Carbonell	Misses Lastic (2)	Mr. N. W. Streat
Dr. L. Caballero	Lady R. Le Hunt	Misses Sealy (2)
Mr. and Mrs. J. Ma Cortes	Mr. T. V. Landall-Mills	Mrs. Swaby
Mr. Manuel Cortes	Mr. M. Lionel	Miss Shankland
Mr. W. S. Cameron	Miss G. Layno	Mr. H. E. Taylor
Mr. C. W. H. Collier	Mr. W. R. McCall	Misses de la Torre (2)
Mrs. S. M. Caines	Miss Murray	Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Tempany
Mrs. Corea	Mr. and Mrs. M. McKay	Mrs. W. S. Thwaites
Miss A. Cochrane	Mr. Alexander Milne	Misses Tomkinson (2)
Miss M. Clowes	Mr. and Mrs. P. Meier	Mrs. V. de Vellate
Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Cole	Mr. A. S. Marks	Mr. and Mrs. Walker
Mr. J. C. Culppeper	Mr. G. Mayes	Miss Walker
Mr. R. Cristensen	Mr. I. Mullin	Mr. Wilson
Mr. J. J. Dupuy	Mr. P. Mackenzie	Mr. L. Walcha
Mr. G. Du Boulay	Mr. and Mrs. R. Morrison	Mrs. William
Mr. T. J. Duc	Miss Neemil Mellzan	Mr. A. E. Watson
Mr. Franklin	Mr. G. Du Boulay	Mrs. W. C. Winston
Mr. J. M. R. Francis	Mr. Monckton	Miss A. M. Williamson
Misses Fernandes (2)	Mrs. Mackenzie	Mr. and Mrs. M. Meade
Miss A. C. Fenning	Mr. C. V. Monk	Zavala y Zavala
Mr. C. Ferlin	Mrs. E. M. Muir	
	Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Muir	

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. S. Garraway	Mr. James Peet
H.E. Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G.	Hon. E. A. Grannum	Mr. G. Railton
Mr. Geoffrey Brooke	Mr. W. Greig	Mr. W. C. Robertson
Mr D. C. Cameron	Mr. W. Morris Fletcher	Mr. O. Hope Ross
Professor P. Carmody	Mr. A. T. Hammond	Mr. H. Seedford
Hon. W. K. Chandler	Mr. F. R. L. Henderson	Mr. F. B. Shand
Mr. F. Cundall, P.S.A.	Mr. J. C. Handerson	Mr. W. J. Slack
Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa	Mr. A. S. Kernahan	Mr. Wm. Smith
Mr. C. E. Drayton	Dr. G. L. Latour	Mr. Carl F. Wieting
Mr. Wm. Durao	Mr. W. Low	Mr. A. H. Wight
Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.		
Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Hazlewell Road, Putney, S.W.		
Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.		
Major the Hon. J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria St., S.W.		
Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C.		
Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoyne," Chessel Avenue, Batterne, Southampton.		
Mr. H. Y. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.		
Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.		
Mr. George Farmer, "Fernside," New Malden, Surrey.		
Hon. G. Russell Garnett, Rose Cottage, Beckhamsstead.		
Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meriton House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.		
Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.		
Hon. C. Green Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, S.W.		
Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.		
Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembridge Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.		
Mr. D. O. Riviere, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W.C.		
Mr. W. N. Sands, "Logmore," Taylor Road, Wallington, Surrey.		
Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E.C.		
Mr. Thomas Thornton, 31, Grassmere Street, Burnley, Lanc.		
Mr. Hugh F. Wildy, 49, Church Lane, Hornsey, N.		
Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W.C.		

HOME ARRIVALS PER R.M.S.P. Arcadian, FROM NEW YORK AND BERMUDA.

This vessel, which reached Southampton on May 16th, brought in all 250 passengers, among whom were the following from Bermuda—

Miss B. Astwood	Mr. E. B. Gray	Misses Reese (3)
Mr. J. Bluck	Miss M. Ingham	Master Reese
Mr. A. G. Blackwood	Mrs. S. D. Lough	Miss Grace H. Talbot
Mr. A. J. Godwin	Rev. & Mrs. Martin	Mrs. J. H. Trimmingham
Miss L. Gosling	Mr. E. Motyer	Misses Trimmingham (3)
Miss M. Gosling	Fleet Surgeon and Mrs. Reese	Mr. L. H. Walker
Miss H. Gosling		Miss Walker

HOME ARRIVALS FROM COLON PER S.S. Patia, Avonmouth, May 24th:—

Mrs. & Mrs. Rowbotham	Mrs. Jackson	Mr. & Mrs. Fourment
Mrs. Casartelli	Mrs. and Mrs. Notman	Mr. & Mrs. Versmann
Mrs. Newton-Howes	Mr. R. Burnett	Miss R. Klingmann
Mr. E. Wood	Mr. J. Edmunds	and
Mrs. and Miss Walker	Dr. N. McPhail	Mrs. Musset
Mr. C. Ward	Miss M. Ellerby	

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Oruba, (Captain J. G. K. Cheret), June 3rd:—

Mrs. C. de Villegas	Miss E. Pollard	Mr. J. H. Lucas
Mr. P. H. Edwards	Mr. W. H. Pollard	Mr. Juan Rubio
Mr. N. Lancaster Shaw	Mrs. K. Ozanne	Mr. A. Mira
Mr. and Mrs. J. Montes	Mr. and Mrs. H. Walker	Mr. G. Matthews
Mrs. B. Montes	Mrs. B. F. N. Macrorie	Miss O. Lowe
Misses Montes (4)	Mr. G. L. Viner	Mr. F. H. Waller
Mr. R. Gutierrez	Captain and Mrs. W. H. Moore, d.s.o.	Captain & Mrs. J. T. Tiner
Mr. E. Montes	Mr. A. Casas	Mr. R. Service
Mr. J. Givannetti	Mrs. D. E. Davies	Mr. F. Jamieson
Mr. and Mrs. H. W. O'Hagan	Mr. C. McKimming	

HOMEWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Trent, due at Southampton, June 8th:—

Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Andrews	Mr. F. Howell	Mrs. and Miss Rud
Miss Baroness	Mr. Harrison	Mr. John Roberts
Mr. E. H. Brocksope	Ven. Archdeacon Josa	Hon. Dr. and Mrs. Slynne
Mrs. J. Burch	Mrs. Image	Miss Slynne
Mr. J. S. Bonnyman	Mrs. Korkhans	Mrs. Schjolseth
Captain Brown	Mr. Kruger	Captain A. L. Slinger
Mrs. Collins	Mr. J. C. Moore	Mr. Smith
Miss A. Chipehase	Mrs. and Miss Moore	Sir J. and Lady Hayes-Sadler
Mr. Cooks	Mrs. Macguilloray	Misses Stone
Mrs. Clarke	Mr. Masbaki	Mr. J. Thomson
Mr. N. Darnell Davis, c.s.o.	Mrs. McAuley	Dr. and Mrs. Tengley
Mr. and Mrs. Duver	Mr. and Mrs. E. G. L. Mason	Mrs. Tennant
Mrs. Da Costa	Miss Nunes	Dr. Tobler
Mr. Ferguson	Mr. A. Nunes	Miss A. M. Thornton
Mr. and Mrs. Fellowes	Mr. Peden	Miss Van Asbeck
Mr. G. L. Guppy	Mrs. Farnell	Miss Viret
Mr. Holroy	Mr. Pusey	Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Wiles
Miss Hudson	Mrs. H. Pale	Mrs. and Miss Wallace
	Miss Rodway	Mr. and Miss Watts
	Mr. Ruggles	
	Colonel Rotwell	

OUTWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Trent (Captain R. Hayes) June 17th:—

Mrs. W. de W. Wishart	Mr. and Mrs. A. Schmidt	Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Fisher
Miss Gooding	Miss M. G. Farnell	Miss E. M. Crattan
Mr. R. N. Sarlowa	Mrs. M. Donovan	Mr. J. McGilchrist
Mrs. M. O. Davies and daughter	Mr. J. L. E. Chow	Miss F. Azore
Mr. H. Robinson	Mr. W. Donovan	Miss D. Sumintra
		Mr. H. Y. Sabai

The Booker Line.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM DEMERARA per S.S. Imataka, Liverpool, May 22nd:—

Mrs. and Mrs. C. P. Widdup	Mr. Scales	Mr. V. J. Greenwood
	Mr. R. F. Herbert	Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Anderson

SAILINGS FROM LIVERPOOL TO DEMERARA, per S.S. Imataka, May 29th:—

Mrs. and Miss Wreford	Mrs. R. Alieu	Miss K. L. Layton
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Hlers & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM COLON per S.S. Chagres, Avonmouth, May 17th:—

Mr. E. Smith	Mr. and Mrs. Cardinal	Mr. J. Weber
Mr. W. J. Hicks	Mr. and Mrs. Potter	Mr. W. Bardy
Mrs. H. A. Evans	Miss Corry	Rev. F. Lord
Miss Miss Ward	Mr. M. Keffler	Mr. A. Boehlen
Mrs. McGrath	Mr. F. Galbraith	Mr. M. Dreyfus
Miss M. Hayes	Mr. and Mrs. Alfaro	Mr. R. P. Thomson

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post to London.
West Indies	... Southampton	... Oruba	... June 2, midnight
West Indies	... Dartmouth	... "Saba	... " 5 1/2 noon
Jamaica	... Liverpool	... "Nortonian	... " 5 6 p.m.
Barbados & Trinidad	... Liverpool	... "Belgian	... " 12, "
West Indies	... Portland	... "Bisfang	... " 12, 1 1/2 a.m.
West Indies	... Southampton	... Trent	... " 19, midnight
HOMEWARD.			
Southampton	... West Indies	... Trent	... June 8.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica. ‡ In E.C. district up to 1 p.m.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to May 7, 1914	1913	Jan 1 to Mar. 26, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	24,377	16,207 Tons.	2,683	1,829 Tons.
Molasses ...	643	505 Puns.		
Rum ...	1,261,100	1,059,434 Galls.	280,755	102,738 Galls.
Molascuit, &c. ...	924	3,345 Tons.		
Cacao ...	23,357	... lbs.	1,948,352	1,006,096 Lbs.
Coffee ...	159,040	57,468 "	4,140,528	2,052,064 "
Coco-nuts ...	759,036	372,196 No	6,512,455	6,248,015 No.
Oranges ...			1,312,100	3,713,686 "
Bananas ...			2,655,345	788,546 Stems
Cotton ...				4,495 Lbs.
Pimento ...			13,738	31,220 Cwts.
Ginger ...			5,678	6,431 "
Honey ...			40,710	14,077 Galls.
Dyewoods ...			16,809	8,261 Tons
Gold ...	20,779	17,517 ozs.		
Diamonds ...	3,405	1,847 carats.		
Rice ...	7,398,827	4,389,405 lbs.		
Balata ...	306,710	231,518 "		
Rubber ...		48 "		
Timber ...	88,000	151,357 cubic ft.		
Lumber ...	132,687	144,652 feet		
Lime (citrate of) ...				
		Trinidad.	Barbados.	
		Jan. 1 to May 12, 1914	Jan. 1 to May 7, 1914.	
Sugar ...		21,551	19,071 Tons.	16,939
Molasses ...		1,860	718 Puns.	37,696
Rum ...		560	331 "	
Coco-nuts ...		5,492,225	4,818,378 No.	
Asphalt ...		53,803	80,325 Tons.	
Manjak ...		81	208 "	
Bitters ...		6,666	6,897 Cases.	
Coffee ...		4,480	1,200 lbs.	
Crude Petrol ...		5,959,104	1,431,661 Galls.	
Cotton ...		44,605,600	28,674,000 lbs.	
" Seed ...				
Copra ...		2,758	2,681 Bags.	
Spice ...				
Kola ...				
		Antigua.	Grenada.	
		Jan. to October 31st, 1913	Oct. 1 to May 11, 1913/14	
Sugar ...		16,194		11,677 Tons.
Molasses ...		8,092		5,267 Puns.
Cotton ...		168,523		80,480 lbs.
Pineapples ...		374		365 Bales
Limes ...		869		393 "
Lime Juice, raw ...		223		188 Casks.
" concentrated ...		38		38 "
Logwood ...		837		538 Tons.
Onions ...		4,406		2,742 Crates.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 5% Jan. 20th) Consols (2½% 7½)

The markets closed for Whitsuntide holidays last week. **SUGAR.**—In New York the weakness displayed in this market was succeeded by an active demand for raws and quotations more than recovered half the former loss. A good business was done in Cubans on the basis of 3.20 New York terms, this upward movement was, however, followed by further advances in prices and a large business estimated at 200,000 bags was effected at 3.39c. New York terms for shipment during June. The market was firm at quotations for 96% centrifugals of 3.39c. to 3.42c., and muscovados of 2.95c. to 2.98c. end of last week. An agitation is on foot to establish a future market in raws and a committee has been appointed to draw up rules for trading in such raw sugar contracts.

In the London speculative beet market the easier tendency previously prevalent has given place to a more cheerful tone as a consequence of the rapid upward movements in New York values, due to wet weather in Cuba, which has had the effect of largely reducing the former estimates of the crop. Mr. Guima shows a decrease of 12,000 tons making the total now 2,550,000 tons; while Mr. Himely puts the total crop at 2,528,000 tons. The change in the outlook together with favourable Continental advices has imparted firmness to the market. The receipts from Cuba are falling off considerably, and it does not appear that the lost ground can be made up as the weather continued unfavourable for the marketing and grinding of the cane. Receipts at all ports were only 33,000 tons against 46,000 last week, and 47,000 tons last year. Mr. F. O. Licht writes "Weather for field work very satisfactory, and for development of beet generally very favourable."

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: May 19th, 9s. 6½d.; 20th, 9s. 6½d.; 21st, no call; 22nd, 9s. 8½d.; 23rd, 9s. 7½d.; 25th, 9s. 7½d.; 26th, 9s. 8d.; 27th, 9s. 7½d.; 28th, 9s. 6½d.; 29th, 9s. 7d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914.	1913.	1912.
Europe	2,803,265	2,641,222	1,890,357
United States	299,000	360,000	217,000
Cuba, 6 p/pal ports	636,000	626,000	467,000
Cargoes afloat	85,000	48,000	26,900

Total Tons 3,823,265 3,675,222 2,601,257
Quotations of 88% Beet, 29th May 9s. 7d. 9s. 3½d. 11s. 10½d.

Grocery West Indian.—The crystallised market has been steady and prices show no marked change, but the tone has been much firmer. Only one public sale has taken place in the fortnight, at which the offerings were large, and more disposition was shown by the Trade to make bids, resulting in a good business at steady prices to 1½d. advance. The approaching Whitsuntide holidays have exercised a quieting effect on the market.

The business recorded has ranged for Trinidad from 13s. to 14s. 1½d., for Demerara from 13s. 6d. to 14s. 9d., for Jamaica from 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d., for Surinam from 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d.

Muscovados.—Barbados sold at 11s. 9d. to 11s. 10½d. **Syrups.**—Jamaica sold at 11s. 9d., Surinam at 10s. 6d., 10s. 9d. 11s. and 11s. 9d.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Tons
Imports	15,601	17,516	14,859	19,889	15,269	
Deliveries	11,251	10,691	11,908	13,625	12,844	
Stocks (May 23rd)	16,955	8,664	7,440	10,619	7,498	

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised 15th May.
13s. 3d./12s. 6d. 15s. 3d. 17s. 6d. 15s. 18s. 3d.

RUM. Stocks in London, May 23rd:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Puns
Jamaica	7,148	5,565	7,546	9,329	11,016	
Demerara	10,789	7,869	7,155	6,520	9,008	
Total, all kinds	24,944	20,983	22,027	25,548	27,404	

The market for proofs has been quiet. Shipments are now falling off and the few transactions recorded have taken place nominally at late rates. In Jamaica more business has been done in all descriptions. Common, which is in plentiful supply, has moved off slowly; but a fair trade in better home trade kinds as well as a moderate business in low exports marks has taken place at a slight reduction in prices; good and fine, however, have sold at full prices for a few marks. The recent heavy landings have accumulated so much at the docks that samples have been delayed.

CACAO.—Stocks in London, May 23rd:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Bag.
Trinidad	8,898	7,491	7,997	5,714	9,606	
Grenada...	14,542	7,499	6,120	18,032	16,555	
Total of all kinds	101,683	84,068	116,023	127,485	97,863	

The market has been quiet and there is no quotable change in values. At auction last Tuesday 5,134 bags of all kinds were offered, of which 2,892 consisted of West India but only 1,161 bags found buyers at steady rates. Trinidad was all bought in, Grenada and other West India mostly sold at previous prices. The private market is dull.

Quotations:—Trinidad, middling red 58s. to 59s., good middling red 60s. to 60s. 6d., fine and superior 61s. to 61s., Grenada, ordinary to good fair 52s. to 54s., middling to fine 55s. to 58s.

In the Trinidad Circular of May 12th it is reported the upward movement continued and prices were forced up to \$12.20 and \$13.15 for El Dorado and Montecito marks respectively. Since then, however, a sudden change downwards had set in and on date quotations were at about \$11.50 for the former and \$12 for the latter type. The market still remains very sensitive.

COFFEE.—Santos, June 43s. 1½d.; Sept. 44s. 1½d.; Dec. 45s. 1½d. Spot market firm. Futures dearer than last month, a result of Havre and New York being a shade higher. Trade slow at close and quiet.

COTTON.—About 100 bales West Indian Sea Island sold, chiefly St. Croix at 18d. to 19d. with a few St. Vincent at 21d., also 50 bales stains at 7½d. Finest qualities firm, lower grades pressed for sale.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice—Steady, brisk sales. Ordinary cloudy Jamaica at 1s. 8d.; Dominica is worth 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d.

Essential Oil.—Dearer. Small sales up to 3s. per lb. for good. **Otto of Limes.**—Rather better, owing to scarcity; and very small sales made at 8s. 6d. per lb. **Concentrated** £38 has been paid for small arrivals per R.M.S.P. *Onuba*, a record.

PIMENTO.—Dull. **GINGER.**—Dull. **NUTMEGS & MACE.**—Unchanged.

COPRA.—Value £25 10s., market a declining tendency.

ARROWROOT.—Only small sales of common at rather easier rates.

RUBBER. Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 25s. 3½d., Smoked sheet 25s. 3½d., fine hard Para 25s. 10d. against 35s. 8d. in 1913, do. soft 25s. 5d. against 35s. 7d. in 1913, Castillo sheet 1s. 11d. against 25s. 9d. in 1913, Scrap 1s. 5d. and 1s. 6d. against 25s. 5d. in 1913. **BALATA.**—Sheet 2s. 8d. landed terms against 2s. 9d. last year and Block 2s. 0½d. c.i.f. against 2s. last year.

PETROLEUM OIL.—Russian, 7d.; American, 7½d.

Water White 8½d., Roumanian, 6½d., and Galician, 6½d.

TORTOISESHELL & TURTLE SHELL.—The following prices were realised at Public sale: West India selected good reddish 50s. to 97s. 6d.; chicken 17s. 6d. to 20s.; hoof good clean 43s. to 50s.; Yellow belly good pale 55s. to 67s. 6d. Jamaica, Colon and Havana, etc., selected reddish 42s.; chicken and small medium 15s. to 16s. 6d.; hoof good pale clear 36s.; do. fair to good 24s. to 31s.; Yellow belly fair to good pale 29s. to 46s.; do. ordinary 17s. 6d. Loggerhead and Turtle Shell part sold. Loggerhead at 6d. to 2s. 6d. Turtle at 6d. to 1s. 9d.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone: 15, SPETHING LANE,
 THE CENTRAL, LONDON, E.C.4.
 Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.

June 15th, 1914.

AN EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO JAMAICA.

AS was announced in our issue of the 19th of May, arrangements have been made for a party of members of the London Teachers' Association to visit Jamaica, on one of their summer tours. The party, some fifty in number, of whom a majority are women teachers, accompanied by MR. THOMAS GAUTREY, L.C.C., Secretary of the Association, will leave Avonmouth in MESSRS. ELDERS & FYFFES' steamer *Changuinola* on the 20th of July and will reach Kingston on the 3rd of August. The party will have just one week in the colony, and arrangements are being made, with the help of the Director of Education and the Jamaica Tourists Association, whereby the teachers may combine a visit to some of the educational establishments of the island with a sight of a part of its beautiful scenery. In Kingston they will doubtless inspect both the Mico and Shortwood Training Colleges, as well as one or more of the elementary schools; while with a trip to Castleton may be combined a visit to the Industrial School at Stony Hill. Spanish Town will probably be visited en route, and Montego Bay, whence it is hoped the party may proceed by sea to Port Antonio, and thence back to Kingston. On one afternoon, it is understood, the teachers will be entertained at King's House by His Excellency the Governor. It will undoubtedly prove of mutual advantage that this summer tour of the London teachers, which has been arranged through the instrumentality of the West India Committee, should have taken them to the West Indies. The Jamaica teachers will naturally be glad to hear from their brothers and sisters in London of the latest developments in education, and the London teachers will, in their turn, not fail to be interested in learning the methods adopted in Jamaica in dealing with educational problems, which, if different, are analogous to those in the old country. It is not too much to hope that at no very distant date, a return trip may be arranged for a party of the Jamaica Union

of Teachers to visit England. The London Teachers' Association would, doubtless, do all in its power to further the movement. The Government of Jamaica might lend its aid, and MESSRS ELDERS & FYFFES would, no doubt, sympathise with the idea. After leaving Jamaica, the party will continue their journey in the *Changuinola* to Port Limon, whence they will probably pay a flying visit to San José, and thereby see something of the beauties of Costa Rica, and its coffee plantations. They will then proceed to Colon, where a twenty-four hour wait will enable them to visit the Canal, inspect its engineering wonders, and see Panama and the Pacific. The party is due home on the 23rd of August.

As some part of the tour will extend beyond the limits of the ordinary holiday, the members will we understand, be called upon to write a report of their journey. This should prove of interest to their less fortunate comrades who have not been able to accompany them, and prove advantageous to Jamaica. It is difficult to imagine a month's tour anywhere which could combine a pleasanter sea trip and sojourns on land having more stimulating historical associations. The teachers will travel over much of the sea traversed by Columbus in his caravels, and will on entering Port Royal be able to recall the epoch making engagements of Vernon, Rodney and other famous sailors.

CANADA AND CUBA.

A TELEGRAM from Halifax, Nova Scotia, states the merchants there are approaching the Government of Canada with the view of opening negotiations for a Reciprocity Treaty with Cuba. We take it that, so far as sugar is concerned—and this is the point of greatest consequence to the British West Indies—if a treaty were to be concluded that commodity would come in at a rate intermediate between the British Preferential and the General Tariff rates. There need not be the slightest alarm in West Indian sugar circles at the prospect of Cuban sugar going into Canada at preferential rates. The Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement secures to the colonies which are signatories to it that the preference in their favour shall be, for raw sugar not

above No. 16 Dutch Standard and testing not over 75 degrees by the polariscope, not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents per 100 lbs., with $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per 100 lbs. for each additional degree of polarisation. (This for 96° sugar amounts to 15 cents per 100 lbs., and at the present moment the preference given to this sugar is 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per 100 lbs.) Whatever the arrangement with Cuba, therefore, West Indian sugar should be in no less an advantageous position in relation to Cuban sugar as regards preference than at present. An interesting point, however, does arise in this connection. If preferential treatment is to be accorded to Cuba, either the General Tariff will have to be raised or the British Preferential lowered in order to admit Cuban sugar on a preferential basis while still maintaining for British West Indian sugar its guaranteed minimum preference over the sugar of foreign countries of 15 cents per 100 lbs., In this guarantee of a minimum preference lies one of the advantages of the trade agreement. Another is that the West Indies are safeguarded for ten years, for if during that period Canada drops her policy of Imperial preference—a contingency not, however, very likely to arise—the British West Indies will still receive a preference on sugar.

SUGAR FACTORY CONTROL.

ELSEWHERE in the present issue we give a summary of Java sugar manufacturing figures for the season 1913, which have been compiled by DR. PRINSEN GEERLIGS. They are of the greatest value, having been obtained in each instance by the same methods, and as the result of mutual and co-operative arrangements on the part of the estates proprietors. We sincerely trust that the time may come, and come soon, when similar figures may be available regarding cane sugar production in British Guiana and the British West Indies, and that the scheme already initiated by the British Guiana Planters' Association with this end in view may be generally supported. It would increase the value of the comparative figures still further if they were to be obtained by the same methods as those adopted in Java, and if every important sugar growing country were to fall into line. A comparison of the world's cane sugar manufacturing results would then be rendered possible, and it is hardly necessary to say that it would be of incalculable value to all concerned. Now that Cuban sugar planters have the benefit of the residence in their island of that well qualified expert, MR NOEL DEERR, in an official capacity, the moment seems opportune for the inauguration of a system for securing uniformity in control there. Mauritius has already made a start through its Chamber of Agriculture, whose statistics we have justly praised more than once in these columns, but British Guiana and the West Indian islands, alas, lag behind. What is now wanted is the production of factory figures throughout the cane sugar growing world on a uniform basis. Figures and statistics otherwise lose much of their value for comparative purposes.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee was held at 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., on June 11th, Mr. R. Rutherford presiding. Those also present were: Mr. Edward R. Davson, Mr. William Fawcett, Mr. William Gillespie, Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall, Mr. C. Sandbach Parker, Mr. H. F. Previt , Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary. Mr. W. Middleton Campbell joined the meeting before its close.

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Treasurers reported the deaths of Mr. A. Summerson, Mr. Delos J. Martin, and Mr. Nelson B. Smith, and the resignation of seven members; and their recommendation that the names of five members be removed from the list of members for non-payment of dues was adopted.

A resolution of sympathy with the widow of Mr. A. Summerson, for many years Hon. Correspondent to the West India Committee in British Guiana, was carried unanimously.

The following candidates were admitted to membership of the West India Committee:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondaries.
Lord Stanmore	R. Rutherford. H. F. Previt�.
Hon. W. L. McKinstry (British Honduras)	W. J. Slack. E. L. Marshall.
Clifford Steadman	J. H. Howell. R. Rutherford.
A. H. Rowley	E. A. de Pass. W. Fawcett.
Mrs. John Hutchinson	E. R. Davson. H. F. Previt�.
William Cooper and Nephews	E. R. Davson. R. Rutherford.
Arthur D. P. Williamson (British Honduras)	E. L. Marshall. W. P. B. Shephard.
J. S. Whatton	W. P. B. Shephard. R. Rutherford.

The sub-committee appointed to report on the subject of the desirability of securing greater uniformity in the laws and legal procedure of the West Indies reported that several meetings had been held and that a memorandum regarding the execution and registration of deeds and documents in the West Indies had been drawn up to show how widely divergent these are at present. They submitted a series of suggestions for securing uniformity in several respects throughout the West Indian colonies, and recommended that they be forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a request that they might receive the attention of the Legal Adviser to the Colonial Office and be submitted to the Governments of the various West Indian colonies. The Secretary was instructed to circulate the recommendations among the members of the Executive.

Mr. Davson, who was welcomed on his return

from a visit to the West Indies extending over six months, reported the progress which has been made in the formation of the Association of Chambers of Commerce for the West Indies. He had visited all the West Indian colonies, except Grenada, and had discussed the details of the scheme with the various Chambers of Commerce and the Agricultural and Commercial Societies. He hoped that all preliminary matters had now been satisfactorily arranged, and said that it was expected that the inaugural meeting would take place in the early part of next year.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1543. Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms. During the year to date 47 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

British Guiana ... 4	St. Vincent ... 1
Trinidad ... 4	Canada ... 2
Grenada ... 3	New South Wales ... 1
British Honduras ... 2	Country ... 15
Dominica ... 2	London ... 8
Jamaica ... 2	New York ... 2
Nevis ... 1	

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE MAP.

The first supply of copies of the West India Committee Map of the West Indies, is now exhausted; but a further quantity will be ready for delivery almost immediately. Meanwhile the Map continues to be most favourably commented upon. Says *United Empire*, the official organ of the Royal Colonial Institute: "The West India Committee are to be congratulated on the production of this useful commercial map of the West Indies. The principal steamship and cable routes are clearly shown, and wireless, coaling, and oil stations are indicated. There are three insets showing the routes and distances between Canada and the United States and the West Indies; another a plan of the Panama Canal, and a third showing by diagrams the area and population of the principal British West Indian colonies." A great advantage of the Map is that it includes British Honduras and the whole of British Guiana. The specially reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each (8s. 4d. carriage paid in the United Kingdom; abroad, according to destination) for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

THE PROPOSED WEST INDIAN FLAG.

The Executive of the League of the Empire at a meeting on June 4th unanimously adopted the following resolution with respect to the proposed joint flag for the West Indian Colonies:—

That the Executive Committee are much interested to learn of the proposal on the part of the West Indian islands to adopt a joint flag, in addition to their own individual flags, and they have great pleasure in joining with the West India Committee in expressing their strong hope that this proposal may be carried out, and that thus the League of the Empire and all other societies may have the honour of carrying this flag on all Imperial occasions, together with those of the other Dominions and Colonies of the Empire.

The West India Committee are to be congratulated says the *Egyptian Gazette*, on the success which seems likely to attend a suggestion made by them some thirteen months ago. This was to the effect that the West Indian islands should adopt a joint flag, in addition to their individual flags, for use on ceremonial occasions. The need for such a flag has been more than once evident during Imperial pageants, and the proposal has been placed before the governors of the different colonies and has been favourably received. A design for the flag is now under consideration. Of all symbols the flag is, perhaps, the one which has the strongest significance, and, although it may seem but a small thing, yet the adoption of a collective West Indian flag is a step away from the insularity which has been so marked a characteristic of the West Indian colonies in the past and an obstacle to their progress.

LECTURES ON BRITISH GUIANA.

A lecture on "British Guiana," was given by Mr. Alleyne Leechman, F.L.S., F.C.S., Science Lecturer to the Department of Science and Agriculture, before the Ashmolean Society at Oxford on May 26. The fine series of nearly 80 lantern slides presented to the West India Committee was used for the first time on this occasion; and the large audience present were much interested in the excellent pictures of the colony. The Kaieteur Fall naturally attracted the greatest attention; but the lecturer was kept busy for quite three quarters of an hour at the close of his address answering questions on various subjects connected with the colony. The problem of public health and mosquito prevention, the development of the savannahs and the conveniences for tourists were the chief topics of enquiry; and Mr. Leechman was able to expand his previous remarks on these points.

With the kind permission of the Sherardian Professor of Botany (Dr. S. H. Vines, M.A., F.R.S.) the slides were exhibited in the Lecture Theatre of the Botany School on June 5th, when Mr. Leechman took the opportunity of using them to illustrate some points of botanical interest in British Guiana.

SUGAR IN JAVA.

The comparative working figures of the Java factories for the season 1913 are now to hand. Taking the average of the 133 factories, it is seen that the sugar content of the canes was 12.54 per cent. as against 12.35 per cent. for the previous year. Of this 90.7 per cent. was extracted by the mills, the average amount of maceration water used being 13.9 per cent. of the normal juice. The average quantity of sucrose present in the megass was 4.45 per cent, the sucrose lost in this way being 1.16 per cent of the cane, or 9.3 per cent. of the sugar in the cane. There was lost in the filter cake .88 per cent. of the sugar in the cane, the sugar content being 7 per cent.

The sugar extracted from the cane amounted to 6.93 per cent. white sugar, 1.34 per cent. of refining crystals, 0.90 per cent. of second boilings, 0.76 per cent. of molasses sugar, and 0.05 per cent. of "black stroop," the total sugar extracted on the basis of 96.5 polarisation being 10 per cent., as against 10.21 per cent. the previous year. The actual amount of sucrose extracted amounted to 9.75 per cent., equivalent to 77.8 per cent. of that in the canes, or 85.7 per cent. of that in the juice. It is interesting to note that there has been a progressive lowering in the extraction from the juice in the last few years. Thus in 1910 the extraction of sucrose was 89.7 per cent., in 1911 90.1 per cent., and in 1912 88.3 per cent. During these years there has been no particular variation in the proportion of white sugar made, the lowered extraction being evidently due to depreciation in the quality of the juice, the purity quotient of which has fallen from 84.67 in 1910 to 80.95 in the year under review. The polarisation of the white sugar was 99.2°, of the refining crystals 97.18°, of the second boilings 97.61° and of the molasses sugar 86.07°. The purity of the exhausted molasses was 32.92.

As regards the figures for the individual factories, the highest percentage of sucrose extracted by the mills from that in the cane was 95.1. This was with 11.11 per cent. of fibre in the canes and 12.7 per cent. maceration. The lowest was 84.7 per cent. with 7.91 per cent. of fibre. The highest amount of sugar in the cane was 14.81 per cent., the lowest 9.70 per cent.

The table from which the above figures are taken is of great value. If, however, Dr. Prinsen Geerligs could see his way to adding to them the particulars as to the number of rolls included in each mill plant, and the number of tons of canes ground per hour per linear foot, the table would then give all the information required.

MESSAGES received by the Direct West India Cable Company announce the resignations of Hon. F. A. H. Haggart, from the position of General Passenger and Freight Agent of the United Fruit Company, and of Mr. R. C. Guy from the *Gleaner* staff.

THE TRINIDAD OIL INDUSTRY.

An instructive report from Philadelphia.

By far the largest producer of oil in Trinidad at the present time is the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company, which is controlled by the General Asphalt Company. In the circumstances the report of the last-named undertaking for the fiscal year ended April 30 has special interest for readers interested in Trinidad's new industry.

Referring to the operations conducted in Trinidad for winning petroleum the Directors state that these yielded substantial results in spite of certain adverse happenings. Notable advance has been made in the direction of determining the existence of oil in commercial quantities. This has been conclusively demonstrated by the wells drilled and on a scale, both as to yield and extent of area, far in excess of expectations.

The finishing, or perfect completion, of an oil well, state the Directors, comprehends drilling through the oil-bearing measure or measures with perforated pipe, the perforated portion or portions of which shall be placed in contact with the respective layers of producing oil sands; the "landing," or imbedding, of the bottom of the pipe in a solid underlying stratum; and the establishing of production, with valve control over the same at the mouth of the well.

But in the finishing of wells in the Vessigny field [to the South of the Pitch Lake] it might also be said (superficially however) that no progress has been made; which, so far as true, is greatly to be regretted. Yet the presence of oil in large quantities on lands owned or under lease by the Company is the very foundation of this branch of its business and, that being assured, the technique of winning the oil will in time be mastered no matter how imperfect the accomplishment thus far. The last annual report of the Company, referring to the difficulties of finishing wells, said that it was expected that, by the aid of certain appliances referred to, that problem would be solved. But it has not been solved reliably as yet, though the goal seems to be nearer. The difficulties, especially in the Morne L'Enfer oil sand series of the Vessigny field, are three, namely; the quantity of oil, the enormous gas pressure and the great thickness of the series.

The matter of drilling 1,400 to 1,800 feet down to the oil measures is simple, but their upper layer in the Vessigny field is a richly productive stratum of oil sand under extraordinary gas pressure, below which are alternating layers of shale and oil sands, 300 to 350 feet thick, with similar gas pressure, within which the several oil sand strata themselves aggregate 150 feet. The thickest and richest productive stratum lies at the bottom of the series, the total depth of which from the surface is from 1,750 to 2,150 feet. None of the wells so far here drilled have passed through this series, the maximum penetration having been 180 feet, in well No. 42.



THE INTERIOR SHOWING MRS. ROSA PALMER'S MONUMENT.



THE NORTH ENTRANCE AND CHURCHYARD.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, MONTEGO BAY.

From photographs by Algernon E. Aspinall.

The formation above and below the oil series is hard blue clay. On commencing a well, a large bore is made to about 700 feet, to which point a "string" of 15½-inch pipe is lowered and cemented, to shut off surface water. When the cement has hardened, creating an effectual bond with the surrounding clay drilling is continued to a point (1,375 to 1,775 feet in the Vessigny field) calculated to be in close proximity to the top of the oil zone and to said point a 12½-inch pipe is lowered and cemented as in the first instance. Then follows a 6-inch drill pipe having a rotary drill bit at the bottom, the first 400 feet of which pipe are perforated to admit gas, oil and sand; and finally a 2-inch wash pipe is installed within the 6-inch for conducting water under pressure. When these are in place and connected at the surface to the pumps and to the rotary apparatus which causes the drill pipe to revolve at great speed, the operation of "drilling-in" commences and must be continued with the greatest possible rapidity until, if successful, the 6-inch pipe is landed in blue clay beneath all the oil sands. The weight of the column of water with which the well is filled exerts a pressure of 800 pounds per square inch at a depth of 1,600 feet, which operates against the outward force of the gas and oil. Muddy water used in the rotary pumps considerably adds to the effectiveness of the water pressure, through smearing and sealing the formation when and as the drill bit cuts into it. The success of this operation (in the Vessigny field) may be and so far usually has been interfered with at the critical moment by the giving way of some part of the apparatus, the clogging of a steam pipe or the valve of a pump, the unmeshing of a sprocket chain or the failure of the human equation. The last report spoke of the massive blow-out preventer as useful for these undertakings when attached to the casing at the mouth of the well, the function of which is to shut in the well completely, if need be. It has outlet valves at its sides through which gas, oil and sand can be drawn at will. It is a useful device and has been of service, though one was broken by a discharge from one of the Vessigny wells.

The difficulties of "drilling-in" have troubled oil operators in all oil fields where heavy gas pressure is met with, particularly in those where the strata are clays and shales that have not consolidated into rock. Inventive genius, supplemented by practical experience, is concentrating on these problems effectively, as shown by the increasing number and value of technical papers, the improvements in mechanical apparatus such as blow-out preventers, rotary pumps and attachments, fishing tools, etc., and especially so in the last few months. These new ideas and devices will be utilized. None of the Vessigny wells have passed through the Morne L'Enfer series and further, none of them, with the possible exception of No. 42 (as to which the actual conditions are not yet known), are in good order for production from the depths which they did reach. The bottom pipes, not being landed safely in the

hard blue clay beneath the oil sands, but suspended, as it were, in the producing strata, have bent or collapsed so that outflow of oil is retarded and oil sand collects above and below the angles, past which bailers and cleaning tools or straightening swages cannot go.

Successful operations.

But the reverse side of this record is that the operations in the Vessigny field have not only been successful in demonstrating that the Morne L'Enfer oil sands underlie at least a large portion of the freehold lands of the Company and are of great thickness and productivity, but also that in spite of adverse influences oil can be won in large and paying quantities. Well No. 37 began at the rate of 20,000 barrels a day and has yielded nearly 200,000 barrels; No. 41 commenced June 20th, 1913, with 4,000 a day; No. 42 has produced over 200,000, and the others varying amounts up to a total for the field of at least 500,000 barrels since the first well, No. 35, found oil July 21st, 1912. Not one of these wells failed to strike oil. In every one of them there was evidence of an ability to produce on a very large scale. No. 42, with an initial flush flow for several days, until and after it took fire, of 30,000 barrels per day was, without doubt, the largest oil well ever brought in in South America. An oil well yielding 100 barrels a day for an extended period is a satisfactory and profitable result, having reference to cost and to what oil wells usually yield. More was not expected in these operations, as has heretofore been publicly stated. In view of these facts and noting that the Vessigny wells have proven a profitable drilling area on lands owned by the Company sufficient to engage its attention for years to come, it seems not inaccurate to describe the operations in 1913 as having yielded substantial results.

The wells in the Brighton field, to which drilling was confined prior to 1912, have, with a few exceptions, continued their production, and during the fiscal year have made 90,000 barrels at a minimum cost. No new wells have been drilled in this field, though one of the best, No. 4, has stopped after flowing for nearly five years, due to collapse of the perforated pipe in the oil sand.

(To be continued.)

REVIEWING "The Banana," by W. Fawcett, published earlier in the year under the auspices of the West India Committee, the *Gardener's Chronicle* says that from the preface, by Sir Daniel Morris, to the last page of the volume, there is not a dull page, for Mr. Fawcett has put his thirty years' experience of planting in Jamaica into the making of this book. Copies of "The Banana," and of the companion volume "Cacao," by John Hinchley Hart, can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., 7s. 6d. net, post free in the United Kingdom 7s. 11d., abroad 8s. 3d.

BRITISH GROWN COTTON.

A high standard reached in the West Indies.

Dealing with the West Indies, the Council of the British Cotton Growing Association in their ninth annual report state that the quality of cotton produced there continues most satisfactory. After expressing great appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Hon. Francis Watts and the other officers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, they go on to say that, unfortunately, owing to the continuation of the existing style of fashions in ladies' dresses, there has been no improvement in demand for the best qualities of cotton. There has been no great difficulty in disposing of all the cotton that has been produced in the West Indies, but at present the Council are not able to recommend any increase in acreage. This is regrettable, for there is no doubt that the West Indies can produce cotton equal, or even superior in quality, to that grown in any other part of the world. The Council are glad to report that there has been no falling off in production, and they hope that there may shortly be an improvement in the demand for the class of cotton grown in the West Indies, and that the planters, who have stuck to cotton, will ultimately reap the benefit they so well deserve. The Council hope that Lancashire spinners will do all in their power to support the industry and to encourage the planters by paying the highest possible price for the cotton. The Association do all that lies in their power to secure the best price they can for all cotton consigned to them for sale, and in this connection they must again record their most grateful thanks to Mr. C. M. Wolstenholme for the invaluable assistance which he has rendered. The exports in the year ending September 30th, 1913, amounted to 2,154,475 lbs. of Sea Island and 459,460 lbs. of Marie Galante cotton, giving a total of nearly 7,000 bales, and a value of £153,468, which is rather more than the quantity produced in 1912.

The report contains the following approximate estimate of cotton grown in new fields in the British Empire in bales of 400 lbs. each.

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Gold Coast	250	200	200	100	100	120	100
Lagos	9500	5500	12100	5900	5800	8900	14000
Southern Nigeria	250	200	300	300	300	270	200
Northern Nigeria	1500	500	400	400	500	2500	2000
West Africa	11500	6400	13000	6700	6800	11800	16300
Uganda	2000	4000	5100	12000	20000	29000	26000
British East Africa	200	300	300	400	500	900	1000
Nyasaland and							
Rhodesia	2500	2100	2800	3400	5300	7200	7500
East Africa	4700	6400	8200	15800	25800	37100	34500
Sudan	?	?	?	15000	21000	15000	20000
West Indies	6500	7000	6400	5500	6500	6500	7000
Sundries	300	500	500	500	700	1000	1000
Total	23000	20300	28100	43500	60800	71490	78800

Approximate value £263,000 330,000 450,000 696,000 840,000 952,000 1,170,100

The quantity and value of raw cotton exported from the British West Indies in each of the years

ending December 31st, 1909 to 1912 are given as follows:—

	1909	1910	1911	1912
St. Lucia	15	44	10	—
Bahamas	30	15	33	33
Jamaica	55	33	45	91
St. Vincent	875	1305	1345	1130
Barbados	2047	1473	1851	1040
Grenada	809	664	686	951
Leeward Islands	1710	1783	3685	2680
Trinidad & Tobago	21	28	15	Not stated.

Total West Indies

	1909	1910	1911	1912
St. Lucia	432	1302	276	—
Bahamas	411	206	361	221
Jamaica	759	868	1178	2728
St. Vincent	21325	38410	41619	34024
Barbados	40946	36820	43182	26191
Grenada	7147	5797	7452	9019
Leeward Islands	39509	51193	102843	71731
Trinidad & Tobago	463	626	456	1009

Total West Indies 110992 135222 197367 144923

The business of the Association continues to grow very rapidly, and the total amount of cotton which has passed through the Association's hands during recent years is as follows:—

	Bales.	Value £.
1908	16,713	224,888
1909	20,028	225,078
1910	21,388	290,160
1911	27,673	373,583
1912	40,094	507,122
1913	47,466	661,227

The Council are convinced that a very large amount of additional capital will shortly be required, and have therefore given very serious consideration to the question during the past year. A special committee, appointed to consider the whole question, after full investigation reported that the Association was in a thoroughly sound financial position, and that there was every prospect of steady and permanent development provided that the resources were kept in as liquid a state as possible. They agreed that even normal expansion of the work would require an addition of at least £100,000 to the capital before the end of 1915, but they regretted that they found it impossible to recommend any means of raising this sum during the immediate future. They, however, strongly urged that every possible step should be taken to raise the balance of the original capital. The Council must therefore report that it is essential that additional capital should be found during the ensuing eighteen months if the work is to be extended in the future.

THE name of Mr. Wallwyn P. B. Shephard, who proposed the toast of the chairman, should have been included in the list of those present at the West Indian Club dinner to Major Burdon on May 30th.

MR. J. J. NUNAN, the Attorney-General of British Guiana, who recently arrived in this country on leave, will shortly go to Ireland, in order to take the honorary degree of LL.D. which was conferred upon him last year by Dublin University.

ADMIRAL NEVELL'S EXPEDITION.

A Journal of the Seventeenth Century.

(Continued from page 253.)

[May] 15.—Being off the Et. end of Jamaica, I mett with a sloop of the island who told me they had a fflying Report the French was before Carthagen. I sent a letter to Sr. Wm. Beeson, desiring him to imploy some body to take up all the conveniency they could gett to goe into Alegater River to gett water and bring to our long boats, which was to lye at the mouth of the River, there not being water enough for them to go in.

16.—Wee gott into Port Royall harbour in Jamaica, and gott all the Canoos we could and fell a filling our water, it fell out so unluckely that the sea breaze blew ffresh, day and night which prolong'd our time of getting our water, the same day there came in a Jamaica Sloop from the Coast of Carthagene who informed me that on the 5th Instant, he saw the French in Carthagen harbour, the Town in their possession, who also brought a Letter to Sr. Wm. Beeson from a Spaniard living at Jno., a Coppie I have inclosed sent you.

20.—In the morning I sailed out of Jamaica harbour to go through the Leeward Channell, which I had ordered to be well buoy'd, but the land breeze dying wee could not gett quite through the Kees. So I anchor'd between them to take the next land breaze to carry me out, it fell out so unfortunately that wee continued there 6 dayes, the sea breaze blowing day and night to ye admiration of all people ashore, and the Captains of the Sloops attending on the Island say they never saw the like.

22.—The *Gosport* and *Scarborough* anchor'd here, the latter having lost Company a coming to Antego.

24.—There came an English Sloop and gave me an Accot. that he came from Porto Bello the 18th Instant in Company with 15 Gallions and on the 20th he left them in the night, they standing away N.N.E. for Jamaica for Provisions, they being almost starv'd and had not provisions to carry them to the havana, upon which I gave orders for the Squadron to go to half allowance of bread and I sent two Sloops out to look for them, one to lye of Poynt Pedro Kees, and the other to lye off Porta Merant Kees, and to let the Generall know I was a going over for Carthagena to see what I could do with the French and that I would return to Jamaica in a short time.

25.—In the morning having a small gale off shore wee all gott under sail and got clear of the Keyes, Steering away S.E. by S. & E.S.E. for Carthagene. I ordered the Squadron to half allowance of bread.

27.—About 11 wee being about half seas over the Ships to the windward made the signall for seeing Ships standing to ye No. ward, wee tack'd and stood after them with all the sail wee could carry Judging them to be ye French or the Gallions.

28.—At break of day this morning wee saw Monsr. Pointy with 10 sail of men of warr and two

ffly boats about 3 Leagues a-head, I made ye Signall for Chasing, ye *Warwick* was abroad side one of ye men of warr, and fired on him, the frenchman outsail'd him, some time after the *Warwick* came up with a ffly boat Laden with Powder, Cannon ball, Shells, and one Morter, she Struke at the first gunn, finding wee fetch'd upon them the wind came to ye N.E., they got to windward, wee gave chase all day, in the afternoon the *Bristoll*, *Trydent*, *Gosport* and *New Castle* were near them, they put themselves in a line of Batle, Monsr. Pointy fired severall Gunns at the *Bristoll*, Monsr. Dlabee, who acted as Vice Admirall and an other Shipp I saw did desire to leave him by Shooting ahead and not keeping the line, the night came on and was dark untill 9 o'clock, a little before 8 wee had a squall of wind, the Ships near the Enemy made ye signall that they had Tack'd; I made the Signall for Tacking, wee all went about and stood to the Southward, all carrying a slow sail.

29.—Towards morning it began to blow fresh, Monsr. Pointy with 5 sail more, was gott about 6 or 7 miles ahead of me, the rest had left him, severall Ships near him, the weather coming on, and blowing very fresh with a great sea. The *Bristoll*, *Southampton* and *Trydent* lost their topmasts. The *Warwick* took a gabure, wee sprung our fore-Topmast, as also did the Rear-Admirall who still gave chase and continued so all day, in ye evening, the *Rupert*, *Gosport*, *Sunderland*, *Colchester* and one Dutchman of Warr was a head of me, and not farr from the Enemy, they not tacking but stood away to the Southward, this night it blew very hard and wee carry'd a stiff sail all night.

In the morning I was in great hopes of seeing the Ships up with him which was ahead of me over night, as soon as it was light I saw Monsr. Pointy with five sail, about 4 miles a head of me, and all our Ships out of sight; excepting the *Sunderland*, *Pembroke* and *Gosport*, who were astern of me, they being all fallen asterne by loosing their topmast or Splitting their sails, this night ye *Rupert*, *Colchester* and a Dutchman lose their Topmasts, I weather'd and fforereach'd upon Monsr. Pointy, inso much that he made the Signall for the Ships to bear down to him, they keeping their wind much better than he, I was so near the Sternmost that I thought I should have come to blows. As the day came on the Gale ffreshened, and blew hard, about 9 the *Pembroke's* Topmast came by the board, about ten my main Sail gave way in two places, wee hawl'd him up, and mended him on the yard, as soon as the frenchman say me hawl up my main Sail, they all of them took in their foretop sails, for the french, being all sharp shippes, cannot endure a head sea, as wee had and a very great one, I quickly sett my mainsail and ran up with them, about noon the clue of our fore sail gave way, wee went to hawle him up to seize him, but could nott, for it split from Clue to earing, and soon after our fore topsail flew all to pieces, before we could bring other sails to the yards the Enemy's Ships were gott a

great way ahead, and I made signalls for the *Sunderland* and *Gosport* to come down to me, and call'd to them to make sail a head of me, and keep sight of ye Enemy, the *Sunderland* was no sooner shot a head of me, but her main Topmast came by the Board, and the weather Clue of his fore top sail gave way, and the *Gosport* sprung his fore top mast. Through these misfortunes the French were shot so farr a head that I could not see them in the night, whether they tack'd in the night or bore away or which way they went I cannot tell you, but Judge they bore away for it blew very hard and a very great sea. I stood away to the So.ward and next morning could not see any ships more than the *Sunderland* and *Gosport* a Sterne of me.

(To be continued).

THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH GUIANA.

The proposed hinterland railway.

Sir Walter Egerton's despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of the proposed hinterland railway in British Guiana dated January 5th, was summarised in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of March 10th last. Mr. Harcourt's reply has since been published, and in view of the importance of the issue involved it is given below *in extenso*. This reply has been considered by the local Hinterland Railway Committee, whose report was summarised in last issue, and that body has decided to advise the Governor to go on with the project for opening up the interior of the colony. Leading articles are devoted to the subject in both the local newspapers. The *Daily Chronicle* warmly advocates the adoption of steps to ascertain whether the modification of the constitution of the colony upon which Mr. Harcourt insists as the basis of further discussion is acceptable to the colony. The *Daily Argosy* considers the reply studiously ambiguous. The text of the despatch is as follows:—

Downing Street,
21st April, 1914.

SIR,— I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 5 of the 5th January in which you forward the Report of Mr. E. M. Bland on a scheme for the construction of a metre gauge line of railway to the interior of the colony, and ask whether His Majesty's Government would be willing to supply the necessary funds for the purpose.

As you are already aware, I have taken much interest in the project for a railway to open up the interior of the colony. I believe that the inland regions of British Guiana, which are now practically untouched, contain rich resources capable of giving an adequate return for expenditure on their development; and, if the difficulty of raising the necessary capital could be overcome, it ought not to be impossible to propound a scheme under which that development would pay for itself. Any scheme that showed a satisfactory prospect of the expenditure incurred being recouped within a reasonable period, would deserve and receive my most earnest and sympathetic consideration. If such a scheme could be propounded, I do not suppose that His Majesty's Government would refuse to discuss arrangements to enable the present inhabitants of the coast region to tide over the early and unproductive stage.

Unfortunately, much as I sympathise with the object which you have in view, I cannot accept your present pro-

posals as a satisfactory basis of discussion. Your scheme does not comply with the economic principles indicated in the preceding paragraph; and the form which you propose that the assistance of His Majesty's Government should take—a grant of one and a quarter millions, coupled with an annual grant to assist the colony to meet the cost of working and the interest on the loan—is one which I am convinced that it would be useless to ask Parliament to consider. British Guiana is not a newly-acquired territory in which civilised administration must of necessity be established from without at the expense of the Power which has assumed responsibility for its development. Nor is it a colony dependent on grants from the Imperial Exchequer and likely to remain so unless capital is provided to develop resources which will ultimately make it self-supporting. Again, in the country which it is proposed to open up by the railway there is no large population of uncivilised tribes for whose moral and material welfare His Majesty's Government have taken upon themselves responsibility. On the contrary, the railway is to be made to attract population, and one of the problems to be faced is that of finding and bringing in suitable settlers. The circumstances are therefore, entirely different from those in which it was decided to undertake the construction of the Uganda Railway at the expense of the United Kingdom, and I see no reason to expect Parliament would take the unprecedented course either of making a loan of indefinite duration for the construction of the railway, or of annually supplementing a deficiency of revenue, not brought about by overwhelming misfortunes but deliberately incurred by a self-supporting community for a purpose in which the inhabitants of the United Kingdom are only remotely interested.

These remarks apply to such a scheme as that which you have put forward, but the loan of a definite sum to finance a scheme of development which, once fairly launched, would pay its own way, and would ultimately include complete provision for interest and a sinking fund would not be open to the same objections. I cannot of course pledge His Majesty's Government in any way at this stage, but I think I may go so far as to say that, in my personal opinion, a scheme of this description would be a fair subject of discussion between His Majesty's Government and the Government of the colony.

I consider it very important that the colony should not be committed to schemes of development which are not intended to be self-supporting at an early stage. I do not wish to limit the scope of the term self-supporting to the actual receipts directly yielded by the particular scheme in question, but it should be possible for the colony to finance the scheme out of those receipts and out of the general increase of prosperity indirectly fostered by the scheme, without having to resort to permanent increases of taxation or having to appeal to His Majesty's Government for a grant in aid of revenue. Any scheme should, therefore, bear in view this aspect of the matter. It would be necessary in such a case for you to frame a detailed statement comprising not merely the estimate of the total capital cost of the scheme, but also detailed estimates of the annual expenditure and of the nature of the revenue anticipated. The only estimates of the latter kind with which you have furnished me in the present instance are those given in Mr. Bland's report, which relate to the scheme propounded by him and not to that advocated by you.

The Labour Problem.

It appears to me that Mr. Bland's estimate of £3,500 a mile as the cost of constructing the proposed railway has been somewhat too easily accepted in view of the qualification referred to in paragraph 58 of his report. Even if all the labour for constructing the railway could be obtained in the colony and if the current rates of wages were only 2 shillings a day on the average, it seems very unlikely that a sufficient supply of labour for the railway at two shillings a day could probably be counted upon. As a matter of fact, neither of the assumptions mentioned appears to be justified from any of the evidence that I have before me. Mr. Bland himself refers to the fact that in some cases wages of three shillings a day are paid in the

Colony; and no attempt has been made to show that 2 shillings a day represents the average wage there. Mr. Bland's estimate is based on quick construction, which he regards as essential for economy, by a labour force of 10,000 to 15,000 men. It is generally admitted that there is no large surplus of labour available in the colony, and the probability that labour will have to be imported, therefore, cannot be overlooked.

Should labour require to be imported the cost might easily exceed even three shillings a day. It is not safe to reckon on a large supply of West Indian labour being available on the completion of the Panama Canal, since a large proportion of the men willing to accept fresh arrangements are, I understand, being absorbed for the development of the republics of Central America. I am informed that labourers on plantations in Central America have been offered a minimum wage of a gold dollar a day, and British Guiana would have to compete in the open market with these wages. As regards other forms of imported labour, I should not be prepared to sanction any scheme involving the importation of labourers from China, and the only other source of supply would be the East Indies. You are probably fully alive to the difficulties that would be involved in proposals to import East Indian labourers on a large scale. In view of these considerations it is essential that in any estimate of the cost of a railway you should consider with the utmost care the probable expense of the labour required. I do not think that the evidence as to the rate of wages paid in respect of the small extension of the West Coast railway to Parika to which you alluded in your speech at the opening of the Annual Session of the Legislature would necessarily apply to the construction of any considerable length of line into the interior.

The Constitution of the Colony.

There is one point upon which it is desirable, and even essential, that there should be a clear understanding on the part of all concerned before any further progress be made with this project. In the sixteenth paragraph of your despatch you have rightly assumed that without full Imperial control over the finances of the colony, there could be no question of advances being made from the Imperial Treasury, and you have mentioned as an illustration the present constitution of the neighbouring colony of Trinidad, under which that island has made remarkable progress. I entirely agree with what you say on this subject. The Secretary of State must be in a position to exercise in the last resort complete control over the raising and spending of the colonial revenues as well as over all legislation, before he could take the responsibility of submitting to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury any proposal for a loan to the colony. This preliminary condition is the basis on which any further discussion of the possibility of Imperial assistance must proceed.

I have not as yet received any indication of the view which is likely to be taken in the colony on the question of a modification of the constitution in the direction suggested. No doubt the discussion which will have ensued on the publication of your despatch will enable you to gauge public opinion on this matter and, as I do not propose to proceed with the scheme in its present state, it will for the present suffice to observe that, before considering any modified proposals which involved the co-operation of His Majesty's Government and Parliament I should have to be assured that necessary constitutional changes would be acceptable to the colony, and that legislation to give effect to them would secure general support from the inhabitants and a substantial majority in the Legislature.

Hitherto I have written on the assumption that you are right in holding that the only possible scheme is one involving some form of assistance from His Majesty's Government. You rightly, I think, dismiss such proposals as have already been made for the construction of the line by private enterprise, but I presume that you would not be unprepared to consider the propriety of alienating part of the undeveloped resources of the interior, now of so little use to the colony, if you could thereby obtain the

construction of the railway on terms that would guarantee the completion of the work. I fear that you are equally right in declining to consider the prospect of construction entirely on the credit of the colony. But I am not so sure that this possibility need be ruled out if, on further consideration, you think it practicable to proceed with your scheme by instalments. At any rate there can be no question but that the colony may fairly be called upon to provide the funds necessary to enable you to put forward a revised scheme accompanied by such detailed estimates as I have suggested above, in order to enable both the Colonial Government and His Majesty's Government to consider whether it is practicable to proceed with the railway project.

I have also received your despatch No. 54 of the 17th February in which you ask that copies of your main despatch and some of the enclosures may be forwarded to His Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro with a view to ascertain the attitude of the Brazilian Government as to the proposal for a through railway connexion to Manaos. The answer to this question depends so much upon the decision whether railway construction in the interior of British Guiana is feasible that I do not propose to trouble the Brazilian Government unless the question reaches a more advanced stage. I have, etc.,

(Sgd.) L. MARCOURT.

RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT IN JAMAICA.

A plea for further transport facilities.

Although Jamaica is better served in the matter of railway communication than any other British West Indian island, transport facilities are still much needed in certain districts. On this subject a correspondent writes: The time has come when steps should be taken to link up the north-eastern and north-western sections of the island. The conditions justify the construction of such a line. There is every reason to believe that a narrow gauge railway would yield a satisfactory return in the near future. The European demand for bananas, ever increasing, has by no means reached its limit. The extent of the demand is indicated sufficiently by the recent decision of Elders and Fyffes to convert their service of steamers from Jamaica to Rotterdam from a fortnightly into a weekly sailing, and by the advent of the Atlantic Fruit Company. What part is Jamaica to play in the furnishing of supplies to this market? The answer will be determined by the measure of her capacity and ability to compete in cost of construction with other sources of supply. Her capacity in turn will be influenced by the degree of accessibility to cultivable areas, and by facility of transport from these areas to the nearest port of shipment. At the present moment there are in the northern section of the island extensive areas eminently adapted to the growing of bananas which at present lie idle in consequence of the lack of adequate means of transport. The acuteness of the position has prompted the inhabitants of Trelawny to memorialise the Government.

In the opinion of the business men resident in the district the solution of the problem is to be found in the construction of a light railway; the scheme to be carried out by the Administration by means of a loan. It is desired in the first place to connect Falmouth with unwrought lands in the interior, and

Ulster Spring district, which railway could also be linked up with the main line at the Chapelton branch. There is no suggestion, however, that the railway development of the north shall be restricted to this particular proposal. On the contrary, a map has been prepared showing the route of a suggested line from Port Maria, through St. Ann and Ulster Spring to Falmouth, through Adelphi, penetrating the valley of the Montego River to Montego Bay, where it would join the main line. The advocates of railway development rightly urge that the Government should take a broad view of the needs of the entire district which it is desired to open up. Certainly a "patchwork" method of progress, productive of disconnected "dead ends" could only prove an occasion of ultimate regret. A comprehensive scheme is needed. The meetings held in support of the railway propaganda have disclosed a remarkable unanimity of feeling. Without doubt the arguments advanced by the advocates of development are such as to merit the serious attention of the Government. At the present moment produce has to be carted from the interior for a distance of 20 to 30 miles to the port of shipment. Hence, it is urged the cost of transportation and the deterioration of produce in transit are so great as to render cultivation unremunerative save when prices happen to be abnormally high. As mechanical haulage would involve a heavy cost annually to the Government for the upkeep of roads, a railway is recommended in preference to motor traction. The various speakers also called attention to the increase in the area of land placed under cultivation, and to the rise in the value of land where railway facilities already exist. Granted a demand for the produce from the tract of country now isolated, the construction of a railway should represent an investment rather than a speculation.

THE 30th of May was the date of the hundredth anniversary of the definite cession of St. Lucia and Tobago to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris. As a matter of fact St. Lucia really came into the permanent possession of the British in June 1803, after 100 years of constant struggle. On the 19th of that month, a small squadron, commanded by Commodore Samuel Hood, and composed of two 74 gun ships and some transports sailed from Barbados. After calling for assistance at Dominica, the squadron landed the troops under Brigadier-General Robert Brereton, without opposition, and Morne Fortuné was stormed on the morning of the 21st, the whole of the works and the island being captured in one hour. Of the strategic value of St. Lucia Rodney had the highest opinion. At one time that great naval hero felt that Martinique was of more value in this respect, but subsequently he expressed himself as being fully convinced of the greater value of St. Lucia. "Either of these islands," he said, "must, while she remain a great maritime power, make her [England] the Sovereign of the West Indies."

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS.

The Parish Church of St. James, Montego Bay.

BY FRANK CUNDALL.

The parish of St. James, which was one of the second batch of parishes formed in Jamaica (the others in the batch being St. George, St. Mary, St. Ann and St. Elizabeth) was so named by Sir Thomas Modyford in 1664-5, probably after James, duke of York; and he may at the same time have intended, as Roby suggests, to perpetuate the memory of his brother, Sir James Modyford. In this parish is the site (probably at Spanish Quarters) of the first town built by the Spaniards in the island, Melilli; and from this parish, from Cabo del Buen Tempo, sailed with Columbus the first Jamaican who ever went to Europe—probably the first willing emigrant from the new world to the old. The origin of the name of the chief town, Montego Bay, has been variously ascribed, firstly to the bay in Portugal into which the Mondego river falls; secondly to Francisco de Montego (or Montijo), who assisted Grijalva in his discoveries in New Spain; and thirdly, with the greatest probability, by Long, to *manteca*, the Spanish word for butter. He adds, "This part abounding formerly with wild hogs, the Spaniards probably made here what they called hog's butter (lard) for exportation."

At the time of the formation of St. James's parish (1665) the "north side" was represented in the Assembly by Abraham Rutter and Samuel Jenks. In 1673, jointly with St. Ann, St. James returned a member, Captain Richard Guy. In that year, when there were in the twelve inhabited parishes of Jamaica, 17,268 persons, the parish of St. James had only 146, of whom 22 were negroes. In 1675 St. James returned two members on its own account, Richard Guy and Samuel Jenks.

Four years later when the Assembly decided that £1,300 should be raised for the fortifications of the island, St. James was asked to contribute £5 only. In 1711-12, the parishes of St. James and St. George were exempt from taxation, "they having no towns, few inhabitants and little commerce." In 1724 the first road act for the parish was passed; the road going from The Cave in Westmoreland to the west end of St. James, and a court of quarter sessions was established four years later.

At Montego Bay was printed the second known book printed in Jamaica—an almanack for the year 1776. St. James remained a poor parish till about the middle of the eighteenth century, but by 1782 Montego Bay was called "next to Kingstown the most flourishing town in the island."

The parish of Hanover was made out of parts of Westmoreland and St. James in 1725-6, and Trelawny was made out of parts of St. Ann and St. James in 1770.

In 1733 a bill was passed "for appointing a proper plan for building a church." This church was pro-

bably built, but all traces of it are now lost. In 1738 barracks were built, and were supplied by the churchwardens with a pack of hounds, to be used in defence and offence against revolted slaves. In that year Montego Bay was made a free port. In March 1738-9 articles of pacification were signed at Trelawny Town by Cudjoe, the Maroon chief.

In 1795, the Legislature passed an Act, incorporating a company to be formed by subscription under the title of "The President, Directors and Company of the Close Harbour of Montego Bay," with power to raise £10,000 capital, and to make a harbour at "Meagre Bay, being a part of Montego Bay," for the protection of shipping and to create rules and regulations for its management; which company, said to have been the first formed in the West Indies for the execution of any public undertaking, existed for about half a century, and for a time paid dividends.

In January 1800 (to quote from the *Columbian Magazine*, Kingston, 1800) "one of those dreadful swells of the sea from the N.W. did much damage, although the misfortune has been greatly decreased, by the extent of the Moles erected, yet it has been very considerable.

"Of the two channels through the reef, which were intended to be filled up by the Moles, the largest only is made, and the other is hardly, as yet, commenced. Vessels lying immediately behind the Mole, and not near to the Southern channel, which is still open, lie secure and easy; but the vessels moored near the South channel into which an immense sea poured, and the small craft near the shore, round which the waves coming in at the South channel washed, were, and still are in the greatest danger.

"There were twenty-four vessels of all sizes in the Close Harbour; of these the ship *Clyde*, belonging to Kingston, which was anchored near the Southern channel, is totally lost; but a brig still nearer, fortunately escaped the first day, and has since been able to shift to a safer berth (*sic*). Five small vessels from the great action of the swell near the shore, or from bad tackling are also lost.

"In the Outer Harbour were two vessels, one a Spanish schooner, prise to the *Experiment* lugger, is lost; and the other, an American brig, after losing an anchor, and driving some hundred yards, has got into a situation where the undertow gives her a more easy berth.

"It is certainly a distressing consideration to the community that after the expense of upwards of 16,000*l.* in building the Moles, so much damage has happened to the shipping, within them, and this danger cannot be completely guarded against, so as to protect the whole of the harbour, until the Southern Mole is finished, or nearly joins to the shore; but there is this consideration, that a great number of valuable lives were saved, not a seaman having lost his life, and upwards of 250 negroes being safely landed on Tuesday evening, from the *Thomas Guineaman*."

Reference to the Close Harbour ceases in the Jamaica almanacks after 1848.

In 1798, two thirds of the town of Montego Bay was destroyed by fire, the loss being estimated at £500,000. And in 1831-2 the parish was the scene of one of the worst outbreaks of slaves recorded in the island's history. On one night sixteen incendiary fires took place and many lives were lost in quelling the outbreak. Martial law was declared, and the commander of the forces, Sir Willoughby Cotton, took the field in person.

The foundation stone of the present parish church of St. James was laid on the 6th May, 1775, and the building was opened for public worship in 1782. It is Georgian in character, and typical of many churches erected in the West Indies by those who, probably doing the best they could with the money and knowledge at their disposal, considered that a building was rendered ecclesiastical by putting rounded heads to ordinary domestic windows. In this case, however, the building, which is one of the best of its kind, is helped by a tower, its most pleasing feature. Hakewill called it the handsomest church in the island. The church is dedicated to St. James the great, the patron saint of Spain, whose name was given to the Spanish capital of the island. The parochial seal, or seal of the churchwardens, in establishment days, is—Argent, a palmer's staff erect; from its rest, dependent by a leathern thong, a gourd bottle, all proper. On a bordure gules, five pineapples of the second. The circumscription is "Sigill Aedilium Sancti Jacobi in Jamaica."

The earliest baptism recorded in the existing register of St. James is dated 1st January, 1771; the earliest marriage, 5th May, 1774, and the earliest burial, 6th July 1774.

The rectors have been, so far as they can be traced:—

- Rev. Joseph Stoney, 1771-74.
- Rev. J. Grignon, 1774-1787.
- Rev. Francis Daune, 1787-1795.
- Rev. Francis Rickard, 1795-1805.
- Rev. David Duff, 1805-1813.
- Rev. Henry Jenkins, 1814-1827.
- Rev. John M'Intyre, M.A., 1827-1847.
- Ven. Thomas Price Williams, D.D., Archdeacon of Cornwall, 1847-1862.
- Rev. David R. Morris, 1862-1881.
- Rev. W. H. Williamson, 1881-1885.
- Rev. George Whyte, 1885-1887.
- Rev. F. H. Sharpe, 1887-1897.
- Rev. J. W. Austin, 1897-1904.
- Rev. J. Messiah, B.A., 1905-

Of the monuments in the church, the best is that of Mrs. Rosa Palmer, by John Bacon, R.A., of the year 1794. It is, after the Rodney and Effingham monuments at Spanish Town, the best work by Bacon in Jamaica. She, to whose memory it was erected, the wife of John Palmer, custos of the parish, died in 1790, aged 72 years. This monument has been for years connected with the legend of Rose Hall about ten miles to the west of Montego Bay. Into this legend, of cruelty to slaves and murder of her several husbands by a certain Mrs. Palmer, it is not necessary to enter. Controversies have raged

having for their object the identity of the figure on the monument; some maintaining that it was the good, others the bad Mrs. Palmer. As a matter of fact it represents neither; but is merely an emblematic figure, such as Bacon was very fond of putting into his memorials; and in all probability the head on the vase represents the features of Rosa Palmer. Mr. Joseph Shore, in his work "In Old St. James" in 1911, solved the mystery. The good Mrs. Palmer was Rosa Kelly, daughter of the Reverend John Kelly of St. Elizabeth, who married John Palmer, as her fourth husband, and was his faithful wife for twenty-three years; her other husbands being Henry Fanning of St. Catherine, George Ash of St. James, and the honourable Norwood Witter of Westmoreland. The wicked Mrs. Palmer was Annie Mary Paterson, who married in St. James in 1820, John Rose Palmer, grand-nephew and successor at Rose Hall and Palmyra of John Palmer. She ended her ill-spent days in 1833.

Other good monuments in the church are to Dr. George Macfarquhar, also by Bacon (1791), to Dr. William Fowle, an early work of Sir Richard Westmacott (1796), and to Mrs. Sarah Newton Kerr, by Henry Westmacott (1814). The works by John Bacon, the younger, are hardly worthy of mention.

In 1911 a handsome three-light window by Jones and Willis was erected at the east end of the church. The centre light represents the Crucifixion, the side-lights the Resurrection and the Ascension. One of the side-lights was presented by Mr. W. F. Lawrence, whose family owned Fairfield and other estates on the north side for many years. A reproduction of it appeared in the CIRCULAR for March 28th, 1911.

THE Dermatine Company are supplying a special kind of hose, made of cotton and impregnated and covered with Dermatine, which is strongly recommended for tropical hose work. It was used to water the greens on the Sandwich links prior to the recent Amateur Golf Championship, and the secretary of the Golf Club writes to say that he had not hitherto found any hose that stood such hard wear.

PRESIDING over a meeting at Shell House, Bishopsgate, on May 28, Sir Marcus Samuel criticised the decision of the Admiralty to invest £2,000,000 in the Anglo-Persian Oil Company. It was certainly amazing, he said, that the Admiralty should have selected an enterprise of that sort for their support just at the very moment when supplies in British territory, and under British jurisdiction, were making rapid progress. Egypt sat astride the Red Sea, connecting the Eastern Hemisphere with the Mediterranean, and seeing that a well had been struck there which gave an initial flow of 4,000 tons a day, the hopes of those working the field ran high. And then there was Trinidad, where, rightly, great hopes were entertained. And last, but not least, there was Sarawak, also under British jurisdiction.

THE INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA.

Mr. Frank Cundall's Visit to England.

Mr. Frank Cundall, Secretary and Librarian of the Institute of Jamaica, whose name will be familiar to readers of the CIRCULAR as that of the author of the interesting series of articles on Historic Sites and Monuments in Jamaica, which are now appearing in its columns, arrived in this country in the Elders and Fyffes steamship *Changuinola* on Monday, June 1st. Interviewed by a representative of the CIRCULAR shortly after his arrival, Mr. Cundall stated that en route to Avonmouth he visited Port Limon and Colon, where he had the pleasure of renewing his acquaintance with Mr. Tracy Robinson, the author of "Panama, a Personal Record of Fifty Years." He was only able to pay a flying visit to the Panama Canal, but took the opportunity of inspecting the locks and dam at Gatun, where, like every other visitor, he was duly impressed by the magnitude and the thoroughness of the work. Mr. Cundall expressed his appreciation of the many courtesies that he received from the officers of the *Changuinola*, which he found a most comfortable and seaworthy vessel. She brought some 60,000 bunches of bananas, all in first rate condition, and about 30 passengers, including eight from Jamaica. Mr. Cundall was accompanied as far as Port Limon by Colonel Kitchener, who left the ship there to spend a fortnight in Costa Rica.

Speaking of the Institute of Jamaica, Mr. Cundall said "It is now in a very flourishing condition and is certainly making substantial progress, having a membership of nearly 1,000 owing to recently extended facilities." Referring to one of his particular hobbies, the Jamaica History Gallery, he said that it was being constantly added to, and now included no fewer than two hundred and four portraits. "It may be of interest to your readers" he said "to know that it is proposed shortly to publish an illustrated catalogue of the Portrait Gallery." With regard to his plans, Mr. Cundall said: "I propose to remain in or near London for the next two months, during which I hope to complete arrangements for the publication in book form of the articles which have been appearing in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR on Historic Sites and Monuments in Jamaica, the Board of Governors of the Institute having voted the necessary funds. Then in the first week in September I hope to attend the meeting of the Library Association at Oxford." Asked to what extent the work of the Institute of Jamaica was appreciated in the island, Mr. Cundall said: "It is pleasing to recognise an awakening interest, and this is noticeable also with regard to the historical associations of Jamaica, which has been manifested by many letters and references to the articles now appearing in the CIRCULAR. The interest taken by the American visitors and correspondents in the West India library is particularly noticeable."

THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.

An interesting programme arranged.

As already announced in these columns, the Rubber and Allied Industries, and Cotton, Fibres and Tropical Products Exhibitions, to be held under the patronage of the King, will be opened at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, on June 24th, by Prince Arthur of Connaught. The President of the Rubber Section is Sir Henry A. Blake, formerly Governor of Jamaica, while Professor Wyndham Dunstan of the Imperial Institute occupies a similar position in relation to the Tropical Products Exhibition, which will be held concurrently with that devoted to rubber. The West Indian colonies, British Guiana and British Honduras will occupy a handsome stand, which is now being fitted under the superintendence of the West India Committee, to the left of the bandstand, and exhibits from Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent will be flanked by those from British Guiana and British Honduras. The above mentioned colonies will have the advantage of Commissioners, the following having been appointed: British Guiana, Mr. C. Wilgress Anderson, I.S.O., Forestry Officer of the colony; British Honduras, Mr. W. L. McKinstry, Treasurer and Collector of Customs; St. Vincent, Mr. W. N. Sands, Agricultural Superintendent; Antigua, Mr. H. A. Tempany, B.Sc., Government Analytical and Agricultural Chemist and Superintendent of Agriculture; and Dominica, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Medical Officer of the Public Institutions.

Among other notable visitors to the Exhibition will be Mr. Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Colonies, who will probably be present at the opening ceremony, and the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, who will attend in state on June 26th. There will be many "side-shows," but all of them will be of a business nature, such as cinematograph displays illustrative of coco-nut and rubber cultivation, a lawn tennis tournament on a rubber tennis court, and machinery in motion, while it is rumoured that the Press representatives are to be presented with hot water bottles, tobacco pouches and golf balls made of plantation rubber, which is rapidly gaining favour as compared with wild Para. Several days are to be identified with various colonies; thus, the 26th will be British Malay Day and the 29th Ceylon Day, while July 1st, besides being Dominion Day, will be recognised as that of the West Indies, for on it the West India Committee will give a banquet in the Royal Agricultural Hall with a view to enabling members and their friends to see the Exhibition under the most favourable conditions.

No doubt most of the delegates to the third International Congress of Tropical Agriculture, which opens in London on June 23rd, will attend the Exhibition. The Congress promises to be of great interest from the West Indian standpoint. To the names of delegates given in last CIRCULAR may be added

that of Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., who will represent Jamaica, and Mr. G. E. Bodkin, who will attend on behalf of the Government of British Guiana, to which he is Economic Analyst. The papers will include:—

Agricultural Education and its Adjustment to the needs of the Students. By Dr. Francis Watts, C.M.G.

Some Considerations affecting the Fertility of Soils in the Tropics. By Mr. Harold Tempany, B.Sc.

The Cotton Industry in the Leeward Islands. By Mr. Harold Tempany, B.Sc.

The Production of Fine Sea Island Cotton in the West Indies, with special reference to St. Vincent. By Mr. W. N. Sands.

Some Minor Industries in the Leeward Islands. By Mr. Harold Tempany, B.Sc.

The Methods of Tapping Cultivated Castilloa Trees and yields of Rubber therefrom. By Professor Carmody.

Notes on some Experimental Results in Cacao Cultivation. By Professor Carmody.

Sugar Cane Insects in British Guiana. By Mr. G. E. Bodkin B.A.

Publications dealing with Tropical Agriculture. By Mr. W. R. Dunlop.

OBITUARY.

MR. DELOS J. MARTIN.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Delos J. Martin, which took place at St. John's, Antigua, just before the mail left.

Mr. Martin, who had for many years been a member of the West India Committee, was one of the oldest established merchants in Antigua. Mr. A. P. Cowley, our Hon. Correspondent in the island, writes that he was very much respected there. Quiet and unostentatious, Mr. Martin was a thorough gentleman in every sense of the word; courteous to all comers, he was the enemy of none. He had had a very active business career, but in late years ill health had prevented him from taking the prominent part in public affairs which he used to do. Twice married, Mr. Martin leaves a widow and one child, and a mother upwards of 90 years old to mourn his loss.

MR. ARTHUR SUMMERSON.

We regret to state that Mr. Arthur Summerson died at his residence, Roraima, Holbeck Avenue, Scarborough, on June 4th.

Mr. Arthur Summerson, who was only in his fifty-ninth year at the time of his death, spent the greater part of his life in British Guiana. Born in 1855, he was educated at a private commercial school at Pontefract in Yorkshire, and after receiving a business training in a solicitor's and accountant's office, he went out to Demerara in 1871. He was indentured as an overseer to Mr. W. McCalman and Mr. William Russell, the planting attorneys of the Colonial Company; but he never acted in that capacity. His business ability at once secured for him the appointment of private secretary to those two gentlemen instead, and in 1874 he became a member of the office staff under the late Mr. T. H. Glennie, whom he succeeded as attorney in 1895. Apart from his connection with the Colonial—afterwards the New Colonial—Company, Mr. Summerson was closely identified with business affairs in British Guiana, being a director of Sproston, Ltd., the Demerara Railway Company, the Argosy Company, Ltd., and Attorney and Liquidator of Thomas Daniel and Company, Ltd., and Chairman of the Hand-in-Hand Fire Insurance Company, Ltd. He was also for many years secretary of the British Guiana Planters' Association, and Hon. Correspondent of the West India Committee. He retired from the colony a few years ago, and since then he lived at Scarborough in a house which he called Roraima, after his former residence opposite the Botanic Gardens at Bourda in Georgetown.

NOTES OF INTEREST.



DR. LOUIS SAMBON'S lecture at the West India Committee Rooms has been postponed until October.

THE Archbishop of the West Indies is on his way to England, and it is understood that he will attend the Kikuyu Conference.

INVITATIONS were issued by Lord Bryce and the Committee of the American Historical Association for the opening of the London Headquarters of that institution at 8, Southampton Street, Holborn, on June 15th. Mr. Frank Cundall represented the West Indies on this occasion.

SEVERAL burglaries have recently taken place on the west coast of Demerara, and according to the *Daily Argosy* it is the opinion among the villagers that the thieves succeeded in entering houses and coming out without detection by means of smoke made with dead men's bones! This is said to have a narcotic effect upon those subjected to it.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight were: H.E. Sir Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G., Mr. Justice Earnshaw, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Hon. W. L. McKinstry, Mr. W. N. Sands, Mr. H. A. Tempny, Mr. C. W. Anderson, Mr. Herman Pinedo, Mr. Frank Cundall, Mr. W. M. B. Shields, Mr. Arthur D. P. Williamson, Hon. D. Slyne and Mr. H. S. Cox.

THE death occurred at Wolverton, on May 17, of Lieutenant Colonel F. F. Gibbons. Colonel Gibbons, who was a brother of Mr. C. Kenrick Gibbons, owner of Collyns, Barbados, and of Mrs. Edward Chambers, formerly commanded the Devons, and saw active service in the Afghan campaign, when he was with General Phayre's Brigade. While at Simla he sustained a fall from the effects of which he suffered until his death, which took place at the age of 72.

MR. FRANK CUNDALL, F.S.A., was the principal guest at a dinner of the West Indian Club, held on Wednesday, June 10th, over which Mr. J. Rippon presided. Among those present were: Mr. E. A. Lucie-Smith, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Mr. Arthur Johnson, Mr. S. H. Doubleday, Major J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Hon. Dr. H. A. A. Nicholls, C.M.G., Mr. Butcher, Mr. S. L. Williamson, Mr. G. D. Few, Mr. N. T. Calder, Mr. A. D. Ferguson, Mr. R. Duff, Mr. A. M. Sherlock, Mr. R. S. Martinez, Mr. H. A. Lake, Mr. H. Berger, Dr. E. Sturridge, Mr. J. S. Westwood, and Mr. G. J. Johnson.

IN view of some of the wild statements which are being made in the press foreshadowing the launch of companies for taking over coco-nut properties in British Guiana, it may be well to recall the following resolution passed by the Court of Policy in May, 1912.

That this Court views with apprehension the possibility of the flotation of companies in Great Britain in connection with coco-nut profits on an unsound basis, thereby imperilling the good name of the colony as a field for the safe investment of capital.

In view of this warning, it is hoped that no readers of the CIRCULAR will be caught napping.

DR. ANDREW BALFOUR, writing to the *Lancet*, recently pointed out the possibility of wild monkeys acting, in certain places, as reservoirs for the virus of yellow fever. He stated that he had reason to believe that the old negro superstition that whenever monkeys were found dead or dying in the high woods, yellow fever would come into the towns, was true, basing his view on his observations in Trinidad, Maracaibo, and on the Orinoco. Dr. Low, of the London School of Tropical Medicine, controverts this view, and states that as the result of his experience, "it is almost certain that an animal host does not exist." In most of the West Indian islands, he says, monkeys, such as the red howlers, do not exist, and where the disease occurs, even in places where there are monkeys, it is practically always in towns where such animals are conspicuous by their absence.

Messrs. George Cradock & Co., Ltd., have issued a brochure on the subject of their suspension bridge at New Hazleton, Western Canada. Before this bridge was erected by Messrs. Cradock, there was an old wooden suspension bridge built by Indians, the third erected by them, the previous two having been washed away. An interesting feature of this bridge was that it was largely bound together with telegraph wire left by an American Telegraph Company, which had hoped to reach Europe by way of the Behring Sea, the scheme being abandoned on the successful laying of the Atlantic cable. Another interesting feature was the complete absence of nails, joints being made by dovetailing and burning a hole with red-hot coals through the lugs, which were then secured by a stout wooden spike. The span was 100 ft. and the width 6 ft.

As the district developed something more was required, and the need for a high level bridge became more acute. Messrs. Cradock accordingly obtained the contract for its erection, and the booklet gives an interesting account, illustrated by excellent views of the bridge, which is of steel, and the operations of its erection. The span between the centres of the tower saddles is 451 feet and the bridge platform is 250 feet above the river. From the appearance of the country and the bridge, there would seem to be many places in British Guiana and the West Indies where such a bridge would be peculiarly suitable.

THE LONDON LETTER.

UNIVERSAL sympathy has been evoked by the terrible disaster to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's liner *Empress of Ireland*, in the St. Lawrence River. With a death-roll—upwards of 1,000 lives were lost—somewhat less than that of the *Titanic*, and with a smaller percentage of celebrated people on board, the disaster nevertheless ranks second on the list of the tragedies of the sea. The provision of boats for all availed nothing. Struck by the Norwegian collier *Storstad* in darkness and fog, the *Empress of Ireland* sank so quickly as to preclude rescue on any serious scale.

THE scene of the calamity suffers much from fog, and our readers must now feel thankful that success attended the opposition offered by the West India Committee to the proposal of the Canada-West Indies Royal Commission that communication for mails and passengers between the Mother Country and the West Indies should be effected entirely via Canada. The present disaster and that which overtook the *Cobequid*, would of themselves have justified that opposition.

THE West Indies were represented in the death roll. Every resident in the Bahamas will extend the deepest sympathy to the Colonial Secretary of those islands, Mr. W. Hart-Bennett, C.M.G., so cruelly bereaved of his wife. Many have enjoyed the hospitality of Mrs. Hart-Bennett—ever ready to brighten the social life of Nassau, and to minister to the needs of the native population. Sir Henry Seton Kerr, another victim of the disaster, who had been greatly worried by his connection with a rubber speculation in British Guiana, died nobly—his last act being to render assistance to a fellow passenger who was thus enabled to escape.

THE King's birthday—His Majesty's 49th—was distinguished by the greetings of some 50,000 school children, to whom he sent a most kindly acknowledgment. At the moment King George is receiving the warm sympathy of all classes of his subjects by reason of the outrageous and persistent "attentions" of the suffragettes, who make every appearance of the King and Queen in public an occasion for impudent outcries, even the Throne Room at Buckingham Palace having been invaded.

At the last Court several ladies popular in West Indian circles had the honour of presentation. These included Mrs. Earnshaw, wife of Mr. Justice Earnshaw, late of British Guiana, and now proceeding to the Straits Settlements (presented by Mrs. Harcourt), Mrs. Le Hunte, presented on her marriage by her mother-in-law, Lady Le Hunte (wife of the Governor of Trinidad), and Miss Hilda Lubbock and Miss R. Lubbock, presented by Lady Lubbock. Lady Glenconner was also among those who attended the Court.

PENDING the renewal of excitement over the Home Rule controversy, public interest has been largely monopolised by a correspondence proceeding in the columns of the *Times*. Admiral Sir Percy Scott—possibly our greatest authority on naval gunnery—has expressed the opinion that the day of the battleship is over, and that the future, as regards naval power, lies with the submarine and the seaplane. Even landmen are able readily to realise the revolution in our naval policy which would follow the adoption of Admiral Scott's opinion, and the letters of the experts are being followed with interest.

THE near approach of the Tropical Products Exhibition lends interest to the fact that the West Indian Commissioners recently met in conclave with the Secretary of the West India Committee at the luncheon table of the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall Street, on June 4. These Commissioners, it will be remembered are Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, Mr. C. Wilgress Anderson, Mr. W. L. McKinstry, Mr. H. A. Tempamy and Mr. W. N. Sands.

THE congratulations of his many friends, both in the West Indies and at home have been extended to Mr. Henry Kirke, upon his golden wedding. The celebration took place at the Grand Hotel, Folkestone. Mr. Kirke spent many years in British Guiana, where he filled several legal posts, including those of stipendiary magistrate and acting Puisne Judge. One of his daughters married the late Mr. George Garnett, C.M.G. Mr. Kirke, who has also acted as Attorney General of Jamaica, married a daughter of the late Admiral Lushington, a distinguished naval commander, who received many decorations both from British and foreign Governments. Mr. Kirke's labours as an author have made him known to a wide circle. His works include "The first English Conquest of Canada," "Twenty-five years in British Guiana," and "From the Gun Room to the Throne."

THE Hon. Gideon Murray, Administrator of St. Vincent, who is now on holiday on this side of the water, recently took the chief part in an interesting ceremony at Hastings, where he unveiled a memorial to his ancestor General Murray.

THE annual service of the Trinity Brethren is one of those gatherings which lend a touch of colour to the routine of business life in London. The Brethren include some of our foremost public men—the name of the Prime Minister will readily recur. The famous Church of St. Olave's, Hart Street, was, as usual, the scene of the service, and in the procession which passed down Seething Lane, Captain Copp, formerly Commander of the R.M.S.P. *Para*, had the honour of accompanying Prince Arthur of Connaught.

"The Cane Sugar Factory," Price 1s., post free 1s. 3d. is obtainable at 15, Seething Lane, E. C.

NATURE NOTES.

MR. E. MARSE, experimenting on the subject of the use of magnesia as a manure has come to the conclusion that the use of a fertilizer containing 43 per cent. of lime and 30 per cent. of magnesia results in a profitable increase of crop, the results being especially favourable when the fertilizer is used in conjunction with Thomas slag.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the Jamaica Agricultural Society there is one virtue in connection with rubber cultivation which few economic plants have, and that is that if the sale conditions of rubber are not satisfactory, the crop can be held back by not tapping, which not only does the trees good but stores up the latex. Logwood is another crop which can stand over and be cut when inducement offers, and the same can be said of timber. But coco-nut, cacao, coffee, and sugar, all have a crop season which cannot wait upon the price.

THE *Philippine Agricultural Review* recommends that in the propagation of the seedless bread-fruit the cuttings should be placed diagonally in a hole in the propagating bed, four to six centimetres of the cutting sticking out of the soil. The cutting should be inserted so that the end with the greatest diameter points upwards, the sand or soil being packed firmly round the cuttings. The bed should be watered thoroughly, but not too often. Stress is laid on the fact that when the plant is transplanted, it should always be thoroughly watered before it is taken out of the soil and after it is planted. The roots should never be permitted to dry out from exposure to the sun or air.

EXPERIMENTS conducted by Mr. R. S. Cunliffe on light soils in Cuba, which have hitherto been considered worthless for sugar cane culture, show that with proper manuring, these soils were capable of very heavy yields of cane. Thus the plot which received 200 lbs. of nitrate of soda, 214 lbs. of dried blood, and 416 lbs. of basic slag per acre, yielded 55,882 lbs. of cane as compared with 10,770 lbs. on the unmanured plot. The plot that received in addition 120 lbs. of sulphate of potash gave 67,973 lbs. per acre, while the plot that received 120 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia, 170 lbs. of double acid phosphate, and 120 lbs. of sulphate of potash, yielded 62,106 lbs. The plot that received in addition to this 400 lbs. of nitrate of soda, 170 lbs. of double acid phosphate and 120 lbs. sulphate of potash yielded 88,576 lbs. of cane.

The West India Committee have arranged to hold a banquet in connection with the exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, on July 1st, particulars regarding which will shortly be circulated. The price of tickets will be 7s., including admission to the exhibition. It will be remembered that the Hon. R. S. A. Warner presided over a similar dinner at the exhibition of 1911.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The newspapers received by the homeward mail contain laudatory articles regarding the services of Sir James Hayes Sadler, who had just retired from the position of Governor of the Leeward Islands, and of Lady Hayes Sadler. Sir James had been the recipient of many addresses, and a hearty send off from St. George's, which he left on May 23rd. Mr. E. R. Davson had visited most of the islands, with a view to discussing details of the proposals for forming an Association of Chambers of Commerce for the West Indies, which, as already recorded in these columns, had been most favourably received. In the British Guiana newspapers much space was necessarily devoted to the Secretary of State's despatch to the Governor regarding the hinterland railway project, which is given in *extenso* elsewhere, and while in some quarters it was interpreted as practically "turning down" the proposals, in others it was viewed more hopefully. The interest shown by residents in the United States in the British West Indian colonies has been further demonstrated by the substantial grants given by the Rockefeller Foundation for combating ankylostomiasis, or hook-worm disease, and it was hoped that the open-handedness of Americans would be followed by more liberal assistance from the Imperial Government for the prevention of tropical disease, as has been so frequently urged in the *CIRCULAR*. The R.M.S.P. *Trent* left Barbados on May 27 at 3 p.m. and arrived at Southampton at 1.10 p.m. on June 8th. Among her passengers were Mr. N. Darnell Davis, C.M.G., Hon. Denys Slyne, Hon. Fred. Driver, Mr. Sydney T. Harrison, C.M.G., Captain D. L. Slinger, Mr. J. J. Law and Mr. J. P. Bain.

His many friends were grieved to learn that Mr. N. Darnell Davis was taken rather seriously ill on board the *Trent*, and that he is detained at a nursing home at Southampton, where he was met by Mrs. and Miss Darnell Davis. The latest reports, however, indicate that he is already making good progress towards recovery.

ANTIGUA—The Canadian Trade Commissioner.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, MAY 23rd.—The weather during the fortnight had been cloudy and gusty, with very little rain, and consequently unfavourable for muscovado sugar making. Very little sugar had gone forward to Canada. Some had been sold to the United Kingdom, but a good deal remained in the curing houses. The molasses market had advanced slightly to 14 cents, at which price some sales had been effected.

The Hon. T. V. Best was sworn in on May 10th as Acting Governor. Before his departure Sir Hesketh Bell appointed the following committee to enquire into the working of the different Acts regulating the relations between masters and servants: Hon. W. D. Auchinleck Auditor-General, Hon. T. S. Sidney, Attorney-General, Hon. J. J. Campbell, Hon. Freeland Foote, Hon. Robert A. L. Warnford, members of the Executive Council, Hon. J. D. Harper, Hon. L. I. Henzell, members of the legislative Council.

Antigua, and Messrs. J. T. Dew, P. Cowley, J. Thibou and A. H. Nurse.

During the absence on leave of Mr. H. A. Tempany, Mr. F. R. Shepherd of St. Kitts was acting as Superintendent of Agriculture, and Mr. V. Weil as Government Chemist.

A meeting had been hurriedly convened to meet Mr. E. N. Davson, on his way to Canada, regarding the proposed Association of Chambers of Commerce for the West Indies. The leading merchants all attended, and it was agreed to support the proposals for the formation of such a body when the matter was discussed at the next general meeting.

Mr. Watson Griffin, the Canadian Trade Commissioner, was paying a short visit to the island, and a special meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society was to be held to welcome him.

The death had occurred of Mr. Delos J. Martin, as recorded by Mr. Cowley elsewhere.

THE BAHAMAS—The recent boosting of Whale Cay.

An elaborate programme had been arranged for Empire Day, including the placing of wreaths on the statue of Queen Victoria by the Daughters of the Empire, and the planting of two Royal palms in front of the Public Buildings by Mrs. Haddon Smith. The usual sports and parades were also to be held.

Mr. Charles A. Wilde, the late owner of Whale Cay, had written to the *Nassau Guardian* explaining the circumstances under which so much publicity had been given to his advertisement for the sale of his property in the London papers. He complained that the reporter had drawn heavily on a fertile imagination, giving the picture of huts of cactus leaves, oysters and other absurdities. At the same time he firmly believed that a most profitable and reliable business in coco-nuts could be developed in the Bahamas, with proper land, economical methods and personal supervision.

BARBADOS—The new House of Assembly.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., MAY 25th.—The weather continued dry and windy, and favourable for reaping, which had progressed rapidly and had been brought to a close on many plantations. The young crop was suffering badly from want of rain. [A cable message since received reports the break of the drought.]

May 18th was nomination day for members of the House of Assembly. There was no contest in any constituency with the exception of Bridgetown, where three candidates were proposed, the two old Members and Mr. W. D. Bayley. The old Members were returned, the polling being Lofly 213, Baeza 161, and Bayley 142.—The Legislative Session was to be opened on the 26th by His Excellency the Governor.

H.H. Princess Louise landed and lunched at Government House on her way home by the last mail. Mr. Roosevelt also came on shore for a short time when the steamer on which he was returning to the United States stopped at Barbados.

The writer regretted to record the death of Mr. George A. Dillon, proprietor of the *Globe* newspaper.—Cane fires continued to be of frequent occurrence.

BERMUDA—The possibilities of a fruit industry.

The Harrington Yacht Club held a regatta on Empire Day. The race for unfitted dinghies was won by Mr. W. O. Wilkinson, and the Astwood Empire Cup fell to the *Crest*, which was piloted by Mr. Eldon Trimmingham. The Bermuda Chapter of the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire gave an evening fête.—A meeting was to be held by the Bermuda Agricultural and Horticultural Union at the Lyceum, at which Mr. A. Bissett of the United States Agricultural Department was to lecture on fruit growing in connection with the possibility of developing a fruit industry on the island.

The number of tourists who arrived during April was 1,775, as compared with 1,351 for the same month last year.

BRITISH GUIANA—The hinterland railway scheme.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, MAY 23rd.—A painful shock had been caused to the community by the sudden death of Chief Justice Sir T. Crossley Rayner, to which reference

was made in last CIRCULAR. He was taken seriously ill while trying a case, and died almost immediately. The funeral took place on the day of the departure of the mail at St. Swithin's.

The mail editions of the newspapers gave the reply of the Secretary of State to the Governor's despatch regarding the proposed hinterland railway. Briefly, Mr. Harcourt stated that in their present form the Governor's proposals were unacceptable, and that he was convinced that it would be useless to ask Parliament to consider them. He expressed his willingness to consider a revised scheme which would show satisfactory prospect of an adequate return for the expenditure, but insisted that a change in the constitution giving him, the Secretary of State, complete control over the finances of the colony must be a basis of any future discussion as to the possibility of a loan. A more detailed précis of Mr. Harcourt's reply is given elsewhere in the CIRCULAR.

Archdeacon Josa had been the recipient of an address from the congregation of Christ Church, with which he has been associated for the past 24 years, on the occasion of his retirement after 40 years' service in the colony. He was succeeded by the Rev. O. H. Wilson.

The residents of British Guiana presented Dr. Godfrey, the retiring Surgeon General, with an address on May 9th.

The mail editions contain the report of Mr. J. K. B. Hill on the fire which occurred at Werk-en-Rust on December 22nd last. As stated in the CIRCULAR at the time, the fire was caused by an explosion of sand-crackers, unlawfully manufactured. Twenty-three lives were lost, and the effects of the explosion were aggravated by the large store of fireworks kept in contravention of the law.

British Guiana took second place in the competition for the Swettenham Rifle Cup, scoring 711, while Jamaica, the winner, took 740 points.

It had been a fortnight of very good rains, perhaps a little too heavy in some places; but generally it had been favourable. The sugar market for refining crystals showed an upward tendency, and the price for export would be quoted at \$2.19. For local consumption \$2.20 was being asked, and yellow crystals \$2.60.

DOMINICA—The movement for separation.

MR. E. A. AGAR, MAY 22nd.—A petition had been sent home by the last mail praying for complete separation from the Leeward Islands; it had not been very widely circulated or many more signatures might have been obtained. The signatures attached were not all in agreement with a complete separation; many signed because they looked upon separation of the various units as a first step towards a federation of the whole West Indies.

Some rain had fallen in the interior, but otherwise the past fortnight had been almost entirely fine; the weather showed signs of breaking at the time of writing, and although a few more days of sun would be beneficial, there had been sun enough to ensure a good second flowering of the lime trees.

GRENADA—Sir James Hayes-Sadler's retirement.

MR. W. M. MALINS-SMITH, MAY 24th.—The dry season still continued, and there was no sign of its breaking. It looked like another late crop for 1914-15. The cacao trees were flowering plentifully, but unless the rain came they would not keep.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, MAY 24th.—With the generous assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation, which was contributing £1,856 per annum for five years for the purpose, arrangements were being made to inaugurate an effective campaign for the eradication of ankylostomiasis in Grenada. Two medical officers specially trained for the purpose were to be sent out, and Marine Villa, the late residence of the Colonial Secretary, was to be placed at the disposal of the medical staff.—The late Mrs. C. Macaulay Browne's will had been sworn at £87,057.—The action brought by Mrs. A. G. Hughes, wife of the acting headmaster of the Boys Secondary School, against the Home Industries Association had been discontinued.

A Regatta and Aquatic Sports, open to the island, was

to be held on the 25th at Gouave, under the patronage of the Hon D. S. DeFreitas.

Ven. Archdeacon George A. Gentle died at his residence, The Cedars, on the 21st. He had been suffering from his heart, but had so much recovered that he had resumed duty, and actually conducted the Communion Service on the day of his death.

News had been received of the appointment of a new Colonial Secretary, in the person of Mr. F. H. Watkins, I.S.O., Commissioner of Turks and Caicos Islands, who was expected to arrive in June. Sir James and Lady Hayes Sadler left for England, via New York, on the 23rd. A guard of honour of the Local Forces under the command of Captain D. L. Slinger, with drum and fife band, was drawn up in front of the Public Buildings, and there was quite a large gathering of public officers and ladies, and other gentlemen. The Government Band was also in attendance. A Government Gazette Extraordinary issued on the 23rd contained the various Addresses presented to the departing Governor. Hon. Herbert Ferguson, Acting Colonial Secretary, had taken over the administration of the government.—Mr. Arthur Darrell had left for St. Vincent, where he was to be married to Miss Simmons before taking up his appointment in Nigeria.

In the Inter-Parochial Tennis Competition, St. George's played St. Mark's on the 19th. St. George's won,—three love.

A sad accident, which resulted in the death of one of the workmen, occurred on the 14th at the new Grand Anse sugar factory. While the chimney was being put into position, the chain with which it was being raised parted, and it came down with a crash, killing the man on the spot.

A Dramatic Entertainment, in aid of the St. George's Anglican Church funds, was held at York House on the 19th.—The next evening Dr. N. T. Durrant delivered a lecture on Tuberculosis at York House, under the patronage of the Governor and Lady Hayes Sadler.—The action for slander brought by Mr. C. P. Renwick, barrister-at-law, against Mr. J. M. Henry, barrister-at-law, had resulted in a verdict for the defendant. No costs.

Mr. N. Darnell Davis, C.M.G., whose short stay in the land of his nativity has done him a world of good, as he looked twice the man he did when he arrived, was a passenger by the mail.

The members of the St. Georges Club entertained the Governor at a dinner on the 15th. Covers were laid for 42.

The defeated cricket team returned from St. Lucia on the 17th. In this connection (Cork Cup Cricket Tournament) the *Chronicle* said, "We learn with pleasure that there is every prospect of three teams meeting in St. Vincent next year."

The Mounted Troop of the Grenada Volunteer Force had published the provisional programme of a Gymkhana to be held at Telescope Pasture on Whit Mouday.

Shipments of cacao to date, 61,851 bags, corresponding period last crop, 53,581 bags.

JAMAICA—The Cock-pit River irrigation scheme.

MESSRS. J. E. KERR & CO., LTD., MAY 23rd.—At the time of writing there was a considerable agitation in all the parishes on the north side of the island in regard to railway extension. It was hoped that a uniform narrow gauge system might be run through the north side, opening up the interior of the island. This ought to be of very great help towards the development of the banana production. The present idea was that this railway should have a terminus at Port Maria, and outlets on the sea-coast at Falmouth and Montego Bay. The subject was an exceedingly interesting one, and one which it was hoped would very shortly develop considerably.

MR. A. ST. G. SPOONER, MAY 25th.—The crop was rapidly coming to a close in Vere, and where sugar making was still being carried on it was only because planters did not wish to finish cutting the canes before they have some other food supplies for the stock than the cane tops furnish. The weather continued as dry as ever, the so-called May rains had so far given no evidence of impending arrival. Where canes or bananas were doing well was where a supply of irrigation water could be obtained from

wells for them, all others looked in a very sad condition at present.

The progress of the Cockpit River irrigation scheme had been retarded by the action of certain members of the Legislative Council, who were calling for a fully detailed estimate and report to be submitted to the Council by the Director of Public Works, before becoming assenting parties to such scheme going through under the assistance of the Government. Those persons interested in the Rio Minho as a source of irrigation water had held a meeting at May Pen and were putting their claims forward by means of a representative deputation to the Governor. Whilst no doubt it would be an excellent thing for Jamaica if both these sources of irrigation water could be made full use of there can be no doubt that the volume of water in the Rio Minho was not sufficient to allow of irrigation in Vere, and therefore if Vere was to be irrigated this could only be done from the Cockpit River. There is no question as to the quantity, or as to the quality of the Cockpit River water. The only real objection was that this water would have to be pumped something over 60 feet in order to gravitate on to the Vere cane and banana growing area. Pumping large volumes of water such a height as this could never be a very cheap matter, but as Vere lands were easily worked and very fertile they could stand expenses for irrigation that other lands might not be able to stand; certainly the water pumped on a large scale from the Cockpit River would not cost nearly as much as the irrigation water now pumped by small independent pumping plants from wells.

A correspondent writes from Kingston that there is every prospect of a record season as regards banana exports, and that the fruit is so plentiful that there is neither sufficient cartage, railway, wharf nor steamer accommodation for it. This is being especially felt at the west end of the island.

ST. LUCIA—A cool reception for the "Towey."

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON, MAY 22nd.—The weather continued dry, but the past few nights had brought some small showers that had been very helpful to cacao trees, which were in full flower, and saved many of the small pods already set. This rainfall was, however, too light to benefit materially cane lands, open as they were to the drying influence of high winds.

Mr. Douglas Young presided at his first Legislative Council in St. Lucia on the 20th. Expenditure totalling £72,000, against an estimated revenue of about £67,000, was passed; permission having been received from the Colonial Secretary to deplete the surplus fund (now standing at about £29,000) by about £5,000, on condition that in future revenue and expenditure must more nearly balance. His Honour appointed a special committee to consider and report on the finances of the colony, with special reference to the petition for the improvement of the Goldsworthy road, and it was thought that some extra taxation might be necessary to meet this expense, and a readjustment of the customs tariff to recoup the losses incurred by the Reciprocity Treaty. A vote for the re-arming of the Police and Volunteers with Lee-Enfield rifles to replace the old Martinis, was passed, and reciprocity on the Canadian lines was extended to all British possessions and protectorates.

The trustees of the Rockefeller Commission, in extending their campaign against ankylostomiasis to St. Lucia, had granted to the colony a sum of £1,262 to be expended during the current year, and a special medical man, with a salary of £600 a year would take charge of this work. To the writer it appeared that inadequate provision was made in this estimate for village and estate latrines, and it would be futile to deal only with infected cases without taking adequate precautions against new infection. The writer drew to the Council's attention the fact that £3,800 had been voted within the past 15 months to the Remmon scheme of Experimental Agricultural Station, Land Settlement and Village Extension, pointing out that the success of the scheme was extremely doubtful, and that the money could be ill spared in the present financial condition of the colony. The Hon. E. C. Du Boulay supported this view, but the majority of the Council expressed the belief that the expenditure would be more than justified in the good that

would accrue to the colony from it. Among planters of experience and in the agricultural community generally, there was a feeling of strong doubt as to the suitability of the location of this scheme, but it was being provided with every advantage that money and support could give it, and the next two years would show whether the Government would have been justified in ignoring local agricultural experience in this matter. There was absolutely no rancour against the scheme, only a doleful shaking of heads of those most competent to judge with a fear of more taxation, and of the unwisdom of encouraging peasants to work along the lines of nature's greatest resistance.

The R.M.S. *Towey* (100 tons) which had arrived in Castries to replace R.M.S. *Tees*, as a coasting steamer had met with a most unflattering reception. She appeared to have been built with an absolute disregard of all the conditions necessary for a coasting steamer running to leeward in St. Lucia. The most insurmountable obstacle to her use was in her draught, which would not enable her to get within a mile of some of the coast villages. Passenger, and fruit and vegetable, and cattle accommodation was ridiculously inadequate on such a large boat, while cargo accommodation was absurdly large in proportion to the wants of St. Lucia. The Agricultural and Commercial Society had acquainted the Government with their views, and Captain Owen was now in St. Lucia with regard to the matter. As a seagoing boat between islands or to windward the *Towey* would be admirable, and everyone was waiting to hear, with some degree of apprehension, exactly what the Royal Mail Company had up their sleeves in sending such a boat to St. Lucia.

ST. VINCENT—The resuscitation of the Carib country.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, MAY 23rd.—Since last mail a few much-needed showers had fallen and planters were beginning to make active preparations of land for the cotton crop.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council held on May 12th, a campaign against ankylostomiasis in the island was discussed. Mr. Wickliffe Rose, on behalf of the Rockefeller International Health Commission visited the island during last October and as a result it was decided to institute a campaign against this disease. The Rockefeller Commission placed at the disposal of the Government £1,148 per annum for at least three years; a period which might possibly be extended to five years, for the purpose of fighting this disease. With this help it was anticipated that much progress would be made towards getting rid of what had been a scourge for many years amongst the poorer classes in the colony.

Recently the writer paid a visit to the Carib Country, the name given to the estates in the N.E. of this island. This locality was completely devastated by the ejecta from the Soufrière in the eruption of 1902, and was still thought of even by people living in other parts of the colony, as a more or less arid desert. Photographs of sugar-canes growing there, taken by Mr. F. Child, were sufficient evidence of the falsity of this view. Not only was much of the Carib Country now growing splendid cane, but a coconut estate had been planted which promised to make the scenery of that part of the island as beautifully green, and the agricultural aspect as flourishing as was the case generally.

In connection with the improvement of the Windward district of the colony for motor traffic, it had been decided to construct eight new bridges over the smaller rivers along the Windward Public Road. When these were completed, practically every river in the Windward district that was likely to cause any obstacle to traffic, would have a substantial bridge over it at a convenient place.

ST. KITTS—The Association of Chambers of Commerce.

MR. E. J. SMITHSON, MAY 22nd.—On May 11th, the writer had the pleasure of seeing Mr. E. R. DAVISON at a meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society called to hear his proposals as to the formation of an Association of Chambers of Commerce for the West Indies. These were favourably received, and the general good of the scheme recognised, and it was unanimously agreed that the local

Society should become an Associate of the combination—and the hope was generally expressed that the West Indies would be adequately represented at the next meeting of the Chambers of the Empire.

There had been frequent light showers which were a hindrance to reaping, and there was a good deal of grass to contend with in the young cultivation. Labourers were in demand for planters were busy closing their cotton planting in addition to the usual routine of estate work.

A deputation representing shippers of produce from Sandy Point and Dieppe Bay had waited on His Honour the Administrator respecting the inconvenience and delay caused by the steamers of the Royal Mail Canadian service not calling at Sandy Point for produce, and it was hoped some good would result therefrom. Mr. E. H. Flood, the Canadian Trade Commissioner, had also been on the spot, and the matter had been placed before him.

The writer had recently had the pleasure of seeing in the grounds of Spencer House the very fine specimen of the Talipot Palm, which was in full blossom and slowly dying, the rich brown of the bottom dead and dying leaves being in striking contrast to the green verdure of the upper portion of the palm, which was planted in 1873 by the late Hon. F. S. Wigley. [A picture of this talipot palm appears in CIRCULAR 408.]

The Permanent Exhibition Committee was forwarding a very fair contribution from the Presidency to the Tropical Products Exhibition by the mail. It was hoped that St. Kitts cotton will make a good show.

TOBAGO—The new "Barima" appreciated.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, MAY 22nd.—The local natives had not yet recovered from the effects produced by the visit of H.H. Princess Marie Louise. As one black man put it "Our forefathers and the land never saw anyone so great before!" No doubt the Princess must have smiled at some of the decoration greetings. On one of them she was hailed as the "Princess of Wales!"—Tobago had about the same time another interesting visitor in the person of Mr. William Gordon Gordon, on whose minority report the Secretary of State for the Colonies decided about 16 years ago that the island was to become a Ward of the united colonies of Trinidad and Tobago. Mr. Gordon was accompanied by his planting Attorney, Mr. Macleod, and although they saw Tobago at its worst (after four months of exceedingly dry weather) it was hoped that he might extend his interests there, and thus benefit the island commercially as he did politically in years gone by.

The R.M.S. *Barima*, the new coastal steamer, came into King's Bay on Thursday morning, and the writer had the pleasure of inspecting her, and meeting an old friend, Captain Willan. The *Barima* was commodious, comfortable and business-like. Her engines were like perfect sewing machines, and it was a treat to see her turning almost on her own axis! The huge holds and speedy cranes seemed to invite cargo, but it would be many years, alas, before Tobago could expect to fill them. There was to be a luncheon on board at Scarborough.

Some welcome showers had fallen during the past fortnight, but heavy rains were needed to restore the customary green in the fields. Indications pointed to an early approach of the rainy season, which planters would gladly welcome. While cacao trees looked quite bleached by the road sides, young coco-nuts had stood the drought very well and young Hevea rubber looked ever so much better than Castilleja trees which were still comparatively leafless.

TRINIDAD—Satisfactory trade returns for 1913.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, MAY 26th.—The Municipal Corporation Ordinance had been dragging its more or less weary way through following meetings of Council, and was still under consideration. The Attorney General, whose ability was only equalled by his patience, had charge of the measure, and dealt with the many amendments in the most careful and attentive manner. It would not be his fault if the Ordinance failed to be all it should be. Meanwhile the unofficials had given evidence of the indifference with which, perhaps not they alone, viewed the question. On the 13th, Dr. Trada was to move an important amendment

with regard to the exemption under certain conditions of Government officials when the adjournment for lunch was taken. On the resumption seven unofficials failed to make an appearance. The honourable, doctor surveying the desolate condition of the chairs, remarked that any enthusiasm he had was damped, adding that it was to be regretted that the principle of compulsory attendance which it was sought to introduce into the Ordinance under discussion should not also apply to the Legislative Council. After this grave, but merited reproof, Dr. Prada proceeded, and lost his amendment by 9 to 4. What would have been the result otherwise was unknown. At the same meeting the report of the Collector of Customs was laid. Pending its being printed the Governor announced that the customs revenue for 1913 was £8,316 over 1912. The imports for local consumption £234,000, and the exports £681,000 over 1912. The oil exports were 9,000,000 gallons in excess of previous year. The total trade, exclusive of transshipment, amounted to £5,894,568, or £195,815 more than 1912, all of which was grateful and comforting, but sounded strange in face of the fact that the colony was too impecunious to refuse the generous offer of its Colonial Secretary to forego his well earned increment.

On the subject of the early presentation of the customs figures and report, it was satisfactory to record that, whether owing to adverse comment last year or not, official reports, etc., were now forthcoming with more reasonable promptitude.

The local Superintendent of the Royal Mail Company, Mr. E. C. Skinner, and Captain Willan received a goodly company on board the new steamer *Barima* prior to commencing the service with Tobago. An inspection of the ship by the visitors, most of whom went down to the sea pretty frequently, failed to elicit anything but commendation. She is a great improvement on anything seen previously on the route, and if Tobago was not now satisfied she never would be. Apart from the regular traffic, daily growing with their island ward, the *Barima* would offer the most attractive opportunity either for residents or strangers to pass four delightful days in the voyage to and fro and circumnavigating Tobago. Mr. Bell, in suitable words, proposed the health of the Company, its representatives and the ship, a good deal of champagne was consumed in a remarkably short time, and all went ashore well pleased with themselves and their friends of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. The pleasant ceremony was repeated at Scarborough, Tobago, Mr. Skinner going specially for the purpose of welcoming the Tobagonians on board. Some happy speeches were made, the Hon. H. L. Thornton being specially happy in his remarks on the felicitous occasion.

The Governor had appointed a committee with certain terms of reference to be a Commission on the subject of Education, and, by direction of the Secretary of State, the appointment of the head of the Education Department would be deferred until the Commission had reported. There was a general feeling that, whether the present system was to blame or not, the colony was not receiving benefit at all commensurate with the very large sum now expended, and the Governor's action in the matter was welcome.

Empire Day's solitary celebration was a Rally of Boy Scouts on the Savannah, where the Governor reviewed and addressed them. After the inspection the boys gave a demonstration of all the strange and handy things they were capable of, and proved themselves worthy members of a capital little corps.

MARRIAGE.

Pairaudeau—Turrill.—On the 16th April, at the Brickdam Catholic Chapel, Demerara, by the Rev. A. Moran, S.J., Gerard Henry Pairaudeau, of the Government Civil Service, youngest son of the late Emile Guillaume Pairaudeau, Vice Consul of France, Demerara, to Doris Elinor Turrill, second daughter of the late John Lewis Turrill, London, England.

DEATH.

Summerson—On 4th inst., at Roraima, Holbeck Avenue, Scarborough, suddenly, Arthur Summerson, late of Demerara, aged 58 years.

WANTS.

Experienced sugar and agricultural chemist (thoroughly up in all branches of the industry, is now at liberty to undertake the management of a sugar estate, factory or refinery. Highest references. Apply A. M., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Member of leading Engineering and Chemical Institutions is open to Buy, Inspect, and Ship all classes of Engineering and Building Materials and Machinery, and act generally as Representative in England, for Engineers, Merchants, Planters, etc.—Address, B. I. S., West India Committee Circular, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Timebri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of Timebri for 1891, Part II. 1893, Part II. 1895 and Part II. 1898. For **sale:** Part I. 1886, Part II. 1889, Part I. 1893, and Part I. 1894.—Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

STR.—One still hears in the West Indies some talk as to the advantages of a mail service to England via Canada rather than a direct one as at present.

The storms of the Bay of Fundy, the fogs of the St. Lawrence, and the icebergs of Anticosti combine to make this region one of the most dangerous to navigate in the world, and the recently published list of wrecks is appalling. One cannot therefore imagine anyone preferring this route, especially in winter, to that of the Southern Atlantic.

It must at least be a cause for rejoicing that such a service is not already established, as if such had been the case, the *Cobequid* and the *Empress of Ireland* would doubtless have been carrying many West Indians on their ill-fated voyages, and by now there might have been mourning in many a West Indian home.

Yours, etc., ILLI RORUR.

[We certainly do not take so serious a view of the St. Lawrence route as that voiced above. We do, however, attach great importance to the maintenance of direct steamship communication between the mother country and the West Indies. Apart from other and more important considerations it is far more pleasant to follow the advice of the old sea captain and reach the West Indies by steaming "south till the butter melts and then due west," than incur the sharp changes of temperature involved by the voyage between Canada and the West Indies.

—ED.]

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

By his appointment to be Colonial Secretary and Registrar General of the Windward Islands, Mr. Frederick Henry Watkins, I.S.O., will have greater scope for his activities, which since March, 1906, have been successfully devoted to improving the finances of Turks and Caicos Islands, of which he has been Commissioner for no fewer than eight years. Mr. Watkins' official career began in 1882, when he acted as Revenue Officer in St. Lucia. In the following year he became Inspector of Schools in St. Vincent, and in 1887 Headmaster of the Grammar School in that island. Two years later he was made Inspector of Schools

in the Leeward Islands, and from 1900 to 1906 he was Commissioner of Montserrat. A popular and courteous official, Mr. Watkins is an eminently suitable successor to Mr. Edward R. Drayton.

His Honour Robert Blair Roden is administering the government of St. Vincent during the absence of the Hon. C. Gideon Murray.

Mr. S. T. Harrison, C.M.G., Comptroller of Customs, Barbados, has been granted 5½ months leave of absence.

Mr. Kenrick S. Wise is acting as Surgeon General and Registrar General, British Guiana, during the absence on leave of Hon. J. E. Godfrey, M.B., C.M., and has also been provisionally appointed a member of the Executive Council.

The Lord Bishop of Guiana has appointed the Very Reverend Ernest Sloman, M.A., Dean of St. George's Cathedral, as Vicar-General of the Diocese of Guiana during his absence from the colony.

Captain D. E. L. Slinger, Grenada Volunteer Force, has been granted leave of absence for 5½ months.

Mr. R. Bryson, M.L.C. Antigua, is in England on leave of absence.

The leave of absence granted to Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Senior Medical Officer, Dominica, has been extended for four months from May 1st.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

West India Plantation Syndicate.

This private company was registered on May 21st, by Armitage, Chapple and Macnaughten, 80, Bishopsgate, E.C., with a capital of £4,000 in £1 shares. Its objects are to carry on the business of planters of and dealers in rubber, gutta-percha, balata, gums, bananas, coco-nuts, fibres, tea, coffee, cocoa, sugar, tobacco, rice and cereals, oil and copra merchants, etc. The first directors (to number not less than two nor more than five) are: George M. Booth and Lord Stanmore.

Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates, Ltd.

Mr. Alfred S. Collard, presiding over the annual meeting on June 11th, said that the item £6,022 in the Profit and Loss Account for purchase of grants and estates and development included £2,328 paid for the David Young rubber estates. It was a matter for regret that there was no profit to provide for writing down the assets, especially that of preliminary expenses. The large profit anticipated had been completely extinguished owing to the unexpected fall in the price of balata. The net production, namely 900,000 lbs., was quite the largest yet secured by the company, but the "all in" cost came to 25. 1d., which, however, compared with 25. 6d. in 1912 and 35. 1d. in 1911. The directors had been compelled to complete an arrangement to provide them with cash for all the balata on hand, though it showed no profit. Everything was going on well in Demerara, and if a railway were laid through the interior, the expenses of working balata would be materially reduced. The motion for the adoption of the report was seconded by Mr. Henry Shield. Mr. Franklin complained of the poor price secured by the directors for balata. Enquiries showed that the price during the time when it was in England for sale was higher than the price obtained for it, and he calculated that the higher price would have made a difference of about £23,000 in the accounts. He was glad that the Board had raised no objection to the appointment of a committee to investigate the matter. After some discussion the following committee was appointed: Mr. Herbert Guedes, Mr. Reginald Tayler, Mr. Leslie Jacob, Mr. A. E. Franklin and Mr. Charles Marshall as a committee to confer with the Board upon the present position and future policy of the company and to report to the shareholders. The meeting was then adjourned to a date after the circulation of the Committee's report.

West India and Panama Telegraph Co., Ltd.

Presiding over the 74th ordinary general meeting at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, on May 28th, Mr. George von Chauvin, in the absence in the West Indies of

Mr. Kingsford, stated that the total receipts for the six months ended December 31 last amounted to £38,699 and the expenditure to £25,629. The income was £200 more than that for the December half of 1912, while the expenditure showed an increase of £1,203, the latter increase arising not from the fact that the expenditure had been materially different in the half-year under review as compared with that for the corresponding period of 1912, but from the fact that in that half year they derived from the hire of their ship to a neighbouring company a certain amount of income which could be set off against the expenditure. They had on board the ship a very efficient staff, and they could congratulate themselves on the certainty with which the localization of interruptions and faults was made and on the rapidity with which once the faults were localized, they were taken out and the cable repaired.

At the last meeting Mr. Kingsford referred to negotiations then pending to which the Canadian Government, the Governments of the British West Indian Colonies, and the British Government were parties. It would, he said, be agreeable to shareholders to hear the Canadian Government had put on its Parliamentary Estimates that portion of the subsidy which was to be given to the company, and that the Governments of the British West Indian colonies had all voted the continuance of their subsidy for ten years. The consideration to be given for the subsidy was a considerable, and in some cases a drastic, reduction in the company's rates, but the directors hoped that in course of time the payment for the subsidy would be set off to a considerable extent by increased traffic earnings. Since the close of the financial year there had been a decrease of nearly 9½ per cent. in their traffics, owing to the competition at Porto Rico and also to the interruption of the Colon cable.

In conclusion he moved the adoption of the report and the payment of the dividends as given in last CIRCULAR, and the motion was seconded by Mr. H. W. Birks, and carried unanimously.

Trinidad and the Burmah Oil Company.

Mr. John T. Cargill, Chairman of the Burmah Oil Company, at the annual general meeting in London on June 3rd, referred to the interest which that concern has acquired in the oil-fields of Trinidad. "We have taken," he said, "as you know, an equal participation with three others [the Royal Dutch Shell Company, the Western Oil Syndicate and the British and Foreign General Securities and Investment Trust] in the United British West Indies Petroleum Syndicate (Limited), at present prospecting in the island of Trinidad under an exploration licence obtained from the Government of that island. This exploration licence will be converted into a prospecting licence so soon as the geological examination enables a selection to be made from the lands under option, and the syndicate can later claim from Government a lease on such portion of the lands as still further examination may seem to justify. Concurrently with this work the syndicate is managing the fields and properties of the United British Oilfields of Trinidad (Limited), a company which was formed, under circumstances already made public, to take over the assets and properties of the Trinidad Oilfields (Limited). Since effective control was taken over in August last, considerable progress has been made in the cleaning up of old wells and the putting of the field into shape for future operations. Several wells previously non-producing, or whose production had fallen to an insignificant volume, have been revived, and they and some new wells have now given considerable production. The problem of securing a regular production from the wells, which have hitherto been somewhat erratic, appears to be approaching solution, and there is now a good prospect of obtaining a steady and regular production. The available tankage has been full for some time, and it has been necessary to restrain production for want of storage and outlet, and also to flow wells into earthen storage—never a satisfactory expedient. Steps have now been taken to erect a large tank farm, which it is hoped will enable our syndicate to develop a steady business both from the side of production and

from that of marketing. A contract has also been entered into the erection of plant for the treatment of crude oil, and the syndicate hopes shortly to be in a position to start marketing fuel oil."

Dealing with the Admiralty contract with the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, in which the Burmah Oil Company holds 949, 864 shares, Mr. Cargill said "At our annual meeting in May, 1909, in referring to the flotation of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, I used the following words: 'By the policy we have pursued, Gentlemen, we have not only secured for the Burmah Oil Company the predominant interest in what we firmly believe to be this great oil concession, but we have also secured for the British Empire what we have every reason to believe will in time prove a great national asset, and we have prevented the possibility of its falling into the hands of foreigners.' It is a source of deep satisfaction and gratification to myself and to my colleagues in both the Burmah Oil Company and the Anglo-Persian Oil Company to see the hopes and beliefs we all cherished now brought to full fruition. The only regret we have is that three of our own directors, Messrs. Tarbett Fleming, Leonard Gow, and Robert King, who all along approved most heartily of our policy in connexion with Persia, and that great Empire builder, Lord Strathcona, who took the chairmanship of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company purely from the national point of view of 'oil fuel for the Navy,' should not have lived to share our satisfaction."

Dividend	Latest Quotations.	PARCELS
4 1/2 %	Antigua ... 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	June 12.
3 1/2 %	Barbados ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1925-42	99-101
4 %	British Guiana 4 % Redeemable 1935	87-89
4 %	British Guiana 4 % Redeemable 1923-45	96-100
4 %	Grenada ... 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	77-79
4 %	Jamaica ... 4 % Redeemable 1936	98-100
3 1/2 %	Jamaica ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49	100-102
4 %	Jamaica ... 4 % Redeemable 1922-44	88-90
4 %	St. Lucia ... 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	75-80
4 %	Trinidad ... 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	97-99
4 %	Trinidad ... 4 % Redeemable 1922-44	99-101
3 1/2 %	Trinidad 1 1/2 % fully paid	77-79
12 %	The Colonial Bank ... 12 %	99 1/2
12 %	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchge.)	82 1/2
1 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary ...	94-99
1 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference ...	98-101
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures ...	101-103
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures ...	102 1/2-104 1/2
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures ...	98-101
6 1/2 %	Angostura Bitters Preference (G.I.) ...	1 1/2
6 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures ...	105-108
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref. ...	1-2
	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)	
	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares) ...	
	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1) ...	1 1/2 pm
	" " " " "B" " (£1) ...	
	" " " " "C" " (£1) ...	
	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock ...	33-38
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref. ...	105-108
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref. ...	81-84
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures ...	83-91
4 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures ...	98-100
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary ...	1 1/2-1 3/4 pd
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 1/2 % Cum. 1st Pref	9-9 1/2
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " 2nd "	8 1/2-8 3/4
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures ...	97-99

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX.—No. 40. Report on Police Force, 1913. British Guiana, Vol. XXXVIII.—No. 41. Supreme Court Ordinance, 1914. Regulations for C.O.D. Service. No. 42. Spirits Ordinance, 1914. Berbice Lutheran Fund Ordinance, 1914. No. 44. Colonial and Contract Steam Traffic Ordinance, 1914. Jamaica, Vol. XXXVII.—No. 20. Compulsory Pilotage Law, 1914. Trinidad, Vol. 83.—No. 20. Legislative Council, May 6th. Panama Canal Rules. General Board of Health, May 4th. No. 21. Legislative Council, May 13th. Grenada, Vol. 32.—No. 15. Report of Police Magistrate, 1913. Legislative Council, March 6th. Report by Superintendent of Public Works on Harbour Improvements. St. Lucia, Vol. 83.—No. 22. Report on

Quarantine, 1913-14. Report of Magistrate, First District, 1913-14. St. Vincent. Legislative Council, April 14th. Secondary Education Ordinance, 1914. Kingstown Board Ordinance, 1914. Medical Registration Ordinance, 1914. Notaries Public Ordinance, 1914. Small Towns Traders' Licences Ordinance, 1914. Small Towns Water Rate Assessment Ordinance, 1914.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

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|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. W. Greig | Mr. G. Railton |
| Mr. J. P. Bain | Mr. W. Morris Fletcher | Mr. W. C. Robertson |
| H. E. Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G. | Mr. A. T. Hammond | Mr. D. Hope Ross |
| Mr. Geoffrey Brooke | H. E. Sir James Hayes-Sauller, K.C.M.G. | Mr. H. Seedorff |
| Mr. D. C. Cameron | Sauller, K.C.M.G. | Mr. F. B. H. Shand |
| Professor P. Carmody | Mr. J. C. Henderson | Lt.-Colonel W. I. Slack |
| Hon. W. K. Chandler | Mr. A. S. Kernahan | Captain D. L. Slinger |
| Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa | Dr. G. L. Latour | Hon. Denis Slyne |
| Mr. Wm. Durno | Mr. W. Low | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| Mr. S. Garraway | Mr. J. J. Nunan | Mr. Carl F. Wieting |
| Hon. E. A. Grannom | Mr. James Peet | and |
| | Mr. A. H. Wright | |
- Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S. W.
 Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Harlewell Road, Putney, S. W.
 Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E. C.
 Major the Hon. J. A. Bardon, C. M. G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria St., S. W.
 Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Chartering Cross, W. C.
 Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoyne," Chessel Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton.
 Mr. Frank Cundall, F.R.A., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W. C.
 Mr. H. Y. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Hon. Fred. Driver, 68, Harley Road, Nottingham.
 Mr. C. Russell Garnett, Ross Cottage, Berkhamstead.
 Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, C. M. G., 78, Glenaldon Road, Streatham, S. W.
 Mr. J. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, Gt. Tower Street, E. C.
 Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meirion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
 Hon. W. L. McKinstry, 75, Margaret Street, W.
 Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland. (S. W.)
 Mr. W. Morrison, 39, Regent House, St. James's Court, Buckingham Gate.
 Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, S. W.
 Dr. H. A. Aldford Nicholls, C. M. G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, S. W.
 Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Fenbridge Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
 Mr. D. O. Riviere, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W. C.
 Mr. W. N. Sands, "Legmore," Taylor Road, Wallington, Surrey.
 Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fensburgh Av., E. C.
 Mr. W. M. B. Shields, c/o Messrs. H. K. Davson and Co., 79, Mark Lane, E. C.
 Mr. Thomas Thornton, 31, Grassmere Street, Burnley, Lanc.
 Mr. Hugh F. Wildy, 49, Church Lane, Hornsey, N.
 Mr. S. L. Williamson, Grand Palace Hotel, Strand, W. C.
 Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W. C.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—
Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), June 11th, "A few showers have fallen but more rain is much wanted." **Demerara**—(Messrs. Booker, McConnell and Co., Ltd.), May 29th, "Heavy rains continue, finer weather much wanted." June 3rd, "Finer weather since last message generally acceptable." (The Demerara Co., Ltd.), June 8th, "Weather favourable." (Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), June 8th, "Weather which was recently too heavy is now drier and favourable for cultivation." **Berbice** (Messrs. H. K. Davson and Co.), June 11th, "Weather suitable on all estates." **Jamaica**—The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd., Week ended May 27th, Port Antonio "Fair," Kingston "Fine."

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	Trent	June 16, midday
Hermuda	London	Cayo Gilana	18, noon
West Indies	Dartmouth	Salybin	19, 10.00.
Trinidad	Bordeaux	La Navarre	22, 6 p.m.
West Indies	Southampton	Orotava	30, midday

HOMeward.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
Southampton	West Indies	Orotava	June 22.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially addressed. † Receipt Jamaica. ‡ In E.C. district up to 1 p.m.

THE MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Trent, (Captain R. Hayes), Southampton, June 8th:—

Captain Armitage Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Simmons-Anderson Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Andrews Baroness van Asbeck Mrs. van Asbeck Mr. Ankin Mr. I. P. Baum Mr. Bryan Mr. J. S. Bonnyman Mr. E. H. Brocksopp Mr. E. A. Baeza Mr. & Mrs. R. Barriga Captain R. Brown Mr. E. C. B. Bonyou Mr. F. H. Bailey Mrs. Burch Mr. & Mrs. S. Boston Mr. & Mrs. G. Caseres Miss A. M. Chipchase Dr. Clarke Miss Clements Mrs. C. J. Clarke Mr. N. H. Coa Mr. E. H. Duchman Mr. N. Darnell Davis, C.M.D. Hon. & Mrs. F. Driver Mrs. Da Costa Mr. W. J. Evans Captain Ellis Mr. J. Ferguson Mr. J. Forbes Mr. Fullan Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Fellows Father M. Guardado Mrs. M. L. de Goubert Mr. E. L. Guppy Mr. M. Gomes Mrs. & Miss Gramum Miss Gaudiner Captain A. T. W. Hen- shaw Mr. P. C. A. Hairs	Major and Mrs. H. T. Hart Mr. J. Holgate Mr. S. T. Harrison, C.M.G. Miss W. A. Hudson Mr. F. Howell Mrs. and Miss Isax Mrs. and Miss Image Mrs. Jamieson Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Johnson Mr. C. L. Jessop Mr. B. F. Jakobsen Mr. N. L. Jenks Dr. T. H. James Archdeacon Jess Miss Korkbas Miss Kugler Mr. Paul Kastner Mr. and Miss Kirby Miss Langdon Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Law Miss H. McGrath Mr. H. G. MacGeorge Mr. J. Mungua Mr. O. Munguia Mr. I. Menendez Mr. J. Morrison Mr. Maabakel Mrs. Macgillivray Mr. and Mrs. E. G. L. Masop Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Moore Miss M. Mayers Mrs. McAnley Mr. A. T. Nunez Miss Nanez Mr. Nicholson Miss C. M. Plunkett Mr. S. H. Park Mr. M. D. Peden Mr. and Mrs. Parnell Mr. H. Pirsey	Miss E. Pilgrim Mrs. Pile Colonel Rothwell Mrs. and Miss Reid Captain Robson Mr. N. C. Ruggles Miss L. Rodway Mr. J. M. Roberts Colonel John Roberts Mr. R. Schlager Mr. L. B. Silva Mr. C. Sorensen Mrs. and Miss Stone Hon. Denis Slyne Miss Slyne Miss Slyné Captain D. L. Slinger Mr. G. Smith Miss A. M. Thornton Mr. S. Thomas Mr. and Mrs. A. Tracey Dr. Tobler Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Thomson Mr. Tapper Mrs. E. T. Tennant Mr. Trimmingham Mrs. Tenengeley Dr. Ida Tenengeley Mr. A. A. Teixeira Miss Teixeira Mr. M. B. G. Vianna Mrs. Vianna Mr. S. Valdivieso Mrs. C. Valdivieso Misses Valdivieso (3) Mr. H. Valdivieso Mr. A. Van Oostveen Mr. A. Vonelle Miss M. E. Viret Mr. G. H. Wilson Mrs. and Miss Wallace Mr. and Miss Watts Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Wiles
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OUTWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Ortolava, (Captain W. C. Barrett), July 1st:—

Miss M. E. Howell Mr. E. Sorton Mr. C. M. Wisden Mr. G. E. L. Cox	Mrs. Dominguez Mr. W. S. Scott Mr. D. A. Robb Captain W. A. Williams	Mr. C. E. Reis and Mrs. and Mrs. F. E. Murray
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ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Danube, (Captain C. A. Mackenzie), July 15th:—

Mr. A. K. E. Duncan Mrs. S. E. Howarth Misses Malone (2)	Mr. A. J. Collier Mrs. and Miss Drayton Mr. G. Strauss	Mr. P. A. Rostant Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Heidenstam
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Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM COLON per S.S. Changunola, Avonmouth, June 2nd:—

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Candall Mr. S. L. Williamson Mr. D. Hughes Mr. B. Escarte	Mr. E. Kuhlmann Mr. R. Wood Mr. P. C. Henman Mr. A. Varkany Mr. J. Bremner	Mrs. F. B. Carlisle Mr. R. H. Mitchell Mr. F. G. Klinge Mr. G. Klinge Mr. C. Arndt
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HOME ARRIVALS FROM COLON per S.S. Patuca, Avonmouth, June 7th:—

Mr. H. Shubert Mr. and Mrs. J. Senez Mrs. Brand Mr. E. Ortiz Mr. R. Ortiz Rev. A. Blessing Miss E. Bland Mr. and Mrs. C. Calsamiglia	Mrs. and Miss A. Sisbe Mr. F. Romero Mr. A. Gutierrez Mr. Jimenez Mr. J. Vines Mr. W. Cautley Mr. E. St. J. Branch Miss V. Glover Miss V. Leza Miss G. Cook Mr. M. Escuarte	Mrs. J. Gillingham Mr. P. Huidjosa Mr. W. Caruthers Mr. H. W. Coles Mr. S. W. Hunt Mr. R. H. Clarke Mr. A. R. Halfour Mr. W. McKenzie Mr. J. Barnett and Mr. and Mrs. Tonico
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EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to May 21.		Jan. 1 to May 20.	
	1914	1913	1914	1913
Sugar ...	24,876	16,306	5,393	2,985
Molasses ...	643	505		
Rum ...	1,306,607	1,079,583	624,094	271,749
Melaseuit, &c.	926	3,353	3,347,968	1,831,084
Cacao ...	23,357	...	4,962,766	3,019,130
Coffee ...	170,560	61,878	10,546,260	8,847,915
Coco-nuts ...	913,086	381,524	1,995,150	9,680,048
Oranges	5,161,277	...	1,278,391	Siems
Bananas	...	...	20,591	36,695
Cotton	...	...	44,593	46,275
Pimento	...	...	21,556	14,127
Ginger ...	...	...	95,597	36,174
Honey ...	...	...	23,734	16,090
Dyewoods	...	...
Gold ...	23,750	20,637		
Diamonds	4,549	1,929		
Rice	7,630,011	5,661,598		
Balata	314,278	242,467		
Rubber ...	77	...		
Timber ...	103,440	175,363		
Lumber...	150,983	147,051		
Lime (rate of)	586	...		
	Trinidad.		St. Vincent.	
	Jan. 1 to May 26.		Jan. 1 to Mar. 31.	
	1914	1913	1914	1913
Sugar ...	25,002	21,460	18,923	2,635
Molasses	2,073	2,003	41,643	32,416
Rum ...	668	231		
Coco-nuts	5,931,625	5,632,268		
Appahit ...	62,812	85,954		
Manyah ...	83	...		
Bitters ...	7,202	7,539		
Coffee ...	4,800	1,220		
Crude Petrol	5,968,707	1,435,664		
Cacao ...	47,894,800	31,288,600		
Cotton ...	...	...
" Seed	...	...
Copra ...	3,390	3,060		
Spice ...	...	...
Kola	...	...
	Barbados.		Grenada.	
	Jan. 1 to May 22.		Oct. 1 to May 25.	
	1914.	1913.	1913/14	1912/13
Sugar ...	18,923	2,635	17,113,180	5,644,580
Molasses	41,643	32,416	1,086	965
Rum ...	...	...	3,453	3,368
Copra ...	...	...	105	70
Spice ...	...	...	769,885	589,835
Kola	...	...	3,130	1,980
	Antigua.		St. Vincent.	
	Jan. 1 to October 31st.		Jan. 1 to Mar. 31.	
	1913		1912	
Sugar ...	10,194	11,677		
Molasses	5,092	5,267		
Colton	168,513	80,480		
Pineapples ...	371	330		
Limes	869	393		
Lime juice, raw	223	186		
" concentrated	38	38		
Logwood	817	338		
Onions	4,406	2,742		

HOMEWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Ortolava, due at Southampton, June 22nd:—

Mr. A. C. Irving Mrs. A. Ougsley Miss E. Browne Mrs. Heath Miss Howes Miss E. W. Ferguson Miss G. Spier Mrs. C. Stollmeyer Miss Meebam Miss Luciani Miss D. Campbell Hon. E. Dunboulay Mr. and Mrs. Luciana Dr. Heath Mr. Howe Mr. and Mrs. Meyer Mr. W. Savery Mr. A. J. Stenger Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Knowles Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Knowles	Mrs. J. Adie Miss Dunsire Mrs. Alcazare Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin Mrs. H. H. Hunn Mrs. N. H. McLeod Mrs. Q. S. Greene Mr. Delialo Mr. E. Borberg Hon. G. Hatris Mr. F. Jones Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gordon Mr. Maude Rosby Miss Delisle Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Hall Mr. G. Ballard Mr. J. H. Wenham Mrs. Schjolzeb Mr. J. White Mrs. H. E. McEwen	Mr. G. J. de Freitas Mrs. S. J. Kinton Mrs. Davidson Mr. A. V. Board Mr. G. G. Barnard Rev. E. Verlet Mr. and Miss Lamy Mrs. Lasaale Misses Clarke Mrs. and Miss Hash Miss Howe Mr. and Mrs. Grant Mr. J. M. Kerr Mr. D. Hagley Dr. and Mrs. Paterson Commander and Mrs. W. H. Coombs Mr. and Mrs. S. Manning Mr. Stuart J. and Mr. J. F. Hithir
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SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Trent, (Captain R. Hayes), June 17th:—

Mr. R. Henderson Mr. and Miss C. E. Miss G. Carr Miss N. B. Medeiros Miss W. W. Washart Miss G. G. Washart Mr. R. N. Karlowa Mr. F. E. Wallin Mr. W. Doyle Mr. W. A. Robinson Mr. T. O'Connor	Mr. and Mrs. A. Schmidt Mrs. E. N. Clavier Misses Clavier (3) Miss M. G. Farnell Mr. M. Donovan Mr. G. J. Washam Mr. J. L. E. Chow Rev. and Mrs. R. G. Fisher Mr. C. A. Hicks Miss E. M. Grantan	Mr. and Mrs. A. Mestyn-Scott Mr. F. Camara Mr. and Mrs. R. de Viveiros Mr. D. McBride Misses Johnston (3) Mr. J. McElghrist Miss F. Azore Miss D. Sumatra Mr. H. V. Sakri Mr. O. Reimann Mr. R. Ellis
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THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (24% 78%)

SUGAR.—In New York after weakness and a decline of 7 points in quotations the market for raws ruled firm with a recovery of 3 points in quotations; the end of last week raws were, however, very active and strong, and quotations advanced 7 points, on which basis from 25,000 to 300,000 bags of Cubans, changed hands. For August shipment a speculative interest had paid earlier 3.42c. for 10,000 bags. Quotations 3.39c. for 96% centrifugals and 2.95c. for muscovados.

The London speculative beet market under the influence of easier quotations in America had a spell of quietude, and prices fell away, and although at one time there was a disposition to put up quotations, and last Thursday an advance of ½d. to ¾d. was established on account of better American news and less offering the attempt subsided, better Cuban weather and fair receipts having had an effect on the tone of the market.

Mr. F. O. Licht wrote a week ago that the "weather for field work on the Continent was favourable, and for the development of roots also favourable, especially as the East has now sufficient rain." Later it was stated "weather for field work fairly suitable and development of roots favourable."

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: June 2nd, 9s. 6½d.; 3rd, 9s. 6¾d.; 4th 9s. 6¼d.; 5th 9s. 6¾d.; 6th, 9s. 6¼d.; 8th, 9s. 5¾d.; 9th, 9s. 5¼d.; 10th, 9s. 5d.; 11th, 9s. 5¾d.; 12th, 9s. 5d.; 13th, 9s. 6d.; 15th, 9s. 5¼d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914	1913	1912
Europe (1 May to 6 June)	2,825,610	2,669,830	1,920,170
United States (9th June)	287,000	382,040	213,780
Cuba, 6 p'pal ports (7th June)	700,000	661,000	516,000
Cargoes afloat (11th June)	37,500	—	19,500

Total ... Tons **3,880,110** **3,712,870** **2,669,450**
 Quotations of 88% Beet, 15th June ... 9s. 5¼d. 9s. 5¾d. 11s. 8¼d.

Grocery West Indian.—Crystallised—In the absence of auctions in the first week very little business was transacted; only a few hundred bags of fine yellow Demerara changing hands at 14s. 6d. to 15s. 4½d. In the second week the sales amounted to some 4,000 bags Demerara good middling to good yellow sold at 13s. 6d. to 15s. 4½d.; Trinidad low middling yellow 13s. 1½d. to 13s. 10½d.; crystallised Jamaica middling to good middling yellow 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d. St. Kitts middling yellow 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d. At last Friday's small auction nothing was sold.

Muscovados.—St. Kitts and St. Lucia offered at auction withdrawn.

Syrups.—St. Kitts and St. Lucia bought in and sold afterwards at 11s. to 12s. 6d.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Tons
Imports ...	18,478	22,705	15,610	21,825	16,452	
Deliveries ...	12,346	12,087	12,617	15,032	14,485	
Stocks (June 6th)	18,737	12,457	7,482	11,153	7,042	

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised 12th June.

13s./13s. 6d. 13s. 3d. 17s. 3d. 15s. 9d. 10s.

RUM.—Stocks in London, June 6th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Puns
Jamaica ...	7,285	5,855	7,434	9,624	12,675	
Demerara ...	10,818	7,750	7,096	6,228	8,282	
Total, all kinds	25,100	21,133	21,863	25,360	28,282	

The market for proofs in the absence of arrivals is quiet, with occasional sales at about steady prices, the business

done includes 300 puns. Demerara sold in Liverpool at fully late rates. Jamaicas have been very steady throughout the fortnight. A fair demand for good home trade qualities has been in evidence, and fine and choice export marks have sold well.

CAOAO.—Stocks in London, June 6th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Bag.
Trinidad ...	8,889	8,395	7,852	6,436	9,549	
Grenada...	11,191	7,734	5,851	15,225	15,225	
Total, all kinds	93,329	81,930	114,122	92,561	92,561	

The market has been rather dull with the exception of fine Jamaica. Values generally are somewhat easier. Of 2,236 bags Trinidad, Grenada, Jamaica, Dominica, and St. Vincent, offered at public sale only 852 bags sold consisting of Grenada fine up to 57s., about 6d. down, common kinds withdrawn. Other West India barely steady, except Jamaica, which was firm for fine. For Trinidad there was no demand. Quotations after the sale: Trinidad middling red 58s. to 58s. 6d.; good middling red 59s. to 60s.; fine and superior 61s. to 64s.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair 51s. to 53s. middling to fine 54s. to 57s.

In the Trinidad circular of 26th May, it is stated that although the tone of their market had been weakish right through the fortnight, no change had taken place in quotations.

COFFEE. Santos, June 42s. 9d.; Sept. 43s. 10½d.; Dec. 44s. 10½d. In the spot market public sales were resumed after holidays last Thursday week, and there was good competition, and the bulk of the offerings sold at full prices. During last week a good demand prevailed. East India although occasionally of poor quality sold well. Costa Rica was full up to rather dearer, and other Central American kinds maintained former prices. Futures show a slight depreciation in values since last mail.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended June 11th 697 bales British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland say since last report a large business has been done in West India Sea Island at firm prices for extra fine and easier rates for medium fine to fine. Sales include cotton from all the islands, the larger proportion at prices ranging from 14½d. to 17d.; in addition superior St. Vincent sold at 18d. to 24d., Antigua 18d. to 19d., and a few St. Kitts at 18d.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Lime Juice (raw) quiet 3 puns good cloudy pale Jamaica sold in auction at 1s. 9d. per gall. No enquiry for Dominica at present time. **OTTO OF LIME** (hand pressed)—Scarce and firmer, buyers at 8s. 6d. per lb. **Essential Oil** (distilled)—Steady, small sales at 3s. per lb. **Concentrated**—Again higher, the arrivals per SS. Trent sold at £39. **PIMENTO.**—Very flat. **GINGER.**—Quiet and unchanged. **NUTMEGS**—100's/80's 44d. to 6d.; 120's/100's and 140's/100's 4½d. to 4¾d. **MACE.**—Good to fine 2s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; red to good, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 11d. **COPRA.**—Fair merchantable West India value £24 10s. **ARROWROOT.**—No sales reported and quotations are quite nominal at 2½d. to 4½d.

RUBBER. Fine plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 4½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 4d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 9½d. against 3s. 9d. in 1913; do. soft, 2s. 5d. against 3s. 7½d. in 1913; Castilloa sheet, 1s. 9d. against 2s. 5d. in 1913; scrap, 1s. 5d. against 2s. in 1913. **BALATA.**—Sheet 2s. 7½d., London landed terms, against 2s. 10d. in 1913; and block 2s. 0½d. c.i.f. against 2s. last year.

PETROLEUM OIL.—Russian, 7d.; American, 7½d.; Water White, 8½d.; Roumanian, 6½d., and Galician, 6½d.

LOGWOOD.—there is no business to report.

TIMBER. Mahogany.—Only one auction has been held, which was largely attended by buyers, and there was active competition, especially for better class wood. A considerable quantity sold and the market was relieved of much inferior and minimum wood, and tone of sale was good. **HONDURAS.**—Better class logs continue in active demand and sold at very full prices. A considerable quantity of minimum wood cleared by unreserved sale brought fair rates.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone : 15, SEETHING LANE.
6642 CENTRAL. LONDON, E.C.1.
Telegrams : CARIB, LONDON. June 29th, 1914.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES—A SUGGESTION.

WHATEVER their opinions may be with regard to the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, West Indians will one and all cordially congratulate the two Canadian statesmen, MR. BORDEN and MR. FOSTER, upon the honour conferred upon them by the King on the occasion of the celebration of His Majesty's birthday. SIR ROBERT L. BORDEN, who has been appointed a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, has on several occasions shown his concern for the welfare of the West Indies, notably by taking up the question of reciprocity with those colonies so soon after his return to power after the strenuous election of 1911, and the interest taken in the West Indies by SIR GEORGE E. FOSTER, now a Knight Commander of the same order, is too well known to require emphasis. It will be recalled that as far back as 1890 he went on a mission down the islands as a Minister of the Government of SIR JOHN MACDONALD, with the object of finding out what sentiment there was in favour of the establishment of a trade arrangement with those colonies, and though he appreciated that the psychological moment had not then arrived for bringing about reciprocity, he kept the idea before him, and when, after a long period in the wilderness, he again became a Canadian Minister, one of his fondest dreams was realised, and, largely owing to his influence, the Trade Agreement of 1913 was brought about. Unfortunately, as we have seen, the benefits under that agreement have been extended to all British Colonies instead of being confined to the parties to it, as the majority of the planters and merchants in the West Indies believed that it would be. Still, as we have already pointed out, the Canadian Government have acted strictly within their legal rights and there has been no infringement of the letter of the agreement which the West Indian delegates signed with their eyes open. It is to be feared that little further

can be done until the three years period of grace the Bahamas, Bermuda, British Honduras, Jamaica and Newfoundland are enjoying under the agreement come to an end. Meanwhile, if the Dominion Ministers are prepared to make concessions with a view of counteracting the feeling engendered in the West Indies through the misunderstanding with respect to the trade agreement, there is one which would be very greatly appreciated. We refer to the abolition of that anachronism the "Dutch Standard" for grading sugars, the history of which has already been given in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.* The abolition of the colour test in the Underwood tariff of the United States, which came into effect on October 3rd last was a move of the greatest importance to cane sugar producers, inasmuch as outside sugar directly competing with the refiners' products can by its removal be introduced into the United States at rates of duty proportionate to the polarization, and thus be placed on the same market footing as sugar refined in that country. When the colour, or Dutch, standard was adopted for customs purposes, the use of the polariscope for the assessment of Customs duties was unknown, and the comparison of sugars by means of their colour was the only means by which some rational classification could be arrived at. The darker sugars went to the refiners, the lighter to the grocers, and the colour formed a rough and ready means of comparison and valuation. As manufacture progressed, however, sugars of a high sugar content with low colour were produced, for which the proper assessment of duty by the Dutch standard was impossible. It was this which led to the polariscope being introduced as a basis for determining the duty. But while its use prevented refiners from obtaining undue advantage from the introduction of, and sale to them, of sugar of high sugar content but of low colour, and consequently entering at a relatively low duty, the retention of the colour standard in conjunction with the polariscope test secured to them protection as regards sugars calculated to go into direct consumption. This protection the new United States Tariff (Schedule E,

* THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, October 26th, 1909.

Section 177) removed by abolishing the Dutch standard of colour, which practically divided the sugars imported into two great classes, those fit for refining and those adapted to consumption, thus placing a greater relative import duty on the latter.

In the Canadian Tariff the Dutch standard is still retained, and 96° dark crystals under the preferential tariff have to pay only 40½ cents per hundred pounds duty, while 96° yellow crystals would have to pay 80 cents, a protection of nearly \$9 per ton in favour of the refiners, which, as their sugars would not compete with the choicer brands of the latter, is a manifestly one-sided arrangement. But, although looked at in this light the retention of the Dutch standard appears to be all to the benefit of the refiners, there is another point in connection with this subject which is worthy of consideration. Cane growers cannot always make white or yellow sugars adapted for direct consumption, but they can make a high grade sugar of high polarisation and of light colour, which would be especially acceptable to the refiner. If the colour standard were removed, and the duty assessed merely by polarisation, the introduction of such a sugar would be profitable to both producer and refiner. At present the shipping of such a sugar is out of the question so far as the Canadian market is concerned. On the whole, however, the retention of the Dutch standard is distinctly to the advantage of the refiners, and, seeing that the admission to the Canadian market of preferential sugar from the British colonies other than those of the West Indies secures to them a supply of low duty sugar, it is to be hoped that steps will be taken to remove the Dutch standard from the tariff in the interest of West Indian producers. If this were done it would go a long way to allay the irritation which has arisen in sugar producing circles in the British West Indies in connection with the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, and we are glad to see that the organ of the Canada-West Indies League also holds this view.

THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.

HONOURED already by visits from PRINCE ARTHUR OF CONNAUGHT and PRINCESS MARIE LOUISE OF SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN, the British Guiana, British Honduras and British West Indian sections have been a centre of attraction at the International Rubber and Tropical Products Exhibitions now being held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. The exhibits on this occasion are far above the average as regards quality, and the manner in which they were packed and put up suggests the idea that apart from the publicity gained, these exhibitions prove of great value in bringing home to shippers the fact that to fetch the best prices the minor products of the West Indies must be attractively put up. Visitors to the Royal Agricultural Hall will be surprised to notice what improvement has been effected in this respect. This is particularly noticeable in the case of the exhibits from Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts, Montserrat, St. Lucia, and St. Vin-

cent, while the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' Association represented by MR. ERNEST BROWN, affords a notable example of a "live" display. Another indication of progress is the absence of exhibits of produce which cannot be placed on the market on a commercial scale, which is a matter for congratulation, showing as it does that the articles on this subject which have appeared in these columns have borne fruit. On Wednesday a dinner, presided over by SIR OWEN PHILIPPS will be given by the West India Committee, at the Hall to the Commissioners.

THE CORONA CLUB.

THE dinner of the Corona Club is an event which is eagerly looked forward to by many Colonial Civil servants who are fortunate enough to be in or near London in the summer. For the benefit of the uninitiated, it may be mentioned that this annual function was inaugurated and the Club founded in 1900, during the régime of MR. CHAMBERLAIN, as Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a view to affording officers on leave from the Crown Colonies the opportunity of social intercourse and of meeting the officials of the Colonial Office and past Crown Colony officers. The first committee comprised SIR C. CLEMENTI SMITH, SIR W. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH, MAJOR SIR MAURICE CAMERON, and SIR W. BAILLIE HAMILTON, who are still regular attendants at the dinners, and the late SIR WILLIAM ROBINSON, a former Governor of Trinidad, and SIR H. L. THOMPSON, Administrator of St. Lucia; and it was the late SIR ROBERT HERBERT'S happy suggestion that the Club should be called the Corona Club. MR. CHAMBERLAIN himself made the suggestion that the dinner should be a short one, and that it should be followed by a smoking conversation, so as to enable those present to move freely about and converse with the Secretary of State or with each other, and the objects of the Club and this programme have proved so popular that the Corona Club now has a membership of over 2,000. Following the usual practice, that the Secretary of State for the Colonies should take the chair, MR. HARCOURT presided over the dinner this year. He is a gifted after-dinner speaker, and those diners who expected to be amused as well as edified were not disappointed. His tactful speech no doubt had the effect of putting fresh heart into many a civil servant who may have felt that his services were not appreciated. It will be noted from the list given on another page how many connected with the West Indies or who have served in those colonies were present. The dinner was generally considered one of the most successful of a long series—a circumstance due in no small measure to the activities of MR. F. G. A. BUTLER, the Secretary of the Corona Club. At it old friendships were renewed and new acquaintances made, and it is not too much to say that these gatherings go far towards strengthening that spirit of *esprit de corps* which is such a marked characteristic of our Colonial Civil Service.

RUBBER AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS.

The International Exhibition at Islington.

The International Rubber and Tropical Products Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, was formally opened by Prince Arthur of Connaught on Wednesday, June 24th. The ceremony took place in the presence of a large gathering on the new "lawn" tennis court made entirely of rubber, in the St. George's Hall. His Royal Highness, who was invited by Sir Henry Blake to declare the exhibition open, said he was firmly convinced that few things tended more to the welfare of mankind than that men of all nations should from time to time meet together for the promotion of branches of industry to which they were devoting their brains and lives. It was a source of very great satisfaction to him to welcome the official delegates from so many different countries.

Mr. Lewis Harcourt then addressed the gathering and said that the price of rubber was naturally regarded from different points of view by different interests and individuals. Those whom one would probably see at this exhibition would be the consumers, and to them a fall in the price, like another well-known commodity, might be described as grateful and comforting. However, he himself was more concerned officially with those who produced the commodity in our Crown Colonies and Protectorates, but by whom a decrease in their profits on the raw material was received with somewhat less enthusiasm.

The theory of political economy and the teaching of experience proved that cheaper production increased the demand and extended the use of a material. If rubber was to pave our streets, our hospitals and our tennis courts, there need be no limit to the extent of its production. By users of motors—and who, indeed, in these days did not come under that head?—there would be a very warm welcome for any set-off against the high price of petrol in the total of their tyre expenditure. Now, although neither the British nor the Colonial Governments subsidised commercial industries, it should not be forgotten that indirectly great assistance was given in all our Dependencies by the establishment of agricultural departments, botanical stations and model plantations. The work of the schools of tropical medicine and the anti-malarial campaign had contributed to the health and efficiency not only of the labourers but of the management staff. The Entomological Research Committee under the presidency of Lord Cromer, had rendered great services in the study and extermination of insect pests, and the Rubber Growers' Association had themselves established and financed admirable research institutions in Malaya and Ceylon, whose work was contributing much to the common stock of our knowledge of the subjects. He was glad to see in this exhibition a number of samples of other tropical Colonial products which might be grown in association with or, if necessary, as an alternative

for rubber, including fibres, cotton, coffee, cacao and oil from the fat-yielding nuts. Each of those was a staple commodity in its district and an important industry to the natives, for whom we had undertaken both national and Imperial responsibilities.

Prince Arthur of Connaught, accompanied by Mr. Harcourt and Sir Henry Blake, then made a tour of inspection of some of the courts of the exhibition, including that devoted to British Guiana, British Honduras and the British West Indies, where the Commissioners had the honour of being presented to His Royal Highness, who signed the visitors' book and expressed his interest in the exhibits. His attention was specially drawn by Mr. Harcourt to a board on which was written "Welcome to the Prince," in letters made of limes from Dominica and St. Lucia, which he described as "very smart."

Those readers of the CIRCULAR in or near London will find it well worth their while to visit this Exhibition, which will remain open daily (Sunday excepted) from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., until July 9th. The Royal Agricultural Hall is very accessible being easily reached by tram, tube, taxi, or the all-conquering motor-bus.

British Guiana, British Honduras, Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' Association occupy a combined stand near the centre of the main building. At either end of the stand is a framed West India Committee map of the West Indies showing the position of the colonies participating. To enumerate all the exhibits would be to weary the reader; but it may be mentioned that they include: Various kinds of sugar, molasses and rum, sugar canes, rice and paddy, coco-nuts and coco-nut oil and fibre, cassava meal, cassava and arrowroot starch, Molascuit, coffee, cacao beans and pods, nutmegs, mace, vanilla, balata, rubber and rubber seeds, fresh limes and lime products, lemon grass oil and leaves, bay oil and leaves, otto of oranges, Sea Island cotton lint, seed and meal, castor seeds, tamarind fruit and seeds, fruit and seeds of the Ivory nut palm, crab-oil, farine, tous-les-mois, preserves, colonial woods, turtle back, various kinds of beads and seed-work, native made dishes, jars, baskets and hats, hat-pins, crude and powdered papain, hot sauce, pineapples, bananas, pickles, fruits and spices in brine, pea-nuts, salt, musk seed, cassia fistule, verti-vert, coir fibre, honey, khus khus grass, ground-nuts, ginger, Bengal beans, chicle, Cohune nuts, kernels and oil, copra, Cahoon fibre, silk grass fibre, sponges, sarsaparilla, tanning bark, specimens of the timbers of British Honduras and British Guiana, and models of pitpans and doreys.

The following are among the exhibitors in the various sections:—

ANTIGUA.—Antigua Sugar Factory, Bendal's Sugar Factory, Cotton Estate, Garden Estate, McDonalds and Co., Bettys Hope Estate, Claremont Estate, Bendal's Estate, Dimsdale Estate, Gamble's Estate, Gilbert's Estate, Thibous Jarvis Estate, Parry's and Diamond Estate, Duers, Coco-nut Hall, Rooms, Bodkins, Hodges Bay, Ffryes, Collins, Bettys Hope Garden, Yeptons, Hill Side, Cedar Hill, Judges, Five Islands, St. John's Training School,

Dew and Sons, Mr. A. Edwards, Mr. A. Pistiana, Mr. J. A. Harney, Barbuda, Antigua Cotton Factory and Sandersons.
BRITISH GUIANA.—Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd., Sandbach, Parker and Co., Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates, Department of Lands and Mines, W. Hodgson, Demerara Co., Ltd., Wieting and Richter, Mr. J. Junior, Mr. T. Earle, Board of Agriculture, S. Davson and Co., Self-Help Association, Pln. Marionville, Curtis, Campbell and Co., Hills Estate, Springlands Estates and Mr. C. W. Anderson, I.S.O.

DOMINICA.—St. Aroment Estate, Messrs. Rose and Co., Ltd., Perdu Temps, Everton, Canefield, Hampstead, Melville Hall, Stowe, Castle Comfort, Morne Rouge, Maconcherie, Malgretoute, Goodwill Estates, and Botanic Gardens.

MONTSERRAT.—Hon. K. P. Penchoen, Dagenham Estate, the Montserrat Company, the Montserrat Preserving Company, S. W. Howes, Tran's Estate, and the Permanent Exhibition Committee.

ST. KITTS.—La Guerite Experiment Station, Douglas, West Farm, Mansion, Buckley's, M. Dore, Brighton, Bassetterre Factory, Wingfield, Molineux, Belmont, Profits, Estridge's, Brotherson's, Mr. F. A. McAllister, Mr. Carter Rey, Pinneys, Mr. W. Austin Titley and the Permanent Exhibition Committee.

ST. LUCIA.—Cul-de-Sac Co., Ltd., Minvielle and Chastanet, St. Lucia Usines and Estates Co., Macfarlane Junior and Co., Mr. C. R. Kennaway (La Perle and Palmiste), Mr. G. Peter (Corinth), Mr. F. Johnson (Ruby), Mr. George Bernard (Park), Troumasses Estate, Mr. A. Butsch, Mr. J. Frew (Invergoil), Reunion Estate, the Botanic Station and Experiment Station.

ST. VINCENT.—Agricultural Experiment Station, Mr. Punnett, MacDonald Bros., Mr. J. G. W. Hazell, Mr. C. Hadley, Hutchinson Bros., Mr. C. J. Simmons, Mr. F. M. Beach, Mr. G. A. Robertson, Mr. E. A. Richards, Mr. J. C. De Passos, Mr. E. Sardine.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—Mr. J. E. Plummer, Mr. R. Diaz, Government Botanic Station, Mr. Bede Ormsby, Belize Estate and Produce Co., Mr. R. T. Eagan, Cuthbert Bros., Mr. L. Phillips, Mr. C. Lizeraga, C. Melhado and Sons, Mr. J. Lind, Vaca Falls Company, and Mr. F. S. Weir.

Yesterday Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, who only recently returned from the West Indies, honoured the Court with a visit and expressed her satisfaction with the arrangements made and other notable visitors have included: Sir Vansittart Bowater, Bart., Lord Mayor of London, who attended in State with the Sheriffs on June 26th, Sir Henry Hesketh Bell, Governor of the Leeward Islands, the Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Administrator of St. Vincent, Sir Charles Walpole, late Chief-Justice of the Bahamas, Chief-Justice W. S. Shaw, Mr. H. Powell, His Excellency M. Van Grot, Governor of St. Eustatius, Mrs. and Miss Nicholls, Mr. Bodkin, Mr. E. W. F. English (who has been most helpful in the British Honduras Court), Mr. E. J. Macquarrie, Mr. G. Russell Garnett and Mrs. Garnett, Mr. H. F. Previté, and the Hon. Fred Driver.

To-morrow the West India Committee gives a dinner at the Exhibition to the Commissioners, namely: Mr. C. Wilgress Anderson, I.S.O., (British Guiana), Hon. W. L. McKinstry (British Honduras), Mr. H. A. Tempany (Antigua, St. Kitts, Montserrat), Mr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., (Dominica), and Mr. W. N. Sands (St. Vincent). Sir Owen Philipps will preside, and among those present will be Sir Henry Blake, Sir Frederic Hodgson, Sir Norman Lamont, Bart., Sir Joseph Godfrey, and the Hon. C. Gideon Murray.

CONGRESS OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE.

Many important discussions.

The Third International Congress of Tropical Agriculture was inaugurated at the Imperial Institute on Tuesday, June 23rd, under the patronage of H.M. King George V., and under the presidency of Professor Wyndham R. Dunstan, C.M.G., F.R.S., Director of the Imperial Institute.

The work of organising the Congress has been in progress for many months past, and as a result a large body of delegates has been brought together representing almost every nation which owns tropical possessions, while individual delegates were present from practically every tropical region of importance; in addition many of the large commercial undertakings connected with tropical agriculture in this country were represented either on the Committee of the Congress or by delegates.

The Congress is held in connexion with the International Association for Tropical Agriculture, founded in 1905; the object of the Association is the promotion of the study of all questions connected with tropical agriculture, and the first president was M. de Lanessan, formerly Governor-General of Indo-China and French Minister for the Colonies, who was succeeded in 1910 by Professor Dunstan, the president for 1914.

The work of organisation of periodical Congresses for Tropical Agriculture forms part of the duties of the Association; the present is the third of these functions which has been held and the British Section of the International Association is responsible for the arrangements in connection therewith. No small degree of credit is due to the organisers in the present case, and in this connection mention must be made of the Organising Secretaries, Dr. T. A. Henry and Mr. Harold Brown.

The delegates to the Congress representing British West Indian possessions included Sir Sydney Olivier, representing Jamaica, Professor P. Carmody (the Department of Agriculture, Trinidad), Lieut.-Colonel Collens (the Trinidad Agricultural Society), Mr. G. E. Bodkin (the Government of British Guiana), Mr. H. A. Tempany (the Government of the Leeward Islands), Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., (the Agricultural and Commercial Society of Dominica), Mr. W. N. Sands (the Agricultural Department, St. Vincent). The list of papers for consideration by the Congress covers a range of subjects of considerable breadth, and embraces practically all topics of importance in relation to tropical agriculture; among the questions to be dealt with are, Technical Education in the Tropics, Sanitation and Hygiene on Tropical Estates, Fertility of Soils in the Tropics, Agricultural Credit Banks, the Cultivation of Cotton, Rubber, Fibres, Sugar and Cereals, and other matters of interest.

The Congress was formally opened at 11 a.m. on the 23rd instant when the various delegates were



THE BRITISH GUIANA SECTION WITH ISLAND COURT BEYOND



THE BRITISH HONDURAS AND BRITISH WEST INDIAN STAND.

THE RUBBER & TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.

JUNE 24th—JULY 9th, 1914.

received by the President, who subsequently delivered the inaugural address.

Among those on the platform during the opening ceremony were Lord Emmott, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Earl of Derby, President of the British Cotton Growing Association, Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., Permanent Under Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, and formerly Governor of Jamaica, Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Gold Coast and formerly Colonial Secretary of Trinidad, Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G., Governor of the Leeward Islands, Sir George Reid, G.C.M.G., High Commissioner for Australia, and Mr J. A. Hutton, Chairman of the British Cotton Growing Association.

In the course of his address Professor Dunstan, after welcoming the various delegates, and dealing with the circumstances under which the Congress was held, reviewed the position occupied by agriculture in the Tropics at the present time, and the condition of some of the more important tropical agricultural industries; in this connection he emphasised the importance which attached to the improvement of method and conditions, and the necessity for persistent effort to ensure development taking place along satisfactory lines. He dwelt on the need existing for the creation of a college of tropical agriculture situated within the Tropics. He also advocated the establishment of a British Institute of Tropical Agriculture to assist development in this connection in British possessions. The address was warmly applauded.

Subsequently Lord Emmott assured the members of the Congress of the interest taken in their deliberations by His Majesty's Government. A vote of thanks to the President for his address was moved by Sir George Reid, seconded by Sir Hugh Clifford, and carried with applause.

The afternoon session on the same day was devoted to the consideration of questions relating to technical education in the Tropics, papers being contributed by Dr. Francis Watts, C.M.G., Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, Agricultural Adviser to the Government of Egypt, and Mr. H. Hamel Smith, among others. In the discussion which followed, among those taking part were Mr. R. N. Lyne, Director of Agriculture, Ceylon, Professor Carmody and Mr. H. A. Tempany. Much prominence was given to the desirability of establishing a college or colleges of Tropical Agriculture, opinion being unanimous in favour of such a project, although some divergence existed as to the choice of sites, some favouring Ceylon, others Trinidad in this connection. The balance on the whole appeared to be in favour of the establishment of two colleges, one in each of the localities in question.

Subsequently a very full and interesting account of the work of the British Cotton Growing Association in assisting the development of the cotton industry in new areas throughout the British Empire was given by Mr. J. A. Hutton, Chairman of the Asso-

ciation, the meeting being presided over by the Earl of Derby, President of the Association.

In the evening the delegates and members of the Congress were entertained at a reception given on behalf of His Majesty's Government by Earl Beauchamp, at the Imperial Institute.

The morning session on Wednesday, June 24th, was given up to the discussion of Sanitation and Hygiene on estates in the Tropics and of legislation against plant diseases and pests. The discussions on these topics were presided over by Sir Ronald Ross and Sir Sydney Olivier respectively. The afternoon meeting of the Congress on the same day met under the presidency of Sir Sydney Olivier to consider questions relating to the fertility of soils in the Tropics; the papers read included contributions by Mr. B. F. E. Kaling, Director of the Physical Service Survey, Egypt, on a fertility survey of the Egyptian Delta, Mr. H. A. Tempany, on Some Considerations affecting the fertility of soils in the Tropics, Mr. Barrowcliff, Assistant Agricultural Chemist, Federated Malay States, on Malayan Rubber and Coco-nut Soils, and Mr. Brunich on the Manuring of Bananas.

In the evening delegates were invited to attend a reception given by the Royal Colonial Institute at the Natural History Museum.

On the morning of Thursday, June 25th, the Congress met to discuss the factors which determine variations in plantation rubber, the meeting being productive of a number of valuable expressions of opinion in relation to this important subject, from several authorities. The desirability of the erection of standards for rubber was emphasised, but the incomplete state of knowledge in this connection which still exists at the present time stands in the way of a decision of this character.

On the afternoon of the same day Section I. of the Congress dealt with papers relating to Rubber Cultivation in different countries, Sir E. Roslin, Chairman-elect of the Ceylon Association, presiding. Among the papers read were contributions by Professor Carmody, Mr. J. Simpson, Director of Agriculture, Uganda, and Mr. R. D. Anstead, Scientific Officer of the United Planters' Association of Southern India, and formerly Agricultural Superintendent at Grenada. Section II. of the Congress met simultaneously to consider subjects in relation to Cereals and Sugar. The meeting of this section was presided over by Sir Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G., in the absence through indisposition of Sir Louis Dane, late Lieut.-Governor of the Punjaub, who it was originally intended should take the chair on this occasion.

In relation to cereal crops, among other papers a comprehensive account of the Cereal Industries in India from the pen of Mr. F. Noel Paton, Director General of Commercial Intelligence in India, was read by Sir James Wilson, K.C.S.I.

Under the head of sugar, an interesting account was given by Dr. C. A. Barber of the Sugar-cane

in India, and the Classification of Sugar-canes, both papers being illustrated by lantern slides.

Mr. G. E. Boelkin, Government Entomologist, British Guiana, also read a paper on the principal insect pests attacking sugar-cane in that colony, indicating the methods which have now been successfully adopted for the control of the most destructive on sugar estates. Later in the same afternoon, Mr. Frank Shuman contributed a paper in which an account was given of the recent important attempts to utilise the heat of the sun as a source of power for irrigation and other purposes in Tropical Agriculture.

The Congress continues its sessions until Tuesday June 30th, on which day the final meeting will take place.

SUGAR IN THE UNITED STATES.

The total amount of sugar produced within the United States proper—that is to say excluding insular possessions—from the crops of 1913 exceeded 1,000,000 tons. In the previous year, owing to the crop failure in Louisiana, the production was only about 855,000 tons, and two years ago it amounted to 960,000 tons.

The average consumption of sugar in the United States for the two fiscal years beginning 1911 and 1912 was about 4,000,000 short tons. Of this amount 45 per cent. in the first year and 55 per cent. in the second consisted of foreign sugar, while 30 and 24 per cent., respectively, represented sugar received from Hawaii, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands; the sugar of domestic production constituted 25 and 20 per cent., respectively, of the total supply. Domestic beet sugar constituted in 1911-12, 15 per cent. of the total supply, and in 1912-13, 16 per cent., while Louisiana cane sugar was represented in the former year by 9 and in the latter by 4 per cent. of the total supply of all sugar in the United States for those years.

Taking the total domestic production as a basis, beet sugar constituted, in 1913-14, 71 per cent. and cane sugar 29 per cent. In 1912-13 and 1911-12 beet sugar formed 81 and 62 per cent. respectively, of the total domestic production, while cane sugar formed 19 and 38 per cent., respectively. Of the total domestic production of the past three years, 71 per cent. consisted of beet sugar and 29 per cent. cane.

From the figures compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture, it appears that the beet sugar output of the United States for the campaign beginning in the autumn of 1913 was the largest on record. It amounted to 733,401 short tons, which was 40,845 in excess of the large yield of 1912. There were 71 factories in operation in 1913-14, or two less than during the preceding campaign, while the average length of the campaign was 85 days in 1913-14, practically the same as in 1912-13.

The beets used in the factories in 1913-14

amounted to 5,659,462 tons, and were grown upon 580,006 acres. The average value of the beets per ton was \$5.34, and the total amount received by farmers for this product amounted to \$30,222,000. In the preceding campaign, 1912-13, the farm value of the beets used for sugar amounted to \$30,406,000, the average price being \$5.82 per ton.

THE CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR.

The following figures which show the consumption of sugar for the eight months September to April in the principal countries which were signatories of the Brussels Convention and in the United Kingdom are based on statistics given in the *Journal des Fabricants de Sucre*.

	1912-13 Tons.	1913-14 Tons.	Increase or decrease, Tons.
The United Kingdom	1,218,603	1,198,581	- 20,022
Germany	922,948	915,353	- 7,595
France	465,090	465,478	+ 388
Austria-Hungary	449,665	450,378	+ 713
The Netherlands	85,104	88,110	+ 3,006
Belgium	66,203	65,688	- 515
Total	3,207,613	3,183,588	- 24,025

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE MAP.

The Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada are placing copies of the West India Committee Map of the West Indies in each of their branches. The Superintendent of the Royal Bank describes it as "excellent," and other correspondents are equally complimentary. The *Indiaman* writes: "Amongst other useful information the map shows the principal railways, sea distances in nautical miles, cables, wireless telegraph stations, coaling stations, and oil stations. It is an exceptionally clear map, and easy to read."

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen both mounted and in sheet at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., at Messrs. George Philip and Son, Ltd., 32, Fleet Street, E.C., or at Messrs. Sifton, Praed and Co., Ltd. (The Map House), 67, St. James' Street, S.W. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination) for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

It is anticipated that a Conference of West Indian Chief Justices and Law Officers with representatives of the legal profession from the various colonies will be shortly called together to consider proposals for the formation of a West Indian Appeal Court, while preserving the privilege of the present appeal to the Privy Council as a matter of right.

TRINIDAD OIL INDUSTRY.

(Concluded.)

The first instalment of the extracts from the annual report of the General Asphalt Company relating to the oil operations of the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company continued below appeared in last WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, copies of which are still obtainable.

The Geology of oil fields.

Oil geology deals with three oil bearing formations, namely, anticlines, monoclines and synclines. An anticline is a fold, gentle or sharp, the top or ridge of which is the axis and the opposing sides the flanks. A monocline is a single bend connecting strata that lie at different levels. The syncline is a downward fold, the reverse of the upward anticlinal fold. Water is usually present in oil sands, but because of gravity it occupies the lower levels in the oil-bearing formation. Hence the bottoms of synclines generally contain water, with possibly some oil, which may also fill the rising flanks of the anticlines to varying levels according to the amount of oil in the sands. South of and adjoining the Vessigny field there is an area called the Saucer Syncline. It is a complete basin, the outcrop of the Brighton oil sands forming the rim and lying less than 300 feet below the surface in the middle of the structural depression. Many oil cones and one very prominent oil seepage occur in the south-east portion of the basin.

Well No. 36 was located to test the bottom (the least favourable part) of the Saucer Syncline. It entered the Morne L'Enfer series at 1,376 feet and passed beneath them at 1,747 feet, with a total depth of 1,798 feet. The lowest part of the series showed rich oil sands, but production soon ceased, followed by water. The well has been abandoned. But this area contains about 200 acres, a portion of which, as yet unknown, should provide profitable drilling around the sides of the syncline.

Some productive wells.

Lot 1 of the Forest Reserve is denuded of the Morne L'Enfer series, the axis of which has been worn away, leaving prominent ridges on the north and south boundaries. Beneath a line midway between these ridges and parallel to them there is a third or lower oil sand series, an anticline, lying conformably to the Morne L'Enfer, the axis of which does not come to the surface except in the eastern end of Lot 1. The oil value of this anticline was proven by a well on the crest drilled in 1912 on the Stollmeyer property, 200 feet west of Lot 1. It struck oil at less than 300 feet and produced approximately 50,000 barrels in the first thirty-five days' flow, and since settling down to regular production has averaged 75 barrels a day, with a total of not less than 80,000.

Well No. 1, in Lot 1, was located near the southern edge of the Lot at a point 4,000 feet east of the Stollmeyer well. Drilling commenced June 11th,

1913, and has reached 1,140 feet, passing through the lower oil sand between 400 feet and 500 feet, it having the appearance of an exhausted oil sand. This location was either too far down on the flank of the anticline or too near its outcrop as it rises toward the east.

Well No. 2, Lot 1, is on the crest of the anticline 2,300 feet east of the Stollmeyer well. It was commenced August 18th, 1913, and finished September 20th, since which it has yielded by pumping (except in December and January, when the work was interrupted) 100 barrels per day. Well No. 3, 400 feet west of No. 2, has been drilled in since the close of the fiscal year and is pumping 50 barrels daily. Well No. 4, further west, is producing 400 barrels a day, and No. 5 100 barrels (April 15th, 1914). Drilling commenced on No. 6 April 21st and on No. 7, April 25th. Derricks are being erected for Nos. 8, 9 and 10, carrying the development to within 150 feet of the Stollmeyer well. The oil from Lot 1 is somewhat lighter in gravity than that in the Vessigny field. A 4-inch pipe line has been laid from these wells to the Vessigny pumping station, which must soon be followed by a 6-inch line. Two 5,000-barrel measuring tanks have been erected to care for the production in this field. There is space within this productive area for twenty or more wells in addition to those above named, and they can be drilled rapidly and cheaply. The depth is shallow, the gas pressure not difficult to control. The cost of producing should be relatively small, since a compact arrangement of well locations, as can be had in this field, makes possible economical pumping. Additional derricks will be installed by degrees, conditioned on the results obtained in operations now under way. It is proposed to deepen Well 1 in Lot 1 with the intention to test the oil sand series that outcrop 300 feet to 400 feet thick at Moruga and Erin on the southern edge of the island. The Company's geologist believes that this oil series should be richly impregnated with oil and reached in this well at 2,000 feet (860 feet below its present depth and 1,500 feet deeper than the Stollmeyer sand). If the Moruga is a large rich sand, Lot 1 is the point where it comes nearest to the surface and could consequently be developed at the least expense.

362,684 barrels of oil exported in 1913.

The southern flank of the Morne L'Enfer series has been reached in Well 1, Lot 5, at 1,235 feet. The thickness of the series at this point is supposed to be 375 feet, with a number of shale breaks in the lower part of the upper half of the zone. From 1,235 feet to 1,295 feet was oil sand, with a little gas and some oil, following which were 70 feet of oil sands, most of which had contained oil but were barren. The last reported depth was 1,555 feet (April 30th, 1914), of which the lower 90 feet were blue clay. This may mean that it is beneath the series and that their thickness at that point is 185 feet instead of 375 feet estimated. Or, the blue clay may be one of the

breaks referred to as to be expected in the lower part of the upper half of the zone. This well is far down on the flank of the anticline, near the synclinal trough, located, as was Well 36, to test the bottom (the least favourable part) of the oil bearing formation. Though thus far a non-producer, it has disclosed the dip of the oil measures (much greater than was supposed) and by finding some oil in the upper 60 feet and no water it affords promise of success in drilling shallower wells over a large area higher up on the flank, toward the outcrop. This well is eight and a half miles from Brighton, by road.

The adverse happenings referred to earlier in the report were the fire at Well 42 on the Vessigny field (which was caused by the carelessness of a labourer, who lighted a match within the danger zone, and involved the destruction of equipment valued at \$9,349.83 and 96,000 barrels of oil), and the outbreak of yellow fever in November.

In spite of these untoward events the production of oil for the fiscal year amounted to 362,684 barrels as compared with 247,208 in the preceding year. But for the fire and for the clogging of wells in consequence of the suspension of work in December and January the output would have approximated 500,000 barrels. Since February when operations were resumed the yield has averaged 1,000 barrels per day.

There has been written off against earnings during the year \$69,786.69, to apply on the cost of abandoned wells (all non-producers having been so classed). There has also been written off against earnings for 1913 \$25,999.94, as a depreciation of plant and equipment.

BRITISH GROWN COTTON.

It is now possible to supplement the figures showing the quantity and value of raw cotton exported from the British West Indies in the years 1909 to 1912 given in last CIRCULAR, with those for the year 1913. It should have been stated that the exports were given in bales of 400 lbs. each in the first table and the value in sterling. The following statement supplied by the Board of Trade shows the exports of cotton in 1913, as compared with the previous year, in lbs. :—

	1912 lbs.	1913 lbs.
Antigua	80,910	172,023
Bahamas	13,301	13,286
Barbados	415,887	433,099
Grenada	380,264	400,813
Jamaica	36,229	69,296
St. Lucia	4,800	4,000
St. Vincent	495,128	484,975
Trinidad and Tobago ...	13,459	7,046
Total	1,349,978	1,584,528

MR. THOMAS GAUTREY informs us that his party will return from Jamaica in the SS. *Patuca*, which is due at Avonmouth on August 30th.

THE CORONA CLUB DINNER.

Mr. Harcourt on the West Indies and the Panama Canal.

There was a large gathering of past and present Colonial Civil Servants at the annual dinner of the Corona Club, which was held at the Hotel Cecil, on June 18th. Mr. Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Colonies, who presided, mentioned that he was breaking a record by making in succession four Corona Club speeches. Reviewing the progress made in various parts of the Empire, he complimented Sir Hugh Clifford (a former Colonial Secretary of Trinidad) upon the progress made by the Gold Coast, of which he is now Governor, describing his despatches as "a literary and peripatetic treat," adding that an ingenious friend had calculated that if they were typed in one continuous line they would easily reach to the Gold Coast and back.

Referring specifically to the West Indies, Mr. Harcourt said: "Crossing the Atlantic we find the West Indies still prosperous and progressive, and I am glad to see them largely represented here tonight. They—or some of them—are enjoying the first fruits of the new trade arrangements with Canada and the new steamship service to and from that Dominion. I am happy to think that there will shortly come into operation the reduced cable rates for which Mr. Samuel and I were able to arrange last year, which ought to be a real economic and individual boon to the inhabitants. There is much anticipation and speculation as to what will be the results to the West Indies of the opening of the Panama Canal. It gives the optimists pabulum for prophecy and the pessimists food for thought. I am not one of those who expect great advantages from it: I remember that the Suez Canal was distinctly detrimental to Malta, which found itself left in a backwater; but I trust that this new route for shipping will bring some profit in its train, and we again have a fleet in being on the West Indian Station. Oil is developing in Trinidad and the *New Zealand* was the first battle-ship to take a shipment of it from the island.

"In British Honduras, Mr. Collet, the new Governor, has mobilised that well known force, the horse marines, in pursuit of Mexican gun runners. Jamaica has been relieved from her anxiety over the American duty on bananas and Bermuda is arranging almost to double the profitable invasion of tourists from the States.

"Sir James Hayes-Sadler will be greatly missed from the Windward Islands and there have been many other retirements and promotions in the Antilles. We have heard with deep regret of the death on the bench of Sir Crossley Rayner, the Chief Justice of British Guiana. That colony has just lost Sir Charles Cox, the Government Secretary, and is losing after 31 years service, Dr. Godfrey, who has done so much for its public health. Sir Walter Egerton, the Governor, has made a protracted and

interesting tour of the interior, one of the results of which are proposals for a hinterland railway, involving financial provisions too large for discussion to-night, and a reversion from Roman-Dutch to British Law is under consideration."

Among the company present were noticed:—

Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G., Mr. Leon Belmar, Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Mr. E. St. John Branch, Major J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Professor John Cadman, Professor F. Carmody, F.I.C., Sir Gilbert T. Carter, K.C.M.G., Sir Fielding Clarke, Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., Sir C. T. Cox, K.C.M.G., Mr. C. E. L. Cox, Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Colless, Mr. Frank Cundall, F.S.A., Mr. W. J. Douglass, Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Mr. Archdeacon F. Elliott, Captain R. B. Feilden, Sir Francis Fleming, K.C.M.G., Mr. C. Ford, I.S.O., Mr. W. Melville Foster, Sir J. E. Godfrey, Mr. A. W. Grant, Mr. A. Grannum, Sir W. Brandford Griffith, Mr. G. Grindle, C.M.G., Mr. G. E. L. Guppy, Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G., Mr. S. T. Harrison, C.M.G., Ven. Archdeacon W. Heard, Mr. John E. Hewick, Sir F. M. Hodgson, K.C.M.G., Mr. Eyre Hutson, C.M.G., Mr. D. H. Jones, Sir R. B. Llewellyn, K.C.M.G., Mr. E. J. Macquarrie, Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., Mr. W. L. McKinstry, Mr. C. H. Harley Moseley, C.M.G., Dr. York Moore, The Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Mr. J. Mullin, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Sir E. A. Northcote, Mr. J. Nunan, Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., Mr. J. M. Reid, Mr. Neville Roots, Mr. W. Scott, Mr. A. Seth, I.S.O., Mr. W. S. Shaw, Mr. D. Slyne, Mr. Gerald Smith, Mr. W. M. Steele, Dr. H. Strachan, C.M.G., Mr. H. A. Tempany, Sir W. Grey Wilson, K.C.M.G., Mr. Walsh Wrightson, C.M.G.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

A serious indictment of housing conditions.

Dr. Angus Macdonald contributed to the recent Imperial Health Conference an important paper on Housing and Town Planning, and the care of child life in Jamaica, which, as he was unable to be present at the meetings, was summarised by Dr. Nicholls. Dr. Macdonald pointed out that the housing of the labouring population is very defective, the small, ill-ventilated and over-crowded huts being responsible for much sickness in those dwelling in them; and, moreover, aiding the spread of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. Town planning, too, whilst fairly good as regards the larger houses, is very defective where the huts of the people are concerned. The administration of health laws in Jamaica would seem to leave much to be desired. Dr. Macdonald said "Certain items of administration (including the carrying out of the public health laws) are controlled by an elected municipality; whilst certain other items (including the building authority, the sewage system, the water supply) are controlled by a nominated Board. The result is endless confusion, duplicature of expenditure, jealousies, wranglings, and retardation of progress."

The greater part of Dr. Macdonald's paper was taken up with questions concerning the care of child life, and the great mortality amongst the children of the labouring population. Tables which accompanied the paper showed that about 25 per cent. of the children die within a year of their birth; and

that a third of the illegitimate children die within the year. It was also stated in the paper that during the past ten years no fewer than 60,000 children had died in Jamaica under one year of age, and Dr. Macdonald was probably conservative in estimating that a third of these deaths might have been prevented. Whilst food is cheap and the climate is excellent for the rearing of healthy children, economic and social conditions are defective. Ill-paid drudgery of the mothers; the necessary neglect by them of domesticity; illegitimacy; and disregard of sanitation are all factors in the excessive infant mortality in Jamaica.

Dr. Macdonald advocated the establishment of an Imperial Bureau of Preventive Medicine in order that questions of public health might receive more attention than they do now in the West Indies. And the following extract from his paper shows that the serious question of infant mortality does not appear to be considered by the authorities in Jamaica as ripe for solution.

"Legislation in the form of an 'Infant Life Protection Act' has been recommended, embracing registration of midwives, notification of births, and registration of nurse women; but although a Bill drafted for the purpose has been viewed and blessed by an Archbishop, a Governor, a Colonial Secretary, members of the Legislative Council and others, yet no individual or bureau has felt the time has yet come for such legislation."

In the discussion which followed Dr. Nicholls said that in Dominica and other islands of the Lesser Antilles the housing of the poorer people was just about as bad as it can be. In many instances the earth served for the floor; the hovels were very small and low; and at night a number of people were often crowded in them, the doors and windows being closed and every crack and cranny stuffed up with rags or paper so that ventilation did not exist. In such a place contagious disease was certain to spread, and he had known instances in which all the inmates had been infected. Town planning did not really exist in Dominica, except partially in the town of Roseau, people being allowed to build their houses wherever they could, and a similar state of affairs existed in the other islands. The care of child life was as bad, or even worse, in the other West Indian colonies as it was in Jamaica. In Dominica last year the death rate per thousand was 24.17 and the mortality of infants under one year was 20.78 per cent. of the total.

The causes that led to this loss of human life were many, and chief amongst them was the ignorance of the mothers of sanitation and of the proper way of feeding and caring for their children; neglect of the infants by the necessity of the mothers being compelled to go out to work; illegitimacy; and overcrowding at nights in little hovels, where laws of health were altogether disregarded because unknown. In Dominica the percentage last year of legitimate births in the whole island was only 42.76, and in Roseau, the chief town, it was as low as 29.97. In the official report of the Registrar General

the proportion of deaths of illegitimate children was not given, but he, the speaker, knew it to be very high. Gastro-intestinal diseases were the actual causes of a large proportion of the deaths of young children, and very many of the cases might be characterised as due to preventible maladies. Farinaceous foods were given to the infants from birth, when the delicate stomachs were unfitted to digest any but the food provided by nature. The infantile dyspepsia thereby set up led to other and graver troubles which in many instances terminated fatally. In all the islands there were Medical Aid Acts providing for the appointment of District Medical Officers who gave free advice and medicines to the children. But preventive measures were required and they were practically non-existent.

To detail measures that appear to him necessary to stop so great a sacrifice of infantile life would take altogether too long, and they would need to be adapted to the varying conditions of the different colonies. There should be a strong Commission of Inquiry into the questions surrounding the excessive mortality in the West Indies, and the Commission should be empowered to recommend measures for the amelioration of such a deplorable state of affairs. It could not be said that the blame was due entirely to the West Indian Governments, for England must bear its fair share. There was no public opinion in the West Indies as it was known at home. The Crown Colony system of government, or a modification of it, existed in all the colonies save Barbados; and, therefore, no important measures of government could be initiated except those that came from, or receive the assent of, the Colonial Office.

THREE crops of maize or "corn" a year have been secured from the same ground for three years in succession, with an average yield of 40 bushels per acre, on the Isle of Pines. It has been found that the autumn crop is the heaviest of the three, and the summer planting the smallest, because of the damage by heavy rains. The second crop is planted between the rows of the first crop when it begins to mature. After harvesting this crop, the stalks are cut and ploughed under, giving the needful fertilizer to the ground. A crop of corn can, it is stated, be harvested in four months.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1543. Particulars regarding membership of the West India Committee—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Secretary, 15, *Scething Lane*, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.000 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £ 10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

THE CRUSADE AGAINST DISEASE.

To the Correspondence which has been appearing in the *Morning Post* regarding the advisability of maintaining and advancing scientific knowledge by means of public endowment, Dr. Louis W. Sambon, Lecturer to the London School of Tropical Medicine, has contributed a letter, in which he says:—

In the course of a recent journey to the Americas and to the West Indies I have had exceptional opportunities for comparing American with British methods of handling sanitation questions.

At the invitation of Surgeon-General Gorgas, I was able to inspect the Panama Canal zone, and I found myself looking down the mighty ditch at the very moment when the Atlantic waters came rushing into the Gatun locks, eager to mingle once more with those of the Pacific after aeons of separation. The French had begun this great undertaking, in 1881, under the famous de Lesseps, and they had dug out and blasted no less than 80,000,000 cubic yards of earth and rock, but, alas! they played a losing game with "Yellow Jack," and were obliged to sell out in 1904. The Americans have accomplished the work on a different plan, and with the aid of far more powerful machinery, but their success is due entirely to the wise and judicious application of recent scientific knowledge concerning the etiology of malaria and yellow fever. In the days of De Lesseps Panama was the deadliest place within the tropics. To-day the white man can live, work, and rear a family there in perfect safety. This wonderful change in the sanitary conditions of the Panama Canal zone, which has made possible the achievement of the greatest engineering feat of the age was brought about by the application of scientific discoveries made by Laveran in Algeria, Manson in China, Ross in India, Grassi in Italy, Finlay and Reed in Cuba.

The Hook-worm Campaign.

In the Island of Barbados I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Wickliffe Rose, the able Administrative Secretary of the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission. He was endeavouring to bring about, at the Foundation's expense, a campaign against the hook-worm disease throughout the West Indies. Already in the United States the Rockefeller Commission has been vigorously and successfully combating this widespread energy, intelligence, and life sapping disease, and now, in self-defence, they are wisely extending the ambit of their beneficial action, because the constant re-introduction of the disease from abroad would render futile any attempt at eradication at home. One could not help being fired with a flush of admiration, exultation, and gratitude at the noble American endeavour, but at the same time I felt a great shame at the thought that we had done nothing to prevent the disease from attacking our own people, and that now the Americans had been compelled to come themselves to clean our Augean stables.

In most of the West Indian islands I came across scores of people suffering from another fearful worm disease, the filaria disease, which gives rise to hideous, elephantine deformities and turns life into a cruel burden. Thirty-five years ago Sir Patrick Manson discovered that filarial disease is propagated by infected mosquitoes, which play a rôle in its dissemination analogous to that of bees and other pollinating insects in the cross-fertilisation of flowers. This wondrous and all-important discovery opened up a new era of fertile research, which has led to the conquest of some of the most deadly disease scourges of mankind. But, so far, strange to say, no attempt has ever been made

to eradicate filariasis, and thus, owing to a most culpable neglect, we find in all our tropical colonies and Protectorates this easily-preventible disease turning natives and white men alike into wretched, helpless monstrosities.

Another terrible plague which is exceedingly rife in tropical countries is the awe-striking leprosy. In some places it is somewhat out of sight owing to the segregation of the most repulsive cases; in others the fearful satyr-like face and the pitiful, fingerless stumps of the slow-dying victims meet you at every corner. Nowhere have I met with any earnest attempt at fully investigating and controlling so abominable a disease. Yellow fever, on the contrary, has been grappled with by the Americans in a masterly way. Its banishment from Havana will ever be remembered as one of the most glorious achievements of modern sanitation.

It would not be right, however, to give the impression that this country has not taken a part in the great sanitary progress of the age. Anyone who has seen mad dogs running amuck, as I have seen, will wonder why we hear so little of Mr. Long's splendid achievement in stamping out rabies from the British Isles. Then, again, the elucidation and tracking down of the tsetse-borne sleeping sickness in Africa is pre-eminently the outcome of British endeavour.

Mr. Wellcome's Services to Science.

And if America can boast of so great a Mæcenas as Mr. Rockefeller, we have no less a Titan in Mr. Wellcome, whose wealth and personal energies have been for years entirely at the service of science. Mr. Wellcome has not only promoted investigation in the newest fields, as instanced by Dr. Balfour's excellent parasitological work and his own anthropological researches in the Sudan, but he has indicated and made possible a no less abundant harvest in the forgotten storehouse of the past by accumulating into a great museum ancient scientific implements, tokens, trophies, manuscripts, and early printed books to an extent never seen or dreamt of before. Thus henceforth shall the experience of the past go hand in hand with modern research, and progress be all the more rapid because, as Hippocrates said twenty-four centuries ago, "Much waste of time would be avoided if physicians began their researches by studying what the ancients have done before them."

Whilst travelling through the West Indies I was strongly impressed by the peculiar and unequal distribution of many tropical diseases in the various islands, and it occurred to me that if a disease of wide geographical range is absent from one island whilst it is more or less prevalent in other neighbouring islands, and that if in the latter it is found to occupy only certain districts, and these, again, most unequally, it should be possible to discover the ecological conditions which are favourable and those which are inimical to it, and thus arrive at the discovery of means which may enable us to eradicate it entirely. It seems to me that if we undertook to make one of the West Indian islands absolutely healthy, say, Barbados, for instance, which is already naturally free from malaria, yaws, cutaneous myiasis, and other diseases common enough in the neighbouring islands, but which is subject to filariasis, pellagra, and other diseases more or less easily preventible, we might not only gain a vast amount of very useful information, but we should give the world an object lesson of the highest possible value. An island like Barbados, which is about the size of the Isle of Wight, could be made perfectly healthy in a comparatively short time and at a very reasonable cost—and once free from disease, unlike Panama, it would, no doubt, permanently remain so. In Panama, unfortunately, the struggle against disease must necessarily

continue unceasingly. Any relaxation would bring about inevitably and immediately a return of the old conditions, as occurred in Sicily and Southern Italy, where malaria, gloriously banished by the ancient Greek colonists, crept back at the time of the barbaric invasions, and still holds its see amid the ruins of the great Doric temples.

ADMIRAL NEVELL'S EXPEDITION.

A Journal of the Seventeenth Century.

(Continued from page 272.)

[May] 31.—Hazy close weather and being about 18 Leagues short of Carthage it being the place of Rendezvous, I stood in for it, to pick up our shatter'd stragling Squadron, in the evening I saw the Land, I brought to, and Lay by allnight, in the Evening Rear Admiral Meese with Six Ships more Joyn'd me having all their sails blown away.

June 1.—In the Evening I anchor'd before Boca-cheek* Castle, which is the entrance of the harbour, about four miles from the town, I saw a great breach in the Castle, so conclude the French had dismantled the Town and quitted it in the night, I sent a boat with a Lieutenant and a Spanish Pyrot in her, who went into the Town in the night, where he found about forty Spaniards.

2.—In the morning the Boat came aboard and brought a Captain, one Alfons, and two more Spaniards, who told me the bad story of ye French taking and quitting the Town, and the people deserting it for fear of the Privatiers, there being not anything to keep them out, the French having quite blown up the gates, which made great breaches in the walls. I weighed and anchor'd before the Town, and would have assisted them and spar'd them some powder, and some muskets belonging to particular people, but the Governour would not come near, and was gatt two days Journey into the Country, the people began to flock into the Town, and did design to stay as long as I was there, but no longer for fear of the Privatiers returning as they did two dayes after Monsr. Pointy left the place, and did a great deal of mischief, putting people to torture and taking the bells out of the Churches.

In the evening the Governour came into the Town and sent off his Lieutenant Governour to me, telling that he had not a grain of powder in the Town, no small armes, no musket balls, but did not ask me to give or sell him any, I told him I was going that night to Sea, that I was fearful the Gallions were in some danger, but if it should happen that the wind should be out of the way, I would spare them what I could, the wind was out of the way and I staid till the next day noon, and nobody came near me, they all say the Governour did not behave himself as he ought to have done, so that nobody takes notice of him or obeys his orders, there was a Ship in the barbour bought of Monsr. Pointy by some particular people, who would have come out and gone along with me, he sent to desire me not to lett her go in my Company and persuade the

* Boca chica.

people to stay, that it was the only imbarcation they had to send to any place.

4.—About noon the wind came Westerly, I weighed and stood to the Eastward having notice of a Privatier gon to Sandby* in ye River of Grandey, I left the *Scarborough* at Carthagene to stay there forty eight hours with orders for the Ships that were wanting, where to come to me, and to leave the Order when he came away with the Governour, in the evening I saw ten sail to the Eastward of me, which proved to be 7 English, 2 Dutch and the St. Cristo of Pettitguavis of 46 guns and 300 men besides a 100 negroes and Mulletts which the two Dutch men took off the River of Grandey. The same evening I sent a Sloop to Porto Bello to the Generall, fearing they should be put back.

Being off Sambah I saw 8 of the Privateers under the Shoar, I sent in the *Colchester*, *Gosport*, *Dolphin*, *Virgin Prize* and *Lightning* Fireship with an Ordr. to Capt. Julius to use his endeavour to destroy them, I stood over for our place of Rendezvous Cape Tebercon if not finding me there Petegueves, but could not fetch either, for I learnt by ye prisoners that Monsieur Ponti nor any of the Ships with him had water enough to carry them to France, I came over here to look for them, but at the same time did not believe he could weather Jamaica, and was forc'd to Leeward, and where he can water, I know not, and have left so many people by Sicknes that they are of opinion he will not be able to carry his Ships home.

11.—I sent in the *Princess Ann* to Jamaica, with the *Hollandia*, one of the Dutch men of war, who was disabled by running on board one of their own Ships in the Night.

13.—Being off the Island Navaza, to the Westward of Hispaniola, wee came up with one of the Privateers and took her, whilst the *Colchester* had chac'd of the Main A Ship of 24 Gunns, 110 men, besides Negro's and Mallatoes, I sent the *Newcastle* to St. Jegones with two Letters, one to the Governour of the Havana, the other to the General of the Galloons.

17.—Wee chac'd another Privateer on Shoar near Cape Dona maria,* and atacking her with our boat by accident she blew up, a Ship of about 12 Guns and 20 men.

19.—I anchor'd at Cape Dona maria, to water and wood our Ships for Cadiz or England, and cannot imagine where the Galloons are: I Order'd if they were at Jamaica to send a Sloop to me, but none came, so conclude they are not there, I have Ordd. the Ships attending the Plantations to their Stations, but how the *Newcastle* and *Colchester* will gett up to Windward I know not, they are very foul, and have spent the two months Provisions I order'd them, and wee have no more, and shall not have for ourselves bredd, pease and oatmeal, for severall Ships, coming out with Mr. Meese left some of

their bread behind them, besides accidents will hapen by leakiness of Ships.

I have no news of the 4 months Provisions his Maty. mentioned in his Ordrs. to me, the 10th of Febr'y. Capt. Studley, Capt. Dyer, Capt. Meacham Died, Some Warrant Officers and some Lieutenants casher'd, had the French mett with any of the misfortunes that wee mett with in either Masts or Sailes wee had undone them, I cannot forbear telling you of the unkindness of Sr. Wm. Beson, Governour of Jamaica, when the Lieutenant of the *Southampton* had been in a Sloop to Petyguaves, and gave him an account that the French were Saild, and the danger of Jamaica was over, and hearing there was a Squadron coming, the Capt. of the 3 men of war spoke to him severall times to lett one of them go to windward and lye off Hispaniola, to give us notice that the French were gone over for the Main, I could have water'd at Cape de berome where the French did, and have stretched over for Carthagene and chastiz'd them there with a Town dismantled, the Governours answer to them was, that we might have staid at home we were too late now, so doe Judge there was not a penny to be gott, for I perceive the Goverour between the Tropick, when ever they send a Flagg of Truce or Ltr. of Intelligence a charge goeth with it.

Certainly the Galloons must be in great want to venture to come out from Portabella when they must come up as high as Carthagena, before they could stretch over to weather the Shouldes, and knew the French were there, they came but two dayes from Portabella before Monsieur Ponti came out from Carthagena, and I am apt to believe he knew of their coming out, I hope they are in safety by our chasing him out their way. Capt. Julius and the Ships came hither having taken one of the Privateers, and putting two on shoar, which they burnt, our Ships goe most of them with Jurey top masts having but one allow'd them, coming such a Voyage as this to look for an Enemy.

(To be continued).

Mr. V. Hänschell, President of the Barbados Chamber of Commerce, who arrived by last homeward mail, leaves to-day for Copenhagen, but hopes to return to London before sailing for Barbados via New York in September.

The Archbishop of the West Indies is to preside over a meeting of the Jamaica Church Aid Association to be held at the Church House, Westminster, on Friday, July 3rd, at 4.30 p.m. Lady Hambleden is issuing invitations to meet Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein, who recently visited Jamaica, on July 9th, at 4 p.m., after which a further meeting of the Association will be held. Any members of the West India Committee who may be desirous of attending are requested to communicate with the Secretary.

* Samba.

* Now called Cap Dame Marie.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The Waterway put to Commercial Use.

The first direct voyage of vessels through the Panama Canal from ocean to ocean was effected on May 19th, when the tug *Mariner*, towing two barges, steamed from Cristobal (Colon) to Balboa (Panama). They went to be loaded with sugar from the steamer *Alaskan* from Hawaii, which was diverted from the Tehuantepec railway route owing to the trouble in Mexico. The cargo of this vessel consisted of 12,000 tons of sugar and 200 tons of canned pineapples, and the transshipment was effected with great rapidity. The boast that the Canal would be used commercially in the present year has thus been already justified. The voyage through the Canal took 12 hours and 40 minutes only the tug leaving Cristobal at 6 a.m., and reaching Balboa at 6-40 p.m. on the same day. The locks all worked with perfect smoothness and the passage through the Canal was not marred by a single mistake.

What planters in the British West Indies will now want to know is what the tolls are to be. If they are moderate it is not impossible that cargoes of their sugar will before long be shipped through the Canal to Western Canada. They will, however, now have a competitor there in Fiji, whose sugar, unfortunately, enjoys the same tariff preference as West Indian sugar does under the Canada-West Indies trade agreement.

Ten years of American occupation of the Canal Zone were completed on May 4th, 1914, the transfer of Canal property from the second French company to the United States having been effected on May 4th, 1904. The official *Canal Record* reminds its readers that the three first years of the American occupation were devoted principally to preparation. Excavation in the Culebra Cut section, continued from the first with such equipment as was available, was not well under way on the American plan until the first part of 1907; and the only dredge at work up to May 20th, 1907, was the old French ladder dredge *Mole*, maintaining the channel between the ocean and the steel wharf at Balboa. The following table summarises the total excavation in the Culebra Cut section, by years:

May 1 to May 1	Cubic Yards.
1904-05	648,411
1905-06	1,250,570
1906-07	4,861,895
1907-08	11,285,217
1908-09	13,955,753
1909-10	14,886,427
1910-11	15,925,976
1911-12	16,448,513
1912-13	13,762,455
1913-14	6,451,444
Total	101,476,661

The decade has seen the virtual completion of the Canal, and the beginnings of its commercial and naval use. During the past year, the sea level chan-

nels have been opened to Gatun and Miraflores Locks; Gatun and Miraflores Lakes have been filled to normal height; Culebra Cut has been flooded; all of the locks have been operated repeatedly; and a number of vessels in the Canal service, as well as several rafts of piles under tow, have passed from ocean to ocean through the Canal.

NATURE NOTES.

WRITING in the *Philippine Agricultural Review* on the subject of the sugar palm (*Arenga saccharifera*), Mr. O. W. Barrett states that the difficulty hitherto experienced in making sugar from the sap of this palm has been due to the large amount of proteid substances held in solution. Experiments directed to the best method of treating these are being carried out, and Mr. Barrett considers that when these difficulties have been overcome, sugar making from this palm will become a permanent feature in Philippine agriculture.

WHILE some writers consider that 140 trees could be planted to the acre, the result of Mr. Barrett's investigations shows that one acre containing not less than 60 trees and not more than 80, should produce under modern cultural methods some 20 tons of marketable sugar per annum over a period of from ten to fifteen years. This yield is sufficient to cause the most prolific sugar cane to hide its diminished head. The sucrose content of the sap appears to be in the neighbourhood of 15 per cent. with a mere trace of glucose and a purity quotient of 88 degrees.

In the same periodical Mr. C. W. Hines states that if the sap be heated to the boiling point, filtered, the filtrate treated with milk of lime to 15 Baume, until an alkalinity of 0.3 is reached, and then carbonated to 0.3 acidity, a heavy precipitate falls immediately, leaving a perfectly clear supernatant liquid. This boiled to massecuite in the open gave a beautiful clear, light coloured product, which began to crystallize in three days, and at the end of five days became a mass of sharp, clear crystals and light coloured molasses, which drained off easily.

As the result of the nineteen years experience of manurial experiments at Dodd's Agricultural Station, says the Report of the Barbados Department of Agriculture for 1910-12, as regards nitrogen the best monetary results was obtained where 40 lbs. of nitrogen, *i.e.*, dried blood in conjunction with farmyard manure was applied, the next best result being obtained from sulphate of ammonia. Nitrate of soda proved to be less valuable than either. In the phosphate series, the addition of phosphates, both as superphosphate and basic slag, actually led to loss in every case. It should be noted that farmyard manure was added as well. With potash, on the other hand, the addition in every instance led to gain.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

It is reported that Mr. D. A. Gordon, late president of the Dominion Sugar Company, is endeavouring to float another company for the growth and manufacture of beet sugar in Ontario.

MR. P. M. DAVSON, a cousin of Mr. Edward Davson, and one of the best lawn-tennis players in England beat Mr. Decugis in the Lawn Tennis Championship at Wimbledon, on June 25th by 3 sets to one.

It is understood that the Colonial Office favour the adoption of the proposal of the British Guiana Common Law Commission for the substitution of English for the Roman-Dutch Law, and approve of the draft legislation submitted by the Hon. J. J. Nunan, K.C., Chairman.

THE Louisiana planters have held that the entry of Cuban sugar into the United States with a 20 per cent. preferential duty as well as the general 25 per cent. reduction under the Underwood tariff, is illegal. The matter has been brought before the Supreme Court, but we learn by cable that the motion to file a Bill of Relief on behalf of the planters has been refused.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been: Major the Hon. J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Hon. V. A. L. Simpson, Hon. F. Driver, Mr. H. C. P. Melville, Mr. V. Hanschell, Mr. W. Morrison, Mr. W. N. Sands, Mr. Gerald Smith, Mr. C. McEncarney, Mr. C. W. Anderson, Mr. S. W. Howes, Mr. W. A. Boyd, Mr. S. Manning, Mr. G. Farner, Commander W. H. Coombs, R.N., and Mr. J. J. Law.

Six grafted Peter mangoes in perfect condition and without blemish placed on the editorial desk of the CIRCULAR by Commander Coombs furnish abundant proof of how well this fruit travels when it is suitably packed. The mangoes were grown in Trinidad and had already been in London five days when reported upon. As mangoes sell in London retail at from 3d. to 4d. each it is surprising that greater efforts are not made to establish a trade with them.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged between Henry Fretigny Pontin of Mount Nesbit, St. John's, Grenada, only son of the late Fretigny Henry Pontin of Trinidad, and Mrs. Pontin, now of Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, and Constance Beryl Falconer Anton, youngest daughter of Charles Falconer Anton and Mrs. Anton of Rose Hill, St. Paul, Grenada. The wedding will take place at the Roman Catholic Church, St. George's, on the 27th August next.

IN his speech at the opening of the Legislature of Barbados for the session 1914, the Governor, Sir

Leslie Probyn, said: "The constitution of this colony is defined by Orders-in-Council as well as by Royal instructions." It is presumed that His Excellency referred only to merely executive details as the constitution of Barbados was recognised and confirmed, but not created by the Charters of King Charles I. dated 1627 and the Commonwealth, 1652.

DR. L. H. GOUGH, who investigated the frog-hopper pest in Trinidad in 1910, and is now chief of the entomological section of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture, arrived in England on leave of absence recently to attend the Congress of Tropical Agriculture, to which he contributed a paper on the pink boll worm. This pest, which is causing some trouble in Egypt, was, it is thought, introduced from India in some badly ginned cotton imported by native spinners.

IN a paper read at the Congress of Tropical Agriculture on June 23rd, he regretted the multiplicity of Agricultural Departments in the West Indies, and that each island wanted to have its own Department of Agriculture, and refused to bear its share of the cost of the central department. It would, he said, be evident to anyone who took a disinterested view of the matter, that a large central and important organisation could work more effectively and more economically, and would attract the highest class of men, who would hardly care to join a small local department.

Sir Hesketh Bell, Governor of the Leeward Islands, presided over the fortnightly dinner of the West Indian Club, on June 24, and responding to the toast of his health, which was proposed by Mr. Moody Stuart, said that the two years which he had spent in the Leeward Islands had been the happiest of his life. He lamented the ignorance shown by people at home regarding the West Indies and advocated the expenditure of more money on advertising. Mr. Prévité, on behalf of the members, congratulated Mr. C. E. A. Grindle, who was present, upon being the recipient of a C.M.G., and Mr. Grindle, in thanking him, spoke of the great help which the West Indian Club had been to him by enabling him to make many friends from the West Indies, though he had never visited those colonies. Mr. W. Morrison, captain of the Kingston (Jamaica) Cricket Club foreshadowed a cricket match between West Indians and an English team composed of men who had visited the West Indies. Amongst those also present at the dinner were:—

Major J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Captain Manoe, D.S.O., R.E., Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Hon. J. J. Nunan, Hon. H. A. Tenpany, Mr. V. J. Monplaisir, Mr. S. T. Harrison, C.M.G., Captain D. Slinger, Mr. H. A. Lake, Major French, Mr. H. Jump, Mr. W. C. Winston, Mr. L. Belmar, Mr. H. P. C. Melville, Dr. C. A. Moseley, Mr. R. E. Brassington, Mr. F. A. Robinson, Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., Mr. Norman Greig, Mr. Marshall Greig, Mr. Arthur Johnson, Mr. A. S. Kernahan, Mr. Alex. Elder, Mr. E. A. Baeza, Mr. C. T. Berthon, Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. T. Rutherford, and Mr. H. F. D. Gall.

THE LONDON LETTER.



WITH the re-assembly of Parliament political interest has been centred in the introduction of the Amending Bill, which it was hoped would open up the way towards a solution of the Home Rule problem. The measure has been brought forward in the House of Lords by the Marquis of Crewe, but it affords no promise of the hopes of Ulster for permanent exclusion.

THE King and Queen have been touring among their subjects in the midlands, and the lace workers of Nottingham and other industrial workers in that district have received Their Majesties with enthusiasm. The visit has strengthened the assurance of the practical interest of the King and Queen in the daily life of the people. At Hull His Majesty announced that the chief magistrate would henceforth be designated Lord Mayor.

THE West Indies cannot complain of neglect in the distribution of honours conferred on the occasion of the King's birthday. Dr. Godfrey, the retiring Surgeon-General of British Guiana and Mr. Joseph Brown, President of the Legislative Council of the Bahamas, become Knights. The Hon. G. E. Foster, Canadian Minister of Trade, whose name became so familiar to our readers in connection with the Reciprocity Treaty, and Mr. W. H. Mercer, one of the Crown Agents, receive the K.C.M.G. The Companionship of the same Order is awarded to Colonel Swain, commanding the Local Forces in Trinidad, and to Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, head of the West Indian Department of the Colonial Office. At an official dinner given by Mr. Harcourt in Downing Street, in honour of His Majesty's birthday, the guests included Sir H. Hesketh Bell (Governor of the Leeward Islands), Sir Hugh Clifford (Governor of the Gold Coast, and formerly Colonial Secretary of Trinidad), and Mr. Grindle and Mr. Harris of the Colonial Office.

THE London School of Tropical Medicine was the scene of an interesting ceremony last week, when Mr. Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Colonies, unveiled the portraits in bronze relief of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and of Mr. Austen Chamberlain in recognition of the efforts of father and son on behalf of tropical medicine. The occasion was one, happily not rare in British politics, upon which statesmen divided in opinion are yet able to meet on a common platform, in support of an object outside the range of party strife.

AVIATION in this country has been advanced a stage by the race from London to Manchester. Mr. W. L. Brock, the American "bird-man," who finished first in the aerial "Derby" round London, earlier in the month, proved the winner, covering the distance from London to Manchester—322 miles—in the actual flying time of 4 hours, 42 minutes, and 26 seconds, at an average speed of 68.4 miles an hour.

THE Ascot Gold Cup has been won by Mr. Fairie's Aleppo in a field of ten, which included Lord Harewood's Cantilever. Golfers have been interested in Vardon's success in winning the Open Championship, in which J. H. Taylor finished second. Lord Wimborne's polo team has returned from the United States delighted with their victory, but generous in their appreciation of their sportsmanlike reception on the other side of the water.

JUNE 24 is destined to become known as "Alexandra Day" rather than as Midsummer Day. Last Wednesday all London was engaged in the purchase of roses offered in the streets by the 20,000 ladies who gladly gave their services in aid of the charitable objects which benefited so largely by their efforts. From Cabinet Ministers to costers every pedestrian was wearing the rose.

THE social side of London life has been brightened by the reception given by the Government in honour of the delegates to the Tropical Congress, already mentioned, and by the *Conversazione* also held by the Royal Colonial Institute in connection with the Congress. At the *Conversazione* there was much regret at the absence of the popular secretary, Mr. J. R. Boose, and some concern was felt when it was learnt that this was due to illness, Mr. Boose having been taken unwell a few hours before the proceedings began. It is hoped that his health will benefit by a sea voyage which he contemplates taking to Australia, where he proposes to go in the interests of the Royal Colonial Institute.

HIS many friends in the West Indies and at home will sympathise very deeply with Mr. Mayson M. Beeton, formerly Secretary of the Anti-Bounty League and now President of the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company, Ltd., on the death of his only son, 16 years of age, under tragic circumstances. The boy, William Harmsworth Beeton, who was at Charterhouse, was riding with a friend on a motor cycle last week when they collided with a motor van, and both were seriously injured. They were removed to Walton Hospital, where William Beeton died within an hour. He was a most promising lad. He had just been promoted to be "Head of Long Room," and had already made his first half century at cricket.

SIR OWEN PHILIPPS and the Directors of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company entertained a large party of guests, including Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein, on board the R.M.S.P. *Arianza* on Saturday.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The retirement of Sir Townsend Fenwick from the Legislative Council of Trinidad and Tobago, which is announced by Mr. Edgar Tripp, will deprive that body of one of its most able members. Sir Townsend was for many years an Honorary Correspondent of the West India Committee, and the many readers who enjoyed the perusal of his informative letters will endorse the sentiments expressed by the Governor regarding his valued services and hope that he may have many happy years before him. A fearless debater, who always had the courage of his own opinions, Sir Townsend is just the type of man which is wanted to represent the unofficial views in West Indian councils. Mr. Tripp indicates that Sir Townsend Fenwick will be followed into retirement by Commander Coombs, regarding whose services reference will be made at a later date. With many of the leading planters and merchants absent from the colonies, matters were quiet when the mail left. Weather conditions were somewhat more favourable, even in Barbados, which had enjoyed a few showers, though the rainfall had unfortunately been inappreciable. From Trinidad and Grenada cacao shipments continued at a high level, and though the former island has now been outstripped by the Gold Coast, as predicted in the CIRCULAR, it is gratifying to find that Trinidad cacao exports continue to expand. The following items of interest are extracted from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—A Canadian Commissioner's visit.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, JUNE 6th.—During the Empire Day celebrations in St. John's there were sports, a meeting of 7,100 school children, the singing of patriotic songs, and a short address by His Excellency. Local celebrations were held in different parishes, and the writer addressed school children at Seaton village on "Advantages of the British Empire."—Mr. Watson Griffin, Canadian Commissioner, met the Agricultural and Commercial Society on May 22nd. Hon. D. McDonald made reference to the increased freight rates and Mr. R. Warneford to the unfairness of the extension of the treaty to Mauritius and Fiji. The weather is very cloudy and unsettled, with fine showers in some parts of the island, but not generally.

BARBADOS—Tramway electrification to be begun.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., JUNE 9th.—The weather continues dry. There have been some showers, but, except in one district, but have been too light to do any good. Reaping is nearly a thing of the past.—The 1914-1915 Session of the Legislature was opened by His Excellency the Governor on May 26. The only change in the members of the House was the election of Mr. Clifton Wright in place of Mr. J. W. Parris, who retired.—On Wednesday evening, 27th, Professor d'Albuquerque delivered an address on Citizenship, its Duties and Privileges, at the anniversary meeting of the Barbados Progressive Association. It was a very interesting and instructive address and was much appreciated by the large and attentive audience present on

the occasion.—The Volunteers were in camp at Belle Plain in St. Andrew's parish from Saturday morning, 31st May, when the advance party went down, until Tuesday afternoon, 2nd June, when camp was struck, and they returned to Bridgetown. Field firing was done on Monday by companies, and a company won the Trollope Cup, presented to the force by the late Lieut.-Colonel F. C. Trollope, to be competed for annually. Brigadier-General Dalrymple Hay commanding the troops in Jamaica, Inspector of the West Indian Local Forces is expected to-morrow to inspect the forces. There has been another large cane fire which burnt over one hundred acres of canes, the result of an accident. One insurance company had to pay over £600.—The boiling house on Pleasant Hall plantation has been destroyed by fire, supposedly by accident.—The R.M.S. *Chaudière*, which took the place of the *Cobequid*, has paid Barbados her first visit. The materials for the electrification of the tramways have begun to arrive.—Dr. A. J. Clarke, one of the resident surgeons at the hospital has been appointed to a post in the Trinidad Medical Service.

The Governor, in his speech at the opening of the Legislative Session 1914-15, said that the financial year ended March 31st showed a deficit of £7,000. He foreshadowed certain alterations in connection with the constitution of the colony, which would not affect the rights of the Legislative Council or House of Assembly. The arrangements for reducing the cost of cablegrams would necessitate an amendment of the Telegraph Companies Act, which would not, however, involve increased expenditure. Imperial legislation would include the Wild Birds Protection Amendment Act, and a short measure dealing with aerial navigation. The Reciprocity Agreement with Canada had so far resulted in no substantial loss of Customs revenue, the explanation being that the gain obtained from the increase of duties levied on goods under the general tariff had balanced the decreased receipts due to the preference on other goods. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company had offered to instal and maintain a wireless station for £1,500 annually for 10 ten years, and this emphasised the need for finding a new source of revenue. It had been recommended that the salaries of the junior officials in the Civil Service should be placed on a more liberal basis, and this also called for an increased revenue. A duty might be put on cotton seed imported, and the Excise duty on tobacco might be raised, but this would not be sufficient to balance the expenditure. His Excellency proposed to give his views regarding the Stamp Act, and said he believed that the House could mould it in such a way as to reduce friction to a minimum, but if they could suggest any other form of taxation it would be equally satisfactory if it would enable efficient administration to be maintained without increasing the duty on any necessary of life.

BRITISH GUIANA—Artesian Wells for Surinam.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, JUNE 6th.—During the first part of the fortnight the weather continued to be wet, and the last two days have been showery after four days of sunshine.—The local office of the Demerara Company, Ltd., will be closed on the 30th inst., and Messrs. Sandbach, Parker and Co. will take over the agency on the following day.—The Governor visited Berbice on May 25th, returning to Georgetown on the 29th. Professor J. B. Harrison, C.M.G., is visiting Surinam on the invitation of the Governor of that colony to report on the prospect of sinking artesian wells there.—Whit Monday and King's Birthday holidays passed off in the usual quiet manner. On the latter there was a parade of the local forces in the morning. A levee was held at noon at the Building by the Governor, with a salute of 21 guns by the Artillery Company at the Fort, and a ball was given at Government

House in the evening.—The Criminal Sessions were opened on the 4th inst.—The new steamers for the Government, the *Arapaima* and *Batara*, arrived at the Lightship within twenty minutes of each other on the 3rd. The following day a trial trip to the Lightship and back was made by the Governor and party in the *Arapaima*.

The mail edition gives details of the funeral of the late Chief Justice, Sir T. Crossley Rayner, with tributes from the Bench and Bar.

BRITISH HONDURAS—A forcible argument for wireless.

HON. ALAN DREDGE, JUNE 1st.—Rain, which fell in fair quantities during the last few days of May, has brought to an end an unusually prolonged dry season. Work in the bush benefited by the absence of rain over a period of many weeks, which facilitated the hauling of timber and kept roads and passes in good condition. In most parts of the colony the work of wood-cutting is said to be further advanced than is the case normally at this season.—The disturbances in Mexico have resulted in the closing of the works of at least two large American companies operating in the extreme south of Mexico, one of which is intimately connected with British Honduras, and twice recently parties of American refugees have passed through the colony en route from Mexico to New Orleans.—These political troubles have emphasised the serious disadvantage from which British Honduras suffers owing to the absence of a wireless telegraphic station, as not only does London receive earlier information regarding events in Mexico than residents in Belize do, but also the mercantile community is being considerably incommoded by the interruption of cable communication with the United States and for a time with Europe as well, the cable route being via Mexico.

DOMINICA—Lord Emmott's Speech causes satisfaction

MR. E. A. AGAR, JUNE 5th.—Lord Emmott's definite statement to the West India Committee that an independent expert is to be sent out to report on Major Burdon's road scheme will be satisfactory to all in Dominica, who have no reason to believe that any fault will be found with it, but no more mistakes are wanted, and it is well worth spending a little more and waiting a little longer to be absolutely sure that everything is all right.—The King's Birthday was celebrated by an At Home at Government House, a flagstaff had been planted in the middle of the grounds and the Police Force, under Inspector Skirving, was paraded, and saluted the Flag; after the ceremony, the Administrator made a speech to the Force. In the evening a subscription fancy dress ball was held in the Police barracks at Fort Young, which was a great success.—Rain has fallen during the past fortnight, but as it has begun to rain, it would have been better if more had fallen. On the whole the immediate lime crop prospects are promising and we have good hopes of more to follow.

GRENADA—A motor service from St. George's.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, JUNE 7th.—The new sugar factory at Grand Anse, was opened on the 2nd, and the proprietors, Messrs. A. W. D. and Ralph Alexander were presented with an address by the Grand Anse Tenants' Association, congratulating them on the successful completion of the work. The machines worked without a hitch. Grinding operations were started on the 4th.

The Local Forces paraded on the wharf in front of the Government Buildings, on the King's Birthday, and fired a *feu de joie*, and the Administrator and Mrs. Ferguson were At Home at Government House from 8.30 p.m. On Whit Monday, boat races, and aquatic and other sports, got up by Mr. Sheriff Roberts and Mr. D. G. Lusan, were held in the Carriage, St. George's.—There is advertised to take place at Golden View, in St. Andrew, an auction sale

of the household furniture, carriages, live stock etc., of Dr. H. J. Lee Bennet, who is retiring.

A provisional programme of the St. Andrew's Race Club meeting, to take place on the 3rd and 4th August, has been published. There are thirteen events. A gold mounted whip will be presented by Mr. George Kent to the jockey who, in the opinion of the stewards, has made the best and cleanest riding at the meetings of the St. Andrew's Race Club for 1914.

The new Government cruiser, the *Restless*, which, owing to the time she was taking for the voyage from New York, was generally supposed to have gone to the bottom of the sea, arrived at Carriacou on the 2nd, both ship and crew being "in splendid condition in spite of many trying experiences."

At a largely attended meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society held on May 29th, the following resolution, moved by the Hon. D. S. De Freitas (President), and seconded by Mr. J. Bain Wells, was adopted: "That the Grenada Agricultural and Commercial Society beg respectfully to recommend the appointment of Mr. W. M. Malins-Smith to the vacant post of Agricultural Instructor." Mr. Malins-Smith is an energetic planter of wide agricultural knowledge and experience and thoroughly conversant with the people of the island. His qualifications were evinced some years ago, when he acted for eleven months as Agricultural Instructor in a manner satisfactory alike to the peasants, the Society, and the Government.

Mr. James E. Williamson, the mail coach contractor, has imported an overland motor car, and is running it independently of his mail coach service, between Grenville and St. George's. On the 2nd he brought five passengers from Hermon in St. Andrew's to St. George's in about two hours, a distance, roughly, of about 23 miles. Of course this is not lightning speed, but considering the roads it has to go over, etc., it is not too bad, and any way is a vast improvement on the 4 to 4½ hours which the mail coach takes to do the 20 miles to the town of Grenville.

Dr. and Mrs. Paterson, and Mrs. McEwen will be among the passengers for England to-morrow, the doctor having been granted leave of absence. Dr. M. W. Morrison is to act for Dr. Paterson as medical officer of the No. 1 District, and health officer of the Port of St. George, and Dr. Halton as advisory medical officer of the General Board of Health. Dr. G. W. Paterson, M.R.C.S., etc., has been appointed to be an official member of the Legislative Council of Grenada.

Mr. L. Conrad Franco has been appointed to act as a member of the Board of Primary Education during the absence of Captain D. L. Slinger, who left for his usual annual holiday in England by the last mail.—Messrs. L. Conrad Franco, M. Byron Cox and C. Thompson have been elected members of the St. George's District Board vice Messrs. C. F. P. Renwick, A. E. Steele and H. W. Steele, who resigned their seats.—Dr. Edwin Wells, medical officer of Carriacou, who was allowed by the Governor to accept the post of surgeon on the *SS. Crofton Hall*, while on leave in St. Lucia—the ship's surgeon having died on her voyage from New York—passed through on his way back to St. Lucia on the 3rd inst., where he will spend the balance of his leave.

The Gymkhana got up by the Mounted Troop of the Grenada Volunteer Force took place on the 1st, and was an entire success. The day was fine and cool, and the attendance, if not large, was satisfactory. The programme comprised nine events, and the prizes were given away by Mrs. A. W. Duncan.

At a meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society held on May 18th, the Superintendent of Agriculture undertook to prepare a series of questions to be circulated among

planters and others with a view to ascertaining to what extent the disease Epizootic Lymphangitis existed in Grenada. It was resolved that in the event of the post of Agricultural Inspector becoming vacant, the Agricultural and Commercial Society respectfully request that the Government before making a new appointment, give the Society an opportunity of expressing their views on the suitability of the applicants. A committee composed of Mr. H. A. Berkeley, Mr. W. Malins-Smith, Hon. Jos. F. de la Mothe, and Mr. A. H. B. Gall and Mr. George Kent, has been appointed by the Agricultural and Commercial Society for the purpose of going into the question of main road improvements, and for making suggestions to the Government for their uniform construction and maintenance.

The shipments of cacao from 1st October, 1913, to date, have been 63,130 bags. In the corresponding period last crop the figures were 58,160 bags, so that we are still ahead of last crop by 4,970 bags.

JAMAICA—The foreshore railway scheme revived.

MR. J. H. PHILLIPS, MORANT BAY, JUNE 4th.—May has passed and instead of the usual seasons the month has been drier than the others—planters are yet hoping to get these rains in June.—Nothing has been done in regard to the question of No. 3 Government Pier and the leasing of it to the United Fruit Co. The same issues are discussed and distorted day by day; but there appears a thorough absence of business ideas in the matter. The Government alleges, with fairness, that it is desirable to have one public pier for use of any fruit companies that may need, and there being no railway connection with the foreshore in Kingston, it would be putting other fruit companies at a disadvantage; but as £25,000 would give an entire foreshore connection—as wharfowners would give land free—one would have thought that an easy solution to the difficulty would be to arrange a deal on the basis of five years' rent in advance, and with this payment in advance to at once construct the foreshore line. Surely this would satisfy all parties. But unfortunately to-day conditions are of a kind that preclude any and all outside ideas. There is a universal clamour for railway extension in all parts of the island, and if Jamaica were capable of embracing a policy of advance, then it would be a plan for general railway extension.

NEVIS—Crops generally well established.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, JUNE 6th.—The weather for the past four weeks has been decidedly wet, more rain having fallen for May, 1914, than for many a year, for whereas 1911 May 3.83, 1912 May .50, 1913 May 4.50, 1914 May 8.12, and June has kept up the pace so far. If this can mean that the drought is breaking up at last, then it is good news. Of course every one has taken advantage of this perfect cotton season, and in most places the crops are not only established, but some fields looking well.

A very fine stud horse has arrived for Madden's Estate in this island, the property of Colonel the Hon. R. Stapleton Cotton. The stallion is by a son of Champion Rosador and the dam is by Leinster, who was by Connaught. No. 12,467 is his registered number. He is 3 years rising 4, 16 hand 1 and a Hackney dark bay with white fetlock joints behind. Priory Delight is his original name, but he will be called here Major, and he is at the disposal of the general public for a small fee—thus showing once more the great interest taken by Colonel Cotton in the island. It will be remembered that some years ago he sent a thoroughbred Jack here which revolutionised mule breeding in Nevis, and Major will do the same for the horses as the Jack did for mules, thus meeting a long felt want.

ST. KITTS—The Canadian steamers and the outports.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, JUNE 5th.—Muscovado sugar estates are having much difficulty in reaping the crops owing to exceptionally rainy and dull weather for this time of year. May and June are considered the best reaping months of the year, but in 1913 12.47 ins. of rain were registered at Estridge's for May, and it proved to be the wettest month for the year, and this month 12.09 ins. had been registered. The month of November as a rule gives the highest rainfall.—The two public holidays, Whit Monday and the King's Birthday, passed off quietly. There was the usual Birthday Parade and *Feu de joie* on the Bay Front by the Police and the Defence Force on Wednesday morning. Several picnic parties, etc., and the Administrator's Ball at Springfield on Wednesday evening was a very successful and enjoyable gathering.—A drogher belonging to Messrs. S. L. Horsford & Co., lying in Basseterre roadstead awaiting the SS. *Chaleur*, with 130 bags of sugar from Dieppe Bay, belonging to Parson's and Caine's estates, became water logged during a heavy sea, which got up on the night of May 23rd, and she was found sinking in the morning—26 bags of sugar were saved, the remainder going down with her; the loss of this boat will increase the difficulties of meeting these Canadian steamers with produce from the out-ports.

ST. LUCIA The R.M.S. "Towey" to be altered.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON, JUNE 23rd.—The fortnight has given moderate rains which have greatly relieved the agricultural situation, and it is hoped that the dry season may be considered as definitely over. The principal setbacks experienced are the loss of all canes planted so far this year, and a large proportion of the May cacao flowers which only set to fruit in the most sheltered plantations. There is a hope, however, that the June flowers will under favourable conditions compensate for this. Lime cultivation does not seem to have suffered greatly.—The R.M.S. *Towey*, the new coasting steamer, has been taken to Trinidad for alterations to fit her to meet the conditions.—The special committee of the Legislative Council to report on the financial situation, and the undertaking of Public Works (including the Goldsworthy Road) met for a preliminary meeting on the 1st inst., under the chairmanship of the Hon. Anthony De Freitas, now Acting Colonial Secretary, and invitations were issued to prominent merchants and planters to attend and give evidence. A deficit of £6,000 between revenue and expenditure requires balancing, in addition to provision being made to meet the charges on a loan for the necessary public works.—A large part of this sum must be found by retrenchment and a few years of drastic economy would be very beneficial to the colony. There seems to be a general consensus of opinion, that, at whatever sacrifices, the Goldsworthy Road scheme must be undertaken without delay, it being necessary to the full development of the colony.—The local forces paraded at Victoria Park on the King's Birthday, and there was an At Home at Government House in the afternoon.

The newspapers contain particulars of a new trading schooner built at Demeray by Captain Richard Compton and acquired by Messrs. Lucina, Hepburn and Co. She is reported to be a splendid schooner of about 60 tons burthen, with a carrying capacity of about 90 to 100 tons dead weight. She is about 70 feet length over all, 50 feet keel, 21 feet beam, and 8 feet depth of hold, and seems to be strongly equipped. The vessel was blessed by the Rev. Canon Bascom in the presence of Mr. Hepburn and a number of friends, and she was named by Mrs. Lucina Hepburn *Clara Schwalbe*. She will be used mainly for the molasses trade between the Northern Islands and Martinique.

ST. VINCENT—Mr. Watson Griffin's mission.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, JUNE 6th.—Mr. Watson Griffin, the special commissioner sent to the West Indies by the Ottawa Department of Trade and Commerce, paid a visit to St. Vincent between May 18th and June 2nd. The *Sentry*, in a leader dealing with the object of his visit, expresses the opinion that those interested should make this an opportunity of representing grievances in connection with the present mail service with Canada. The grievances mentioned by the newspaper were that higher freights are charged on certain imports from Halifax than is charged on the identical articles when imported to sister colonies; and that the Canadian service does not provide a fortnightly service to Canada, running between the fortnightly English mail, which, says the *Sentry*, "it was firmly expected we would have."—Shooting on Wednesday, May 27th, the St. Vincent Volunteers won the Hayes-Sadler Challenge Cup, scoring 656 under unfavourable weather conditions.—On Empire Day the Volunteer team made a score of 665 when competing for the West India Challenge Cup. In honour of the day, Athletic Sports, held in Victoria Park, were well attended.—An ordination service was held in St. George's Cathedral on May 31st, when the Rev. R. G. Harrow, L.Th., was ordained by His Lordship Bishop Swaby. Some twenty years have elapsed since a similar service was held in this Cathedral.—Seasonable weather prevails, showers falling daily.

TOBAGO - Centenary Celebrations in the Schools.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, JUNE 5th.—Since last mail a few light showers have fallen, followed by cool breezes and blazing sunshine. May rainfall here 3.04 inches—average 5.44. Rain is much needed, as water is becoming scarce, especially in the Leeward District. Provisions are scarce and dear, and the natives have not yet been able to plant and they are likely to be forced to work to buy shop goods, however much this may be against the inclinations of many of them. The workers are steady, and the improving standard in living as well as dress, is effecting a marked change in the easy going ways of the natives, a state of affairs for which all interested in the island must be truly thankful. Perhaps the ownership of cultivated land may check practical larceny which is far too prevalent and most difficult to detect, as generations of practice have made Tobagonians very expert.—The Whitsuntide and King's Birthday holidays were barely observed, and Empire Day was all but forgotten. Loyalty is not included in the school curriculum nor does it count for marks or bonuses. It is hoped that the Education Committee recently appointed may pay some attention to this important matter in the life of the children if they are to worthy citizens in the days to come.—Centenary Celebrations were held at the Moravian Schools and at Church of England School at Pembroke, where patriotic and historical addresses were delivered to the children. It is a pity that this was not done all over the island as suggested several months ago.

TRINIDAD—Sir Townsend Fenwick's resignation.

MR. HENRY TRIPP, JUNE 9th.—The sugar crop is about over, and shows a substantial increase over that of last year.—The event of the fortnight has been the somewhat unexpected resignation of Sir Townsend Fenwick from the Legislative Council, of which he has been a member for about thirty years. He succeeded Sir Louis de Verteuil as senior unofficial, and he maintained the position with dignity and ability. He has set a notable example to many of his confrères, in that he has invariably proved himself conversant of all matter brought forward for discussion, and dealt with it in clear, terse, and lucid language. He was enlivening in his attendance at committee meetings, and his

time and attention were always freely given to public matters. His Excellency the Governor expressed the feeling of the Council regarding the loss of his valuable services. The Honorable H. A. Alcazar, K.C., now becomes senior unofficial.

The welcome advent of copious rain has come just in time to prevent the water question again becoming acute. It formed the subject of discussion both at the Legislative Council on the 27th May, and at a subsequent meeting of the Town Board. The supply had been cut off in certain parts of the town for several hours daily. The authorities put it down to the dry weather, ignoring the fact that the old sources of supply, in existence for fifty years before Diego Martin was thought of, up till now yield in the wet season ample quantity for all requirements. It was precisely to secure us from shortage in times of drought that the Diego Martin Wells were sunk. The Director of Public Works threw himself bravely into the breach in their defence, as in honour bound by *esprit de corps*, but Dr. Clare, with an independence from officialdom which was most refreshing, went straight to the point and was unanswerable. He said we were more or less perennially exposed to the danger of an intermittent supply and no attempt had been made to remove the necessity of this. There were several sources of supply within comparatively easy reach of the town which ought to be brought into effect instead of the drastic proposals which were sprung upon them. It were better the Council should mark its appreciation of the necessity for an increased supply than agree to the curtailment of the present insufficient supply. The Hon. Adam Smith pointed out that further borings were being made at Diego Martin, but Dr. Clare replied that as that would be tapping the same underground source as the existing wells it would hardly, if they succeeded, add materially to the supply.

In spite of the financial stringency, the Council voted the sum of £2,600 yearly for the work of the Rockefeller International Health Commission campaign against ankylostomiasis in the colony. This vote is generally approved, especially in view of the fact that it is confidently expected that the whole of the amount will be refunded from the Rockefeller Foundation.

By this mail Commander W. H. Coombs goes on leave, at the expiration of which it is stated he will retire. After 29 years' service in the Navy, the Commander was appointed Protector of Immigrants here in January, 1906. Without disparagement of his predecessor, it may be said that he soon brought the Immigration Department into a state of efficiency it had never previously enjoyed, and this has been maintained ever since. As an official he has proved himself equally competent and courteous. Occupying a position of some delicacy and requiring the exercise of considerable tact, he has steered a prudent course through the difficulties constantly arising from the conflicting claims of planter and indentured immigrant, and no one can say he has unduly favoured employer or employed. To his staff, if firm, he has always been just, and they will regret him. Apart from his official duties, Commander Coombs will be remembered for his kindness and thought for the children of the poor. Year by year he has organized subscriptions for the purpose of presenting each child in the orphan asylums, etc., with a Christmas present, and his name will long be borne in grateful memory by the little ones to whom he brought this unaccustomed happiness. The colony loses a good officer, and the poor children one of their best friends.

The midsummer races were held on King's Birthday, 3rd, and on Saturday 5th, under the auspices of the Trinidad Breeders' Association, and were successful in every way.

The Governor was present each day. A novel, but acceptable part of the programme, was a parade of local bred horses, in which many animals, a credit to their breeders and the colony, took part. The shipments of Trinidad cacao during the month of May were as follows:—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	1,147,749
B.N. America	77,000
France	2,342,643
Germany	155,650
Holland	174,700
Spain	10,500
Italy	107,800
Austria Hungary	126,600
Belgium	22,300
Denmark	98,000
United States of America	4,111,864
Other Countries	49,000
Total for May	8,423,804
Shipped previously	41,344,676
Total from 1st January	49,768,480
To same date, 1913	33,535,159
" " 1912	33,106,344
" " 1911	29,885,529
" " 1910	32,507,935
" " 1909	29,618,547
" " 1908	26,642,905

DEATHS.

Hughes.—On Whitsunday, at his late residence, 108, Balmoral Avenue, Toronto, Henry Challenor Hughes, aged 32 years, son of the late Canon Henry Bascom Hughes of St Kitts, British West Indies.

Beeton.—William Harmsworth, aged 16, from fatal injuries received in motor cycle accident, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Mayson Beeton, "Duneevan," Oatlands Drive, Weybridge.

Hinds Howell.—On the 17th June, at her residence in The Close, Norwich, Mary Anna, aged 77, only surviving daughter of the late Canon Hinds Howell, of Drayton Rectory, Norwich.

Labouchere.—On the 18th June, at 23, Chapel Street, Belgrave Square, S.W., James Labouchere, aged 72.

WANTS.

Small "Wants" may be advertised under the above heading at the rate of 2s. 6d. for four lines.

Nurse, or Lady's Maid.—Aged 26, now in England, wishes to return to British Guiana, Barbados or Trinidad, after seven years with present employer, who recommends her as splendid with children; good sailor and needlewoman. —Address, W., Post Office, Berkhamstead, Herts.

Member of leading Engineering and Chemical Institutions is open to Buy, Inspect, and Ship all classes of Engineering and Building Materials and Machinery, and act generally as Representative in England, for Engineers, Merchants, Planters, etc.—Address, B. I. S., West India Committee Circular, 15 Seething Lane, E.C.

Timehri.—Wanted to purchase Part II. of Timehri for 1891, Part II. 1893, Part II. 1895 and Part II. 1898. For Sale: Part I. 1886, Part II. 1889, Part I. 1893, and Part I. 1894.—Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

For Sale.—Bound volume of *The Sugar Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—The comment on your correspondent's letter about a West Indian mail and passenger service via Canada is of much interest.

It goes without saying that "direct steamship communication" between the mother country and the West Indies is most desirable, and this is more or less actually available, independently of the existing subsidised mail service via Southampton. Both, however, may be desirable, but, under present conditions, British Guiana and the West Indies are more likely to properly develop under a very close connection with Canada in the future, than they have been able to do with the mother country in the past hundred years.

A fast mail and passenger service to develop also fruit and other transportation between the West Indies and Canada is much needed in place of the present slow "omnibus" line. This last is run by Canada alone without any monetary assistance from either the mother country or the West Indies, and such an arrangement may not long continue. It is not very creditable to the two latter in any case.

With regard to "Illi Robur's" letter, the disadvantages he mentions are greatly exaggerated. Accidents like those of the *Cobequid* and the *Empress of Ireland*, in the Bay of Fundy and the St. Lawrence Anticosti district, unfortunately occur elsewhere. Both of these are having the effect of hastening the improvements for navigation in Canadian waters which were being carried out and which were in contemplation at the time of the disasters.

The fast mail and passenger "All Red" service via Canada and Blacksod Bay in Ireland would not meet the storms in the Bay of Fundy, the fogs in the St. Lawrence, or the icebergs of Anticosti, while touching at Halifax, N.S., for the connection.

The United Kingdom is free of icebergs, but not of fogs or storms, and even accidents in West Indian waters are not unknown.

British Guiana and the West Indies cannot now afford to contribute to two subsidies and if they can get mails and passengers to and from the United Kingdom in less time than at present (it has been increased in recent years, not hastened) combined with the fast service so desirable with Canada for development of trade with both countries, there can be little doubt as to the choice which will be made by most people interested in the real development of our tropical possessions in the West.

The present Canadian contract expiring in November, 1918, overlaps the Southampton one expiring in August, 1917, and as it takes two years to build suitable steamers for the improved service necessary, matters in connection with the amalgamation of the two services should be completely arranged and settled by the Imperial, Dominion and West Indian governments within the next twelve months, and our people in British Guiana and the West Indies should now take steps to have their wishes carried out.

I am, etc., GUY WVAIT.

London, 22 June, 1914.

THE sugar beets of California are stated to have a new enemy in the shape of a grasshopper, brigades of which are threatening the beet fields.

OUR LIBRARY.

AN ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY.

An Almanack for the Island of Barbadoes for the year of our Lord God, 1822, By James J. Downes, Teacher of Mathematics and Member of the Mathematical Society of London. London: Printed by J. Roach, Britannia Printing Office, Woburn Street, Drury Lane, 3½ in. by 5½ in.

A copy of this early Barbados Almanac has been acquired for the Library of the West India Committee by purchase. From the two pages reproduced below it will be seen that

Thomas Walker Thomas

AN
ALMANACK,
FOR THE
ISLAND OF BARBADOES
FOR THE
YEAR OF OUR LORD GOD, 1822,
Being the Second after Bissextile or Leap Year,
and the twenty-second of the nineteenth Century.

BY **JAMES J. DOWNES,**
Teacher of Mathematics and Member of the Mathematical Society of London.

Containing the Fixed and Movable Feasts—Lunations—Sun's Rising and Setting—Length, Increase, and Decrease of Days and Nights—Eclipses—Phenomena of Venus and Jupiter—Eury and Court Days—Districts of the several Precincts—Public Officers—A plain and neat Method of bringing and keeping Clocks and Watches to due time—The Commission of the Peace—Custom House Officers—The times of the Sailing of the Packet every Month—Holidays observed at the Custom House—The set time of Meeting of the several Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons—A Calendar for the Hebrew Nation—A List of the Births and Beings of the Crowned Heads of Europe—A Table of the Kings and Queens of England since the Conquest—A Table to find the Soothing, Rising, and Setting of the Moon—A Table of Simple Interest at 4s. per Cent. per Annum—A Table to reduce Currency into Sterling and Contrary, and an extensive Chronological Table.

London:
PRINTED BY **J. ROACH,**
Britannia Printing Office, Woburn Street, Drury Lane.

Two Pages from an early Barbados Almanac.

The Almanac contains a list of public officers and the Commission of the Peace, in which many honourable names still borne by residents in Barbados appear. A chronology of remarkable events begins unpromisingly with "1298 was sold by Apothecaries as a Cordial," but later includes several items of local interest, besides many which could scarcely be of interest to Barbadians, such as the opening of Waterloo Bridge and the beginning of Westminster Bridge. It is noteworthy from another page that in 1822 the "Barbadoes Packet" sailed on the third Wednesday of every month, while freemasons will be interested to learn that in the same year the following lodges met monthly,

the Seaforth, Hibernian, Albion, Scotia, Concord and St. Michael, while the Grand Lodge and the Knights Templar and Knights of Malta No. 333 met quarterly.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. F. A. C. Collymore has arrived in England on six months leave of absence.

Mr. George Farmer (late of British Guiana) has been appointed Agricultural Instructor for the Coast Region of the British East Africa Protectorate.

JUDGES of the several Courts,
who have each Four Assistants.
The Honourable **WILLIAM GILL,**
Chief Baron of the Court of EXCHEQUER and
PLEAS OF THE CROWN.
HONOURABLE **JOHN A. BEEKLES,**
Judge of the Court of Vice-Admiralty,
The Honourable **NATHAN LUCAS,** for the Precinct
of Christ Church &c. in Oistins' Town; which
Precinct includes Christ Church and St. Philip.
Hon. **HENRY BISHOP,** for the Precinct of St.
Michael, &c. in Bridge Town.
Which Precinct includes the Parishes of St. Michael, St. George, and St. John.
Hon. **J. F. ALLEYNE,** for the Precinct
of St. James, &c. Hole Town;
Which Precinct includes the Parishes of St.
James and St. Thomas.
Hon. **JOHN ALLEYNE BEEKLES,** for the
Precinct of St. Peter, &c. in Speight's Town;
Which includes St. Peter's and St. Lucy's Parishes.
Hon. **P. L. HINDS,** for the Precinct of
St. Andrew, &c. in Scotland;
which includes St. Andrew's & St. Joseph's Parishes.
Hon. **JOHN BEEKLES,** Attorney-General.
Hon. **MATT. COULTRUST,** Solicitor-Gen.
HENRY EDEY, Esq. Excheator-General.
WILLIAM GILL, Esq. Auditor-General.
J. R. PHILLIPS, Esq. Solicitor to the King.
JAMES CUMMINS, Esq. Casual-Receiver.
WILLIAM HUSBANDS, Esq. Sec. Clerk of the
Council, Rem. of Co. of Excheq. and Not. Pub.
R. B. CLARKE, Esq. Deputy Register in Chan-
cery, Clerk of the Crown, and Deputy Clerk of
all the Courts of Common Pleas.
Con. A. Howell, Esq. Reg. of Slave Population.
J. C. STRAKER, Esq. Dep. Register in Admiral.
JOHN WALTON, Esq. Dep. Prov. Marshal.
RICHARD COOK, Esq. Captain of the Post.
GEO. T. PHILLIPS, Esq. Harbour-Master.
J. PAIRMAN, Esq. Dep. Post-Master.

His Hon. W. D. Young, C.M.G., is administering the government of the Windward Islands, and Hon. A. De Freitas is acting as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. C. K. Bancroft, M.A., F.L.S., is acting as Director of Science and Agriculture during the absence of Professor J. B. Harrison, C.M.G., M.A., F.I.C., etc., from British Guiana.

Mr. C. A. Poffonais is acting as Receiver-General, Trinidad, during the absence of Hon. D. Slyne, and Mr. C. G. Pantin as Auditor General during the absence of Hon. R. G. Rushe, C.M.G.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Trinidad Properties, Ltd.

This private company was registered on June 23rd, by Herbert Smith, Goss, King and Gregory, 62, London Wall, E.C., with a capital of £1,000, in £1 shares. Its objects are to take over from the Dresdner Bank and the members of the firm F. A. Neubauer, their right, title and interest in and to certain properties in Trinidad, and to carry on the business of farmers, graziers, dealers in cacao, tea, coffee, sugar, cane rubber, cotton, and other produce, etc.

Dividend	Latest Quotations.	Parities
		June 26
	Antigua 4% Redeemable 1919-44	99-101
	Barbados 3 3/4% Redeemable 1925-42	87-89
	British Guiana 4% Redeemable 1935	98-100
	British Guiana 3% Redeemable 1923-45	77-79
	Grenada 4% Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
	Jamaica 4% Redeemable 1934	100-102
	Jamaica 3 1/2% Redeemable 1919-49	87-88 1/2
	Jamaica 3% Redeemable 1922-44	78-80
	St. Lucia 3% Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
	Trinidad 2% Redeemable 1917-42	99-101
	Trinidad 3% Redeemable 1922-44	76-78
	Trinidad Iss 99% fully paid	99 1/2 100 1/2
8%	The Colonial Bank ...	58 1/2
8%	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal) Exchge.	\$ 21 1/2
3%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary ...	94-99
3%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference ...	97-100
4 1/2%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2% Debentures	101-103
4 1/2%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4% Debentures	100-102
4 1/2%	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2% Debentures	98-101
6 1/2%	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	...
6%	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6% Debentures	105-108
6%	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref. General Petroleum Properties of T'ad (£1 shares)	...
6%	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	...
6%	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1)	1 1/2 PM
6%	" " " " "B" " (£1)	...
6%	" " " " "C" " (£1)	...
7%	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	13-38
7%	Demerara Railway Company 7% Perp. Pref.	105-108
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Ex. Pref. ...	81-84
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Debentures	83-91
4 1/2%	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2% Debentures	98-101
5 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary ...	176-178
5 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6% Cum. 1st Pref.	...
5 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " " and " "	...
5%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5% Debentures	98-100

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. Wm. Durno | Mr. J. J. Nunan |
| Mr. J. P. Baio | Hon. E. A. Grannum | Dr. C. W. Paterson |
| H.E. Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G. | Mr. W. Greig | Mr. James Peet |
| Hon. E. Du Boulay | Mr. W. Morris Fletcher | Mr. H. Pinedo |
| Mr. W. A. Boyd | Mr. A. T. Hammond | Mr. G. Reithon |
| Mr. Geoffrey Brooke | H.E. Sir James Hayes-Sadler, K.C.M.G. | Mr. W. C. Robertson |
| Mr. D. C. Cameron | Mr. J. C. Henderson | Mr. D. Hope Ross |
| Professor P. Carmody | Mr. A. S. Kernahan | Mr. N. Maude Rosby |
| Hon. W. K. Chandler | Dr. G. L. Latour | Mr. H. Seedorf |
| Mr. Albert Cherry | Mr. W. Low | Lt.-Colonel W. J. Slack |
| Commander W. H. Coombs, R.N. | Mr. A. M. Low | Captain D. L. Slinger |
| Mr. B. C. C. Da Costa | Mr. W. Mearns | Hon. Denie Slyne |
| Mr. E. S. Delisle | Mr. H. P. C. Melville | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| | | Mr. Carl F. Weiborg |
| | | Mr. A. H. Wright |
- Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o. West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.
 Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Hazletwell Road, Putney, S.W.
 Mr. R. Bryson, Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
 Major the Hon. J. A. Burdon, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria St., S.W.
 Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C.
 Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rostmoyne," Chessell Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton.
 Mr. Frank Cundall, F.S.A., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
 Mr. H. Y. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 Hon. Fred. Driver, 68, Hartley Road, Nottingham.
 Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
 Mr. C. McEneaney, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.
 Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Rose Cottage, Herkhamstead, S.W.
 Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, C.M.G., 28, Glenaldon Road, Streatham, S.W.
 Mr. S. W. Howes, Strand Palace Hotel.
 Mr. J. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, Gt. Tower Street, E.C.
 Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
 Hon. W. L. McKintyre, 75, Margaret Street, W.
 Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland. (S.W.)
 Mr. W. Morrison, 103, Regent House, St. James's Court, Buckingham Gate.
 Hon. C. Gordon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, S.W.
 Dr. H. A. Alfred Nicholls, C.M.G., Artillery Mansions, Victoria Street, S.W.
 Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
 Mr. W. N. Souds, "Logmore," Taylor Road, Wallington, Surrey.
 Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E.C.
 Mr. F. B. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E.C.
 Mr. W. M. B. Shields, c/o Messrs. H. K. Davson and Co., 79, Mark Lane, E.C.
 Mr. Thomas Thornton, 31, Grasmere Street, Burnley, Lanc.
 Mr. Hugh F. Wilby, 49, Lurch Lane, Horsey, N.C.
 Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.
 Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W.C.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

- Barbados.—(Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller), June 25th, "A few showers have fallen but more rain is much wanted." Demerara.—(Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), June 25th, "Weather showery and favourable for cultivation." Berbice.—(Messrs. H. K. Davson and Co.), June 22nd, "Weather suitable." Jamaica. (The Direct West India Cable Co.), Week ending June 17th. Port Antonio, 11th-12th "Fine"; 13th-15th "Rain"; 16th-17th "Fine"; Kingston, "Fine."

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	... Southampton	... <i>Orotana</i>	... June 30, midnight
West Indies	... Dartmouth	... <i>Arctonova</i>	... July 3, noon
Jamaica	... Liverpool	... <i>Newphian</i>	... 8, 6 p.m.
West Indies	... Portland	... <i>Samui</i>	... 10, 11 a.m.
West Indies	... Southampton	... <i>Danubs</i>	... 14, midnight
HOMEWARD.			
Southern	... West Indies	... <i>Danubs</i>	... Due July 6

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica. ‡ In E.C. district up to 4 p.m.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX—No. 45. Savings Bank Act, 1914. Education Act, 1914. No. 46. Interpretation Act, 1914. Waterworks Amendment Act, 1913. Frison's Amendment Act, 1914. Department of Agriculture Act, 1913. Representation of People Act, 1913. Bridgetown Tramways Co., Ltd., Act, 1914. Customs Tariff Act, 1914. Police Act, Reformatory and Industrial School Act, 1914. Legislative Council and House of Assembly, May 26th. No. 47. Locomotives on Highways Act, 1914. British Guiana, Vol. XXXVIII—No. 47. District Lands Partition Ordinance, 1914. British Guiana Constitution Ordinance, 1914. No. 48. Common Law Codification and Reform Ordinance, 1914. Jamaica, Vol. XXXVII—No. 22. Criminal Law Amendment Law, 1914. Trinidad, Vol. 83—No. 22. Legislative Council, May 20th. No. 23. Board of Industrial Training, May 18. Port-of-Spain Town Board, April 30. Grenada, Vol. 32—No. 16. Pensions Ordinance, 1914. No. 18. Addresses to Sir James Hayes Sadler. St. Lucia,—Vol. 83. No. 23. Report of Treasurer on Shipping, 1913, and Excise, 1913, of Inspector of Schools on Education Department, 1913.

On May 25th Mr. Acland in reply to Mr. Shirley Benn said that Mr. G. Hewett, H.M. Consul at Paramaribo, was on sick leave, and was unlikely to return to his post. His successor had not yet been appointed.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, (Captain W. C. Barrett), Southampton, June 22nd:—

Mr. M. Andersson	Mr. Q. S. Greene	Mr. J. G. Martinez
Mr. K. H. Alston	Mr. E. H. Grant	Mrs. McEwen
Mr. J. Anderson	Mr. A. F. P.	Mrs. Meyer
Mrs. H. A. Alcazar	d'Hermillon	Mr. N. H. McLeod
Mrs. J. Adie	Mr. J. Hasbun	Miss Mecham
Mr. H. D. Busk	Mrs. C. F. Hardie	Mr. and Mrs. S. Manning
Mr. M. Bossio	Dr. and Mrs. Heath	Mr. W. J. Newall
Mr. J. Black	Miss Heath	Mr. G. Oakley
Hon. E. DuBoislay	Mr. S. W. Howes	Mr. E. Olbricht
Misses Bowers (2)	Miss Howes	Mrs. A. Pugsley
Miss E. A. Brown	Mr. D. Hagley	Dr. and Mrs. D. W. Paterson
Mr. E. Borberg	Mrs. H. H. Hynn	Dr. F. R. Paez
Mr. V. Board	Mr. W. Heuvelink	Miss J. E. Robertson
Mr. G. Bailward	Hon. G. Harris	Mr. L. Rowe
Mr. G. G. Barnard	Mr. W. Hall	Mr. E. E. Rigold
Mr. W. A. Boyd	Mr. V. Hanschell	Mr. and Mrs. J. Reed
Mr. E. F. S. Bowen	Mr. A. J. Hanschell	Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Maude-Roxby
Mrs. A. G. Boiswain	Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Hall	Mr. S. Shocron
Mr. J. R. Chalton	Miss Hutchinson	Mr. G. Straker
Mr. J. Coy	Mr. J. F. Hillier	Mr. Stuart
Mr. W. Cooper	Mr. W. J. J. Ingeldby	Mr. A. J. Stenger
Commander the Hon. & Mrs. W. H. Coombs,	Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Ioniss	Mr. G. Spiers
Miss D. Campbell	Miss M. O. Innis	Mr. A. Stewart
Mr. and Mrs. R. Collins	Mr. O. B. Joblom	Mr. A. Savary
Miss A. G. Clarke	Mrs. F. Jones	Mrs. C. Stollmeyer
Miss M. Brooks-Clarke	Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Knowles	Mr. Sherwood
Miss V. Delisle	Mrs. S. Kirton	Mr. W. Turner
Mr. E. S. Delisle	Mr. and Mrs. F. Knowles	Mr. W. M. Taylor
Mrs. Davidson	Mr. N. J. Kerr	Mr. and Mrs. F. Thomas
Miss Dundrie	Miss A. Leslie	Mr. S. G. Thomas
Mr. C. Ernest	Mr. J. Lumsden	Mr. H. Tanner
Mr. Ferguson	Mr. F. Lambert	Rev. E. Veillet
Mrs. Ferguson	Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Laing	Mr. S. V. Woodcock
Mr. G. J. de Freitas	Mr. J. Lawson	Mr. and Mrs. A. Wright
Misses Ferguson (2)	Mr. J. A. Lamy	Mr. A. F. White
Mr. D. Goldie	Miss Lamy	Mr. Wimburn
Mr. A. M. de Granados	Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Low	Mr. Wood
Mr. and Mrs. J. Goodwin	Mrs. Lascelles	Mr. B. D. Woodward
Miss E. Goodwin	Mrs. Lines	Mr. J. H. Wenham
Mr. C. F. Grant	Mrs. M. A. de Martinez	Miss Willis
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gordon		

OUTWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Danube*, (Captain C. A. Mackenzie), July 15th:—

Misses Malone (2)	Mr. and Miss Drayton	Mr. A. K. T. Duncan
Mr. T. I. Rees	Mrs. G. Strauss	Miss J. C. Teixeira
Mr. J. B. Bell	Mr. P. A. Rostant	Mr. A. A. Teixeira
Mr. G. Smith	Mr. K. Hughes	Miss L. Jackman
Mr. D. G. Stoute	Chamberlain	Mr. W. H. Robinson
Mr. P. E. N. Mortimer	Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Heidenstam	Mr. and Mrs. L. A. S. Jermyn
Miss M. St. A. Stoute	Mrs. L. Watts	Dr. C. G. H. Campbell
Mrs. G. Blood		Colonel J. K. Dodd

OUTWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, (Captain E. W. E. Morrison), July 29th:—

Mrs. S. E. Howarth	Miss E. E. Robson	Brig. General L. S. Blackden
Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Garraway	Miss I. Davis	Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Manning
Miss A. M. Davies	Miss M. Knowles	
	Mr. and Mrs. Campbell	

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM JAMAICA & COLON per S.S. *Bayano*, Avonmouth, June 21st:—

Mrs. H. Haggart	Mr. A. Huggins	Mrs. Bourne
Miss R. Jeremiah	Mrs. M. Ellis	Mr. Bark
Mrs. Robinson	Mr. C. Arrate	Rev. Mr. Langdon
Mr. Newnum	Miss M. Morris	Mr. Smith
Mr. H. Wilmsen	Mr. J. R. Ernst	and
Mr. Holst	Mr. S. Lindo	Mr. Challe

The Booker Line.—SAILINGS FROM LIVERPOOL TO DEMERARA, per S.S. *Arakaka*, June 27th:—

Mr. D. C. Brassington	Mrs. G. E. Singleton	Mr. J. M. Hattie
Mrs. M. Seton-Milne	Mr. A. Hohenkirk	Mr. W. E. McL. Mowat

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.

	Jan. 1 to June 4, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	26,297	16,415 Tons.
Molasses ...	643	505 Puns.
Rum ...	1,423,386	1,114,390 Proof Galls.
Molasses, &c. ...	1,014	3,353 Tons.
Cacao ...	23,337	... lbs.
Coffee ...	180,643	61,878 "
Coco-nuts ...	1,005,806	419,434 No
Oranges ...	...	...
Bananas ...	...	...
Cotton ...	...	...
Pimento ...	...	...
Ginger ...	...	...
Honey ...	...	...
Dyewoods ...	...	...
Gold ...	26,026	21,973 oz.
Diamonds ...	4,549	1,917 carats.
Rice ...	8,137,746	6,206,743 lbs.
Baata ...	341,658	248,158 "
Rubber ...	593	77 "
Timber ...	103,474	190,514 cubic ft.
Lumber ...	186,003	159,722 feet
Lime (citrate of) ...	1,580	...

Jamaica.

	Jan. 1 to May 20, 1914	1913
Rice ...	5,391	2,985 Tons.
Proof Galls ...	624,094	271,749 Galls.
...	3,341,968	1,817,984 Lbs.
...	4,982,160	3,019,520 "
...	10,346,260	8,847,915 No.
...	1,995,550	9,680,048 "
...	5,761,177	1,778,591 Stems
...	10,593	36,695 Lbs.
...	44,393	46,975 Cwts.
...	11,556	14,157 "
...	95,397	15,194 Galls.
...	23,734	16,090 Tons

St. Vincent.

	Jan. 1 to Apr. 30, 1914	1913
Arrwt.	2,104,167	2,031,832 lbs
Cacao	102,123	110,866 "
Cotton	295,426	311,413 "
Seed	284,417	696,179 "

Trinidad.

	Jan. 1 to June 6, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	27,805	24,248 Tons.
Molasses ...	2,281	1,750 Puns.
Rum ...	648	431 "
Coco-nuts ...	6,828,125	6,244,195 No.
Asphalt ...	69,811	100,704 Tons.
Manjak ...	85	270 "
Hitters ...	2,772	8,175 Cases.
Coffee ...	8,800	1,360 lbs.
Crude Petrol ...	6,844,373	3,671,686 Galls.
Cacao ...	50,187,200	35,209,800 lbs.
Cotton ...	...	...
Seed ...	...	...
Copra ...	3,705	3,923 Bags.
Spice ...	...	...
Kola ...	...	...

Barbados.

	Jan. 1 to June 4, 1914	1913
...	19,814	3,445 Tons.
...	47,531	30,088 Puns.

Grenada.

	Oct. 1 to June 3, 1914/15	1913/14
...	11,363,400	10,168,800 Lbs.
...	1,170	1,204 Bales
...	3,551	4,204 Bags.
...	180	108 "
...	883,123	714,893 lbs.
...	3,640	1,980 "

HOMEWARD ADVANCE BOOKINGS from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. *Danube*, due at Southampton, July 6th:—

Miss Archie	Mrs. Hart	Miss J. M. Hollings
Mr. L. M. Hobson	Mrs. Grenidge	Miss Nicholson
Mr. Van Lucie Smith	Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Greig	Miss Maynard
Miss A. Seaton	Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Gordon Gordon	Mr. J. H. Field
Mrs. Iles	Hon. J. C. Lynch	Mr. J. S. Hollings
Miss Flossiac	Mr. J. Evan	Mr. E. H. Nicholson
Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams	Mr. McIntosh	Mr. and Mrs. F. Fowler
Hon. and Mrs. J. P. Santos	Mr. and Mrs. Adam Smith	Mrs. Bush
Mr. Saunders	Mr. and Mrs. Rodrigues Greig	Mr. and Mrs. Boyce
Mr. Siedman	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Miss J. Santos	Mr. and Mrs. Short
Mr. J. J. Eaton-Shore	Mrs. A. L. Inoiss	Mrs. Harford
Miss B. Eaton-Shore	Miss A. G. Dunn	Mr. L. M. Hobson
Hon. & Mrs. N. J. Paterson	Mr. Hugo Hoffman	Mr. C. E. P. Richards
Dr. and Mrs. D'Aguiar	Miss M. Bennett	Mr. L. Franklin
Dr. and Mrs. R. M. Johnson	Miss Hodgkinson	Mr. J. McPherson
Mr. J. D. Miller	Lady Rayner	Dr. H. J. Lee Bennett
Miss D. Sanderson	Mr. E. Wallis	Mrs. G. Branch
		Mrs. Schjolseth

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, (Captain W. C. Barrett), July 1st:—

Mr. D. Hope Ross	Miss V. Boissiere	Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Murray
Prof. and Mrs. Cadman	Mr. G. B. L. Cox	Miss M. E. Vivanco
Major and Mrs. J. A. Jordan	Mr. H. M. Brassington	Mr. and Mrs. J. A. L. Vivanco
Mr. M. Dehbert	Lieut. K. C. G. Outley	Mr. A. T. Brookes
Consul Hibbek	Mrs. Dominguez	Mr. R. E. Batson
Mr. G. H. Howell	Miss J. Evans	Mr. D. McKinnon
Mr. C. H. Dwyer	Mr. W. S. Scott	and
Mr. G. Taylor	Mr. D. A. Robb	Miss E. Dewey
Mr. E. S. Humphrey	Captain W. A. Williams	
Mr. C. M. Warden	Mr. C. E. Reis	
	Mr. J. E. Milne	

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (24% 78)

SUGAR—In New York, the market last week became weaker on increased pressure by Cuban shippers in their offerings, followed by weak foreign markets and quotations fell 7 points. On this basis a considerable business was done, estimated at from 125,000 to 150,000 bags for shipment from Cuba during June and July. Quotations now centrifugals 96% 3.32c. and muscovados 2.88c.; the former equal to 10s. 8½d. c.i.f. New York.

The London speculative beet market during the past fortnight, notwithstanding very firm reports in the first portion from America has shown a daily shrinkage culminating in a sharp decline owing to heavy realizations of August account. Practically all the influence of the Cuban crop having been discounted attention is now being concentrated upon the very satisfactory reports from almost every beet growing centre in Europe. Another element in the problem of supply is the possibility of Java sugars finding their way to Europe, seeing that the Indian markets continue very quiet; while the prospect contemplated of lower quotations from the United States through rather larger receipts of Cubans than expected has been already realised.

Under date of 3rd inst. Messrs. G. P. Mitchell and Sons, Ltd., of Halifax, state all along San Domingoes have been offering there at 2.12 to 2.15 c.i.f. the equivalent of British crystals is therefore not over 2.35, but sellers of British sugar generally have been holding for 2.40. One lot of 250 bags bright Jamaica grocery crystallised was sold there on 2nd inst. at 2.80-2.85 duty paid flat which was full value and they are hoping this will be the forerunner of business in this class of sugar.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: June 16th, 9s. 5½d.; 17th, 9s. 5½d.; 18th, 9s. 5½d.; 19th, 9s. 4½d.; 20th, 9s. 4d.; 22nd, 9s. 3½d.; 23rd, 9s. 2½d.; 24th, 9s. 1½d.; 25th, 9s. 0½d.; 26th, 9s. 2d.; 27th, 9s. 2d.; 29th, 9s. 3½d.

The Viable Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates, were:—

	1914	1913	1912.
Europe (1 and 20 June)	2,414,810	2,241,360	1,652,560
United States (23 June)	317,000	397,780	161,850
Cuba, 6 p/pal ports (21 June)	618,000	607,000	477,000
Cargoes afloat (25 June)	23,500	—	13,700

Total	Tons	1914	1913	1912.
Quotations of 88% Beet, June 29		9s. 3½d.	9s. 2½d.	10s. 8½d.

Grocery West Indian.—The Crystallised market has been very quiet with little business passing. A small auction on the 16th inst. passed off very quietly, and only a part of the offerings sold at about previous rates. Last Friday at auction about 1,450 tons met with scarcely any demand from the Trade; the Government however being in the market a good quantity was disposed of at 13s., being 3d. lower. The business recorded in Demerara was at from 12s. 6d. to 12s. 9d.; in Surinam at 12s. 9d.; in Trinidad and Jamaica at 13s.

Muscovados.—Good greyish yellow Barbados sold at 11s. 6d., grocery ditto in hogsheads bought in at 13s. 6d., only 12s. bid.

Syrups.—Jamaica sold at 11s. 6d., Surinam at 11s. 6d., Demerara at 9s.

West India Sugar Statistics since 1st Jan.:

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Tons
Imports	21,670	26,370	15,610	25,794	20,204	
Deliveries	13,674	13,393	13,767	16,254	15,959	
Stocks (June 20th)	20,600	14,816	6,331	13,900	9,320	
Quotations of medium qualities, crystallised, June 26th:—	13s.	14s. 10½d.	17s. 8d.	15s. 4½d.	18s. 7½d.	

RUM—Stocks in London, June 20th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	7,637	6,146	7,924	9,545	12,791
Demerara	10,950	7,842	7,952	5,982	8,270
Total, all kinds	25,972	21,551	22,312	25,256	28,605

The proof market has been quiet and unchanged with occasional sales at steady prices. Some 150 puns. Demerara were sold in Liverpool at fully late rates last week. Jamaicas have been fairly steady for home trade marks, common, difficult of sale; but fine and choice export qualities are moderately saleable at steady prices.

CACAO—Stocks in London, June 20th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad	9,761	9,075	7,625	7,647	11,092
Grenada...	13,068	7,636	5,502	17,285	15,319
Total, all kinds	99,136	80,774	170,624	125,088	93,162

A flat tone has prevailed in this market. At the one auction held on 16th inst. a total of 6,889 bags of all descriptions was offered and only about half sold. Of this total 5,962 bags consisted of West India kinds; of which 3,205 bags sold comprising Trinidad at a reduction of 1s. per cwt., Grenada mostly disposed of at 1s. to 1s. 6d. decline, Jamaica and St. Lucia, Dominica and St. Vincent only partly sold all at easier rates in sympathy with Grenada; 22 bags British Honduras disposed of at 5s.

Quotations: Trinidad middling red 57s. to 58s.; good middling red 59s. to 59s. 6d.; fine and superior 60s. to 64s.; Grenada ordinary to good fair 50s. to 52s. 6d.; middling to fine 53s. to 56s.

In the Trinidad circular of 9th inst. it is stated that their market continued weak and prices had further receded to about nominally \$11.00 for "El Dorado" and \$11.25 to \$11.35 for "Montecito" marks. Very little cacao coming to market, crop being at an end.

COFFEE—Santos, July 4th. 10½d.; Sept. 42s. 9d.; Dec. 43s. 7½d. In the spot market there is no material change to report. No East India have been sold. Central American kinds of low qualities are coming forward more freely, but are rather slow of sale while superior kinds continue to bring steady prices. "Futures" ruled quiet last week. Values suddenly gave way, owing to realization consequent on rumours of friction with respect to the Brazilian loan.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended 25th June 436 bales British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland state that since last report about 140 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton had been sold at prices ranging from 17d. to 19d., and values are without change.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (Raw) Jamaica steady value 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. for fair to good. No business in other descriptions. Essential Oil (distilled)—Firm at 3s. per lb. for good. Otto of Limes hand pressed—None offering; buyers at 8s. 6d. per lb. Concentrated—A further advance has been established; the arrivals per Orofava having sold at £41. These extreme prices are being paid owing to the present scarcity. **PIMENTO**—Steady at decline, sellers on spot at 14d. **GINGER**—Steady. **NUTMEGS & MACE**—No change in quotations. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West Indian £25 10s.; quiet but steady. **ARROWROOT**—The business reported is small. Quotations 1½d. to 4½d.

VANILLOE—At auctions on 17th inst. a small sale of 139 tins comprising 76 Mauritius and 53 Tellicherry, etc. was held. The quality was most satisfactory and with a good demand practically all was sold at steady prices.

RUBBER—Market quiet and lower. Fine plantation No. 1. Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 2½d.; smoked sheet 2s. 2½d.; fine hard Para 2s. 9½d. against 3s. 9½d. in 1913; do. 2s. 4½d. against 3s. 8d. in 1913; Castillo sheet 1s. 8d. against 2s. 6d. in 1913; scrap 1s. 4d. against 1s. 10d. in 1913; **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 7d. London landed terms, against 2s. 10d., and block 2s. 0½d. c.i.f. terms against 2s. last year.

PETROLEUM OIL—Russian 7d.; American 7½d.; Water White 8½d.; Roumanian 6½d.; Galician 6½d.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms.

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15, SRETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.,

July 13th, 1914.

THE RIGHT HON. J. CHAMBERLAIN.

THE British West Indies have particular cause to mourn the death of that great Imperialist, MR. CHAMBERLAIN, for he did more than any statesman of recent times towards bringing prosperity to those colonies in pursuance of his policy of developing the neglected estates of the Empire. That he was the greatest British Colonial Minister is admitted on every side, and it will be recalled how, after his acceptance of the position of Secretary of State for the Colonies in Lord Salisbury's Government, he raised the status of the Colonial Office from comparative insignificance to one of paramount importance. Nor will it be forgotten what unwonted activity characterised that department during his tenure of office, and what enthusiasm he inspired in all branches of the Colonial Civil Service. At the present moment when there is no longer any fear of bounty-fed beet from the Continent ruining our cane sugar producers it is difficult to realise the state of affairs which existed in the West Indies at the time when MR. CHAMBERLAIN came to the aid of those colonies. With the exception of cacao in Grenada and Trinidad, and fruit in Jamaica, sugar was practically the only industry of the British West Indies. The products of the sugar-cane represented fully 75 per cent. of their total exports and oppressed by the weight of the Continental sugar bounties and equally pernicious cartels which drove the price of their staple far below the cost of production, the sugar planters were rapidly being brought to the verge of ruin. When the facts were made known to MR. CHAMBERLAIN he was not slow to appreciate the gravity of the situation, and in 1897, at his instance the memorable Royal Commission was appointed to enquire into the condition and future prospects of the sugar growing colonies in the West Indies. The Commissioners favoured the abolition of bounties, the Chairman, SIR HENRY NORMAN, advocating the imposition of countervailing duties on

bounty-fed sugar—a recommendation which did not however, receive the support of his colleagues and they also made various recommendations including one for the formation of an Imperial Department of Agriculture. During this period MR. CHAMBERLAIN was in constant touch with the West India Committee, and in August, 1898, in a forceful speech which showed a masterly grasp of the situation he outlined the Government's proposals, which included the development of subsidiary industries, the formation of the Department of Agriculture and the improvement of steamship communication. It was recognised, however, that these measures alone could not save the West Indies. Meanwhile, various efforts had been made to secure the abolition of bounties. Several Conferences had been held, but each one proved abortive, owing to the refusal of the British Government to give the powers security, by a penal clause, that they would no longer have to compete in British markets with bounty-fed sugar. Owing mainly to the initiative of MR. CHAMBERLAIN, a Conference was held in Brussels in 1898, and it was adjourned *sine die* for that reason. The position of the West Indies had now become acute, and as the result of the representations of the British Government the Conference reassembled in 1901. Like its predecessor it must have proved abortive had not Great Britain declared her intention of taking measures by prohibition or otherwise to safeguard the interests of her sugar producers. As the result of this spirited declaration, for which MR. CHAMBERLAIN was responsible, the Convention was signed in March, 1902, and subsequently ratified by the Powers concerned. But MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S services to the West Indies did not end here. Recognising the condition to which they had been reduced, which was brought to his notice by the expert advisers to the British delegates to the Conference and by the West India Committee from which he received a deputation, he persuaded the House of Commons to give them a free grant of £250,000 to enable the planters to tide over the period until the Convention became effective. We have dealt at some length with these circumstances, for we regard the abolition of bounties as the crowning benefit which MR. CHAMBERLAIN conferred on the West Indies. It

would be impossible to overestimate the importance of his action in this connection. By restoring comparative equality of opportunity and freedom from unfair competition to the West Indian producers he restored also the credit of those—till then—sorely tried colonies, and thus enabled them to secure the necessary capital for developing other industries. Further, he rendered them independent of those constant doles and grants in aid which have such a pauperising effect on any country, and it is noteworthy that while in 1907-8 grants in aid of deficiency of general revenue to the extent of £90,000 were necessary, the islands, without exception, are now quite self-supporting, while several are exceedingly prosperous. Apart from financial considerations it must be remembered that it was MR. CHAMBERLAIN who revived the belief of residents in the British West Indies in the solicitude of the mother country for their welfare, of the existence of which they had begun seriously to doubt.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON AND CANE SUGAR.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON, who was one of the guests at a dinner given by the West India Committee to the Commissioners of British Guiana, British Honduras and the West Indies for the Tropical Products Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall on July 1st, responding to the toast of his health coupled with that of prosperity to the Imperial Transatlantic Expedition which was proposed by SIR OWEN PHILIPPS, bore valuable and striking testimony to the dietetic value of cane sugar. SIR OWEN PHILIPPS announced that the West India Committee, through some of its members, had presented the explorer with all the sugar and rum required for his forthcoming expedition, and SIR ERNEST, in the course of a speech in reply, which was characterised by its restraint and manliness, while thanking the proprietors for their gift said that he had gone very carefully into the question of sugars, and as the result of experiments conducted at the Royal Army Medical College, and of actual experience, he was satisfied that there was only one sort of sugar the Polar explorer should take, and that was cane sugar. This is very gratifying evidence, given under conditions which admit of no doubt whatever regarding its sincerity, as to the value of sugar derived from the sugar-cane. Coming as it does on the top of the mass of medical testimony in the same direction which has been brought forward of late by specialists of high standing, it should go far towards opening the eyes of the public as to the respective merits of cane and beet sugar. SIR ERNEST went on to say that the rations on his march which would be as long as a journey from Constantinople, would consist largely of cane sugar. Incidentally this affords a striking reminder of how dependent we are upon the tropics for our staple foods—coffee, cocoa, tea and sugar, besides numerous less important articles are all derived from

the tropics, and it an interesting fact that the successful accomplishment of expeditions into the Arctic and Antarctic circles are rendered possible through the resources of the tropics, while the solitary natural product of the Arctic and Antarctic—ice—adds so greatly to the amenities of life in the tropics! Of the heat-giving power of sugar SIR ERNEST spoke in no uncertain terms. In their last expedition, he recalled, they marched 321 miles in 14½ days with the temperature 60 degrees below zero. Every two hours they rested for five minutes and took two lumps of sugar, after which they could immediately feel the heat from it coursing through their veins. Therein sugar differed from other forms of food whose effects were not felt for some time. We have seen that the bee, following its natural instincts, shows a predilection for cane sugar, the medical man as the result of observation recommends it to his patients—especially in cases of heart disease—and now the explorer, as the outcome of his practical experience as regards work gained under most stringent conditions, states most emphatically that cane is the only kind of sugar that should be taken on an Arctic or Antarctic expedition. What more powerful evidence could be adduced as to the merits of cane sugar?

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee was held at 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C., on July 9th, Mr. W. Middleton Campbell presiding. Those also present were: Mr. G. R. Alston, Mr. Edward R. Davson, Mr. H. F. Previté, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary. At the outset the Chairman said he was sure that he had interpreted the wishes of all residents in the West Indies by attending the memorial service to Mr. Chamberlain at St. Margaret's Church as he had done on Monday. They all felt and valued that great statesman's influence at a time when the fortunes of the West Indies were at the lowest ebb. Mr. Chamberlain's action had inspired a feeling of hope and had been far-reaching in its effects. He moved:—

"That the Executive of the West India Committee desire to place on record their sincere regret at the death of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., and their sense of high appreciation of his services to the British West Indian colonies, more especially by securing the abolition of foreign bounties, which were injuring their staple product; and that the Secretary be instructed to convey to Mrs. Chamberlain and the family the expression of their deep sympathy upon the loss which they have sustained."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The report of the Legal Uniformity Sub-Committee was considered and approved, and the des-

patch of a letter on the subject to the Secretary of State for the Colonies was authorised.

The following candidates were admitted to membership of the West India Committee.

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
Sir Joseph E. Godfrey	Mewburn Garnett E. R. Davson
Benjamin E. Sharrars (Jamaica)	R. Ehrenstein G. R. Alston
Mrs. Grace Johnson (Dominica)	Bankhead, Hill & Co., E. L. Marshall
Lieut. Henry W. Dawes	W. H. Trollope R. Rutherford
Rev. Father Robert Bracey (Grenada)	D. L. Slinger H. F. Previté

The Secretary reported the steps which were being taken to present to Sir Ernest Shackleton all the cane sugar and rum required for the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition. He further reported the awards of the West India Committee cups made at the International Rubber and Tropical Products Exhibition as recorded below.

RUBBER AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS.

The West Indian Exhibition Awards.

The International Rubber and Tropical Products Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, which has been extremely well patronised, was closed on July 9th. Among recent visitors have been Mr. E. R. Dennis, M.P., Colonel A. Hickman Morgan, M.P., Professor Wyndham Dunstan, Mr. A. D. Ferguson, Mr. Bryan E. Figgis, Mr. F. A. C. Collymore, Mr. Frank Fowler, Mr. F. G. Harvey, Mr. C. Keatinge, Mrs. C. E. King, Mr. E. S. Nicholson, Mr. Nicolas Parachimonas of Egypt, Mr. Ralph Seager, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Seedorf, Miss Tatam, and Mr. R. J. Warner. Mr. W. H. Johnson, Director of Agriculture of the Southern Provinces of Nigeria, Dr. S. E. Chandler, Superintendent of the Indian and Colonial Collections at the Imperial Institute, and Mr. Oliphant Devitt, of Mincing Lane, who kindly consented to judge the exhibits on behalf of the West India Committee, made the following awards:—

The West India Committee's silver cup for the best comprehensive display of tropical products exhibited by any of the Permanent Exhibition Committees participating. Awarded to

THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION COMMITTEE OF BRITISH GUIANA.

A silver cup offered by the West India Committee for the best individual exhibit of any article or articles of tropical produce. Awarded to

ST. AROMENT ESTATE, DOMINICA. (Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G.).

A silver cup offered by the West India Committee for the best sample of rubber from an individual exhibitor from British Guiana, British Honduras or the West Indies. Awarded to

HILL'S PLANTATION, BRITISH GUIANA.

A Gold Medal offered by Mr. F. N. Martinez,

THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION COMMITTEE OF ST. VINCENT, for their exhibit of Sea Island Cotton.

In making the above awards the judges reported that they had no hesitation in awarding the trophy to the British Guiana Court, which comprised a thoroughly representative exhibit of the resources of the colony, admirably arranged and labelled. The display of products in bulk was a notable feature, indicating a correct appreciation of the needs of a commercial exhibition, an inspection of the Court left no doubt in the mind of the visitor as to the primary industries of British Guiana. The following exhibits call for special mention: Balata, rubber (see special report), timbers, sugar and sugar products, rice and coffee.

The following observations are submitted regarding the other Courts. BRITISH HONDURAS. The appearance of this colony in a commercial exhibition in this country is most welcome. A good Court, containing a notable exhibit of timbers and chicle. The samples of Cohune nut kernels and copra were particularly fine.

ST. VINCENT. An attractive section, wisely concentrating upon the two main products of the island, viz., cotton (see fourth award), and arrowroot. The exhibit of the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' Association, comprising arrowroot and a selection of cakes, biscuits, and blancmange made therefrom, was a striking feature under enterprising management.

DOMINICA. A well-arranged exhibit, notable for the high quality of the produce and for excellence of arrangement.

An excellent exhibit of limes and lime products was made by the St. Aroment Estate, Dominica. The enterprise of the Permanent Exhibition Committees of Dominica and St. Lucia in distributing large numbers of limes during the exhibition should do much to stimulate interest in this product which is becoming of increasing commercial importance.

ST. LUCIA, ST. KITTS-NEVIS, MONTSERRAT and ANTIGUA. Interesting and instructive sections. In future exhibitions it would perhaps be as well to emphasize the staple industries by large, *bulk* samples of representative produce.

The rubber from the Hill's Plantation, British Guiana, consisted of an exhibit of dark, well-prepared Hevea biscuits, mostly fairly strong but mixed with a few softish, weak or brittle: in fair condition, but often showing slight mould.

Plantation Noitgedacht (British Guiana)—(a) Large Hevea biscuits, rather too thin; many soft and brittle and often agglomerated. (b)—Small narrow Hevea sheets, rather too thin, many agglomerated, a few strong, but many weak and brittle. Belize Estates and Produce Co. (British Honduras)—Castilloa sheet and scrap. Dark Castilloa sheet, fairly well prepared, but somewhat rough and unsightly; contained too much resin. Strength very good, and with more care in washing would be much improved.

Castilloa scrap: good, clean, wound scrap. Stowe Estate (Dominica)—Castilloa biscuits. Large, pale Castilloa biscuits; largely opaque as a result of imperfect drying; somewhat weak and resinous.

All the above rubbers would be readily marketable, and with a little more care in preparation should compete with similar rubbers on the market.

The St. Vincent Permanent Exhibition Committee showed a fine series of examples of their renowned Sea Island cotton, including two bales as imported.

The British Cotton Growing Association's Silver Cup was awarded to

MR. ALEXANDER SMITH, ST. VINCENT.

Very Highly Commended,

MRS. LAURA HOWES, MONTSERRAT.

Highly Commended,

MR. F. R. SHEPHERD, ST. KITTS.

The Association's Trophy was won by the Government of Southern Nigeria, and Mr. F. R. Shepherd's exhibit was commended.

THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION.

Dinner to the Commissioners.

Sir Ernest Shackleton's praise of cane sugar.

Sir Owen Philipps, K.C.M.G., presided at a dinner given by the West India Committee on Wednesday, July 1st, to the Commissioners for British Guiana, British Honduras, and the British West Indies for the International Tropical Products and Rubber Exhibition, at the Royal Agricultural Hall. The company present included:—

Mr. R. Rutherford, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee, the Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Administrator of St. Vincent, Sir Norman Lamont, Bart., Sir Ernest Shackleton, C.V.O., Sir Henry Blake, C.C.M.G., Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., Sir Joseph Godfrey, the Hon. W. J. McKinstry, Dr. H. A. Alford Nicholls, C.M.G., Mr. C. Wilgress Anderson, I.S.O., Mr. H. A. Tempamy, B.Sc., Mr. W. N. Sands, Mr. Mewburn Garnett, Mr. Edward R. Davson, Mr. E. A. de Pass, Mr. D. Mackintosh, Mr. Luke M. Hill, M.I.C.E., Mr. Frank Cundall, F.S.A., the Hon. Fred Driver, Mr. S. Wyde Howes, Mr. E. Alford Wallace, Mr. P. I. Scard, F.I.C., Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Collens, V.D., Mr. Charles Denny, Mr. William Denny, Mr. H. J. Barrett, Mr. R. L. Forbes, Mr. E. G. Salmon, Mr. Hugh F. Wildy, Mr. T. Rutherford, Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, C.M.G., Mr. B. Paice, Mr. T. G. Sharp, Mr. C. T. Rawlinson, Dr. S. E. Chandler, Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., Mr. E. W. F. English, Mr. A. Stames Manders, Mr. Marshall Greig, Mr. A. R. Miles, Mr. William Morrison, Dr. C. A. Moseley, Mr. H. P. C. Melville, Mr. Mervyn Baker, Mr. A. K. Lake, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary.

After the toast of "The King" had been duly honoured, Sir Owen Philipps rose and said: Before proceeding to give the next toast on the regular programme, as this is a very tropical night, and as we have as guest Sir Ernest Shackleton, I am sure it will make you cooler if I propose success to the Imperial Antarctic Expedition, coupled with the name of Sir Ernest. I would like to congratulate Sir Ernest Shackleton on having recently been given all the money he needs for the purpose of carrying

out his new expedition. You will all be interested to hear that the West Indian proprietors are also anxious to do what they can in helping this expedition. (Hear, hear.) They are going to present Sir Ernest with all the sugar that he will require in the course of his work, and it will be cane sugar. (Cheers.) The West Indian proprietors—I hope my teetotal friends will forgive me if I allude to the matter—also propose to present to him all the rum that is likely to be consumed by the members of the expedition. I am sure that everyone present will wish Sir Ernest Shackleton and those who are going with him all success in the undertaking. I hope they will come back having carried out that expedition with great success and honour and credit to the great British Empire. I give you "Success to the Imperial Antarctic Expedition, coupled with the name of Sir Ernest Shackleton."

The toast having been honoured, Sir Ernest Shackleton said: Sir Owen Philipps and gentlemen, I feel that I rather "butted in" on this dinner, but when I was given an invitation at short notice, I seized the chance to come, because I felt it afforded me an opportunity to give my sincerest thanks to the West Indian proprietors for their generosity in giving us those essential stores, cane sugar and rum. I would like to say something briefly about sugar, not that I know as much about it as you do, but because it has been so important to us on our expeditions. It saved our lives on one occasion and may do so again. When first this expedition was announced I had hoped that all the requisite money had been arranged for, but later on I was met with disappointment. The money just promised has saved me from getting into debt as I had to do before. When the man who is giving the money heard of the position, he said "I will give you the money you have borrowed, and you need not get into debt to go on this expedition." Before that I had received gifts in kind, and one of the most important was the promise from the Secretary of the West India Committee of the total amount of sugar required by the expedition. When I was offered that, I was very gratified, but felt somewhat reticent about stating the supply we required, because to me it seemed a large amount, and I doubted if the people who put the proposition forward realised that sugar is the staple food of the Polar explorer. (Hear, hear.) I went very carefully into the question of sugars. There are all sorts of beer, and all sorts of sugars, but there is only one sort of sugar which the Polar explorer should take, and that is cane sugar. (Cheers.) I do not base this on my own judgment at all, but went with the permission of the War Office to the Royal Army Medical College and saw Colonel Beveridge, the head, and consulted him. He stated at once the heat-forming values of the various sugars, and the sugar you are giving me has the highest heat-forming value, without any water. (Hear, hear.) To us water is a waste material, for we always have potential water at our feet. What I try to get is the greatest weight and the



J Chamberlain
7th 1905

Hubert von Herkomer

THE RIGHT HON. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.

From the engraving, signed by him for the West India Committee, after the painting by Sir Hubert von Herkomer, R.A., and presented to the Committee by Sir Henry K. Davson

greatest amount of calories to the lb. Our ration now, based on large experience, consists chiefly of sugar. Our breakfast ration, for instance, for each man is 3 ounces of lard, 3 ounces of sugar, half an ounce of meat protein and half an ounce of wheat protein. It is difficult to conceive of any person enjoying this, but I think this day next year when I look back to this occasion, and do so not forgetting your hospitality, I would rather be there, taking those rations, than at this dinner to-night, and I am not disparaging the dinner at all. I want to tell you one or two things connected with sugar of which you may not be cognisant. On some days in the South in marching we covered 21 miles in 4½ days, and the temperature was just as low as one ever wants it; we rested for five minutes every three hours and ate two lumps of sugar, and we could actually feel the heat coursing through our veins through the immediate effects of the sugar. The big march that we have to do in the coming expedition is roughly speaking the distance from London to Constantinople, and we hope to do it in about 130 days. I may mention another advantage about sugar in the Antarctic, and that is, that the atmosphere is such that you can pack your lump sugar or crystals into open receptacles without it taking any moisture. Such things are advantages that seem very small when food has not to be carefully guarded. In the matter of food we adopt the motto of a famous colonel, "the best of everything is good enough for us." When we have the best given to us as by the West Indian proprietors I can only express my thanks for their generous donation. I would like to add when you toast the Imperial Antarctic expedition you toast not only myself as leader but my comrades, who will equally with me share the dangers and difficulties and trials without their names appearing as mine does, prominent practically all over the world. (Cheers.) This must be the case in every expedition, for with the leader lies the praise and with him lies the blame. Nobody in this room to-night knows better than I do how much I owe to the men who went with me last time, some of whom are returning with me this time. It is my privilege and honour as well as my duty to tell you that I would not be ready for another attempt if it had not been for the loyalty they displayed on the last expedition. The confidence you place in us by giving something towards this venture will with God's will be justified, and at any rate we will do our best. (Cheers.)

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of "The Commissioners," said: This evening I feel there are several gentlemen more competent than I am to propose this toast, but I will specially allude to my friend Sir Henry Blake, Chairman of this Rubber and Tropical Products Exhibition. However, I now have pleasure in giving you the toast of "The Commissioners," coupled with the names of Mr. Anderson, of British Guiana, Mr. McKinstry, of British Honduras, Mr. Tempany, who comes from Antigua, and represents also St. Kitts and Montserrat, Dr.

Nicholls, who comes from Dominica and represents that colony, and Mr. Sands, who comes from St. Vincent, and also represents St. Lucia. Everyone connected with our West Indian colonies, the oldest group under the Crown, knows these names as those of gentlemen who have for many years taken a keen interest in tropical agriculture. It is gratifying to us in this country that all those West Indian islands, and the two great colonies of the mainland, British Guiana and British Honduras, are all joined together in order to be represented in this Exhibition. It is carrying out a movement which some of us, and I believe most of us, look to with a considerable amount of interest and hope, and that is the gradual securing of more uniformity throughout the West Indies. Other larger colonies have found that in the competition of the modern world it is easier to make progress by working more together. It has been so in Australia and in South Africa. Anything such as this Exhibition, where all the West Indian colonies are working together for the advancement of tropical agriculture, is a step in the direction of uniformity, and shall I risk saying—I say it with diffidence—amalgamation between these colonies, which I believe if it does come about will be for the benefit of all. The West Indies have great scope for everything connected with the tropics. Everything practically that grows in the tropics will grow in one or other of the West Indian colonies. Therefore I am very pleased that with the assistance of the West India Committee, which is always through its able secretary, Mr. Aspinall, indefatigable in its efforts to press forward the interests of the West Indian colonies in this country, they have provided such excellent representation in this Exhibition of their resources. I hope this Exhibition and the labour that has been devoted to it by the gentlemen whose names I have coupled with the toast, may bear good fruit in the future.

The toast having been drunk, Mr. Wilgress Anderson rose and said: Sir Owen Philipps and gentlemen, on behalf of British Guiana I thank you very much for the manner in which you proposed the toast of the Commissioners. I am very much pleased we are here to-night at this Exhibition, and I would like to mention that the Permanent Exhibition Committee in British Guiana was inaugurated during the Governorship of Sir Frederic Hodgson, K.C.M.G., whom we have here with us to-night. There is one thing I am delighted to hear, and that is that Sir Ernest Shackleton is taking our sugar. I hope he will on this occasion give Demerara sugar a trial.

Dr. Alford Nicholls: I crave your indulgence while I say a few words on behalf of Dominica, the coming island of the West Indies. We have heard that the West Indies are the oldest colonies of the Empire. Now I have reason to believe from geological evidences that Dominica is as old as any of the other islands. (Laughter.) But from a commercial or economical standpoint it comes rather low down in the scale, for at the time the other

islands were being developed by the brains and the courage of the English people, the Island of Dominica was still in the hands of its cannibal inhabitants. Dominica, as most of you doubtless now know, is after Antigua the largest island in the West Indies. The soil is rich and the climate is kindly, and merchants in London have found that out, in addition to those public school men and University men who have gone there and made it their home. A number of young men have gone to Dominica to build their bungalows and are covering a good deal of the island with thriving plantations, which in a few years will add considerably to the exports. I represent here the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Dominica. I have been Chairman of the Committee ever since it was established a good many years ago. When established it was an offshoot of the Agricultural Society of the island. After a few years the Government took it over, and it is now a Government Department. I remained its Chairman, and have done all I could to bring Dominican products to the notice of other countries in order that a good deal of capital might be poured into the island for its development. The planters needed, in order to bring their products to the notice of the world, something like this Exhibition. You have afforded us an opportunity of displaying the products in a very complete way, and if anyone take the interest to see the West Indies Court they will be surprised to see the number of exports Dominica is able to bring forward. Not only have you beautiful lime fruit, but a wide range of oils, coffee, and other products. All that is necessary to bring us to our true place in the West Indies is for the merchants in this great city of London to take a proper interest in us. The people are there ready to work, but what we want is the capital, and in another decade Dominica will be on a much higher plane than now. This is the first Exhibition I have had the good fortune to visit. I am very glad I have been present, because I think the experience I have gained will enable me to instruct my Committee so that they can make a far greater display at the next Exhibition.

The Hon. W. L. McKinstry : I will not say more than that I cordially thank you for the very hospitable way in which you have entertained me as representing British Honduras. I do not think there is very much time to go largely into the subject of British Honduras. Leaving out British Guiana it is as large as all the West Indies put together, but our population is only about three to the square mile. We want people very badly out there. When I see the crowds in the streets of London I wish that we could get some of the people to come to us.

Mr. H. A. Tempany : I have to thank you on behalf of the islands of Antigua, St. Kitts and Montserrat for the very cordial way in which you have received the toast. These three islands are the smallest individual exhibitors in this present Exhibition. Though they are small they are actuated by a keen desire not to be left behind, and although

their exhibits do not take up a very large space the possibilities of the islands are well represented. We are intensely patriotic not only in the wide Imperial sense, but in an intense local patriotism that has been the means of getting us through many difficulties. In bringing our products to the notice of the world we owe a debt of gratitude always to the West India Committee and its secretary, Mr. Aspinall, who have always been insistent on the smaller islands showing at their best.

Mr. W. N. Sands : I am sure we deeply appreciate the very cordial welcome you have extended to us, and we also deeply appreciate all the help given to us by the West India Committee in making arrangements for our exhibits, more particularly that given by Mr. Aspinall and his capable staff. It is too early to speak of the results of the Exhibition, but from the inquiries made and the interest in our exhibits I feel confident that the results will be beneficial to the colony I represent, namely St. Vincent. I read in the *Times* this morning that recently some St. Vincent cotton had been sold at 40s. per lb. The colony certainly produces the finest cotton in the world, and a few bales have been sold during the past few days at 40d. per lb., but if the former figure had been realised for any appreciable quantity of our cotton I rather fear that I should not be here this evening or the colony represented at the Tropical Products Exhibition. (Laughter.)

Mr. Robert Rutherford, in proposing the health of the chairman, said that all knew the great interest Sir Owen Philipps took in the colonies. Sir Owen was always ready to help the West India Committee if it had any special matter to forward. In connection with the project of bringing together the Chambers of Commerce in the West Indies, he had very kindly offered help by giving the members passages to the scene of the Congress when it could be arranged. That was a kindness all would appreciate.

Sir Owen Philipps : I thank the Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee for the very kind manner in which he has proposed my health. I can only say that always it is a pleasure to me to help forward the interests of the West Indian colonies. I realise what those gentlemen who have really studied tropical agriculture have done to help the development of those colonies. Nothing has been more remarkable in recent years than what has been done in another land, that is the Gold Coast, with cacao. Even though that territory is competing with the West Indian colonies, we must admire it for raising in a few years the trade from a few hundred pounds to a million or thereabouts. We all know what my friend Mr. Gideon Murray has done to help cotton growing in St. Vincent, and we know what other Governors have done to help tropical agriculture. I thank you most cordially for the kind way in which you have honoured the toast.

The company then adjourned to the West Indian Court where they were presented with bags, containing Dominica and St. Lucia limes and St. Vincent arrowroot.

CONGRESS OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE.

Some Valuable Papers on Cacao and Cotton.

The International Congress of Tropical Agriculture resumed its session at the Imperial Institute on June 26th, when the first subject for discussion was Agricultural Credit Banks and Co-operative Societies. On this occasion the chair was occupied by Sir Horace Plunkett, lately Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland. Papers on this important question were contributed by Sir James Davie, late Financial Commissioner to the Punjab, and Mr. H. Carpentier Alting, of Batavia, among others. An interesting discussion followed in the course of which Sir Horace Plunkett outlined some of the more important co-operative work that had been successfully undertaken in Ireland, adding the useful piece of advice that it was as well to initiate such enterprises in one direction only; multiplication of inaugural efforts was likely to invite disaster; once success had been achieved in the first instance it was simple to increase efforts on the same lines at a subsequent date.

The later portion of the morning session was occupied in the consideration of the Organisation of Agricultural Research in the Tropics, Professor Dunstan presiding. In this connection contributions were read from Mr. Bernard Coventry, Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India, Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, Consulting Agriculturist, Ministry of Agriculture, Egypt, and Dr. C. J. van Hall, of the Department of Agriculture, Java. In all of these papers the methods of organising the work in question, together with necessary equipment and staff were outlined. Dr. van Hall pointed out that "in the various branches of research two spheres of action are to be distinguished (1) the scientific investigation of the problem and (2) the practical application of the results, both of which are equally important." Owing to lack of time the subsequent discussion of the papers was necessarily curtailed, Professor Carmody and others contributing brief remarks. The inclusion of such a section in the debates of the Congress is, however, worthy of remark, and it is hoped may serve to bring this important subject more prominently forward.

At the afternoon meeting of the Congress Section IV. met to consider questions in relation to cacao and tobacco, under the presidency of Sir Hugh Clifford, Governor of the Gold Coast. The first papers on the agenda were valuable contributions by Messrs Booth and Knapp, of Cadbury, Bros., Ltd., on the qualities in cacao desired by the manufacturers, by Mr. W. S. Tndhope, Director of Agriculture, Gold Coast, on the remarkable development of the cacao industry in the Gold Coast colony, and by Mr. W. H. Johnson, Director of Agriculture, Southern Nigeria, on the position of the industry in that colony, which are summarised elsewhere in the present CIRCULAR, and Mr. J. Claissens, of the Belgian Colonial Office afforded information on the

cultivation of cacao in the Belgian Congo. Professor Carmody later contributed a series of notes on experimental results of cacao cultivation in Trinidad, his remarks being illustrated by tabular statements placed in the hands of members.

Following on these papers an interesting discussion took place, in the course of which Professor Perrot gave details of the process of drying unfermented cacao by artificial heat. Mr. Davis, chemist to Messrs. Rowntree & Co., dealt with the condition of the market for raw cacao, and the policy followed by growers in relation to curing. Dr. H. A. Nicholls, of Dominica, referred to the problem of shade in cacao cultivation, and Mr. H. A. Tempany, Leeward Islands, spoke on the results of manuring cacao in that colony, and the manner in which the results of manurial experiments with cacao were returned. Owing to the length of time occupied by the discussion on cacao it was found necessary to take the papers on tobacco as read.

On the same afternoon Section III. of the Congress met simultaneously with Section IV. to deal with papers on oil and oil-seeds. In this section among other subjects considered, contributions dealing with the cultivation of coco-nuts were submitted by Mr. C. W. Barrett, of the Philippine Islands, M. Leplae, of the Belgian Colonial Office, and Mr. W. de Lucy of the East Africa Protectorate.

Later a paper was read before the full Congress on the Karakul fur-bearing sheep of Bokhara, by Prof. R. Wallace, of Edinburgh University, the chair being occupied by Sir H. Hesketh Bell.

No meeting of the Congress was held on Saturday, June 27th, but on that day arrangements had been made for visits to places of interest in connection with the work of the Congress. In this connection a party of about 25 delegates paid a visit to the Duke of Bedford's Experimental Farm at Woburn, and to the Rothamsted Experiment Station, at the invitation of His Grace the Duke of Bedford, and of the Lawes Agricultural Trust, respectively.

Visits to Woburn and Rothamsted.

At Woburn, the party were met by Mr. S. U. Pickering, Director of the Farm, and the various important and interesting lines of investigation in progress demonstrated and explained. Subsequently the delegates were entertained to luncheon, after which they were conveyed by private motor bus to Harpenden, about 20 miles distant, where, after tea had been provided in the sample room of the experiment station, the work in the laboratories and the fields at Rothamsted was inspected by the delegates, and the various lines of work explained by Dr. Russell and members of the staff. The party returned to St. Paneras at 7.35 p.m., after spending a day of the greatest interest and value.

On the same afternoon a small party of delegates were entertained at the Royal Gardens, Kew, by the Director of that institution.

On Monday, June 29th, the Congress reassembled

at 10.30 a.m. to consider questions in relation to cotton cultivation. At this meeting the chair was occupied by Lord Kitchener. The papers presented comprised contributions by Mr. Anno Schmidt on "The World's Demand for Cotton and India's share in meeting it"; by Mr. G. C. Dudgeon on "Problems in connection with Cotton Growing in Egypt"; by Mr. J. S. McCall on the "Improvement of Cotton by Selection"; by Prof. John A. Todd on the "Cost of Labour as affecting the Cotton Crop"; and by Mr. J. W. McConnel on "Commerce and Science in Cotton Growing."

The Cost of Cotton Production.

Of especial interest were Prof. Todd's remarks in relation to the cost of production in the American States, expressing the opinion that the relatively high cost of labour is likely to cause cotton growing to be greatly restricted, if not entirely ruled out in the future in the areas in question.

Mr. McConnel, in the course of his paper dealt with many of the points in relation to the maintenance of quality in cotton which should be the objective of cotton breeders. He urged the necessity for co-operation between the spinners and breeders, and the desirability of making arrangements whereby small quantities of cotton could be practically tested under conditions resembling those of an ordinary mill. At the conclusion of the reading of the papers a short discussion took place, after which Lord Kitchener addressed the meeting, dealing with the important bearing which the cotton industry exercised on the prosperity of Egypt, and expressing the interest which he took in matters relating to it. He gave details of large scale experiments which had recently been in progress in the Egyptian Delta with a view to reclaiming alkali lands, by means of suitable irrigation and drainage, for the purpose of cotton planting, illustrating the success attained by means of diagrams. The importance of the result would be appreciated when it was realised that 1,500,000 acres of similar land were awaiting reclamation and development.

In the afternoon Section V. of the Congress met for the purpose of considering further problems in connection with the cultivation of cotton, while Section VI. simultaneously considered the subject of fibres. In Section V. the chair was occupied by Prof. Dr. Warburg, of the Kolonial Wirtschaftliches Komitee; among the papers read was a communication by Dr. L. H. Gough, Entomologist to the Ministry of Agriculture, Egypt, on "Problems connected with the new Egyptian Cotton Pest, known as the Pink Boll Worm (*Gelechia gossypiella*)," in which details of this pest were given, including an account of the manner in which it is supposed to have been introduced into Egypt, and the character of the damage done by it. For the control of the disease the essential features appear to lie in the destruction of all old cotton and the effective fumigation of seed. In the discussion which followed this paper, Mr. E. E. Green (late Government Entomo-

logist, Ceylon) took part among others. Other papers presented to this section included contributions by Herr Moritz Schanz, on "Cotton in the German Colonial Possessions," Mr. W. Lawrence Balls on "Pure Strains of Cotton," and the "Precise Forecasting of Cotton Crops," and Mr. Martin Leake on "The Improvement of the Cotton of Northern India."

In Section VI. the chair was taken by Mr. C. C. McCleod, Chairman, London Jute Association; among the matters set down for consideration were papers by Mr. F. A. Stockdale on "The Fibre Industry of Mauritius," Mr. R. S. Finlow on "Jute and its Substitutes," Mr. M. Saleeby on "Manila Hemp," and Mr. Wigglesworth on the "Fibre Industry of British East Africa."

On the morning of Tuesday, June 30th, Section V. again met for the continued consideration of the question of cotton production. On this occasion the chair was occupied by the Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Cotton Cultivation in the West Indies.

In the course of his opening remarks Mr. Harcourt alluded to the wide-spread character of British interests in the colonies, and the diverse character of the products of the various parts of the world in which they were located. Circumstances demanded that the local and home administration should take a detailed and practical interest in each and all of the staples in question. The first paper dealt with was by Mr. W. N. Sands, on the "Production of Fine Cotton in the West Indies, with special reference to St. Vincent." In the course of his paper Mr. Sands traced the development of the industry in the West Indies, and gave an account of the conditions under which it is conducted in St. Vincent. Mr. Sands' address was illustrated by means of lantern slides. Mr. H. A. Tempany followed with an account of the industry of the cultivation of Sea Island Cotton in the Leeward Islands colony, in which the rise of the industry was outlined, an account of its present position given and brief details afforded of the manner in which it is conducted in different colonies. Mr. C. M. Wahstwabon, in the course of a brief speech, raised certain questions in relation to the marketing of peasant grown cotton in certain districts of the Leeward Islands. A paper was next contributed by Mr. Thomas Thornton on "Flower Bud and Boll Shedding of Cotton in the Florin Province of Nigeria." In the ensuing discussion Mr. McCall, of Nyassaland, and Mr. W. N. Sands contributed remarks.

Other papers included accounts of the "Cotton Industry in Uganda," by Mr. S. Simpson, Director of Agriculture, and by Mr. P. H. Lamb, Director of Agriculture, N. Nigeria, on the Cotton Industry of that colony, while contributions were also brought forward in respect of the industry as conducted in Eritrea, Italian Somaliland, the Portuguese Colonies and Greece.

The closing meeting of the Congress took place on

the afternoon of June 30th. The chair was occupied by the President, Professor Dunstan, and a large number of delegates and others were present; among those on the platform were included Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., and Sir Henry McCallum, G.C.M.G. A number of resolutions dealing with matters which had been discussed at sectional meetings of the Congress were brought forward at this meeting. Among these must be mentioned a resolution advocating the establishment of a College of Tropical Agriculture situated within the Tropics. This was moved by Sir Henry Blake, seconded by Sir Henry McCallum, and carried unanimously. Other resolutions passed dealt with the desirability of founding a British Institute of Tropical Agriculture, and with the question of sanitation on tropical estates.

Subsequently votes of thanks were recorded to the Organising Committee for the arrangements made for the holding of the Congress, special mention being made of the work of the Secretaries, Mr. Harold Brown and Dr. T. A. Henry, and also Mr. McClintock Bunbury (the Secretary for registration and hospitality); to the British Government for the reception accorded to the delegates; to the Royal Colonial Institute for their reception; to the Duke of Bedford and to the Lawes Agricultural Trust for their kindness in entertaining delegates at the Woburn and Rothamsted Experiment Stations, respectively, and to the Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, for similar courtesies.

Short congratulatory addresses were then delivered by the various foreign delegates on the successful manner in which the meetings had progressed, after which the President declared the Congress closed.

The importance of the Congress as affording a means of discussion of many problems of vital importance is great. It is to be hoped that its deliberations will result in an increased share of attention being focussed on the whole question of tropical agriculture, on which the prosperity of the tropical regions of the world is very largely dependent.

Apart from this the opportunity thus afforded to agriculturists and others interested in tropical agriculture of meeting together and discussing informally their various lines of work, should result in a stimulation of ideas and energy which must be productive of results of considerable value when those concerned have returned to their various spheres of activity.

The United Fruit Company have placed the steamers *Suriname* and *Saramacca* which they acquired from the Royal Dutch Line on a service between New York, Santiago (Cuba), Belize (British Honduras), Puerto Cortez, Tela and Puerto Barrios. The steamers leave New York at 3 p.m. every other Thursday, and reach Belize at 7 a.m. on the following Friday week. The *Coppename* and *Marowijne* maintain a weekly service between New Orleans and Belize. Leaving at 11 a.m. on Thursday they reach Belize at 4 p.m. on the following Sunday.

THE CACAO INDUSTRY.

The Remarkable Progress of West Africa.

Several papers read at the recent International Congress of Tropical Agriculture were devoted to the subject of Cacao. Perhaps the most important of these was one on the Gold Coast Cacao Industry by Mr. W. S. D. Tudhope, Director of Agriculture for that colony, who, in the course of his remarks, said: Since 1911 the Gold Coast (including Ashanti) has been the largest cocoa, or "cacao," producing country in the world. She first figured as an exporter in 1891, with the modest quantity of 80 lb. weight. The industry has developed with marvellous rapidity, and during the past year 113,239,980 lbs. cacao, valued at £2,489,218, were exported. The farms are owned and cultivated almost exclusively by the natives. Many initial mistakes have been made in the formation of plantations and in the preparation of the cacao, but the spread of education or enlightenment amongst the farmers has already effected a considerable improvement, and the general quality of the product becomes yearly better. The soil and climatic conditions are well suited for cacao culture.

Insect pests and fungoid diseases have been the cause of a considerable amount of damage to plantations, and are now, and must always be, matters of grave concern in a country like the Gold Coast; although their depredations do not readily discourage a people who from time immemorial have been accustomed to shifting rather than permanent cultivations.

The industry is greatly hampered through want of cheap and efficient transport within the colony. The bulk of the transport at present is by means of head loads, and, in spite of a considerable influx of labourers from adjoining territory during the harvest season, much difficulty is often experienced in getting the cacao conveyed to the port of shipment. This transport is arranged, for the most part, by the mercantile community who have penetrated the bush and erected stores or buying-depots there. Railways and roads are being rapidly extended and will in time to a great extent alleviate this. All sections of the community are interested in cacao culture, and, unless some unforeseen circumstance should intervene, the exports already great should yet be much greater.

The following table of exports, at intervals of five years, serve to show the rapid and steady development of the industry:—

CACAO EXPORTED FROM THE GOLD COAST.

Year.	Quantity (lb.).	Value (£).	Value of increase in 5 years (£).
1891	80	4	—
1896	86,754	2,276	2,272
1901	2,195,571	42,837	40,561
1906	20,104,504	336,269	293,432
1911	88,987,324	1,813,468	1,277,199
1913	113,239,980	2,489,218	875,750*

* Increase in two years only.

Lecturing on the cacao industry in the Southern

Provinces and Colony of Nigeria, Mr. W. H. Johnson, the local Director of Agriculture, dealt with the following subjects: The introduction of cacao; progress of the industry; cultivation; diseases; fungus and insect; preparation for market; artificial drying experiments; unfermented, artificially dried cacao; anticipated development of the industry.

A new competitor since 1891.

Cacao was first introduced to Nigeria some thirty-four years ago. The distribution of plants and seeds in the Lagos district commenced shortly after the establishment of the Lagos Botanic Station in 1887. The first shipment of cacao was made in 1891. In 1900 the exports of cacao amounted to 4,042 cwts.; last year (1913) they had increased to 72,428 cwts.

The trees do not receive much cultural attention; shade trees are not planted, and pruning and mulching are neglected. Diseases are not more common than in other cacao-growing countries, and it is considered that those which do exist could be kept in check by the adoption of proper cultural and sanitary methods. More care is required in preparing the crop for market. Fermentation is more generally practised than hitherto, but the period of fermenting and curing is too restricted.

Experiments conducted by the Department of Agriculture prove that (a) the value of cacao can be increased as much as 4s. per cwt. by extending the fermenting and curing period; (b) the quality of cacao dried in a rotary drying machine compares favourably with that dried in the sun; and (c) unfermented cacao can be prepared in this machine superior in quality to ordinary West African cacao. With the new areas planted and the instruction given to farmers by the staff of the Department of Agriculture, it is considered that a large increase in the exports of cacao will take place in the next few years.

Mr. J. Claessens, of the Colonial Office at Brussels, contributed a paper on the cultivation of cacao in Mayumbe (Belgian Congo) in which he brought out the following points: Cacao growing is extending in Mayumbe. Actually there is an area of 8,750 acres of cacao trees of from one to fifteen years old. In 1903 Mayumbe exported 89,565 kilogrammes of cacao beans. Now about 1,000 tons are exported. This country is characterised by a dry season of four to five months' duration. This defect is partly rectified by a rather damp atmosphere. During the dry season fogs and dew are abundant, and the sky is very often clouded. The annual rainfall varies more or less between 1,100 to 1,800 mm. (44 to 72 in.).

The variety which is mostly cultivated in Mayumbe is the Amelonado of San Thomé. Until recently, shade was procured from the big trees which had belonged to the primitive forest. Trials of cultivation without shade were unsuccessful.

Among the enemies which sometimes occasion important damage to the cacao trees in Mayumbe, we must name the *Salberghella singularis*, or cacao-

tree bug, and a fungus which attacks the trunk is most probably *Diplodia cacaoicola*.

The principal defects noticed in the cultivation of cacao in Mayumbe, and also the improvement that should be adopted, can be stated as the following:—

1. The planters do not as a rule cultivate their soil sufficiently, so as to make it deep and pervious.

2. When clearing the land of trees more care should be taken to preserve a part of the forest on the top of the hills. In these flats parts of the country with impervious sub-soil, the forest should be maintained also along the banks of rivers subject to overflow. It is very useful to keep some groves of trees at some distance from one another so that they may act as wind breaks.

3. The soil is often left uncovered after the fire has burnt out instead of sowing rapidly growing plants, preferably leguminous plants.

Close plantation, so as to cover the soil as rapidly as possible, is not common enough. The size of the plantation holes is often not sufficient in this heavy soil.

The requirements of the manufacturers.

Mr. H. P. Booth and Mr. A. W. Knapp dealt with cacao from the manufacturers' point of view, and in an interesting paper said: It is by no means easy to make a definite statement which is generally applicable, because the various manufacturers look for different qualities, and cacaos from certain districts are prized for special purposes. There is, further, some danger in describing a desirable appearance, for it is not the appearance that is wanted, but the qualities that are associated with it.

In general, we believe that if the planter only allows ripe pods to be gathered, ferments for a reasonable period, cures with care, and keeps dry, the beans will have the right appearance, and that he will be producing the best that the types of tree on his plantation will produce. It is evident from this statement that the value of claying and dancing is called in question.

We understand that *unfermented* cacao finds purchasers, but fermented cacao always obtains the higher price; unfermented beans are more difficult to shell, and they produce an inferior cocoa. Partially fermented beans suffer from the same defects. With over-fermented beans the shell may become so loose as to be fractured in carriage and handling. This opens the way for attack by grubs and moulds. This danger may also be incurred: (1) with over-ripe beans in which the germ penetrates the shell, (2) by washing, which leaves the shell tender; and (3) by lack of care in curing.

Cacao may be spoiled by not observing conditions of cleanliness during fermentation, or by exposing to bad odours. On curing, these defects may be hidden, only to be revealed again on roasting, when the objectionable "hammy" or other flavour is developed. Other objectionable features are the presence of twig-like pieces of dried pulp and placenta, and of small flat beans. Criollo cacao obtains a higher price than Forastero or Calabacillo, because, while it is rarest, it is a valuable ingredient of good chocolate. Large beans are preferred because they have a lower percentage of shell than small beans.

Probably the most highly appreciated quality is constancy or reliability of quality. A cacao which varies from bag to bag, or from time to time, will get little appreciation. Under ideal conditions standard qualities would be put on the market—Criollo, Forastero, Calabacillo would be fermented separately, and the beans graded according to size. Such a procedure would only be practicable where the cacao from several plantations was taken to a central fermentary. At the present time we are far from this. Indeed, instead of a careful grading of good qualities, there is in practice a mixing of good and bad. Thus cacao merchants buy cacao which they know to be diseased or unfermented, and deliberately mix it with good cacao. Such an action may not seriously affect the price of that particular lot, but affects detrimentally the reputation of the cacao from that district, and the manufacturer regards that cacao as less desirable.

It is to be regretted that in some places cacao is still taken to the steamer in surf boats. Well-prepared cacao thus becomes wet with sea-water, and may later be spoilt by mould.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE MAP.

Shortwood College for Women Teachers, Jamaica, and Harrison College, Barbados, have taken copies of the new West India Committee Map of the West Indies and no doubt other schools and colleges in the West Indies will soon follow suit. The Barbados *Advocate* noticing the map says that it "should have a place in all business offices and be on the walls of all the secondary schools. The Barbados *Agricultural Reporter* refers to it "as a valuable if not indispensable adjunct to a business house" which "should find a permanent place everywhere," and adds: "the thanks of the business world are due to the West India Committee for promoting its production." The *St. Lucia Voice* is equally complimentary, saying "We are hoping to see this up-to-date map displayed in all our schools, Government Offices, in the Rooms of the Agricultural and Commercial Society and elsewhere."

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen both mounted and in sheet at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., at Messrs. George Philip and Son, Ltd., 32, Fleet Street, E.C., or at Messrs. Sifton, Praed and Co., Ltd. (The Map House), 67, St. James' Street, S.W. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination; for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1549. Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon Correspon-

dents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms. During the year to date 52 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

British Guiana	... 4	St. Vincent	... 1
Trinidad	... 4	Canada	... 2
Grenada	... 4	New South Wales	... 1
Dominica	... 3	Country	... 15
Jamaica	... 3	London	... 10
British Honduras	... 2	New York	... 2
Nevis	... 1		

NATURE NOTES.

THE monthly *Bulletin of Agricultural Intelligence* states that the natives of German East Africa are accustomed to feed their cattle on banana stems during the dry season. One stem is considered sufficient food to supply an adult animal for one day. The stems are cut into long slices.

It is interesting to learn from the *Tropical Agriculturist*, in connection with Prof. Bottomley's discovery of "bacterised" peat as a manure, that a valuable fertilizing agent is in use in Queensland termed jadoo, which consists of peat charged with various fertilizing agents. The application of peat in this way is quite different to that in Professor Bottomley's product, in which peat charged with a special humate forming bacterium and then sterilized, is inoculated with *azobacter*.

In the manufacture of Jadoo fibre the peat moss is used as an absorbent for various constituents. A boiler is partly filled with water, to which is added soot, gypsum, bone meal, phosphoric acid, potash, nitrate of soda, and sugar. Peat moss is then added until the boiler is full and the whole contents are boiled for twenty minutes. The moss is then taken out, stacked, and yeast added. It is then fermented for a month or five weeks before use. The fertilizing power is stated to be great.

THE Report of the Barbados Department of Agriculture for 1910-12 refers to the value of caustic lime as an antiseptic. When this agent is applied to the soil, even in the presence of large quantities of calcium carbonate, it has a pronounced effect in disturbing or even destroying the state of equilibrium normally existing between the micro-flora and micro-fauna of the soil. This action of caustic lime has been found to be in character between that exercised by volatile antiseptics and the changes induced by high temperatures. In addition to killing many bacteria, and causing the death of the larger protozoa which have a depressing effect on the growth of bacteria, it brings about a decomposition of the organic nitrogenous constituents of the soil.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES.

The imports into the Dominion of Canada of the principal articles receiving preferential treatment under the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, which came into force on June 2nd, 1913, for the month of March, and the year ended March 31st last are shown in the table given below. The follow-

ing items scheduled (B) "to enjoy the benefits of the Customs Preferential Tariff when imported into Canada" being still on the Free List receive no preference: pine-apples, oranges, lemons, grape-fruit and shaddocks, manjak, coffee, cotton, cotton-seed meal, uncleaned rice, rubber, balata, logwood, logwood extract, annato, unmanufactured turtle shell, diamonds, timber and lumber of wood not further manufactured than sawn or split, and bay leaves.

Imports entered for consumption in Canada.

	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.				GENERAL TARIFF.			
	MARCH.		Year ending March, 1914.		MARCH.		Year ending March, 1914.	
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Sugar, above 16 D.S.	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	220,680	6,152	3,461,377	158,000	148,288	5,139	395,582	13,283
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	17,171	786	76,470	3,884
.. B. W. Indies	—	—	98,430	3,154	—	—	280	6
.. Hong Kong	—	—	—	—	524,506	17,190	3,564,476	119,081
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	2,098	63	24,033	704
	220,680	6,152	5,559,807	161,354	692,063	23,178	4,060,841	136,958
Sugar, below 16 D.S.								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	17,744,202	384,363
.. B. Guiana	27,218,661	575,059	143,693,576	3,141,170	—	—	—	—
.. B. W. Indies	1,929,093	40,318	95,150,119	2,074,158	—	—	188,873	3,159
.. Fiji Islands	1,712,180	36,933	11,280,500	239,182	—	—	—	—
.. Cuba	—	—	—	—	—	—	119,014,741	2,482,432
.. Dutch E. Indies	—	—	—	—	5,242,325	130,336	33,863,367	838,992
.. Germany	—	—	—	—	22,400	612	45,743,751	979,205
.. Peru	—	—	—	—	7,722,000	142,500	34,747,160	728,317
.. San Domingo	—	—	—	—	17,195,615	331,202	133,448,719	2,708,923
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	1,709,160	36,483	23,533,302	485,781
	30,859,934	652,510	252,124,195	5,454,510	31,951,700	641,133	408,264,115	8,610,974
Syrups and Molasses	galls.	\$	galls.	\$	galls.	\$	galls.	\$
From G. Britain	70,256	3,351	935,615	44,218	—	—	9,393	427
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	229,604	4,176	2,740,885	65,240
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	2,604	96	3,731	141
	70,256	3,351	935,615	44,218	232,208	4,272	2,754,008	65,812
Molasses, over 20° and under 35°								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	27,883	2,094	198,714	15,927
Molasses, cane, not less than 35° nor over 56°								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	501	73	49,969	12,116
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,324	599
	—	—	—	—	501	73	55,293	12,715
Rice & Sago, Flour, Common Flour & Ricemeal	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	24,866	633	75,360	2,360	112	4	1,432	87
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	55,851	1,442	301,913	14,785
From B. Straits Settlements	—	—	302,557	6,842	—	—	56,054	881
From Other Countries	—	—	—	—	7,533	333	241,727	6,780
	24,866	633	377,917	9,202	63,496	1,779	601,126	22,507
Petroleum, crude					galls.	\$	galls.	\$
From U. States	—	—	—	—	200	30	45,853	4,903
Oils, Coal & Kerosene distilled, purified or refined.					galls.	\$	galls.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	175	33	175	33
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	1,672,047	119,626	19,278,099	1,350,502
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,203	563
	—	—	—	—	1,672,222	119,659	19,380,479	1,351,098
Coco-nut Oil	galls.	\$	galls.	\$				
From G. Britain	9,170	9,216	26,413	30,128	224	367	281	469
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	1,455	1,408	2,796	2,897
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	45
	9,170	9,216	26,413	30,128	1,675	1,775	3,127	3,411

	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.				GENERAL TARIFF.			
	MARCH.		Year ending March, 1914.		MARCH.		Year ending March, 1914.	
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Ginger and Spices, unground	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	24,083	2,192	730,177	79,183	4,567	586	154,696	16,345
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	68,679	6,996	584,970	62,438
.. B. W. Indies ...	23,085	1,509	462,475	26,696	4,231	215	19,122	955
From B. Straits Settlements	43,520	5,502	584,418	68,852	4,189	479	47,388	5,724
From Other Countries	23,066	2,354	410,507	37,637	80,817	3,284	428,931	25,248
	113,754	11,357	2,187,577	212,368	162,483	11,560	1,235,107	110,730
Ginger and Spices, ground								
From G. Britain	1,123	423	20,704	7,284	—	—	1,423	446
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	8,668	1,551	79,532	14,463
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	74	3	7,226	476
	1,123	423	20,704	7,284	8,742	1,554	88,181	15,385
Limes						\$		\$
From U. States	—	—	—	—	—	37	—	3,978
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	248
						37		4,226
Coco-nuts, imp. direct			No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
From B. W. Indies ...	—	—	366,730	9,261	4,962	102	73,768	2,374
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	14,200	355	14,250	356
			366,730	9,261	19,162	457	88,018	2,730
Coco-nuts, N.O.P.	No.							
From U. States	—	—	—	—	19,423	696	166,803	7,661
.. B. W. Indies ...	47,250	1,009	47,250	1,009	18,070	528	63,183	2,192
	47,250	1,009	47,250	1,009	37,493	1,224	229,986	9,853
Coco-nut, desiccated	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	305	55	16,504	1,883	—	—	81	15
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,372	645
.. B. E. Indies ...	109,175	10,970	979,982	94,769	—	—	11,438	1,239
.. Other Countries	22,100	2,334	30,970	3,217	—	—	5,135	517
	131,580	13,359	1,027,456	99,869	—	—	21,026	2,416
Copra								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	324	19
							324	19
Rice, cleaned								
From G. Britain	422,197	12,233	6,885,034	214,241	7,478	269	385,400	13,558
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	419,182	18,769	1,268,627	58,013
.. Hong Kong ...	—	—	—	—	664,120	14,931	3,181,084	74,306
.. China ...	—	—	—	—	149,980	3,135	506,642	12,079
.. Other Countries	1,120	24	56,120	1,880	215,922	7,953	837,195	31,161
	423,317	12,257	6,941,154	216,121	1,453,682	46,057	6,178,948	189,117
Nutmegs and Mace, whole or unground								
From G. Britain	5,671	741	169,225	19,546	—	—	343	37
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	6,036	712	27,922	4,771
.. Other Countries	6,337	670	82,101	9,415	2,120	270	9,112	2,277
	12,008	1,411	251,326	28,961	8,156	982	37,377	7,085
Arrowroot								
From G. Britain	109	11	32,424	2,793	—	—	451	48
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	7,190	575
.. Other Countries	22,209	1,450	59,822	3,968	2,514	72	3,545	156
	22,309	1,461	92,246	6,761	2,514	72	11,186	779
Salt, in bulk					cwt.	\$	cwt.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	34,328	5,187	461,541	73,162
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	420	102
					34,328	5,187	461,961	73,264
Salt, in bags, barrels and other cases.								
From U. States	—	—	—	—	13,383	5,988	173,217	75,779
					13,383	5,988	173,217	75,779
Sponges		\$		\$		\$		\$
From G. Britain	—	302	—	8,331	—	193	—	5,916
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	7,444	—	77,992
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	3,687
		302		8,331		7,646		87,595

	PREFERENTIAL TARIFF.				GENERAL TARIFF.			
	MARCH.		Year ending March, 1914.		MARCH.		Year ending March, 1914.	
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Potatoes, Sweet, & Yams			Bush.	\$	Bush.	\$	Bush.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	347	110	—	—	67	141
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	4,187	3,598	66,541	57,291
.. Other Countries	—	—	41	40	281	378	2,762	1,954
			388	150	4,468	3,976	69,370	59,386
Tomatoes, fresh			Bush.		Bush.		Bush.	
From G. Britain	750	520	750	520	—	—	—	—
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	6,875	23,367	267,283	431,411
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	160	360	1,078	2,249
	750	520	750	520	7,035	23,727	268,361	433,660
Honey	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$	lbs.	\$
From G. Britain	72	9	14,625	1,393	—	—	1,576	146
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	13,662	1,716	265,935	38,674
.. B. W. Indies	716	45	249,146	15,118	—	—	2,050	133
.. Other Countries	2,352	315	3,312	433	—	—	1,916	88
	3,140	369	267,083	16,944	13,662	1,716	271,774	39,041
Bees Wax			lbs.		lbs.		lbs.	
From G. Britain	115	26	296	72	—	—	750	307
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	3,646	1,244	54,863	18,310
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	3,195	1,653	32,853	10,442
	115	26	296	72	6,841	2,897	88,466	29,059
Oils, essential					lbs.			
From G. Britain	1,753	2,676	16,479	28,481	1,016	1,484	17,731	36,374
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	15,532	25,528	163,277	241,327
.. France	—	—	—	—	2,414	7,475	7,814	28,198
.. Germany	—	—	—	—	6,064	2,738	26,883	22,575
.. Other Countries	—	—	470	743	2,614	7,528	12,761	32,444
	1,753	2,676	16,949	29,224	27,660	44,753	228,466	360,918
Cattle Food containing molasses		\$		\$		\$		\$
From G. Britain	—	473	—	67,950	—	—	—	483
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	1,654	—	—	—	—
	—	473	—	69,604	—	—	—	524
Pecans, not shelled, and shelled Peanuts				\$	lbs	\$	lbs	\$
From G. Britain	22,473	1,077	68,432	2,900	97,056	4,916	440,409	22,822
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	320,075	22,346	2,709,230	187,701
.. Dutch E. Indies	—	—	—	—	213,128	10,113	680,198	32,436
.. France	—	—	—	—	38,854	1,768	851,462	41,058
.. Other Countries	—	—	54,704	2,374	391,790	16,672	1,768,576	79,923
	22,473	1,077	123,136	5,274	1,060,912	58,815	6,449,875	363,940
Lime Juice, crude	Galls.	\$	Galls.	\$	galls.	\$	galls.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	—	—	233	106
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	—	—	976	244
	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,209	350
Lime Juice, fortified, with or containing not more than 25% of Proof spirit						\$		
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	6	7	54	99
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	6	39	525	811
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	55	48	602	588
	—	—	—	—	67	94	1,181	1,498
Lime Juice and Fruit Juices and Syrups								
From G. Britain	3,432	2,747	41,255	53,590	10	17	4,205	4,540
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	13,608	15,231	76,711	110,673
.. Other Countries	—	—	474	684	105	240	2,380	4,432
	3,432	2,747	41,729	54,274	13,723	15,488	83,296	119,645
Cacao beans, not roasted, crushed or ground					Cwt.	\$	Cwt.	\$
From G. Britain	—	—	—	—	65	860	1,195	18,166
.. U. States	—	—	—	—	3,484	45,939	29,540	418,013
.. Other Countries	—	—	—	—	267	4,254	5,230	78,129
	—	—	—	—	3,816	51,053	35,965	514,308

NOTES OF INTEREST.

IN consequence of their present London offices not being adequate for their increasing business, Messrs. G. Fletcher & Co., Ltd., are moving to more commodious quarters in 21, Mincing Lane, E.C.

ACCORDING to a report furnished by H.M. Charge d'Affaires at Havana, at the request of the West India Committee, there are 3,464 acres under citrus fruit in the Isle of Pines. Of these 3,088½ are devoted to grape-fruit, 332½ to oranges and 43 to lemons and limes.

THE R.M.S.P. *Essequibo*, a description of which has already appeared in these columns, was successfully launched on July 6th, by Messrs. Workman, Clarke and Co., at Belfast, for the West Indies mail and passenger service. She will, as already announced, leave on her maiden voyage on October 21st, and will be followed by the *Ebro* in December.

THE *Louisiana Planter*, speaking of Demerara sugar, says that during the Civil War between 1861 and 1865, an immense demand existed throughout the United States for high grade Demerara crystals, which were found to be an excellent substitute for the Louisiana sugars, the manufacture of these being suspended during the war.

THE *Bulletin* of the Trinidad and Tobago Department of Agriculture states that in 1913 the froghoppers in the cane fields were not so bad as in 1912, owing to the greater rainfall of the latter year. The egg parasite *Oligosa giraulti* had been colonized successfully, and Mexican bugs are being reared in the laboratory and distributed to the sugar estates.

THE Rev. J. A. Scrimgeour, of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission to East Indians in British Guiana, was in Toronto on Sunday, May 31st, on his way to the General Assembly of the Canadian Presbyterian Church at Woodstock, and preached there in the morning in the pulpit of St. James Square Presbyterian Church, of which President Falconer, of Toronto University, is a member.

THE area to be planted with beet root in Russia during the current year is 2,126,380 acres, as compared with 1,887,271 acres in 1913, and 1,790,978 acres in 1912. This large increase is, it is stated, to be accounted for to a great extent by the rapidly increasing consumption of sugar in Russia. Up to the 31st of May 1,317,292 acres had already been planted.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the past fortnight were: Sir Ernest Shackleton, C.V.O., Mr. Julian G. Rust, Mr. Arthur P. D. Williamson, Mr. G. Farmer, Mr. W. A. Boyd, Mr. Frank Cundall, F.S.A., Mr. Hugo

Hoffmann, Rev. H. A. Dalton, D.D., Rev. A. H. Anstey, Mr. A. M. Low, Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, Mr. Adam Smith, Mr. Ernest Strawmann, Mr. W. R. Hunt, Mr. Reginald Melhado, and Mr. G. Williams.

AMONG the publications for sale at the West India Committee Rooms are "The Banana," by William Fawcett, B.Sc., "Cacao," "The British West Indies," each 7s. 6d. nett, post free in the United Kingdom 7s. 11d., or abroad 8s. 3d.; "The Cane Sugar Factory," by F. I. Scard, price 1s., post free 1s. 3d., besides various Handbooks and Directories, a list of which can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE Canadian Department of Inland Revenue have declared that with all articles, even when harmless colouring matters are used, the presence of artificial colouring matter must be declared upon the label, with the exception of milk, cheese, confectionery, ice cream and ices and butter. Dyed sugar therefore would have to be described as such on a label in legible type. We commend this regulation to the British Food Authorities.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Philip D. Lee, which took place on July 4th after a short illness.

Mr. Lee, who was only 35 years of age at the time of his death, was the son of the late Mr. Arthur Morier Lee, for many years a member of the Executive of the West India Committee and senior partner of the firm of Lee, Spooner and Co., West India Merchants. He was educated at Rugby and Trinity College Cambridge, where he took a great interest in sport of all kinds. He paid a short visit to Antigua where part of his interests lie, and made many friends who will grieve to learn of his untimely death.

MAJOR H. BRYAN, C.M.G., who was recently appointed Colonial Secretary of Jamaica, was entertained at dinner by the West Indian Club on July 5th. Mr. Arthur N. Lubbock presided, and paid a high tribute to the late Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. Proposing the health of Major Bryan, Mr. Lubbock wished him success in his new office. In responding Major Bryan thanked those present and said he always made it a rule to be accessible to anyone and everyone. He looked forward to getting some good sport in the colony including polo and cricket. The health of the Chairman was proposed by the Hon. A. C. Ponsonby. Amongst those also present were: Mr. Arthur N. Lubbock, the Hon. W. L. McKinstry, Mr. William Morrison, Major French, Mr. G. E. A. Grindle, Hon. A. C. Ponsonby, Mr. E. A. de Pass, Mr. Archie de Pass, Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Mr. Alexander Elder, Mr. E. A. Baeza, Captain Nicholson, Mr. S. L. Williamson, Mr. V. J. Monplaisir, Mr. Cyril A. Turpin, Dr. C. A. Moseley, Mr. G. E. L. Guppy, Mr. C. G. A. Wyatt, Mr. R. Duff, Mr. A. D. Ferguson, Mr. F. Cundall, Mr. H. Berger, Mr. Julian Rust and Mr. H. F. Previté.

THE LONDON LETTER.

THE death of Mr. Chamberlain on July 2nd occasioned a sense of shock, despite his long absence from public life. Little had been heard of his more recent movements and outside his family circle few persons were aware that he was in residence in London, where he died. Eight years of retirement have failed to dim the memory of the great and permanent services of this illustrious statesman, and the tributes paid throughout Europe to the value of those services could not have been more generous or sincere in the case of any public man still prominent on the political stage.

BURIAL in Westminster Abbey would have been the fitting close to such a career, and the honour was proffered to Mr. Chamberlain's family. The maker of modern Birmingham had indicated beforehand, however, his desire to be laid among "his own people." There amid tokens of the respect and affection of his fellow-citizens the Member for West Birmingham was buried. The many wreaths placed upon his grave included floral tributes from the West India Committee and the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce. Mr. H. F. Previt , Acting Hon. Secretary, forwarded a letter of sympathy to Mrs. Chamberlain on behalf of the West Indian Club. At the memorial service held at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, the congregation included several members of the West India Committee, and Sir H. Hesketh Bell, Governor of the Leeward Islands. As recently arranged, Mr. Austen Chamberlain becomes Unionist candidate at the by-election now caused in West Birmingham.

THE King and Queen, with Princess Mary, have received a hearty welcome from their Scottish subjects during their visit to the Northern Kingdom. Here, their Majesties, with headquarters at Holyrood Palace, have carried out a very full programme of public ceremonies at Glasgow, Dundee, and elsewhere, and have seen much of the industrial life.

PUBLIC interest will shortly be centred upon another attempt to fly the Atlantic. This attempt is to be made by Lieut. John Cyril Porte, R.N., accompanied by Mr. Hallett, an American airman. Lieut. Porte proposes to compete for the *Daily Mail* prize of £10,000 offered to the aviator who within 72 hours shall first cross the Atlantic in either direction between any point in the United States, Canada or Newfoundland and any point in Great Britain or Ireland. Lieut. Porte intends to start from St. John's, Newfoundland, in a Curtiss flying boat.

LAWN Tennis players have followed with zest the contest of various championships. In the challenge round of the gentlemen's singles at Wimbledon, Mr. N. E. Brooks defeated Mr. A. F. Wilding, Mrs. Lambert Chambers beating Mrs. Larcombe in

the challenge round of the ladies' singles. Mr. Brooks and Mr. Wilding beat Mr. C. P. Dixon and Mr. H. Roper Barrett in the challenge round of the doubles championship, Miss Ryan and Miss Morton winning the ladies' doubles championship, and Mr. J. C. Parke and Mrs. Larcombe the mixed doubles championship.

It is announced that as the outcome of experiments now conducted by Mr. Marconi, there is hope of telephonic communication being established with New York at no distant date. The question arises if New York, why not the West Indies? Certainly our readers will follow the development of this idea with keen interest, for if the practicability of its extension to the Caribbean area can be demonstrated, a further step may become possible in the reduction of distance and cable rates between the mother country and the West Indies.

PLAYGOERS are lamenting the death at the early age of 49 of Mr. Edmund Payne, the popular and versatile comedian associated for so long with the Gaiety Theatre. The dramatic world is also poorer for the loss of Mr. Sydney Grundy, the well-known playwright, who had attained the age of 66. Mr. Stephen Phillips is represented at the Savoy by a new play "The Sin of David," in blank verse—described by the *Times* as "good, straightforward, businesslike verse; good for its business of telling a dramatic story." The chief r le is taken by Mr. H. B. Irving.

DEMERARIANS cherish pleasant memories of their quondam Government Secretary, Sir Cavendish Boyle, now retired from the Colonial Civil Service. Sir Cavendish, who, after leaving British Guiana, became Governor in turn of Newfoundland and Mauritius, has now entered the bonds of matrimony. The marriage took place at the registry office, Brighton, the bride being Miss Louise Sassoon, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Sassoon. Mr. David Sassoon gave away his sister, who wore a gown of saxe blue flowered charmeuse. Sir John Millais, Bart.—grandson of the famous painter who died President of the Royal Academy—was the best man. The honeymoon is being spent at Bettwys-y-Coed, North Wales.

THE will has just been announced of the late Sir Hubert Jerningham of Longridge Towers, Berwick-on-Tweed, a former Governor of Trinidad and Tobago. Sir Hubert left estate valued at £19,574 and net personalty £1513.

COMBERMERE SCHOOL, Barbados, which owes its foundation to Lord Combermere, Governor of the Colony from 1817 to 1820, has been the recipient of many congratulations from neighbouring colonies upon their troop of Boy Scouts receiving the King's Flag for 1914, this being the first occasion upon which a colonial troop has satisfied the conditions.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Many Committee Members arrive.

The R.M.S.P. *Danube*, which left Barbados at 3 p.m. on June 24th, and reached Southampton at 12.35 p.m. on Monday, July 6th, brought home many members of the West India Committee, including Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, President, and the Hon. Adam Smith, Secretary of the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, the Rev. H. A. Dalton, D.D., Headmaster of Harrison College, Barbados, and the Rev. A. H. Anstey, Principal of Codrington College, in the same island, Mr. Hugo Hoffmann, President of the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. W. McLaren, Mr. C. H. Nicholson, Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, Mr. G. M. Peter, Mr. J. J. Rodrigues, Mr. R. Paterson and Mr R. B. Short. The sugar crop was practically over in all the islands. The unsatisfactory position of affairs with regard to the reciprocity treaty with Canada was still exercising the minds of the planters and the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce had taken the unusual step of communicating direct with the Dominion Government in view of the reply of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to their representations. The passing of May, for some reason considered an unlucky month by Benedicts, had been signalled by a crop of marriages, many well-known residents in the islands being led or leading their brides to the altar. Of outstanding interest is Mr. Tripp's announcement regarding a shipment of 6,500 tons of crude oil from the local wells in the Admiralty Tank Steamer *Aragaz*, by the United British Oilfields at .40. Shipments of petroleum continue steadily to increase and oil will soon rank high among the industries of the island. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Honorary Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—Flashlight messages to Montserrat.

Mr. A. P. Cowley, JUNE 18th.—The weather during the past fortnight has been cloudy, with scuds of rain, which cleared up a little this week.—The Circuit Court had finished its work, the Session having been an unusually long one. His Honour Justice Sholto Pemberton presided. There have been a good many cases of broaching of cargo, the thefts taking place on board the droghers between steamer and shore. Convictions were obtained in each case, and severe penalties inflicted.—The wedding of Mr. Frank Goodwin to Miss Edith McDonald was celebrated on June 11th. The bridegroom is the son of the late Mr. W. Goodwin, of Collin Estate, and the bride the daughter of the Hon. Donald McDonald. The ceremony was performed by Dean Shephard, assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Branch. The guests, who numbered over 200, adjourned from the Cathedral to "The Bungalow," the residence of the bride's father, and the bride and bridegroom left for English Harbour, where they will spend their honeymoon, about 6 p.m.—The Commission to enquire into the working of the Contract Act have met twice,

but up to the present no evidence has been heard, no one seeming to have any grievance, or not wanting to come forward. Certain gentlemen have been nominated to the chairman as likely to help the Commission in their deliberations, and summonses will be issued for their attendance.—Since June 1st residents have been able to transmit messages by flashlight between Antigua and Montserrat, which should be a great boon, to the latter island particularly.—The local market for sugar has re-opened or revived, and some sales have been made at flat prices of £7 per ton. This helps the muscovado sugar maker, for although the actual price per ton may be somewhat below the price for 89% beet in Canada, the risk of a lower test has not to be met, and the loss of weight between Antigua and Canada is done away with. These two conditions more than make up for an apparent lower price of a few shillings per ton, and so long as the local market price in any way approaches that of Canada or Europe, it is to our advantage to sell here.—Colonel Bell [His attempted murder is referred to by our Dominica Correspondent.—Ed.] returned to Antigua to-day, looking very ill, and the bullet has not yet been located. It is satisfactory to know that the offenders are safely lodged in H.M. prison.—Mr. and Mrs. Peters, fishing in the neighbourhood, caught a 98 lbs. tarpon.

BARBADOS—Sugar crop reaping practically over.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., JUNE 24th.—Light showers have fallen; but a heavy soaking rain is badly wanted to start the young crop into vigorous growth. It is very backward, and in some places very irregular. The reaping of the crop is practically over, only a few places being still at work.—Mr. Richardson, of Kent Plantation, has bought Staple Grove Plantation in Christ Church (345 acres) for £10,200. None of the other plantations advertised for sale have found purchasers.—The General's inspection was a most unfortunate affair. The rain prevented the field operations being carried out, and the illness of General Dalrymple Hay prevented his being present at the ceremonial parade and the dinner at Government House, and the day was a Bank Holiday. It was altogether a most regrettable circumstance.—The *Barbados Advocate* records the wedding of Mr. Nathaniel Greenhalgh, Assistant Inspector of Schools, to Miss Agnes Ethelreda Clark-Hunt, third daughter of the Rector of St. John's, which was solemnised on June 17th.—The obituary includes Captain F. K. Sanders, R.N.R., Commander of the R.M.S.P. *Balantia*.

BRITISH GUIANA—A public meeting over the railway.

Mr. J. C. McCowan, JUNE 20th.—The news of the death of Mr. A. Summerson at Scarborough on June 4th was a great shock to his many friends in the Colony, and much sympathy will be felt with his widow and daughter. Mr. Summerson was always popular, and during the thirty-two years during which the writer was associated with him in Georgetown he does not remember a hard word being spoken against him.—During the fortnight the weather has been showery, with intervals of sunshine, and therefore altogether favourable for the growing crop.—Brigadier-General Dalrymple Hay arrived by the mail on a visit of inspection of the local forces, and leaves again by this steamer.—Hon. A. P. Sherlock, member of the Court of Policy, and Mr. C. W. Prest, Financial Representative for Georgetown, addressed a public meeting in the Town Hall on June 8th, held with a view to ascertaining the wishes of their constituents with regard to the suggested alteration of the constitution of the colony in connection with the railway scheme. Mr. Prest said he did not see that the people were running any very grave risk in giving the extra control which the Secretary of State asked for. Mr.

Sherlock referred to the existing constitution as a farce, and asked the audience to give the matter their serious consideration.—The new Government steamers *Arapaima* and *Baiara* have arrived, but will not be able to start their service on July 1st.—The *Argosy* mail edition contains an interesting report by Dr. Howard, the representative of the Rockefeller Institute, on the progress of the campaign against ankylostomiasis. Dr. K. S. Wise, who has been appointed Surgeon General of the Colony in succession to Sir Joseph Godfrey, has been entertained by the following members of the Colonial Medical Service: Drs. Castor, Ferguson, Ozzard, Reid, Von Winckler, Earle, Carter, Irving, Teixeira, MacAdam, De Freitas, Craigen, Willis, Gewand, MacQuaide, Minett, Craig, Field, Ramdeholl, Pereira, Fiddian and Lewis.—Plantation Melville is being offered for sale.—The marriage of the Rev. L. J. Rowe with Miss A. Goring, daughter of Mr. G. A. H. Goring, Secretary of Messrs. Sproston, Ltd., was solemnised at St. Sidwell, the Lodge, on the 17th.—The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce have passed a resolution protesting against the proposed introduction of the cash on delivery system into the colony, and requesting the Government to withdraw the regulations.

DOMINICA—An affray with French smugglers.

MR. F. A. AGAR, JUNE 20th.—The Royal Bank of Canada has taken premises in Roseau and will begin business in a few weeks. Although the business of the island is hardly large enough yet (especially looking to the fact that most of the merchants offset the cost of their imports by purchase and export of produce for credit of their accounts with their supplies) to support profitably two banks, we are glad enough to see competition in this line where hitherto the Colonial Bank has held a monopoly.—Last Saturday there was some real excitement in Roseau. The *Yarr* was reported to be bringing in Colonel Bell, Inspector General of Police, and Sergeant Jones, fatally wounded, if not already dead, having been shot in an affray with smugglers at the north end of the island. Things were fortunately not so bad as that; both had been shot, but the revolver used was of so small a calibre that both patients are progressing well. It appears that Colonel Bell and Sergeant Jones were going round from Portsmouth to Capuchin in a canoe to fix upon a site for a police station in that district; this is just opposite Guadaloupe, and a great deal of smuggling takes place. On their way they sighted a small boat which they had reason to suspect contained smugglers and gave chase; catching the boat they found that their suspicions were correct, and in the melee that followed one of the Frenchmen drew a revolver, and shot Colonel Bell, whereupon the Sergeant let go of the man with whom he was struggling to go to the Inspector's rescue, and also got shot. This criminal was captured, but two other men in the boat jumped overboard and escaped. The boat and the cacao it contained were brought into Roseau. It is quite time that the Government took serious steps to put down smuggling in this quarter.—During the past fortnight there has been plenty of rain and more than plenty of wind. If the popular idea that winds in the early part of the year mean immunity from hurricanes, we should be safe. At times there have been raging gales, but fortunately the limes are just at the stage when they can stand most wind without harm, and although flowers for a second crop have begun to appear there is too little to affect matters.—The green lime trade has once more been damaged for the time being by over shipping, and by shipping immature fruit. However with the present prices of lime juice this trade is of no use to us. Should foolish shipping permanently harm the trade, of course the island will feel it; nothing is so

profitable as a fruit trade nor does any branch of the lime industry entail such a heavy proportion of expenditure in wages as this.

Readers of the CIRCULAR will be pleased to learn that the *Dominica Guardian* has once more resumed publication; for many years now this paper has been a wholesome influence owing to its unflinching honesty. Opinions may differ as to the soundness of its politics at times—that is unavoidable; but I do not think anyone has ever accused the paper of insincerity.

GRENADA—"Soakers" wanted by cacao planters.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, JUNE 22nd.—Shipments of cacao to date amount to 63,858 bags. In the corresponding period last year, the figures were 58,588 bags, so that the 1913-1914 crop is still 5270 bags ahead of last crop.—Among the passengers for England by the mail this afternoon will be the Hon. N. J. Paterson (Attorney General) and Mrs. Paterson, and Dr. H. J. Lee Bennett and daughter, and Mr. R. S. Cunliffe (Manager of the Geruan Kali Works), for Trinidad.—Mr. A. Wellesley Lewis, K.C., is to act as Attorney General during Mr. Paterson's absence, and Dr. Dunbar Hughes will act, temporarily, for Dr. Bennett, who has resigned.—The cable ship *Henry Holmes* is here awaiting orders.—The criminal sessions of the Supreme Court began on the 16th.—There have been some nice showers of rain, but the "soakers" which the writer understands are wanted for the cacao cultivation have not come yet.

Jamaica—Rapid Extension of Banana Culture.

MR. ARTHUR CLODD, JUNE 21st.—Green Island district has had excellent seasons. The banana business is quite on the upgrade, some 4,000 stems being shipped here weekly, and if there are no heavy winds this should be more than doubled by this time next year. Recently two steamers have been calling for fruit weekly. As to the quality of the fruit it can hold its own against any other producing port in this island. Planters migrating from St. Mary talk about the soil round here as St. Mary land.

HON. D. S. GIDEON, JUNE 22nd.—The visit to Jamaica of the members of the London Teachers' Association, who should arrive in Kingston on August 3rd, will no doubt receive the attention which the importance of such a visit deserves.—I am sorry to report that we are having a spell of dry weather in the parish of St. Mary, and at other important banana centres, which is making itself felt on the present crop. Still, if we are fortunate to escape strong winds and hurricanes, the output for the year, notwithstanding the dry spell referred to, should still be in excess of previous years.

The *Gleaner* reports that Mr. J. E. Dyer, who has been appointed to succeed Mr. C. H. Hopkins as manager of the Atlantic Fruit Company, has arrived in the island.—The death has to be recorded of Mr. Thomas Milo Burke, which occurred on June 20th. Mr. Burke was a well-known merchant, who took a prominent part in local affairs.

MR. BERESFORD S. GOSSETT, JUNE 25th.—There has been since the beginning of the year a long and trying drought in the South Eastern part of the island, which has not broken yet, the rainfall being less than half the average for the six months. The crops are in consequence feeling it severely, and there is little food to be had for man or beast. In the Blue Mountains the coffee crops are very small and many of the plantations will make a loss this season; the quality of the coffee seems good, and should realise top prices in the Liverpool market. In the west of the island there have been fine rains ever since April and May, about four times as much rain having fallen as in the south east. The banana cultivation is being rapidly

extended in the west central district, and cattle are being extensively displaced by bananas in the Great River Valley, which has benefited most classes in the locality.—The Government are encouraging the planting of cacao in the west, by establishing nurseries at Montpelier and other central places, where cacao plants can be procured on favourable terms.—The United Fruit Company have erected a wire ropeway from their banana plantations at Mocha and Garland, to Catadupa Railway Station, which will facilitate the transportation of their bananas in future. Montego Bay is greatly increasing its export of bananas, and promises to be one of the leading ports for fruit shipments in the island.

MONTSERRAT—Many residents return Home.

MR. K. P. PENCHOEN in a letter dated June 20th, referring to a statement in a recent issue, said that the return of the cotton crop per acre for 1913-14 was one of the poorest yet experienced. The total shipments were under 300,000 lbs., and did not exceed those of the preceding years, the previous record being 406,000 lbs. The cotton planters could not understand why their cotton did not fetch as much as that from St. Kitts. The SS. *Sumai* took the last shipment of cotton for the season 1913-14, comprising 33 bales. The weather has been favourable for the start of the cotton crop, and planting is practically over, the acreage being estimated to be in excess of any previous year. This is chiefly due to the encouraging weather that has existed so far, as the prices realised during the past season have not been encouraging in comparison with other islands, and the last season's return has been a very poor one.—The mails of the 23rd May and 6th June took away a large percentage of the few white people in Montserrat; by the former mail, the Hon. F. Driver, Attorney for the Montserrat Civil Law, Mrs. Driver, and Martin H. D. Penchoen, my son, who has gone to school in England, and by the mail of the 6th June Dr. and Mrs. Heath, and Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Howes and Miss Howes. All joined in wishing them a safe passage and a pleasant furlough. Mrs. Tennant, sister of Mr. H. F. Shand, one of the Montserrat Company's managers and now acting Attorney, returned to England by the mail of the 23rd May.

NEVIS—Mr. J. Spencer Hollings' services.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, JUNE 20th.—It would be a serious matter if these islands were compelled to abandon sugar cane, cotton being such an unreliable crop, beset with so many enemies, that the growing and harvesting a crop successfully is a thing on which no certainty can be reckoned; and is therefore too precarious to be made a staple crop.—Six months of the year have slipped by, and the motor or steam boat for a mail and passenger service from Nevis to St. Kitts is not even being heard of. Can nothing be done to open the eyes of the Government to this necessary expenditure? Surely it is only a matter of £s.d.—This mail will bring to your shores the Hon. J. S. Hollings and daughter. Mr. Hollings as Attorney here for the firm of Messrs. Gillespie Bros. & Co., merchants, London, has plenty of opportunities to do good, and he seems to know the way to do it right royally. He is the Nevis Member of the Legislative Council and a Member of the Federal Council of the Presidency. At a meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society of this island, of which he is the President, a letter of good-will to him was unanimously voted for, and a hope that he would enjoy his much earned holiday and speedily return to us.—The health of the island remains excellent.

ST. LUCIA—Lime Juice contracts at £25 per pipe.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON, JUNE 19th.—June has given

St. Lucia daily light rains that have improved agricultural prospects wonderfully. There seems every hope that the coming cacao crop will turn out well, the June flowers saving the situation. Limes crushing has commenced, and the crop prospect is understood to be fair. One hears of lime juice contracts entered into for the next ten years at prices varying from £20 to £25 per pipe, and if this is so it must indeed be satisfactory to be assured of these extraordinary prices for a decade: no wonder that motor cars are multiplying in Dominica. Cane prospects with low prices and areas reduced by dry weather are not so cheery, and the cacao planter is relieved when he finds his market is only down 6d. or 1s. with the tremendous crops that the large centres are putting out this year. Obviously all must plant a lime tree or two to provide for their declining years, and seriously there is no doubt that a great impetus has been given to lime planting.—The special Finance Committee continues its labours.

ST. VINCENT—A dried cassava root trade.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, JUNE 20th.—His Honour R. B. Roden, Acting Administrator, occupied the chair at a well attended meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society to discuss the prospects of establishing a Cassava Dried Root Industry in the Colony.—Results of trial shipments of cassava dried roots recently made to Canada by the Agricultural Department, were discussed, and useful information was given the Society by the Hon. C. J. Simmons on shipments of the same product to England. The general opinion was that the colony would benefit considerably if another industry could be found to supplement those of cotton and arrowroot, and the members present, who were fairly representative of the planting community of the colony, showed great interest in the subject. It was agreed to give a thorough trial to the production of dried cassava roots, and speakers were generally optimistic as to results.—The Hon. J. G. W. Hazell occupied the chair at an adjourned meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society held on the same day to make suggestions to the Government regarding legislation in connection with Bovine Tuberculosis in the colony. A report by Mr. P. T. Saunders, M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Officer of the Imperial Department, and Dr. Stoute, Government Veterinary Surgeon, on Bovine Tuberculosis in St. Vincent, was read. This stated that the percentage of infected animals was probably less than 5 per cent., and recommended that measures should be taken to stamp out the disease.—A proposed New Section of the Public Health Ordinance, dealing with the matter, was discussed and in the main agreed to. This section empowers Medical Officers (which term includes the Government Veterinary Surgeon) on authority from the Local Authority, to examine dairies suspected of supplying milk likely to cause the spread of disease. A Medical Officer is also empowered to subject cows suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis to such a test or tests as he deems necessary. The section provides for full compensation in the case of the slaughter of suspected animals under order from the Local Authority. The Society was of the opinion that everything should be done to aid the Government in stamping out the dread disease of tuberculosis, and to ensure a pure milk supply. It felt, however, that all expense incurred should be met by the Government, and expressed its entire agreement with the sub-section providing for full compensation for animals slaughtered, but suggested that each should be further extended to include the compensation to butchers for meat condemned by the Government Meat Inspector.—On June 18th, the marriage of Dr. J. M. G. Fwing to Miss Enid Carol Hazell was solemnized at St. George's Cathedral. The bride is the youngest daughter:

of the Hon. J. G. W. Hazell, who for many years has been a member of the Legislative Council. The Ven. Archdeacon Turpin officiated at the ceremony which drew a large gathering to the Cathedral. After a reception at Windsor, the bride and bridegroom left for Grand Sable, Georgetown, where the honeymoon is being spent.

TOBAGO—The thirsty earth still unsatisfied.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, JUNE 19th.—Since last mail there has been a welcome break in the weather, with daily soaking showers, none of them totalling an inch in the 24 hours in this district, but all most useful for the cultivation. The earth seems to absorb every drop of rain, and heavy showers are needed to wash out the streams and ravines, which are still comparatively stagnant. High winds continue and the clouds look very storm like.—The natives are now busy planting provision gardens and the burnt clearings on the hill sides show that the negro can be energetic when food growing is concerned. The tradition holds good strongly in Tobago, that corn, potatoes, plantains, peas, etc., should be grown by those who consume them—but, unfortunately, there are some who find it easier to reap than to grow!—Socially I have to chronicle the wedding of Miss Kirton (daughter of a late manager of the Colonial Bank) to Mr. Tom Harries of Roxburgh Estate. At "Cameron" Estate Mr. Macgregor Frame gave a birthday dance to his friends, which was thoroughly enjoyed, and the guests left only as dawn was breaking next day. A fine gramophone provided the music, and the house was lighted by Chinese lanterns, which made a pretty show in the dark night, the "Great House" being about 300 feet above sea-level.—The Goldsborough bridge will be opened sometime after 15th July.

TRINIDAD—The Canada-West Indies Agreement.

MR. EDWARD TRIPP, JUNE 23rd.—A pleasant surprise awaited members and the colony generally when at a meeting of the Legislative Council, held on 17th, the Governor announced that owing to a mistake of some unnamed head of a Department, there was a £20,000 more surplus than was anticipated when the Estimates were prepared. It is good sometimes to find that "someone has blundered." I remember years ago when Sir Napier Broome astounded the Council with the statement that so far as could be ascertained from the official accounts £100,000 had disappeared as completely as if it had been sunk at the bottom of the sea. A young man was procured from another colony to put things right, and he did so to a certain extent. The local officials responsible for the egregious error (it was nothing more) were shortly promoted. I wonder whether history will again repeat itself. Surely if the man or men who err to the extent of £100,000 on the wrong side are to have their actions rewarded, the official to whom we are indebted for this unexpected £20,000 should have received a King's Birthday decoration. As it is the only Trinidad recipient of Royal favour this year is Colonel Swain, whom we are all pleased to see by the morning papers has been awarded the C.M.G., although so far as I know, he never made a serious mistake, but is responsible only for good, earnest, excellent service to which he devotes a strenuous life.

Mr. Henry Warner having resigned the position to which he was recently elected, the Hon. John Moodie has been unanimously appointed Vice President of the Agricultural Society.—The Town Board has had its last meeting, and now commences the transition stage prior to becoming an altogether elective body. The Board may be said to retire on well earned laurels, with the knowledge that it has performed more solid, useful work without fuss or adver-

tisement than has perhaps any similar number of men engaged in public work in Trinidad. The Hon. Adam Smith, late Chief Commissioner, goes home to-day for a rest which he much requires and more than deserves. Port of Spain is under considerable obligation to him. He has worked like a slave in the interest of the town.—I am afraid I can't speak as well of another public, but more advertised body. The Working Men's Association are calling a meeting by placard of all members past and present to enquire into the administration of the funds by their late "admirable president," as Mr. Pointer called him. This was the gentleman whose evidence elicited special comment from the Commission before whom he gave it in London. Other public notices are not more complimentary to this representative "working man."—The Cacao Committee, appointed by the Governor to enquire into the question of the standardisation of cacao, has held several meetings, and examined many witnesses, who with almost wearisome unanimity have testified, first, that with our many qualities and grades, and with changing conditions dependent upon weather, it would be next to impossible to establish a standard, and next that if it were possible it is quite unnecessary. So say all the principal cacao men, but the meetings go on to hear the same thing said once more. The practice now obtaining is for each shipper to send samples forward. His shipments have to equal sample or a penalty is imposed under arbitration, and this has worked very well for years without outside interference, which would only hamper trade. Of course no one will defend the action of certain dishonest dealers who recently overlaid the beans and mixed rubbish and waste freely with good cacao, but this promptly found its own punishment in the rejection of shipments containing it, and the timely warning posted through the country by the Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Society and the Cacao Planters' Association, cautioning people against any such practices has already had the desired effect.—At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held on the 10th, the question of the admission of the products of Fiji and Mauritius to preferential treatment in Canada, was discussed. Eventually, on the motion of the writer, seconded by the Hon. Adam Smith, the following resolution was unanimously carried:—

"That in view of the refusal of the Secretary of State to transmit to Canada the resolution of the Chamber with reference to the operation of the Canadian Preferential Tariff, this Chamber is of opinion that steps should be taken in conjunction with Barbados and British Guiana to represent to Canada direct that the admission of non-participating colonies in the reciprocity agreement operates detrimentally to those participating in the Agreement, and is contrary to its spirit."

By this you will observe that as the Secretary of State won't help us, and the Governor apparently can't, the Chamber has taken the bull by the horns, and is going to act for itself, independently of officialdom. The result of this initial act of self-help in public matters, exhibited for the first time in the history of a Crown Colony, will be looked for with interest.—The Admiralty tank steamer *Aragaz* has just cleared with 6,500 tons of crude oil, loaded by the United British Oilfields, Point Fortin, for the British Government, and other cargoes for the same consignees will, it is said, be following shortly.

It is estimated that Para wild rubber costs 38 ^{sd} per lb. delivered at Para. In addition there is an export duty of 20 per cent., and local charges to the extent of 6 per cent. of the value.

BIRTHS.

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants." Crossed cheques or P.O. Orders, should be made payable to the Manager, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Warn.—On Saturday, 6th June, 1914, at Plantation Providence, Berbice, to Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Warn, a daughter.

Kirby.—On July 1st, at Mixbury Rectory, Brackley, to Mr. and Mrs. Austin Kirby, of Tbadan, Nigeria, a son.

MARRIAGES.

Boyle-Sassoon.—On the 9th July, by special licence, at Princes Street, Brighton, Sir Cavendish Boyle, K.C.M.G., youngest and only surviving son of the late Captain Cavendish Spencer Boyle, 72nd Highlanders, and the late Mrs. Cavendish Boyle, of Hampton Court Palace, to Louise, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Sassoon, of 7, Queen's Gardens, Hove.

Rowe-Goring.—On June 17th, at St. Sidwell, The Lodge, Georgetown, Demerara, the Rev. L. J. Rowe to Annette, daughter of Mr. G. A. H. Goring, Secretary of Sprotons, Ltd.

Ewing-Hazell.—On June 18th, at St. George's Cathedral, St. Vincent, by Ven. Archdeacon Turpin, Dr. J. M. G. Ewing to Enid Carol, youngest daughter of Hon. J. G. W. Hazell.

Goodwin-MacDonald.—On June 11th, at the Cathedral, Antigua, Frank Goodwin, son of the late Mr. W. Goodwin, of Collins Estate, to Edith, daughter of Hon. D. MacDonald.

Harries-Kirton.—In Tobago, Mr. Tom Harries, of Roxburgh Estate, to Miss Kirton, daughter of Mr. S. J. Kirton, late manager of the Colonial Bank.

Greenhalgh-Clark-Hunt.—At St. John's Parish Church, Barbados, by His Lordship, the Right Rev. Bishop Swaby, D.D., assisted by the Rev. A. H. Anstey, M.A., and the Rev. A. Shankland, on June 17th, Mr. Nathaniel Greenhalgh, B.Sc., Assistant Inspector of Schools, to Agnes Ethelreda, third daughter of the Rev. C. G. Clark-Hunt, Rector of St. John, and Mrs. Clark-Hunt.

DEATHS.

Tappin.—At Port of Spain, Trinidad, on May 28th, Henry Stephen Tappin, aged 63.

Burke.—On June 20th, at his residence in St. Andrew, Jamaica, Thomas Burke.

Morris.—On the 2nd July, at 4, Camden Gardens, London, N.W., Maria Elizabeth Morris, of Forres Park, Trinidad, B.W.I., second surviving daughter of the late Walter Morris, Dewall Court, Herefordshire.

Lee.—On the 4th July, at Brynabanon, Bala, North Wales, Philip Douglas Lee, elder son of the late Arthur Morier Lee, and his wife, the late Catharine Anna Lee, aged 35. West Indian papers please copy.

WANT.

Member of leading Engineering and Chemical Institutions is open to Buy, Inspect, and Ship all classes of Engineering and Building Materials and Machinery, and act generally as Representative in England, for Engineers, Merchants, Planters, etc.—Address, B. I. S., West India Committee Circular, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Major H. J. Bryan, C.M.G., who succeeds Mr. P. C. Cork as Colonial Secretary of Jamaica was born in 1865, and gazetted to the Lincolnshire Regiment in 1892. In 1899 he was promoted to a Captaincy in the Manchester Regiment. He served in West Africa in 1897-8, being employed in Lagos Hinterland, and in operations on the Niger, for which he was mentioned in despatches, receiving the medal with two clasps. He also served in Northern Nigeria in 1901 (when he was slightly wounded and was mentioned in despatches, receiving a clasp), and in the operations in Ashanti when he was mentioned twice in despatches, gain-

ing a medal, and in the Gambia expedition, when he was again mentioned, receiving a clasp. After being employed at the Colonial Office for some months, and after acting successfully as Colonial Secretary and Governor of the Gold Coast, he was in 1904 confirmed in the former appointment which he has held ever since.

Mr. G. D. Bayley, Assistant Government Secretary, British Guiana, has been granted three months leave of absence.

Mr. Kenrick Stanton Wise, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., has been appointed Surgeon General of British Guiana, and Mr. E. P. Minett, M.R.S.C., etc., to be Government Medical Officer of Health.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The St. Lawrence River.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—With reference to my letter in last CIRCULAR and your comments to the detriment of Canadian waters in the St. Lawrence-Anticosti district and the Bay of Fundy over the deplorable losses of the *Empress of Ireland* and the *Cobequid*, I trust you will publish the results of Lord Mersey's inquiry with regard to the former, emphasizing the fact of his intimation that as far as the St. Lawrence is concerned this accident might equally have happened in the Thames, Mersey or Clyde.

While on this subject of steamship communication I am pleased to see an attempt is to be made to carry fruit from British Guiana to Canada by the "Omnibus" service and if the transportation can be carried through to Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, etc., with satisfaction to Mr. J. Junor and other growers it will be very satisfactory,

London, 13 July, 1914.

I am, etc., GUY WYATT.

[If Mr. Wyatt will refer to the last CIRCULAR he will find that we definitely stated that we did not take so serious a view of the St. Lawrence route as that voiced by the correspondent "Illi Robur," for whose views we cannot hold ourselves responsible. Still, we gladly give publicity to the fact that the Commission to enquire into the loss of the *Empress of Ireland* in their findings stated that the disaster was not in any way attributable to any special characteristics of the St. Lawrence waterway, and that it was a disaster which might have occurred in the Thames, Clyde or elsewhere in similar circumstances. Is it not, however, a fact that the Canadian waters concerned suffer more from fogs than our home waters do?—ED.]

The beginnings of lime culture in the West Indies.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—I note that Dr Nicholls, in a letter which appeared in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of April 21st, challenges your statement that the lime industry was first started in Montserrat as far as the West Indies are concerned, and claims that it was in Dominica that the lime was first cultivated.

I am satisfied, however, that your statement is correct, and that it was Mr. Burke who first started lime cultivation on a commercial scale in the West Indies in Montserrat. The facts are these. In or about the early 'forties, Mr. Burke visited England with a view of perfecting machinery for the extraction of fibre from the banana plant, and having made the acquaintance of Mr. Joseph Sturge

when he was in the West Indies in 1837, he visited him to obtain his help for this purpose. Mr. Joseph Sturge's brother, Edmund Sturge, was a manufacturing chemist and largely interested in citric acid. At that time the Sicilian lemon failed to give him the necessary supplies, and Mr. Burke suggested that the West Indian lime would be an equally good, if not better, material to work on. It was agreed before Mr. Burke left that he should immediately after his return plant some estates in limes on their joint account, to enable him to try it commercially. This was done, and when the writer first sent to Montserrat in 1866 there was a large area in limes, which had been planted by Mr. Burke, and could not have been less than 25 or 26 years old at that time.

I am, yours faithfully,

J. SPENCER HOLLINGS,

of Nevis and Montserrat.

July 9th.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Anglo-Dominican Syndicate, Ltd.

This private company was registered on June 27th, by Percy Haseldine and Green, 10, Queen Street, Cheapside, E.C., with a capital of £100, in £1 shares. Its objects are to take over an option to purchase the Petit Trou Estate, Barabona Santo Domingo, West Indies, and to acquire and turn to account any mines, mining rights and metalliferous land in Santo Domingo and elsewhere. Private company. The first directors are H. C. Sommers and S. D. Perceval, and its registered office 5, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C.

Jamaica Supply and Cold Storage Co., Ltd.

This concern was registered June 26th, by Elvy, Robb and Welch, 19, Bedford Row, W.C., with a capital of £15,000 in £1 shares. Its objects are to take over certain real and personal property in Kingston, Jamaica; to carry on the business of ice and ice products, proprietors of ice cold air stores, and receiving depots for meat, fish, dairy and other produce, and to adopt an agreement with Viscount Northland. The registered office is at 615, Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C.

Latest Quotations.		PRICES
Dividend		July 10.
4 %	Antigua 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	99-101
3 1/2 %	Barbados ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1925-42	87-89
4 %	British Guiana 4 % Redeemable 1935	98-100
3 %	British Guiana 3 % Redeemable 1923-45	76-78
4 %	Grenada 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	98-100
4 %	Jamaica ... 4 % Redeemable 1934	100-102
4 %	Jamaica ... 3 1/2 % Redeemable 1919-49	87-89
3 %	Jamaica ... 3 % Redeemable 1922-44	76-78
4 %	St. Lucia ... 4 % Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4 %	Trinidad ... 4 % Redeemable 1917-42	100-102
3 %	Trinidad ... 3 % Redeemable 1922-44	76-78
3 %	Trinidad 1ss 99% fully paid	100-102
4 %	The Colonial Bank	98 5/8
5 %	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exch.)	\$223
3 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	92 97
3 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	97-100
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	101-103
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures	101 1/2-103 1/2
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	99-102
6 %	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	11
7 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	102-105
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	11
7 %	General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad (£1 shares)	11
7 %	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	11
7 %	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1)	11
7 %	" " " " "B" " (£1)	11
7 %	" " " " "C" " (£1)	11
7 %	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	33-38
7 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Pref. Pref.	105-108
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.	81-84
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	88-91
4 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	98-100
4 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd Ordinary	100-102
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 1/2 % Cum. 1st Pref	83-84
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " " 2nd "	83-84
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures	98-101

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

- Mr. A. F. Anderson
- Rev. A. H. Austey
- Mr. J. P. Bain
- H. E. Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G.
- Hon. E. Du Roulay
- Mr. W. A. Hoyd
- Mr. Geoffrey Brooke
- Mr. D. C. Cameon
- Professor F. Carmody
- Mr. Albert Cherry
- Commander The Hon. W. H. Coombs, R.N.
- Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa
- Rev. Dr. H. A. Dalton
- Mr. E. S. Delisle
- Mr. Wm. Durso
- Hon. E. A. Grannum
- Mr. W. Greig
- Mr. W. Morris Fletcher
- Hia Grace The Archbishop of the West Indies
- E. A. H. Haggart
- Mr. A. T. Hammond
- Mr. V. Hansbell
- H. E. Sir James Hayes-Sadler, K.C.M.G.
- Mr. J. C. Henderson
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- Hon. J. Spencer Hollings
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- Mr. A. M. Low
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- Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmayne," Chevel Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton.
- Mr. Frank Candall, F.S.A., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
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- Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
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- Mr. C. McBeattie, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.
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- Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, W.
- Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
- Mr. J. J. Rodrigues, c/o Messrs. J. Travers & Sons, Ltd., 119, Cannon Street, E.C.
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- Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W.C.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX—No. 48. Agreement for Suppression of Certain Publications. No. 50. Annual Report of Public Health Inspector. British Guiana, Vol. XXXVIII—No. 51. Boerasirie Amendment Ordinance, 1914. No. 53. Land Surveyors Amendment Ordinance, 1914. Customs Amendment Ordinance, 1914. No. 54. Colonial and Contract Steamer Traffic Ordinance, 1914. Report on cultivation of Para Rubber. No. 55. Surveyor's Licence Regulations. Jamaica, Vol. XXXVIII No. 6. Reports on Institute of Jamaica, 1913-4. Kingston Sailors' House, Island Record Office, Marine Board and Harbour Master. No. 24. Steerage Passengers Law, 1914. Customs Consultation Amendment Law, 1914. Hawking and Peddling Law, 1914. Quarantine Law, 1914. Trinidad, Vol. 53—No. 24. Board of Agriculture, May 13th. No. 26. Legislative Council, May 27th. Board of Education, May 29th. Grenada, Vol. 32—No. 23. Trade Statistical Tables. St. Lucia, Vol. 83—No. 27. Legislative Council, February 11th. Primary Education Amendment Ordinance, 1914. Appropriation Ordinance, 1914. Annual Report for 1913-14. St. Vincent, Vol. 47—No. 21. Kingstown Board, May 12th. Land and House Tax Roll, 1914.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Danube*, (Captain C. A. Mackenzie), Southampton, July 6th:—

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mrs. Allport | Mr. H. Hoffman | Mr. G. Pangella |
| Mrs. & Mrs. J. G. D'Aguiar | Mrs. Harries | Hon. & Mrs. N. J. Paterson |
| Mr. A. H. Anstey | Miss Hodgkinson | Mr. W. Payne |
| Miss Archer | Mrs. Harford | Mr. E. E. Potter |
| Mr. H. du Bois | Mrs. H. H. Hart | Miss U. Pigott |
| Mr. and Mrs. A. Bain | Mr. J. E. Hartley | Miss M. Pallani |
| Mr. L. Bisi | Mr. and Mrs. A. Izquierdo | Miss R. Flores de Pagan |
| Mrs. G. Branch | Misses Izquierdo (4) | Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Pimentel |
| Mr. J. Bourke | Mr. I. Izquierdo | Miss Pimentel |
| Mr. J. Bennett | Mr. B. Izquierdo | Mr. R. Ruzo |
| Misses Bush (2) | Mr. A. Izquierdo | Mr. C. E. N. Richards |
| Mr. R. H. Booth | Mrs. A. L. Innes | Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Rodriguez |
| Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bancroft | Mrs. H. M. Iles | Lady Ravner |
| Miss Hancock | Misses Iles (3) | Mr. and Mrs. Ross |
| Mrs. E. Bessone | Mr. O. Johansen | Mr. G. H. Ross |
| Mrs. Bishop | Mrs. R. M. Johnson | Mr. R. de St. Romaine |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. Bensaude | Mr. N. McKinnon | Mr. I. Reece |
| Mr. A. Cowan | Mr. K. Kucia | Mr. E. Samper |
| Mr. E. Carcian | Mr. and Mrs. H. J. De Lissar | Hon. and Mrs. J. P. Santos |
| Mr. J. Cowan | Mr. S. Landa | Mr. J. H. Stevenson |
| Mr. L. Colston | Mrs. A. Lucking | Mr. and Mrs. R. Brooke Short |
| Rev. C. Culpan | Dr. H. J. Lee Bennett | Mr. and Mrs. Adam Smith |
| Miss E. Darley | Sir A. H. and Lady Lucie Smith | Miss K. Smith |
| Mrs. M. P. Duke | Mr. A. Leyba | Miss D. Sanderson |
| Miss A. G. Dunn | Rev. E. T. Lee | Mr. P. T. Saunders |
| Mr. A. Duckham | Mr. D. Makin | Mr. W. E. A. Steadman |
| Dr. & Mrs. Darwent | Mr. E. H. Bloote | Captain A. Taylor |
| Rev. D. H. A. Dalton | Mr. P. Munayar | Mr. J. Tindall |
| Mr. J. J. Eaton-Shore | Miss B. Maynard | Miss E. V. M. Vickridge |
| Miss E. Eaton-Shore | Mr. J. G. McIntosh | Mr. F. G. Watson |
| Mr. V. M. Flores | Mrs. and Miss McIntosh | Mr. A. Wood |
| Miss O. Floissac | Mr. J. McPherson | Mr. W. Westhorne |
| Mr. & Mrs. N. Farrar | Mr. D. Miller | Rev. Father Welea |
| Misses Farrar (2) | Mr. F. G. McIntosh | Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams |
| Mr. S. de Freitas | Mr. and Mrs. McLaren | Mrs. A. Woods |
| Mr. and Mrs. F. Fowler | Miss P. Nicholson | Mr. E. Wallis |
| Mr. L. Franklin | Mr. C. H. Nicholson | Mrs. M. A. Walters |
| Mr. and Miss Gill | Mr. E. Osorio | Mr. D. Wiley |
| Mr. and Mrs. W. Gordon | Mr. R. Paterson | Mr. R. S. Woolward |
| Miss Greenidge | Mrs. G. J. Phillips | |
| Miss A. Gowday | Misses Phillips (2) | |
| Mr. J. Goncalves | Mrs. W. D. Paterson | |
| Mr. C. Gonsalves | Mrs. and Mrs. G. M. Patec | |
| Miss L. M. Hobson | | |
| Hon. J. M. Hollings | | |
| Miss Hollings | | |

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Oruba*, (Captain T. G. K. Cheret), August 12th:—

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. G. Brooke | Mr. G. Wouden | Mr. J. E. Robinson |
| Baroness Van Asbeck | Mr. A. H. G. Cochran | Miss M. E. Smith |
| Mr. E. S. Nicholson | Mr. C. E. F. Richards | Mr. A. J. Buys |
| | Miss K. J. Howson | |

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to June 18.	1914	1914	1913
Sugar ...	32,022	19,523 Tons.	5,393	2,985 Tons.
Molasses ...	658	575 Puns.		
Rum ...	1,440,850	1,230,414 Puns.	621,094	271,749 Galls.
Molascuit, &c... ..	1,022	3,706 Tons.	3,141,068	1,811,084 Lbs.
Cacao ...	33,437	...	4,962,160	3,010,520
Coffee ...	180,655	72,568	10,546,260	8,247,915 No.
Coco-nuts ...	1,022,214	418,484 No.	1,905,550	9,680,048
Oranges			5,161,177	1,778,591 Stems
Bananas			30,595	30,695 Lbs.
Cotton			44,593	46,275 Cwts.
Pimento			11,556	14,157
Ginger ...			95,597	36,174 Galls.
Honey ...			23,734	16,690 Tons
Dyewoods				
Gold ...	29,322	27,109 ozs.		
Diamonds ...	5,436	2,467 carats.		
Rice ...	8,387,689	7,026,898		
Rubber ...	346,571	256,183		
Timber ...	593	77		
Lumber ...	101,173	222,154 cubic ft.		
Lime (citra of)	182,903	207,559 feet		
	2,016			

	Trinidad.		St. Vincent.	
	Jan. 1 to June 23	1914	1914	1913
Sugar ...	20,263	24,250 Tons.	31,298	4,207 Tons.
Molasses ...	2,577	1,980 Puns.	56,830	44,187 Puns.
Rum ...	668	431		
Coco-nuts ...	7,584,375	6,684,858 No.		
Asphalt ...	77,280	103,206 Tons.		
Manjak ...	157	313		
Bitumens ...	8,632	9,190 Cases.		
Coffee ...	8,800	1,360 lbs.		
Crude Petrol	8,410,655	4,588,099 Galls.		
Cacao ...	53,019,860	36,088,000 lbs.	11,494,440	1,254 Bales
Cotton ...			1,470	1,254 Bales
Seed ...			3,555	4,804 Bags
Copra ...	3,705	3,923 Bags.	180	108
Spice ...			999,045	753,260 lbs.
Kola			3,960	2,040

	Barbados.		Grenada.	
	Jan. 1 to June 17.	1914	1914	1913
Sugar ...	20,263	24,250 Tons.	31,298	4,207 Tons.
Molasses ...	2,577	1,980 Puns.	56,830	44,187 Puns.
Rum ...	668	431		
Coco-nuts ...	7,584,375	6,684,858 No.		
Asphalt ...	77,280	103,206 Tons.		
Manjak ...	157	313		
Bitumens ...	8,632	9,190 Cases.		
Coffee ...	8,800	1,360 lbs.		
Crude Petrol	8,410,655	4,588,099 Galls.		
Cacao ...	53,019,860	36,088,000 lbs.	11,494,440	1,254 Bales
Cotton ...			1,470	1,254 Bales
Seed ...			3,555	4,804 Bags
Copra ...	3,705	3,923 Bags.	180	108
Spice ...			999,045	753,260 lbs.
Kola			3,960	2,040

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Danube*, (Captain C. A. Mackenzie), July 15th:—

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mr. H. F. Wildy | Mr. P. A. Rostaat | Miss E. Moeller |
| Mr. A. K. F. Duncan | Mr. J. M. de Freitas | Mr. G. F. Ashpittel |
| Mr. E. L. Agar | Mr. K. Hughes-Chamberlain | Mr. W. H. Robinson |
| Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Chadler | Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Heidenstam | Dr. A. I. Valenzuela |
| Mr. R. Abrahams | Mrs. L. Watts | Mr. and Mrs. L. A. S. Jernym |
| Mrs. G. Blood | Mr. J. A. Nisbet | Mr. A. Cameron |
| Mr. and Mrs. C. C. A. Scott | Mr. and Mrs. F. MacKenzie | Dr. C. G. H. Campbell |
| Misses Malone (2) | Mrs. I. Suarez | Colonel J. R. Dodd |
| Mr. T. I. Rees | Mrs. J. Edmundson | Mr. C. Arland |
| Mr. O. Glendinning | Mr. A. Suarez | Mrs. A. Allon |
| Mr. J. B. Bell | Mr. A. A. Teixeira | Mrs. A. Herod |
| Mr. G. Smith | Miss J. C. Teixeira | Mr. A. C. Kidston |
| Mr. D. G. Stoute | Misses Chandler (2) | Mr. A. Glomp |
| Mr. P. E. N. Mortimer | Miss O. Ashpittel | Mr. S. Jarvis |
| Miss M. St. A. Stoute | Mr. H. E. Houghton | Mr. G. Clements |
| Baron and Baroness von Welczek | Mr. and Mrs. J. Tocher | Mr. W. Roberts |
| Mrs. and Miss Drayton | Miss L. Jackman | Mr. C. John |
| Mr. G. Strauss | Miss I. Valenzuela | Mr. J. Scott |
| | | and |
| | | Mr. A. Walker |

	OUTWARD.			Post in London.
	To.	From.	Packet.	
West Indies	Southampton	Danube	...	July 14, midnight
West Indies	Glasgow	Crown of Navarre	...	July 14, 4.30 p.m.
Barbados	Liverpool	Asian	...	July 15, 6.0 p.m.
Trinidad	Darmouth	Sargasso	...	July 17, noon
West Indies	Bordeaux	Guadeloupe	...	July 17, 6.0 p.m.
Bermuda	London	Cayo Soto	...	July 17, 6.0 p.m.
West Indies	Southampton	Tagus	...	July 17, midnight

HOMEWARD.		Day.
Southampton	West Indies	Tagus
		July 20.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—
 Antigua (Messrs. Boddington & Co.), July 13th, "Heavy rains general circulate." Barbados.—(Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaylor), July 1st, "Five rains generally throughout the Island." July 9th. "A few light showers have fallen, but more rain would be acceptable." Demerara.—(Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), July 4th. "Weather favourable for cultivation." July 9th. "No rain since last message." Berbice.—(Messrs. H. K. Davison and Co.), July 3rd. "Weather very favourable generally. Jamaica.—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), Week ended July 1st. Port Antonio, June 25th. "Fine"; 26th, "Rain"; 27th to July 1st, "Fine." Kingston, "Fine."

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, July 29th:—

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Rev. A. H. Anstey | Miss A. M. Davies | Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Mackay |
| Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Garraway | Miss E. E. Robson | Miss G. Hawthorne |
| Mr. and Mrs. H. A. A. ... | Miss L. Davis | Miss W. M. Hawthorne |
| | Miss M. Knowles | Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Godden |
| | Mr. C. O. Hazell | Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Manning |
| Mr. W. B. Howarth | Brig. General L. S. Blackden | |
| Mr. W. B. Bertenshaw | Mr. and Mrs. Campbell | |
| Mrs. E. Mithieu | Miss M. Shoad | |

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

The death of Mr. Alfred Freeman Gray, senior partner of Messrs. Willett & Gray, has evoked much sympathy with that firm in sugar circles in which the CIRCULAR joins. A touching tribute to his memory from the pen of Mr. Wallace P. Willett appeared in a recent number of that valued publication the *Weekly Statistical Journal*.

BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½% 75¢)

SUGAR—In New York early last week there were no buyers of raws except at a decline of 6 points, and later raws were offered more freely, and the market was weaker with quotations for centrifugals reduced to 3.26 on the basis of which 50,000 bags of Cubans afloat and prompt were sold. The quotations for 96% Cuban centrifugals are 3.26c. equal to 10s. 5½d. c.i.f. New York and 2.82c. for muscovados. Latest quotations 3.29c. and 2.85c.

The London speculative beet market, under the influences of very favourable weather in Germany for the development of the beet crop, and Continental realizations of August delivery with considerable sales of new crop showed a downward tendency last week. The sufficiency of rain reported by Mr. Licht, as well as the lower quotations in America have both contributed to unsettle the market; while the complaints about insects in Germany have diminished and there seems to be little doubt that judging from present appearances everywhere the crop will be a good one. The Board of Trade figures for the past month of June show a slightly improved position. The Indian demand for Java sugar has come to a standstill for the present.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: June 30th, 9s. 3½d.; July 1st, 9s. 3½d.; 2nd, 9s. 5d.; 3rd, 9s. 3½d.; 4th, 9s. 4d.; 6th, 9s. 2½d.; 7th, 9s. 2d.; 8th, 9s. 2½d.; 9th, 9s. 2½d.; 10th, 9s. 2½d.; 11th, 9s. 3½d.; 13th, 9s. 3½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates.

	1914	1913	1912
Europe (1 June & 4 July)	2,438,170	2,281,270	1,630,190
United States (8th July)	350,000	382,710	201,240
Cuba 6 p'al ports (5th July)	536,000	516,000	410,000
Cargoes afloat (9th July)	34,650	—	59,060

Total Tons	3,358,820	3,179,980	2,300,490
Quotation of 88% beet, July 13th	8s. 3½d.	9s. 0½d.	13s. 0d.

Grocery West Indian. The crystallised market has been dull and not much business has been passing in the fortnight. The tone was steady at the auction on 7th July, when with a fair demand about half sold at previous rates. At the close last Friday only a few lots of low quality sold at auction, but prices were unchanged. The sales ranged for Trinidad from 12s. 9d. to 13s. 6d., for Demerara from 14s. to 14s. 6d., a few bags at 15s. 6d., for Surinam from 12s. 9d. to 13s., for St. Lucia and St. Kitts at 13s. Muscovado.—Dull.

Syrups.—Demerara sold at 11s. 3d.; Surinam at 11s. 3d. and 11s. 9d.; Jamaica in part at 12s.; St. Kitts a few bags at 11s. 3d.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since Jan. 1—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Tons
Imports	22,795	28,389	16,361	27,770	21,671	
Deliveries	14,746	15,095	14,739	18,288	17,869	..
Stocks (4 July)	20,633	15,133	6,110	13,772	8,877	..
Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, July 10th:—						
13s. 14s. 10½d. 12s. 7½d. 15s. 10½d. 18s. 3d.						

RUM—Stocks in London July 4th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Puns
Jamaica	7,987	6,170	7,984	9,886	12,785	
Demerara	10,652	7,641	6,985	5,637	8,057	..
Total, all kinds	26,146	21,645	22,271	25,375	28,369	..

The proof market remains without change and no business of importance can be reported. Demeraras continue to arrive thereby increasing the already heavy stocks. The

Jamaica market is rather quiet; sales being restricted to a few parcels of good home trade marks at steady prices; but common quality and low wines are slightly easier. Common and medium export kinds "hang fire," while fine and choice qualities, which usually command a ready sale have sold at fully steady rates.

CACAO—Stocks in London, July 4th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Bag.
Trinidad	10,328	10,760	7,140	7,273	10,399	
Grenada	12,884	7,336	4,539	16,909	14,433	..
Total, all kinds	23,212	18,096	11,679	24,282	24,832	..

Only one public auction has taken place in the fortnight, at which the small supply of 4,169 bags of all kinds was offered. Of these 2,862 bags consisted of West India descriptions; but only 403 bags sold comprising Grenada, Dominica, fine Jamaica, and fiery St. Vincent, the two latter realising 56s. to 58s. and 66s. respectively. No bids were made for 898 bags Trinidad, and only 160 bags Grenada out of 1,295 bags offered were sold at rather easier prices. The market was dull.

Quotations after the sale Trinidad middling red 57s. to 58s.; good middling red 59s. to 59s. 6d.; fine and superior 60s. to 64s.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair 49s. 6d. to 52s.; middling to fine 52s. 6d. to 56s.

In Trinidad circular of 22nd June it is stated that the quantity at market has been unimportant. There has been practically no change in the position and quotations may be given as \$11.00 to \$11.50 per fanega, the equivalent of 50s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. cost and freight Havre per 50 kilos.

COFFEE—Santos, July 4th, 3d.; Sept. 4th, 10½d.; Dec. 4th, 10½d. The moderate supplies at auction last week met with an undecided demand and occasionally sales went in buyers favour; but broadly speaking no change in prices can be quoted for later there was a fair demand and the market closed steady. "Futures" have shown small fluctuations. An improvement of 9d. was subsequently lost on reports that the negotiations for the Brazilian loan had been temporarily suspended. This was followed by firmness owing to moderate receipts in Santos.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended 9th July, 395 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland state that about 200 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton have been sold since our last report. Spinners are indifferent buyers and prices are generally easier all round. The sales include St. Vincent 16d. to 10d., St. Kitts and Anguilla 16½d. to 17½d., and Barbados 18d. Quotations down ½d. per lb.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (Raw)—Firm. A fair business has resulted in fair Dominica recent imports at 1s. 4d. and Jamaica fair to good at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. per gallon. Essential Oil (distilled)—Dearer. Fair sales up to 3s. 3d. per lb. for good. Otto of Limes (hand pressed)—Scarce and wanted at about 9s. per lb. Concentrated—Small arrivals per Danube have sold at £11 10s. **PIMENTO**—Quiet. **GINGER**—Quiet. **MACE**—Good to fine 1s. 11d. to 2s. 4d.; red to good 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d.

NUTMEGS—No change. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West Indian steady value £25 5s. **ARROWROOT**—Business done very small at 1½d. to 4½d.; quotations 1½d. to 4½d.

RUBBER—Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 1½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 3d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 10½d. against 3s. 9d. in 1913; do. soft, 2s. 3½d. against 3s. 9d. in 1913; Castilloa sheet, 1s. 9½d. against 2s. 6d. in 1913; scrap 1s. 6½d. against 2s. in 1913. **BALATA**—Sheet, weak market sellers at 2s. 5½d. c.i.f., no buyers above 2s. 5d. c.i.f.; block easier sellers 2s. 0½d. c.i.f. buyers at 2s. 0½d.

PETROLEUM OIL—Russian, 7d.; American, 7½d.; Water White, 8½d.; Roumanian, 6½d.; and Galician, 6½d.

LOGWOOD—Nothing fresh to report.

TORTOISESHELL & TURTLE—The 4th sales of the year took place on 9th inst. Supplies were again moderate and with good competition throughout the bulk was disposed of at about steady prices, although at times a little irregular. The selection of new arrivals comprised, shell 4,938 lbs., hoof 868 lbs., yellow belly 348 lbs., loggerhead and turtle 143 lbs., and of land carriage and ex sale was 1,155 lbs.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone:
6641 CENTRAL.
Telegrams:
CARIB, LONDON.

15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.4.

July 27th, 1914.

THE COLONIES AND MOTOR FUEL.

THE scarcity and consequent high price of petrol which has resulted from the growing wants of the motor industry has again brought forward the question of the value of alcohol as a source of power, and a Committee has been formed by the Royal Automobile Club for the purpose of enquiring into the matter. This Committee, which is composed of experts of acknowledged standing, will investigate fully and independently the possibilities of the general and economic employment of alcohol as a fuel for internal combustion engines. That alcohol is quite suitable for the purpose has been already demonstrated, and we understand that it will be the object of the Committee to carry out experiments (for which a sum of £30,000 is needed), with the view of definitely ascertaining the most economical way of using the alcohol, as well as—and this is an important point—discovering a method of denaturing which will be acceptable to the Government, cheap to the user, and harmless to the motor. The sources of cheap alcohol are numerous, but the one which specially concerns West Indian sugar producers is molasses. The markets for rum and cattle food being limited, there is a very large surplus supply of molasses which has at present little or no value, and if the use of alcohol became general for motor purposes, a cheap source of spirit would be found in the refuse molasses of cane sugar factories. But, unfortunately, the iniquitous surtax imposed in this country would preclude the impor-

tation of colonial spirit for industrial purposes. This surtax, which all imported spirits have to pay, amounts in the case of ordinary methylated spirit or denatured spirit for industrial purposes, to 5d. a proof gallon, which on the face of it renders any chance of imported denatured spirit competing with home spirit, out of the question. The surtax, as we have frequently pointed out, is imposed with the ostensible object of compensating home distillers for their supposed direct and indirect loss resulting from excise supervision. As we have constantly shown, there are no grounds whatever for the greater part of this "compensation," the result of which is that the home distillers are substantially protected against their colonial brethren. As matters now stand imported denatured spirit has to pay the full spirit duty together with the surtax, which is tantamount to prohibiting the entry of such spirit from our colonies. If, however, the spirit is imported plain and is treated in this country by a licensed "denaturer," only the surtax is payable. It is true that 3d. per proof gallon is refunded to the manufacturer of the denatured spirit; but as 3d. is also payable in respect of home spirit, imported spirit for denaturing is still penalised to the extent of 5d. per proof gallon. This, of course, at once puts it out of the field of competition either with petrol or home produced industrial alcohol. A splendid opportunity is now afforded the Government not only of redressing a long-standing grievance of the West Indian planters, but also of helping the motor industry of this country by opening up a source of cheap spirit. Successive governments have declined to entertain even the question of enquiry into the validity of the distillers' claims upon which the surtax is based. We sincerely trust that the present Government will face the situation at the risk of offending the spirit industry of this country. At the present moment, taking the bond value of the denatured spirit at 10d. per gallon of proof spirit, home distillers are protected to the extent of 50 per cent. of the natural value of the product against imported spirit. Were this protection directed against foreign spirit only there might be justification for it, but when British colonial spirit is penalised to this extent for the benefit of the home distiller by a Government which professes Imperial views, it is quite time that steps should be taken in the interests of the Empire to do away with this anomaly. The financial support given to the Cantley Sugar Factory, directly or indirectly, is another instance of the present official attitude. As the position now stands, in a Free Trade country, there is protection to home produced sugar and

spirits against the corresponding products of the the British colonies to the extent of 40 per cent. and 50 per cent. respectively of their value.

SCIENCE IN COTTON GROWING.

A PAPER on Commerce and Science in Cotton Growing which was read by Mr. J. W. McConnel, Vice-Chairman of the Fine Spinners and Doublers Association, at the recent International Congress of Tropical Agriculture, should prove of particular interest to cotton growers and breeders in the West Indies. The primary object of this paper, which we are pleased to learn has been reprinted, was to put forward some thoughts in regard to the necessity for co-operation between the grower and spinner. MR. McCONNEL points out that it is probably more true to say that cotton spinning has been elaborated so as to handle in the best possible manner the cotton from America rather than to claim that American growers have evolved cottons specially suitable for spinners, and that whatever may be the truth about America, there can be now no question that in other countries, and particularly tropical ones, success in cotton growing can only be obtained by careful scientific work in the field, the laboratory and the spinning mill. He describes certain lines of investigation along which a good deal of work is being done in the United States in order to ascertain the practical differences to the mill arising from the use of cottons of different grades and suggests that similar work, on certain modified lines, might be undertaken at the Imperial Institute or Manchester, preferably the latter place, so that small quantities of cotton could be practically tested under conditions resembling those of an ordinary mill. If this were done he thinks that it would greatly assist scientific breeders and laboratory workers in cotton growing countries, because they would not only be able to send small samples to be tested but also be able to bring their laboratory experiments on single bolls and single fibres into closer relation with mill practice than is now possible. In regard to the cotton industry of the West Indies we agree that it is highly desirable that the spinning qualities of the many promising hybrids and selected strains should be tested before being grown on a commercial scale. In each of the cotton growing islands much valuable experimental work is done in field and laboratory each season, and it might also be mentioned, that samples of new strains of cotton are regularly sent from certain of the colonies to the British Cotton Growing Association for examination and report; and in the majority of cases, the reports received have been in accord with the results of the local examinations conducted beforehand by the Agricultural Officers. Still, as pointed out by Mr. McCONNEL, there are certain qualities in the cotton fibre which cannot be detected by the scientific worker, or in fact by the buyer in England, because their presence or absence can only be demonstrated when the cotton is being

spun. There are yet many questions to be answered in connection with cotton growing in the West Indies, and British Guiana—which having regard to its past history as a cotton producing country we still regard as a potential source of cotton supply—but perhaps one of the most perplexing to the breeder and grower is to find out exactly what class of cotton the spinner really wants and is prepared to pay a remunerative price for. A few years ago growers were told to cultivate "bread and butter" cotton, whilst to-day they are advised to grow the finest cotton it is possible to grow on their lands. As it may take several seasons to obtain a pure strain of a particular grade of cotton, this vacillation on the part of spinners has not had a beneficial effect on the industry. But fortunately Agricultural Officers and planters have never relaxed their efforts to produce hardy, prolific and fine cottons suitable for cultivation under the soil and climatic conditions peculiar to each island. Good progress has been made and it is hoped that the work will be facilitated by the adoption, at an early date, of Mr. McCONNEL's excellent suggestion.

THE REDUCTION IN CABLE RATES.

A WHOLE year has passed since MR. HARCOURT in his speech in the House of Commons on the Colonial Office vote announced that an arrangement had been "finally concluded" for securing an all-round reduction in West Indian cable charges. Briefly the basis of this arrangement was that provided that the West Indian colonies would continue their existing subsidies to the amount of £10,300 per annum to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company for ten years the British and Canadian Governments would add another £16,000 per annum between them, and in return the message rate between the United Kingdom and the West Indies would be reduced to 2s. 6d. per word and other message rates in proportion. In spite of the absence of any guarantee that the news service would be improved or that new cables would be laid in order to prevent break-downs, the West Indian colonies, to whom an alternative offer from the company owning the all-British Halifax-Bermudas-Jamaica cables was not submitted, wearied by years of waiting jumped at the proposals and promptly voted their shares of the subsidy. The Dominion Government had already made their appropriation, and it was not unreasonable to expect that the British Government would do the same and that the arrangement would come into force immediately. Yet a full year has been allowed to elapse, and the West Indies and Canada are still waiting. The position is really most unsatisfactory and it is much to be hoped that an official statement as to the reason for the delay will be forthcoming before many days have gone by. In this case the West Indian colonies being, by virtue of the amount of the subsidies which they have voted, the predominant partners, are certainly entitled to consideration.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

The extent of the work of the West India Committee must largely depend upon the support received from the colonies, and members are requested to bring the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR before the notice of their friends, and to assist the Executive by introducing eligible candidates for admission. Any member may propose or second candidates, and particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen and firms are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. of \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the free use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

THE NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

The West India Committee map of the West Indies continues to be in demand. During the past fortnight orders for it have been received from the Governments of British Honduras, Jamaica and the Leeward Islands, and many private firms and individuals. Copies have also been taken by the Agricultural Society, the Chamber of Commerce and the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Trinidad and Tobago. Dr. Francis Watts, Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, writes: "The idea of issuing the map is an excellent one, and its usefulness will, I hope, be widely recognised. The time is a very opportune one for its appearance in view of the efforts to extend trade with Canada, and the changes that are likely to be soon taking place in steamship routes. I have already found the map of considerable service."

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen both mounted and in sheet at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

By mutual agreement with the Royal Dutch Mail, who are withdrawing their steamers from the route, the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Co., Ltd., are now operating the direct service between New York, Trinidad, Demerara, and Paramaribo, having extended their present service to the two latter ports. The first sailing under the new arrangement will be taken up by the S.S. *Matura*, which is scheduled to leave New York on the 18th August, and the sailings thereafter will be about every ten days.

VANILLA CULTIVATION.

Having regard to the increased attention which is being paid to the cultivation of the vanilla bean in Dominica, a paper on the subject of this valuable product which was read by Mr. Wallace Mawbey at the Annual Convention of the Flavouring Extract Manufacturers' Association of the United States last month and published in the "Tea and Coffee Trade Journal," should prove of particular interest.

Probably no other natural product requires the length of time, the patient, painstaking attention to detail and the nicety of judgment which must necessarily be used that the vanilla bean does from the time it is picked from the vine until it arrives at that stage where it has virtue as a flavour and value as a commodity.

When first taken from the vine, the bean, which is bright green in colour, resembles a banana as much as anything else in shape, except that in circumference it is two or three times that of an ordinary lead pencil, has absolutely no flavour or aroma. To develop this, a long period of curing is necessary. This varies in the different countries of production and a brief history of the product would not be out of place before giving a description of the various processes.

Vanilla Planiflora, which, of many species, is the only one having value as a flavour, is a product of the New World. It was found only in a small section of Mexico, in what is now the northern part of the State of Vera Cruz, a region not over sixty miles long by from forty to fifty miles wide, and this same region still produces the best vanilla, which takes its commercial name from the country of origin and is known as Mexican vanilla.

Vanilla was unknown to the civilization of the Old World until introduced by some of the returning members of Cortez' band of conquerors, although known and used by the Aztecs and their predecessors possibly for many centuries.

The history of this race, however, is very meagre, partly owing to the crude way they had of inscribing it in the form of pictures or hieroglyphics carved upon tablets of stone and partly owing to the destruction of a majority of these tablets by the Spanish conquerors and their successors on the ground that they were prejudicial to the advancement of the Christian religion, the propagation of which they always carried hand in hand with the sword, so that no knowledge of this now most familiar and most popular of all flavours can be gleaned from this source.

First mention of its use is made by one of the clerical members of Cortez' expedition in giving an account of the life and customs prevalent at the Court of Montezuma, the last of the Aztec monarchs. He relates that there was prepared daily for the monarch himself no less than fifty jars or pitchers of a potato or beverage of "Chocolat" or chocolate, so prepared that it was of the consistency of a custard and "flavoured with vanilla," of which

he was exceedingly fond, and that two thousand jars were allowed for the daily consumption of the household.

At various times during the last century, but mostly during the latter part, transplants from the Mexican vines were sent out in various tropical countries and islands throughout the world and the largest crop of any one variety now received is that of the Bourbon, the commercial term for all the vanilla produced in the numerous islands in the Indian Ocean adjacent to the East Coast of Africa, of which Madagascar, Reunion, Mauritius, the Comores and the Seychelles are the most important. The Island of Tahiti, one of the Friendly Group in the South Pacific Ocean, also produces a large crop; a small one is received from the Islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique which are known to the trade as South Americans, while quantities at the present time insignificant are grown in the Island of Java, the Island of Ceylon and the Fiji Islands.

The average annual production of the different varieties is as follows:—

Mexican	...	...	400,000	pounds
Bourbon	...	...	700,000	"
South American	...	...	35,000	"
Tahiti	...	...	400,000	"
All others	...	...	15,000	"
Total annual production	...	...	1,550,000	pounds

Methods of Curing Vanilla.

In reality there are only two methods of curing vanilla beans; the Mexican or sun process and the Bourbon or hot water process.

The sun process is used in Mexico entirely. It requires the most time and labour and, as practised there, is really an art, if art, as has been said, is "simply an intense and intelligent application to detail." The vine flowers there during the months of April and May and the first beans are picked about the beginning of November, the picking continuing until the end of February. The green beans are first placed in long, orderly rows on clean straw mats in the sun, where they are left for about an hour, in which time the tropical sun has caused them to attain considerable heat. They are then hurriedly taken up and put in large cases called "cajons," each capable of holding from two to four thousand pounds of beans. The "cajons" are well lined with blankets and when filled are covered with more blankets to make them as air-tight as possible and in this manner the beans are sweated for from twenty-four to forty-eight hours. They are still hot when taken out and placed on long frames or beds called "camillas" and taken into the "vainillol," as the house is called, where the vanilla is stored. Here the "camillas" are placed on racks. In the "vainillol" a good circulation of air is always maintained and the "camillas" are left here to dry and cool for several days, when the same process is repeated with the exception of the length of time the vanilla is sweated in the "cajon," which is shortened with each repetition.

This is done several times before the beans develop an aroma and many times before they are properly cured. About the beginning of March, those picked during November, having practically reached a state of perfection, are placed in a large tin-lined depository for observation as to the further development of flavour and keeping properties, for it must be remembered that if they are under-cured the beans will deteriorate very rapidly, becoming mouldy or infected with a species of small vegetable lice which ruin the flavour, while if over-cured some of the valuable flavouring properties are lost, the beans becoming dry and woody with a diminished aroma.

Those picked later are added from time to time, as they arrive at the same stage, so that by the middle of May the curing process is almost completed. During the time the beans remain in depository, they may, if necessary, be taken out and again put through the process of sunning, sweating and airing, though for a much shorter period than before.

They then pass a final inspection as to flavour, appearance and touch. If this is satisfactory they are ready for bundling and are taken from the depository, graded and sorted according to quality and length and put into bundles of about one hundred beans each.

If curing is an art, bundling is indeed so, and in this respect the Mexican vanillero has no equal. The bundles average in weight about a pound and are packed in cans, forty bundles to each can and the cans in turn are packed in cedar cases, four or five cans to the case. They are now ready for market.

Six months have elapsed since the vanilla was taken from the vine and during this period every bean has been handled individually many times. When cured it is about one sixth of its original size in weight and circumference, though retaining its original length and ranges in colour from a light reddish brown to a deep chocolate. Vanilla is graded by the Mexicans into six classes: "Picadura" or cuts, "Ordinario," "Mediana" or fair, "Buena" or good, superior or good to prime and extra or strictly prime.

Most of the vanilla gathered during November does not contain the same percentage of gums, resins and other flavouring properties that the later gatherings contain, consequently the beans must be cured down more, in order to develop their flavour and keeping properties; and to facilitate this, they are cut up in small pieces. These are the "Picadura" or cuts which form about 25 per cent. of the crop.

The vanilla next gathered constitutes, when cured, the ordinary quality and the beans are light reddish brown in colour; after which come the "Mediana," which are somewhat darker. As the season advances the quality keeps improving, the superior and extra qualities, those richest in essentials and darkest in colour, being gathered from Christmas until the crop is completed.

There are times during the curing season when a long spell of inclement weather compels the curers



THE HOUSE AS IT IS TO-DAY.



THE GREAT HOUSE IN 1821.

From the drawing by James Hakewill.

CARDIFF HALL, St. ANN'S, JAMAICA.

to resort to the use of "Calorificas" or ovens, to generate the heat in place of the sun; but as this rarely happens, that method is seldom resorted to.

This process is used throughout all the Islands that produce this variety and differs mainly from the Mexican by reason of the fact that the vanilla is never submitted to the direct rays of the sun at any time during the process of curing.

The green beans, after first being sorted into equal lengths, are put in open-work baskets, which are then plunged into large pots containing water heated to within a few degrees of the boiling point, where they are allowed to remain from fifteen to twenty seconds. After coming out of the water they are placed upon mats to drain and when this is accomplished they are heaped into a pile, covered with blankets, and allowed to dry for a short time, after which they are taken into the open, spread upon matting and well covered with blankets. They are allowed to remain in the sun for several hours during the hottest part of the day.

In the afternoon they are taken up and placed in large, blanket-lined, hermetically sealed cases, very similar to the Mexican "Cajon," where they are left over night. The next day this programme is repeated. In all they receive this treatment about eight times in as many consecutive days, if the weather permits. After this they are put on frames in a well aired drying room and left there for a considerable period, being examined from time to time as to their condition and flavour.

When this is satisfactory they are placed in a depository and again left for some time for further development, and when this passes inspection they are taken out to be bundled. Having previously been sorted, according to lengths, nothing remains but to grade them as to quality.

There are six grades to the Bourbons, namely, Extra, First, Second, Third, Ordinary and Inferior. There are a few very short beans which are shipped without bundling and which are styled "Vrac," but the proportion of these is quite small. They correspond to the "Picadura" of the Mexicans and their scarcity may be explained by the fact that the Bourbons are bundled down to a very short length; as short as $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, from which they run up to about $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches, whereas the Mexicans seldom bundle anything under six inches, from which they run up to nine inches. The average length of the Bourbons has been decreasing of late years, while, if anything, that of the Mexicans has increased.

In regard to the merits of the two processes, the Mexican is by far the superior. It consumes six months and each individual bean receives more care and attention, while the Bourbons are forced through in three months. This is bound to tell in the long run, and in the opinion of the writer, after many years of practical experience, a Mexican bean properly cured will keep indefinitely improving in flavour for a number of years, whereas the same thing cannot be said of the Bourbon bean. It may keep

and improve for a year, or two years, or even more, but sooner or later it deteriorates.

Under normal conditions the percentage of poorly cured Mexicans is very small, while there is always a large percentage in the Bourbons, sometimes running as high as $33\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Climate and soil may have something to do with this, as Mexico is more favoured in this respect than the Islands, but the method of curing has more to do with it.

South American vanilla is partly cured by the Mexican process and partly by the Bourbon, but mostly by the former. While many good flavoured beans of this variety are received the experience of the curers is somewhat limited, as this variety is of rather recent origin and many cured by the Mexican process have a tendency towards being over-cured, and the reverse where the Bourbon process is used. However, they are producing a vanilla that is fully equal in every respect to the Bourbon and, in time, will probably rank second to the Mexican.

The process of curing Tahiti vanilla is very simple consisting of first sunning and then airing, which is repeated until the vanilla is considered cured. Of all the varieties they are the lowest in grade and cheapest in price. They have an over-abundance of gum and are deficient in the other and more valuable flavouring properties. They also contain considerable "Piperonal," a fragrant substance having an odour of heliotrope and an extract made solely of Tahitis can readily be detected even by one with little experience. In former years the curing of this variety was wretched and they were practically worthless for flavouring purposes, but in the last few years this has improved and they now have a fairly agreeable flavour.

The consumption of vanilla beans has increased greatly in America during the past twenty-five years, being doubled by the passage of the Food and Drug Act, and the United States now consumes from sixty to sixty-five per cent. of the world's production, which includes 95 per cent. of the highest grade, the Mexican, and with vanilla beans selling at their present prices there are very few households which cannot afford to have a bottle of the greatest of all flavours, and, what is more, have it pure.

[The price of vanilla is quoted periodically in the Produce Markets Summary at the end of the CIRCULAR. At last sale it realised 9s. to 12s. per lb.]

ARRANGEMENTS for holding a Conference of West Indian Customs Officers with the view of securing uniformity of definition, etc., in the Customs tariff of the various West Indian colonies are, the CIRCULAR is informed, progressing. It had been hoped to hold the Conference in the summer, but as arrangements now stand it will probably meet in the autumn. It is understood that a draft ordinance and tariff have already been prepared as a basis for discussion. It would be impossible to attach too much importance to this movement which should result in the removal of many anomalies which characterise the existing tariffs.

THE ESSENTIAL OIL OF BITTER ORANGES.

An industry capable of extension in British West Indies.

The cultivation of the *Bigaradier*, or bitter orange tree, for its flowers, which are used for making the essential oil or *néroli* is, says the *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*, a most important industry in the Department of the Alpes-Maritimes.

The average production of blossoms is estimated at 2,225,000 kilograms (2,190 tons) annually. About three-quarters of this is used by the distillers of Grasse for making the finest quality of oil known as *néroli*, whilst the remainder is sent to the factories at Cannes, Vallauris, Nice, and Menton for the same purpose.

The cultivation of the bitter orange tree does not differ from that of the sweet orange or other species of the citrus family. The trees are generally planted in rows, 6 to 8 metres apart (20 to 26 feet), at the rate of about 150 to the hectare (60 to the acre). The average yield of blossoms, which depends upon the age of the tree, may be taken as between 2,500 and 4,000 kilograms per hectare (20 to 30 cwt. per acre).

The flowers are gathered during the months of April and May. For making the best kind of oil, they require to be carefully selected and picked from each tree every other day. A good picker, paid at the rate of 1½ francs per day, can collect 10 kilograms (22 lbs.) of blossoms. At the commencement of the season, when the flowers are not all fully formed, the yield of oil may vary from ¾ to 1 gram of essential oil (11½ to 15½ grains) per kilogram, and as the season advances even 2 grams (30.86 grains) are sometimes obtained.

The price of *néroli* varies considerably, ranging from as low as 300 francs per kilogram (£5 10s. 9d. per lb.) to even 1,000 francs (£18 3s. 2d.). The water used in the process of distillation, which is impregnated with the perfume of the flowers, the *eau-de-fleur d'oranger* of commerce, worth about 25 centimes per litre (2½d. per quart), also forms an important item in the profits of the distiller.

The twigs, leaves, and even the imperfectly formed green fruit are also utilised for making an inferior grade of oil, termed "petit grain." It is estimated that no less than 1½ million kilograms (about 1,500 tons) of this material are used annually for this purpose.

Another quality of oil, known as *eau-de-Portugal*, is also obtained either by pressure or by distillation from the dried peel of the bitter orange. Two-and-a-half million kilograms (2,500 tons) of this fruit, worth from 5 to 6 francs per quintal (2s. to 2s. 6d. per cwt.), yielding about 120,000 kilograms (120 tons) of peel, are used annually for this process. The essence of *néroli* is largely used in the manufacture of *eau-de-Cologne*, and enters into the composition of many other perfumes.

For some years past the larvæ of an insect, the

Chrysomphalus dictyospermi, has caused considerable damage, not only in the South of France, but also in Italy, Algeria, Tunis, Spain, and Turkey. Unfortunately its ravages are not confined to the orange and other members of the citrus family, but it attacks many other plants and shrubs, amongst which may be mentioned the spindle tree (*Euonymus japonica*), laurel, myrtle, camellia, ivy, and even the aloe. This makes it all the more difficult to eradicate, and, in spite of powerful insecticides and fumigations, only indifferent results for the extinction of this pest have been obtained up to the present time.

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS.

Cardiff Hall, St. Ann's, Jamaica.

By FRANK CUNDALL.

No property in Jamaica has perhaps been handed down in the same family for so many years as Cardiff Hall. The first Blagrove to settle in Jamaica was a regicide. Land in St. Ann was early taken up—about 1665; and before the middle of the eighteenth century Cardiff Hall was a place of note. On Orange Valley estate, hard by, in the possession of the same owner, are the remains of a so-called Spanish residence; and, going farther back, on "big pasture" is a series of Arawak kitchen middens of the usual type, from which a small modelled human head of greater naturalistic treatment than is usually met with was excavated in April, 1914. Other middens are near this series, indicating a thick population in aboriginal times. It is conceivable that the residents were amongst the first to welcome Columbus on his landing at Dry Harbour, a few miles off. The present building of Cardiff Hall, which possesses more architectural features than most houses in the colony, of which the fine old mahogany staircase is not the least noticeable, probably dates from the middle of the eighteenth century. It displays details of a renaissance character, such as a line of columns in the entrance hall, a three-light window in what was evidently the drawing room upstairs, and an ornamentation over the doorways dating from about the closing years of the century. The hospital and other buildings are also of a character superior to those usually met with. The first named has Corinthian pilasters of considerable beauty. Guns, too, that formerly protected the property from buccaneers are still *in situ*. In front of the house is a vaulted chamber, half dug out of the rock, which is said to have been designed as a place of refuge in case of hurricane. It measures some 7 ft. by 20 ft., and is 10 ft. high, with walls some 2 ft. thick. The house attracted the attention of Hakewill who included it in his "Picturesque Tour" (1825), the drawings of which were made in 1820-1.

John Blagrove, who was proprietor shortly before Hakewill visited the island, was born at Cardiff Hall, but was sent, like the majority of planters' sons in those days, at an early age to England. He

received his education at Eton, and afterwards passed a considerable time in travelling. On his return to Jamaica he occasionally took an active part in the discussions which occurred in the House of Assembly, to which he was returned by his native parish, St. Ann, in 1787. The only member of the family to sit in the Assembly before him was Thomas Blagrove, who had represented Hanover in 1755.

During the Maroon war, John Blagrove was most actively engaged, and shared in its privations and dangers. He, Hakewill tells us, bestowed the greatest attention to improvement of the breed of cattle on his several pens. He imported into the island some of the best bred horses England ever produced, and his liberality and public spirit were rewarded by the high price which his stock, particularly his horses, always commanded. He was a successful competitor on many occasions for the cup given at the races held in the parish of St. Ann; in fact, his horses, for the most part beat the whole field. The Blagrove stables were successful in other races as well. On the flat land by Runaway Bay, the memory of the old private racecourses on which the horses were trained, is still preserved in the names of three pastures. In Palache's "Jamaica Stud Book," John Blagrove is recorded as having imported for racing purposes, Lurcher, a bay colt, bred in 1789, and Buzzard, imported in 1800. For many years previous to his decease John Blagrove was resident in England. He died at Great Abshot, near Titchfield, in Hampshire, in 1824.

At this period, when the whole system of colonial slavery was being severely criticised, Blagrove was always considered by his slaves as a most kind and humane master. His will states:—

"And, lastly, to my loving people, denominated and recognised by Law as, and being in fact my slaves in Jamaica, but more estimated and considered by me and my family as tenants for life attached to the soil, I bequeath a dollar for every man, woman and child, as a small token of my regard for their faithful and affectionate service and willing labours to myself and family, being reciprocally bound in one general tie of master and servant in the prosperity of the land, from which we draw our mutual comforts and subsistence in our several relations (a tie and interest not practised on by the hired labourer of the day in the United Kingdom), the contrary of which doctrine is held only by the visionists of the puritanical order against the common feeling of mankind."

Henry John Blagrove sat for St. Ann for a short time in the middle of the nineteenth century. In the Library of the Institute of Jamaica, which inherited the Library of the House of Assembly, is a series of twenty-five bound volumes of the *St. Jago de la Vega Gazette*, ranging from 1791 to 1840, "presented to the Library of the Hon. House of Assembly of Jamaica by Henry John Blagrove, Esq. Representative in Assembly for the Parish of St. Ann.

1851." He soon afterwards left the colony, never to return.

The view, by Hakewill, facing page 340, is "taken from the great interior road, and represents, seen through the pimento grove, the south or entrance front of the house. On the right is the barbecue or plaister floor, on which the pimento is spread out to dry. The excellence of the house, the delightful variety of the grounds and the contiguity of the sea, render Cardiff Hall one of the most desirable residences in the island of Jamaica."

A reproduction is also given of a photograph taken recently from the same point of view.

Near the house is a private burial ground with five tombs. Three are unnamed; the other two are inscribed as follows:—

"Here lyeth the body of Thomas Williams, Esqr., who departed this life the 7th of June, 1746, aged 66 years.

Here lyeth the body of Mary Williams, who departed this life on the 14th of April, 1753, aged . . ."

The arms are those of the Williams of Herringstone, county Dorset. Argent a greyhound, courant in fess between three Cornish choughs proper, a border engrailed gules charged with crosses pattée or and bezants alternately. Crest, a man's arm couped at the elbow, habited sable charged with a cross pattee or the hand proper holding an oak branch vert, fructified gold. Neither the motto, *Nil Solidum*, nor the tinctures are given.

"In the memory of Peter Blagrove, Esq., son of John Blagrove, Esquire, and Ann, his wife. Born at Cardiff Hall in this parish, 21st May, 1789, and died there 10th August, 1812." The wife's name was Shakespeare.

The following account of this Peter Blagrove is taken from the "Jamaica Magazine" for 1812:—

"At Orange-Valley Pen, in St. Ann's, on the 9th inst. aged 24 years, Peter Blagrove, Esq., third son of John Blagrove, of Cardiff Hall. In spite of the best medical skill and experience, he fell on the eighth day a victim to one of those insidious fevers so fatal to many young men from Europe. Detained with an elder brother in France, which he visited after the peace of 1802, for the purpose of gaining a knowledge of mankind, he endured, for seven years, an exile from his family and friends—which as it was inflicted on himself, and his unoffending countrymen, during a profound peace, will continue to stamp with infamy the despot and government that sanctioned it as long as the laws of nature and nations shall be understood. Impelled by his attachment to liberty and his country, he adopted the disguise of one of the meanest of the French peasants to effect his escape; and with a perseverance the most extraordinary, he encountered scenes and hardships to which his earlier years were not accustomed. Unappalled by the danger of the attempt such were the vigour of his mind and his resources, amidst the hazard of hourly detection, that for many months he eluded the vigilance of the most active police, employed by any barbarian; and, having

traversed the greater parts of France, Switzerland and Germany he reached Trieste in safety, and soon after repaired to his native country."

ADMIRAL NEVELL'S EXPEDITION.

A Journal of the Seventeenth Century.

(Continued from page 300 and concluded.)

[June] 21.—The Dutch Comodore's main top mast being defective he went to Jamaica to repair it.

22.—I receive a Lre. from Sr. Wm. Besson by a Sloop he despatch'd to me, telling me what great Service it would be to Jamaica If I could destroy Pettyguaves upon which Letter I ordd. Rear Adml. Meese with 9 ships to goe to Pettyguavez and to use his utmost endeavour to destroy it, the same evening he sail'd.

24.—I Ordd. the *Lincoln* to Jamaica with the Agent of the Victualling to bye Flower Beans and Calavanseys for the use of the Fleet having not anything of Victualls.

28.—I Ordd. the *Flame* Fire Ship for Jamaica, she proving very leaky.

29.—Wee Having wooded and water'd our Ships I gott under Saile to meet the Rear Adml. and the Ships with him.

30.—Wee joy'n'd and doe here enclos'd send you this relation.

July ye 1st.—I am now standing for Jamaica to gett the Ships out from thence, and doe design directly for the Havana, although I have noe Intelligence of ye Galloons being there, the Sloop which I sent a month since to Portabella being not come to me, but in all possibility they be there, for if they did come out for want of provisions as the Sloop advised me they would not goe back again, and Sr. Wm. Beson in his Lre. to me Saith, that the Turtlers from ye Cammancey* say they saw severall Ships pass by those Islands to Leeward, which they made to be Galloons, the *Blackwall*, *Bristol* and *Gosport* who had been at Pettyguaves and was not water'd, I sent them to Bluefeildes designing to Call for them as I went by.

3.—I brought to off Jamaica sending my boate to Port Royall there to come out.

4.—The *Resolution* Sloop which I had hyr'd to gain Intelligence came to me with a Brigantine which he took from Brest, bound to Pettyguavez, laden with Provisions, the Brigantine in her pasage had taken an Englishman from Liverpool bound to Antegoa and sent her into Martenegoe.

The month of July being come, and the Siely month in those parts our Ships begin to be very Sickly.

5.—The Ships came out of Port Royall and joy'n'd me. I bore away for the Havana.

6.—In the morning wee found the Current had deceiv'd us, wee having overshott Bluefeilds, I order'd a Ship to ply into the Bay to tell Capt Green-

hill I was gone by, and that they should follow me to the Havanna, a place of Rendezvous, by this time the Ships are very Sickly, the *Bredah* 200 men Sick, throwing overboard 10 or 11 a day, I ord'd one of the Prizes to be an Hospitall Ship to putt our Sick men in.

11.—Wee made the Isle of Pines.

13.—Wee were up with Cape St. Anthony the West part of Cuba.

16.—Wee gott about the Calearadoes.*

17.—Wee were most of us grown very Sickly, Rear Adml. Meese dy'd, having before lost Lieutenant Beaumont, the Master, ye Gunner, Carpenter, Surgeon, Chaplain, Physician and 150 men, the other Ships lost many men and officers, Capt. Lyttcot, Capt. Holmes and Capt. Foster died.

23.—Wee gott off the Havanna, where I found the Galloons, I sent my boate with a Lre. to the Governour of the Havanna telling him I was come into those seas by the King, my Masters Ordrs., for the Security of the Galloons, in order to accompany them for Cadiz, and desir'd admittance into that part to water our Ships for the Voyage, he sent me a Lre. that he had positive Ordrs. from his Catholic Maty. not to lett any foreigners come Into the Port and that he would not lett me come without despatches from his Lord, I also sent a Lre. to the Generall of the Galloons, acquainting him I was come there for the security of the Galloons and to accompany him to Cadiz, he sent me word he would call a Councell of Warr of the Cpts. of the Galloons, and the Merchants of the comers on board them and on the morrow he would send his answer.

24.—The Ships from Bluefeilds Joy'n'd me, I lay off the Harbour.

25.—One of the Cpts. of the Galloons came off with a Lre. from the Generall of the Galloons telling me that it was determin'd at the Councell not to Saile in my Company to Cadiz, and that he could not doe it without Ordrs. from the King his Master, this day Capt. Vanzell died and since him Capt. Grave and their Ships grow very Sickly, they throwing over 7 or 8 men in a day out of each Ship, the Governour sent off an Officer to tell me I might have the liberty of the bay of Malanes,* I cald the Officers together and knowing what place the bay of Malanes was, being a very difficult place to gett in and out, and when In, you must lay one Anchor in 30 fathom water and the other in 4, and having flueries of wind off shoar now Turnado time, that if your shoar anchor should start you ashoar upon the Rocks which is steep too, besides the River is broad and you must Row 3 miles up the River to come at fresh water, which would be very tedious, making but one turn in 24 hours, that wee should spend it as fast as wee could gett on board, and having but two long boats, most of us having cutt our long boats away in Chase of the French, the Island being very Sickly and our provisions beginning to grow short as you will see by the weekly

* Cayman Islands.

* Los Colorados.

* This may be meant for Matanzas.

Accounts and our long stay there, a watering, having thrown overboard a great many men and many sick, in so much that some of the Ships have not men enough to work their Ships here if not for the French prisoners, those circumstances consider'd it was resolv'd to goe out of those Seas as fast as wee could, and to make the best of our way to Virginia to water our Ships whilst wee had men left to Saile them, hoping that when wee were through the Gulf to the Norward, our people would recover their health. The same afternoon I sent another Letter to the Generall of the Galloons telling him my intentions were to be gone that night, desiring to know his final resolution, and a Letter to the Governour desiring but to lett me come in but for 48 hours to water our Ships, which by the Laws of Nations he could not deny, wee being in distress for want of water, they held another Conncell of war where it was determin'd that he write to me in his Letter that I must not come in, and a Letter from the Generall of the Galloons wherein he thanked me for my kindness in profering my service to goe with him for Cadiz, That he could not goe with me without Ordrs. from the King his Master, I omitted to tell that I sent my instructions to lett them see what care the King took for the safety of their Galloons, I sent to the Governour that I would send six Captains, on Shoar as Hostages whilst we were in port a watering our Ships, but nothing would doe with those Animalls. I left an Order at Jamaica for the Comodore of the Convoy that should come to me to the Havanna, and sent on Ordr. inclosed in a Lre. to ye Governour of the Havanna desiring him to deliver it to ye Victualling Ships I had Ordd. to the Havanna; not doubting of having admittance into the Port, and with all writ him that he had used us more like Turkes and Jews than Christians and Englishmen who had come so many hundred Leagues for noe other end but to serve his Catholique Majesty, that I must be forced to goe over to Florida amongst the Indians to seek for water there—where I did not question but I should receive more civility than I had from him, this anger'd him and he told the Capt. which I sent with the letter, that he would send it to the Councell of Spain this night, I made the best of our way to Cape Florida to goe through the Gulf for Virginia, the place of Rendezvous.

LARGELY through the efforts of Mrs. Burdon, the Barbados Ladies' Club, which has its headquarters in Broad Street, Bridgetown, has been affiliated with the International Lyceums. The importance of this move may be gauged from the fact that when the slight alterations in the constitution of the club—which will henceforward be known as the "Lyceum"—have been in order to meet the requirements of the International Board, its members will have the privilege of honorary membership of similar institutions in London, Paris, Rome, Berlin, besides Australia and other parts of the Empire, and—before long—New York.

HOUSING IN THE WEST INDIES.

BY LUKE M. HILL, M.Inst. C.E.

(Late Town Superintendent of Georgetown,
British Guiana).

Having for a considerable time taken an interest in the housing conditions in the West Indies, and more particularly in British Guiana, my attention was attracted to the reference made in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of the 30th June last to Dr. Angus Macdonald's paper contributed to the recent Imperial Health Conference, dealing with the generally defective housing of the labouring population in Jamaica as a factor in the spread of tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. I heartily support his suggestion that an Imperial Bureau of Preventive Medicine should be established, or an Imperial Commission appointed, to make inquiry into the housing problem and other vital questions affecting the conditions governing public health in our tropical colonies.

I lately attended the annual conference of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers, at which town planning and housing formed the principal section, illustrated by a comprehensive exhibition of maps, plans, and models. At this conference, however, the subject was dealt with, perhaps, in too elaborate and ideal a manner for practical application to the local conditions prevailing in the West Indies in connection with workmen's dwellings, embraced under the generic names of "Ranges" in British Guiana, "Barracks" in Trinidad, and "Tenantry" in Barbados.

In British Guiana considerable improvement may be fairly claimed to have taken place in the general housing conditions of the working classes within the last forty years, to my personal knowledge, alike in the city of Georgetown, the coast villages and the sugar plantations, owing mainly to the action, respectively, of the Municipality, the Local Government Board, under the able presidency of Sir Joseph E. Godfrey, the late Surgeon General of the colony, and the Estates Authorities under the controlling influence of the Immigration Department and systematised medical inspection.

The first general building by-laws, applicable to the whole city, were framed by the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown in 1883; but, unfortunately, these were not retrospective in character, except in regard to dilapidated buildings unfit for habitation, and so were powerless to deal with existing conditions in the older and more crowded yards of the city. The main objects sought to be attained by these by-laws were to provide more space between adjacent buildings to be erected on a plot of land, to regulate height of floors, minimum floor area, cubical capacity, etc., in separately inhabited rooms, and the prohibition of habitation in insanitary houses. Under these last named provisions, over one hundred buildings, certified as unfit for habitation, were dealt with within the first few years of

the enactment of these by-laws; and in 1905 further regulations were passed governing the registration, occupation, ventilation and cleanness of tenement room ranges throughout the city.

In the meantime, other influences were at work tending to bring about improved conditions of housing in Georgetown, amongst which may be mentioned the founding of the British Guiana Building Society in 1885, which by the encouragement of thrift, has assisted many of the poorer people to acquire decent little cottage homes of their own, which are far preferable in every way to single room tenements in yard ranges, as regards health, morals, and family life.

In the year 1890, mainly through the instrumentality of Viscountess Gormanston and Lady Chalmers, a very useful building branch of the Society for the Protection of Children was established: money was raised on mortgage debenture bonds, and three blocks of model tenement houses were erected in Georgetown, to serve as an object lesson as to what might be aimed at for workmen's houses, the scheme being intended to be self-supporting on strictly business lines. These blocks of model dwellings were designed to provide two and three separate rooms with kitchen and other amenities for each family; but, in order to give a moderate return on the cost of construction and pay interest on the debentures, it was found impossible to rent the combined tenements under four and five shillings per week each, which proved too much for ordinary labourers earning only twelve to fifteen shillings weekly, and who cannot afford to pay a higher rent than £2 per month, or say 2s. per week, and consequently have to resort to the single room tenement provided in the ordinary and objectionable long yard ranges, so common throughout Georgetown and in Port of Spain and other towns of the West Indies.

It is interesting to note that the population of Georgetown works out at about 60 persons per acre of the inhabited portion of the city, or say 38,000 per square mile, these figures, I believe, exceeding those of London and nearly all the large provincial cities of Great Britain. Bearing in mind the totally different character of the houses in home cities, each possessing numerous floors, one above another, as compared with the single storied dwellings of Georgetown, the question arises: how is this dense population stowed away? The answer lies in the *undue crowding of the floor areas* in the single room tenements; and this, indeed, is the crying evil that has to be combated in any movement for improving the housing of the labouring classes in West Indian towns.

I have known, or heard, of single rooms in ranges, with a floor area of not more than 120 to 150 square feet, occupied by as many as ten or twelve persons, consisting of father, mother, and nine or ten children, or other relatives, of varying ages and both sexes. Fortunately for such extreme cases of overcrowding, the Georgetown tenement ranges are built

of wood and put together with loose fitting joints, with sides, roof and floor exposed to the outer air, so that some degree of ventilation is possible, notwithstanding the usual efforts of the occupants to exclude fresh air by caulking up every opening, crevice and cranny that can be got at, as the people have a great abhorrence of what they ignorantly deem to be "the deadly night air," to say nothing of mosquitoes, snakes and "jumbies"!

In some of the common lodging houses in the Chinese quarters of Georgetown—many of which have happily been wiped out by the Werk-en-Rust fire of last December—I have known sleeping bunks to be arranged one above the other round the sides of a room, as they are on board ship.

Surgeon-General Gorgas, of Panama Canal fame, in a recent report to the Chamber of Mines of South Africa on the cause of excessive mortality of natives in the Rand mines, advocates the increase of floor space to 50 sq. feet per man in the native living quarters, and the encouragement of locations with separate huts for married men. This, indeed, is only as it should be, as single rooms in yard ranges, or barracks, are unsuitable dwellings for families, subversive alike of all decency and morality, to say nothing of health and the encouragement of a proper home life.

In this respect, at least, the small box-like houses to be seen crowded together on a Barbadian "Tenantry" have advantages over single room tenement ranges; and I have noted with pleasure that within recent years in Georgetown, the tendency has been to erect small two-roomed detached cottages in yards rather than increase the number of long ranges.

The prominence given within recent years to the housing question in the United Kingdom, has, to a great extent, been prompted by the desire of the people themselves for improved dwellings and healthier surroundings, physically and morally; and after all the problem resolves itself into a question of wages earned being sufficient to pay for increased accommodation, unless assisted by the State or local authority, as is, indeed, the case in Ireland at the present time, where, under the provisions of the Labourers' Housing Acts, a well-built, slated house, containing three rooms, with scullery, outbuildings and an enclosed yard and an acre of land attached, is provided at the low rental of 1s. 6d. per week, with an additional 10s. per annum for rates and taxes. Such ideal accommodation and low rental, is, I fear, out of the question in the West Indies, taking into account the nature of the building material and the cost of workmanship. The only practical good to be accomplished at present with the limited means available, is some amelioration of existing evil conditions by framing and enforcing necessary regulations in regard to ventilation, and overcrowding in rooms, and for their better sanitary surroundings; leaving the general uplifting of the people and their aspirations as to improved residential conditions to follow as a natural result of their gradual advancement in educational and moral attainments, and for

which ample opportunities are provided through educational authorities and religious teachers in each of the colonies.

THE INDUSTRIES OF SANTO DOMINGO.

Americans planting Sea Island cotton.

According to the report of Mr. G. A. Fisher, the British Chargé d' Affaires at Santo Domingo, the sugar crop in 1913 was short on account of the long drought in 1912, and the delay in installing new machinery at some of the mills, only 78,849 tons having been shipped. The crop for 1914 was expected to exceed all previous records. It is interesting to note that one estate was to ship canes to the neighbouring island of Porto Rico for manufacture. 19,470 tons of cacao were shipped, a decrease on that for the previous year. This decrease was attributed to the blockade of the principal cacao ports at the time of the autumn crop and to the fighting in the main district of production. The tobacco crop was good, no less than 9,790 tons having been shipped as leaf. The industry, however, is considered to be in a very bad state, and the prices received are stated to be quite unremunerative.

Mr. Fisher does not speak favourably as to either the tobacco or the cotton industries. The decline in the coffee exports, only 1,048 tons being shipped as against 2,259 tons in the previous year, may be attributed to some extent to the recent political disturbance, of which the coffee district was the centre. Cotton exports had declined from 350 tons in 1912 to 247 tons in 1913, and the hope that this industry was regaining its former importance does not appear to be realised. There is a prospect, however, of the plantation of Sea Island cotton instituted by an American company proving a success.

A material increase took place in the shipment of bananas, which had risen from 223,492 bunches in 1912 to 592,804 bunches in 1913. These are spoken of as having been of good quality and as having fetched a high price. The shipment of coco-nuts had increased from 650,580 in 1912 to 958,093 in 1913. A considerable quantity of timber was shipped, the figures for 1913 being 3,218 tons of mahogany and 2,217 of lignum vitæ. Mr. Fisher mentions, however, that the accessible timber has been already cut, and the need of rail and road communication in connection with this industry becomes more pressing every day. The only product which had gone to Canada during these years was sugar. In connection with this article it is mentioned that the prospective abolition of the duties on raw sugar in the United States is attracting increased attention to the possibilities of that industry in San Domingo, especially as there is a large quantity of cheap virgin land available.

Out of the 1,969,259 tons of sugar imported into the United Kingdom in 1913, 72,019 tons came from British colonies. The cane sugar was 369,899 tons.

THE DRAMA IN THE WEST INDIES.

Plans for the coming tourist season.

Patrons of the drama in the West Indies will be glad to learn that there is a prospect of Florence Glossop-Harris and Frank Cellier's repertoire company revisiting Kingston, Port of Spain, Bridgetown and Georgetown next winter. Mr. Frank Cellier is a young actor who has already made his mark in Shakespearean plays, having first played the part of Hamlet when twenty-one years of age, and his wife is the daughter of the late Sir Augustus Harris. Early in the present year their company, which numbered 28, went out to Jamaica by Royal Mail steamer, and visited in succession British Guiana, Trinidad, and Barbados, remaining a fortnight in each place. They played to crowded and appreciative audiences. Mr. Frank Cellier, interviewed by a representative of the CIRCULAR, spoke appreciatively of the kindness which he had received from all classes of the community during his recent tour. "I was," he said, "greatly impressed by the enthusiasm of the West Indian audiences, and by their quickness in appreciating abstruse comedy points. In this respect they compare very favourably with London audiences." Asked how he and his company liked acting in the tropics, he admitted that it was rather a trying experience in view of the heat, and especially so where playing such characters as "Falstaff," which involved the use of artificial aids to the figure. The best theatre in the colonies visited was undoubtedly the one in Kingston, the design of which reflected the greatest credit on the local architect, Mr. Henriques, who had not forgotten the stage as so many designers of theatres are accustomed to do. Elsewhere, halls had to be used, and Mr. Cellier shared the regret felt by so many residents in those colonies that there were no theatres in Barbados, Trinidad and British Guiana.

With regard to the future, Mr. Cellier said, "We hope very much to be able to return to the West Indies next winter. On our recent visit we confined ourselves to producing Shakespearean plays, but we are rehearsing many new plays by other authors which we propose to include in our repertoire in the event of our again seeking the favours of West Indian audiences."

Mr. HUGO HOFFMANN, the Chairman of the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Trinidad and Tobago, who arrived in England by the *Danube*, expressed regret to a representative of the CIRCULAR that more funds were not available for advertising the colony as a winter tourist resort. Last season proved quite a good one, and Trinidad appears to have fared better than other colonies in this respect. The local committee has already disposed of 65,000 pamphlets descriptive of the attractions of the colony, and 25,000 more are to be printed immediately, and Mr. Hoffmann has other schemes in hand for advertising the island.

A WAIL FROM THE WEST.

It has been suggested that breeders of West Indian working cattle might give more definite attention to the selection of a special strain of meat-producing animals, thereby improving the quality of West Indian beef.

Noble beast of draught and burden,
Toiling in the baking sun,
India's pride for ever holden
Sacred to Mahommedan!
You no beastly butcher bothers,
You no hunter harms, and why?
Just because you are too useful—
So you live until you die!

In the West O how I wish it
Was the same as in the East!
Cannot someone think of something
Just to save the wretched beast;
Just to make the ox more useful?
Then I know I should be free
From those awful fits of torment,
Which at dinner deaden me.

When the oily waiter wanders
Serving round your poor remains,
Then I see the tongue that muttered
Thoughts and fancies of your brains;
Then I feel your strength of muscle,
And o'er steak my tears are shed,
Thus I dine in deep emotion,
Eating but a piece of bread.

Friend! don't think I flaunt your fibres
Just because they succour ills,
(Sometimes bringing nurse and doctor
Armed with little liver pills);
No! it's just because my reason
Prompts a creed I cannot shirk:
I shall only work for bread while
You are only bred for work.

W. R. D.

MR. T. GAUTREY and his party of fifty-one London school teachers left Avonmouth for Jamaica in Elders & Pyfies steamer *Changuinola*. On arriving at Kingston they will receive an address of welcome from the Jamaica Union of Teachers. Their subsequent programme will include a visit to the Arts and Crafts Exhibition, a concert in the Ward Theatre, a trip to Caymanas Estate, Spanish Town and Bog Walk, a reception by the Bishop of Antephellus at Winchester Park, drives to Newcastle, Hardwar Gap and Hope and Castleton Gardens, and expeditions to Port Royal and Port Antonio. On August 7th they will attend an At Home given by the Governor at King's House. From Jamaica they proceed to Port Limon and Colon, and when they again set foot on Paddington platform on August 30 they will have travelled 10,212 miles. "Some journey," as Americans would say.

THE TEACHING OF AGRICULTURE.

Mr. F. A. Stockdale, Director of Agriculture in Mauritius, is not allowing the grass to grow under his feet while the question of the establishment of Agricultural Colleges in the tropics is being debated, but is already making a start in the direction of the teaching of Agriculture. Since April he has opened his laboratories at Réduit for the training of six young men in agricultural sciences, with special reference to the sugar industry. These students bind themselves for three years to complete a course in accordance with a schedule which is laid down.

Instruction is given by the Officers of the Department of Agriculture: lectures being limited to such times as their official duties may allow. A fee of Rs. 5 is charged monthly for such instruction and the parents or guardians of each student are required to enter into a contract at the commencement of the student's training to provide for the completion of such training.

The students are expected to be ready to render assistance to the Department of Agriculture in its investigations if called upon to do so. They are to be encouraged to work in a sugar factory for one crop during their period of training in order that they may become familiar with factory working.

Examinations are to be held yearly in various branches of Agricultural Science and when a student has satisfied examiners in all branches of his training a diploma will be issued to him. This diploma will be issued by the Department of Agriculture until an Agricultural College has been established in one of the Eastern Colonies—when it is hoped to arrange that the diploma be issued by that College, and that the examiners, except in practical field operations and in matters pertaining directly to the local sugar industry, be external. A research scholarship of Rs. 750 will be available once in every 3 years for such students who have obtained diplomas as may appear to the Director of Agriculture to be fitted for, and desirous of, carrying out special researches in tropical agriculture the duration of which work will occupy not less than one year. Readers of the CIRCULAR will recall that a somewhat similar scheme for Trinidad was outlined by Mr. W. G. Freeman in these columns last year.

DR. LOTA, of Port of Spain, contributes to *La Pensée Française* a creole poem entitled "Qui mêlé zé nan kalinda roche," or "Les œufs qui ont voulu se mêler à la danse des Pierres." The eggs were naturally all broken, and the moral is:—

MORALE

Ti fabe cala tiu you bon moral
Rété nan place li, chaquin doué connette
Et so Bon Dié pas fè nous toute égal
Pas pé, li vrai mérite ki toujou maite.

Cette petite fable a une bonne morale.
Il faut rester à sa place; chacun doit savoir cela.
Et si le bon Dieu ne nous a pas tous faits égaux
N'ayez crainte, le vrai mérite est toujours maître.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

MR. G. G. AUCHINLECK, B.Sc., has left Grenada en route for Mauritius, to take up his new appointment as Assistant Director and Chemist of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. F. Birkinshaw, Assistant Agricultural Superintendent, St. Vincent, has also been promoted to the Mauritius Department of Agriculture, as Agricultural Instructor, and will proceed to that colony, on the return from leave of Mr. Sands.

THE report of the Botanic Station of Montserrat shows that Sakellarides cotton continues to grow vigorously in Montserrat. The yield of Sea Island cotton during the year was, however, low, owing to the dry weather, the average yield being 142 lbs. of lint per acre. During 1912-13 season 290,390 lbs. were shipped, valued at £18,478, compared with 544,607, valued at £38,692 in 1911. The exports of lime products for 1912 were as follows: Raw lime juice 128,857 galls., concentrated 4,527 galls., citrate of lime 34½ tons, and 2,877 crates of fresh limes, representing a crop return of 231,760 galls. of raw juice compared with an average output of 237,028 galls. over the previous seven years. 3,087 lbs. of papaine were exported from the island, valued at £1,606, exceeding the 1911 exports by 834 lbs.

THE Report of the Department of Agriculture of Barbados for the year 1912-13 states that the results of the manurial experiments on sugar cane for the last 20 years show that as regards nitrogen in addition to farmyard manure, which was added in each case, the best return was obtained with 60 lbs. of dried blood per acre, applied in January and June, in the proportion of 15 lbs. in January and 45 lbs. in June. The phosphate series showed the best result from 100 lbs. of basic slag per acre, while in the case of the potash series, the maximum return was obtained with 100 lbs. of sulphate of potash per acre. As regards the manuring of cotton, the best result was obtained when 30 lbs. of nitrogen as sulphate of ammonia, 60 lbs. of phosphoric acid as superphosphate of lime, and 20 lbs. of potash as sulphate of potash were applied.

5,844 bunches of bananas were shipped to the United Kingdom and 18,295 mangos, which netted 1½ cents each. Experimental shipments of melons had been made to the United States, and it was hoped that it would be demonstrated that it was possible to land melons in New York at paying prices. As regards the crops of the island, there had been exported 14,548 hhds. of vacuum pan crystals, 18,275 hhds. of muscovado sugar, and 85,063 puns. of molasses, 63,553 puns. of which were "fancy." Corrected for the make of this product, the equivalent crop of the island might, for the year 1912, be taken as being 51,220 hhds.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

MESSRS. MONBLANC and Rangel, as the result of the study of *Stilbum flavidum*, found to be a parasite to coffee trees, believe that this parasite is a sterile form of a fungus which they have named *Omphalia flaviola*. The parasite only attacks the trees under favourable conditions of heat and moisture.

CONSIDERABLE danger occurs from the exposure of fruit to dust in open shop windows. As the result of observations in this connection, E. F. Ladd found that grapes which had been exposed in the street had 3,000,000 bacteria per grape on the outside as compared with 780,000 on the inside grapes.

As the outcome of nine years experiments with sodium nitrate, ammonium sulphate, calcium nitrate and calcium cyanide for cereals, hay, root-crops and potatoes, S. Rhodin concludes that calcium nitrate produced the best results for grass, roots and potatoes, while for cereals, especially oats, which do not require much lime, it proved inferior to sodium nitrate.

THE *Journal of Agricultural Research* for May has an interesting article on a new citrus plant which Mr. Swingle, of the United States Bureau of Agriculture, has just brought to light. This is the Australian desert Kumquat, hitherto called *Atalantia glauca* by most botanists. From a close examination of its peculiarities Mr. Swingle considers that this plant should have a genus of its own, *Eremocitrus*.

THIS hardy plant, when only a small shrub yields a great abundance of fruit. It often reaches the size of a small tree. It is a pronounced desert plant. The fruit is small and resembles miniature lemons. On account of the ability of *Eremocitrus* to grow in dry soils exposed to hot dry winds, Mr. Swingle considers that it might be found to be of the greatest value in breeding new types of citrus fruits, better fitted than any others for semi-arid conditions.

MESSRS. KELLERMAN and Wright have recently been investigating the causes for the decrease in the yield of fruit and for the general physiological decadence of citrus trees in small areas scattered through the orange belt in California. As the result of extensive bacteriological studies and physiological experiments, the authors conclude that they are in a position to advise the employment of certain methods of crop culture in cases of citrus mal-nutrition, chlorosis, or mottle leaf. From the article published in the *Journal of Agricultural Research* it would appear that the extensive use of mature straw is to be avoided, although light application of straw to fields too high in nitrate, probably also with the liberal use of ground limestone, might be advantageous.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

THE King has been pleased to approve of Sir G. Townsend Fenwick, on his retirement from the Legislative Council of Trinidad and Tobago, retaining the title of "Honourable" within the Colony.

THE area planted in cotton in the United States in 1913, was about 37,458,000 acres, and the yield of cotton per acre averaged 182 lbs. as compared with 190.9 lbs. in 1912, 207.7 lbs. in 1911, 170.7 lbs. in 1910, and 154.3 lbs. in 1909.

WE regret to announce the death in Georgetown, of Mr. William Craigen, for many years manager and attorney of Cornelia Ida on the West Coast, Demerara. Latterly Mr. Craigen lived with his son at the Colonial Hospital.

ON June 26th, Port of Spain became a Municipal City, the Ordinance of May 29th last incorporating the inhabitants and providing for the good government of the city having been brought into operation by Proclamation of the Governor on that date.

THE Bank of Nova Scotia with a paid-up capital of \$6,000,000 (£1,200,000) and a reserve fund of \$11,000,000 (£2,200,000) and the Metropolitan Bank with a paid-up capital of \$1,000,000 (£200,000) and reserve of \$1,250,000 (£250,000) have amalgamated.

A REPORT of the Institute of Jamaica which is signed by Archdeacon Simms, Chairman of the Board of Governors and Mr. Frank Cundall, Secretary, records a year of steady progress. There are now 14,721 volumes in the Library and 839 members.

THE S.S. *van der Duyn*, built by Swan, Hunter, and Wigham Richardson, Ltd., at Wallsend-on-Tyne, for Messrs. Wambersie and Zoon of Rotterdam, for the West Indian banana trade, has just completed her steam trials. She is sister ship to the *van Hogendorp* now plying between the West Indies and Rotterdam, and has accommodation for 30 first-class passengers.

MESSRS. DUCKWORTH & Co. announce for early publication a new and revised edition of "The Pocket Guide to the West Indies." The book has been to a great extent re-written and chapters on the Bahamas, the Bermudas and the Spanish Main have been added, besides several maps and plans. An American edition will be published by Messrs. Rand, McNally & Co., of Chicago and New York.

MR. CONSUL GENERAL E. B. MARSE does not give a favourable account of the sugar industry in Holland. The crop for 1913 was, owing to weather, short, and the price of sugar low. The cost of pro-

duction is also getting higher, on account of the rising wages and increased cost of the raw material, and this unfavourable condition is expected to continue in the near future.

IN a recent paper on the working of multiple effects, Mr. Noel Deerr states that a vertical submerged quadruple effect with an initial pressure in first vessel of 5 lbs. per sq. foot, and an ultimate vacuum of 26.5 in the last vessel, should evaporate 9 lbs. of water per sq. foot heating surface. This is equivalent to 12 lbs with a triple effect. Mr. Deerr states that a horizontal tube film evaporator gives a much greater rate of evaporation than this.

WHILST motoring recently in the neighbourhood of Haslemere, Sussex, a party of Demerarians, consisting of Mr., Mrs. and Miss Seedorff, Mr. Bastiaans and Mr. P. E. Francis, met with what might have been a serious accident. Smoke appeared in the inside of the car, and as this became worse the car was stopped and the party alighted. An explosion immediately took place and the car burst into flame, and was destroyed in a few minutes.

AMONG the callers to the West India Committee Rooms during the past fortnight have been: the Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Mr. J. R. Bancroft, Hon. W. L. McKinstry, Mr. Charles M. Calder, Mr. P. Houghton James, Mr. W. A. Boyd, Mr. Samuel Manning, Mr. H. Godrich, Mr. W. N. Sands, Mr. W. R. Durie, Dr. G. W. Paterson, Mr. H. P. C. Melville, Mr. C. W. Prest, Commander the Hon. W. H. Coombs, R.N., Mr. H. Seedorff, and Mr. G. McGregor Peter.

Commander the Hon. W. H. Coombs, R.N. and Mr. W. Gordon Gordon were entertained by the West Indian Club at a dinner on July 22nd. Mr. Gideon Murray, who presided, mentioned that Commander Coombs had served his King and Country for 47 years, latterly as Protector of Immigrants in Trinidad, while Mr. Gordon was well known as a prominent resident who had done much for the betterment of the island. Commander Coombs, thanking the Club, said that the position from which he was about to retire, was one which called for much tact as he was expected to satisfy both the employer and the employed; but he hoped that he had always done his duty. Mr. Gordon, referring to Trinidad being called the land of the humming bird attributed the fact that the island was "humming" largely to those "busy bees" whom the Commander had been protecting. He believed that a great future lay before the oil industry. Trinidad had an advantage over other oil producing countries owing to its being so near the Panama Canal and half way between the West and the East. Sir Charles Cox welcomed the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Goode, on his return from San Francisco, and the health of the chairman was proposed by Sir F. Hodgson.

THE LONDON LETTER.

THE attention of the country has been focussed on the Conference summoned by the King with a view to a solution of the Home Rule problem. By command of His Majesty the leaders of the Government, Opposition, Nationalists, and Ulster Unionists—eight delegates in all—have met from day to day at Buckingham Palace with the object of finding "the way out." Unfortunately no *modus vivendi* has been reached and the outlook at the time of writing is gloomy. It is deeply to be regretted that the atmosphere surrounding the Conference was disturbed by baseless criticisms offered by certain Liberal newspapers of the speech delivered by the King at the opening of the Conference—a speech for which Ministers assumed full responsibility.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON, so recently the guest of the West India Committee has been honoured by a visit on board his Antarctic ship *Endurance* from Queen Alexandra, the Empress Marie of Russia, and Princess Victoria. Queen Alexandra presented to the distinguished explorer two flags—her personal standard and the Union Jack—and a mascot consisting of a medallion of enamel surrounded by crystal.

THE brilliant assemblage at the last State Ball given at Buckingham Palace included several guests well-known in West Indian circles. These included Sir Sydney Olivier, ex-Governor of Jamaica, Sir H. Hesketh Bell, Governor of the Leeward Islands, Mr. C. A. Harris, of the Colonial Office, and Sir C. Mallet, British Consul at Panama.

ALL London is regretting the retirement of our most popular magistrate, Mr. A. C. Plowden, and the cause of that retirement—prolonged ill-health. For years Mr. Plowden has never been wholly free from pain—a fact which throws into strong relief his brave and cheerful spirit. We shall miss those quips which for so long have brightened the police court reports. Readers of the CIRCULAR need not to be reminded of Mr. Plowden's sojourn in Jamaica in earlier days as private secretary to his relative, the late Sir John Peter Grant, a former Governor of the island.

ANOTHER retirement which breaks a link with the past is that of Sir Edward Clarke, K.C., one of the most brilliant advocates of the Victorian era. Sir Edward, who has completed 50 years of public life, will always be remembered for those sacrifices for conscience sake which barred his way to high political or judicial office. In taking leave of the Bar he was entertained at a farewell banquet at which the Lord Chancellor presided.

A BANKING amalgamation of unusual interest unites the historic houses of Coutts & Co., and

Roberts, Lubbock and Co. Coutts, of course, date back two hundred years or more, the long list of notable clients including Lord Dundonald, the famous admiral. With the second firm the name of Lubbock has been identified since 1772, the most prominent member of the family to be identified with its fortunes in modern times being the late Lord Avebury.

GLORIOUS weather favoured the naval display at Spithead on July 20, when the King and the Prime Minister witnessed the largest assemblage of warships ever seen in British waters. Thousands of visitors flocked to the South Coast to see the "First Line of Defence," arrayed in such impressive strength. The extent of the mobilisation is indicated by the fact that the warships passing before His Majesty's inspection covered a distance of 22 miles.

ONE of the most notable of recent events in the sporting world has been the boxing contest between Carpentier (France) and "Gunboat" Smith (America) for the white heavy weight championship of the world, fought in London. Smith was disqualified in the sixth round. A match between Ahearn and Carpentier is now eagerly awaited.

DO "cancer houses" exist? Dr. Bashford, head of the Laboratory of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund refutes the theory. His attitude has attracted some little attention following upon the annual meeting of the Fund last week. In this connection our readers may remember how strongly the late Sir Rubert Boyce repudiated the suggestion of "yellow fever houses." In a lecture delivered before the West India Committee in 1909, following upon his successful conquest of the yellow fever outbreak in Barbados, Sir Rubert mentioned that he had been shown certain dwellings in the island supposed to be the abodes of the fever. The Professor ridiculed the superstition.

Mr. J. R. Boose, the popular secretary of the Royal Colonial Institute, now happily recovered from his recent illness, left London on Monday for Australia via the Cape in the interests of that Imperial organisation. He will address meetings there, and subsequently visit New Zealand, Fiji and, en route for home, Colombo. Next year Mr. Boose will probably visit Canada and the West Indies where he is sure of a hearty welcome.

THE ultimatum presented by Austria to Servia in consequence of the recent assassination of the Archduke, coming on the top of the Home Rule crisis at home proved too much for the stock markets. There was a severe slump on Saturday and many new "low records" were reached. The seriousness of the European situation is also reflected by the produce markets which have rarely been so flat as they now are, sugar excepted.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Bermuda's growing tourist traffic.

The West Indies have now been brought into such close touch with the Bermudas through the new subsidised steamer service with Canada that the appearance of the no longer "vex'd Bermoothes" in this column will, no doubt, be welcomed by many readers. It will, it is hoped, also help to give publicity to those islands whose recent successful efforts to extend their tourist traffic form an object lesson to the West Indies, which are, it must regretfully be admitted, backward in this respect. Dr. W. Cardy Black, whose interesting letter is published below is a prominent citizen of Hamilton and Editor of the *Bermuda Colonist*, the leading newspaper of the Bermudas. In spite of the approach of the Big Gooseberry season our Hon. Correspondents in the West Indies have much of interest to tell in their letters, extracts from which are given below. Of importance is the satisfactory result of the operations of the Antigua Onion Growers' Association, which should lead to co-operation in other branches of agriculture and industry. Mr. Edgar Tripp writes of the rapid progress of the local oil industry, and Mr. J. C. McCowan gives the result of the recent referendum in Georgetown on the Hinterland Railway question. The R.M.S.P. *Tagus* reached Southampton after an uneventful voyage at 1.30 on July 20th. Among her passengers were the following members of the West India Committee. Mr. G. H. Arthur, Mr. J. M. Fleming, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, Mr. N. Scott Johnson, Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, Mr. Leonard F. Nourse, Mr. C. W. Prest, Mr. L. H. Schoener Scott, Hon. C. J. Simmonds, Mr. E. C. Skinner, and Mr. J. T. Smellic.

ANTIGUA—Co-operation among agriculturists.

HON. A. P. COWLEY, JULY 3rd.—The weather during the past fortnight has been cloudy and showery, but no heavy rain has fallen, though one or two estates have been somewhat favoured. On the whole the weather has been very unsatisfactory.—Gunthorpe's factory is progressing. Owing to breakdowns on some muscovado estates, and fires on others, it is benefiting by getting the canes and the muscovado proprietors have been very thankful to have it to fall back upon. What is badly needed is another factory. There has been quite an epidemic of cane fires during present week, no fewer than five raging on different estates on one night.—The Rev. C. Branch leaves to-day for Barbados, after eighteen years work in Antigua and many more in other parts of the Diocese. A purse of money was presented to him by his friends and parishioners.—A new bakery is about to be opened by Mr. Aubrey Comacho. It will be quite up-to-date, sanitary and clean. A motor bread-making plant is to be installed and the works lighted by electricity. This will be far in advance of anything now in Antigua, and will go away with handling of flour, etc., by men.—The Antigua Onion Growers' Association has held their last meeting for the season. The results have been very satisfactory and have proved that

by proper drying and packing the Antigua onion can hold its own anywhere. They hope to enlarge their scope of work for next year by purchasing onions at a spot price, doing all the packing, grading, finding of crates, etc., at one place, market the onions, and then at end of season share profits. This ought to be a great success. It will be the first attempt to do anything in Antigua on co-operative lines. It is hoped the Association will receive proper support from those interested. This year they have handled 42,800 lbs. onions, shipping 39,798, the loss on drying and repacking, etc., being 5.3 per cent. This is more than recouped by the grower, owing to return of packages, less freight, etc. The average price netted has been a fraction over 1d. per lb. The kiln drying experiment promises to be a success, thanks to the very hard work of the officers of the Agricultural Department, and particularly of Mr. H. A. Tempary, Superintendent of Agriculture.—It has been determined to abandon the S.S. *Corydon* which went ashore on Barbuda in May last. After further examination had been made possible by the operations of the "wrecking steamer" party, it was found impracticable to repair the vessel: consequently all movable parts, stores, etc., are being brought to Antigua.—Mr. and Mrs. R. S. D. Goodwin leave per mail to-day for England. Mrs. Goodwin has been very seriously ill for some time past, and her many friends are very anxious about her.—The Antigua Quoit, Bowling and Lawn Tennis Club gave a very successful concert and theatricals at Bishop Mather's school room on the 1st July under the patronage of His Excellency the Hon. T. V. Best, Acting Governor, to a packed house.

BAHAMAS—Mail communication with the United States.

Mr. Leon E. H. Dupuch, editor of the *Tribute* died on June 30th, after an illness of several months duration.—Hon. F. C. Wells Durrant, K.C., Hon. G. H. Gamblin, and Hon. J. H. Brown left in the *Seguranca* for New York on July 2nd to arrange a contract for a mail passenger and freight service between a port in the United States and the Bahamas.

BARBADOS—Baker's Plantation changes hands.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, JULY 6th.—We have had some nice showers during the past fortnight, and the young crop has very much improved, and to-day we have had a nice heavy rain. With a continuance of good rains the crop should make up for some of the harm done to it by the severe drought of the first five months of the year.—Dr. Pilgrim, of Porters, and Mr. S. S. Robinson, of Constant, have bought Baker's Plantation in St. Peter's (289 acres—Windmill) for £4,000. The crop will in future be reaped at Porter's Factory.—All were sorry to hear of Mr. Darnell Davis's illness and hope that he will soon be restored to health.

Rev. E. B. Bovell, Rector of St. George's, and brother of Sir H. A. Bovell, late Chief Justice of British Guiana died on June 30 from pneumonia, after an illness of ten days.

BERMUDA—Attracting many summer visitors.

DR. W. CARDY BLACK, JULY 9th.—After the usual quiet time in the tourist traffic in the months of May and June, more arrivals are to be noted and the hotels are beginning to look for summer visitors, 470 having arrived within the last week. The tourist traffic for the second quarter of the years shows a rise of 396 over the corresponding period of 1913, the figures being 3,211 for 1914, and 2,815 for 1913 respectively. The following gives the figures for the years from 1908 onwards.

	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914
April	...	322	1863	1557	2422	2164	1351
May	...	97	998	671	545	789	723
June	...	148	514	648	806	748	741

After sitting since October, 1913, the Legislature has nearly cleared up its work, and will bring the session to a close in two or three weeks from this date. The prolonged debate over the New York Steam Communication Act has taken up a great deal of time, and the latest move in the matter has been the assent of the House of Assembly to the postponement of the date of beginning the contract from January 1st until December 1st in order to allow sufficient time to build and equip the new ship according to the contract stipulations.—Since the appointment of Mr. E. J. Wortley (of Jamaica) to the post of Director of Agriculture, much activity has been manifested in matters agricultural, and a strong plea has been entered by the Board of Agriculture for a new experimental station, upon which point debate is now going on. Several other important matters still remain to be dealt with, among them being the Public Carriage Bill, dealing with licensing of drivers. The Trade Development Board have recommended the insertion of provisions which will strike at the grafting that now prevails and which is a subject of complaint. The passage of this Act will very materially strengthen the hands of the police in the regulation of traffic and will be welcomed by the newly appointed Inspector of Police, who has just arrived. Scotland Yard has been asked to furnish the new Police Head, and Mr. Walker brings with him a most excellent record.—This summer season has been marked by an extension of the weekly half-day closing to the month of May and the Legislature has given assent to a holiday in the Public Services for the same period.

BRITISH GUIANA—A hinterland railway referendum.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, JULY 4th.—The news of the honour conferred on Dr., now Sir Joseph Godfrey, by the King has been received with much pleasure by his many friends in the colony, and we are also pleased to learn that Dr. Rowland had received the Imperial Service Order.—The S.S. *Arawana*, the third of the new Government steamers arrived on the 30th ultimo and the Government service was inaugurated on the 2nd instant. The *Chronicle* records that prior to its inauguration the police seized the launch *Ismay* of Messrs. Sproston, Ltd., while plying between the Dockyard Stelling and Pouderoyen for infringing the Colonial and Contract Steamer Traffic Ordinance, 1914.

Mr. R. G. Duncan has announced his intention of leaving the colony shortly and has resigned his seat in the Legislature.—Mr. A. P. Sherlock, senior member for Georgetown, and Mr. C. W. Prest, financial representative, recently took a referendum of their constituents as to whether they were prepared to support legislation to give effect to the necessary constitutional changes which would give the Secretary of State complete control over raising and spending of the Colonial revenue, as well as over all legislation, if by so doing financial arrangements could be made for the construction of a railway to the Hinterland and otherwise to push forward the development and welfare of the colony. The total number of names on the register was 2,063. Of these 210 were objected to, and the communication was returned undelivered for various reasons in the case of 452 people. The result was as follows:—

Constituents approached	1401
Answers received:	
Yes: Signed	553
Unsigned	452
No: Signed	19
Unsigned	77
Total replies received	1101
Not replied to	300

The Court of Policy met on the 23rd and 29th of June and on the former date approved of the proposals as to the regulations of the proposed cash on delivery service

which had been opposed by the traders.—The S.S. *Indus* left on June 25th with 690 statute adult immigrants returning to Calcutta.

Mr. William Fogarty has just acquired for \$32,500 the premises of the New Colonial Company, Water Street, next to Messrs Smith Bros. & Co., Ltd.—The Hon. C. Clementi delivered a lecture to the Y.M.C.A. on the 25th ultimo on the subject of the suggested discovery of the American Continent by a party of Buddhist monks in the fifth century A.D.—The Demerara Market Report for July 4 states that the weather has been suitable for the collection of balata and that expeditions despatched to the several upper districts should report success.—Sales of refining sugar in small quantities have been made at \$2.05; for local consumption \$2.15 is quoted. Yellows are quoted at \$2.50 to \$2.60.—I regret to advise the death of Mr. F. A. Leng, District Engineer, Essequibo, on the 27th ultimo, and that of Mr. J. B. Finney on the 28th idem.

BRITISH HONDURAS—The Estimates for 1914-15.

The estimated revenue for the year 1914-15 is \$553,460, of which \$517,960 is ordinary and \$35,500 extraordinary. The estimated surplus on April 1st, 1914, is \$228,579. The estimated expenditure for 1914 \$607,026, of which \$507,873 is ordinary and \$99,153 extraordinary. The estimated surplus on March 31st, 1915, is \$235,013.

DOMINICA—Vanilla cultivation steadily extending.

MR. E. A. AGAR, JULY 4th.—There is a growing feeling that vanilla is a good crop to produce, and I expect that shortly a considerable area will be under this cultivation. It will take some time to do anything really big as the slips for planting are not too easily got.—Steady rains during the past fortnight have been bringing on the lime crop fast, and we still continue to have gales. In many places lime trees are beginning to flower again and if present prices will only hold until these are ripe, we should have a year which will go down to history as a record one.

GRENADA—Increased cacao shipments.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, JULY 6th.—There is nothing to write about this mail, except that Mr. G. G. Auchinleck, our Superintendent of Agriculture, will be leaving this afternoon by the mail to take up an appointment in Mauritius, and that we have had a week or ten days of nice rains.—The shipments of cacao to date amount to 64,526 bags, as against 60,812 bags in the corresponding period last year, so we are still 3,714 to the good.

JAMAICA—The Importance of the Banana.

HON. D. S. GIBSON, JULY 4th.—It is with regret I have to report that there are certain parts of the island now in the grip of a drought. The results are being more seriously felt in the parish of St. Mary, and the present outlook is that unless the drought stricken area is blessed with some rain soon, the banana crop will greatly suffer.

MR. A. ST. J. SMOOKER, JULY 3rd.—It would be difficult to imagine the condition of Jamaica to-day without the banana industry. The revenue of the island may be said to hang from the banana trees, and whenever future hopes are talked about those hopes are all founded on bananas. Railway extension, irrigation projects, etc., are all hoped for and thought out on the basis of more bananas. The value of land depends principally on whether it will grow bananas, or rather will grow g-hand and upwards, bunches of bananas, and whether having grown them they can be profitably conveyed to a place of sale. Naturally then the clamour for railway extension is a strong one, and comes from several points. There is much excellent banana land in parts of the island favoured with an adequate rainfall but which presents very considerable difficulties in the

matter of haulage, especially for easily damaged produce like bananas. Shorten this haulage and these lands at once become sources of wealth to their owners and to the community. The line recently opened and which runs up the Rio Minho valley from May Pen to Chapelton has proved to be successful in every way, and now those further on, at Frankfield are doing their best to get the line extended into this fertile and well watered district, a scheme which it seems to the writer will soon become a fact.

MR. A. E. CLODD, JULY 1st.—Heavy rains are still falling. It is with regret that I have to report to you the death of Joseph Jacobs at the Kingston Hospital. He had good friends (and brothers, being a mason). He was one of the best of good hearted men, and needless to say we shall miss him round the small community this side.

NEVIS—Worms attacking the Sea Island cotton.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, JULY 3rd.—The weather for the past two weeks has been dry with a high wind, but has been somewhat relieved by the shower of 25 parts on the 3rd instant, the rainfall for the month of June 4.20, this following over 8 inches. May gave the early planted cotton a good stand, but all around is heard for the past ten days worms, worms, worms, these are being, however, firmly dealt with.—Dr. Lemox Nopier, medical officer for the Guavaland District, leaves by this mail for England on sick leave.—The grinding of canes is nearing the end, the cane crop here being an exceedingly short one.

ST. KITTS—The increasing emigration of labourers.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, JULY 3rd.—Crops are still in progress, and owing to the unusually rainy time experienced in May and the early part of June the saccharine contents of the canes are poor, and yields generally are reported unsatisfactory; reaping also being very backward.

Some steps ought to be taken if possible to put some restriction on the regular flow of emigration that is steadily taking place from these small West Indian colonies to New York, Canada, San Domingo and elsewhere—otherwise it will become impossible to work estates to anything like their full capacity for want of agricultural labourers. This is becoming a most serious question and in time will lead to a crisis.

ST. LUCIA—The cacao crop looking extremely well.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON, JULY 3rd.—June has been a month of light but frequent and well distributed rainfall, admirably suiting cacao and lime cultivation, but with not quite enough moisture to push the backward sugar cane fields into quick growth. The rainfall for the first six months of the year has only totalled 18 inches. We have experienced continuously high winds during the past fortnight with cloudy skies. The cacao crop is almost everywhere reported to be looking well, and lime crushing is now in full swing.—The Finance Committee has been assimilating figures and reports for the last three weeks and is to again become active on the 6th instant.

ST. VINCENT—A very successful Alexandra Day.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, JULY 4th.—Alexandra Day was observed on June 24th for the first time in this colony. The success was greater than the organisers anticipated, and the Court House was packed to overflowing.—The seasonable rains reported last mail continue, 9½ inches being recorded at the Botanic Station for the month of June. Cotton has had a good start and is germinating very regularly throughout the colony.

TOBAGO—An ideal island for coco-nut culture.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, JULY 6th.—The June rainfall was over six inches, which is considerably under the average, but as it fell in almost daily showers, the ground is well

soaked and vegetation is in full growth. Some heavy showers are still needed to clean out the rivers and ravines. In all districts planting and supplying is being carried on, especially in coco-nut properties. It is reported that a large acreage on the north coast is to be cut down and planted with coco-nuts. For this cultivation Tobago is exceptionally well situated, having excellent facilities from the numerous bays. Driving last month along the Windward and Leeward Roads I was surprised to see the growth of recently planted coco-nuts, as well as the attention being given to the fields.—Mr. Broadway, Curator of the Gardens, has been promoted, and the Gardens at Scarborough and Stock Farm, will now be under the management of Mr. C. W. Meaden. The numerous testimonials and addresses given to Mr. Broadway demonstrate that he is a popular and useful official, and it is to be hoped that his successor will maintain the reputation of the attractive little Botanic Gardens, which visitors never fail to admire.—Mr. Hancock, the acting Inspector of Schools, paid the Island a visit last week. The passenger list of the R.M.S. *Barina* shows that she is becoming popular already, and Tobago only wants a good hotel to attract visitors from far and near.

TRINIDAD—Port of Spain becomes a Municipal City.

MR. EDGAR TRIPLE, JULY 7th.—On no previous occasion here has there been more general and genuine grief expressed for the loss of a public man than has been felt and voiced in the case of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain. The British West Indies have indeed cause to be grateful to him, and his name will be ever as much honoured in these small colonies as in the larger Dominions of the Crown. Most of us only heard the news with the Sunday morning paper. On Monday the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce telegraphed its condolence to Mrs. Chamberlain, and asked the West India Committee to send a wreath to the funeral on its behalf. It was also arranged that flags should be flown half-mast throughout the town on that day, but the evening's telegram told that he had already been carried to his grave.

General Dalrymple-Hay has paid his last inspecting visit, and has found the Constabulary as good, if not better than ever, and the volunteer part of the local forces still dwindling.—The officials of the Working Men's Association are having a sorry time in the Courts and elsewhere. They are now principally occupied in charging each other with fraud and robbery. A subsidiary body for co-operative insurance has been formed. The treasurer denies receiving the premiums, the secretary urges that he was a mere puppet in the hands of the president, and that the latter controlled everything excepting the cash. Meanwhile the cash is missing.

The new steamer *Helize* has arrived safely and will take her place on the round Trinidad route next week. Like the *Balantia* she fills all expectations.

On 26th June a Gazette Extraordinary contained a Proclamation that Ordinances to constitute Port of Spain a Municipal City, and to provide temporarily for elections, etc., came into operation that day, and at a meeting of the temporary body, the Hon. Dr. Prada was appointed Chairman for the term of the interregnum. No better choice could be made.—I have not yet obtained full particulars of the sugar crop, but there is no doubt that it will prove considerable larger than that of recent years.—News from the oilfields is very encouraging. The United British Oil fields are turning out a large quantity of petroleum every week, which no doubt could and would be largely exported but for the want of storage room. The tanks at present available hold 30,000 tons. Large additional tank capacity is being erected, a very clear indication of what the experienced men owning and controlling the property look

forward to. No one who sees this place can have much doubt as to the great future before it in the oil enterprises of the world. Meanwhile exports of oil are growing with gratifying rapidity.—Heavy rains with interludes of bright sunshine continue to gladden the hearts of the planters. It is a long time since the colony has had a good soaking. It is getting it now, and the prospects of all cultivation are good. It is only prices that are "vile." The St. Madeleine Estates Company has made 15,836 tons, but that of course was Mr. H. E. Murray's (the late Attorney's) crop. This is only second to the 16,000 tons, the farewell crop of Mr. Peter Abel on the same place.—The sale of the Forbes Park estate, which has been for so many years worked successfully under the able management of Mr. F. J. Morris, is announced. The purchasers are the Messrs. Henderson Brothers., of Dalton and Co., Bolivar, and Port of Spain, who are acquiring large freehold properties in the colony.

Staff-Captain William I. Joy of the Salvation Army is inviting donations towards the cost of the erection of a Memorial Hall to the late General William Booth, which it is proposed to erect in the Port of Spain, Trinidad. Towards this object the Government of Trinidad and Tobago have already contributed £50, and His Excellency Sir George R. Le Hunte, G.C.M.G., £20, making with the contribution of three other gentlemen and a grant from the International Headquarters, a total of £340. This leaves a balance of £310 to be raised. Mr. William Gordon Gordon has generously offered to give £160 if the balance of £150 is raised locally so that the Hall may be opened without any incumbrances.

Shipments of cacao for the month of June were a fair average, completing with previous shipments a total of 34,323,618 lbs., since 1st January. Deliveries may now be expected to fall off, probably till November. Business has been dull and quiet, with arrivals practically nil at date. Prices are, if anything, a trifle lower than last quoted. \$10.85 to \$11.00 for Ordinary; 11.35 to 11.50 for Estate; 11.50 to 11.60 for Venezuelan. The shipments of Trinidad cacao during the month of June were as follows:—

Destination	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	149,921
B.N. America	19,940
France	1,870,720
Germany	170,900
Holland	121,100
Spain	32,350
Italy	89,980
Belgium	66,900
Denmark	39,200
United States America	1,919,440
Other Countries	49,000
Other British Colonies	35,672
Total for June	4,555,123
Shipped previously	49,768,495
Total from 1st January	54,323,618
to same date, 1913	37,161,054
" " 1912	35,494,269
" " 1911	35,100,943
" " 1910	39,277,699
" " 1909	34,472,394
" " 1908	29,725,302

Mr Charles Major has been appointed Chief Justice of British Guiana.

A complete list of publications can be obtained from the West India Committee Rooms, post free, upon application.

DEATHS.

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants," Crossed cheques or P.O. Orders, should be made payable to the Manager, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Jacobs—At the Kingston Hospital, Jamaica, on Sunday, June 28th, Joseph Jacobs, of Haughton Hall Estate, Green Island.

Gibbon—On July 6th, at his residence "Elleslie," San Fernando, Frank Gibbon, late Inspector of Immigrants, Southern Division.

WANTS.

The Dalston Charity Organisation Committee wish to recommend native of Jamaica as nurse or maid to family returning to Jamaica. Good references.—Apply C. O. S., 54, Shacklewell Lane, N.E.

Experienced Nurse, aged 28, wishing to return to Demerara, offers her services as nurse to young baby or children returning to the colony immediately. Address, M. T. c/o West India Committee Circular, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

Wanted—Wanted to purchase July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Timehri—Wanted to Purchase Part II. of Timehri for 1891, Part II. 1893, Part II. 1895 and Part II. 1898. For Sale: Part I. 1886, Part II. 1889, Part I. 1893, and Part I. 1894.—Apply M. L. F., c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

For Sale—Bound volume of *The Sugar Cane (International Sugar Journal)* for year 1889. Apply P., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX.—No. 52. Proceedings of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly. No. 53. Statement of Revenue and Expenditure of the Parish of Saint James (General and Sanitation). Bills to amend Police Act 1908 and Debtors Act 1879. Proceedings of the House of Assembly. Bill to amend the Trade Act 1910. No. 54. Bye-laws made by the Commissioners of Health of the various Parishes. Report on the Post Office. Bill to regulate the Boring for Oil. No. 55. Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council. Bill to provide against the harbouring of rats. Bill to facilitate the Boring for Oil.

British Guiana, Vol. XXXVIII. No. 56. Crown Lands Regulations 1915. Proposed form of Daily Register of Indentured Immigrants in Estates' Hospitals. Regulations relating to Committees of the Board of Agriculture. Vol. XXXIX.—No. 1. Colonial and Contract Steamer Traffic Ordinance. Fares of new Government Steamer and Ferry services. **British Honduras, No. 27.**—p. 187. Statement of Revenue and Expenditure to March 31, 1914. **Grenada, Vol. 32.**—No. 24. Vital Statistics—Registrar-General's Report for 1913. Bills for amending the laws relating to midwives, bake-houses, land acquisition and the liability of guardians for the acts of children. **Jamaica, Vol. XXXVII.**—No. 27. Return of Hookworm Examinations at the Public General Hospital. Supplement No. 7. Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture. No. 8. Annual Report of the Excise and Customs Department. No. 9. Annual Reports of the Government Printing Office, Kingston Town Board, Boys and Girls Industrial School, Stony Hill, Board of Education, etc. **Trinidad, Vol. LXXXIII.**—No. 27. Report of Committee on the Use of Fuel Oil instead of Coal at the Pumping Station. Minutes of Proceedings of the Trinidad Town Board. No. 29. Proclamation putting into effect the Ordinance to make Port of Spain a municipal city. Regulation for the provision of latrines on estates. **Leeward Islands, Vol. XLII.**—No. 28. Report of the Inspector of schools. Bill for increasing the annual service of Barbuda. Regulations for control of bakeries in Nevis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The West Indian Mail Service.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—Not having been fortunate enough to have seen "Illi Robur's" letter in your CIRCULAR with regard to the West Indian mail and passenger service I cannot comment; but it was with pleasure I read Mr. Guy Wyatt's on the same subject. Travelling so often, as I do, between this country and the islands, sometimes via New York and other times direct, I trust you will allow me to say, that, not for one moment do I think the idea of people travelling backwards and forwards via Canada will be looked upon with any favour whatever.

In the first place, one wishes to go aboard and settle down and remain so, until the completion of their journey; but the idea of having to change boats midway, so to speak, is anything but comforting; fancy a man with his wife and family, how they would dislike the idea, besides the extra expense. Take the tips alone, there's the bedroom, table, bath, smoking room, etc., etc., stewards. This will have to be met with on both steamers. Besides, don't mention for one moment the extremely cold weather that one has to put up with nine months out of the twelve, a man travelling by himself wouldn't mind so much, but even then I doubt if the majority wouldn't kick.

What is really required and could be easily done, if only your Committee and the merchants and planters would combine is to make a united stand against the present shipping combine.

There is no need whatsoever of any subsidy (an abomination), all that is required is to make a signed agreement to support one company tooth and nail, arrange prices of freight and passage on a paying basis to the shipping company as a standard, pay same freights as to America or perhaps a little more, as the distance is slightly longer.

The route should be as follows:—

(1) A fortnightly service of about 6,000 tons passenger and cargo boats to Barbados, Trinidad, Jamaica (direct), and then to Canada; return *vice versa*.

(2) A fortnightly service of about 4,000 tons passenger and cargo boats to Demerara, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Dominica, Antigua, St. Kitts, and then to Canada; return *vice versa*.

This will allow practically a weekly service from this country to Canada. Instead of having about sixty steamers now employed in that route, the route could be worked with, say, eleven, one as a stand-by.

By such a service you supply the needs of the Islands and Canada, and judging by the amount of freight and passengers now carried one cannot but say a handsome dividend could be earned.

Your Committee must be prepared for these ideas to be pooh-pooh'd by the present shipping companies, and naturally so; but ask the Royal Mail Company to show you their earnings of freight and passengers on that route,—and this is only one of the companies.

I think you will be bound, gentlemen, for the combine of merchants and shippers to approach an outside company, say for instance, the Canadian Lines, Ltd., and place the facts before them. Let them know what the islands are prepared to do, and do it.

I think Mr. Guy Wyatt can then see, that a service between Canada and the islands can become an established

fact, and no subsidy required, besides doing away with all ideas of transhipping, the greatest drawback to this gentleman's "all red route."

I am, Sirs,

July 12th, 1914.

W. ABBOTT.

The needs of Dominica.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—I note with satisfaction the splendid work that the West India Committee is doing in calling attention to the shortcomings of the several West Indian islands in the attractions they offer to casual visitors.

It is astonishing how circumstances, trivial in themselves, have in combination with others a cumulative effect, which I know has in many cases, acted as a deterrent to many travellers from making a stay at certain West Indian islands.

In the case of Dominica, no accommodation can be counted on with any certainty in the busy season. Parties disembark from the steamers without the least idea which way to turn when they have reached the shore, nor how to see to the best advantage the justly celebrated beauties of the place.

If Dominica is to take her right position among the civilised portions of the British Empire, I would suggest the following institutions being taken in hand at the earliest possible moment.

1. A Directory of the island, containing particulars as to tourist accommodation obtainable without notice, a list of estates and their owners, a list of inhabitants and their addresses, and a map indicating general physical features, large estates and their boundaries, roads (carting, bridle and footpath), and a plan of Roseau.
2. The provision of name boards for streets, and fixing numbers or names for houses.
3. The suppression of nocturnal noises in town.
4. The prevention of infantile mortality and decrease of population.
5. The formation of a labour exchange, with a card system of reference to antecedents.
6. The subsidising of an hotel outside the town with bathing facilities adjacent.
7. The encouragement of provision gardens, live stock, and the fishing industry, thereby removing the island from the present peril of starvation.
8. The improvement of the telephone system, with silent cabinets at public instruments.
9. A licensing system and tariff for hiring boats, horses, and conveyances, and a list of proprietors of stables.
10. Last, but not least, a branch of the Botanic Station at an elevation of 1,000 feet, where experiments of a practical nature can be conducted, and prove of some value to settlers in the Crown Lands.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

ET IN ARCADIA REGO.

The beginnings of lime culture in the West Indies.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—In your report of my speech at the dinner given by the West India Committee to the Commissioners you credit me with saying "Dominica, as most of you doubtless know, is after Antigua, the largest island in the West Indies." Your reporter has erroneously taken down my words. What I did say was "Dominica, as most of you doubtless know, is after Jamaica and Trinidad the largest of the British possessions in the West Indies."

As regards the letter of my friend Mr. J. Spruce

Hollings concerning what you aptly term the "beginnings" of the lime culture in the West Indies, I may supplement my former communication by giving you more information on the subject. Dr. Murray, I believe in the late thirties, was interested in an estate on the leeward side of Dominica, and he found growing there two long lines of old lime trees at the sides of the main estate road. He told me that they were old trees dating, he believed, from the early part of last century, and that most of the fruit in great quantity was allowed to rot on the ground. He had the fruit collected, the juice extracted therefrom and boiled down to a low concentration; and he shipped, via Barbados, this first concentrated lime juice to be sent away from Dominica to a firm of wholesale druggists in Liverpool. The monetary result was so encouraging that he at once set to work to plant limes, and he made inquiries in Sicily, as I pointed out, concerning concentrated lemon juice.

This was the beginning of the lime industry in Dominica. Mr. Hollings has given particulars of the beginning of the culture in Montserrat. I believe the priority belongs to Dr. Murray. Mr. Hollings just as honestly claims it for Mr. Burke. anyhow, it would appear that both these far-seeing men worked at first independently and without knowledge of each other's initial work. The "beginnings," therefore, of lime culture in the West Indies will be always associated with the honoured names of Murray and Burke.

I am, etc.,

H. A. ALFORD NICHOLLS.

Artillery Mansions, Westminster, S.W.

23rd July, 1914.

West Indian Freight Rates.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR.—In 1911 the freight rates on sugar to New York, Halifax and Montreal from the West Indies were 9 cents, 11 cents and 14 cents respectively. To-day they are 12 cents, 14 cents and from 16 to 18 cents, although the shipping boom of 1912-13, which furnished the excuse for the rise in rates has passed away.

Canadians are very anxious to see the reciprocity agreement with the West Indies develop to the benefit of both parties, but I fear that this can never be, while the shipping companies take away so large a slice of the benefits.

Our refiners can bring beet from Hamburg to New York at 6½ cents per 100 lbs. and from Hamburg to Montreal for 8 cents. West Indians will therefore realise that of the 10½ cents preference on 96 degrees sugar which Canada now gives them they lose practically half in freight when their sugars are competing with beet, and it must be remembered that Hamburg to New York is 3,300 miles, while the West Indies to New York varies from 1,600 from St. Kitts to 2,300 from Demerara. Also, St. Domingo planters get a cheaper rate to Canada than the British ones do.

I have heard it said that West Indians feel that they do not always get all the advantages they expected from the reciprocity agreements; if this is so, they must not blame their Canadian friends, but can only blame themselves for allowing an unfair portion of the value of their products to be taken by their shipping companies. I should make a guess that freights on sugar alone from the West Indies to New York, Halifax and Montreal average 3 cents per 100 lbs. higher than they ought to be, and as Canada annually imports some 350,000,000 lbs. of their sugar, your planters should be able to easily figure out the loss.

I am, yours faithfully,

IMPERIALIST.

Montreal, July 15th.

The question of freight rates in the West Indian trade is engaging the attention of the West India

Committee. The point made by "Imperialist" is an important one which should be brought before the notice of the Government of the Dominion of Canada who undertook the arrangements for the Canada-West Indies mail service for which they are generously paying the entire subsidy.—EDITOR, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

OUR LIBRARY.

RECENT ADDITION.

The Sugar-Cane: A Poem, in four books, with notes. By James Grainger, M.D., etc. London: Printed for R. and J. Dodsley, in Pall-mall. MDCCLXIV.

The West India Committee is indebted to Sir Everard in Thurn for the gift of the following pamphlets written by him.

West Indian Stone Implements: Part I. 1882, Part II. 1883, Parts III. and IV., 1884.

Primitive Games: 1890.

Sketches of Wild Orchids in Guiana: 1898.

A Tramp with Redskins.

Notes on Plants at Roraima: observed during the Expedition of 1884. 1886.

The Palms of British Guiana: 1884.

On the Races of the West Indies: 1886.

Anthropological Uses of the Camera: 1893.

Oxford Survey of the British Empire, Vol. IV. America, including Canada, Newfoundland, the British West Indies and the Falkland Islands and Dependencies. Oxford: Clarendon Press. London: Humphrey Melford, Oxford University Press, Amen Corner, E.C., Edinburgh, Glasgow, New York, Toronto, Melbourne, Bombay. 14s. Size 5½ in. x 8½ in., pp. 511 + x., 37 photographs, 6 coloured maps, 6 maps in text.

This, the fourth instalment of the important Imperial work published by the Oxford University Press deals with the American Territories, including Canada, Newfoundland, the British West Indies and the Falkland Islands and Dependencies. As might be expected, the lion's share of space is devoted to Canada, no fewer than 258 pages out of 499 being given to that great Dominion. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that the subject has been thoroughly dealt with—how thoroughly will be realised when it is seen that the nine chapters under this heading comprise the Physical Geography and Geology, by Prof. A. P. Coleman, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S. Climate, by R. F. Stuart, F.R.S., Vegetation, by Prof. R. H. Yapp, M.A., Fauna, by Geoffrey W. Smith, M.A., Economic Survey, Eastern, Central, and Western and Northern Regions, by Prof. James Mavor, Ph.D., Population and Culture and Government and Administration, by W. L. Griffith. A chapter each is devoted to Newfoundland and Labrador, the former colony being dealt with by J. D. Royns, B.C.L., M.A., and the latter by Dr. Greufell, C.M.G. Three chapters are allotted to the British West Indies. An account of their Topography, Population, and Government is provided by Algernon E. Aspinall, B.A., while their Geology, Climate, Vegetation, and Fauna, and Economic Conditions are described by Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., M.A., D.Sc., D.C.L., Dr. William S. Bruce gives a chapter to the Falkland Islands and their dependencies, while the concluding chapter is devoted to the question of the defence of the American Territories. This well got up volume is interspersed with excellent maps and illustrations, and is full of interesting reading and valuable information, and the editors, Prof. A. J. Herbertson, M.A., Ph.D., and Mr. O. J. R. Howarth, M.A., are to be congratulated on this further instalment of their magnum opus.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Joint-stock companies in and connected with the West Indies are invited to submit particulars regarding their operations for publication under the above heading.

The Trinidad and Demerara Electric Companies.

Mr. H. R. Silver and Mr. J. Walter Allison, both of Halifax, N.S., have been elected to the Boards of the Trinidad Electric and Demerara Electric Companies. The Trinidad Electric Company shows after payment of bond interest and dividends, a balance of \$2,996, which is transferred to the credit of the surplus account. This now stands at \$174,539. The Demerara Electric Company shows gross earnings of \$143,616. After bond interest and sinking fund payment, a surplus of \$18,440 is carried forward.

The Guiana Gold Company.

Mr. G. W. Dawson, presiding over the Tenth Ordinary General Meeting of the British Guiana Gold Company in London on June 24th, attributed the reduced output to the fact that for some months all the dredgers were on different ground which was too good to pass over, but not good enough to reach the level of the previous year. It would, however, have been possible to pay the usual dividend but for the increase in expenditure which included some exceptional renewals and additions to the dredgers. He complained of the injustice of the Government inflicting upon Dredging Companies a royalty of 70 cents per ounce of gold, irrespective of the cost of getting it. This tax worked out at over one-fifth of the balance available for dividend. Had it been a mining property the tax would have been 5 per cent. on the profit. Mr. F. R. Dawson, seconding the motion of the adoption of the report on the accounts, gave an account of a recent visit which he had paid to the property. He advocated the construction of a railway into the interior on the instalment system with a view to opening up gold, diamond, balata and timber properties. The motion was agreed to and a dividend at the rate of 7 1/2 per cent. per annum for the year ended March 31st, 1914, was agreed to.

- Mr. A. F. Anderson
- Mr. G. H. Arthur
- Mr. J. P. Bain
- H.E. Sir H. Hesketh Bell, K.C.M.G.
- Hon. E. Du Boulay
- Mr. W. A. Boyd
- Mr. Geoffrey Brooke
- Mr. D. C. Cameron
- Professor P. Carmody
- Mr. Albert Cherry
- Commander The Hon. W. H. Coombs, R.N.
- Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa
- Rev. Dr. H. A. Dalton
- Mr. E. S. Dehise
- Mr. Wm. Durno
- Mr. W. Greig
- Mr. W. Morris Fletcher
- Mr. John T. Greg
- Hon. E. A. H. Haggart
- Mr. T. Hammond
- Mr. V. Hanschell
- Mr. J. C. Henderson
- Mr. Hugo Hoffmann
- Hon. I. Spencer
- Mr. P. Haughton James
- Mr. A. S. Kernahan
- Dr. G. L. Latour
- Mr. A. M. Low
- Mr. W. Low
- Mr. J. A. Madgwick
- Mr. H. P. C. Melville
- Mr. J. I. Nunan
- Mr. R. Fatterson
- Mr. James Peet
- Mr. G. M. Pater
- Mr. C. W. Prest
- Mr. G. Raitton
- Mr. L. A. Richard
- Mr. W. C. Robertson
- Mr. N. Maude Roxy
- Sir J. Hayes-Sadler, K.C.M.G.
- Mr. W. N. Sands
- Mr. H. Seedorf
- Mr. R. B. Short
- Lt.-Colonel W. J. Slack
- Captain D. L. Slinger
- Hon. Denis Slynne
- Mr. T. T. Smellie
- Hon. Adam Smith
- Mr. Wm. Smith
- Hrs. Grace The Arch. bishop of the West Indies.
- Mr. Carl F. Wietling
- Mr. A. H. Wight
- Mr. C. Williams

- Mr. J. R. Bancroft, c/o Messrs. S. Dobree & Sons, 7, Moorgate St., E. C.
- Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.
- Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Hazlewell Road, Putney, S.W.
- Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
- Mr. Charles M. Calder, United Empire Club, 127, Piccadilly, W.
- Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C.
- Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoynne," Chessel Avenue, Blitton, Southampton.
- Mr. Frank Cundall, F.S.A., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
- Mr. H. V. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
- Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
- Hon. Fred. Driver, 68, Hartley Road, Nottingham.
- Mr. W. R. Durie, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.
- Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

- Mr. Walter Farrell, 92, Kensington Gardens Square, W.
- Mr. J. M. Fleming, The Hermitage, Hadlow, Kent.
- Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Rose Cottage, Berkhamsstead.
- Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fore Street Avenue, E.C.
- Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 39, Bedford Square, W.C.
- Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o, Messrs. Coutts & Co., 440, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, F.S.A., 78, Glenalton Road, Streatham, S.W.
- Mr. S. W. Howes, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.
- Mr. J. J. Low, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, 64, Tower Street, E.C.
- Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
- Mr. C. McEanney, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.
- Hon. W. L. McKinstry, Ashford Grammar School, Ashford, Kent.
- Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
- Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.
- Mr. W. Mcarun, 39, Carlton Place, Aberdeen.
- Mr. W. Morrison, 193, Regent House, St. James's Court, Buckingham Gate.
- Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, S.W.
- Mr. L. F. Nourse, 32, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.
- Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, W.
- Mr. M. A. Pereira, 3, Pembridge Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
- Mr. J. J. Rodrigues, c/o Messrs. J. Travers & Sons, Ltd., 110, Cannon Street, E.C.
- Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o Messrs. Previt & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E.C.
- Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E.C.
- Mr. L. Schoener Scott, 20, Haven Green, Ealing, W.
- Mr. F. B. H. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E.C.
- Mr. W. M. B. Shields, c/o Messrs. H. K. Davison and Co., 79, Mark Lane, E.C.
- Mr. F. C. Skinner, c/o R.M.S.P.Co., 18, Moorgate Street, E.C.
- Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, c/o Messrs. Henskell, Du Busson & Co., 18, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C.
- Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W.C.

Dividend	Latest Quotations.	Prices
4%	Antigua ... 4% Redeemable 1919-44	July 24.
4%	Barbados ... 3 1/2% Redeemable 1925-42	89-101
3 1/2%	British Guiana ... 4% Redeemable 1935	87-89
4%	British Guiana ... 3% Redeemable 1923-45	94-100
3%	Grenada ... 4% Redeemable 1917-42	76-78
4%	Jamaica ... 4% Redeemable 1934	98-100
3 1/2%	Jamaica ... 3 1/2% Redeemable 1919-49	87-89
3%	Jamaica ... 3% Redeemable 1924-44	99-101
4%	St. Lucia ... 4% Redeemable 1919-44	87-89
4%	Trinidad ... 4 1/2% Redeemable 1917-42	97-99 xd
4%	Trinidad ... 3% Redeemable 1922-44	100-102
4%	Trinidad Iss 99% fully paid	77-79
6%	The Colonial Bank ...	58-64
12%	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchge.)	8222
5%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	89-94
5%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	98-101
4 1/2%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2% Debentures	101-103
5%	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5% Debentures	103-105
4 1/2%	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2% Debentures	99-102
5 1/2%	Angostura Bitters Preference (L1)	7 1/2
5%	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6% Debentures	102-105
7%	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	A-B
—	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (L1) shares ...	—
—	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (L1) ...	4-2pm
—	" " " " "B" " (L1) ...	3-4
—	" " " " "C" " (L1) ...	4-8
—	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	33-38
7%	Demerara Railway Company 7% Perp. Pref.	105-108
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Ex. Pref. ...	81-84
4%	Demerara Railway Company 4% Debentures	88-91
4 1/2%	Direct West India Cable Co. 4 1/2% Debentures	98-100
6 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary ...	110
6 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6% Cum. 1st Pref	110
6 1/2%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. " " 2nd ...	8 1/2-8 3/4
5%	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5% Debentures ...	98-101

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Barbados (Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller) July 27th. "Few showers have fallen, but more rain is much wanted. Jamaica—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), which ended July 15th, PORT ANTONIO, "Fine." KINGSTON "Fine."

"The Cane Sugar Factory" is a handy volume obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 1s.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME.

ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, (Captain E. W. Morrison), Southampton, July 20th:—

Mr. V. Ashton	Mr. W. J. Hofstiva	Mr. A. Pombo
Mr. J. de Abreu	Mr. H. A. Harris	Misses Prieto (2)
Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Auchinbeck	Mrs. & Miss Hombersly	Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Preat
Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Arlhar	Mr. J. K. D. Hill	Miss C. Potter
Mr. E. Berg	Mrs. A. M. S. Harford	Mr. G. F. Portbury
Mr. E. Behrens	Mr. and Mrs. N. Scott Johnson	Mrs. de Rinzy
Mr. W. Bremner	Mr. A. Kirkley	Miss D. Richards
Mr. and Mrs. S. G. T. Bourke	Mr. & Mrs. F. Kemble	Mr. J. A. Raygada
Mrs. A. Bagot	Mrs. E. Levy	Miss S. Shackleton
Misses Bagot (2)	Miss C. A. Law	Miss B. S. Schjolseth
His Lordship the Bishop of Barbados	Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Lawley	Miss R. Stone
Mr. F. J. Brown	Mr. & Mrs. D. Luciani	Mr. F. Stone
Mr. W. Barzey	Miss Luciani	Miss L. M. H. Stone
Mr. F. O. Camacho	Mr. O. K. Leonard	Captain A. A. Smith
Miss G. Corder	Mrs. L. L. Liddlelow	Mr. M. Moody-Stuart
Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Conyars	Misses Liddlelow (2)	Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Sellier
Mrs. M. C. Conyars	Mr. G. Lee Lum	Misses Sellier (2)
Miss M. C. Goddeford	Mrs. L. N. Lafitte	Mr. L. S. Scott
Mr. J. S. Cole	Mr. and Mrs. K. M. McKenzie	Miss H. Schoener
Mr. P. Chapman	Misses McKenzie (2)	Mr. W. L. Seymour
Mr. A. Duran	Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Millikin	Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Skinner
Mrs. R. Davies	Mrs. and Miss Martin	Mr. and Mrs. A. Sheddon
Miss F. C. Dempster	Mr. G. B. Michell	Mr. and Mrs. T. Smellie
Mr. N. Fernside	Mr. S. Munton	Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Singh
Miss R. L. Fraser	Dr. L. Napier	Mr. S. S. Singh
Mr. F. J. da Freitas	Mr. L. Northey	Mr. M. Singh
Mr. A. Fry	Mr. L. Nourse	Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Simmons
Miss M. A. French	Mrs. L. A. P. O'Reilly	Mr. F. S. Smith
Mr. J. H. Fleming	Miss O'Reilly	Dr. S. Smith
Miss D. H. Fleming	Dr. O'Flynn	Mrs. G. Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Greenland	Rev. D. A. Perez	Misses Taylor (2)
Mr. J. Gutierrez	Miss R. C. Perez	Mr. A. Watson Taylor
Mr. T. A. Gray	Rev. D. G. Pallen	Mr. R. M. Totty
Mr. and Mrs. R. S. D. Goodwin	Mrs. I. Pombó	Mr. J. R. Uribe
Miss S. Gardner	Misses Pombó (2)	and
	Mr. L. Pombo	Mr. A. P. B. Walleit
	Mr. F. Pombo	

The Booker Line.—ARRIVALS AT ROTTERDAM FROM DEMERARA per S.S. *Imataka*, July 9th:—

Mr. F. G. Thornhill	Mr. G. Linnell	Mr. T. Ramsey
Miss H. B. Moeckay	The Misses Lord (2)	and
Mr. W. F. Gilchrist	Mr. and Mrs. Gill	Mr. J. N. Field

SAILINGS FROM LIVERPOOL TO DEMERARA, per S.S. *Imataka*, July 25th:—

Mr. D. M. King	Mrs. Crawford	Mr. A. E. Edwards
Mr. U. S. Grant		

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM JAMAICA, per R.M.S. *Changuinola*, Avonmouth, July 12th:—

Commander and Mrs. E. C. Hall	Mrs. M. Faraday	Miss A. Pomeroy
	Mrs. C. R. Callard	Mr. R. Melhado

HOME ARRIVALS FROM COLON per S.S. *Patuca*, Avonmouth, July 19th:—

Mr. H. Guardia	Mrs. G. M. Sandberg	Mr. T. Johns
Mr. S. Dudan	Mr. C. Colin	Mr. M. Hildago
Mr. J. Chaphoot	Mrs. H. de Vermont	Mr. and Mrs. A. Villanueva
Mr. H. C. Shekel	Mr. H. Lungren	Misses Villanueva (2)
Miss B. C. Gordon	Dr. S. M. Fearman	Mr. R. Elphick
Miss E. B. Vickery	Mr. F. Pool	Mr. H. D. Ackerley
Madame M. Michause	Mr. J. Thackrah	
Miss A. Leamy		

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

OUTWARD.			
To.	From.	Packet.	Post in London.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Tagus</i>	July 28, midnight
Jamaica	Liverpool	* <i>Orinon</i>	" " 10.6.0 p.m.
West Indies	Dartmouth	* <i>Spheroid</i>	" " 11.31. noon
West Indies	Glasgow	* <i>Crown of Granada</i>	Aug. 5, 4.30 p.m.
West Indies	Portland	* <i>St. Croix</i>	" " 7.12.0 a.m.
West Indies	Southampton	<i>Oruba</i>	" " 11, midnight

HOMEWARD.			
			Due.
Southampton	West Indies	<i>Oruba</i>	Aug. 3.

* Correspondence for transmission by these packets must be specially so addressed. † Except Jamaica. ‡ In E.C. district up to 1 p.m.

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, (Captain E. R. E. Morrison), July 29th:—

Dr. and Mrs. H. A. A. Niebolls	Mr. G. M. Tiran	Miss M. Raposo
Rev. A. H. Anstey	Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Garraway	Mr. E. Olbricht
Mrs. S. E. Howarth	Miss M. Borscom	Mr. L. Hascom
Mrs. F. Tom	Mr. and Mrs. P. Mackenzie	Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Mackay
Mr. E. Williams	Mrs. A. M. Davies	Miss M. Shand
Mr. W. J. Bertenshaw	Miss A. E. Robson	Miss G. Hawthorne
Mr. K. J. Knaggs	Miss I. Davis	Miss V. M. Hawthorne
Mrs. C. de Nieto	Miss M. Knowles	Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Godden
Mrs. H. Ledger	Mr. J. Fehr	Mr. H. A. C. Williams
Mrs. E. Mathieu	Mr. C. O. Hazell	Mr. C. E. Thomas
Colonel Rothwell	Mr. A. Weickert	Mr. D. Neighbour
Mr. A. Nieto	Brigadier General L. S. Blackden	Mr. F. E. Preston
Mrs. Bertenshaw	Mr. L. Pombo	Mr. E. F. e Maia
Mr. T. H. Brinkley	Mr. H. A. Allcock	Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Manning
Mr. O. Glendinning	Dr. and Mrs. M. Raposo	
Mr. W. Walsh		

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Oruba*, (Captain J. G. K. Cheret), August 19th:—

Mr. C. Brooke	Mr. A. H. G. Cochrane	Mr. Wilson
Rev. B. Killion	Miss I. Evans	Mr. Garcia
Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Adelman	Miss A. Evans	Mr. Franklin
Mr. A. E. Bradley	Mr. and Mrs. I. Abrams	Miss Bailey
Mr. F. N. Scott	Mr. S. E. F. Richards	Miss Lewis
Mrs. W. Asbeck	Miss J. E. Robertson	Miss Murray
Mr. E. Nicholson	Mr. J. E. Howson	Miss Walker
Mr. A. Mendes	Mr. J. E. Robinson	Mr. A. J. Buys
Mr. A. Gomes	Miss M. E. Smith	Staff Captain and Mrs. Walker
Mr. G. Vowden	Miss E. Grelton	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Magdalena*, August 26th:—

Mr. L. J. Lee	Dr. W. Peter	Mrs. A. S. Raker
Mr. L. E. Peck	Dr. P. Gast	Mr. and Mrs. Mayes
Miss C. Kelly	Mrs. E. St. C. Thwaites	Miss N. J. Rush
Mr. T. H. George	Mr. and Mrs. W. Marsh	Mr. J. K. Roberts

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.		Jamaica.		
Jan. 1 to July 2.		Jan. 1 to June 30.		
1914	1913	1914	1913	
Sugar ...	32,576	22,350 Tons.	8,321	3,778 Tons.
Molasses ...	658	575 Puns.		
Rum ...	1,616,370	1,428,085 ^{Final} Galls.	809,726	597,472 Galls.
Molascuit, &c. ...	1,051	4,690 Tons.		
Cacao ...	33,437	1,600 lbs.	4,961,264	2,752,848 lbs.
Coffee ...	296,664	72,568 "	5,392,352	3,518,192 "
Coco-nuts ...	1,097,071	460,724 No	13,636,043	11,297,325 No.
Oranges ...			2,998,900	12,513,925 "
Bananas ...			8,224,814	3,521,754 Steins
Cotton ...			70,597	47,545 Lbs.
Pimento ...			50,771	60,161 Cwts.
Ginger ...			74,679	17,345 "
Honey ...			117,447	58,153 Galls.
Dyewoods ...			33,589	24,995 Tons
Diamonds ...	57,036	31,470 025.		
Rice ...	6,051	2,507 carats.		
Balata ...	8,857,213	7,477,041 lbs.		
Rubber ...	350,310	257,688 "		
Timber ...	665	77 "	Arrwt. 2,617,368	3,081,985 lbs
Lumber ...	132,468	222,920 cubic ft.	Cacao 117,650	146,473 "
Lime (citrate of) ...	193,745	292,233 feet	Cotton 328,725	423,406 "
	2,421		" Seed 681,467	806,025 "

Trinidad.		St. Vincent.		
Jan. 1 to July 7.		Jan. 1 to May 31.		
1914	1913	1914	1913	
Sugar ...	30,747	27,605 Tons.	26,364	5,200 Tons.
Molasses ...	2,750	2,406 Puns.	74,853	57,489 Puns.
Rum ...	663	431		
Coco-nuts ...	8,175,275	7,143,838 No.		
Asphalt ...	91,157	117,323 Tons		
Manjak ...	157	349 "		
Bitres ...	9,061	9,406 Cases		
Coffee ...	12,950	1,260 lbs.		
Crude Petrol ...	9,383,248	4,589,679 Galls.		
Cacao ...	55,474,400	38,431,200 lbs.		
Cotton ...				
" Seed ...				
Copra ...	4,556	3,988 Bags.		
Spice ...				
Nola ...				

Grenada.		Barbados.	
Oct. 1 to July 6.		Jan. 1 to July 2.	
1913/14	1912/13	1914.	1913.
1913/14	1912/13		
11,614,680	10,946,160 lbs.		
1,172	1,265 Bales		
3,558	4,804 Bags		
108	108 "		
1,007,775	863,320 lbs.		
4,900	2,170 "		

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE 3% (from 4% Jan. 29th) Consols (2½% 72½)

SUGAR—In New York the market remained quiet throughout last week, the quotations for 96% centrifugals which had moved to 3.32c. having relapsed to 3.26c. and 2.82 c. for muscovados; the former being equal to 10s. 5½d. c.i.f. New York.

The London speculative beet market has to some extent become a weather market and as will be seen by the under-mentioned quotations the changes have coincided with the conflicting reports of the weather from the Continent. As the month of August approaches, for which there is a fairly large "bull" account still open, the process of liquidation is going on and notwithstanding a better trade demand the effect upon values was to lower them from 9s. 4d. to 9s. 2d. Other factors recently have been the reports from the Continental and American markets as well as the unsettled state of Continental politics. Yesterday in consequence of the European crisis quotations advanced to 9s. 5½d. Mr. Guina has raised his estimate for the Cuban crop by 42,000 tons making a total of 2,550,000 tons. Prospects for the coming crop however are not very favourable as the weather is said to be too dry. Mr. F. O. Licht wrote on 17th inst. that the weather for development of roots generally was very favourable and that the insect trouble had decreased. Later news from the beet growing districts is satisfactory.

The closing prices of beet have been as follows: July 14th, 9s. 4d.; 15th, 9s. 3½d.; 16th, 9s. 3d.; 17th, 9s. 3d.; 18th, 9s. 2½d.; 20th, 9s. 2½d.; 21st, 9s. 2½d.; 22nd, 9s. 2d.; 23rd, 9s. 2d.; 24th, 9s. 3d.; 25th, 9s. 3½d.; 27th, 9s. 5½d.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates were:—

	1914.	1913	1912.
Europe (1 & 18 July)	2,015,860	1,868,380	1,330,960
United States (22nd July)	374,000	349,760	215,270
Cuba, 6 p'pal ports (19 July)	445,000	422,000	323,000
Cargoes afloat (23 July)	48,150	—	56,060

Total... Tons	2,883,010	2,640,140	1,925,290
Quotations of 88% beet, July 27th ...	9s. 5½d.	8s. 10½d.	12s. 0d.½

Grocery West Indian.—The crystallised market has been quiet. At the first auction a fair supply of 150 tons met with rather a better demand from the trade and a good part was sold at previous rates. Last Friday at auction the moderate supply of 440 tons met with a slow demand and only a small quantity of fine quality sold at about previous rates; medium rather inclined to be easier. The business recorded has ranged for Demerara from 13s. 6d. to 15s. 4½d.; for Trinidad from 12s. 9d. to 13s. 9d. and at 14s.; for Jamaica from 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d.; for St. Lucia from 13s. to 13s. 3d.

Muscovado.—Neglected. No business reported.
Syrups.—Neglected. Demerara sold at 9s. for black and 9s. 9d. for grey brown.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since Jan. 1—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	23,985	29,921	29,285	25,201	26,781
Deliveries ...	16,268	16,145	20,459	19,184	20,285
Stocks (July 18)	20,321	15,615	6,727	13,186	14,564

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, July 24th:—
13s. 14s. 7½d. 17s. 10½d. 17s. 14d. 18s. 4½d.

RUM—Stocks in London, July 18th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	8,581	6,366	7,942	10,681	12,156
Demerara	10,594	7,429	6,651	5,506	7,880
Total, all kinds	26,665	21,392	21,775	25,983	28,169

The proof market is unchanged. Belated shipments continue to arrive, some of which have found buyers at about current rates, but the tone generally is without animation. Jamaica has ruled quiet since last mail with occasional sales of fair common at barely former rates. "Wedderburn's" and "Plummer's" still realise full prices. Medium

export kinds are slow of sale, but fine and choice qualities sell fairly well.

CACAO—Stocks in London, July 18th:—

	1914	1913.	1912.	1911.	1910
Trinidad	10,810	11,366	7,063	8,248	10,677
Grenada	11,039	6,590	4,931	16,056	16,755
Total, all kinds	99,224	82,146	110,317	123,431	96,474

This market which was dull with easier prices at the first auction became steadier at the second sale and offerings met with a fair demand, and mostly sold at rather irregular, but on the whole steady rates. Altogether at the two auctions 6,346 bags of all descriptions were offered, and of these only 2,799 bags found buyers. The proportion of West India consisting of Trinidad, Grenada, Dominica, St. Lucia, Jamaica and St. Vincent amounted to 3,548 bags and out of these only 1,333 bags sold at 1s. decline for a lot or two of Grenada and afterwards at steady prices for nearly 600 bags of same. Trinidad was neglected and all bought in. Other West India was irregular and generally 6d. to 1s. lower, and later selling at previous values. Ceylon, which is scarce, sold at an advance of 1s. to 2s. a fortnight ago. Quotations after last auction were Trinidad middling red 56s. to 57s.; good middling red 57s. 6d. to 58s. 6d.; fine and superior 59s. to 64s.; Grenada ordinary to good fair 49s. to 51s.; middling to fine, 52s. to 55s.

In Trinidad circular of 6th July it is stated that no new feature had developed in their market as regards either crop or conditions. Enquiries were being steadily received from various foreign centres and quotations have been maintained throughout the fortnight at \$11.00 to \$11.50 per fanega, the equivalent of 50s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. cost and freight Havre per 50 kilos according to quality.

COFFEE—Santos, July 4th, 3d.; Sept. 4th, 7½d.; Dec. 4th, 6d. Steady. The spot market in the first week of the past fortnight was rather slow with an indifferent demand for the limited offerings. For a very moderate assortment last week there was fair competition and the prices obtained show hardly any change. Costa Rica was rather neglected, but other Central American descriptions were mostly sold at steady prices. Futures—quotations have fallen within the last two days about 1s.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended July 23rd 98 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolfstenholme and Holland state that about 200 bales West Indian Sea Island cotton have been sold since our last report, chiefly St. Vincent 17d. to 19d. and stains at 7½d. Prices are fairly steady, but spinners are well supplied, and are therefore not eager buyers.

LIME PRODUCTS—**Lime Juice (Raw)**—Firm sales of Dominica at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. for fair to fine and Jamaica at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10d. for ordinary to good. **Essential Oil (distilled)**—Firm at 3s. 3d. **Oil of Limes (hand pressed)**—10s. asked, but no sales to report. **Concentrated** Prices are maintained for the unimportant arrivals. **PIMENTO**—Quiet. **GINGER**—Quiet, little business doing. **MACE**—Good to fine 1s. 11d. to 2s. 4d.; red to good 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. **NUTMEGS**—100's/80's 4½d. to 6d.; 120's/100's and 140's/100's 4½d. to 4¾d. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West Indian steady value £25 5s. In **ARROWROOT**—A very small business; quotations 1½d. to 4½d.

RUBBER—Pine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 2s. 1½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 3d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 1½d. against 3s. 8d. in 1913; do. soft 2s. 4½d. against 3s. 2d. in 1913; Castilloa sheet 1s. 10d. against 2s. 4d. in 1913. **BALATA** Sheet, 2s. 6d., landed terms, against 2s. 9d., and fine 1s. 11½d. c.i.f. against 2s. 1d. last year.

PETROLEUM OIL—Russian, 7½d.; American, 7½d.; Water White, 8½d.; Roumanian, 6½d.; and Galician, 6½d.

LOGWOOD—Quiet. No business of importance doing.

TIMBER—Mahogany.—At the one auction sale which has been held during the past fortnight there was satisfactory competition, and prices showed no change, the arrivals have been heavier than of late. **HONDURAS**—In the absence of any offerings at auction there is no change to report; a small steamer parcel has arrived, but stock is now moderate.

ALGERNON F. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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August 10th, 1914

THE WEST INDIES AND THE WAR.

THOUGH West Indians will not have the same opportunities of responding to the Country's call as residents in other colonies, they will be second to none in showing their unswerving loyalty and devotion to the King in the present emergency. They may, too, as we shall hope to show, render indirectly valuable service. Of all the colonies of the Empire, the British West Indies are the most favourably situated in respect to immunity from attack by enemies at the present juncture, for although it is said that there are a few German cruisers in the Western Atlantic, it is unlikely that any attempt will be made by them to raid any of the British West Indian islands or our colonies on the American mainland. Apart from other considerations,—and we have the fullest confidence in the British fleet,—though Germany has been handing out ultimatumms indiscriminately, it is inconceivable that she would risk a quarrel with the United States, who would not tolerate European aggression in the Caribbean, especially having regard to the forthcoming opening of the Panama Canal. But though West Indians are likely to be secure from attack they have their duty to perform during the present war, and we may rest assured that they will perform it in the true British spirit. It will be unnecessary for us to urge that every member of the communities should keep calm and go about his business quietly

and soberly, though, as elsewhere, residents in the West Indies are bound to suffer to some extent from the rise in the price of food-stuffs, which must be inevitable if the war lasts for any time. This will be principally the case in regard to flour and meat, which form so large a proportion of the imports into the West Indies. But flour is less of a necessity in tropical countries than it is in other parts of the World, and the proximity of the islands to the United States should place them in a good position for filling their requirements of meat at reasonable prices. Rice, too, is certain to advance in price, but the islands have in British Guiana a source of supply of this commodity at their doors. The export of food-stuffs from the United Kingdom, is naturally, prohibited, and none can be made from the Continent of Europe for some time to come. This will put an end to the Christmas trade in delicacies for which the shippers were already preparing; but that will be no hardship, and, speaking generally, with regard to supplies of food-stuffs the West Indies will suffer less than many other places since so great a preponderance of their food supply is drawn from America. There is, therefore, no likelihood of a cessation of supplies, but only of a rise in price which will, we hope, be faced with the usual British phlegm and courage. During the war, provided that our trade routes are kept open, the West Indies will have an important rôle to fill in providing the mother country with sugar, cacao and other tropical produce. Sugar is the principal commodity which will be needed from the West Indies, for Continental beet will for obvious reasons be no longer available. The production of beet is bound to decline and its place must be taken by cane sugar. In the circumstances, every effort should be made, and made without delay, to organise the cane sugar industry of the West Indies, and to take steps for its extension. Government assistance should be now forthcoming—if indeed it is any longer needed—to finance the many propositions which have been brought forward for erecting Central Factories in various islands and makers of sugar-cane machinery should be kept busy for some time. As far as we can see the price of rum is likely to rise inasmuch as with sugar standing at a high price there will be less inducement to make that spirit. The German market will naturally be closed, but the requirements of the Admiralty are bound to be heavy while the Navy is mobilised. The outlook with regard to cacao is not quite so clear, but as far as we can gauge the situation, the great market for this product in the Old World will be transferred from Hamburg and Havre to the United Kingdom, while

the demand for the raw material in the United States which already consumes much of the output of the West Indies, should show no falling off. Though we hope that the British Fleet will effectually prevent cacao entering Germany, large quantities will be required in France for our allies. Meanwhile, the shutting up of existing stocks on the Continent has been already reflected by a rise in price. Whether this will be maintained or not is doubtful. It is particularly fortunate from every point of view that the cacao crops in Grenada, Trinidad and elsewhere in the West Indies, should be showing so much promise at the present time. Provided that we maintain the command of the seas, banana exports should expand and the consumption of this fruit should increase owing to the high price of other food-stuffs, though war freights and insurance must, as in the case of every other overseas' product, lead to a slight rise in price. On the other hand, however, the growing banana trade with North Sea ports must temporarily, at any rate, be checked and more of the total output of bananas from the Canary Islands one-half of which went to the Continent will now be available for this country—an addition of perhaps 20,000 stems a week. The position of the lime industry must depend largely upon the attitude of Italy, and should that country remain neutral, there need be no falling off in supplies of lemon and citrus products from Sicily, though at the moment there is a shortage in that island (for which the war is not responsible) that has led to the present record prices for lime juice. If Italy were to throw in her lot with Germany and Austria, a contingency which, happily, does not seem likely to arise, that source of supply would be closed down and we should be compelled to look entirely to the West Indies for citrate of lime and citric acid. Finally there is the oil of Trinidad which must prove of immense value, the supplies from Roumania, Galicia, etc., being absolutely cut off. In the first week of a war it is difficult to forecast the future with any degree of accuracy, and the views as to the position of the West Indies outlined above may be upset; but one thing is certain, and that is, that whatever transpires, the need for West Indian sugar must be great for several years to come. This is made clear by the figures which we give on another page. Should the war only last until the end of the year or even November the damage done to the beet sugar crops through want of labour will be very great indeed. The cessation of supply of sugar from the Continent has already produced a sugar famine and should the war be prolonged it will be some years before the beet fields recover from the disaster. In view of these facts no persuasion will be needed to induce proprietors to extend their cultivation to the largest possible extent, thus keeping the labouring population employed and contented, and enabling them to meet the higher prices for food, which they must be prepared to face with courage, and to add their small quota to the World's supply of sugar in this time of stress,

DISTRESSED COLONIAL SUBJECTS.

THE delay in giving effect to the recommendations of Royal Commissions and Committees has become almost proverbial. An example of such procrastination is afforded in the case of the Report of the Committee on Distressed Colonial and Indian subjects which was appointed in April 1910 by LORD CREWE, the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, under the chairmanship of Mr. now SIR, OWEN PHILIPPS. As far as we are aware not a single one of the recommendations of that Committee has as yet been adopted, and the position with regard to distressed coloured men stranded in this country remains in the unsatisfactory condition in which it was five years ago. This fact has been brought home to us lately by the large number of appeals for assistance which reached the West India Committee during the first half of the present year. West Indians misled by tales of the high wages earned in the mother country work their way over on board ship only to be rudely awakened from their dreams of prosperity on arrival. Whatever may be said about his being a "man and brother" the black man finds for a variety of reasons great difficulty in obtaining work in England. Sometimes it is because the white man—to his shame be it said—refuses to work with him, sometimes the complaint is that the new-comer belongs to no trade union. But whatever the cause may be, the black man as often as not is completely stranded sooner or later. The unfortunate man is then bandied about between the Colonial Office, the West India Committee and the Charity Organisation Society, none of which bodies have funds available for his repatriation, and eventually he becomes a charge on the rates, having finally to seek relief at the workhouse. It has been suggested that funds should be provided by the Colonies for the repatriation of such men, but this proposal is open to obvious objections. It has been tried in the case of Malta with the result that many Maltese emigrants arrived here in search for work with the full knowledge that if they failed they would enjoy a free voyage back to Malta. And there is no reason to suppose that the West Indian would be proof against a similar inducement for bettering himself without running the risk of being stranded. Another objection to State-aided repatriation is the delay which must necessarily be involved. For as matters now stand while "natives," as they are called, are admitted into the West Indian island of their former residence, other immigrant paupers have to deposit £5 before they are allowed to land, and this necessitates correspondence and consequent delay, besides the production of proof that the native has been resident in the island to which he is to be sent. It is true that Trinidad admits all healthy West Indians of the labouring class practically without restriction; but the Government of that island would not, we imagine, view with favour being made the dumping ground of all deported West Indian immigrants without first being made acquainted

with their antecedents. What then, can be done? The Committee above referred to advocated the establishment of a home for distressed West Indians under the supervision of the Strangers Home for Asiatics in London. Such a home would, no doubt, serve a very useful purpose; but the adoption of this suggestion would not strike at the real root of the trouble. The object to be aimed at is to check the emigration of men from the West Indies to England, and this can surely be best done by warning such intending emigrants by public notices at the post offices, wharves and libraries as to the true state of affairs in the labour market in the United Kingdom. This would cost practically nothing and could not fail, we imagine, to be productive of good results. It might also be arranged that (1) an undertaking to repatriate should be given when native seamen are signed on at ports in the West Indies for voyages terminating outside those colonies and that (2) native seamen signing on in the West Indies should be given a special certificate, showing the place to which they belong, so that, should occasion arise, repatriation may be effected without difficulty or delay. With regard to others than seamen it would not be unreasonable to make an agreement for repatriation compulsory on employers when engaging domestic servants in the West Indies for employment abroad. We hope that some steps will be taken before long to adjust the present difficulty.

SOIL BACTERIOLOGY.

In no branch of agriculture has science marched so quickly recently as in that pertaining to the soil in relation to plant growth. For many years the views of LIEBIG, formulated in 1840, and modified by the researches of LAWES and GILBERT in this country and BOUSSINGAULT in France, as to the soil in regard to plant nutrition were generally accepted. These views were based on purely chemical data. The plant derived nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash from the soil. These items, indispensable to plant life, were acquired from the soil by the plant. If the soil contained sufficient of them for the wants of the plant it was fertile; if lacking in any of these constituents the want could be made up by the addition of the particular item or items needed in the form of chemical manure. The part the physical condition of the soil played in fertility and the influence of the humus present in the physical condition was not laid stress upon, while the function of rendering the food elements of the soil assimilable was associated entirely with chemical agency. The discovery, in the early eighties, of the important rôle taken by bacteria in the production of soil fertility in the nitrification of organic nitrogenous bodies as a preliminary to assimilation by the plant, and in the fixation of atmospheric nitrogen in especial association with leguminous plants threw a new light on the question of the source of soil fertility. The great value of humus not only as a means of retain-

ing moisture, but also of bringing about a suitable physical condition of soil for the development of these bacteria then came to be appreciated until at the present day this body has taken up a recognised position as being a constituent of soils of the greatest importance. Still later, our knowledge of the soil was extended by the researches of MESSRS. RUSSELL and HUTCHINSON, which showed that the presence in soil of fungi and certain protozoan forms of life was opposed to the development of the beneficial bacteria, the nitrifying bacteria being consumed by these organisms. It will be remembered by our readers that investigators demonstrated that the destruction of these hostile organisms by heat or disinfectants, led to an increased activity in the nitrifying bacteria with corresponding advantage as regards plant growth. Now, in the last number of the *West Indian Bulletin*, MR. H. A. TEMPANY, the Government Chemist of the Leeward Islands, has put forward the results of some researches in connection with the bacteriology of the soil which are of the greatest interest and value. We do not wish to anticipate MR. TEMPANY'S OWN exposition of the subject, which will shortly be published, but we may state that the evidence afforded by the results of his experiments goes to show that there is in soils a direct destruction of humus by bacteria. Hitherto the loss of this necessary constituent of soils has been assigned entirely to mechanical causes. A bacterial agency has not been suspected, and although the fact of another cause of loss being discovered does not necessarily mean that the loss itself can be reduced, still the knowledge may lead to this desirable end being attained. Our readers will, no doubt, look forward with interest to MR. TEMPANY'S work on this particularly important branch of agricultural science, and we content ourselves now with again laying stress upon the necessity for reviewing the humus content of the soils as well as those constituents usually associated with manuring.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

A meeting of merchants was held at the West India Committee Rooms on August 4th, to discuss the situation with regard to shipments, etc., in view of the outbreak of war. Particulars regarding the Government scheme of war risk insurance and proposal slips can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms.

The extent of the work of the West India Committee must largely depend upon the support received from the colonies, and members are requested to bring the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR before the notice of their friends, and to assist the Executive by introducing eligible candidates for admission. Any member may propose or second candidates, and particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen and firms are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane.

The foundation stone can still be seen and an inscription on the Clock Tower records:—

OF THIS RANGE OF BUILDINGS,
CONSTRUCTED TOGETHER WITH THE ADJACENT DOCKS, AT THE
EXPENSE OF PUBLIC SPIRITED INDIVIDUALS
UNDER THE SANCTION OF A PROVIDENT LEGISLATURE
AND WITH THE LIBERAL CO-OPERATION OF THE CORPORATE
BODY OF THE CITY OF LONDON
FOR THE DISTINCT PURPOSE
OF COMPLETE SECURITY AND AMPLE ACCOMMODATION
(HITHERTO NOT AFFORDED)
TO THE SHIPPING AND PRODUCE OF THE WEST INDIES
AT THIS WEALTHY PORT

THE FIRST STONE WAS LAID
ON SATURDAY THE TWELFTH DAY OF JULY A.D. 1800
BY THE CONCURRING HANDS OF
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD LOUGHBOROUGH
LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR OF GREAT BRITAIN
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM PITT
FIRST LORD COMMISSIONER OF HIS MAJESTY'S TREASURY,
AND CHANCELLOR OF HIS MAJESTY'S EXCHEQUER,
GEORGE HIBBERT ESQ. THE CHAIRMAN AND ROBERT
MILLIGAN ESQ. THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
OF THE WEST INDIA DOCK COMPANY
THE TWO FORMER CONSPICUOUS IN THE RANK OF THOSE
ILLUSTRIOUS STATESMEN
WHO IN EITHER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT HAVE BEEN ZEALOUS
TO PROMOTE
THE TWO LATTER DISTINGUISHED AMONG THOSE CHOSEN TO
DIRECT AN UNDERTAKING
WHICH UNDER THE FAVOUR OF GOD SHALL CONTRIBUTE
STABILITY INCREASE AND ORNAMENT
TO
BRITISH COMMERCE.

The official opening of the Dock took place on August 27th, when in the presence of the Cabinet Ministers, the Lord Mayor, the City's merchant princes, the new West Indian ship *Henry Addington*, decked rainbow fashion with bunting was towed into the dock amid the cheers of the spectators and the thunders of guns, while the London Militia played the National Anthem on her deck.

In one of these docks the *Endurance* now lay. She was easily recognisable by the writer from the crow's nest on her foremast, from which the sailor on the watch will get the first glimpse of the ice floes of the South Atlantic. Painted white the vessel looked more as if she were being equipped for Cowes Regatta than for a voyage to the Antarctic, but it must not be forgotten that to get there she will have to pass through the tropics and that she will remain some little time at Buenos Ayres.

At imminent risk to his life, owing to open and unprotected holds, the writer was permitted to roam all over the vessel,—through the cosy cabins and the snug ward room (which has direct communication with the galley beyond, the food being passed through a trap door to prevent it getting cold), down into the engine room, for the vessel has auxiliary steam power packed away into a surprisingly small space, and into the holds where it was possible to see how the *Endurance* has been strengthened to enable her to withstand the pressure in the ice pack in which she may have to remain for several months. Her bows are sheathed in copper and, as residents

in British Guiana will be glad to learn, their famous Greenheart has been largely used elsewhere in her construction.

Alongside the ship workmen were busily dismantling the hut which will be the home of the members of the expedition during the long Antarctic night, and the starting point of the party whose objective will be the South Pole. All over the hut visitors had scribbled and were scribbling messages of encouragement and good cheer which will no doubt make some welcome reading six months hence.

Cane sugar for the Expedition.

There was no mistaking the thoroughness with which Sir Ernest Shackleton was going about his work. Nothing has been forgotten, and it was noticed that even a sewing machine was provided for the crew, which looked incongruous amid its surroundings of sledges, tents and sounding apparatus. The item among the stores in which West Indians have particular cause to be interested is, however, the Sugar—with a capital S, please—for, as stated by Sir Ernest Shackleton, on the occasion of the recent dinner at the Tropical Products Exhibition, Cane Sugar is to form an important part of the rations served out to members of the expedition. To quote his words: "There is only one sort of sugar which the Polar explorer should take, and that is cane sugar." While the writer was inspecting the ship two large drays pulled up containing cases of this necessary of life which have been the gift from the West India Committee to the expedition. Each of these cases contained three hermetically sealed tins of Pure Cane Lump Sugar, Pure Cane Granulated Sugar, and Demerara Sugar, purchased at the cost of a fund contributed by such well-known firms and individuals as Messrs. Booker Bros. McConnell and Co., Messrs. Boddington and Co., Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co., Messrs. Henry K. Davson and Sons, The Demerara Co., Ltd., Mr. H. Crum Ewing, Messrs. E. A. de Pass and Co., Messrs. George Fletcher and Co., Ltd., Messrs. Henckell du Buisson and Co., Messrs. Llewellyns and James, Ltd., Mr. F. H. D. Man, Sir Owen Philipps, K.C.M.G., Mr. H. F. Previte, Messrs. Scrutton, Sons and Co., Tennants Estates, Ltd., and Messrs. Wilkinson and Gaviller, while Messrs. Henry White and Co. kindly furnished two quarter casks of Jamaica rum for the expedition. The lump and granulated sugar was supplied at cost price by the West Indian Produce Association, Ltd., who also packed the cases. Incidentally it may be mentioned that further donations to this fund to cover the cost of taking and consigning a further supply of cane sugar to the *Aurora*, if the fortunes of war permit, will be welcome.

It should be explained that there are really to be two expeditions, one headed by Sir Ernest Shackleton, which will cross the South Polar Continent from the Weddell Sea to the Ross Sea, while the other hopes to cross it from the opposite direction, and therefore all supplies have to be duplicated.

THE WORLD'S SUGAR CROPS.

Next to flour, sugar is the staple food which will be most affected by the war. During the progress of hostilities many of the Continental beet fields will be ruined, many field labourers will join the colours and such beet sugar as is still available will be needed in Europe. The following table which is based on the estimates and figures supplied by Willett and Gray and F. O. Licht gives the figures of the World's Sugar Production which should prove of interest at this juncture.

Europe.	Tons.	Total tons.
<i>Germany</i>	2,738,000	
<i>Austria</i>	1,710,000	
<i>France</i>	800,000	
<i>Belgium</i>	230,000	
<i>Holland</i>	230,000	
<i>Russia</i>	1,750,000	
<i>Other Countries</i>	796,700	8,254,700 Beet.
Spain (cane sugar)	13,000	13,000 Cane.
America.		
Louisiana	261,337	
Texas	7,000	
Porto Rico	325,000	
Hawaii	535,000	
Cuba	2,500,000	
Barbados	30,000	
<u>British Guiana</u>	90,000	
Jamaica	15,000	
Trinidad	32,000	
Leeward Islands	18,000	
<u>Windward Islands</u>	6,000	
Martinique	42,000	
Guadeloupe	39,000	
St. Croix	7,500	
Haiti and S. Domingo	110,000	
Mexico	130,000	
Central America	22,000	
Surinam	13,000	
Venezuela	3,000	
Peru	145,000	
Argentina	225,000	
Brazil	200,000	4,755,837 "
United States		655,298 Beet.
Asia.		
<u>India</u>	2,262,600	
Java	1,345,230	
Formosa	190,000	
Philippines	195,000	3,992,830 Cane.
Australasia.		
Queensland	235,000	
N. S. Wales	20,000	
Fiji	100,000	355,000 "
Africa.		
Egypt	58,000	
Mauritius	250,000	
Reunion	40,000	
Natal	85,714	
Mozambique	60,000	493,714 "
Total World's Crop		18,520,379 Tons.

In the above table the sources of supply endangered or likely to be cut off owing to the war are given in italics. British sources of supply of sugar are underlined.

In 1913, 1,067,253 tons of sugar were imported

into the British Isles. Of these, 922,254 tons of refined sugar and 677,105 tons of raw sugar came from the Continent. At the recent rate of consumption, therefore, there is a probable deficit of 1,599,359 tons to be faced, but as the consumption in this country will be greatly reduced, the shortage will not be anything like this figure. In July the stocks in the World's principal ports, excluding those of the Continent amounted to 1,074,978 tons.

CACAO PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.

The outbreak of war finds London and the United Kingdom well supplied with cacao. Stocks in hand in the capital amount to 97,600 bags as against 83,600 bags at the same date last year. As regards the United Kingdom generally there are now 33,433,000 lbs. of cacao in hand as compared with 23,681,000 lbs. last year. This certainly does not point to a rise in price. Owing to the closing of Hamburg, consumption must show a falling off since Germany and Austria will be unable to obtain supplies. It must be remembered too that exports from this country are now prohibited, while on the other hand, provided always that the "Triple Entente" holds the command of the sea, there should be no decline in production except from the German Colony, the Cameroons.

The following table gives the world's production and consumption of cacao for 1912 and—as far as available—for 1913.

	Production in Tons.		Consumption in Tons.	
	1912	1913	1912	1913
Gold Coast	39260	51279	United States	66553 67605
Ecuador	38225	39358	Germany	55085 51053
St. Thome	36000	35311	England	28044 27585
Brazil	30492	29554	France	26891 27774
Dominican			Holland	24921 30016
Repub.	20833	19471	Switzerland	19342 10248
Trinidad	18878	21825	Austria	
Venezuela	10985	15138	Hungary	7323 6652
German			Belgium	6992 6130
Colonies	5775	5265	Spain	5250 6166
Grenada	5595	5258	Russia	4481 5235
Fernando Po	4074	2824	Canada	3039 1750
Ceylon	3500	3284	Italy	2432 2457
Lagos	3463	3600	Denmark	1727 2022
Haiti	3453	3013	Sweden	1449
Jamaica	3374	2526	Australia	1200
Dutch East			Argentina	1195
Indies	2223	2255	Norway	1126 1201
French			Roumania	300
Colonies	1706		Portugal	236
Cuba	1599	1404	Finland	117
Surinam	962	1526	Other countries	1000 19345
St. Lucia	868			
Belgian Congo	845			
Dominica	603			
Costa Rica	309			
Colombia	116			
Other countries	1300	13600		
Total	234438	256491	Total	249703 265779

In 1913, 30,808 tons of copra were shipped to the United Kingdom, 24,714 tons of which came from British possessions. The total value was £896,797.

WEST INDIAN TRADE.

THE ESSENTIAL OIL OF ORANGES.

The following tables showing the direction of the trade of the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras have been specially prepared for the West India Committee. They will help to show to what extent it is likely to be affected by the war. It will be noted that except in the case of Trinidad, Jamaica and Grenada, the trade with Europe is comparatively negligible.

In connection with the article in last CIRCULAR dealing with Essential Oil of Bitter Oranges, an industry which was regarded as capable of expansion in the British West Indies, it is interesting to note that the *Pharmaceutical Journal* supports this view. Prior to the time of the Messina earthquake Sicilian sweet orange oil and bitter orange oil of well-known brands had a monopoly of the London and other

Imports into the West Indies from Principal Countries.

	Bahamas	Barbados	British Guiana	British Honduras	Jamaica	Trinidad and Tobago	Leeward Islands	Grenada	St. Vincent	St. Lucia
United Kingdom	£84,485	559,629	898,458	137,057	1,333,353	944,502	252,088	113,910	54,895	71,495
Canada	12,714	183,800	112,327	1,694	291,364	190,769	113,483	12,065	23,726	12,294
Other British possess'ns	7,067	187,234	85,342	7,691	40,550	206,055	---	49,870	18,455	13,726
United States	247,551	426,652	424,148	272,885	1,273,390	819,432	220,016	93,739	25,459	196,059
Venezuela	---	---	1,121	---	---	211,873	---	---	---	---
France	---	7,074	18,371	9,006	4,758	67,786	---	3,725	2,298	6,848
Denmark	---	5,024	---	---	4,452	---	---	524	1,810	1,205
Germany	---	17,044	15,134	11,320	56,541	32,721	---	605	878	2,765
Holland	---	12,297	31,516	---	10,225	---	---	1,325	507	---
Other foreign countries	6,294	49,809	42,205	273,156	35,854	121,005	31,745	4,097	1,114	7,892

* Including Mexico, £226,139; Republic of Honduras, £15,836; and Guatemala, £29,861.

Exports from the West Indies to Principal Countries.

	Bahamas	Barbados	British Guiana	British Honduras	Jamaica	Trinidad and Tobago	Leeward Islands	Grenada	St. Vincent	St. Lucia
United Kingdom	£55,320	91,414	725,026	63,586	358,516	1,224,429	240,635	169,762	76,310	67,818
Canada	1,337	526,087	724,205	---	149,029	220,088	---	36	3,005	8,481
Other British possess'ns	70	251,256	64,303	---	70,061	364,152	215,359	12,384	121,027	1,970
United States	135,669	75,821	141,188	462,445	1,618,614	1,226,165	57,611	54,726	2,717	2,350
Venezuela	---	---	52	---	---	490,222	---	63	---	---
France	---	---	633	6,824	199,333	290,867	---	48,437	63	23,633
Denmark	---	---	---	---	1,309	---	---	---	---	---
Germany	---	1,136	2,669	---	105,792	365,936	---	---	---	152
Holland	---	7,067	9,266	---	56,172	124,491	---	---	---	3,248
Other foreign countries	83,719	42,773	59,199	154,241	166,457	83,282	31,098	181	505	862

* Including British West Indies £180,036; and Newfoundland £54,193.

† The British West Indies.

‡ Including Mexico £26,236; and Republic of Honduras £17,948.

§ Including Dutch Guiana £44,524.

The figures with regard to the Bermudas are as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
United Kingdom	170,729	2,277
Canada	95,799	1,535
Other British Colonies	10,567	1,360
United States	353,599	111,414
Other foreign countries	6,434	---

Fully three hundred applications for naturalisation are being dealt with daily. The plight of foreigners naturalised in British colonies is particularly unfortunate. Such naturalisation is not recognised in England, and to take out the necessary papers residence of five years in the United Kingdom is essential. A Bill is, however, to be introduced providing *inter alia* that residence in a British colony shall count when application is made for naturalisation. We hope that it will soon be introduced.

large markets at prices ranging from 4s. to 4s. 9d. per lb., and there was practically no sale for West Indian oil. The destruction of practically the whole season's production in Sicily, however, gave the Jamaican manufacturers an opportunity to meet the demand at the higher prices that were offered. West Indian oils, although slightly different from Sicilian oils, can conveniently be substituted for them. Sicilian oranges are grown chiefly in groves and rind in central factories. Jamaican oranges, however, are spread over pastures and hillsides in a way that makes centralisation impossible. Peasants are sent out with hand machines and bottles to collect and rind the fruit under the trees. When this is done the bottles contain a mixture of oil, mucilage, and juice which has to settle, and the oil to be decanted. The oil is then clarified as quickly as possible and packed in copper drums, coated internally with

films of pure tin. The greatest possible care has to be exercised at every stage of the manufacturing process, and the oil has to be clarified in such a way as to prevent the oxidation of the delicate ethers on which its value depends. The oil is also liable to deteriorate from rough handling in transit, and this places Jamaica at a considerable disadvantage as compared with Sicily, on account of its greater distance from the markets. In an article on the subject in the *Journal* of the Jamaica Agricultural Society it is pointed out that Jamaica also has to face the disadvantage of a higher cost of labour. In Sicily collectors receive about 8d. per lb.; in Jamaica, from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d. per bottle of 1 lb. 2 oz. Since the earthquake, however, and the drought which occurred in Sicily the following season, Jamaica oils have been making their way, and they have now established a fair reputation in the trade.

THE FIBRE INDUSTRY OF MAURITIUS.

Mr. Stockdale, Director of Agriculture of Mauritius, read a paper on the Fibre Industry of the Colony, of which an abstract is given below, at the recent International Congress of Tropical Agriculture.

The fibre industry is, after sugar, the most important agricultural industry of the colony of Mauritius. The fibre is obtained almost entirely from plants of *Furcraea gigantea*, which grow wild in all districts of the island. These plants are locally called "Aloes," and two varieties occur, viz., "Aloes Malgache" (*Furcraea gigantea*) and the "Aloes Creole" (*Furcraea gigantea* var. *Willemeliana*). The Aloes Creole contains a larger percentage of fibre than the Aloes Malgache and grows more rapidly. It is estimated that there are approximately 20,000 arpents (1 arpent equals 1.05 acre) under aloes in the colony. In the higher districts the plants grow more slowly than in the warmer districts around the coast, and it is in these coastal districts that the majority of the factories are situated. In 1913 there were 42 factories in operation, of which 25 were situated in the Black River district. During recent years planting of Aloes Creole (*Furcraea gigantea* var. *Willemeliana*) and sisal (*Agave sisalana*) on a plantation basis has taken place. The plantings of sisal have grown satisfactorily, but in many cases irregularly, while the plantings of Aloes Creole have proved very satisfactory. It is estimated that there are 60 to 75 arpents planted with sisal in the colony, and 1,500 of Aloes Creole. The latter are now generally preferred, as they require less attention in the early stages of growth, and grow with much greater regularity.

The factories are all small ones, their outputs ranging from 50 to 150 tons, with an average output of about 55 tons of dry fibre per factory. The leaves are brought to the factory by tramway or by ox-carts. They are scraped by grattes (raspadors), two men working at each gratte. The green fibre is then

washed, and afterwards allowed to soak for from 36 to 48 hours in soap-water for disintegration of attached particles of pulp previous to bleaching. Bleaching and drying are carried out in the sun, and finally the dry fibre is brushed in brushing machines before being baled for shipment.

The cost of production varies between £11 and £15 the ton of dry fibre. The various items that make up these expenses are discussed, and a brief description is given of the attempts that are being made to reduce the cost of production in the factory. The fuel item in the past year has been greatly reduced by the installation of suction-gas plants worked with charcoal. The Government has also taken the matter in hand, and is installing at a central spot an automatic decorticating plant with a view to ascertaining if further reductions of costs cannot be effected.

The industry is worked on as little capital as possible, and therefore it does not increase as fast as might be expected. However, there are signs that closer attention is being paid to making new plantations. With regular plantations and attention to cultivation the industry will be capable of attracting attention from capitalists. The possibilities of the extension of the industry are discussed, and estimates given as to cost of making regular plantations. There are large areas of land which are well suited for plantations of fibre, and with wider plantings centralisation of factory working may be possible.

The exports are sent to the United Kingdom; from there they are re-shipped mainly to Germany. During the past two years, however, there has been a demand for *Furcraea* fibre in the United States, and a large percentage of the exports of Mauritius have found their way to that country.

INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL.

Apart from the question of the surtax, on the subject of which there was a leader in the last number of the CIRCULAR, there are many restrictions as to the use of methylated spirit and industrial alcohol the character of which few people realise. As a correspondent in the *Globe* points out, if it is wanted to use alcohol in a car, it has to be bought as methylated spirits at an oil-shop or other retail store, where a licence of 10s. is paid to be allowed to retail it. The licensee may not be a publican, and he may not sell more than a gallon at a time, and not between ten o'clock on Saturday night and eight o'clock Sunday morning. He is hedged about with restrictions, and anyone who has in his possession any of this spirit purified or prepared for drinking purposes incurs a penalty of £100. This spirit is known as mineralised methylated spirit as opposed to ordinary methylated spirit, which latter is free from the objectionable mineral oil which the former contains, but it is not obtainable by anyone except by the special permission of the Board of Inland Revenue, and then generally only on giving certain

money guarantees. Mineralised methylated spirit is priced at 35. 3d. per gallon. If pure 90 per cent. alcohol were bought the price would be about 48s. per gallon. The cost of this spirit in bond to the methylator before duty is paid is not much over 1s. 6d. per gallon of the same strength. In this connection, it is well to remember that alcohol price quotations and spirit duties mentioned in arguments are generally in terms of the proof gallon—which is a very weak solution of under 50 per cent. strength. Much misconception arises from ignorance of this fact.

SANITATION IN PANAMA.

Methods undertaken to safeguard the public health.

The Panama Health Officer has, says the *Canal Record*, established a score card system in connection with the inspection of bakeries, hotels, restaurants, bottling works; in fact, any place where food and drinks are prepared, or served. The requirements enumerated on these score cards vary to some extent, according to the character and necessities of the place, and the regulations for bakeries differ in some respects from those of hotels. One hundred is regarded as a perfect score, and each requirement listed on the card is represented by a certain division of the whole number. The score card for the bakeries, which is more or less typical of all of them, provides in addition to the name of the bakery, address, owner, date of scoring, and score, the following:—

Room free from contaminating surroundings	...	4
Tight, smooth floors	...	2
Tight, smooth walls and ceiling	...	2
Light (Sunlight, 4; electric light, 2; gaslight, 1)	...	4
Ventilation	...	2
Large, convenient sinks	...	4
Convenient furnishings and machinery	...	2
Cleanliness of floors	...	6
Cleanliness of walls	...	4
Cleanliness of ceiling	...	2
Cleanliness of tables and furnishings	...	10
Cleanliness of sinks, 4; shelves, 2	...	6
Utensils-mixers	...	4
Utensils-pans, 2; knives and cutters, 2	...	4
Clean cloths for rolling jelly rolls, etc.	...	2
Freedom from flies, cockroaches and other insects	...	12
Attendants' aprons and overalls	...	4
Attendants' personal cleanliness	...	4
Storage for materials—flour	...	2
Storage for materials—milk, eggs, etc.	...	2
Washroom and lockers	...	2
Water closet	...	2
Patio, yard, or alleys	...	2
Disposal of refuse	...	4
Storage of baked goods	...	4
Transportation—wagon	...	2
Transportation—drivers and methods	...	2
Total	...	100

It will be noted that the largest number of points credited to any individual item is 12 for freedom from insects; by far the greatest number of points is credited to cleanliness in its various forms. Fifty is the minimum score permissible; all owners of

bakeries who fall below this standard upon an inspection are subject to a fine, or the closing up of their places of business. In an inspection made recently of the bakeries in Panama city, it was found that, in many cases, gross negligence was practised in respect to the above conditions, and in 10, fines were imposed. Inspection of all places of business mentioned above is to be made regularly, and by means of the score cards, an accurate check can be kept on the sanitary condition of the premises.

The Panama Health Office has approved the type of garbage can to be used in the future. The can must be strongly built of galvanised metal, 19 by 25 inches in size, and must be provided with a self-closing cover, which fits over the top of the can perfectly. These cans are to be placed in an approved location, and where the floor is sloping, as in the patios of most buildings, on a concrete foundation; these bases must be at least two inches high. The covers of the cans are of wood, home made, fitted to two hinges fastened to the wall of the building, and to prevent them from staying back, when opened, a wooden check is fastened to the wall at a point where it will strike the covers about midway. The accompanying sketch shows how the can appears when in proper position.

Under the new arrangement it is compulsory on the property owners to provide their premises with these cans at their own expense, whether occupied by themselves, or by tenants, and a reasonable length of time from the posting of the notice will be allowed in which to comply. Garbage cans will hereafter be sold at \$5.25, Panama silver, (say \$2.60 gold), each, and the self-closing covers at \$1, Panama silver (or 50 cents gold) each. The concrete foundations will be installed by the health authorities at actual cost.

The adoption of a standard type of garbage can, and making its use compulsory, will do away with the heterogeneous collection of containers which, in the past, has offended the eyes and nose of the passer-by on Panama city streets at about 10 o'clock in the evening, and will tend to improve greatly sanitary conditions, since under the old arrangement a large proportion of the contents of the cans fell out, or the cans were kicked over into the street before the garbage waggon made its rounds. In order adequately to care for the garbage, the Health Officer has arranged that, in future, three collections in every 24 hours will be made in certain districts; two collections in others, and one in the residence section. The practice indulged in by the garbage collectors ever since the collection of garbage was first begun, namely of throwing the cans to the sidewalk or street with all the force at their command, after emptying them, has been discontinued, and this historic nuisance is now subject to a fine.

A first inspection has been completed of all the dairies and their product in the environs of the city, the Health Officer extending his jurisdiction, however, only to those dairies and keepers of cows that produce milk for local resale and consumption. Only

two keepers of cows were found that did not come up to the proper standard, and these did not produce milk for public sale. On the whole the quality of the milk was found to be good, this being aided by the fact that most of the dairymen stall feed their cows. The containers which the retailers use for keeping the milk have been looked upon in some quarters with suspicion, but the investigations of the Health Office show that, as a rule, they are regularly and properly cleaned, and generally free from contamination. Many retail dealers boil the milk upon its delivery to them to keep it fresh longer; many Panama housekeepers also boil the milk as a safeguard.

The Health Office is now preparing to make a tuberculin test of dairy cows and meat cattle, and has arranged with the Panama authorities, whereby the city will furnish the services of its official veterinarian, while the Health Office will supply the tuberculin, loan the instruments, and employ one man as assistant. The few tests made to date show surprisingly few infected cattle.

Arrangements have been made whereby larvacide will be sold to residents of the cities of Panama and Colon at cost. The price will be 30 cents gold, per gallon, or 15 cents gold, per liter. The containers in amounts less than one gallon will be supplied by the health authorities free; containers of one gallon capacity or over, must be supplied by the purchaser, or paid for. The use of larvacide is particularly valuable around hotels and restaurants as a destroyer of flies.

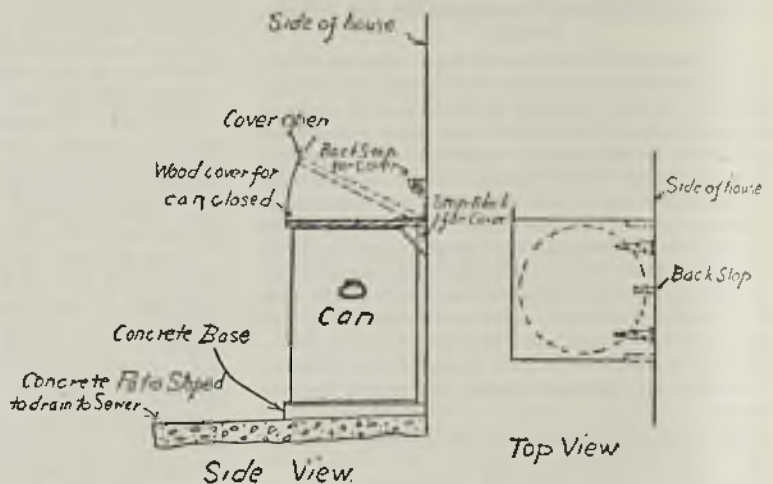
OUR SUPPLIES OF BANANAS.

The exports of bananas from Jamaica last year amounted to 11,277,967 stems, and in the preceding year to 13,382,072. The destination of these was: United States 13,259,011 stems, Canada 21,657, Germany 75,786, Holland 25,145, Bermuda 75, and Cuba 398. The imports of this valuable food-stuff into the United Kingdom during the past five years have been as follows: 1909, 6,238,065; 1910, 6,094,579; 1911, 6,714,479; 1912, 6,978,867; 1913, 7,539,984. The bulk of this fruit came from Central America. The exports of bananas from the Canaries last year amounted to 3,488,451 bunches, of which 2,096,905 came to the United Kingdom. Of the balance 775,797 bunches went to Germany, 612,533 to France, 65,868 to Italy, 28,107 to Spain, and 9,241 to other countries.

THE FIRST JAMAICA NEWSPAPER.

By FRANK CUNDALL.

In a short article entitled, "Jamaica Almanacs," which appeared in the CIRCULAR for June 21st, 1910, it was stated that the earliest Jamaica-printed newspaper in the Library of the Institute of Jamaica was a number for March 25th, 1775, of the *Jamaica Gazette*, published at Kingston. In the same article it was mentioned that Isaiah Thomas in his "History of Printing," states that the printing press was established in Jamaica about 1720, and that the *Weekly Jamaica Courant* was published at Kingston



A garbage can used in Panama.

as early as August, 1722. There is evidence in the Journals of the Assembly that a printing press was first set up in 1721; which disposes of the assertion of the *Jamaica Journal* for October 4th, 1823, (also quoted in the article in the CIRCULAR above-mentioned) that the year of the first Jamaica printing press was about 1730.

Recently there has been added to the Library of the Institute a specimen of a Jamaica newspaper of eighteen years earlier than that of the *Jamaica Gazette* above-mentioned—namely *The St. Jago Intelligencer* for Saturday, May 14th, 1757—a paper to the existence of which the writer had hitherto come across no reference.

It is No. 54, which, assuming that it was a weekly publication, would make 1756 its first year of issue—only one year after that of the *The St. Jago de la Vega Gazette*. But one advertisement, of a runaway slave, had been running from January 10th, 1756, which rather suggests that it may have been a fortnightly publication, dating from 1755. The date of May 1, 1736, on one advertisement is probably a misprint for 1756.

It is a small four-page sheet measuring 1 ft. 4 in.

by 11 in. The first page is almost entirely taken up with an extract from a pamphlet published in London on a "Method for preventing the Terrible Consequences of the Bite of a mad dog." Then follows "Foreign Affairs," then news from "Scotland," and after that "England." It is interesting to read: "A sum was yesterday voted, for the taking 10,000 foreign troops in British pay, the better to secure and defend the empire, and for the support of the common cause," and on the second page appears the notice: "This day is published by the PRINTERS hereof THE ARTICLES OF WAR."

More than half the paper is taken up with advertisements, a large number of them for "Runaways." The following is pathetic:—

"Now in the press, and shortly will be published, an address of some of the freeholders and inhabitants of the parish of St. A * * *, to P—p P—k, Esq.; for the benefit of a poor author, who having nothing to subsist on but his honest labour and remarkable veracity, is in a starving condition, and therefore hopes the public will not grumble at the price of 6s. 3d. each." The printers are Curtis, Brett and Co., "Printers to the Honourable Assembly," and the place of publication, St. Jago de la Vega.

"LAS DAMAS ARGENTINAS."

A PIRATICAL SCHOONER OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

By G. H. KING.

In our schoolboy days we used to be thrilled by tales of West Indian piracy—throat cutting, plank walking, and yard-arm hanging were the chief recreations of the pirate ruffians of a hundred years ago.

But the crew of *Las Damas Argentinas* were not quite of this sort; in comparison with the average pirate they were mild and gentlemanly fellows, several of them educated and refined, and fit to be met with anywhere, except, perhaps, on the high seas. But pirates they were, and as pirates were twenty-eight of them hanged on the Pond Pasture, St. Kitts, in the month of September, 1828.

A short while ago in the course of removing a quantity of sand for sanitary purposes on the Pond Pasture, some skeletal remains were found—at first it was thought that the bones were Carib, and the fact that among them were some beads and small shells, pierced through in a manner peculiar to savages, gave colour to the idea, but as skeleton after skeleton came to view it was soon evident that the diggers had come upon the burial place of the pirates of *Las Damas Argentinas*. The history of this vessel is as follows: On or about 27th September 1827, a schooner, then called the *Bolívar*, left Baltimore, U.S.A., for St. Thomas, West Indies, where she arrived about the middle of October. There she was fitted out as a Buenos Ayrean privateer, and under command of Captain Jose Lazaro Buysan sailed for the "Western Isles," her name

being changed at the same time to *Las Damas Argentinas*.

Between 1st November when she left St. Thomas and 1st March in the next year, when she returned there, three vessels were captured, a Spanish brig, a Spanish felucca laden with iron, and a Portuguese vessel with hides, coffee and sugar. The crew of the felucca was placed on board the brig, which was then allowed to proceed on her way, while a prize crew took charge of the felucca, and sailed for St. Thomas or St. Eustatius, as circumstances might dictate. A French vessel was detained and the crew of the Portuguese put on board of her and ten dollars per head was paid to the captain and some beef and bread; having thus salved his conscience with regard to the crews of his captures, Captain Buysan sent off the second vessel to St. Eustatius, while he went to St. Thomas. At the former island the two vessels afterwards met, and there a Dutch register was obtained for *Las Damas Argentinas*, her name being changed to the *Elizabeth*. The prize vessel had her cargo transhipped into other vessels at Saba, which took the stuff down to St. Thomas, and she was then sold at St. Eustatius for one thousand dollars. As the felucca never turned up it was presumed that she foundered at sea. Having paid off her piratical crew, *Las Damas Argentinas* took on a navigating one at St. Eustatius, and then, under her new name proceeded to St. Thomas, where preparations were made for another venture. These roundabout proceedings were partly for secrecy and partly because of the fact that while St. Thomas offered the best market and shipping facilities, there were better chances for trickery in the Dutch islands.

In former years, St. Thomas was, as she may again become a considerable commercial and shipping centre. Her position and fine harbour conduced to this, and it was therefore easy to pick up crews for vessels among those who resorted thither, sailor deserters, adventurers and loafers of all kinds. Thus Captain Buysan found no difficulty in getting together a company for his second and, as it proved, last piratical cruise.

The laws of St. Thomas not allowing the shipping of crews for privateers, since privateering so often bordered upon piracy, it was found expedient to take the vessel to sea, and pick up the greater part of her crew from a sloop outside the harbour. When well under way Captain Buysan produced his old Buenos Ayrean commission, altered the date from 1826 to 1828, hoisted the Buenos Ayrean flag, and asked the crew if they were willing to fight for and defend it, to which they replied with cheers. The name of the vessel was then again changed to *Las Damas Argentinas*, and her course taken as on the former cruise. The first vessel to fall into the hands of the rovers was the *Peru*, bound from Nantucket to Brazil. She was plundered, but the property taken from her was paid for by Cooper, one of the pirate officers out of his own pocket, the rate of compensation not being stated. Then five Portu-

guese vessels and a Spanish brig were plundered and permitted to go on their way; next an English schooner, the *Phoenix*, was treated in the same manner. Finally on the 21st July, when about 200 miles from the Canary Islands, a French brig laden with lead, and a British brig, the *Carraboo*, with general cargo were taken. These were valuable prizes, and it was decided to take them to St. Eustatius. But there was a difficulty with regard to the disposal of their crews. Captain Buysan and his officers were no cut-throat corsairs; they were out for adventure and for plunder, but not for cold blooded murder. The African coast was not very far away and the men might easily be landed there, but their safety on that continent was doubtful, so it was decided to set them down on the nearest of the Canary Islands. Approaching to a distance of about five miles from the shore the men were put into boats and bidden to shift for themselves. They got safely ashore, though Buysan did not stop to see it, and later on Captain Cook of the *Carraboo* turned up at St. Kitts and claimed his vessel after her subsequent recovery.

It had been for some time a matter of notoriety that piratical acts were not only connived at but encouraged in certain of the foreign islands, particularly St. Eustatius. Government officials, as well as private individuals were suspected of being concerned in the nefarious business, and the Commander-in-Chief at St. Kitts, the Hon. Stedman Rawlins, was on the look-out for any act against British shipping that he might report to the Home Government. This opportunity occurred on the arrival of the *Carraboo* at St. Eustatius about the middle of August. Lieut.-Colonel Harper was sent down at once to make inquiry and to claim her if such facts as he might discover would allow. The Dutch Commandant at first attempted to evade inquiry. He then declared that the brig had been found derelict at Saba and taken possession of as such by the Dutch authorities there and sent to St. Eustatius. Finally he yielded to pressure and gave over the vessel to Lieut.-Colonel Harper while reserving a third of her cargo for salvage. On 26th August the *Carraboo* under escort of the *Emolous* packet arrived at St. Kitts. On September 1st H.M.S. *Victor*, Captain Lloyd, came into port and at the Commander-in-Chief's request proceeded to St. Eustatius to make investigations. There it was ascertained that the brig had actually been sent in by *Las Damas Argentinas*, and by good chance, on his way back to St. Kitts, Captain Lloyd fell in with the pirate herself. Observing a suspicious looking craft in the "Statia Channel" the *Victor* bore down upon her. At first she showed Buenos Ayrean colours, and afterwards hoisted the Dutch flag and made for the port of St. Eustatius. Captain Lloyd followed her in and demanded her surrender as the piratical captor of the British brig *Carraboo*. After some delay the Dutch Commandant delivered the schooner and her crew to the British ship. On September 8th she was brought up to St. Kitts.

Very little time was lost in bringing Captain

Buysan and his companions to trial. Of the 39 on board, 33 were found to have been engaged in the act of piracy—of these two, namely Doctor Merryman, an American, and Mr. Harrison, an Englishman, turned King's evidence, and it was on their testimony that the remaining 31 were condemned.

The Special Court of Admiralty Sessions opened on the 24th of September, and the trials were concluded in two days, all the accused being found guilty and condemned to death. Three of these were reprieved; the boys William Ogle and Pepe Gonsalves because of their youth, and Neil McNeil on account of his health.

There was a strong feeling in favour of several others, and four of the Commissioners of the Court, one abstaining, petitioned the Commander-in-Chief for a mitigation of the sentence on nineteen of the condemned, among these being Cooper, who, as before related, had paid for the plunder of the *Peru*. Mr. Rawlins, however, did not see his way to "draw the line of individual distinction" between them, and the twenty-eight were executed in batches on the 28th, 29th and 30th of September.*

This example had the immediate effect of causing Englishmen and Americans, who had shipped on so-called privateers, to quit them on the first opportunity, since it was evident that British justice saw no distinction between piracy with and piracy without murder. Those who continued the game were thenceforth for the most part Spaniards and Portuguese of the ruffianly sort and men who regarded their lives, as they doubtless were, of no value.

That the pirate crew of *Las Damas Argentinas* did not altogether come up, or rather down, to the standard of the ordinary sea-roving cut-throat seems clear from the endeavour of the Commissioners to have mercy extended to so many of them, and legend has it that among the number of those executed was one whose manners and refinement were such that it was a pain to the community to see him hanged. As much, or more deserving of punishment were those agents in the foreign islands, who, taking their share in the profits of piracy, were careful to face none of its dangers. There is now in the possession of some one in St. Kitts certain correspondence between one of these egregious rascals and a friend of his in that island in which the latter remonstrates with him for his alleged part in the *Carraboo* affair. The unctuous tone in which he denies any imputation upon him, and reprobrates the idea of his being mixed up in so nefarious a transaction might deceive anyone who was unaware of the fact that he was subsequently convicted and mildly punished for his offence. It may be thought the correct thing to execrate the memory of Buysan and his crew as men who were hanged for piracy, but when all is said and done who can place them on a lower plane than the

"hypocrites who hid
Those deeds the bolder spirits plainly did."

* Twenty-one Spaniards, 7 English and Americans.

THE NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

The mail brought orders for the Map of the West Indies from the Governments of the Leeward Islands and St. Kitts-Nevis, and the Barbados Chamber of Commerce, besides many private individuals, while the Agricultural and Commercial Society of Grenada set a good example by taking ten copies.

While no attempt has been made to give the geographical features of the individual islands—this being impracticable in view of the relative size of most of the islands in relation to the mainland—the principal railways, sea distances in nautical miles, cables, wireless telegraph stations, coaling stations and oil stations are all clearly marked. The map has three insets, one showing the routes and distances between Canada and the United States and the West Indies, another a plan of the Panama Canal and a third showing by diagrams and figures the area and population of the various British West Indian colonies. It is believed that the Map will prove useful in the offices of those firms which have dealings with our West Indian colonies, and also for educational purposes in schools; and it is hoped that the distribution of the Map among Government Offices and Chambers of Commerce and other public bodies may help in some degree to stimulate interest in the British West Indies.

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

Canary Bananas.

The shipment of bananas from the Canary Islands in 1913, says Mr. Consul J. E. Croker in his annual report, showed a considerable increase over that of the previous year; the total number of crates shipped amounted to nearly 3,500,000 as compared with 2,723,000 in 1912. The most noticeable feature of the year was the increase in shipments to France, the number of crates shipped to French ports reaching a total of 600,000 as compared with 400,000 in 1912. Shipments to Germany show a very small increase, practically the whole of the increased output being divided between France and the United Kingdom. Whereas in 1910 France imported only about one-third of the number of crates taken by Germany, the business has advanced with such rapidity that in 1913 France took almost as much as Germany, and there is every sign of a continued increase. Owing to the shortage of soft fruit, trade in bananas, both in the United Kingdom and France and Germany, was good, and shippers did fairly well, while the growers reaped their usual rich harvest. Owing to the good market during the summer of 1913, competition for the purchase of fruit during the autumn was exceedingly keen, and prices advanced considerably. There was a shortage of suitable tonnage for fruit during the summer.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

THE question as to whether the fungi found in soils are capable of assimilating free oxygen has been investigated by Mr. H. N. Goddard. No fewer than 17 species were isolated in an ordinary agricultural soil, none of which showed the slightest power of assimilating free nitrogen when grown in nitrogen free media.

MR. F. W. L. SLADEN has been investigating the question of the colour patterns of bees in relation to the Mendelian theory. He has come to the conclusion that the union of a golden queen and a black drone produces a greater proportion of intermediates than where intermediates are united. These intermediates are stated to possess extremely desirable properties. The workers are especially vigorous, hardy and industrious, are larger than usual and of notably good temper.

RECENT investigations as regards the bacterial contents of milk show that the protection of milk pails from accidental contamination after they have been thoroughly steamed has a measurable effect in reducing the germ content of the milk. Plastering and whitewashing the stable has not been found to have any appreciable effect over previous conditions in which dust had been allowed to accumulate. The individuality of the cow is found to be an important factor in the germ content of the milk.

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the Royal Society of Arts there has been a notable increase in the production and export of galanzol, or Chinese ginger, from China during the last few years. This root belongs to the ginger family, but is much smaller than that of the ginger plant *Zingiber officinale*, and is usually about two inches long and half an inch thick. The outside colour is rusty brown and the inside greyish brown. The root tastes like a combination of ginger and pepper, and has a very agreeable odour.

WRITING on the subject of coffee-making in the *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal*, Mr. E. Aborn states that the general strength of a brew of coffee depends rather on the fineness of granulation than on the length of time during which the coffee and water are cooked together. Lengthening the "cooking" period tends to extract more tannin in proportion to caffeine and other bodies on which the desirable flavour seems to depend. In percolation the water is far below the boiling point, with the result that the flavour is not well extracted although the tannin is. On the whole, it was found that the filtration process gave the best results both as regards flavour and low tannin content.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will be sent to any address, post free, fortnightly, for £1 1s., or \$5.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

MR. C. GIDEON MURRAY is co-operating with Mr. Norton Griffiths in raising a Colonial Contingent for the War.

MR. A. C. PLOWDEN, the famous magistrate, who died on August 9th, was Private Secretary to Sir John Peter Grant, Governor of Jamaica.

MR. V. HANSHELL has returned to London from Copenhagen where he had the misfortune to be taken ill, having to remain in bed for over a fortnight.

THE official opening of the Panama Canal has been postponed to March next. Meanwhile, however, the waterway will be available for light draught vessels on and after the 15th instant.

THE cruising yacht *Viking* which has been chartered by some Americans to repatriate their countrymen, stranded in this country owing to the war, is the old Royal Mail steamer *Atrato*.

THE village of New Catun in the Panama Canal Zone will soon cease to exist. In pursuance of the policy of forbidding residence in the neighbourhood of the Canal the inhabitants have been warned that they will have to quit by December 31st, next.

THE engagement is announced of Geoffrey, second son of the late Henry Bailward, of Horsington Manor, Somerset, and of Mrs. Bailward, of Orchard Neville, near Glastonbury, to Sybil, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aucher Warner, of Port of Spain, Trinidad, who has just arrived in London.

A correspondent writes from Montreal that feeling is growing there that Canada should discontinue giving any preference to any countries which do not give her anything in return except Great Britain. In the case of Great Britain, however, it is felt that the benefits which Canada receives from her connection with the mother country are an adequate *quid pro quo*.

MR. A. D. C. ADAMSON, formerly of St. Kitts, writing from an estate at Palmira, Colombia, of which he is the manager, informs the CIRCULAR that the growth of sugar cane there is remarkable, the bulk running as it does to over 70 tons per acre. A yield of 40 tons is considered remarkably poor. Mr. Adamson has gathered round him quite a number of St. Kitt's blacks, including a pan boiler and his old groom.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the past fortnight have been Major Bryan, C.M.G., Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Collens, V.D., Mr. W. A. Boyd, Mr. J. M. Fleming, Mr. W. Gor-

don Gordon, Mr. J. Clarence Henderson, Mr. P. Lechmere Guppy, Mr. H. Seedorff, Mr. G. Williams, Mr. C. M. Calder, Mr. E. I. Baeza, Mr. G. Auchinleck, Dr. G. W. Paterson, Mr. W. G. E. Barnardo, Mr. R. S. Goodwin, and Mr. W. R. Durie.

THE two destroyer leaders purchased by the Government from Turkey are to be called *Faulknor* and *Broke*, after two naval officers who greatly distinguished themselves in the Caribbean and West Atlantic. It was *Faulknor* who showed such heroism in the fight between the *Blanche* and the *Pique* off Martinique in 1795, while *Broke* is known to fame for having in the *Shannon* defeated the *Chesapeake* off Boston in 1813.

A meeting of the Jamaica Standing Committee was held at 15, Seething Lane, E.C., on August 10th. Mr. E. A. de Pass presided, and the members also present were Mr. W. Gillespie, Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. L. de Mercado, Mr. J. Rippon, Mr. W. R. Durie, Mr. C. M. Calder, Mr. P. Houghton James, Mr. N. Malcolmson, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary. Major H. Bryan, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Jamaica, attended by invitation, and a discussion took place regarding various matters affecting the welfare of the island. Stress was laid on the desirability of securing railway extensions, and the adoption of a scheme for a foreshore railway in Kingston, and the question of the re-organisation of the Administrator's General Department was discussed. Various matters arising out of the war were also mentioned. Major Bryan leaves for Jamaica tomorrow.

THE description of the new R.M.S.P. *Essequibo*, which has been built by Messrs. Workman, Clark and Co., Ltd., for the West Indian Service of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, has already appeared in these columns. In the present issue we give some pictures of the interior of this fine vessel, which is scheduled to leave Southampton on her maiden voyage on October 21st next. The *Essequibo* is modelled on the lines of the popular "A" steamers of the Company, and will mark a striking advance on the older vessels of the fleet. The pictures require no description and it need only be stated that the public rooms and state rooms occupy the mid-ship portion of the four decks. There are state cabins with bath rooms attached and also a large number of single and double-bedded rooms fitted with bedsteads. The dining room which is on the main deck has accommodation for nearly 200 persons, at small tables. The lounge is on the promenade deck and has large bay windows. The smoking room adjoins a spacious verandah cafe on the promenade deck which can be arranged either as an open or closed apartment and there is a similar cafe on the boat deck. The sister ship *Ebro* will be launched very shortly, and will be placed in commission in the course of the year.

THE LONDON LETTER.

TO-DAY the British race is confronted by one paramount fact, the existence of a European War affecting directly or indirectly every nation of the Western World. The vision of Armageddon is being realised. Despite all treaties of arbitration, all movements for peace, the creation of the Hague Tribunal, the passage of nineteen centuries of Christianity,—war on the most colossal scale, involving the foremost of civilised nations has broken out, and is raging at our door.

THAT England, and with England, the rest of the Empire should be involved is a source of sincere regret to every man who appreciates the blessings of peace, and who has read of the ravages of war. But—as will be seen when we come to glance at the causes of the present outbreak—this convulsion is not of our creation. Rather have we been foremost in the efforts for its aversion. Now that those efforts have failed, and the national honour compels our participation there exists among all branches of the British race the desire to play worthily our part, and to maintain well the traditions which constitute our highest glory. Here in England there has been produced a sense of unity all the more striking in that it has been evolved from acutest discord. Divisions have disappeared at a moment when they had become most pronounced. Unionist and Nationalist are at peace; strikers everywhere are returning to work; political parties remember only that they are Englishmen.

THE cablegrams will have told our overseas readers of the Austro-Servian trouble. To the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his Consort—a crime admittedly planned by Servians in Servia—we must ascribe the reason or the excuse for the outbreak of the European conflict. Austrian resentment at the loss of the Heir Apparent was not unreasonable, and the expression of that resentment at the cost of Servia not unexpected. The diplomatists could do little to mitigate the trouble. Hope was centred in the localisation of the war. To that end our Foreign Minister suggested a Conference of disinterested Powers. France and Italy promptly acquiesced in the suggestion. Germany refused. Events began to move quickly. Russia, the protector of the Slav races ordered a partial mobilisation. She was quite willing however that Servia should do what lay in her power to meet the demands of Austria, and negotiations were opened up between St. Petersburg and Vienna.

In the midst of these negotiations Germany appeared on the scene. Secret military preparations had been proceeding in the Kaiser's dominions. The Czar had assured the Emperor William that the Russian forces would not move so long as the Russo-Austrian pourparlers continued. It must be remem-

bered also that the full mobilisation of the Russian army is a matter of weeks and even yet is incomplete. Matters were precipitated by the delivery of an ultimatum by Germany to Russia and France simultaneously. France, so far from evincing the slightest aggression had, as we have already seen, accepted Sir E. Grey's proposal for a European Conference. Nevertheless, she became the prime and immediate object of Germany's warlike attentions. At once the German forces crossed into Luxembourg—itsself a breach of the Grand Duchy's neutrality.

THE plan of campaign drawn up by the Kaiser and his military advisers provided for the passage of the German army through Belgium in order to strike France at her weakest point. The fact that Prussia was one of the guarantors, with Great Britain of Belgium's neutrality was not allowed to weigh for one moment. Another consideration overlooked was that Belgium might possibly entertain any views regarding the invasion of her territory. With brutal abruptness the German Government demanded a free passage for their forces. With a promptness and a bravery which have since excited the admiration of Europe, Belgium declined to grant the desired facilities. Even the threat of invasion left her unmoved.

IT is at this point we learn the reasons for British intervention. Negotiations had passed previously between Sir Edward Grey and the Imperial Chancellor in view of the threatening situation. In return for British neutrality in the event of a European War the Chancellor undertook to respect the integrity of Belgium after the war. He would make no promise to respect her neutrality beforehand (France, it should be said, readily gave such a promise). Furthermore, Great Britain must allow Germany a free hand as regards the French colonies. At a later period there was a further offer not to bombard the northern coast of France. All these offers were promptly and scornfully rejected as disgraceful and as imperilling the word and honour of this country.

BRITISH policy was outlined in a great speech by Sir Edward Grey. An ultimatum to Germany calling upon her to respect the neutrality of Belgium was followed only by Germany's invasion of Belgium. Hence the British Declaration of War. The Germans however were destined to encounter a staggering surprise. Belgium's defence equalled her defiance. The arrival of the Germans before Liège resulted in a stubborn resistance which astonished the world. At the time of writing the Belgians are still holding their own, and the arrival of French, and possibly British, aid, will probably determine the future course of the war.

A complete list of publications can be obtained from the West India Committee Rooms, post free, upon application.

AT WESTMINSTER.

The Sugar Duties.

In the House of Commons on August 4th, Mr. Lloyd George replying to Mr. Charles Price said that the amount realised in each financial year by the sugar tax since it was reimposed in 1901 was as follows:—

Year ended 31st March.	Net amount received.
1902, from 19th April 1901	6,463,718
1903	4,567,310
1904	5,809,444
1905	6,203,628
1906	6,280,593
1907	6,367,675
1908	6,842,320
1909	3,236,680
1910	3,024,495
1911	3,026,234
1912	3,127,034
1913	3,109,122
1914	3,328,535

Rates of Duty.

	On and after	
	To May 17, 1908.	May 18, 1908.
Sugar polarising over 98 degrees, per cwt.	4 2	1 10
Sugar polarising 76 degrees, per cwt.	2 0	0 10

With corresponding rates for sugar polarising between 76 degrees and 98 degrees, and for molasses, foreign and home-made glucose and saccharin, and articles made with sugar or other sweetening matter. The rate for foreign glucose was increased 6d. a cwt. on the 1st July, 1903, in connection with the Corn Duties.

The Colonial Office Vote.

On the consideration of the Colonial Office vote in Committee in the House of Commons on July 28th, Mr. Harcourt said that in previous years he had followed the precedent, which he set himself, of taking the opportunity of giving a general review of the progress and conditions in the Crown Colonies. He had intended—and, indeed, he had prepared—such a statement for this occasion, but within the last day or two, for the general convenience of the House, an arrangement had been made for the day to be divided into two halves, the evening being devoted to Education and the earlier part to the Colonial Office Vote. He did not think under those circumstances, that he had any right to occupy the time for more than an hour, and therefore he omitted it on this occasion. But he hoped that whoever was at the Colonial Office next year—whether himself or his successor—would not depart from the precedent which had been set, and had shown itself to be a useful one, and which was departed from only on this occasion.

The debate which followed ranged over a variety of subjects. Sir Gilbert Parker said that the precedent which Mr. Harcourt had set was an admirable one, though he criticised the length of the Secretary of State's speech last year, and characterised it as being too academic. What was desired was a more condensed review which would be extremely gratifying to the Crown Colonies—and he liked to call them by their old name. Sir Gilbert then proceeded to refer to events in Somaliland and Lieutenant Corfield's death. Mr. Edmund Harvey touched on the Native Labour Commission in connection with East Africa and Mr. Macmaster dealt with a recent constitutional question which arose in Tasmania and urged the desirability of greater co-operation in the development of our vast

Empire, and pressed for greater supervision for immigration so that as far as possible the immigrants might go to countries under the British Flag and might not feel that they were entirely cut off from the Motherland.

Other speakers included Mr. Alden, Mr. Cave, Sir A. Spicer, Mr. Hunt, and Mr. Theodore C. Taylor, who expressed the hope that the Colonial Office Reports might be presented to the House earlier. He noticed that the Report for Hong-kong dated June 28th, 1913, which took the Acting Colonial Secretary nearly six months to prepare, was printed in August and presented to Parliament after the Colonial Office debate.

Referring to Mr. Chamberlain's occupancy of the position of Secretary of State for the Colonies he mentioned that it had been said that at that time the Colonial Office was the only one from which one could get a reply to a letter by return of post. At all events he brought a business spirit into the office which it had never since lost.

In the course of his reply, Mr. Harcourt said that these Reports were derived in the first place from Colonial Blue-books, which were published in the Colonies at varying dates. Some of the Colonies used the calendar year; others our financial year. He had urged Governors to send these Reports as early as possible. They were printed as soon as they were received, after having received decent consideration in the Department. He would, however, give another reminder to Colonial Governors of the desire to have these Reports as early as possible.

After some discussion regarding the establishment of Government distilleries in Ceylon, the vote was agreed to.

REVIEWS AND PERIODICALS.

Dealing with the question of Indian emigration, the BRITANNIC REVIEW (No. 3, July 1914) notes with surprise that so experienced an observer as Sir Harry Johnston revives the suggestion that the trouble might be removed by opening up the large tracts of territory in India itself which are still under populated. It may be true, too, that not only plantations in India but industries of all kinds are actually short of labourers. But the real trouble has always been that the Indians who emigrate are not looking for an Asiatic wage. They hunger after the white man's country, where his own high standard of living has raised the remuneration of labour to a level at which the Asiatic, still living in his native style, can easily cut out his white competitor and yet make a fortune in a few years. In that sense he is there as a parasite, and this explains the white community's economic objection to him, which is a large factor in the political objection. There is, however, a half-way house between the Dominion scale and the Asiatic scale of the remuneration of labour. In the tropical Colonies, such as the West Indies, the Indian can do much better than at home in point of earnings and opportunities, while escaping the disabilities which confront him even if he succeeds in entering a Dominion. British Guiana is at this moment negotiating with the Colonial Office with a view to a guaranteed loan for opening up the hinterland by means of a railway—a scheme at last within sight of fruition. There has again been a gold boom on the interior boundary; but

the case for the railway was fully made out apart from that. Thousands of labourers will be required for construction, and thousands of settlers for developing the land. The East Indian is already well established and appreciated in the coastal settlement. Why not take this opportunity of organising a permanent connection between India and British Guiana, with a view to maintaining an annual stream of colonists?

The current quarterly issue of the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," (No. 2 of 1914), contains, among the reports of recent investigations by the Scientific and Technical Staff, the results of examination of samples of soils from Nyasaland, of Penguin guano from the Falkland Islands, and of flax from the East Africa Protectorate, where it is thought there is every prospect of the cultivation of this fibre becoming established in Nyanza Province. Other reports relate to cacao from Nigeria, copals from British West Africa, essential oils from various countries, and cohune nuts from British Honduras. A special article, by Mr. W. Small, M.A., B.Sc., Botanist of the Department of Agriculture, Uganda, deals with Coffee Cultivation in Uganda. It appears that coffee is now the staple crop of European planters in Uganda. The area is being extended, and a large increase in the exports of coffee may be looked for in the next few years. An article on the Utilisation of Fish and Marine Animals as Sources of Oil and Manure (Part I, Oils), discusses the composition and uses of fish oils, their sources and preparation, and also describes the present position of the whaling industry. Fur Farming in Canada and the Tin Resources of Malaya and India are dealt with. It is interesting to note that considerably more than half of the world's supply of tin is produced within the British Empire; the output in 1911, the latest year for which final figures are obtainable, was: British Empire 60,497 tons, foreign countries 54,051 tons.

The only countries producing sugar at the present moment are Java, Mauritius, Reunion, Natal, Mozambique, Argentina, Queensland, New South Wales, Fiji, and the beet growing States of America. Natal, Queensland and New South Wales consume practically the whole of their production, and only a part of the Argentine output is available, while the American beet is consumed in that country. British Guiana, Peru, Brazil, Surinam, Louisiana and Texas commence their crops in October. Of the sugar of these countries, those of Louisiana and Texas are ear-marked for home consumption, while only a small portion of the Brazilian sugar is available for export. The Hawaiian crop commences in November, but this also is devoted to the United States. India consumes its own production.

The partnership between Mr. Taurel and Mr. Morrison has been dissolved by mutual consent. Each partner will continue in business on his own account as manufacturers' agent.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The "Oruba's" momentous voyage.

When the R.M.S. *Oruba* left Barbados on July 22, no rumours had reached the West Indies of the impending European crisis, and war was the last thing dreamt of by her passengers, many of whom were residents in the West Indies taking advantage of the cheap summer trip to England and back. In the absence of a wireless news service many passengers were in ignorance of the gravity of the situation until Sunday, August 2nd, when they reached Cherbourg and were visited by several French torpedo boats which circled round the ship, while numerous search-lights were played on her. On arriving off the Needles on the following morning the *Oruba* was held up by a shot fired across her bows and was sent round the south of the Isle of Wight and into the Solent by Spithead, where many signs of naval activity were in evidence. Eventually she was berthed at mid-day, and her passengers reached Waterloo, after an exciting experience, at 4 o'clock. Among them were the following members of the West India Committee, Hon. E. Agostini, K.C., Mr. W. S. E. Barnardo, Mr. R. D. Bannantyne, Hon. G. S. Hudson, Hon. E. D. Laborde, I.S.O., Dr. E. Prada, Mr. E. I. Baeza, Mr. J. F. Scully, Mr. J. B. D. Sellier, Mr. and Mrs. P. Lechmere Guppy, Mr. C. de Vertueil, Mr. J. Slater, Mr. C. H. McLean, and Mr. H. A. Bovell, who has come home from Barbados to undergo a slight operation, and Mrs. Bovell.

The fortnight covered by the letters of the Hon. Correspondents of the West India Committee, extracts from whose letters are given below, was an uneventful one.

ANTIGUA—Favourable weather for sugar canes.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, JULY 18th.—The weather has been dry during the past fortnight and very favourable to the growing crop, and young sprouts are coming on apace. A general rainfall of from 3.50 near St. John's to 7.50 in the middle of the island tailing off to 4.50 in the Windward district has made everything look fresh and green. It is many years since we have had such a rainfall in July.—A son of the Venerable Archbishop Branch, Edmund Arnold Grey Branch, has been fortunate enough to win the Leeward Islands scholarship of £150, tenable for three years. He is a fine son of a worthy father.—Dr. Marshall arrived by the mail.—The fortnight has been quiet. The Agricultural and Commercial Society has decided to hold an Agricultural Show in February next.

BARBADOS—Dry weather succeeds the rains.

SIR FREDERICK J. CLARKE, JULY 21st.—After the nice showers of the past fortnight we are again having dry weather. This is very bad for the young crops as they require a soaking rain to give them a good start.—The new letters patent issued by the King to the Governor, of which he made mention in his speech on the opening of the Legislative Session, have been publicly read and pro-

claimed by the Provost Marshal in the presence of some of the officials and a large crowd. The most important change is one providing that in the absence or disability of the Colonial Secretary, the Chief Justice shall administer the Government, and in his absence or disability the President of the Legislative Council shall do so. There are other changes which do not, however, affect any matter of importance.

The *Agricultural Reporter* states that the Rev. B. C. Howell, Vicar of St. Leonard's, has been appointed Rector of St. George.

BERMUDA—Improved Ship Channels for Hamilton.

DR. W. CARDY BLUCK, JULY 24th.—His Excellency the Governor, Sir G. M. Bullock, leaves Bermuda to-morrow for Canada in the R.M.S.P. *Chalour*. During his absence of six weeks, Lt.-Colonel McAndrew, commanding the 2nd Battalion the Lincolnshire Regiment will be in authority as Acting Governor and Commander-in-Chief. The Legislature is still in session, but as its sittings have already considerably exceeded the usual number it is expected that members will be released in a week or ten days for a vacation until October when several matters of importance will press for immediate attention. Among these will be the licensing of drivers and boatmen, the provision of maintenance and other arrangements for the new General Hospital now nearing completion, and the settling upon a site for an Agricultural Station of sufficient size, the present one of ten acres or less, being unsuitable.—The present Director of Agriculture, Mr. Wortley, well-known in Jamaica, finds he has not room to carry out experiments on a sufficiently large scale, and he is unable also to benefit by the valuable assistance proffered him by the United States Department of Agriculture. His energy has preserved for Bermuda the right to send potatoes into the United States and he has been entrusted with the management of the Bermuda exhibit at the Toronto Exhibition, a service which he has on more than one occasion performed for Jamaica.—Now that the colony has gone into the matter of harbour and channel improvement, investment has been made in two dredgers, both of which are busily engaged. The channels formerly in use are being discarded to a great extent, an entirely new one being cut into St. George's Harbour at the eastern end of the islands, while the main ship channel to Grassy Bay and Hamilton is being altered in a large extent of its course. During this week the House of Assembly has had reported to it an investigation into the possibilities of an entirely new route from Grassy Bay which will shorten the voyage to New York by twenty miles, saving probably three hours steaming on the round trip. This shortening of the voyage is of great importance in view of the increase in the tourist traffic and further investigation and a survey have been decided upon, so that the matter may be considered when the next session begins.—Three hundred or more passengers are arriving on each of the ten day trips of the *Bermudian* and *Caribbean*, and the tourist traffic for the summer season will, therefore, maintain its usual level.

BRITISH GUIANA—The ferry service and Sproston's.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, JULY 18th.—Consequent upon the resignation of Mr. C. W. Prest there will be a triangular contest for his seat as Financial Representative for Georgetown on July 23rd, the candidates being Mr. C. Richter, Mr. E. A. V. Abraham and Mr. N. Cannon.—Mr. R. G. Duncan having resigned his seat as member of the Court of Policy for N.W. Essequibo, there will be a contest for it between Mr. J. B. Cassels and Mr. P. N. Browne on the 25th. Mr. John Downer too has resigned his seat in the Court of Policy for New Amsterdam, and it will be con-

tested by Mr. S. Wreford at present Financial Representative for that town, and Mr. E. G. Woolford.—I regret to have to report the death of Mr. Patterson, manager of Plantation of Mou Repos, which took place on the 16th at the Public Hospital, after a long attack of typhoid fever. The estate was put up at Execution Sale on the 13th and was purchased by Messrs. Booker, Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.—The preliminary work in connection with the laying of the foundations of the new Roman Catholic Cathedral has been begun.—The half-yearly meeting of the Hand-in-Hand was held on the 15th, when the usual dividend of 3 per cent. on the Scrip Capital was declared.—The reduction in the fares on the ferry service has been very well received by the public. On Sunday, the 5th inst., over 4,000 tickets were sold, and large numbers of people continue to make use of the service daily. In connection with the new Government service, Messrs. Sproston's, Ltd., were fined \$5 on the 11th inst. for running a launch on the Poudroyen service on the 2nd, but notice of appeal has been given.—New Amsterdam has declared in favour of the hinterland railway and the necessary change in the Constitution. The Hon. F. Dias, M.C.M., and Mr. J. S. MacArthur, F.N., addressed a public meeting at Mahaica on the subject on the 13th inst.—The midsummer meeting of the Turf Club was held on July 8th and 9th, and the contest for the Lees Challenge Cup for rowing took place on the 6th, and resulted in a win for the All Comers.—Sugar market remains the same at \$2.05 for refining crystals for export. For good quality for local consumption, \$1.15 to \$2.20 is being paid.—The weather is fine with occasional showers, and favourable generally.

DOMINICA—Mr. Drayton and the road programme.

MR. E. A. AGAR, JULY 18th.—We hear rumours that the road expert has actually been appointed. I hope that is true, and that we may expect him shortly. Mr. Drayton appears to take a genuine interest in the roads, and he gives one the impression of being a very thorough man in all departments; in fact, we are looking forward to great progress under his administration. Conditions were never more favourable.—We opened the "hurricane season" with a splendid thunderstorm, most rain gauges registering over 5 ins at this end of the island; this washed the roads a bit naturally, but did little or no harm to cultivation.

GRENADA—Cacao shipments still ahead of 1913.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, JULY 20th.—A good deal of rain has fallen during the fortnight and several of the days have been very hot.—Mr. and Mrs. A. Haywood left for England via Bermuda and New York in the *Chalour* on July 14th.—The Administrator entertained the members of the Legislative Council at breakfast at Government House on the 10th, and there was a meeting the same day at noon at which Mr. J. B. C. Masgrave, Colonial Postmaster, and Dr. N. S. Durrant, the Medical Officer of No. 3 district took their seats for the first time as acting members.—A Sub-Committee has been appointed to consider the question of the appointment of a new staff for the Agricultural Department. Their reports will be considered at a meeting on the 24th.

MR. W. M. STEELE, who recently lost his pair of carriage horses as the result of an accident, was fortunate enough to win a Ford motor car at a raffle at the Home Hotel on the 14th.—Mr. Donald Thomson, Chief Clerk in the Treasury has been granted six months leave of absence, during which Mr. H. A. Otway, Acting Chief of Police, will occupy his post. Mr. Kerr, who has been acting for Mr. Otway will continue to do so.—At a meeting of the Legislative Council on July 10th, Committees were appointed to enquire into the desirability of having a pipe-borne water

service in the Woburn District, upon the best means of providing additional hospital accommodation, and the need for a reformatory or industrial school.—The question of the separation of the combined offices of Registrar of the Supreme Court and Police Magistrate of the Southern District was also discussed.—His Excellency William Douglas Young, C.M.G., Acting Governor, will arrive on the 20th, and proceed to the Council, and will be sworn in on that date.—The Government Offices will be closed on the 3rd for Bank Holiday, and also on Tuesday, which has been set apart by Proclamation as a General Thanksgiving for past mercies, and the St. Andrew's Race Club will hold a meeting.—Miss Martin, headmistress of the Girls' Secondary School has been granted vacation leave of absence for 57 days from the 20th inst., and Miss Estelle Garraway, the assistant mistress, will act as headmistress, and Miss Lucy Kellman, as assistant mistress, during her absence.—Mr. John McGilchrist is acting as Consular Agent for the United States of America during the Hon. P. J. Dean's absence from the colony.—The shipments of cacao to date amount to 64,730 bags, as against 61,981 bags in the corresponding period of last crop.

JAMAICA—The foreshore railway scheme.

The *Daily Gleaner* of July 18th, reports fresh developments in connection with the foreshore railway scheme for Kingston. Communications on the subject are stated to have passed between the Governor and the Advisory Board of the railway, and the latter holds the view that it would not be fair to give railway connection to one private wharf and not the others, but that the United Fruit Company should not be handicapped by having to wait until the scheme is carried out before receiving connection.—The Hon. H. A. L. Simpson, Mayor of Kingstow, received a cordial welcome in the city on his return from England and America.

MR. A. ST. G. SPOONER, JULY 23rd.—The cry is all for railway extension to tap the hilly and well watered districts not yet capable of development owing to lack of communication, and there can be no doubt whatever that this step would lead to enormously increased production, probably of bananas. One hopes, however, that sugar will benefit as well; given the rich land of these well-watered hills and vales and a down hill run on the railway for canes it should be possible to erect and operate many modern sugar factories on the lower lands.

At Vere the conditions for the year have been very trying, the oldest inhabitants remembers no such drought. On this estate only 7 inches of rain so far since January 1st and no present appearance of change from blazing sun and high breeze. The only green to be seen is in the fields of cane irrigated from wells, the rest is in all stages of dying. With a dependable supply of irrigation water it would be hard to set a limit on the productive possibilities of Vere; we only want the water and the water can be got, in fact we are full of hope that the work of bringing it here from the Cockpit River will be commenced before many months pass.

MONTSERRAT—The best Sea Island cotton season.

MR. K. P. PENCHOEN, JULY 18th.—The season so far is the most favourable we have had for cotton for many years, and the start made is good. The cotton through the island is far better than it has been for years at this time. Some reaping has been done, and ginning will, in all probability, be earlier than usual. Our sales made by last mail were low, 15. 3½d. to 1s. 4½d. per lb., and we hope as these prices have been accepted to relieve the market, that the coming season will open with some encouragement, which is sadly wanted by the planters in Montserrat.

ST. LUCIA—75,000 lime plants for sale at "Reunion."

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON, JULY 17th.—July continues dry with only 2½ inches of rain to date well distributed, but its effect is minimised by a continuous strong drying wind. This makes eight consecutive dry months since December with a rainfall of less than 25 inches. Canes are looking healthy, but it is still too dry for any planting or "supplying" to prosper, and consequently the 1915 crop will be reaped from "rattoons" only. This is not a cheerful situation for the sugar planter with present low prices. Cacao seems to promise a good coming crop, and there are now pickings from August to December in sight, so if there is any truth in the adage that a "long cacao crop is a good crop" we should do well in 1914-15. Limes are doing fairly well, although the weather is rather on the dry side, and in favour of the scale insects. One or two of the more advanced lime planters have put up modern concentrating plants, but with the majority the acreage in bearing is insufficient to warrant this expense yet, and all kinds of makeshifts are resorted to for crushing the limes and extracting the juice, which is being sold to the Government factory which is thus fully justifying its inception. The experimental station at "Reunion" has turned out 75,000 very fine lime plants suitable for putting out, and they are eagerly being taken up by planters at the modest price of 2s. per 100. They would represent planting of 3,000 acres if fully taken up which I fear is a larger area than St. Lucia can manage this year, but overproduction of such a useful article is a fault on the right side.—The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council has held two meetings since last mail, and has been principally occupied in deciding what it is not going to advise.

ST. KITTS—Muscovado estates still at work

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, JULY 17th.—There was a fine general rain on the 9th inst., from 1.50 to 2 inches falling throughout the island. The Central Factory closes crop this weekend, but muscovado sugar estates are still sugar making, having been handicapped by unfavourable weather and the scarcity of labourers willing to work.—The bulk of the island muscovado sugars for shipment were again shut out by the S.S. *Caraquet* on the 6th inst., causing a good deal of inconvenience and annoyance.

ST. VINCENT—A new motor road roller imported.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, JULY 18th.—The news of the death of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain was received with profound regret in the colony. In these West Indian islands, which have shared in the benefits of his administration whilst Secretary of State for the Colonies, the feeling of loss is more keen if possible, than even in the mother country. Both the *Sentry* and *Times* newspapers in their leaders were warm in their praises of the great statesman.—Much interest is being taken in the news that has come through regarding the success of the International Tropical Products Exhibition; especially in so far as this and the sister colonies are concerned.—Another step towards the modernisation of the colony has come in the shape of a motor road roller, which was landed last Wednesday. Since the inauguration of the motor mail service this has been recognised as a necessity, and after a period the windward road will undoubtedly be in a better condition for automobiles than has been yet possible to make it.

TOBAGO—The manufacture of copra proceeding.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, JULY 17th.—The weather is still our most serious topic. Light daily showers are not enough for July after the months of comparative drought, and the high hot winds are scorching up everything. In the cool valleys

the young cacao crop is making fair progress, but in flats and exposed fields some change of leaf has already taken place, and the crop prospects are much less favourable than a month ago. We shall be lucky to get crop in December now, and in the interval very little crop may be expected. Most estates are busy picking coco-nuts this month and as prices in Trinidad have dropped, the bulk of the crop is being turned into copra. Those who contracted for coco-nuts early in the year are lucky, as recent sales were at \$9 culls and \$19 selects. The market generally improves about this time, but speculation and the Mexican War seem to have upset things in New York where most of our coco-nuts are marketed. Tobacco cultivation appears to be attracting peasant proprietors, and I have seen some fine leaves grown in this district. It is only a cultivation for small growers as weeding and worms require constant care and labour is too erratic to induce the large proprietors to embark in it.—My last letter was posted before the news of Mr. Chamberlain's death arrived. Although not unexpected, the sorrow for his loss is none the less, as all having the interests of the Empire or the West Indies at heart feel that "a great man has departed." What he accomplished will ever rank him as one of the great ones of our country and the misfortune is that his health was shattered just when he was most needed.

TRINIDAD—Mr. Freeman's cacao-budding experiments.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, JULY 21ST.—It is officially announced that Professor Cadman, now here, bears instructions from the Admiralty to report upon the oil industry of the colony. One need not be an optimist to realise how much this portends.—The long expected report of the Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to enquire into the management of the St. Augustine and River Estates of the Government has been published as Council Paper No. 109. This Committee was nominated in consequence of a series of articles which appeared in the *Mirror* last year containing very grave charges of waste, mismanagement and something worse, which were supported in *Truth*, London. The report, although couched in far from harsh terms, practically confirms all the charges set forth, and it is to be hoped that the needed reforms in the administration of the property will be effected.

A very interesting morning was spent by members of the Agricultural Society the other day when, by invitation of Mr. Freeman, Acting Director of Agriculture, they attended at the St. Clair Experiment Station to witness a demonstration in cacao budding. After Mr. Freeman had addressed the meeting on the subject, Mr. Augustus, Curator, showed the practical part of the work. The cacao planters present were evidently much impressed, and I fancy some considerable experiments in budding will result.—A public notice has now been issued that it has been found necessary to continue to reduce the pressure in the town mains between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., and that during those hours it will not be possible to supply water in several of the upper parts of the town. Special reference was made to this at a meeting of the City Council, held yesterday, when the chairman, Dr. Prada, who, by the way, proceeds to England to-day, made the welcome statement that active steps were being taken in the matter. I have no desire to pose as an alarmist, but this water question appears to be far and away the most important and urgent facing us to-day. For a tropical city with modern system of sewerage to have its water supply suspended for many hours during the day seems to me to be a most serious matter.—Forres Park was stated to be going out of cultivation. This estate formerly belonged to Sir Townsend Fenwick, then to the Colonial Company, and then to the Colonial Bank, which

latter institution has sold it to Messrs. Robert and Jesse Henderson. They will not continue planting sugar. The manager who has been there for some years, Mr. F. J. Morris, and under whose able management large profits were made until this year of low prices, is leaving the colony to the regret of all who know him. He was one of the best planters and deservedly one of the most popular men among us.—Some time ago I made reference to the late issue of the *Blue-book*, which deprived it of much of its interest. I now learn that no fault in this respect attaches to the author, Honourable S. W. Knaggs, as by a regulation made some years ago the draft of the *Blue-book* has to be first submitted to the Secretary of State, and afterwards laid before Parliament. All this, of course, leads to much delay, especially when Parliament does not happen to be sitting. I am glad to make this explanation as I should be sorry to make any unfair reference to the work of one who is not only an exemplary official but who happens also to be a very valued friend.—Last week the Governor invited the Consulate Body to dine and meet the captain of the Italian cruiser *Calabria* and His Excellency Mr. Harford, British Minister at Caracas. A pleasing feature of the entertainment was the playing by the hand of the National airs of the various countries represented. As this occurred the other guests drank to the respective representative. Things went quite smoothly until after the world-wide known anthems of the great Powers were rendered, but then a distressing circumstance occurred. Several of the consuls present were in blissful ignorance of their anthems and they were solemnly played unrecognised. Needless to say this caused much amusement and badinage, which rather added than otherwise to an enjoyable function. But the joke has gone round the town and the consuls are the object of much good-humoured chaff.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

Wharf accommodation in Kingston

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—In view of the interest at present evinced in the question of wharf accommodation it may be of interest to republish a "List and Situation of the Public Wharves in Kingston, running East and West," which appeared in "The Columbian Magazine" (Kingston) in 1800—one hundred and fourteen years ago.

It will be seen that the Ordnance is the only wharf still existing to-day. The Royal Mail Wharf now occupies Harriot's and Douglas's and Sewell's.

"List and Situation of the Public Wharves in Kingston, running East and West," taken from "The Columbian Magazine" for 1800 (Kingston).

- I. Welsh & Son's : bottom of John's Lane.
- I. Harriot's : between John's Lane and Duke Street.
- G. Douglas & Co., and I. Sewell's : bottom of Duke Street.
- John Davidson's : between Duke Street and Mark Lane.
- Donaldson & Heron, and M'Bean & Bagnold's : bottom of Mark Lane.
- Jaques, Laing, & Ewing's : between Mark Lane and Church Street.
- Duncomb & Pownal, and Bogle & Cathcart's : bottom of Church Street.
- Thomas Hynes's : between Church Street and Temple Lane.

Kimkhead & Sproull; and Hardy, Pennock & Brittan's :
 bottom of Temple Lane.
 John West & Co.'s : between Temple Lane and King
 Street.
 Willis & Waterhouse; and Bogle, Jopp & Co.'s : bottom
 of King Street.
 Joseph Teasdale; and I. Robertson & Co.'s : bottom of
 Peter's Lane.
 Burnett, Stirling & Co.; and W. Cleland's : bottom of
 Orange Street.
 Cowgill & Co.'s : between Orange Street and Luke Lane.
 Henry West & Co.; and Donaldson, Forbes, Grant &
 Stewart's : bottom of Luke Lane.
 Dick, McCall & Co.'s : between Luke Lane and Princess
 Street.
 Shaw, Italy & Co.; and Lindo & Brothers' : bottom of
 Princess Street.
 Ordnanee; and R. Sutherland & Co.'s : bottom of
 Matthew's Lane.
 W. B. Bryan & Co.; and Fairclough & Barnes's : bottom
 of West Street.
 Dick, McCall & Co.'s Lumber Wharf : next on the West-
 ward; and further on
 Little & Rennie's.

Yours etc., F. CUNDALL.

The West Indian Mail Service.

SIR,—Mr. Abbott's letter on this subject in your CIRCULAR of 28th July is interesting. He does not, however, mention speed or time of voyage, or mails and fruit, but if his proposals will end in 12 day trips between British Guiana and England, and eight day trips between Canada and British Guiana, and *vice versa*, without any subsidy, then the West Indies may consider themselves in Paradise, until the airships come along to cut the voyages into less than half that time. If the Canadian Lines, Ltd., will give such a service without subsidy Mr. Abbott should put them in touch with the Dominion Government at once. His suggestions are too good to be possible, so some points in his letter can now be considered.

A subsidy may be an abomination, but it is a necessary item to get a *fast, punctual and regular* mail, passenger, fruit and cargo service on many other routes besides that between the United Kingdom, the West Indies and Canada, and it is not likely that these three countries will get what they need without one.

The writer's point all along has been to avoid paying *two subsidies*, their shares in which the West Indian Governments, at any rate, cannot afford under existing conditions, and he has yet to see any less expensive and better suggestion of doing the double service for one subsidy than from British Guiana, Trinidad, Barbados, (Bermuda), and Halifax to connect at last port with the "All Red" line to Blacksof Bay, Ireland; with an Intercolonial service to connect all the small islands at Barbados or Trinidad. Jamaica is rather far away, and is a large enough place to have its own service in connection with perhaps British Honduras, Turks Islands, the Bahamas, Bermuda, etc.

Mr. Abbott exaggerates the cold weather difficulty and seems to forget that except Barbados and Trinidad, all the other islands and British Guiana passengers, etc., have, at the present time, to change steamers in the West Indies for Southampton and *vice versa*. Is it quite impossible in a contract for the steamship company to guarantee full attention by its staff to all passengers without the "tips" so much complained of by Mr. Abbott and hosts of others?

"Imperialist's" Montreal letter on freight rates in the *same CIRCULAR* strengthens the point of Mr. Abbott and others that the West India Committee and all merchants and planters should encourage competition and combine together against being squeezed! So far as the Canadian route is concerned, however, Sir George E. Foster and his

freight boards should have remedied matters before now. This is entirely "up to them" in accordance with his wish expressed at the Ottawa Conference in 1912.

Travelling via Halifax to England may not be the most favourable way, but "beggars cannot be choosers," and we must "cut our coat according to our cloth."

Yours, etc., GUY WYATT.

"A Wall from the West."

London, August 2, 1914.

SIR,—May I point out that "W. R. D." is guilty of a slight error in his admirable poem in your last issue, "A Wall from the West." It is the Hindoo to whom the ox is sacred. The Mahommedan, on the other hand, eats beef freely!

Yours, etc., ZEDU.

OUR LIBRARY.

Filters and Filter Presses, from the German of F. A. Bühler, by John Joseph Eastick, F.I.C., A.R.S.M. 179 pp. 94 by 64. 327 illustrations. Norman Rodger, London, 128 net. This is a translation of Bühler's well-known work on Filtration, by Mr. J. J. Eastick, who adds to the text matter relating to the Theory of Filtration and Filtration in Sugar Factories and Refineries. Mr. Eastick has done English readers good service not only in translating but also in adding to the translation the result of his large experience in this connection in raw cane sugar factories and refineries. The work is well and profusely illustrated and it is unnecessary to say is got up in the excellent style which invariably characterises the publications of Mr. Norman Rodger.

Dynamite and Tropical Products. T. Colin Campbell. 1s. Under this novel title, the author, who claims unique experience in connection with tropical agriculture, has put together a compilation of practical, if somewhat irregular, notes on the cultivation of tropical products all over the world, interspersed with anecdotes and remarks. The contents are varied, and include Earlier Double Production, Seed Pedigree, Electrical Treatment of Pests, Life of Rubber Roads in London, Electrical Discharge and Clean Weeding, Bogey of Clean Weeding, Quickly Drying and Pure Copra, and Swampland made productive, and Regeneration of Plantations—no mean ground to cover. Although avowedly written with the view of the advertisement of the author, who styles himself a "Tropical Planting Expert," this little work is full of cogent remarks and practical statements, and will repay perusal by anybody interested in the big subject dealt with. It can be obtained from the author at 23, Back Street, Liverpool.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados. Vol. 29—No. 56. Regulations respecting the wearing of Foreign Orders and Medals. Proceedings of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly. No. 57. Letters Patent Constituting the Office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Barbados. No. 58. Proceedings of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly. No. 59. An Act to Amend Debtors Act. **British Guiana**, Vol. 39—No. 3. Ordinance to amend the Georgetown Town Council Ordinance. No. 4. Comparative Statement of Traffic on Demerara Railway. No. 6. Regulations made by the Comptroller. No. 7. Ordinance for Co-opera-

tive Credit Banks. Ordinance for the partitioning of District Lands. **British Honduras, No. 29.** Ordinance to amend law relating to dogs. Ordinance relating to the prohibition of Arms. **Grenada, Vol. 32—No. 25.** Trade Statistical Tables. Meteorological Observations. Financial Statements of the District Boards. Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council. **Dominica, Vol. 37 No. 30.** Notices. No. 31. Regulations for the Government of Export Warehouse. **St. Kitts-Nevis, Vol. 11—No. 30.** Return of raw cotton. Regulations for protection of Public against dangers arising from Air Craft. Ordinance to amend Law relating to Wireless Telegraphy. **St. Vincent, Vol. 83—No. 23.** Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Colony. Report of the Registrar-General for 1913-1914. Law relating to Pensions. Ordinance to authorize Governor to raise loan. **Trinidad, Vol. 83—No. 31.** Proclamations relating to Burial Grounds and Road-drains. Rules relating to Colonial Hospital. Regulation for the provision of Latrines on Estates. Report on Teachers' Certificate Examination, Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Industrial Training.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

- Hon. E. Agostini, & C.
- Mr. A. F. Anderson
- Mr. G. H. Atherton
- Mr. E. J. Bazza
- Mr. R. D. Bannatyne
- Mr. W. G. E. Barnardo
- H. E. Sir H. Hesketh Bell, & Co. G.O.
- Hon. E. Du Boulay
- Mr. W. A. Boyd
- Mr. Geoffrey Brooke
- Mr. D. C. Cameron
- Professor P. Carmody
- Mr. Albert Cherry
- Commander The Hon. W. H. Coombs, R.N.
- Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa
- Mr. C. de Verteuil
- Mr. Wm. Duran
- Mr. W. Greig
- Mr. W. Morris Fletcher
- Mr. John T. Greg
- Mr. P. Lechmere Guppy
- Hon. E. A. H. Haggart
- Mr. A. T. Hammond
- Mr. V. Hanschell
- Mr. Hugo Hoffmann
- Hon. G. S. Hudson
- Mr. P. Houghton James
- Mr. A. S. Kernahan
- Hon. E. D. Laborde,
- Dr. G. L. Latour
- Mr. A. M. Low
- Mr. W. Low
- Mr. J. A. Madgwick
- Mr. C. H. McLean
- Mr. H. F. C. Melville
- Mr. J. J. Nunan
- Mr. R. Paterson
- Mr. James Peet
- Mr. G. M. Peter
- Dr. E. Prada
- Mr. C. W. Prest
- Mr. G. Raitton
- Mr. I. A. Richard
- Mr. W. C. Robertson
- Mr. N. Maude Roxby
- Mr. W. N. Sands
- Mr. H. Seedorf
- Mr. J. B. D. Seely
- Mr. J. F. Scully
- Mr. R. B. Short
- Lt.-Colonel W. J. Slack
- Mr. J. Slater
- Captain D. L. Slinger
- Hon. Denis Slyne
- Hon. Adam Smith
- Mr. Wm. Smith
- His Grace The Archbishop of the West Indies
- Mr. Carl F. Wieting
- Mr. A. H. Wight and
- Mr. G. Williams
- Mr. J. R. Bancroft, c/o Messrs. S. Dobree & Sons, 7, Moorgate St., E.C.
- Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.
- Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Harlewell Road, Putney, S.W.
- Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
- Mr. Charles M. Calder, United Empire Club, 107, Piccadilly, W.
- Mr. John Charley, Grand Hotel, Charing Cross, W.C.
- Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoyne," Chesel Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton.
- Mr. Frank Cundall, & S.A., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
- Mr. H. Y. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
- Mr. Reginald A. Delafons, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
- Hon. Fred. Driver, 68, Hartley Road, Nottingham.
- Mr. W. R. Durie, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.
- Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
- Mr. Walter Farrell, 92, Kensington Gardens Square, W.
- Mr. J. M. Fleming, The Hermitage, Hadlow, Kent.
- Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Rose Cottage, Berkhamsted.
- Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fore Street Avenue, E.C.
- Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 39, Bedford Square, W.C.
- Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o, Messrs. Coutts & Co., 440, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, c.m.g., 78, Glenalden Road, Streatham, S.W.
- Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, 38, Livingstone Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham.
- Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 28, Hillside Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.
- Mr. J. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Caviller, Gt. Tower Street, E.C.
- Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
- Mr. C. McEneaney, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.
- Hon. W. L. McKinstry, Ashford Grammar School, Ashford, Kent.
- Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rook Ferry, Cheshire.
- Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.
- Mr. W. Mearns, 39, Carlton Place, Aberdeen.
- Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, c/o Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co., 18, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C.
- Mr. W. Morrison, 101, Regent House, St. James's Court, Buckingham Gate.
- Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster S.W.
- Mr. L. F. Nourse, 32, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.
- Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, W.
- Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembridge Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
- Mr. J. J. Rodrigues, c/o Messrs. J. Travers & Sons, Ltd., 119, Cannon Street, E.C.
- Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o, Messrs. Provite & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E.C.
- Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 72, Fenchurch Av., E.C.
- Mr. L. Schoener Scott, 20, Haven Green, Ealing, W.
- Mr. F. B. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E.C.
- Mr. E. C. Skinner, c/o R.M.S.P.Co., 18, Moorgate Street, E.C.
- Mr. S. I. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W.C.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Joint-stock companies in and connected with the West Indies are invited to submit particulars regarding their operations for publication under the above heading.

The Demerara Railway.

The earnings of the Demerara Railway Company for June were \$16,104 (increase \$1,420, and for the year to date \$104) and for the West Coast Railway \$2,990 (increase \$58 and for year to date \$243).

Dividend	Latest Quotations.		Price
1	Antigua ... 4 %	Redeemable 1919-44	99-101
1	Barbados ... 3 1/2 %	Redeemable 1925-44	87-89
1	British Guiana 4 %	Redeemable 1935	93-100
1	British Guiana 3 %	Redeemable 1923-45	76-78
1	Grenada ... 4 %	Redeemable 1917-43	98-100
4 %	Jamaica ... 4 %	Redeemable 1934	99-101
3 1/2 %	Jamaica ... 3 1/2 %	Redeemable 1919-49	87-89
1	Jamaica ... 1 %	Redeemable 1922-44	76-80
4 %	St. Lucia ... 4 %	Redeemable 1919-44	97-99
4 %	Trinidad ... 4 %	Redeemable 1917-43	100-102
3 %	Trinidad ... 3 %	Redeemable 1922-44	77-79
12 %	The Colonial Bank ...	...	5 1/2-6
12 %	The Royal Bank of Canada \$100 (Montreal Exchge)	...	\$222
1	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Ordinary	...	77-82
1	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. Preference	...	98-101
4 1/2 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	101-101
5 %	Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. 5 % Debentures	...	101-104
4 1/2 %	Imperial Direct Line 4 1/2 % Debentures	...	99-102
6 1/2 %	Angostura Bitters Preference (£1)	...	102-105
7 %	New Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. 6 % Debentures	...	102-105
7 %	Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates Pref.	...	102-105
7 %	Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd. (£1 shares)	...	102-105
7 %	United British of Trinidad "A" shares (£1)	...	102-105
7 %	" " " " "B" " (£1)	...	102-105
7 %	" " " " "C" " (£1)	...	102-105
7 %	Demerara Railway Company Ordinary Stock	...	33-38
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 7 % Perp. Pref.	...	105-108
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Ex. Pref.	...	81-84
4 %	Demerara Railway Company 4 % Debentures	...	88-91
1 1/2 %	Direct West India Cable Co. 1 1/2 % Debentures	...	98-100
1 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. Ordinary	...	102-105
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 6 1/2 % Cum. 1st Pref	...	102-105
6 1/2 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 2nd	...	82-83
5 %	W. I. and Panama Tel. Co., Ltd. 5 % Debentures	...	98-101

Messrs. David Bridge & Co. have forwarded to us an illustrated catalogue of their latest machinery in connection with the rubber industry. The pamphlet of 64 pages is excellently got up and forms a complete account of the machinery used in the industry. It can be obtained free of cost.

Messrs. William McKinnon & Co. were awarded the gold medal at the recent Tropical Products Exhibition for the best collection of machinery for the preparation of tropical products. Their exhibit included coffee pulpers, rice hullers and polishers, particulars of which they will be pleased to forward to any reader.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" is a handy volume obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 1s.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—Home ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Oruba, (Captain J. G. K. Cheret) Southampton, Aug 3rd:—

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| Miss I. G. Arnott
Mr and Mrs. C. Andrews
Mr and Mrs H. Allard
Miss H. Alfaro
Mr. H. T. Allen
Hon. Edgar Agostini,

Mr. A. Anez
Miss C. Belleloch
Mr. D. H. Belleloch
Mr. C. S. Burke
Mr. R. A. Burke
Mr. A. N. Brabazon
Mr. and Mrs. W. S. E. Barnardo
Mr. and Miss R. D. Bunnsayne
Mr. A. P. Blair
Misses Brown (2)
Mr. W. Bartlett
Mr. and Mrs. C. Boos
Major A. S. Bowen
Mr. W. W. Brassington
Mr. J. Bremner
Mr. and Mrs. F. Bancroft
Miss Billeet
Mr. E. I. Baera
Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Bovell
Mr. J. A. V. Bourne
Mr. J. W. Barrow
Mr. L. T. Bullen
Miss Phyllis Chandler
Miss Mary E. Cowper
Miss I. Cornaldi
Mr. P. I. Cox
Mr. B. A. Calvert
Miss M. Crow
Mr. A. B. Clarke
Captain W. E. Clayton
Miss F. L. Cartington
Mr. L. B. W. Clarke
Mr. C. F. Dyball
Mr. C. E. Dixon
Mr. H. J. Dingwall | Mrs. Elliott
Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Fiddowes
Mr. R. Evans
Misses Ford (2)
Mr. F. F. Foster
Miss E. A. Greenberg
Mr. T. E. Gardner
Mr. R. C. Gooden-
Chisholm
Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Guppy
Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Grievie
Rev. F. B. Glasgow
Mr. J. A. Gomes
Mr. A. Griffith
Mr. R. B. Hutchinson
Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Higgins
Dr. H. D. G. Hall
Mr. A. Hopwood
Mr. G. S. Hudson
Miss Hudson
Mr. H. Haswell
Mr. H. H. Hart
Mr. F. C. Hutson
Miss Leonor E. Juliao
Miss A. Jeffers
Mr. R. H. Jones
Mr. B. A. Leng
Capt. O. Lewis,
R.W.B., R.D.
Mr. E. D. Laborde,
R.A.O.
Mr. H. Lynch
Mr. W. W. Lynch
Mr. and Mrs. C. Munton
Miss Munton
Mr. J. Medina
Mr. A. P. Maingot
Mr. G. Milford
Mr. and Miss Menzies
Mr. H. Monceaux
Mr. J. L. Moodie
Mr. C. McLean
Mrs. McLean | Mr. W. Muester
Mr. A. Mitchell
Miss M. MacNie
Mr. H. McGregor
Miss M. E. Martin
Mr. and Mrs. A. C. O'Dowd
Mr. and Miss Prud-
homme
Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Phillips
Dr. E. Prada
Mr. F. A. Pope
Mr. E. G. H. Payne
Mr. H. F. Piggim
Mr. C. M. Phillips
Mr. W. Robinson
Mr. and Miss Rostant
Mr. C. B. Renwick
Mr. J. B. W. Sellier
Misses Sellier (2)
Miss H. G. Simpson
Mr. J. Slater
Capt. J. W. Sqaunce
Mrs. Simpson
Mr. J. F. Scully
Mr. H. Speight
Mrs. Swan
Mr. C. N. Smith
Mr. L. M. Springer
Mr. and Mrs. Taitt
Mr. Trearair
Mr. G. R. Tracey
Mr. and Mrs. Carl de
Verteul
Misses de Verteul (3)
Mrs. C. Viera
Mrs. A. Warner
Misses Warner (2)
Mr. J. F. Wallen
Mr. S. D. Walkins
Mr. C. F. Wright
Mr. T. Wildman
Misses Wildman (3)
Mr. R. J. Williams
Mr. J. L. Wilkinson
Mr. G. Yearwood |
|--|---|---|

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM COLON per S.S. Motagua, Avonmouth, July 26th:—

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Mr. A. C. Paton
Mr. T. Cooper | Mrs. E. A. Sprange
Mr. and Mrs. Eitzen
Mr. I. Fisher | Mr. J. N. Lloyd
Mr. L. T. Delaney |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

In the present circumstances mail arrangements are liable to such frequent changes that no good purpose will be served by giving a list of probable sailings. Meanwhile the West India Committee is keeping in close touch with the shipping companies and enquiries over the telephone will receive immediate attention.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Demerara (Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), July 31st. "An average fall of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. and 6 in. rain in Demerara and Berbice respectively. (Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Ltd.), August 4th. "Weather favourable for cultivation except at East and West coasts where a few showers have fallen, but more rain wanted. **Berbice**—(Messrs. Henry K. Davison & Co.), August 1st. "Good rains have fallen. Weather most suitable." **Jamaica**—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), week ended July 29th. **PORT ANTONIO**, 23rd, "Fine," 24th to 29th, "Rain," **KINGSTON**, 23rd, "Fine," 24th, "Rain"; 25th, "Fine"; 26th/27th, "Rain"; 28th/29th, "Fine."

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
Jan. 1 to July 16, 1914		Jan. 1 to July 15, 1913	
Sugar ...	49,174 Tons	9,529	4,242 Tons
Molasses ...	827 Puns.		
Rom ...	1,660,132 1,475,902 Proof Galls.	892,312	698,431 Galls.
Molasses, No. ...	2,052 4,707 Tons.		
Cacao ...	33,437 3,253 lbs.	6,068,184	3,055,560 Lbs
Coffee ...	232,026 72,718 "	5,375,492	3,770,816 "
Coco-nuts ...	1,095,671 471,884 No	15,832,947	12,069,433 No.
Oranges ...		2,253,400	14,174,727 "
Bananas ...		9,618,118	4,537,456 Steams
Colton ...		31,609	47,545 Lbs.
Pimento ...		55,707	65,314 Cwts
Ginger ...		15,703	18,712 "
Honey ...		130,339	81,814 Galls.
Dye-woods ...		36,774	28,464 Tons
Gold ...	34,203 37,610 ozs.		
Diamonds ...	6,839 2,644 carats		
Rice ...	9,151,113 8,300,821 lbs.		
Balata ...	166,969 258,258 "		
Rubber ...	605 77 "		
Timber ...	131,468 222,929 cubic ft		
Lumber ...	198,145 259,263 feet		
Lime (extra of) ...	2,441 156 lbs.		

Trinidad.		Barbados.	
Jan. 1 to July 21, 1914		Jan. 1 to July 15, 1913.	
Sugar ...	39,747 30,537 Tons.	28,217	6,957 Tons.
Molasses ...	3,016 2,511 Puns.	85,393	65,829 Puns
Rum ...	668 432 "		
Coco-nuts ...	8,385,015 7,412,508 No.		
Asphalt ...	96,769 121,520 Tons		
Manjak ...	157 149 "		
Bitter ...	10,097 10,061 Cuses.		
Coffee ...	11,120 1,360 lbs.		
Crude Petrol ...	10,289,228 5,491,039 Galls.		
Cacao ...	35,839,400 39,647,300 lbs.		
Cotton ...	.. Seed ..		
Copra ...	4,556 4,163 Bags.		
Spice ...			
Kola ...			

Urenada.	
Jct. 1 to July 20, 1913/14	
Crude Petrol ...	11,157,580 Lbs.
Cacao ...	1,265 Bales
Copra ...	4,204 Bags
Spice ...	148 "
Kola ...	962,780 lbs
	2,170 "

SAILINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Oruba (Captain J. G. K. Cheret), August 12th:—

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| Mr. R. P. Harries
Ray B. Killion
Mr. R. S. Searle
Mr. A. B. Bradley
Rev. C. H. Wilkinson
Mr. F. N. Scott
Mrs. C. Brandman
Miss R. Levy
Mademoiselle von Asbeck
Mrs. I. Shoen
Miss L. Shoen
Mr. A. A. Melhado
Mr. W. L. Seymour
Mr. E. S. Nicholson
Miss A. Mendes
Miss A. Gomes
Mr. E. Malo
Mrs M. O. Davies
Miss A. M. Davies
Mr. B. Grigg | Mr. E. R. C. Hobson
Mr. F. Huber
Mr. G. Vowden
Mr. A. H. G. Cochran
Misses Evans (2)
Mr. T. T. Smellie
Mr. S. Wylde Howes
Mr. S. E. Ray
Mr. and Mrs. L. Abrams
Misses Valencia (3)
Mr. and Mrs. C. Valencia
Mr. C. E. F. Richards
Miss J. E. Robertson
Mr. and Mrs. W. M. B. Shields
Mr. J. Shoen
Mr. C. Brandman
Mr. A. C. Shillingford
Mr. E. S. Severin
Miss K. J. Howson | Mr. J. E. Robuson
Mr. J. Malvern
Sergt. Major and Mrs. J. Petty
Miss M. E. Smith
Miss H. A. Millington
Miss E. Gretton
Mr. Wilson
Mr. Garcia
Mr. Franklin
Mr. V. Keith
Mr. G. Espinosa
Miss Bailey
Miss Lewis
Miss Murray
Miss Walker
Mr. A. J. Buys
Mr. S. Walley
Staff Capt. and Mrs. Walker |
|--|--|---|

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM SOUTHAMPTON TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Magdalena, August 26th:—

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Mr. J. Slater
Mr. M. Crow
Mr. H. G. Simpson
Miss L. Lamy
Miss M. H. Peck
Miss J. Kelly
Mr. J. W. Hopkirk
Mr. A. P. Blair
Mr. T. H. George
Dr. W. Pater | Mr. R. C. Gooden-
Chisholm
Mr. J. O. Rostant
Dr. P. Gast
Mrs. N. J. Bush
Miss V. Rostant
Mr. and Mrs. A. C. O'Dowd
Mrs. F. St. C. Thwaites
Mr. and Mrs. C. Boos | Mr. G. Milford
Mr. J. F. Waller
Mr. J. A. Gomes
Mr. and Mrs. W. Marsh
Mrs. A. S. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Mayes
Mrs. S. D. Bentley
Mr. J. R. Roberts
and
Mr. J. H. Bryant |
|---|---|--|

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

The outbreak of war in Europe involving Germany, Austria, France and Russia as well as this country has paralysed business and trade everywhere. The **BANK RATE** was raised as a precautionary measure by rapid stages to 10 per cent. Last Thursday it was reduced to 6 per cent. and on Saturday last to 5 per cent. when the extreme tension was over and fears of the depletion of gold were allayed. Stock Exchange closed.

SUGAR—The censorship in England has delayed cablegrams from New York and only partial accounts of commercial business have been available. A strong demand sprang up last week for both raw and refined sugar and a considerable business was reported both in Porto Rico and in Cuba on the basis of 3.52 c. per lb., and 3.51 c. duty paid respectively. The spot quotations for centrifugals advanced correspondingly to 3.52 c. and for Muscovado to 3.07 c. All refiners advanced the quotation for granulated to 4.40 c., and it was reported that the United Kingdom had bought 80,000 bags of granulated at 3.35 c. per lb. f.o.b. The market became active and excited and the prices of raws further advanced for centrifugals to 4.26 c. and for muscovados to 3.81 c. The business included Cubans near at hand at 3.89 c. New York terms, and the cheapest offer on the market last Friday at the close was 4.26 c. Refined sugar was again strong with a large demand and prices advanced to 4.25 c. f.o.b., equal to 5.35 c. New York parity. At one time it was reported that the United Kingdom was in the market bidding for half a million tons of granulated. The total week's purchases totalled 30,000 tons at prices ranging from 4.45 c. to 5.35 c. New York parity.

In London the speculative beet market has been practically closed as a result of the sudden declaration of war. Up to the time of the closing of the markets for the usual Bank Holiday when the rupture between Austria and Servia was announced, there was an immediate improvement in prices as it was thought the rupture would be confined to these two countries; but subsequently abortive efforts to bring about a pacific settlement revealed the fact that Germany was in league with Austria to foment, at all costs, a struggle for mastery in Europe, and the market then collapsed and transactions for August delivery marked the lowest point recorded viz.: 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d.

The London Produce Clearing House thereupon gave notice to the following effect: "War having been declared between Germany and Russia the clearing committee of the Council of Sugar Associations of London at a meeting held at 10 and 11, Mining Lane, on Tuesday, August 4th, 1914, at 10 o'clock a.m. have fixed under Rules No. 491a and 491b the following prices for the purposes of settlement of sales": Jan. 9s. 6½d.; February, 9s. 7½d.; March, 9s. 8½d.; April, 9s. 8½d.; May, 9s. 9½d.; August, 9s. 4½d.; September, 9s. 5½d.; October, 9s. 5½d.; November, 9s. 5½d.; December, 9s. 6½d.; Oct./Dec., 9s. 5½d.; Jan./Mar., 9s. 7½d.

The British Government extended the Bank holiday for a further 3 days so as to avoid risk of a run on the banks, and the issue of £1 and 10s. notes. The complete dislocation of business seems from the gloomy outlook at the present time to portend a very bad time in the future not only for produce but for all commodities. The closing prices to the Bank holiday were on July 28th, 9s. 4½d.; 29th, 9s. 5d.; 30th, 9s. 7d.; 31st, 9s. 3d.; and 1st August, 7s. 1½d. (old demoralised); 4th, 9s. 4½d. (war clause cancellation of prices). No further beet calls were made after this date.

The Visible Supplies of Sugar in Europe, North America and Cuba, to the latest available and uneven dates were:—

	1914.	1913.	1912.
Europe (1 and 25 July)	2,023,360	1,863,260	1,330,610
United States (29 July)	392,000	341,830	205,820
Cuba, 6 p'pal ports (26 July)	400,000	386,000	296,000
Cargoes afloat (30 July)	59,350	—	132,830

Total ... Tons **2,874,710** **2,591,090** **1,955,260**
 Quotations of 88% beet, quite nominal,
 (as on 4 August) ... **9s. 4½d.** **9s. 3½d.** **11s. 2d.**

Grocery West Indian—The crystallised market was rather on the upgrade before the holidays and the Declaration of

War. Since the outbreak of hostilities on the 5th and 6th inst. about 24,000 bags of crystallised, consisting of Trinidad and St. Lucia sold at 23s. to 30s. mostly at the latter price. At the auction last Friday some 780 tons were offered, but buyers were not prepared to pay last prices and no business was done. Afterwards some bought in lots of Demerara sold at 31s. to 32s. The sales have ranged for Trinidad from 13s. to 30s., for Demerara from 13s. to 31s. to 32s., for Surinam from 13s. to 13s. 9d., for St. Lucia from 14s. to 30s., and Jamaica at 14s.

Muscovado.—Barbados sold at 25s.

Syrups.—Are being held for full rates.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since Jan. 1—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	23,994	31,544	19,463	29,546	25,800
Deliveries ...	17,443	17,217	17,289	22,211	21,030
Stock (1 Aug.)	19,503	16,166	6,662	11,695	9,845

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, (August 7th)
 30s. 14s. 7½d. 17s. 7½d. 18s. 18s. 6d.

RUM—Stocks in London, August 1st:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica ...	8,819	6,348	8,544	10,619	12,002
Demerara ...	10,953	7,634	6,495	5,275	7,737
Total all kinds	19,772	13,982	15,039	15,894	19,739

The proof market which showed a disposition to decline as a consequence of the heavy stocks became firmer on the Declaration of War and the anticipated fall in prices was arrested. Jamaicas are much in the same position and business is at a stand still.

CACAO—Stocks in London, August 1st:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad ...	10,910	11,795	7,522	8,661	10,763
Grenada ...	9,942	7,298	6,651	14,804	16,741
Stock all kinds	20,852	19,093	14,173	23,465	27,504

The auctions have been confined to those which took place on 28th July, when the market was firm and there was more business doing. The moderate supply of 5,498 bags met with some competition and the greater part was disposed of. There was more enquiry for Trinidad and a good part sold at steady rates; nearly all the Grenada found buyers at an advance of 6d. to 1s. Other West India was 6d. dearer for fine descriptions. Subsequently further advances took place and fair quality good Trinidad sold at 60s. to 62s., Grenada buyers at 60s. Trinidads showed 5s. and Grenada 6s. advance. Jamaica sold at 53s. to 55s. and fine at 57s. 6d. In the Trinidad circular of 21st July it is stated that supplies were so small that there was no business possible. Quotations \$10.80 to \$10.90 for "El Dorado," and \$11.25 to \$11.30 for "Montecito" marks.

COFFEE—On the 29th July at the auctions before the closing of the market there was a very poor demand and the portion sold was at decidedly lower prices and Futures were weak on a further decline in the Rio Exchange, and heavy realisations forced prices down 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. Since the Declaration of War the markets both for spot and future business have been practically closed.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended August 6th 62 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. About 150 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton have been sold since last report, including Barbados 17d. to 18½d., a few superfine St. Vincent 26d. to 28d., Jamaica, Montserrat, and St. Lucia at 12d., and stains at 7½d. to 8½d. Owing to war no business is passing in Sea Island cotton.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (Raw)—Firm and good enquiry. Essential Oil (distilled)—Unchanged. Oil of Limes (handpressed)—Small sales at 9s. 9d. per lb. Concentrated.—No quotable change. **PIMENTO** and **GINGER**—Quiet. **NUTMEGS** and **MACE**—Steady and unaltered. Pickings of latter 2d. lower. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West Indian nominal value £24 15s. 7d. business passing. **ARROWROOT**—About 1,200 barrels reported as sold at 1½d. to 1¾d.; 600 of these being for the Government. Quotations 1½d. to 1¾d.

RUBBER—Nothing doing and no quotations. Market practically closed.

BALATA—Sheet, 2s. 5d. landed terms, against 2s. 10d. and block 2s. 0½d. landed terms, against 2s. 10d. **ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,**

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

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15, SPURRING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.4.

August 24th, 1914.

THE WEST INDIES AND THE WAR.

IN another column in the present CIRCULAR we publish some of the correspondence which has passed between the West India Committee and various Government Departments with regard to matters arising out of the war. The first of these to be dealt with was the prohibition against the exportation of rice and dried fish—two important items of the food supply of the labouring classes—which, we are pleased to state, has now been removed altogether. Of great importance, too, is the letter to the Colonial Office and Board of Trade respecting the embargo placed on all West Indian sugar. The Committee were first informed that the Governor of British Guiana had insisted that ten per cent. of all sugar produced in that colony must be reserved for local consumption, and that the price of 96 test sugar had been fixed at 3 cents. With this we need not deal for the moment—though we may say that ten per cent. of the crop seemed an unnecessary appropriation, amounting as it would to 10,000 tons, a figure in excess of the colony's consumption—nor on August 18th it was made known that the Home Government had definitely prohibited the exportation of sugar from all sugar growing possessions under its control. Enquiries showed that this action was due to their determination to secure a supply of sugar for public purposes with the view

of keeping retail prices in this country within reasonable limits. Realising that the interests of Canada had to be considered—having regard to the existing trade agreement—and it appearing that certain firms had contracts for the supply of sugar to meet, and that it was essential for the conduct of business generally that proprietors should be free to make arrangements for forward sales and freights, a letter was sent to the Government calling attention to these points. The Government requirements being for sugar for delivery from now until December, the matter was one primarily concerning the British Guiana proprietors who, after several meetings, realising that the Government demand must be acceded to *nolens volens*, agreed to sell upwards of 60,000 tons of grey crystals at a certain price free on board at Georgetown. We mention this as we should like our Canadian friends to know that their interests were not forgotten, and that though the arrangement with the Government was ostensibly a voluntary one the proprietors were really acting under *force majeure*. We should further like it to be known that the action taken has resulted in the removal of the prohibition against the exportation of sugar from the West Indies and in permission being granted for existing contracts to be met and for forward sales to be arranged,—two matters of paramount importance. At a time like the present we have no desire or intention of entering the thorny field of politics; but we must, however, emphasize the fact that it is only the action of India and the United States in imposing countervailing duties on bounty-fed sugar, coupled with the Brussels Convention which secured to a great extent the abolition of bounties, that has enabled the Government to obtain their sugar as cheaply as they have done. Otherwise this country would have been still more dependent on Germany and Austria than it has been until recently for its sugar supply. The Government have taken the lead in the movement for wresting from Germany her overseas trade. They will not, we hope, forget that we paid to her and to her ally a sugar bill of no less than £15,145,101 last year. How much better it would have been if that sum had been paid to our own kith and kin in the colonies! In the various interviews at the Home Office MR. MCKENNA showed a very complete knowledge of the sugar question, and we feel that he at any rate will realise that the best safeguard with regard to our sugar supplies in the future, and the best guarantee against a sugar famine in times of war and droughts, will be the encouragement in every way possible of the production of sugar in British possessions.

AGRICULTURE IN BRITISH GUIANA.

THE Report of the Director of Science and Agriculture of British Guiana, PROFESSOR J. B. HARRISON, for the year 1912-13, covering the Reports of the Government Analyst, Botanist, Biologist, Veterinary Surveyor, Agricultural Instructors, and Board of Agriculture, just to hand, gives an account of the excellent work being done by the Department in that Colony. Referring to the sugar-cane experiments carried on at the Experimental fields, it is seen that out of 40 varieties of canes cultivated under varying conditions of manuring only three varieties, namely D145, D118, and D149, gave yields higher than that of the Bourbon, and only one variety, D 118, under the normal manuring of 300 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia per acre. In this connection PROFESSOR HARRISON states that the Bourbon gave more satisfactory results at the Experimental Fields than it has done for many years back. In the manurial experiments, the prolonged drought in the first four months of the year brought out some interesting results. The period available for active growth was short, and many varieties were not able to make use of manurings equivalent to 300 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia per acre, much less of the heavier dressings. The result was, contrary to the experiences of other years, that the manurial value of nitrate of soda proved higher than that of sulphate of ammonia. In this connection, PROFESSOR HARRISON says "This Department is in possession of numerous proofs that the sugar-cane shows a distinctive preference for ammonia over nitrates in normal years, whilst in abnormal years of short to very short periods of active growth nitrate of soda and nitrate of lime may be more efficacious than are sulphate of ammonia, dried blood, nitrolim, and other more slowly acting manures." The use of molasses as a manure failed to exert any appreciable effect on the crops, so, too, did the application of chlorinated lime as a disinfectant. A good idea of the work being done in connection with seedling canes is given by the number of new seedlings raised during the year. This amounted to no fewer than 6,058, of which 2,615 were distributed to the nurseries of the various sugar estates. In this connection it is interesting to see that 72 per cent. of the total area under cultivation on the sugar estates was planted with canes other than the Bourbon. The drought to which reference has already been made proved most disastrous to the Colony's sugar crop. As the result of it, only 76,360 tons were exported, the lowest figure since 1869. In spite of the injury done to crops by the drought, 42,600 more bags of paddy were made than in 1911, the returns being 827,000 bags from 41,924 acres. This excess was due to the increase of 5,879 acres in the area in rice cultivation. The variety and manuring experiments were continued at the Experiment Station. No variety markedly superior to the "Creole" rice had, however, been yet evolved. As regards manures, it was definitely shown that the soil and bush-water used for irrigation supplied

more than was necessary of the essential food items. PROFESSOR HARRISON has been able to report that the coco-nut industry was on the increase, and that much interest was being shown in it. While a considerable extension of the area under cultivation might be expected, he considered that attention was still required to be shown to coco-nut cultivation, especially as regards draining, spacing, and the detection and prevention of pests and disease. At the end of 1912, 13,698 acres were reported as being under cultivation, but on account of the drought only 588,000 nuts had been shipped for the year. The copra industry was still in its infancy, only 38 tons having been shipped. Some expansion is reported in the rubber industry, 3,139 acres being given as being in cultivation, of which 2,800 acres are under Para rubber. The growth of Para rubber trees is stated to be satisfactory when planted in suitable positions, while for Sapium rubber there appears to be no future. Summing up the situation, PROFESSOR HARRISON says that "apparently in British Guiana on any land that supports a heavy forest growth Para rubber trees will grow satisfactorily; but on land which does not do so, though the trees may grow, they will only do so slowly and unsatisfactorily." It is interesting to see that the old cacao industry of Berbice is being revived in the suitable districts of the Berbice River and Canje Creek. The total area in cultivation is returned at 1,983 acres. In the experiments at Onderneeming, although the greatest yields were obtained from the heavily mulched plots, the most remunerative were gained from those which had received applications of superphosphate of lime and sulphate of potash. Activity in planting coffee during the year is recorded, with an area of 2,896 acres in cultivation. The exports were 1,533 cwts. as against 1,127 in 1911-12. We are sorry to see that PROFESSOR HARRISON has no promising figures to give as to lime cultivation—so excellently adapted to the conditions of the colony. "The small farmer," he states, "takes little or no interest in lime-growing, although it is widely recognised that there are very considerable areas in the colony well suited to the cultivation of limes." We regret that space will not permit of our giving our readers more of the valuable matter contained in the reports of the several divisions under PROFESSOR HARRISON'S supervision, which form an index of the thorough manner in which the Department is conducted. Our readers would do well to study them. There is, however, one matter to which we should like to draw attention, and that is the tardiness of the publication of the papers. PROFESSOR HARRISON'S Report, covering the divisional reports, is dated the 8th of August, 1913. Not until about a year later are we in receipt of it. Valuable Reports like those of PROFESSOR HARRISON should be given to the world at the earliest opportunity.

"Cacao," "The Banana" (7s. 6d. each; post free 8s. 4d.), and the "Cane Sugar Factory" (1s., post free 1s. 2d.) are obtainable at 15 Seething Lane, E.C.

NATURALISATION WITHIN THE EMPIRE.

THE British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act which passed through all its stages before the adjournment of Parliament and has now received the Royal Assent, will remove the disabilities to which foreigners naturalised in British possessions are at present subject. As matters now stand a foreigner who has taken out naturalisation papers in a British Colony has, in the eye of the law, no nationality whatever on leaving that colony. He is simply a nondescript and can only secure the privileges and status of a British subject by residing for five years in the United Kingdom. Attention has frequently been called in these columns to the hardship which this has involved, and the case has been cited of a respected member of the Legislative Council of British Honduras, who, though naturalised in that colony, is practically an alien when he visits this country. To such as he, the British Nationality Act which will come into operation on January 1st next will bring welcome relief. It will be noted from the provisions of this measure which are summarised elsewhere, that the Secretary of State may now grant a certificate of naturalisation to aliens who have resided for not less than five years in His Majesty's dominions, provided that of these, the year immediately preceding the application has been spent in the United Kingdom. Further—and this is still more important to residents of foreign birth in our colonies—the Government of any British possession is given similar powers to grant a precisely similar certificate of naturalisation to aliens who have resided for five years in that possession. In the case of the colonies not having responsible government, in which the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras are included, the powers are to be exercised by the Governor, and are to be subject in each case to the approval of the Secretary of State. The real import of this Act is that from January 1st next the alien naturalised in a British possession will enjoy exactly the same privileges as one naturalised in the United Kingdom; and, as soon as he has taken the oath of allegiance, he will to all intents and purposes enjoy the status of a natural-born British subject. The passing of this Act will be a matter for genuine satisfaction in the colonies. Besides placing foreigners who have already been naturalised in a British colony on a proper footing among His Majesty's subjects at home and throughout the Empire, it should lead to many alien residents in the colonies taking the oath of allegiance.

The reassuring statements issued by the Board of Agriculture regarding our food supply have gone far towards allaying anxiety on that score. Sir Sydney Olivier, late Governor of Jamaica, and now Permanent Secretary of the Board, conducted his enquiry with characteristic energy and thoroughness, visiting "the Lane" and other produce centres in order to satisfy himself as to the actual state of affairs.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Mr. R. Rutherford presided over a meeting of the Executive at 15, Seething Lane, on Thursday, August 13th. Those also present were: Mr. C. Algernon Campbell, Mr. W. Fawcett, B.Sc., Mr. Mewburn Garnett, Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall, Mr. A. McConnell, Mr. H. F. Previt , Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary.

The Secretary reported that the membership was 1549. The following candidates were admitted:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
The Dominica Trading Co., Ltd.	Mr. G. Moody-Stuart. Mr. Norman Malcolmson.
Mr. Arthur E. Bradley	Mr. Arthur E. Perkins. Mr. W. Fawcett.
Mr. P. Haughton-James	Mr. C. M. Calder. Mr. W. Fawcett.
Mr. Walter Abbott (Barbados)	Mr. M. J. Taurel. Mr. Robert Morrison.
Mr. Gilbert Auchinleck (Mauritius)	{ Dr. G. W. Paterson. Mr. Mark Moody-Stuart.
Pereira and Gonsalves	Mr. A. McConnell. Mr. Mewburn Garnett.
Dr. C. J. Gomes.	Mr. M. A. Pereira. Mr. Mewburn Garnett.

On the motion of Mr. C. A. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Mewburn Garnett, Mr. Thomas Greenwood was elected a member of the Executive Committee.

Copies of the various Proclamations connected with the war were laid on the table and the Secretary reported the steps which he had taken to secure the removal of certain staple articles of food consumed by the West Indian labouring classes from the list of goods the exportation of which was prohibited. Correspondence on the subject was approved.

The despatch of a letter to the Colonial Office regarding the naturalisation of foreigners in British Colonies was approved.

The Prohibition of Sugar Exports.

It appearing that, acting on instructions from the Home Government the Governments of the West Indian colonies and British Guiana had prohibited the exportation of sugar the following letter was sent by the West India Committee to the Colonial Office and (*mutatis mutandis*) to the Board of Trade on August 17th:—

SIR.—My Committee have been informed that the Governments of the British West Indies and British Guiana, acting upon the instructions of His Majesty's Government have prohibited the exportation of sugar from those Colonies pending the completion of an arrangement for supplying the United Kingdom with that commodity.

In such an emergency as the present, the British West Indian Proprietors are most desirous of doing all in their power to assist in maintaining the food supply of the Mother Country.

My Committee wish me, however, to call attention to the following points which they hope will not be lost sight of in considering this matter.

While they are confident that all British West Indian Proprietors would willingly agree to confine their shipments of sugar to the United Kingdom and the Dominion of Canada at the World's price, the making of forward contracts, both for sales and freight, is an essential and necessary part of their business the suspension of which would be a serious matter.

I include Canada inasmuch as that Dominion, under the existing trade agreement, looks to the British West Indies and British Guiana for the greater part of her sugar supply. In this connection, I may mention that certain proprietors have already made forward sales to Canada, and that their inability to meet such contracts would inevitably lead to litigation.

In these circumstances I am to ask that my Committee may be afforded an opportunity of verbally placing the views of the West Indian Proprietors before the Department of His Majesty's Government which has this matter in hand, before any decision affecting the West Indian Sugar Industry is arrived at.

In conclusion, I am to state that in view of the paramount importance of this matter to the British West Indies my Committee are addressing a similar letter to the President of the Board of Trade,

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, *Secretary*.

The object of the prohibition of the exportation of sugar from the sugar growing colonies was to enable the Government to secure sugar in order to make good to some extent the deficiency of beet sugar from the Continent. The despatch of the above letter was followed by negotiations, and on August 19th, after several meetings, certain of the British Guiana proprietors agreed to supply the Government with over 60,000 tons of 96 test sugar between that date and the end of December. On their part the Government agreed to allow existing contracts with Canada to be met and forward contracts for sale of sugar to be made in the ordinary way, and instructions were then issued for the prohibition to be removed.

Rice and Fish for the West Indies.

By a Proclamation dated August 10th, the exportation of rice and fish from the United Kingdom was prohibited. On the following day the West India Committee wrote to the Board of Trade and asked that permission might be given to the West Indian merchants to ship yellow rice and dried fish to the British West Indies and British Guiana. In their letter it was pointed out that yellow rice was the staple food of the East Indians in Grenada, Trinidad and elsewhere, and that dried fish formed an important item in the food supply of the labouring classes in the West Indies. "The fish comes mainly from Grimsby and Aberdeen, and there is at the present time a quantity hard cured and awaiting shipment and in process of curing. This hard dried fish is not used in this country at all, and, as it only keeps for a few months it is most unlikely that it will be required here." Further correspondence ensued and on August 20th the Board of Trade informed the West India Committee that in virtue of a Proclamation issued on that day the Prohibition

in the case of rice and dried fish would be entirely withdrawn. By the Proclamation the following list of provisions and victuals prohibited to be exported is substituted for the list given in the Proclamation of August 10th: Wheat and wheat flour, Barley and oats, Animals, living, for food, Butter, Margarine, Cheese, Eggs, Sugar, unrefined, sugar, refined and candy, Molasses and invert sugar, Jams and marmalades, Milk, condensed, sweetened or not.

For the convenience of members of the West India Committee, copies of all Proclamations issued are filed at the Committee Rooms.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1556. Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

THE NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

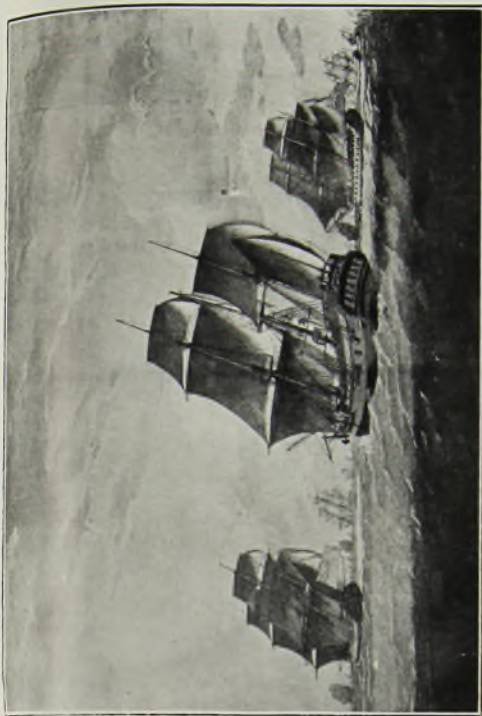
The Board of Education of St. Vincent has taken thirty copies of the West India Committee's Map of the West Indies and the Governments of the Bahamas and British Guiana are also among the latest purchasers of this work.

While no attempt has been made to give the geographical features of the individual islands—this being impracticable in view of the relative size of most of the islands in relation to the mainland—the principal railways, sea distances in nautical miles, cables, wireless telegraph stations, coaling stations and oil stations are all clearly marked. The map has three insets, one showing the routes and distances between Canada and the United States and the West Indies, another a plan of the Panama Canal and a third showing by diagrams and figures the area and population of the various British West Indian colonies. It is believed that the Map will prove useful in the offices of those firms which have dealings with our West Indian colonies, and also for educational purposes in schools; and it is hoped that the distribution of the Map among Government Offices and Chambers of Commerce and other public bodies may help in some degree to stimulate interest in the British West Indies.

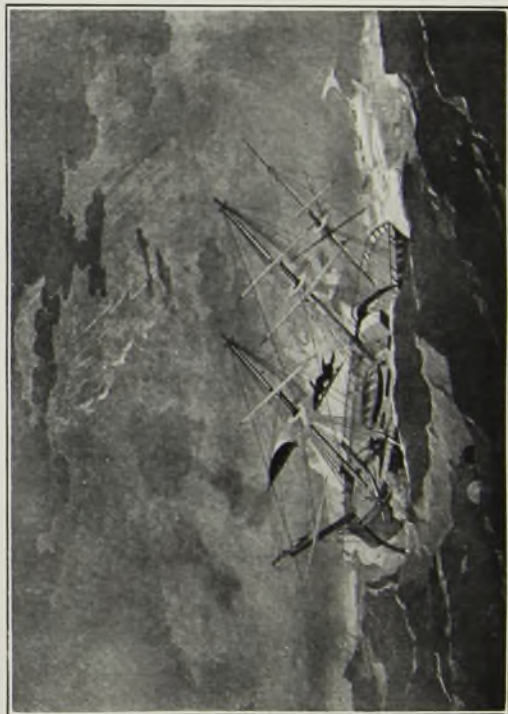
The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.



I. THE "LADY JULIANA" STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.



II. THE "LADY JULIANA" IN TOW OF THE "PALLAS."



III. THE "JULIANA" WRECKED AND THE FLEET DISPERSED.



IV. THE MORNING AFTER THE STORM.

A JAMAICA FLEET WITH PRIZES IN 1782.

From Lithographs by Robert Dodd, dedicated to the Jamaica Planters and Merchants, and published February 17th, 1783.

THE FATE OF A CONVOY IN 1782.

There has lately been added to the History Gallery in the Institute of Jamaica an interesting series of aquatints illustrating the fate of the convoy which was sent home with the prizes which Rodney brought into Jamaica after his memorable victory over the Comte de Grasse. They are executed by Robert Dodd, by whom there is also in the gallery an engraving illustrating Rodney's victory. They bear the following inscriptions:—

Plate I. The *Lady Juliana* struck with lightning in the Gulf of Florida—To the Jamaica Merchants and Planters. This and the following views of various situations of the Jamaica Fleet in their homeward bound passage, including the fatal storm on the 16th of September, 1782, from observations on board the ship *Lady Juliana*. Is respectfully inscribed by their obedient servant, John Harris.

Published Feb. 17th, 1783, by Messrs. Sayer and Bennett, Fleet Street, and J. Harris, Sweeting's Alley, Cornhill, London.

Plate II. The *Lady Juliana* in Tow of the *Pallas*. The Sailors Fishing the Main Mast which was Shatter'd by Lightning.

Plate III. The *Lady Juliana* with other ships in Distress on the night of the 16th of September when the Fleet was dispersed.

Plate IV. A view of the sea on the morning after the storm, with the distressed situation of the *Centaur*, *Ville de Paris* and the *Glorieux* as seen from the *Lady Juliana*; the *Ville de Paris*, passing to Windward under close reef'd Topsails.

Plate I shows the *Ramilies* on the left of the *Lady Juliana* and the *Pallas* frigate to the right—with other ships in the distance. In Plate II we see the *Pallas* frigate to the left of the *Lady Juliana* and the *Centaur* to the right with the rest of the fleet in the distance. Plate III shows the *Lady Juliana* in the foreground, two ships in the distance to the left and three to the right. In Plate IV the *Ville de Paris* and the *Centaur* are to the left, and the *Glorieux* and two unmanned ships to the right of the *Lady Juliana*.

This was of course a special convoy. In those days the planters, merchants and others interested were wont to meet and settle the rates of freight to be paid by the fleet of merchant-men which went home four times a year, under the convoy of a man-of-war. In war time the rates were nearly three times as high as in peace. In war time the merchantmen were wont to assemble at Bluefields in order to await their convoy for England. In this connection the following extract from the Minutes of a Meeting of the West India Merchants—now the West India Committee—held on January 29th, 1782, Mr. Long presiding, may be of interest:—

The following letter from the Chairman, and Deputy Chairman, to Mr. Stephens, was read.

“We take the Liberty of desiring you to submit to the Lords of the Admiralty, to recommend to their Commander in Chief, the request we made at the Board some time ago, of having early and frequent Convoys home, both from Jamaica and the Leeward Islands, instead of the Ships being sent home in such large and delayed Fleets, which in the present Situation of Affairs, is found to be attended with great Inconveniences, and very severe losses, besides, a greater Object of Attention to the Enemy—Early Con-

voys are particularly desirable, from the Produce being extremely wanted, on account of its scarcity, and coming home in a favourable season for safe Passages, the Strength of the Convoys may be regulated by the number of the Trade in each.

We decline naming the Times of the Appointment of the Convoys (as has been usually done) in order to prevent their expected arrival in Europe being known to our Enemies.

We are, etc.,
10th January, 1782. (Signed) BEESTON LONG.
RICH'D. NEAVE.

The *Ville de Paris* and the other prizes taken on the 12th April, encountered a hurricane on their way to England on 16th September; and being hove to on the wrong tack, and perhaps overladen with the captured battering train and other stores, besides being weakened by the heavy fire to which they had been exposed, they with the exception of the *Ardent* foundered with 1,200 men; several ships of the convoy also sank.

It is worthy of record that two sons of Flora MacDonald went down in the late flagship of the Comte de Grasse.

OUR SUPPLY OF SUGAR.

By GEORGE MARTINEAU, C.B.

The public have by this time become quite alive to the fact that though the war has not caused so much disturbance of prices as had been feared, sugar is the one outstanding exception. Why this is so very few of the general public are aware. It may be well to enlighten them.

We used to get our sugar from all over the world, and especially from the West Indies and our colony of Mauritius. We made all our own refined sugar. Then came the era of European beetroot sugar. It was a very useful industry, a great benefit to the agricultural population and a great blessing to the Continental working man. It was bound to increase and flourish with the great increase in the sugar consumption of the world. There was no reason why it should supplant the production of cane sugar. The two would have gone on flourishing side by side, and our supplies would have been in no way jeopardised. But, unfortunately, the natural course of the world's sugar industry became gradually disturbed and finally upset by an artificial system of bounties for the encouragement of the new Continental sugar industry. As time went on this bounty system drifted into a violent competition, or, as a French Minister called it, “a war of bounties.” The result was that the production of beetroot sugar on the Continent of Europe went on increasing to an altogether abnormal extent. The figures of its growth would appear incredible to any one who did not know that the increase was caused solely in order to get the profit of the bounty, and not in order merely to supply a natural demand for sugar. The result was glutted markets, excessive stocks, and prices below the natural cost of production.

This was a state of things which was bound to

bring about a very severe discouragement to all those who produced cane sugar throughout the world. At one time the European bounty-fed beetroot sugar constituted more than half the total sugar production of the world. Here in this country it was difficult to find any sugar which was not made from beetroot. Our refined sugar, instead of being all the product of British refineries, and made from cane sugar, was, to the extent of nearly a million tons per annum, the product of Continental refineries, while our own refineries were obliged to make their contribution to our supplies almost entirely from raw beetroot sugar.

The Government of the United States saw the danger and promptly charged a special duty on the importation of the European bounty-fed beetroot sugar, equivalent to the bounty which it received. This countervailing duty brought in a very large extra revenue to the United States Treasury and at the same time put all sugar on a footing of equality in American markets. This saved our sugar-producing colonies from certain destruction. British India followed the example in 1899, and on that occasion, Mr. Chamberlain, in a brilliant speech in the House of Commons, declared his determination that the House should establish the principle of a duty to countervail a bounty. The Indian Tariff Bill was passed by a large majority and saved the life of our Indian sugar industry.

But still the bounties went on, constantly growing, until they threatened really and truly to give the *coup de grace* to the cane sugar industry, and put us entirely at the mercy of a European monopoly. The leader of the German industry, at a time when excessive stocks had knocked down the price of sugar far below the cost of production, exhorted his colleagues to continue the excessive production in order to "keep down prices and crush competition."

It was at this crisis, when Germany and Austria threatened to establish a monopoly in the production of the world's sugar, that the Brussels Convention of 1902 came to the rescue, and promptly abolished the bounties. At last the world's sugar industry was saved from a revolution, and the consumer from monopoly prices. Cane sugar production revived and we breathed again.

But we are not yet out of the wood. The great overgrown, bounty-stimulated industry is still there in Europe, and struggling to maintain its big share in supplying the world with sugar. It will have a hard fight for it, but in the meantime it still produces nearly half the world's supply. Then, suddenly, comes the war. Where are we to get our sugar? The big shipments from Germany and Austria which we ought to get are shut up. For all supplies of cane sugar there will be a keen competition between Great Britain and the United States. We are at our wit's end to see how to supply the United Kingdom with 150,000 tons of sugar a month. For this quandary we have to thank the sugar bounties. We were told that these bounties

were an unmixt blessing by supplying the consumer with sugar below cost price. He now sees that he was cruelly deceived and has to pay the penalty.

SUGAR FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following table which is based upon the Board of Trade returns shows the sources and extent of the imports of sugar into the United Kingdom in the last two years (October to September). The total amount of sugar imported was 1,975,812 tons in 1912-13 as compared with 1,684,985 tons in 1911-12.

IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Beet Sugar.

REFINED.	1912/3.	1911/12
Russia	9,214	126,513
Germany	453,574	226,130
The Netherlands	189,403	163,596
Belgium	64,963	53,775
France	35,180	6,141
Austria-Hungary	175,701	106,224
Other countries	5	—
Total	928,040	682,280
UNREFINED.		
Russia	—	341
Germany	440,611	28,863
The Netherlands	28,416	28,015
Belgium	24,717	8,281
France	634	1,482
Austria-Hungary	148,573	110,523
Denmark	35,590	7,400
Total	678,571	184,948

Raw Cane Sugar.

Java	5,850	281,327
The Philippines	—	5,756
Cuba	223,520	86,643
Peru	28,661	62,491
Dutch Guiana	3,530	3,457
Brazil	5,221	14,157
Haiti, Santo Domingo	8,957	42,559
Mauritius	21,555	37,595
British India	4,545	82,685
Mexico	5,203	20,359
The Straits Settlements	—	1,300
The British West Indies,		
Guiana & Honduras	45,388	40,255
British East Africa	300	—
Mozambique	7,134	—
Venezuela	100	—
Guatemala	3,522	—
San Salvador	1,215	21,748
The United States	2,300	—
Portugal	1,900	—
The Danish West Indies	200	—
Total	369,201	699,395
REFINED.		
Java	—	33,000
India	—	22,700
Mauritius	—	15,700
Egypt	—	13,700
Mexico, Victoria	—	2,300
The United States	—	30,200
Jamaica	—	700
Total	—	118,300

In 1912-13 29,856 tons were re-exported as compared with 42,969 tons in 1911-12.

PROTECTED ENGLISH BEET SUGAR.

In the current number of the *International Sugar Journal* some further light is thrown by "Home Counties" on the question of the protection now afforded to beet sugar produced in this country, which has been the subject of several articles in these columns. It has been pointed out that it is manifestly unfair that while the Cantley Sugar Factory is receiving what amount to bounties—direct and indirect—the Government should decline to permit the local Government of St. Kitts to guarantee interest on the capital for a Central Sugar Factory on the ground that it would be an infringement of the Brussels Convention which they denounced. When, asks "Home Counties," are we to have the first annual report of the Sugar Beet Growers' Society, Limited, started in May, 1913? It is a co-operative organization formed to administer the grant of £11,000 which, as was first announced in these Notes, the Development Commission agreed to make to it in order that it might cultivate and sell sugar beet, give instruction in growing it, and do all such other things as the Society might think conducive—I am quoting from the rules—to the attainment of its objects, without trading for profit.

The signatories to the rules are Mr. Courthope, M.P. (Chairman of the Cantley Company), Lord Chichester, whose place is in Sussex; the Hon. Edward Strutt, the well-known agricultural authority, Governor of the Agricultural Organisation Society, Ex-President of the Surveyors' Institution, and Director for a time of the still-born East Anglian Sugar Company, which was to have a factory at Maldon, Essex; Mr. C. C. Smith, who has been active as the Chairman of the big Farmers' Co-operative Society at Ipswich; Mr. Beville Stanier, of the Unionist Agricultural Party in the House of Commons, and Chairman of the British Beet Sugar Council; Mr. David Davies, another M.P., a Liberal and a rich man, interested, *inter alia*, in agricultural co-operation; Mr. M. J. R. Dunstan, M.A., Head of the South Eastern Agricultural College at Wye, Kent, one of our biggest Agricultural Colleges; and Mr. Rupert Ellis, of the A. O. S. Board of Governors and Secretary of the Societies, similar to the Sugar Beet Growers', lately formed for forwarding tobacco, flax and hemp growing with subsidies from the Development Commission. As they are not companies trading for profit, the Act permits of their receiving financial assistance.

Mr. Courthope seems to have been specially active in the formation of the Society, but as it has concentrated on getting beets grown for Cantley, it is worthy of note that, apart from Mr. Smith, no signatory to the rules or Committee-man hails from the area from which the Anglo-Netherlands Company has been drawing its beets. Apparently the Society has no funds to speak of beyond the £11,000 grant from the Development Commission. We shall see exactly what its resources have been and what it

has done precisely when its report is made to the Board of Agriculture, for the Board requires official reports from all the organisations benefiting by Development Fund grants. The idea of the Commission was, no doubt, that in giving £11,000 to the Society, Cantley should be helped to a larger supply of beets and there would be forthcoming in return valuable and precise data as to the cost of growing beets over a wide area and also serviceable data as to the expenses and general working of a sugar factory—for, I rather gather, Cantley has to supply figures to the Board as well as the Society.

Well, it would appear that the Society contracted with the farmers for 3,124 acres of beet in all. The farmers were to have the liberal pay of £6 an acre, and, it would seem from the accompanying figures, a great deal more:—

EXPENSES OF OBTAINING THE CROP.

	£	s.	d.
Wages	42,990	7	9½
Cartage	5,551	7	7
Equipment at 20 per cent.	940	1	3
Seed	1,164	1	8
Artificial	13,743	6	6
Interest	302	18	11
Expenses	4,749	4	11
	69,441	8	7½

The ½d. is particularly impressive. The £6 per acre and the supervision of the cultivation are included in wages. Now, for what the Society obtained for its £69,441. It got 21,671 tons, 10 cwt., 3 qrs., and 12 lbs., of beets. It sold them to Cantley, as per contract apparently, at 22s. per ton. They had cost more than £3! The yield was at the rate of not more than 6½ tons an acre, whereas the yield in Austria-Hungary is about 9½ tons, in the Netherlands about 10½ tons, and in Germany about 11½ tons. How the Society, capitalized with £11,000, is being financed this year, or how it has arranged matters with Cantley, does not as yet fully appear, but time will show.

In a letter published in the *Daily Mail*, of August 19th, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin of Antigua writes: "I am afraid the West Indian sugar interests have been so neglected by the present Government that English people have almost forgotten that in their West Indian Colonies cane sugar is produced in considerable quantities now, and if the same liberal treatment were afforded them as is given to the Cantley beet factory considerably larger areas of land would be cultivated by cane growers. When the sugar planters of St. Kitts and Antigua asked for a very small Government guarantee, so as to erect more modern sugar factories, Mr. Harcourt promptly 'turned down' the scheme. There is no reason why England cannot obtain to a very large degree her own Colonial-grown cane sugar if she goes about it in the same way that Lancashire has done in looking for her raw cotton supplies, so long as the Atlantic route is open to commerce."

THE COST OF A COPRA ESTATE.

Some useful figures from the East.

The following estimate of the net cost of establishing a copra estate in the Philippines is given by Mr O. W. Barrett in the *Philippine Agricultural Review*. The estate, including 300 acres set apart for factory and houses is supposed to consist of 12,000 acres. It is assumed that 2,400 acres of land are to be cleared the first year, 480 acres of this being set with abacá (manila hemp) and 1,200 acres with coco-nuts, 720 acres being left for the central plant, roadways, barrios for labourers, pastures, gardens, etc. In the second year 4,800 acres are to be cleared, and one half planted with abacá and one half with coco-nuts. During the third and also during the fourth years, 2,400 acres are to be cleared and planted with coco-nuts. The trees are to be set in "block" system, *i.e.*, rows alternating 20 by 32 feet, 50 per acre.

ITEMS OF PLANT.

Main office building (furnished), bungalow for director, agronomist, field superintendent, bungalows for 3 assistants, 300 cottages for labourers, warehouse, 2 churches, 4 school-houses, 3 tool houses, machine shop and storehouse, commissary building, hospital with furnishings, 50 kilometers woven-wire fence, tools and equipment including 3 traction engines, 6 donkey engines, with drums, 12 complete stump pullers, 50 field harrows, 50 ordinary ploughs, 1 motor launch, and minor implements (axes, shovels, etc.), work animals, commissary goods and stock, ice plant, water supply, etc. ... \$ 99,500

OPERATING EXPENSES, FIRST YEAR.

Salaries of director, agronomist, superintendent, and assistants, including medical inspector, accountant, cashier, machinist, storekeeper, and assistants, labour, 300 men, 65,000 selected seed nuts, 220,000 abaca suckers (delivered), miscellaneous supplies, general maintenance of plant, road construction, fence building, depreciation of stock and renewal of small items, interest at 4 per cent. ... \$103,225

Total for plant and first year's expenses ... \$202,725

OPERATING EXPENSES, SECOND YEAR.

Salaries, labour, 130,000 seed nuts, 1,100,000 abacá suckers, miscellaneous supplies, general maintenance of plant, fence construction, depreciation of stock and renewal of small items, interest ... \$166,250

Total expenses to end of second year ... \$368,975

OPERATING EXPENSES, THIRD YEAR.

Salaries, labour, 130,000 seed coco-nuts, miscellaneous supplies, general maintenance, fence construction, additional buildings, including labourers' cottages, etc., depreciation of stock and renewal of small items, interest ... \$130,750

INCOME.

110 tons of abacá, pigs ... \$ 29,500
\$101,250

Total expenditure to end of third year ... \$470,225

Forward \$470,225
OPERATING EXPENSES, FOURTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, 130,000 seed coco-nuts, 4 artificial dryers for copra, miscellaneous supplies, general maintenance, fence construction, depreciation, interest \$142,250

INCOME.

720 tons abacá, pigs etc. \$164,000
Net gain during fourth year \$ 21,750

Total expenditures to end of fourth year ... \$448,475

OPERATING EXPENSES, FIFTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, miscellaneous supplies, general maintenance, depreciation, interest \$117,500

INCOME.

1,320 tons abacá (full crop), pigs, 625,000 coco-nuts from Grove A (first 200 acres, 62,500 trees, 10 nuts per tree) \$289,000
Credit balance for fifth year \$171,500

Total net expenditures to end of fifth year ... \$276,975

OPERATING EXPENSES, SIXTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, supplies, maintenance, depreciation, additional buildings and labourers' cottages, interest \$137,500

INCOME.

1,320 tons of abacá, pigs, 2,500,000 coco-nuts from Grove A (first 200 acres, 62,500, 40 nuts per tree), 1,250,000 coco-nuts from B (first 400 acres, 125,000 trees, 10 nuts per tree) \$351,500
Credit balance for sixth year \$214,000

Total debit balance at end of sixth year ... \$ 62,975

OPERATING EXPENSES, SEVENTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, supplies, maintenance, depreciation, narrow-gauge car tracks and rolling stock, interest \$140,000

INCOME.

1,320 tons of abacá, pigs, 3,750,000 nuts from Grove A (62,500 trees, 60 nuts per tree), 5,000,000 nuts from Grove B (125,000 trees, 40 nuts per tree), 1,250,000 nuts from Grove C (125,000 trees, 10 nuts per tree) \$475,000
Net return, seventh year \$335,000

Credit balance at end of seventh year ... \$272,025
20 per cent. dividend \$100,000

Sinking fund \$174,025

OPERATING EXPENSES, EIGHTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, extension of plant, supplies, maintenance, depreciation, interest \$157,500

INCOME.

1,320 tons of abacá, 5,000,000 coco-nuts from Grove A (62,500 trees, 80 nuts per tree), 7,500,000 coco-nuts from Grove B (125,000 trees, 60 nuts per tree), 5,000,000 coco-nuts from Grove C (125,000 trees, 40 nuts per tree), 1,250,000 coco-nuts from Grove D (125,000 trees, 10 nuts per tree) interest on sinking fund \$617,441

Credit balance for eighth year \$101,000
Repayment of principal \$500,000
20 per cent. dividend \$100,000

Sinking fund \$100,000

OPERATING EXPENSES, NINTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, supplies, maintenance, depreciation ... \$117,500

INCOME.

1,320 tons of abacá, 6,250,000 nuts from Grove A (100 nuts per tree), 10,000,000 nuts from Grove B (80 nuts per tree), 7,500,000 nuts from Grove C (60 nuts per tree), 5,000,000 nuts from Grove D (140 nuts per tree), interest ... \$841,478

... \$723,978

Credit balance at end of ninth year ... \$785,944

60 per cent. dividend ... \$300,000

Sinking fund ... \$485,944

OPERATING EXPENSES, TENTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, supplies, maintenance, depreciation, 4 new drying plants, 2 copra steamers ... \$372,500

INCOME.

990 tons abacá (½ full crop), 6,250,000 nuts from Grove A (100 nuts per tree), 12,500,000 nuts from Grove B (100 nuts per tree), 10,000,000 nuts from Grove C (80 nuts per tree), 7,500,000 nuts from Grove D (60 nuts per tree), interest ... \$912,437

... \$569,937

... \$1,055,881

150 per cent. dividend ... \$750,000

Sinking fund ... \$305,881

OPERATING EXPENSES, ELEVENTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, supplies, maintenance, depreciation ... \$147,500

INCOME.

990 tons abacá (½ crop), 31,250,000 nuts from 312,500 trees, 10,000,000 nuts from Grove D (80 nuts per tree), interest ... \$1,038,235

... \$887,735

... \$1,193,616

200 per cent. dividend ... \$1,000,000

Sinking fund ... \$99,361

OPERATING EXPENSES, TWELFTH YEAR.

Salaries, labour, supplies, maintenance, depreciation ... \$175,000

INCOME.

43,750,000 nuts (from 437,500 trees), 990 tons abacá, (½ crop), interest ... \$1,080,744

... \$905,744

... \$1,099,361

200 per cent. dividend ... \$1,000,000

Sinking fund ... \$99,361

The preceding figures are based upon the assumption that the land to be brought under cultivation is moderately forested and so located that transportation facilities are fairly favourable.

Readers interested in the coco-nut industry should have copies of "Coco-nut Cultivation and Plantation Machinery," by Coghlan and Hinchley (3s. 6d. or post free 3s. 10d.), and "Coco-nuts: the Consols of the East," by Hamel Smith (12s. 6d. or post free 13s. 6d.), which are obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

A TARPON FROM THE CARIBBEAN.

Though it is hardly to be expected that there will be many visitors to the West Indies from England during the coming winter, more Americans than usual should patronise the islands in preference to Egypt and the Continent. As an assurance that they will find good sport there, a photograph by Mr. José Anjo, of a tarpon caught recently off An-



Mr. Peters' Catch off Antigua.

tigua is reproduced on this page. The captor was Mr. T. E. Peters, of Jolly Hill Estate, a keen fisherman. He caught the fish, which weighed 78 lbs. and measured 5 feet 3 inches, with rod and line from a motor-boat of which he is the envied possessor. Mr. Peters, who is a good sportsman, always distributes his catch among the negroes; so, needless to say, there is invariably a crowd awaiting "Massa Peters'" return from his fishing expeditions.

A second consignment of cane sugar presented by the West India Committee to Sir Ernest Shackleton for the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition will be despatched immediately to Hobart, Tasmania. It will be transhipped there to the *Aurora* which will convey the Ross Sea party to its base.

THE TRADE OF TRINIDAD

The Report of the Collector of Customs of Trinidad on the trade of the island for the year 1913, shows that the revenue derived from duties amounted to £467,374, which included the export duties levied in aid of the Immigration and Agricultural Funds, to the extent of £34,098. Compared with £444,706 derived from corresponding sources in 1912, an increase of £22,668 is shown. Although the total sum collected showed an increase, there

	1909	Per cent.	1910	Per cent.	1911	Per cent.	1912	Per cent.	1913	Per cent.
	£		£		£		£		£	
United Kingdom	920,118	37.	936,427	36.4	1,026,070	37.2	944,502	36.4	892,593	31.6
Canada	106,016	4.3	134,609	5.2	190,287	7.	190,769	7.3	256,435	9.1
Other British Possessions	182,138	7.3	173,348	6.7	200,278	7.2	206,055	7.9	178,921	6.3
United States	752,031	30.2	860,903	33.5	806,921	29.3	819,432	31.6	813,718	28.8
Venezuela	288,710	11.6	233,086	9.1	294,257	10.7	211,873	8.2	468,658	16.5
France	74,350	3.	69,232	2.5	66,619	2.4	67,786	2.6	61,183	2.2
Germany	46,241	1.8	33,279	1.3	48,260	1.8	32,721	1.3	40,179	1.4
Other Countries	119,694	4.8	136,285	5.3	122,708	4.4	121,005	4.7	116,863	4.1
	2,489,298		2,577,169		2,755,400		2,594,143		2,828,550	

The principal articles of food-stuff imported into the Colony were flour, grain, rice, peas and beans, beef and pork, hams and bacon, butter and lard, fish, tinned meats, and condensed milk. The trade in the majority of these articles has hitherto been largely with the United States, but with the inauguration of a more efficient steamship service, and the coming into force of the Preferential Agreement in June last, Canada is now a keen competitor for the Colony's food supply, her share of the trade last year, amounting to £226,849 or 17.8 per cent., made up mainly of flour £126,357, fish £26,226, grain, oats, etc., £29,982, as against £283,158 or 22.3 per cent. from the United States, and her total trade to £256,435, an increase of £65,666 as compared with 1912. The principal item of food-stuffs obtained from other British Possessions was rice, the imports of which amounted to 18,837,252 lbs. valued at £116,284, a decrease of 858,054 lbs. valued at £17,873 as compared with 1912. Whether this falling off was due to a decrease in consumption or to an increase in the local production, Mr. Walcott is unable to say. He, however, again draws the

was an actual falling off in import duties, as the result of the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement to the extent of £7,198, and the fact that the total figures showed an excess was due to the larger amounts received from export duties on asphalt. The receipts from the latter source were the largest on record, the total quantity of asphalt shipped being 206,416 tons.

The share of the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Foreign Countries in the import trade for each of the last five years was:—

attention of those engaged in this industry to the excellent market there is in the Colony for this product, and to the fact that the local producer is protected by an import duty of 2s. 2d. per 100 lbs. This market is being rapidly captured by the neighbouring Colony of British Guiana, which sent during the year 9,281,742 lbs. valued at £59,755, an increase of £24,198 over 1912. With regard to manufactured goods the United States may be said to be the only foreign competitor. Her share of the trade last year amounted to £291,816 or 27.4 per cent. as against £628,031 or 59.1 per cent. from the United Kingdom. The principal articles in which she competed were apparel, £9,338, boots and shoes, £20,379, motor and other vehicles, £16,409, cotton piece goods, £20,534, electrical apparatus, £4,091, hardware, £21,954, machinery, £74,264, medicines and drugs, £5,820, wood manufactures, £16,623, and miscellaneous manufactures, £26,858.

The value of the exports of the produce and manufacture of the Colony for the last five years was as follows:—

	1909	£	1910	£	1911	£	1912	£	1913	£
Local produce	2,028,516		2,328,377		2,078,152		1,964,432		2,314,366	
Re-exports	385,802		353,122		413,221		393,648		695,893	
Bullions and specie	4,246		13,947		14,665		20,315		25,604	
Total	2,418,564		2,695,446		2,506,038		2,378,395		3,065,863	
Tinned goods	799,528		772,142		2,263,446		2,088,182		2,139,810	
Total	3,218,092		3,467,588		4,769,486		4,466,577		5,205,673	

The large quantity of asphalt shipped, 206,416 tons, has already been alluded to. As regards cacao the value of which was 59.9 per cent. of that of the Colony's exports, the exports amounted to 48,116,377 lbs, an increase of 6,590,750 lbs. on the preceding year, showing that the estates were re-

covering from the severe drought of 1911-12. The coco-nut plantations are stated not to have recovered in like manner from the drought, the export figures for 1913—16,382,503 nuts—being still below those for 1911. The output of copra was 2,005,171 lbs. 32,655 tons of sugar were exported, together

with 100,287 gallons of rum. The year was marked by a very satisfactory increase in the export of petroleum amounting to 13,750,152 gallons valued at £75,020 as against 4,295,707 gallons valued at £18,412 in 1912. Of this quantity shown as exported 772,982 gallons were supplied to ships for

bunker purposes, including H.M.S. *New Zealand*, the first man-of-war to take a supply of oil fuel produced in the Colony.

The direction of the export trade for each of the last five years is shown in the following table, transshipments being excluded from the figures :—

	1909	Per cent.	1910	Per cent.	1911	Per cent.	1912	Per cent.	1913	Per cent.
	£		£		£		£		£	
United Kingdom	491,194	20.3	599,240	22.2	514,832	20.6	540,903	22.6	495,101	16.2
Canada	312,252	12.9	354,484	13.2	206,133	8.2	220,088	9.2	174,991	5.7
Other British Possessions	33,841	1.4	25,859	.9	97,968	3.9	40,707	1.7	57,715	1.8
United States	800,953	33.1	919,047	34.1	1,045,507	41.8	940,911	39.5	1,192,786	45.4
Venezuela	76,632	3.2	84,641	3.1	70,044	3.	72,846	3.1	66,413	2.2
France	524,338	21.7	483,211	17.9	277,813	11.1	261,552	11.	504,207	16.5
Germany	58,583	2.4	102,844	3.9	96,435	3.8	96,785	4.1	137,417	4.5
Other Countries	120,771	5.	126,120	4.7	191,306	7.6	210,603	8.8	237,233	7.7
	2,418,564		2,695,446		2,506,038		2,384,395		3,065,863	

THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACT.

A Bill entitled the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill has been hurriedly passed through the Houses of Parliament, and has received the Royal Assent. This Act, which will come into operation on January 1st next, defines a natural-born British subject as

(a) Any person born within His Majesty's dominions and allegiance; and

(b) Any person born out of His Majesty's dominions, whose father was a British subject at the time of that person's birth, and either was born within His Majesty's allegiance or was a person to whom a certificate of naturalisation had been granted; and

(c) Any person born on board a British ship, whether in foreign territorial waters or not.

Birth "under His Majesty's allegiance" is defined as birth in a place where by treaty, capitulation, grant, usage, sufferance or other lawful means, His Majesty exercises jurisdiction over British subjects. A person born on board a foreign ship in British waters is not a British subject.

A certificate of naturalisation is granted to an alien who satisfies the Secretary of State

(a) That he has either resided in His Majesty's dominions for a period of not less than five years, or been in the service of the Crown for not less than five years within the last eight years before the application; and

(b) That he is of good character and has an adequate knowledge of the English language; and

(c) That he intends to reside in His Majesty's dominions, or to enter or continue in the service of the Crown.

The residence required is residence in the United Kingdom for not less than one year immediately preceding the application, and previous residence, either in the United Kingdom or some other part of His Majesty's dominions for a period of four years within the last eight years before the application.

The Secretary of State has power to refuse any application in his absolute discretion. In the case of a widow of an alien, who was a British subject before her marriage, the requirements as to residence do not apply. This applies also to a woman separated or divorced. The Secretary of State has also power to grant a certificate of naturalisation al-

though residence has not been within the last eight years in any special case. In the case of any doubt as to British nationality the Secretary of State may grant a special certificate of naturalisation. The certificate of naturalisation may include the name of any child born before the date of the certificate and being a minor. Such child may, however, on attaining the age of 21, make a declaration of alienage, and cease to be a British subject.

The Secretary of State may grant a certificate to any minor, although the conditions as regards residence are not complied with. An alien who has been naturalised before the passing of the Act, may receive a certificate under the Act. A certificate obtained by fraud may be revoked or cancelled. The fine for not giving up the certificate is £100.

Naturalisation in the Colonies.

To the colonies the following section is of great importance :—

"8.—(1) The Government of any British Possession shall have the same power to grant a certificate of naturalisation as the Secretary of State has under this Act, and the provisions of this Act as to the grant and revocation of such a certificate shall apply accordingly, with the substitution of the Government of the Possession for the Secretary of State, and the Possession for the United Kingdom, and also, in a Possession where any language is recognised as on an equality with the English language, with the substitution of the English language or that language for the English language :

"Provided that, in any British Possession other than British India and a Dominion specified in the First Schedule* to this Act, the powers of the Government of the Possession under this section shall be exercised by the Governor or a person acting under his authority, but shall be subject in each case to the approval of the Secretary of State, and any certificate proposed to be granted shall be submitted to him for his approval.

* The Dominions are Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Newfoundland.

"(2) Any certificate of naturalisation granted under this section shall have the same effect as a certificate of naturalisation granted by the Secretary of State under this Act."

The death of a husband or the dissolution of marriage does not alter the nationality of the widow or wife. When a person ceases to be a British subject every child of that person below the age of 21, ceases to be a British subject, unless that person does not become by the law of any other country naturalised in that country. The child of a widow marrying an alien continues to be a British subject. Any child who has ceased to be a British subject may regain his nationality, within one year after attaining the age of twenty-one by making a declaration that he wishes to resume it.

Naturalisation does not entitle an alien to hold real property situated out of the United Kingdom; qualify an alien for any municipal, parliamentary or other franchise or to be owner of a British ship. It does not operate so as to affect any estate or interest on rent or personal property to which any person may become entitled in pursuance of any will made before the twelfth of May, 1870, or in pursuance of any devolution by law on the death of any person dying before that day.

The regulations to carry into effect the Act may be made by the Secretary of State.

Nothing in the Act is "to take away or abridge any power invested in, or exercisable by, the Legislature or Government of any British possession or affect the operation of any law at present in force which has been passed in exercise of such a power or prevent any such Legislature or Government from treating differently different classes of British subjects."

The Act is to come into operation on the 1st January next.

OBITUARY.

MR. A. J. JUKES-BROWN, F.R.S.

Mr. Alfred John Jukes-Brown, F.R.S., died at Ashfield Road, Torquay, on Friday, August 14th.

Mr. Jukes-Brown who, at the time of his death, was in his 63rd year, was appointed to the Geological Survey in 1874. He spent the winter of 1888-9 in Barbados and afterwards collaborated with Professor J. B. Harrison in publishing papers on the geology of that island, the most notable of which was "The Geology of Barbados, being an Explanation of the Geological Map of Barbados prepared by the same authors." This standard work was published by authority of the Legislature of the Island in 1890. Besides dealing with the geological structure and surface features of Barbados in a popular style this book also gives an account of the formation of the gullies and of the physical history of the island. Mr. Jukes-Brown retired on account of ill-health in 1902.

The sugar deal between the British Guiana proprietors and the Government referred to elsewhere in the present CIRCULAR involved a sum of nearly £1,000,000.

BARBADOS IN 1634.

In January, 1634, Barbados was visited by two vessels, which called at the island on their way to North America with some 200 Roman Catholics of good families, under the command of Leonard Calvert, a brother of the second Lord Baltimore. These people had left England in November 1633 for the purpose of founding a colony, in which they might have the free enjoyment of their religion. To that colony King Charles I had given the name of Maryland, in honour of Queen Henrietta Maria. The two vessels were but small craft, of which the *Ark of Avalon* was the larger with the *Dove* as its pinnacle.

An account of the voyage was written by Father Frank White, a Jesuit, who was one of the pioneer party. That account was in Latin. The extract subjoined is from an account written by one whose identity remains in question.

From Part III of the Calvert Papers, comprising A Briefe Relation of the Voyage into Maryland and Baltimore, 1899. British Museum, Ac. 8398/6.

[p. 31] x x x resolution was made for the Barbadoes, the granarie of all the Charybbies Isles, which, how be it, it was somewhat about for corne was the surest course. In this Island Mr. Hierom Hawley, his brother, was governor, and in his absence, Mr. Acers his brother-in-law, was depute.

Here we arrived January the 3, hoping for some refreshings by convenient good dyet some few dayes, but in part we were deceived for everything bore so high price, that nothing could be had, but it cost us our eies, a pigge six weekes old was at £5 sterling, a turke 50s., and a chicken at 6s. Beefe or mutton they have none, and the inhabitants live wholly upon poane (that Indian bread) and homine, and potatoe roote which they have in such plentie as they will give cart-loades to almost any for the fetching.

The Governour told us at first, corne was at 1s. the bushell, but understanding that we came for corne he called a Councell and decreed there should none be sold us under 2s. a bushell; and so we found him a kind kinsman of Mr. Hawleyes.

Other poor passages we had from — not worth recountinge.

At our arrival here we understood the Spanish fleet was at Bona Vista, to hinder all strangers from salt, and, it being beyond the tropic, to make prize of them here. Therefore, we admired the providence of God in protecting us from that danger; but from a farre great (er) at Barbadoes.

The very day we arrived we found the island all in armes to the number of about 800 men. The servants of the island had conspired to kill their masters and make themselves free, and then handsomely to take the first ship that came, and soe goe to sea. This first ship was ours and therefore it was the goodnesse of God to discover the treason by a servant, who was afraid to join in the plan with them. The ringleaders were two brothers named Westons, western men, whereof one was put to death but the other saved by means of friends. God be praised for this our deliverance.

This is one of the twelve Charybbian Islands which runne up like a bow in the baye of Mexico, some 30 miles long, and 15 broad, 13 degrees from the line.

The climate is so hote as being now winter they can endure

to weare no more than a shirt, a pare of linneing drawers and linnen stockings on them.

That time their corne was newly reapt.

They use noe beds, but only hamachoes, which are curious blankets of fine cotton neatly wrought and painted on the outside, and hung up a yard or lesse from the ground, by a rope at each end, fastned to two posts when they go to rest, and on the day time taken away, and carried about with them when they travaile.

Here are many things as well profitable for trade and as full of content to behold.

Their trade is chiefly in corne and cotton, which cotton it delighted us much to see grow upon trees in such plentie.

The cotton tree is not much higher than a barbara bush, but more tree-like. It beares a little bude in bignesse like a walnut, which, a full time, opening in the middle into lower quarters, there appeares a kind of cotton white as snow, with six seeds in the middle, of the bignesse of fitches which, with an invention of wheeries, they take out, and soe keep it until the merchants fetch it from them.

Here is a cabbage growes on a tree 180 foot high, to be eaten raw or boiled. The stalke of it is for one yard from top good meat, to be eate raw with pepper. It is in tast like the Spanish Cardo but sweeter. The tree bears but one yearely, and in wood is onely a leguminous substance.

Here are also berrie trees, high as ash. The berrie is of bignesse of a hazell nut, with an unctuons skin or cover, which washeth, scoureth, and laddereth passing well, but is (as they say) somewhat too strong for fine linnen. Of these I found and carried a number to Maryland, and have them now in the ground.

There is another tree called Pahn Christi, with a spongius stalke. It bears a great thorny cluster of ash-coloured seeds, speckled with blacke, whereof is made an excellent oyle.

Oranges, lenimous, limes, pomegranade, peaches, and such other fruits there are, but not in any great plentie as yet.

Another fruit I saw called quavers, in taste like quinces, in colour like gould, in figure like the smallest lemmons, a fruit very grateful to taste.

Another there is like to these, called Papares, over sweet and luscious, which they used to eat boiled with other meate.

But the rarest of all other that I thinke is in the world, is the Charybbian Pineapple, of the colour of gould, mixed with an Orient greene, bigge as three Spanish Pineapples, and of the same figure externall to the eye, save that the worke of this is more perfect. It is not hard to peale, but of soft and thinne skinne, of delicious taste, not having one membranula or kernall, but all, from highest parte to lowest, cleane through, equally dainty to taste. It bears in the toppe a crowne of its own leaves, curiously compacte, and well it may, for sure it is the queene of all meat fruits, without exception. The taste, as neare as I can express it, is an aromatical compound of wine and strawberries, and a better thing than this of soveraigne efficacy to preserve health, and, so well tempered to man's bodie, as though it would consume a knife put thereing anytime. There is nothing more restorative. It grows from a thing like a Spanish thistle, one onely on every roote, but the leafe hath no prickles, but a curious peake about its edges. In this, I wish one of them in your hands with this paper, for nothing can express it but itself.

There is another special fruit called a plantaine, singular for pleasant and delightful taste, *fructus plantani*, as in *Latin* they term it. The tree is but a leguminous substance, to the height and thickness of a tree of thickness

of one's thigh. The leaves which are onely in the toppe for its ribbuts are commonly a yard or more in length, and more than a quarter broad, decently seamed with veines runneing like ribbs from the thicke, in the middle, as from the back bone. It grows as high as a cherry tree. In the top, from the very middle pith, springeth a purple sheath like a sugar loafe, full of blossomes which, with its weight, turnes the head downwards and then comes thereon the fruit in a cluster, like an hundred cucumbers together; but, being ripe, yellow coloured, and somewhat bigger. They are of curious taste like marmalade, and much of that temper, very delightfull, fit to preserve, bake, or eat rawe.

The potato root is of the very same colour, skinne, and figure of artichooke rootes, but in taste and temper much like a carrot, but far more excellent.

Here is the Cinnamon tree, the Avallo tree, the rope tree, which from the top sendeth out long suckers, which take root in the ground, and so spread other large places, the wilde figge tree, the Maw forest tree, which is poison, the monkey tree, bearing fruit, a plain and perfect monkey's face, and many others.

Poule, I see little, save some few pigeons, stock doves, and some others.

Vines will not grow there.

The place is a plaine ground, grown over with trees and undershrubs, without passage, except where the planters have cleared.

Some few Catholics there be, both English and Irish.

Here we staid from January 3 to the 24th, by which meanes we came again to enjoy our pinnace which, not knowing of our coming, was guided, to our so great comfort, as if that day we had been revived to life againe, for, before, we saw her in the harbour, we gave her for lost in that hideous storm. Herein God's mercy was showed towards us, and no lesse again in staying us here till the Spanish ships, in number five, were gone out of our way. For soe it happened. Five great Spanish men-of-warre came to scour the Charybbian Coasts, and make prize of whomesoever they saw saile beyond the grave Meridian or tropicke, and has been these very dayes before St. Christopher's where, findeing 2 small English barkes, and 2 or 3 great Hollanders, guarded with a man of warre, by way of *salvo* gave them a peace of ordinance, or two: (unwilling to wrong the priviledge of that permisshend plantation, to which they had given time, till one halfe year's end, to be gone and provide them elsewhere, or else to expect blows to enforce them. This plantation was once afore destroyed by the Spaniard, save some few hidden in the mountaines, by whom, with much miserie, the place was againe restored). The Holland man of warre for his salute, returned a bullet, and weighing anchor, made to sea, to enter fight, and withall engaged the 2 English barkes to doe the like. Of those five English and Hollands onely 2 had ordinance; but the Spaniards each about 30 brasse peeces. The manner of this feight I know not, but, in fine, all runne away, except the man of warre, who either fired herself or sunke, when she could hold out no longer, for she cannot be heard of.

If we had come the whilest, 'tis like enough we had been too forward with the rest, haveing so perfect a ship, so well gunn'd and man'd, and whether we had wonne or lost, our ship had certainly spoild for saile till she had been repaired: but, God, who endeareth the spiritual good of Maryland, preserved us from danger, *Protector noster et merces nostra magna numis*.

The 24th of January we weighed from Barba: and by noone next day made St. Lucias, one of the Charybbies divided in itselfe, the servants (being negroes) against the salvage maisters.

Then about 4 in the evening we came before Matilena, where we came to anchor, and 2 canoes of stark naked Indians came paddling aboard us, with parrots, pumpkins, calabashes, bonanas, muskmellons, watermellons, and the like to exchange with us. They much feared at first the greatnesse of our ship, and, though we put out a white flagge of peace, yet they desired we would put forth our Nation's proper colours; which done, they perceived whence we were, and then boldly came aboard. This people is bigger than ours, and fatt and tawney coloured with ointments and oiles wherewith they be painted. Something we trucked with them as knives, bells, and the like. And so they returned saieing if we would ride there till morueing they would bring better trucke, as hammachoes, baskets, and the like. They are a fierce nation, feeding on man's flesh, without all knowledge of God, and have heretofore cut of some English enterprisers. The island is all a hill, yet wonderfull fruitfull and flourishing. It is the serious report of seamen, upon report of a French wrecke, that here hath been seene the Carbonecle, haveing in his head a pretius stone, light as a glowinge coale, of infinite value. *Fides sit penes autorem.*

Next morueing by dawneing of the day we made Guadelupa, an isle so called for the similitude it hath with Guadelupe of Spain, mountainous almost as the other. By noone we came before Montserat, where is a noble plantation of Irish Catholique, whom the Virginians would not suffer to live with them because of their religion.

Thence, next morning, we came to Maevis, an island infamous for agues, by reason of the bad aire there, having staid a day, next morueing we came to St. Christopher's hard by, where we staid to dayes, nobly entertained by Sr Thomas Waroer, Governor, Captain Jefferson, Lieutenant Colonell, by 2 Catholique Captain Caverley, and Capt. Pellans and myselfe in particular by the Governor of the French Colonis. In the same Island, here is, beside all the varities of Barbadoes, a bill of brimstone, and much more, to be admired. There is also the Virgin Plant, or Parthenia, which they term the sensible tree, which after the least touch of one's hand, I see fall downe wither'd, and then again revived after a little space. Here is the locust tree, which I supposed to be that whereon St. John the Baptist lived in the wilderness. It is high as an elm, so loved of bees as they build their combes on it. I have seene and tasted the honnie, than which settinge aside the name wilde, there is none purer of taste and colour. The fruit is also called a locust, haveing a hard sheath as bigge as six beane coke, containeing in it a tough substance, in taste like meale and honny, with fower or 5 seeds of colour and greatnesse like chestnut. Some of them we have planted.

From this place we came to Virginia, February the 27th.

BRITISH GUIANA was represented at the International Congress of Building and Loan Societies, by Mr. Luke M. Hill, delegate from the British Guiana Building Society, of which he was one of the founders and directors in 1885, and for some time chairman. In this capacity he succeeded the late Messrs. C. A. Forshaw, James Thomson and Robert Allan. This Society has proved an important factor and valuable aid in improving the housing conditions in Georgetown. The International Congress, which was held at the Hotel Metropole in the week ending 15th August, was promoted by the United States League of Building and Loan Societies. The next Congress is to be held in San Francisco in 1915.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

As indicating the confidence which is felt in the future of the sugar industry in Cuba it may be mentioned that the new Central Manati in the province of Oriente is being built to deal with a crop of 80,000 to 90,000 tons of sugar annually—this amount being expected to be reached in 1916-17. The country opened up is at present virgin soil.

* * *

MR. SHEPHERD, Acting Superintendent of Agriculture for the Leeward Islands, in a report on a recent visit to Antigua, states that planters in that island are finding weeding machines and similar implements of material service. Another satisfactory feature of agriculture in Antigua is the likelihood that large areas may be successfully planted with coco-nuts in Antigua and Barbuda a matter to which attention has been frequently drawn by this Department for some time past. At present the weather conditions are favourable and the young cane crop is in a promising condition.

* * *

THE Imperial Department of Agriculture reports that in the Soufrière district of St. Lucia much activity is being displayed by the peasants with planting of limes. The Government lime juice factory of Castries has now started its second year of operations and there is every prospect that the results of the coming season will be even more encouraging than those experienced last year. From Dominica Mr. Joseph Jones informs the Department that a good lime crop is in prospect. During June 8,799 barrels of fresh limes were shipped to North America.

* * *

In the Report of the Department of Agriculture for 1913, Mr. H. H. Cousins refers to the unsatisfactory record of the sugar industry, due to the damage resulting from the cyclone of November, 1912, in Westmoreland, and a severe drought in Vere in 1913. The effect of these causes was to bring down the sugar exports to less than 5,000 tons, one-third of the average for the two preceding years. Cacao had also dropped by 30 per cent. Following the fall in these industries only 11½ million stems of bananas were shipped in 1913. It is expected, however, that the current year's exports will be the highest in the records of the colony. The "Panama disease" has been kept well under control, and a rapid development of the banana industry is taking place at the west end of the island.

THE Louisiana Planter states that it is reported from Honolulu that President Wilson has promised if necessary to assist the Hawaiian Sugar Industry when free sugar comes into force by relieving them of the coastwise shipping regulations, and thus allowing them to ship in any vessels, and by sanctioning the importation of Chinese coolie labour.

CONSULAR REPORTS.**Maize in the United States.**

Practically 50 per cent. of the maize grown in the United States is produced in the Chicago district. In 1913, the crop was 2,500,000,000 or about 660,000,000 bushels below the record crop of the preceding year. The price realised averaged 69.1 c. per bushel against 48.7 c. in 1912.

Pineapples from the Azores.

The pineapple industry in the Azores continues to increase. During the year 1913 the exports amounted to 170,000 cases, or an increase of 25,000 cases. While in the Azores pine-apples are grown under glass, they can of course be cultivated in the West Indies in the open, and it really seems deplorable that Antigua's pine-apple industry, like the banana trade of Barbados, should be allowed to languish through lack of shipping facilities.

Cotton Experiments in Panama.

Experiments have recently been carried out at Balboa in the Republic of Panama with a view to seeing whether good cotton could be grown in that district. Cotton was cultivated in Panama between 1862-66 with excellent results as far as quality and quantity of the crop was concerned, but the industry had to be abandoned on account of insect pests. It is now stated that a remedy has been discovered and the plants in the experimental plot appear so far to be untouched. The present experiments consist in hybridising the native tree cotton with the American cotton plant by pollination. It is stated that this method has increased the size of the bolls so that they average 18 bolls to the lb. as against 70 to 80 for ordinary cotton. Samples from Panama have been analysed in the Department of Agriculture at Washington, and the opinion given that they compared favourably in texture and length with the American product. It is believed that a substitute for silk has been produced by crossing the blooms of certain wild fibre plants with the cotton plant. The result is a staple of texture finer than cocoon silk, but with a tensile strength about five times greater. Negotiations are under way with the Panama Government for the planting of a certain acreage with hybrid seed with a view to raising a crop sufficient to carry out exhaustive tests.

THE CANADIAN SUGAR DUTIES.**The British Preference Increased.**

A cablegram from Ottawa announces a change in the Canadian sugar duties which will have the effect of increasing the British preference. On raw sugar testing 96° the general duty is raised from 57½ to \$1.17½, and the preferential from 40½ to \$1.03½; and on refined sugar the general duty is raised from \$1.04 to \$2.07½, and the preferential duty from .84 to \$1.63.

NATURE NOTES.

As the result of a considerable number of observations, Mr. P. L. Gainey has come to the conclusion that carbon disulphide and toluol, used for the purpose of soil disinfection, exercise no inhibitory effect upon nitrification when the disinfection does not exceed 0.1 cc. per 100 grammes of soil.

In the results of some manure experiments on the manuring of canes, published in the *Australian Sugar Journal*, considerable advantage was found from the use of molasses. The molasses was fed into the cane rows from an iron tank, and after a day's soaking, the earth and molasses were mixed up with a grubber.

THE question of the destruction of rubber by microbes has been taken up by Messrs. Solingen and Fol, who have come to the conclusion the coloured spots observed in rubber make no difference to the actual quality of the rubber. Their experiments point to the fact, however, that fungi exist which can attack and feed on caoutchouc.

DR. CHARLES A. R. CAMPBELL is a great advocate of the cultivation of bats in mosquito regions. This animal, he says, is the greatest enemy of the mosquito, and he suggests the erection of bat roosts for the purpose of congregating them. These can be turned into a commercial proposition by the collection of the bat guano accumulating on them.

MR. SPARANO, one of the Congo Government experts, has devised a new method of tapping *Funtumia* rubber trees. It is based on the system of pricking on the herring-bone pattern; but the full herring-bone is not reached in one operation, the tapping not being completed until nine or ten days, a few new laterals being traced every other day. The trees are said to stand the tapping well, and to yield heavily. Twice the amount of latex was obtained than in the ordinary herring-bone method, and four times that yielded by the system of vertical incisions.

SOILS in their natural condition vary in all degrees between the very good and very bad, and these distinctions are maintained, says Mr. P. Shelton in the *Durban Agricultural News*, even after they have been artificially improved. A "good soil" is a good soil always, after it has been depleted by bad treatment or even "exhausted." Such soils rally quickly responding liberally to renovating treatment in increased cropping power. Again, "poor soils" are always poor, even when rich from artificial manuring, if the seeming paradox may be excusable. These poor lands are often spoken of by farmers as "hungry" soils, and it would be difficult to more fittingly express their condition.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

IN the article on Soil Bacteriology in our last issue the sentence "reviewing the humus content of the soils" should read "renewing, etc."

FOR the relief of Americans stranded in England through lack of transport, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company sent their steamer *Arcadian* direct to New York from Liverpool on August 17th.

THE Colonial Office were commendably prompt in contradicting the ridiculous rumour based on a badly worded press telegram that the Government of Jamaica intended to suspend payment of interest for a time on the Colonies debt.

The Direct West India Cable Company understand that addresses for telegrams intended for the British West Indies via Bermuda may be sent thus: "Smith Company, Barbados," and one proper name in the signature, thus saving some expense which has followed the sending of the full address and two names in the signature.

MUCH sympathy will be felt with Mr. George Hughes on the death of his mother which is recorded elsewhere. On the day on which she passed away his eldest son—selected from some hundreds of his seniors—left for the front while his second son is also serving his country in the regular army. Mr. Hughes is well known in the West Indies and particularly in Barbados, where he resided for some years.

SIR JOHN JELICOE our "White Hope" in the North Sea is the distinguished son of the genial Captain Jellicoe formerly one of the most popular captains of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, but now on the retired list—and there must be many readers of the CIRCULAR who have travelled with the proud father of the Commander-in-Chief in the *Moselle*. "J. J.," as Sir John is familiarly called, will be bitterly disappointed if he fails to bring the German Fleet to action. His ability was recognised by Sir John—now Lord—Fisher, whose hospitality in the *Renown* when he was on the North America Station is still fresh in the memory of West Indians, and his promotion has been rapid.

THE appointment of Lord Islington to be Under Secretary of State for the Colonies in succession to Lord Emmott, who now becomes First Commissioner of the Office of Works has passed almost unnoticed. Lord Islington, then Sir John Dickson-Poynder, M.P., visited the West Indies in 1910 as a member of the Royal Commission on trade between Canada and the West Indies; but before the Report was published he was made Governor of New Zealand. His views were, however, given in a separate memorandum. He recommended the granting of a preference by tariff concessions, in-

stead of imposing a surtax, and advocated an excise duty on rum and direct taxation to make good the loss of revenue. With regard to steamer communication he favoured the route via Canada and the grant of a "handsome" subsidy for five or seven years and added that he would welcome in the field one of the trunk railway companies of Canada. Lord Islington retired from New Zealand in 1912.

We have received from Mr. T. Gautrey, the Secretary of the London Teachers' Association and organiser of the party of teachers who have been visiting Jamaica, a letter written on board the S.S. *Changuinola* off Turks Islands and dated August 2, in which he says:—

We have arrived here in excellent health and spirits, after almost an unique passage. Weather superb all the time; only a couple of short tropical showers. Not a dull hour after the first day. Games, concerts, fancy dress parade, and keen interest in the scientific side has kept everyone enthusiastically engaged. The accommodation, service and attention of everyone have been beyond praise. Commander Reade has spent nearly all his time with us. Party has been much interested in the scientific side—discovering latitude, longitude, flying fish, Bosun birds, superb sunsets, Sargasso sea-weeds, etc. They are all very much indebted to you and the West India Committee for the service you have rendered towards the great success so far. The officers say this has been the best outward journey for four years. Expect a lively week from tomorrow.—P.S. The Azores call was most instructive and interesting, especially the tropical vegetation in the gardens at the back of Ponta Delgada.

In a postscript dated August 4th, Mr. Gautrey added that his party had arrived at Kingston.

THE Colonial Office and Board of Trade are leading a campaign to wrest from Germany her overseas trade which is, temporarily at any rate, suspended owing to the effective operations of our fleet. The pity is that these two Government departments did not move in the matter before, while we were being flooded with beetroot sugar which even since the abolition of bounties has enjoyed protection at home to the extent of 5 frs. per 100 kilos. German and Austrian sugar to the value of no less a sum than £15,145,101 was imported last year into the United Kingdom. This good money should certainly have gone into the pockets of Colonial and English sugar producers, and might have done so, without the addition of more than an infinitesimal fraction of a penny to the retail cost of sugar, which now, owing to the *laissez faire* policy of recent years, stands at 4½d. per lb. But the consumer must not grumble, for the retail price would have been far higher but for the action of India and the United States in countervailing the bounties and for the Brussels Convention which abolished them. In connection with the enquiry it may be noted that trade between the West Indies and Germany is comparatively small. From the figures given in the last WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR it will have been noted that while the imports into the British West Indies from Germany in 1912 were valued at £137,008, the exports from those colonies to the "Fatherland" were valued at £375,685.

THE LONDON LETTER.

THE war monopolises the thoughts of all Englishmen. Wherever one goes it is the sole topic of conversation. It is to be doubted, however, if the serious danger which faces this country is fully appreciated. At the moment we are awaiting news of the great combat now in progress between the French and Germans. The battle front extends along a line over 200 miles in length. Whether or not this, the first great struggle of the war will prove decisive remains to be seen. A victory on one side or the other cannot fail to influence the future course of the war, and possible its duration.

HISTORY alone can rightly assess the service rendered to Europe by the unsurpassed bravery of the Belgians. Their prompt defiance of Germany has produced moral and material results of the highest value. The check imposed upon the Kaiser's advance entirely upset the German plan of campaign. Furthermore, it enabled France to complete her mobilisation. True, Belgium has had to pay full toll for action. Her territory has become once more and upon a scale hitherto unknown, "the cockpit of Europe." Her capital, for the time being at least has fallen to the invader. It will never be forgotten, however, that the defence of Liège cost the Germans in three days 25,000 killed and wounded; as many men as were killed on our side during the three years of the South African War.

THE chief incidents of the fortnight have been the landing of the British Expeditionary Force in France; the British declaration of war on Austria; and Japan's ultimatum to Germany. In the public interest absolute secrecy was maintained regarding the departure of the British forces. Even now we know neither their number nor their final destination. We are glad to be assured, however, that their transport was achieved without the slightest mishap. War with Austria was the inevitable sequel to hostilities with her ally. Our action was hastened by the Austrian attack on France. Japan's entry into the maelstrom is the outcome of the British-Japanese Alliance, and followed upon consultation with our own Government. Her forces will be concentrated upon the seizure of Germany's colony in China—Kiao-chau—and upon the destruction of German influence in the Far East. It is intended to hand back Kiao-chau to China.

MILITARY preparations and the organisation of relief measures proceed hand in hand. Lord Kitchener's second army of 100,000 men is almost enlisted. The response to his appeal has been so enthusiastic that a further army of like strength could be secured if desired. Subscriptions are pouring in every hour to the National Relief Fund established by the Prince of Wales. Many other funds opened are meeting with prompt support, and offers of help are so numerous as to overwhelm the authorities almost.

A REMARKABLE feature of the situation is that with war at our doors, the domestic and commercial life of the people is so little disturbed. The Government is entitled to full credit for the absence of panic. At the same time there are many who are disposed to think that it would be better if the country could be brought to appreciate the gravity of the situation. Meanwhile, the preservation of credit, the maintenance of the food supply, and the regulation of food prices are the chief factors in the continued calmness and confidence of the nation.

UNEMPLOYMENT there is and must be. Possibly it will increase. But the Government in this direction also has shown a most laudable promptness. The exclusion of foreign goods cannot but tend to the good of British makers of these vanished imports. It is not intended, however, that the country shall remain satisfied with this negative result. The war against Germany opens up a great opportunity to capture her overseas trade and to enter the markets from which she is at present excluded. Hence the enquiries addressed by the British Government to "colonies not possessing responsible Government as to the extent of their imports from Germany." If British manufacturers fill these gaps, and, as we hope may be the case, our control of the sea remains unimpaired, the loss through the war will be very greatly minimised.

THE German fleet still hesitates to face the naval force of Great Britain. It is too much to expect that the Kaiser's ships will permanently hug the coast of the Fatherland, but it is highly significant that British shipping in nearly every direction is pursuing its wonted course. Not only so but many lines across the North Sea, which might be supposed to constitute the danger zone, have resumed sailings temporarily suspended owing to the outbreak of war.

IN London, life goes on much as usual though the theatres and restaurants are losing many patrons. In several of the former the price of stalls has been reduced to 5s., while the restaurants advertise simpler meals. So far there has been a marked absence of "mafficking," though a cheering crowd has nightly gathered outside Buckingham Palace. Hawkers with flags for sale and inviting all and sundry to "wear your colours" are reaping a copper harvest.

ROMAN Catholics throughout the West Indies will deplore the death of the Pope. There is little doubt that the European convulsion affected His Holiness very deeply, all the more so in view of his inability to interpose a restraining hand. His saintly character, marked generosity and profound humility were admired by millions outside the Roman Catholic Church, and there is general grief that he should have passed away at a moment when his beneficent influence was most needed.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



News of the outbreak of war had not reached all the West Indian colonies when the homeward mail left; but when the R.M.S.P. *Trent* sailed from Barbados at 3 p.m. on August 5th, precautionary measures were being taken, the defence forces being mobilised, and cables guarded, and the exportation of food-stuffs prohibited. The financial stringency experienced in the money markets of the world was beginning to be reflected in the West Indies with corresponding inconvenience. Still there were no signs of panic and the Government had the full support of the people "from Government House to the negro hut" as Mr. Tripp puts it. The *Trent* reached Liverpool on Monday, August 17th, and the mails were delivered in London on the following morning. The following notes are extracted from the letters of the Hon. Correspondents of the West India Committee.

ANTIGUA—The success of Gunthorpe's sugar factory.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, AUGUST 1st.—The weather during the past fortnight has again been favourable for the growing crop. Fairly heavy showers have fallen over the whole island. The rainfall for July has been the best recorded for a number of years. Not since 1901 have we had such fine rains—totalling from 5 to 7 inches all over the island.—The Commission of Enquiry regarding the "Master and Servants' Acts" drags on its weary way, witness after witness agreeing that he had no grievance"; but as the Acts, or the latest amendments are upwards of 50 years old some alteration will be recommended, so the Committee may do some good.—A meeting of gentlemen interested has been held, and an "Antigua Race Club" formed with Hon. W. Griffith as Treasurer and Chairman, Mr. R. B. Potter, Secretary, and Mr. I. Watts Treasurer, with a Committee of five gentlemen. Sir Hesketh Bell is to be asked to be Patron and the Colonial Secretary, Mr. T. V. Best, President.—His Excellency, the Acting Governor, has been away, together with Colonel Bell, in Montserrat, enquiring into some matters in connection with the Police force. Inspector Tough is going to St. Kitts, and Inspector Ruane from Antigua to Montserrat.—Hon. W. D. Auchinleck Acting Colonial Secretary, took the oath as Administrator during the absence of the Acting Governor. The Permanent Exhibition Committee are sending on articles for the Toronto Exhibition.—The Rev. G. H. Foote, who has been doing splendid work at St. George's for the past three years has been appointed successor to Rev. C. Branch, the late rector of Parham.—The Rev. W. Stridely, Wesleyan Minister, Freetown, who has worked in Antigua for the past three years leaves to-day for Montserrat.—Gunthorpe's Factory closes down to-day after the most successful year they have had, having made upwards of 9,000 tons of sugar. We were often told that Gunthorpe's was a pioneer factory, that it would prove or disprove the advantages of the Factory system, and that other factories were bound to follow. Well, it has proved up to the hilt that the Central Factory system is the only way we can profitably make sugar, and yet the very best estates on the island are still struggling on (because they are the best they have continued so long), mak-

ing old time muscovado that no one wants. With the guarantee of a low interest on debentures we could hold our own with any sugar-making country. I repeat what I have said before, that if Gunthorpe's factory had not been erected, a large number of estates in that district would to-day be out of cultivation. Surely it does not want any further argument as to the advantages that would accrue to the Treasury of the island. The larger revenue that would flow in would more than compensate the amount of the guarantee. Gunthorpe's factory is a monument to the great business ability and foresight of the one man who has ever thought in the proper Imperial spirit of the West Indies as part of the Empire. If ever a man deserved recognition throughout the Empire it is the late Joseph Chamberlain, and I hope steps will be taken to perpetuate his memory in some permanent form, and that the West cannot do less than pay on behalf of the community in which I reside my tribute of love, respect and devotion to the memory of such a great man.

BARBADOS—The death of Captain C. E. Wright.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., AUGUST 3rd.—Planters were much interested in reading in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR Sir Ernest Shackleton's eulogy of cane sugar. There is a strange perversity in the generality of people that prevents them from realising, however strong the evidence offered may be, what is for their own good; and this applies particularly to the use of sugar.—The dry weather continues and the canes are suffering from a lack of moisture. If we get good weather until the end of the year the island will still make a fairly good crop in spite of the unusually small rainfall to date.—The Hon. W. K. Chandler, C.M.G., arrived by the last mail and has resumed his duties.—We were shocked to hear by a telegram sent by his Lordship the Bishop that Captain F. C. Wright, late Staff Officer and Adjutant of the Volunteer Force, had been killed at Polo. Officers of the Volunteer Force will wear mourning bands when in uniform for two weeks.

The *Barbados Advocate* reports: The weather during the latter part of July has been exceedingly disappointing and continues so. Rain is badly wanted. The growing cane crops are low; and the provision crops are in a parlous condition. The supply of native provisions is short; and the stock on hand of imported foodstuffs extremely low. As we are so largely dependent on American foodstuffs, the situation caused by the European war is extremely critical. On August 3rd there was a special meeting of the Legislature when an Act was passed prohibiting the exportation of foodstuffs from this island. Although sweet potatoes and yams have been at high prices here, there has always been a fair export trade to Demerara, Trinidad and Colon by small dealers—locally termed speculators—and this trade will be compulsorily stopped.

BRITISH GUIANA—Local Forces drilling at Eve Leary.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, AUGUST 1st.—The cables of the last few days report the serious condition in European affairs, and it appears now as if it is only a matter of hours whether the United Kingdom will be swept into the European War that seems imminent. As a result of what is going on, the Bank rates of discount here have been raised from 6 to 8 per cent. and the rates for Bills of exchange have also increased. Sight drafts from \$4.50 to \$4.97. There is already an increase in the prices of food-stuffs, and this will probably go higher. In accordance with instructions received from the Secretary of State the Governor has ordered the mobilisation of the Local Forces, and members of the old militia companies are now to be seen drilling on the Eve Leary Parade ground.

Nice rains fell on the 29th ult. fairly generally throughout the colony, the highest recorded being on the Corentyne coast.—The report of Mr. Valey, the irrigation engineer on the proposed Corentyne irrigation scheme is published in the local press.—The difference of opinion between the school managers and the Government Secretary has been settled, Mr. Clementi having expressed his regret.—The Town Council of Georgetown has resented the appointment by the Governor of the Waterworks Commission, and has not only declined to give any information to the Commissioners, but has also refused permission to them to visit the waterworks. The half-yearly meeting of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce was held on July 24th.—The by-elections to the Court of Policy resulted as follows: Georgetown—Mr. Richter defeated Mr. Cannon by 115 votes; N. Amsterdam—Mr. Wreford defeated Mr. Woolford by 7 votes; N.W. Essequibo—Mr. Browne defeated Mr. Cassels by 6 votes. It is understood that Mr. Woolford will be unopposed and that there will be no contest for Mr. Wreford's seat as Financial Representative for New Amsterdam.—The fourth Government steamer, the *Hainara* arrived on 25th July.—The death of Mr. William Craigen on July 24th was a subject of general regret.—Mr. Craigen was once proprietor of Plantation Aurora, and was for some years a member of the Legislature.

DOMINICA—Practically no exports to Canada.

MR. E. A. AGAR, AUGUST 1ST.—THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR'S appreciation of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain will be heartily endorsed by all dwellers in the British Colonies, and particularly those in the West Indies.—We are delighted to see that Dr. Nicholls has carried off the silver cup for the best individual exhibit at the Rubber and Tropical Products Exhibition.—This island will export practically nothing to Canada this year apparently; the price of lime juice is too high for their market and this has formed the bulk of our exports. Fresh limes do not seem to be wanted at all.—The rumour of war overshadows everything at the moment and we are hourly expecting a cable to say that it is no longer a probability but a fact. Owing to instructions received from the Secretary of State, the Defence Force has been called in to Roseau and also the entire Police Force, with the exception of some men left at Portsmouth. To see armed policemen guarding the shore ends of the cable, the magazines and the bank brings the possibility of war very close home to us. The rate of exchange yesterday evening had risen to 8 per cent. Marine insurance rates have not been called unfortunately, as there are few surer indications of the chances than these rates. Almost every planter who has a telephone has arranged with some friend in Roseau to keep him posted as to the news.

GRENADA—Mr. F. H. Walkins to arrive on August 4th.

The news of the death of Mrs. Lang, widow of the late Dr. William Lang, at Hove, has been received with general regret. A memorial service was held in Grenville on 15th July.—The Acting Governor of the Windward Islands arrived on July 20th and took the oath at York House. His commission was read by Mr. C. Livingstone Wilson, while the oath was administered by His Honour, R. S. Johnston, Chief Justice.—His Excellency and Miss Young were at home on July 28th.—The new Colonial Secretary, Mr. F. H. Walkins, was expected to arrive on August 4th.—The Agricultural and Commercial Society has been invited by the British Guiana Chamber of Commerce to join in a protest against the Cash on Delivery service.—The question of the re-organisation of the Colonial Department is still under consideration.—The St. Andrew's Race

Club has made several improvements in its stand, and has provided a garage for motor cars, an interesting sign of the times.—Shipments of cacao to date amount to 64,730 bags, as compared with 62,246 for the corresponding period last year.—The weather during the fortnight has been all that can be desired and everything looks bright and green.

NEVIS—Favourable crop prospects all round.

MR. B. WILLIAMS, AUGUST 1ST.—THE crops were looking fairly good all round, as especially in the Windward district. The rainfall for July registered 5.48 inches here. We are on the verge of the hurricane season, and a high wind now that the crops are advanced will do incalculable harm.—Mr. Hugh Wildy has returned to the island after a brief holiday. The health of the island is good.

ST. VINCENT—The island's exhibition successes.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, AUGUST 1ST.—THE news contained in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR that St. Vincent has won the Martinez Gold Medal for its exhibit of Cotton at the London International Products Exhibition and that Mr. A. Smith's competitive exhibit has won the British Cotton Growing Association Silver Cup, was received with a good deal of interest by the colony generally. The fact reported in the same CIRCULAR, that some St. Vincent cotton has sold at 3s. 4d. per lb. was a no less welcome one to planters.—Signs that the energies of the Government are not waning in the matter of general improvements are exemplified by the activities of the Public Works and other Departments responsible for the erection of new buildings. Work on the new Post Office is in full swing and a good start has been made upon the building for the plant for extracting cotton seed oil. Agricultural matters, as far as the growing crops are concerned, are prosperous. Frequent, and not too heavy, rains have fallen since the planting of the cotton crop, and the result is seen by the regular growth throughout the island of the plant which provides the staple product of the colony.—News of the declaration of war by Germany has just come to hand. This, together with what has preceded it, is received with some anxiety, for, apart from the feeling of patriotism to the Empire which prevails, it is realised that these Colonies, although they may not be the actual scene of battles, yet will feel the ill effects to a marked extent if affairs get so serious as it is feared they may become.

TOBAGO—The proposed Scarborough Hotel.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, AUGUST 1ST.—THE exciting news in public telegrams is almost the only subject of conversation. Local markets are disturbed, and it is no easy task to sell the little lots of produce now coming in and prices are almost nominal.—Squally showers have fallen almost daily throughout the fortnight, which ought to keep our young crops growing, but soaking rains are still needed to clean out ravines and replace the lost reserves of moisture, due to the last three dry seasons. Some good shipments of coco-nuts have been going forward, the trees yielding in certain districts, remarkably well in spite of the drought. Prices are now so low that some growers are making copra, which is possible in this season as the cacao trays (for trying) are practically idle.—Amongst our visitors this week have been Colonel and Mrs. Swain, who had to curtail their trip on account of a good drenching on the Windward Road. Also Mr. Stor, Inspector of Schools and Mr. Tertius Wilson, who came across to push the Scarborough Hotel scheme. He seems quite hopeful of success, and has secured the option on a desirable spot, with good sea bathing and space for tennis courts, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the harbour.

TRINIDAD—Mobilisation of the local forces.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, AUGUST 4th.—In view of the European situation the Constabulary has been mobilised, not to speak of the Light Horse. The telegraph office has been occupied and a strict censorship established while mounted patrols guard the solitary highways. Armed men are stationed to protect the ocean cables where they are landed, and all bays where landing could possibly be effected are carefully watched. The Hon. A. G. Bell, Director of Public Works, has been appointed Chief Censor, his assistants being Messrs. R. A. Low, of the Queen's Royal College, and L. H. Whitehead, Chief Clerk of the Attorney General's Office. Up to the moment of writing, 2 p.m., nothing is known as to whether England has declared war, but the Government is acting as if there were no doubt of it. The Germans, who have been recalled, were to have sailed by the *Trent*, but last night they were refused passage. The German Liner *Patagonia*, which was to have been here yesterday passed the port after being warned by wireless. On the other hand our good friends the French are being assisted in every way. There is one German steamer in the harbour discharging lumber for Alston & Co., but it looks as if she will be the last of her nationality until things smooth down. All sorts of wild rumours are afloat, and believed in by the masses, as to the presence of hostile ships in the neighbourhood. It is strange how the fact of Admiral Cradock's ships, not so far away, has been forgotten. The only German ship in these waters was the *Dresden*, which left Tampico for "Haiti or Home" when the first news of the trouble arrived, and I fancy she is too busy looking after herself to worry about us. There is a rumour to-day that the Government will not publish further telegrams for fear of exciting the people. There is no fear of dangerous excitement here. The feeling is all one way, from Government House to negro hut—far more so than it was even during the Boer war. But up to now nothing has been said as to France declaring war against Germany or *vice versa*.—Professor Cadman is hard at work at the oil-fields. He spent several days at the United British Oilfields of Trinidad, Ltd., at Point Fortin, where they are putting out about 1,000 tons a week, a production which no doubt will be largely increased when their new storage tanks are completed. It is well known that meanwhile they are practically marking time, perforce, for all their already large storage accommodation is occupied. The Government tanker is again there loading 6,000 tons for the Admiralty. I should not be at all surprised if Point Fortin is included in the next Government Oil deal.—Supplemental estimates have been issued to deal with the £20,000 windfall provided by the erring Department whose name has been so scrupulously concealed. No fault can be found with the directions in which the sum is to be applied.—The Chamber of Commerce have addressed to Sir George E. Foster direct on the subject of the admission of sugars from Mauritius and Fiji on preferential terms, and the result will be awaited with interest.

Cacao shipped in July was 3,282,693 lbs. against 4,933,631 lbs. in July, 1913. Total shipments from 1st January were 57,606,311 lbs. being only 233,000 lbs short of the whole shipments of the record year of 1910. The local market remained exceedingly quiet during the month, due to the small receipts. Prices ranged somewhat firmer towards the end, when quotations were: \$10.80 to 11.00 for ordinary, \$11.40 to 11.50 for estates, and \$11.40 to 11.60 for Venezuelan.

The War news has resulted in there being practically no market for cacao to-day. On the other hand there is a general rise in imported food-stuffs. Flour, for instance, has risen \$2 a bag, rice 75 c. a bag, and condensed milk \$1.50 a case, other things in proportion.

DEATHS.

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants," Crossed cheques or P.O. Orders, should be made payable to the Manager. THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Hughes.—On August 15th, at the residence of her son, Clara R. Hughes, widow of George Hughes, Lillieshall Salop, in her 87th year.

Jukes-Brown.—On August 14th, at Westleigh, Ashfield Road, Torquay, Alfred John Jukes-Brown, F.R.S., aged 63 years.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. 49—No. 60. Debtors (Amendment) Bill. Customs Tariff (Amendment) Bill. No. 61. Financial Report of Auditor General. No. 62. Minutes of Proceedings of the Legislative Council. No. 63. Proclamation calling up Royal Naval Reserves. No. 64. A Bill to authorise the Prohibition of the Exportation of Food-stuffs. British Guiana, Vol. 39—No. 8. Plant Diseases and Pests (Prevention) Ordinance. Notice to Bondholders. No. 10. Regulations to govern entry of goods under British Preferential Tariff in British Guiana made under Customs Ordinance 1884, as amended by the Customs (Canadian Reciprocity) Ordinance 1913. No. 11. Proclamation. Active and reserve force called up. No. 12, "A" and "B" Companies of Volunteers disbanded. Rescission of order for ceasing to raise and embody Nos. "1" and "2" Companies of Infantry Militia. No. 13. Regulations under Section 3 of Tobacco Cultivation Ordinance 1912. British Honduras, No. 31. Comparative Statement Revenue and Expenditure. Grenada, Vol. 32—No. 27. Rainfall for 1913. Audit report of accounts for 1913-14. Sanitary By-Law (Amendment). Leeward Islands, Vol. 42—No. 34. Proclamation calling up Defence Force of Antigua. St. Lucia, Vol. 83—No. 30. Report on Police Department for 1913-14. Annual Report on Royal Gaol 1913-14. St. Vincent, Vol. 47—No. 24. Report on Crown Lands 1913-14. Trinidad, Vol. 83—No. 32. Proceedings Port of Spain City Council. No. 33. Examination of Teachers, 1915.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The West Indian Mail Service.

SIR,—I omitted to mention in my letter of July 12th, anything regarding time of voyage or speed of vessels: these details are of minor importance.

The first thing to be done is to secure the combine of merchants, planters, etc.; when we have this, we shall then be in a position to approach the Canadian Lines, Ltd. But why is it absolutely necessary to subsidise any shipping company? Is the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company subsidised on their Brazil, China and New York routes? I can quote dozens of shipping companies which do not receive a penny subsidy, where freights and passage monies are considerably cheaper than what we have to put up with on the West Indian route, and a regular service maintained.

What has been the result of subsidies with regard to the West Indies? Why! simply the larger the subsidy, the higher the freight and passages. Quite contrary to all economics.

Mr. Guy Wyatt mentions in his letter that passengers have to change boats at Trinidad. True enough; but transshipping by a small boat, even for a short distance

vastly different from employing vehicular means, as would be the case in any Canadian port. Inclemency of the weather, too, has to be considered.

As a counter move to the present grinding operations of the shipping companies in the West Indies it is the duty of these islands to present through your Committee, a petition signed by the people in every West Indian colony protesting against the subsidising of any company which has a *passenger monopoly*, and is in combine, by which they pool the freights with other shipping companies.

The islands must not forget that some years ago, when another shipping company other than the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, to all intents and purposes secured the mail contract, that the islands protested and demanded that the contract be given to the present company now holding, and what has been the result of this most idiotic policy?

This company instead of showing any sympathetic consideration for that support, has used its power most cruelly. As in the words of a poet,

"Oh! how glorious to have a giant's strength,
But it is tyranny to use it like a giant."

Yours, etc., W. ABBOTT.

August 18th, 1914.

It is hoped that every reader of the CIRCULAR will forward a donation towards the National Relief Fund now being raised by the Prince of Wales for the relief of distress arising out of the war. All remittances should be addressed to Buckingham Palace and cheques should be made payable to "His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales," and crossed "Bank of England, National Relief Fund." Envelopes should be clearly marked "National Relief Fund," and need not be stamped.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

British Guiana Bonds.

With the approval of the Secretary of State and subject to the consent of the Combined Court, the Government are prepared to convert into 4 per cent. bonds, repayable on October 1, 1964, the following 3½ per cent. bonds issued under the provisions of Ordinance 7 of 1887:—\$240,000 issued on October 1, 1890, and repayable on October 1, 1915; \$288,000 issued on April 1, 1892, and repayable on April 1, 1917; \$120,000 issued on April 1, 1893, and repayable on April 1, 1918; and \$360,000 issued on January 1, 1894, and repayable on January 1, 1919. Bondholders who wish to avail themselves of this offer are required to notify the Receiver General of the fact as soon as possible, but in any case before the 30th September next, and to deliver up their bonds at the Treasury with all unpaid coupons attached. The new 4 per cent bonds of equivalent value, with coupons attached for fifty years' interest payable on April 1 and October 1, will then be made out and issued. The Government reserve to themselves the right to redeem the new bonds at par any time after September 30, 1924, on giving one year's notice in the "Official Gazette." Bondholders who do not wish to avail themselves of the offer will continue to receive 3½ per cent. interest until such time as the bonds may be redeemed as provided by law.

United British Oilfields of Trinidad, Ltd.

The Balance Sheet at December 31st last shows that the issued capital was £480,000 out of £650,000 authorised. On the credit side, Purchase of Lands, Oil and Mineral Rights,

etc., taken over from the Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd., stand at £450,000, Wells, Pipe line tanks, plant and drilling tools £7,660 14s. 8d., and stores and sundry stocks at £11,269 9s. 11d.

Presiding over the first ordinary general meeting of the company at Winchester House, E.C., on August 10, Mr. H. N. Benjamin said that the company came into possession of the business in August last, after an examination on the spot, during an option period. The expert's report led them to understand that the prospects of obtaining oil in substantial quantities, if up-to-date methods and skill were utilised, over-rode the deficiencies in the assets. On such a report it was decided to establish the company and to take over the properties. The re-organisation of such a business and the troubles resulting from the unsuitability of facilities entailed far more work and gave greater anxiety than the entire establishment of such facilities from a clean start.

The operations carried on since effective control was obtained resulted in a shortage of £9,946 1s. 4d., which was not unsatisfactory, as a considerable portion of the time covered was occupied in getting into the saddle. They had not followed the precedent of the Trinidad Oilfields in passing the deficiency in working to the various capital items, so that this deficiency would fall to be dealt with on a future occasion, when it was hoped to present a profit and loss account. The item of wells, pipe-lines, tanks, etc., £7,760 14s. 8d. showed the actual expenditure on sinking wells, to which, however, has to be added the item of £11,000 odd for stores and sundry stocks. The general management of the company was conducted by the United-British West Indies Petroleum Syndicate, and since that company had been in control one of the joint London managers had paid a visit to the island, and considerable advantage was anticipated from the local knowledge he acquired during that visit. His report led the Board to consider that great progress was being made towards putting the fields into a satisfactory state. According to records received from the Trinidad Oilfields, the production for the first half of the year 1913, when the figures were reported in barrels was approximately 11,820 tons. For the second half of 1913 the figures were approximately 11,114 tons, while for the first half of the current year they reached about 25,040 tons. Still they had a very serious difficulty to get over and a problem not yet solved in the erratic action of wells, the production from any one of which was spasmodic. The average number of wells producing 100 barrels or more per week, from which the production was obtained in the first half of 1913, was between six and seven, the corresponding number during the second half of 1913 being between seven and eight, while during the first half of 1914 the average number of such wells was nearly eleven. During the same periods the total number of wells producing (including small producers) was 24, 22 and 25 respectively. The production per well during the first half of 1914 was therefore substantially better than during the other periods. This result was due to the bringing to bear on the prevailing conditions the knowledge and experience of the local staff and their success in the cleaning up and the recovery of production of several wells which had previously ceased to produce or whose production had fallen off to a negligible volume. This was coupled with the fact that they had succeeded in retaining the production from new or cleaned wells for a rather longer period than had previously been experienced.

Experts were endeavouring to find means to prevent the clogging up of wells, which had been so harmful in the past. In examining the cause of the erratic action of the wells, the geological conditions had naturally to be taken into account. These were considerably involved, and much time would be needed in the collection of geological data before the reason of the unsettled production could be scientifically determined. With a production approaching an average of 1,000 tons per week (a portion of which was obtained from the company's freeholds and a portion from Crown lands), the tank storage existing at the time when the company acquired the venture was obviously insufficient, and the erection of further steel tankage, with a capacity of about 25,000 tons was now proceeding. The

erection of a plant for the treatment of the crude oil so as to produce from it the highest class of liquid fuel was also proceeding, and, if the guarantees of the suppliers were justified would efficiently do its work. This plant would be available for their oil. As regards the future, much would depend on the result of the borings and on the extended duration of life which they hoped to afford to the wells. The geographical position of Trinidad was in close proximity to, and gave it no advantage over, Mexico, where the enormous area of oil deposits and the gigantic wells which had been obtained, made the cost per ton of oil very much lower than in Trinidad. On the mainland of South America also searches were being made for oil, which, so far as the outer world was concerned, would compete with oil from Trinidad. The cost of production was expected to be much lower, while the regulations and restrictions under which the work was conducted there were less onerous than those imposed in Trinidad. In view of the large consideration which was given in shares for the acquirement of the properties, it would be necessary for a very large proportion of oil to be obtained to make the venture remunerative, especially in view of the low values for petroleum products. With a large production and falling corresponding demand from the British Government, there would appear to-day to be an unsatisfactory outlook for the future, but this company was in the happy position of having as its sale managers a company intimately associated with one of the very largest groups of transporters and distributors of petroleum products, and through them they might hope, under any circumstances, to take their share of the world's demand for oil.

The nature of the crude oil obtained in Trinidad was, for a large proportion, a natural fuel oil, after it had gone through a slightly modifying process. To-day they had the prospective users of fuel oil waiting until they could see a satisfactory assurance of ample supplies before they adopted fuel oil permanently, either for steam-raising or for Diesel motors. It was satisfied that, in due course, the demand that would arise for this class of oil would be large enough to absorb the whole of the oil available, however large it might be. The future of petroleum would probably show a reversal of the conditions which obtained when it was first discovered and used commercially. At that time the only known valuable portion was that which could be separated and used for illuminating oil, and the petrol and residuum were waste products. In due course these waste products became by-products, but the probability was that the petrol and residuum would, at some future day, emerge as main products, and the kerosene or illuminating oil would be relegated to the status of by-products. Unless the character of Trinidad crude should change, this reversal would be to the company's advantage. The whole success of the company was, therefore, dependent on the obtaining of a sufficiency of crude oil, but, when obtained, the circumstances surrounding the company were satisfactory. The difficulties arising from the uncertain geological conditions and the doubtful retention of production when obtained, pointed to a considerable time being necessary before a steady and continuous supply could be relied on.

In conclusion, Mr. Benjamin said: The above was prepared before the unfortunate state of affairs now prevailing became acute. Unfortunately, circumstances have changed, and there is no part of the British Empire, and probably no part of the world, which is unaffected by the lamentable hostilities now proceeding. As an English company, working in a British colony, we have deemed it our duty, not only to fulfil such demands as the authorities may have made on us, but, in addition, to prepare for possible further calls in the future. With this object before us we have cabled instructions to our representatives to exert every effort to make themselves ready for any call that may be made on them. This is in anticipation of further requirements. We have afforded the British Government every assistance they have asked, and we take it for granted that your approval will sanction what we have done and what we may yet do to prepare ourselves to meet further calls.

The motion for the adoption of the report and accounts, which was seconded by the Hon. Thomas Cochrane, was agreed to.

During the fortnight the Stock Exchange has remained closed.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. A. T. Hammond | Mr. G. Railton |
| Mr. G. H. Arthur | Mr. V. Hanschell | Mr. L. A. Richard |
| Mr. G. Auchintek | Mr. G. F. Huggins | Mr. W. C. Robertson |
| Mr. E. I. Baeza | Mr. P. Haughton James | Mr. N. Maude Rosby |
| H. E. Sir J. H. Heskeith | Mr. E. S. Kernahan | Mr. W. N. Sands |
| Bell, & Co. G. | Hon. E. D. Laborde, | Mr. J. B. D. Sellier |
| Hon. E. Du Boulay | r. s. o. | Mr. I. F. Scully |
| Mr. W. A. Boyd | Dr. G. L. Latour | Mr. R. B. Shori |
| Mr. Geoffrey Bronke | Mr. G. Liddell | Lt.-Colonel W. J. Slack |
| Mr. D. C. Cameron | Mr. A. M. Low | Captain D. L. Slinger |
| Professor P. Carmody | Mr. W. Low | Hon. Denis Slyne |
| Mr. Albert Cherty | Mr. J. A. Madgwick | Hon. Adam Smith |
| Commander The Hon | Mr. C. H. McLean | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| W. H. Coombs, R.N. | Mr. H. P. C. Melville | Hia Grace The Arch- |
| Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa | Mr. J. J. Nunan | bishop of the West |
| Mr. Wm Doran | Mr. R. Paterson | Indies. |
| Mr. W. Greig | Mr. James Peet | Mr. Carl F. Wieting |
| Mr. W. Morris Fletcher | Mr. G. M. Peter | Mr. A. H. Wight |
| Mr. John T. Greg | Dr. E. Prada | and |
| Hon. E. A. H. Haggart | Mr. C. W. Priest | Mr. G. Williams |
- Mr. J. R. Bancroft, c/o Messrs. S. Dobree & Sons, 7, Moorgate St., E. C.
- Mr. R. D. Bannatyne, 39, Tavistock Square, W. C.
- Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S. W.
- Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Hazlewell Road, Putney, S. W.
- Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E. C.
- Mr. Charles M. Calder, United Empire Club, 117, Piccadilly, W.
- Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V. D., "Rossmoyne," Chessell Avenue, Bittern, Southampton.
- Mr. Frank Condall, F. S. A., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W. C.
- Mr. P. J. Dean, St. Brannocks, Mundenley, Nurfolk.
- Mr. H. V. Delafans, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
- Mr. Reginald A. Delafans, 37, West Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
- Hon. Fred. Driver, 68, Hartley Road, Nottingham.
- Mr. W. R. Dune, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S. W.
- Mr. Justice A. Farnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W. C.
- Mr. Walter Farrell, 92, Kensington Gardens Square, W.
- Mr. J. M. Fleming, The Hermitage, Harlow, Kent.
- Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Rose Cottage, Berkhamsstead.
- Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 75, Fore Street Avenue, E. C.
- Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 39, Bedford Square, W. C.
- Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o, Messrs. Coutts & Co., 440, Strand, W. C.
- Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, C. M. G., 78, Glenaldon Road, Streatham, S. W.
- Hon. J. Spencer Hallings, 38, Livingstone Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham.
- Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Streatham Hill, S. W.
- Mr. I. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, Gt. Tower Street, E. C.
- Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meirion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
- Mr. C. McEneaney, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.
- Hon. W. L. McKinstrey, Ashford Grammar School, Ashford, Kent.
- Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
- Mr. D. McPhail, 79, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.
- Mr. W. Mearns, 39, Carlton Place, Aberdeen.
- Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, c/o Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co., 18, Laurence Poinney Lane, E. C. (S. W.)
- Mr. W. Morrison, 195, Regent House, St. James's Court, Buckingham Gate.
- Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, S. W.
- Mr. L. F. Naurac, 35, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.
- Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Malda Vale, W.
- Mr. M. A. Pereira, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.
- Mr. J. J. Rodrigues, c/o Messrs. J. Travers & Sons, Ltd., 119, Cannon Street, E. C.
- Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o, Messrs. Previte & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E. C.
- Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E. C.
- Mr. L. Schoener Scott, 20, Haven Green, Ealing, W.
- Mr. F. B. B. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E. C.
- Mr. E. C. Skinner, c/o R. M. S. P. Co., 18, Moorgate Street, E. C.
- Mr. S. L. Wilhaunson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W. C.
- Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W. C.

The Editor of the CIRCULAR will be obliged if members of the West India Committee will kindly forward to him the names of any relatives serving in the Navy, the Army and the Auxiliary Forces at the present time, with particulars as to their ships or the units with which they are serving.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Trent, (Captain R. Hayes) Liverpool, Aug. 17th:—

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mr. T. R. Armstrong | Mr. E. A. Hancock | Miss B. Peobet |
| Mr. J. M. Aituro | Mr. G. F. Harragin | Mr. F. T. Price |
| Mr. H. L. Burn | Miss K. Harragin | Mr. F. A. Phillips |
| Captain C. Boyle | Mr. J. A. Hessler | Mr. J. J. Powell |
| Mr. W. Betty | Mr. J. H. Haigh | Mr. J. Reilly |
| Captain and Mrs. W. J. Benson | Mr. G. D. Hall | Mr. J. J. Rogers |
| Mrs. R. de Bolona | Miss E. Hall | Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Roberts |
| Dr. and Mrs. P. A. de Bolona | Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hart | Mr. N. S. Sennett |
| Mr. E. H. Curtis | Mr. W. H. Hesketh | Mr. B. C. Shaw |
| Mr. and Mrs. W. Calder | Dr. H. G. Heineken | Mrs. E. Wood Saloman |
| Mr. H. Curle | Mr. A. L. Jones | Mrs. I. G. Smith |
| Mr. F. A. Corea | Mr. W. T. King | Miss E. Smith |
| Miss E. P. Caruth | Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Kent | Captain S. C. Stuart |
| Mr. W. Clover | Mr. S. Lawrence | Mr. R. Suter |
| Captain J. H. Disney | Mr. W. A. Moore | Mr. B. Sjoblom |
| Captain A. S. Florenaes | Mrs. K. Meek | Mr. W. Thompson |
| Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Gedding | Miss F. Meek | Mr. C. C. Walton |
| Mr. A. Gordon | Mr. A. Mackenzie | Mr. H. Wimsburst |
| Mr. and Mrs. H. Harvey | Dr. J. S. Nurse | Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wright |
| | Mr. and Mrs. G. Obregon | Mr. R. H. Wright |
| | Misses Obregon (2) | Mr. F. Zyndal |

The Booker Line.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM DEMERARA per S.S. Asakaka, Liverpool, August 18th:—

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Mr. E. R. Rickford | Mrs. E. Cooke | Mr. D. C. Ropington |
| Mrs. Farnell | Mr. T. Stuart | Mr. R. McHattie |
| Miss Winter | Mr. F. Evans | |

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

Demerara (Messrs. Curtis, Cauphrell and Co.), August 17th. "Light showers, rain wanted." Jamaica (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), Week ended August 6th, KINGSTON, "Fine."

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

In the present circumstances mail arrangements are liable to such frequent changes that no good purpose will be served by giving a list of probable sailings. Meanwhile the West India Committee is keeping in close touch with the shipping companies and enquiries over the telephone will receive immediate attention.

SAILINGS TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Magdalena, Captain O. Lewis, August 26th:—

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Miss A. M. Hudson | Mr. C. S. Burke | Mr. H. Nicholls |
| Miss M. E. Manlin | Mr. R. A. Burke | Mr. and Mrs. G. Mayes |
| Major J. G. E. Golding | Mr. J. O. Rostant | Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Grieve |
| Mr. J. A. Lamy | Dr. P. Gast | Misses Brown (2) |
| Miss M. Crow | Mr. R. S. Searle | Mr. and Mrs. F. Bancroft |
| Miss H. Y. Simpson | Miss V. Rostant | Hon. and Mrs. C. de Verteuil |
| Miss R. Lamy | Mr. and Mrs. A. C. O'Dowd | Mr. R. H. Jones |
| Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Phipps | Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Shipsey | Mr. Edward Agostini, w.c. |
| Mr. J. Slater | Mr. and Mrs. D. Whitehouse | Mrs. B. de Bryson |
| Mr. C. F. Wright | Mr. W. Bartlett | Misses de Bryson, (2) |
| Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Hudson | Mr. H. Monceaux | Miss I. Rice |
| Miss C. Kelly | Mr. C. K. Stretch | Mrs. B. A. Calvert |
| Mr. N. H. McLeod | Mr. and Mrs. C. Boos | Mr. G. Yearwood |
| Mr. H. Larios | Hon. J. J. Nunan | Mr. and Mrs. C. Rickard |
| Mr. J. A. Ward | Misses Baccardo (2) | Mr. I. O. B. Shirley |
| Mr. and Mrs. W. S. E. Barnardo | Mr. G. Milford | Miss K. J. Howson |
| Mr. J. W. Hopkirk | Mr. J. F. Wallen | Mrs. S. D. Bentley |
| Mr. A. W. Stevens | Mr. J. A. Gomes | Mr. Torres |
| Mr. A. Baccardo | Mr. H. Findlay | Mr. Bonavides |
| Miss V. Barrios | Mr. J. Menzies | Mr. S. Watt |
| Miss L. Waage | Mr. H. Lynch | Mr. G. T. Byrne |
| Mr. A. P. Blair | Mr. J. H. Reddock | Mr. M. J. Hyland |
| Mr. A. C. Shillingford | Miss E. M. Menzies | Mr. T. M. Kingsleary |
| Mr. E. S. Severia | Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Guppy | Mr. J. R. Roberts |
| Mr. and Mrs. M. S. McKay | Mr. and Mrs. W. Marsh | Mr. J. H. Bryant |
| Mr. P. J. Cox | Mrs. A. S. Baker | |
| Mr. R. C. Gooden-Chesholm | Mr. R. E. Morion | |
| | Mr. A. Mitchell | |

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. to July 30.	1914	Jan. to July 18.	1913
Sugar ...	43,594	26,197 Tons	9,940	4,175 Tons
Molasses ...	827	591 Puns		
Rum ...	1,721,278	1,218,819 Proof Galls	915,209	753,860 Galls.
Molascuit, &c... ..	1,054	4,707 Tons.		
Cacao ...	33,437	16,380 lbs.	6,350,400	3,665,104 Lbs
Coffee ...	238,746	72,718 "	5,604,144	3,810,576 "
Coco-nuts ...	1,185,672	471,896 No	16,438,371	12,785,648 No.
Oranges			2,221,800	15,216,149 "
Bananas			10,153,072	4,863,803 Stems
Cotton			32,607	47,545 Lbs
Pimento			57,002	61,627 Cwts.
Ginger ...			15,784	11,664 "
Honey ...			133,330	86,394 Galls.
Dyewoods			37,776	28,923 Tons.
Gold ...	56,116	42,397 ozs.		
Diamonds	9,055	4,069 carats.		
Rice ...	9,483,625	9,255,016 lbs.		
Balata ...	379,661	299,165 "		
Rubber ...	783	27 "		
Timber ...	248,065	223,252 cubic ft.		
Lumber ...	206,737	302,139 feet		
Lime (citrate of)	2,421	686 lbs.		

	Trinidad.		Barbados.	
	Jan. to Aug. 4.	1914	Jan. to July 30.	1913
Sugar ...	34,617	30,767 Tons.	28,876	19,111 Tons.
Molasses ...	3,152	3,118 Puns.	89,073	68,831 Puns.
Rum ...	769	818 "		
Coco-nuts ...	9,465,245	7,788,488 No.		
Asphalt ...	103,745	130,950 Tons		
Manjak ...	571	349 "		
Bitters ...	10,881	10,106 Cases.		
Coffee ...	13,440	1,386 lbs.		
Crude Petrol ...	10,336,704	5,547,888 Galls.		
Cacao ...	57,673,000	41,494,000 lbs.		
Cotton ...				
Seed ...				
Copra ...	4,880	4,163 Bags.		
Spice ...				
Kola ...				

	Dominica.	
	1914	1913
Cacao ...	474,320	758,016 Lbs.
Limes	27,308	22,658 Barrels.
Lime Juice, raw	53,687	145,514 Galls.
" " concentr'd	27,106	25,425 "
" " Citrate of	2,422	520 Cwts.
Lime Oil, dist'd	1,231	1,788 Galls.
" " equalled	395	285 "
Hardwood ...	33,512	44,421 feet.
Bananas	1,742	2,100 Stems.
Coco-nuts ...	269,085	213,579 No.

ADVANCE BOOKINGS TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Orelava, (Captain W. C. Barrett) September 6th:—

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mr. G. Golbourne | Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Gibson | Rev. and Mrs. Miller |
| Mr. E. S. Delisle | Misses Gibson (3) | Mr. C. K. Leotaud |
| Miss G. M. Lowe | Miss A. A. Grant | Mr. H. Haskell |
| Mr. J. P. Barr | Mr. J. B. Stevenson | Miss L. Hodgkinson |
| Miss M. L. Thoe | Mr. J. P. Thompson | Mr. A. V. Board |
| Mr. M. P. Duke | Mr. and Mrs. A. Tait | Mr. Jordan Heasley |
| Miss D. E. Penschon | Mr. J. D. Miller | Mr. and Mrs. A. St. F. Dare |
| Mr. H. Y. Delafons | Mr. F. Howell | Misses Dare (2) |
| Mr. R. A. Delafons | Mr. E. P. Boyce | Mr. J. H. Smithson and |
| Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Simmons | Mr. W. C. Boyce | Mr. M. Gomes |
| Miss M. Mayers | | |

ADVANCE BOOKINGS TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Orade, (Captain G. A. Mackenzie) September 23rd:—

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Pereira | Miss M. Beaumont | Rev. de Lacy Evans |
| Misses Pereira (2) | Mrs. J. Giranetti | Mr. J. Goodwin |
| Mr. and Mrs. J. Baka | Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Meade | Mr. W. Durno |
| Mr. and Mrs. J. Lead | Mrs. H. Hedemann | Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Knowles |
| Mr. J. Clayton | Miss D. Seedorff | Mr. W. J. Douglas |
| Mr. F. Henderson | Dr. H. Alston | Captain and Mrs. B. Suter |
| Mr. H. Sanderson | Mr. H. A. Harris | |
| Mr. E. B. Brasington | Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Knowles | Mrs. A. M. Hodges |
| Mr. W. W. Brasington | Rev. W. Rhodes | Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Tempny |
| Miss K. Brasington | Mr. and Mrs. F. de Roehmier | Mrs. Beskone |
| Miss E. Johnston | | |

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE stands at 5% as from 8th August. Consols are quoted nominally 69 to 70 in some quarters. The Stock Exchange has not reopened.

SUGAR—In New York the market has been strong and excited at rapidly advancing prices. In the first week some 560,000 bags of Cubans and Porto Ricos were bought mostly for August shipment at prices ranging from 5.01 c. up to 6.52 c. for raw centrifugals. Quotations of muscovado advanced in the same proportion to 6.07 c. Refined, in sympathy with these movements, was very firm and all refiners were quoting 7.50 c. for granulated. By later advices raws were easier with offerings from Cuba larger and holders accepted bids for 20,000 bags of Cuban afloat or prompt shipments on the basis of 6.27½ c. and the remainder were sellers at this level. Last Friday some parcels of Cubans afloat were pressed for sale and 6.00 c. New York terms was accepted for 4,000 bags, thus reducing spot quotations by 27½ points to 6.00 c. and 5.55 c. for muscovado. Refined was also reduced for granulated to 7.40 c. by leading refiners and 7.15 c. by the Sugar Trust and the Howell Refinery.

The London speculative beet market has remained practically closed and no quotations are posted. American granulated for prompt delivery has been sold up to 27s. 6d. c.i.f. including war risk.

It is reported that the stock of raw sugar in Liverpool has been taken over by the Government for refining purposes. Six thousand tons of American granulated sugar August shipment was sold the week before last in London, freight 25s. Charters for sugar per steamers have been effected for the shipment of 5,000 tons Mauritius sugar for London at a freight of about 30s., 45,500 tons Java for August at 40s., September at 35s. to 37s. 6d. and October at 35s., and from Cuba a steamer at 30s. prompt. Two cargoes of Manila arrived at Gibraltar have been re-directed to United Kingdom ports. The total coming from Java is estimated at some 200,000 tons. Reference is made elsewhere to the deal between the British Guiana proprietors and the Imperial Government for 60,000 tons sugar.

The Government put a check upon the inordinate rise in sugar and other commodities and from time to time fixed a scale of prices for the guidance of the wholesale and retail traders, granulated sugar being fixed at a maximum of 3½d. and lump at 4½d. per lb. retail.

No returns of available supplies of sugar are available.

Grocery West Indian.—Crystallised sugar has been more freely offered and the demand has been better, and more business has been doing at former rates. The following transactions have taken place: Demerara at 25s., Surinam at 25s., St. Lucia at 25s. to 26s., and a few Trinidad at 29s.

Muscovado.—Barbados on the spot has been sold at 23s., and both it and Jamaica are sellers at 23s. and 22s. respectively.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	23,994	32,306	22,831	29,858	27,382
Deliveries ...	20,260	18,346	19,006	22,774	22,464
Stock (15 Aug.)	16,686	15,800	8,313	11,444	9,993
Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, (21st Aug.)	25s. to 27s.	15s.	16s. to 18d.	18s. 3d.	16s. 6d.

RUM—Stocks in London, August 15th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	8,708	7,061	8,228	10,575	12,200
Demerara	10,625	7,571	6,688	5,039	8,268
Total all kinds	26,873	22,020	22,301	25,399	29,026

In Liverpool 500 puncheons Demerara are stated to have been sold at 1d. per liquid gallon advance, thus fully recovering the previous decline, but now more money is asked. In London 100 pipes Cuban have been sold at 10d. and 50 puns. Demerara at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 4½d. proof. The market for proofs is rather steadier, but the demand is limited; in the meantime the waterways are open and supplies continue to be advised and received. In Jamaica a

little business has been passing; the quantity offering is limited in extent. Export marks naturally are devoid of life through the closing of the Continental markets.

CACAO—Stocks in London, August 15th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad	10,653	11,885	6,872	8,400	10,226
Grenada...	9,797	5,694	6,687	14,571	14,871
Stock all kinds	95,621	81,436	122,290	120,623	94,921

Two auctions have been held in the fortnight. At the first 6,340 bags of all kinds were offered, of which 2,796 bags consisted of Trinidad, Grenada and Jamaica, but only 1,191 bags sold chiefly Trinidad for the Government at 61s. to 62s. (3s. advance), Grenada being held for an advance only a few sold, ordinary at 54s. good to fair at 55s. 6d. Of 482 bags Jamaica only 93 bags sold at 58s. to 58s. 6d.

At the second auction last Tuesday only 446 bags out of 5,554 bags offered were disposed of. Some 3,300 bags consisted of Trinidad, Grenada, Dominica, St. Lucia and Jamaica, but business was limited to Trinidad, which was partly sold at 60s. to 62s. for good middling to fine, being about steady. Quotations after last sale, Trinidad middling red 59s. to 59s. 6d., good middling red 60s. to 60s. 6d., fine and superior 61s. to 64s., Grenada ordinary to good fair 51s. to 54s., middling to fine 55s. to 58s. nominal. In the Trinidad circular of August 3rd it stated that there will be little cacao forthcoming for several months. An unfavourable change in the outlook through unusually dry weather had taken place, and the effect will be that next crop will be thrown back considerably. Their market keeps steady at \$11.00 to \$11.50 per fanega equal to 50s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. cost and freight per 50 kilos according to quality.

COFFEE.—The spot market remains closed. As regards the terminal market the Clearing House Committee held a meeting last Thursday and decided to keep the market closed for the present, and to accept no new business without further notice. Proposals were discussed as to means of liquidating open engagements and it was decided that those desirous of closing their contracts should inform the London Clearing House in writing what months and in what quantity they were willing to do so. The following prices are suggested as a basis of the first settlement: Sept. 37s., Dec. 38s., March 38s. 9d., May 39s. 3d.

COTTON.—During the fortnight ended August 20th, 30 bales of British West Indian were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland state that Sea Island is quite unsaleable at the moment. 16 bales of St. Vincent have been sold at 16d. to 17d. since last report.

LIME PRODUCTS.—Fresh Limes are coming forward from Dominica, Montserrat and St. Lucia. Lime Juice (Raw)—Scarce, and wanted by the Government, good quality would be worth 2s. to 2s. 6d. per gallon; but indiscriminate shipping is not recommended. Essential Oil (distilled)—Dearer; small sales at 3s. 9d. Otto of Limes (hand-pressed) Quiet. No business since last mail. Values unchanged. Concentrated—Arrivals per Oruba sold at 44s. Since buyers have withdrawn and values are nominal.

In PIMENTO and GINGER no business is reported. **NUTMEGS.**—MACE—No auctions have been held since 29th July, prices quite nominal. **COPRA.**—Fair merchantable West Indian quotations quite nominal about 124. **ARROWROOT.**—About 500 barrels reported sold at 24d. to 24½d., quotations nominal 2d. to 4½d.

RUBBER.—Fine plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spat, 2s. 4½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 5½d.; fine hard Para, 3s. 4d. last year 3s. 10d.; do. soft, 2s. 6d., last year 3s. 2½d. Castilloa sheet, 1s. 7d., last year 2s. 4d.; scrap, 1s. 4d. last year, 1s. 8d. **BALATA.**—Sheet, 2s. 7d. per lb., last year 2s. 7d.; Block, 2s. 2d. per lb., last year, 1s. 11½d. **VANILLA.**—Good to fine 11s. to 16s., and ordinary to fair 8s. to 12s. per lb.

PETROLEUM OIL.—American 7½d.; Water White, 8½d.; other kinds off the market.

TIMBER.—Mahogany.—There is general stagnation owing to the war, which has so seriously disorganised business that it is likely no public sales will be held this month.

ALGERNON E. ASPINAL.

It is hoped that you
will contribute towards
the National Relief Fund.
This coupon can be
filled in and sent
with a remittance to
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales,
Buckingham Palace
London S.W.
Sept: 8th 1914.



To H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES,
BUCKINGHAM PALACE, LONDON.

I beg to enclose £ s. d. as a donation to the
National Relief Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

The envelope containing this coupon need not be stamped.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

Vol. XXIX.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone : 644 CENTRAL.
Telegrams : CARIB, LONDON.
15, SEETHING LANE
LONDON, E.C.
September 7th, 1914.

PRACTICAL PATRIOTISM.

THE offer of £20,000, which has been made to the Imperial Government by the people of Barbados is in accord with the best traditions of that patriotic island, whose proud boast it is that its shores have never been sullied by an invader. In accepting the gift on behalf of the Government, Mr. HARCOURT suggested that the most practical form in which it could be sent would be in that of sugar—a reminder, incidentally, of the old days when sugar was the principal currency of the island. Fortunately, it appears that, though the next sugar crop will not be reaped under ordinary circumstances until March next, there was in Barbados, when the last mail left, about 1,800 tons of sugar over and above the requirements for local consumption, and it should therefore be possible for the local Government to make the gift in the form suggested by Mr. HARCOURT. Those acquainted with the history of Barbados will not need to be reminded that there are precedents for the generous gift which the island has made. They will recall that in 1795 the Legislature of Barbados complying with the request of the Admiral on the West India station provided the armed brig *Lord Hawkesbury* for a space of four months to assist in blockading the French ports, and that in 1798 they voted a contribution towards enabling his Majesty to prosecute the war, subscrip-

tions being also opened in every parish for this object and upwards of £13,000 being collected. At the same time and in the same manner the larger and wealthier island of Jamaica raised some £80,000. It will be recalled, too, that in 1804 when we were at war with our present staunch ally, France, the merchants of Barbados purchased a brig called the *Brave* which had been captured from the enemy and offered her to his Majesty's service to be employed on the island station under the name of the *Barbados* frigate. This gift was accepted by the Government and CAPTAIN NOURSE, an ancestor, by the way, of COLONEL NOURSE, a member of the West India Committee to-day and owner of Ashbury Plantation in the Parish of St. George, was appointed to command her. In a letter to the Admiralty, MR. JORDAN, the Agent of the island, wrote: "The great and leading motives to this purchase and gift to the Government were unquestionably derived from the purest patriotism and zeal for the public service; more subordinate projects were the particular defence of the colony, and the general annoyance of the enemy in the Caribbean Sea." For eighteen months the *Barbados* scoured the Caribbean securing as prizes the privateer *Napoleon* of eighteen guns and one hundred and eighty men, *La Désirée* of fourteen guns and ninety men, a valuable ship from Cayenne, and a Spanish brig, besides recapturing an English Guineaman and an American ship. After these successes she was put out of commission the Navy Board deciding that the repairs needed were too costly to justify their being carried out. But in 1810 she was refitted at Plymouth and re-commissioned, the command being given to CAPTAIN BRIAN HODGSON, who took her again to the West Indies, where she remained until she was paid off. We learn from SCHOMBURGK, in whose "History of Barbados" the above facts are given that the spirited example of Barbados was followed by several other islands, and in this respect we shall not be surprised if history repeats itself. Already, the British Guiana proprietors by accepting a price some four or five pounds below the present market price for the 60,000 tons of sugar which—as we were able to announce in the last WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR—were sold to the Government, have made indirectly a gift to them of upwards of £200,000. We learn, too, that Jamaica has offered a gift of sugar to this country, that subscriptions towards the National Relief Fund are being invited in British Guiana, and that a Patriotic Fund has been opened in Trinidad. Offers of assistance in this grave emergency from other West Indian colonies may also be confidently expected.

CHEAPER CABLE CHARGES.

ON August the 25th, the House of Commons approved the agreement between the Imperial Government, the Government of Canada, the Crown Agents (acting for the British West Indies and British Guiana) and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company for the reduction of cable charges. Elsewhere we give a summary of the terms of this agreement, from which it will be seen that a sweeping reduction in message rates is to come into force on October 1st next. Thus, the rate between the United Kingdom and British Guiana and the West Indies is to be reduced to a uniform one of 2s. 6d. per word, and that between Canada and the Colonies to 1s. 6d. per word, while it will be possible to send deferred messages in plain language at one-half of those rates. When it is realised that two years ago a message between the United Kingdom and British Guiana cost no less than 7s. per word, and that the lowest rate between this country and the West Indian islands (Jamaica excepted) was 4s. 3d. per word, it will be appreciated what a saving to the mercantile community and to all having recourse to the cables will be involved. We mention Jamaica as an exception for, since 1898, when the Halifax-Bermuda cable was extended to that island, it has enjoyed exceptional facilities, the rate between Halifax and the islands having been reduced from 5s. 0³d. to 2s., and in the case of the United Kingdom from 5s. 10d. to 3s. in that year. Indeed it is not too much to say that a great share of the credit for bringing about coming reductions must be given to the enterprising Direct West India Cable Company who set the example, and the General Manager, Mr. J. RIPPON, who has been tireless in his efforts to bring about some improvement in this respect. The West India Committee, too, may fairly claim a lion's share in the matter, having ventilated the pressing need for the cheapening of cable communication, in season and out of season; and though the scheme with which they identified themselves, namely, that for the extension of the All-British cable from Bermuda,—a scheme which was endorsed by the Royal Commission of 1910—has yet to come to fruition, the reduction of rates is more far reaching than was hoped for some years ago. This at any rate, will serve to allay in great measure any disappointment which may be felt on the temporary abandonment of the All-British scheme, to secure which no effort should be spared during the ten years of the present contract. We are indeed already not without hope that some arrangement between the existing companies may be made for giving effect to this scheme. In this connection it is significant that the present agreement deals with the relations between the West India and Panama Telegraph Company and the Direct West India Cable Company, which have long been a source of friction, but should now be satisfactorily adjusted. While dealing with the agreement there is one other point on which we must touch, namely, that of the cabled News Bulletins.

Clause 10 provides that the contracting company shall continue to supply these Bulletins, together with market quotations, etc., "as heretofore." The words "as heretofore" are unfortunate. We very much regret that no provision has been inserted to ensure an improvement in the quality of these News Bulletins, which are eagerly looked for in the West Indies. The contracting company must remain British and we would fain wish that the agreement also provided for the News Bulletins to have the same characteristics. At present they are, we believe, compiled in New York, and they are a constant source of complaint. One would have hoped that at a time like the present the Company would have risen to the occasion, but we very much regret to say that this has not been the case. Allowance must be made for the excisions made by the censors in Jamaica, but we confess to experiencing a feeling of repulsion when we read such bosh as that the Kaiser (in his speech preliminary to a vote in the Reichstag) was "holding the paper in his hand, with his left upon the Sceptre." This reminds us of one which we read some years ago about the War Lord "twirling his moustache," and, we think, also "coughing." We really commend to the consideration of the company that during the present crisis, at least, the News Bulletins should be made up in London. The news service furnished to Jamaica by the Direct West India Cable Company leaves little to be desired. Might it not be possible for arrangements to be made for the West India and Panama Telegraph Company to avail themselves of it? One would imagine that such an arrangement would make for economy, as well as efficiency. For the rest we can only express the hope and belief that the reduced cable charges may prove a powerful factor in bringing the West Indian colonies closer together, and though the British West Indies are contributing the largest subsidy we must in conclusion express our gratitude to the Imperial and Canadian Governments for rendering the new arrangements possible.

THE WAR AND FREIGHT RATES.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "Imperialist" recently availed himself of these columns to complain of the high West Indian freight rates. He pointed out that while in 1911 the rates on sugar from the West Indies to New York, Halifax and Montreal were 9, 11, and 14 cents respectively, they were before the war 12, 14, and 16 to 18 cents, although the shipping boom of 1912-13 which furnished the excuse for the rise had passed away. From other representations which have reached us we are satisfied that the views of "Imperialist" are rather widely shared by other shippers. In the present issue a correspondent who veils his identity under the pseudonym "Antillean" makes a further attack based on the increase of freight rates in consequence of the war. With the complaint of "Imperialist" we are in full sympathy; but, en-

quiries have forced us to the conclusion that the increase in rates since the outbreak of war is not without justification. At the present moment this increase stands at 25 per cent. over the normal rates, a percentage which compares favourably with that added to the freights in the case of other parts of the world. Thus, East African, Red Sea, Indian and South African rates are surcharged to the same extent. Brazilian and West African rates, on the other hand, have been increased by as much as 50 per cent., while shippers to or from the West Coast of America have to pay an additional 33½ per cent. It is not generally understood that the Government War Risk Insurance is compulsory and that as far as the West Indian trade is concerned it amounts to 1½ per cent. on the value of the vessel. This may amount on the voyage to as much as £750 to £1,000, 80 per cent of which is retained permanently by the Government. This expenditure has to be recouped in the freight rates on the cargo carried. Unfortunately, few, if any, outward steamers to the West Indies carry full cargoes and a reduction, therefore, cannot, it is claimed, be afforded. It will perhaps be reassuring to "Antillean" and others to know that the 25 per cent. increase as regards the West Indies-Canada route has been sanctioned by the Government of the Dominion and in all the circumstances of the case we do not think that it can be held to be unreasonable, though we shall hope for a speedy reduction as soon as the conditions warrant it. Meanwhile, where exceptional quantities of goods can be assured, better terms can already be obtained, and it may be mentioned that the freight to be charged to the Government for the 60,000 tons of cane sugar from British Guiana, recently purchased by them, is within a few shillings of the price charged for shipments of yellow crystals before the outbreak of war.

OUR SOURCES OF SUGAR SUPPLY.

MR. MONTAGU'S emphatic statement in the House of Commons that the Government have no intention in the present circumstances of proposing an Excise Duty on home-grown sugar will raise fresh hopes among cane-growers in the colonies of receiving a corresponding preference in the home markets. As we pointed out in last CIRCULAR England paid her present enemies, Germany and Austria, no less than £15,145,101 last year for beet sugar, and the British Public are now paying still more heavily for their sugar in consequence of our dependence on Continental beet sugar in the past. They have learned their lesson, and the Government may reasonably be expected, while fostering the home beet industry, to do all in their power to encourage the erection of Central Sugar Factories, and to secure the extension of cane cultivation, in our sugar-growing colonies. In doing so they would, we feel convinced, have the whole Country behind them. Fresh revenue will have to be raised to meet the cost of the war, and it is not

unlikely that the sugar duty may have to be increased to its former figure. What we should like to see would be an increase in the duty on foreign sugar and a decrease on colonial. This would give a great stimulus to cane sugar cultivation within the Empire and ensure for the British public a steady supply of British sugar at reasonable rates. The Sugar Convention need not be an obstacle, for Great Britain is no longer a party to it, and, though the Government agreed to adhere to the terms of that agreement, they reserved to themselves the right of altering their policy on giving six months' notice.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

THE Editor of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will be obliged if members of the West India Committee will kindly forward to him the names of any relatives serving in the Navy, the Army and the Auxiliary Forces, including the West Indian Defence Forces and Volunteers at the present time, with particulars as to their ships or the units with which they are serving.

The West India Committee received the following letter from the Board of Trade on August 31st:—

29th August, 1914.

SIR.—With reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Board of Trade to draw your attention to the Order of Council made on the 28th August, whereby the exportation of all food-stuffs to the British dominions, colonies and possessions beyond the seas is now permitted.

As regards exportation to allied and neutral countries, however, the prohibitions previously established remain in force.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

GEO. J. STANLEY.

The Secretary,

The West India Committee,
15, Seething Lane, E.C.

By virtue of Rule III of the West India Committee the subscriptions from new members elected during the last three months of the present year will not, when paid, be renewable until January 1st, 1916. The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1556.

Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is 1s. or 5s.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (£50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

During the year to date 59 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

British Guiana	... 4	St. Vincent	... 1
Trinidad	... 4	Canada	... 2
Grenada	... 4	Mauritius	... 1
Jamaica	... 4	New South Wales	... 1
Dominica	... 3	Contry	... 16
British Honduras	... 2	London	... 13
Barbados	... 1	New York	... 2
Nevis	... 1		

REDUCED WEST INDIAN CABLE RATES

The New Agreement Summarised.

The agreement between the Imperial Government, the Government of the Dominion of Canada, the Crown Agents for the Colonies (acting on behalf of the British West Indies and British Guiana) and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Ltd., for the reduction of rates was signed on August 10 and approved by resolution of the House of Commons on August 25th.

The Agreement, which has been published as a Parliamentary White Paper provides for a substantial reduction of rates in return for the continuance for ten years of the subsidies paid by the Govern-

ments of Trinidad, British Guiana, Barbados, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada aggregating £10,300 per annum, and the subsidy of £16,000 per annum paid in equal shares by the Imperial and Canadian Governments for the same period.

The Company is pledged to maintain and work effectively their existing system of lines and cables (Clause 2) and to report to the Crown Agents every interruption and restoration [3. (1)]. It must also maintain and work communication by wireless telegraphy between British Guiana and Trinidad, when satisfactory communication by lines and cables is interrupted. [3 (2)].

The new Maximum Charges for telegrams [4. (1) and 3rd Schedule] are as follows:—

Rate.	For Telegrams (in either direction).	Amount of Rate.
(a)	Between the United Kingdom and Barbados, British Guiana, Jamaica, Trinidad, Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent	2s. 6d. per word.
(b)	Between Newfoundland, Cape Breton, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, the Province of Ontario, Prince Edward Island, or the Province of Quebec, and any of the above West Indian colonies.	1s. 6d. per word.
(c)	Between other places in Canada and any of the above West Indian Colonies	1s. 6d. per word plus rates chargeable for transmission beyond places mentioned under (b).
(d)	Between any of the above West Indian Colonies (Inter-Colonial Service).	The rates shown in the Table given below (with a minimum charge of 1s. for each telegram) viz:

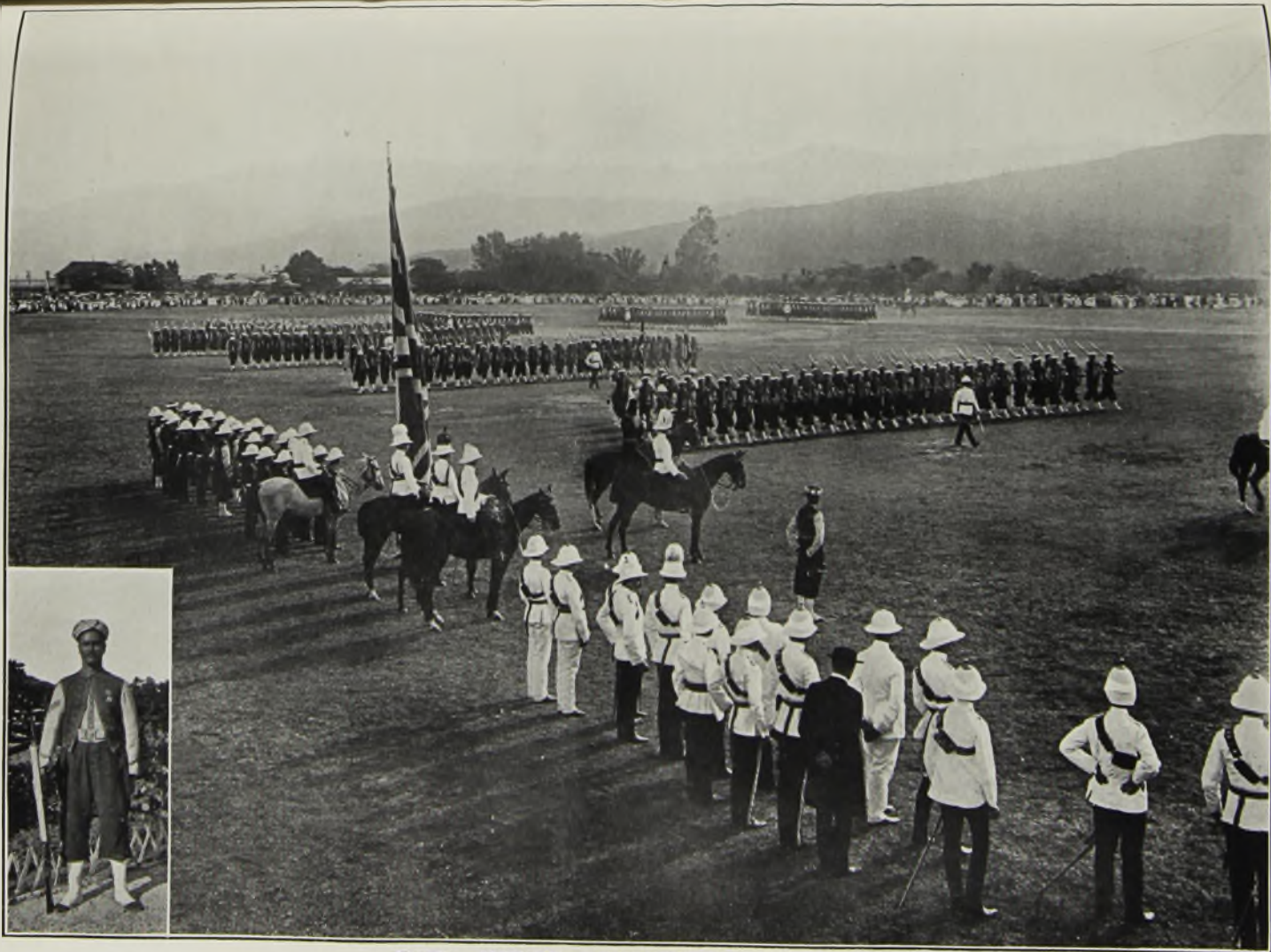
	Antigua	Barbados.	British Guiana (Georgetown)	Dominica.	Grenada.	Jamaica (Kingston and Holland Bay.)	St. Kitts	St. Lucia.	St. Vincent.	Trinidad (Port of Spain)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Antigua	0 8	0 8	1 3	0 3	0 8	1 2½	0 1½	0 5	0 3	0 10
Barbados	0 8	—	1 2	0 5½	0 4	1 3	0 9½	0 3½	0 3	0 8
British Guiana (Georgetown)...	1 3	1 2	—	1 3	0 10	1 3	1 0½	1 1	1 0	0 8
Dominica	0 3	0 5½	1 3	—	0 5	1 3	0 3½	0 3	0 3½	0 7½
Grenada	0 8	0 4	0 10	0 5	—	1 3	0 9	0 3½	0 2½	0 3
Jamaica (Kingston and Holland Bay)	1 2½	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 3	—	1 2	1 3	1 3	1 3
St. Kitts	0 1½	0 9½	1 0½	0 3½	0 9	1 2	—	0 6	0 7	0 11
St. Lucia	0 5	0 3½	1 1	0 3	0 3½	1 3	0 6	—	0 2	0 5
St. Vincent	0 4½	0 3	1 0	0 3½	0 2½	1 3	0 7	0 2	—	0 4
Trinidad (Port of Spain)	0 10	0 6½	0 8	0 7½	0 3	1 3	0 11	0 5	0 4	—
Tobago	The same rates as last above shown in the case of Trinidad with the addition of the Trinidad Government's charge for the time being in force in respect of the service by wireless telegraphy between Trinidad and Tobago.									

Deferred messages in plain language accepted at half-rate *except* when the charge is five pence per word or less. [In the case of telegrams sent via Bermuda, no charge is made for the words "via Bermuda." Wireless stations Kingston and Bowden (Jamaica), Rate per word 10d., minimum 5s. per message. Call signal V.P.H.]

If in any year after the fourth year the revenue exceeds £126,600 the Company must from the following July 1st make these further reductions: As to (a) (b) and (c) one fifth of its proportion of the rate; and as to (d) one tenth part with a minimum charge of one shilling for each message, fractions of 1d. less than ½d. being ignored. [4. (2)].

Government and press telegrams are to be accepted at half rate [5. (1)] and the former are to have priority over all other messages. [5. (2)].

The Company is to accept deferred telegrams at half rates to and from the colonies and all places where the system is in force *except* where the rates are 5d. per word or less. [6. (1) and (2)].



OUR WEST INDIAN "TURCOS."

An inspection of the West India Regiment at Up Park Camp, Jamaica.
(Inset, a sergeant of the regiment).

Clause 7 (1) and (2) provides for the maintenance of the British character of the Company and lays down that it must not be controlled directly or indirectly by foreigners or a foreign corporation.

Clauses 8 and 9 deal with the relations of the Company with the Direct West India Cable Company which have long been a source of friction. The Company must always accept from the Direct Company and hand to them telegrams when requested to do so and must arrange for a prompt interchange of such messages. [8. (1)]. When communication via Key West is interrupted the Company must hand to the Direct Company all telegrams not otherwise routed by the senders [8. (2)], and the Company must cease to charge for an additional word or words in their rates for telegrams received from the Direct Company and must not in any way discriminate against any telegrams received from, or handed to, that Company. [8. (3)]. The Company must pay or allow the Direct and Halifax and Bermudas Companies jointly 4d. per word for every telegram sent at ordinary rates and 2d. per word for Government, deferred, or press telegrams. [9.].

The daily news bulletins, market quotations, etc., are to be continued free of charge as heretofore; but preference is to be given to matters chiefly affecting British and Colonial interests. [10.].

Subject to the express provisions of the agreement the telegraphs and cables are to be worked in accordance with the provisions of the International Convention and the International Regulations, and are to be available for the telegrams of all persons alike without favour or preference. [11. (1) and (2)]. The amounts of the subsidies are set out in Clause 12.

In the event of interruption for more than a month, or if there has been an interruption within a year for a week deductions are to be made from the subsidies [13.]. In the case of any of the colonies affected such deduction is to be the amount of the subsidy during the period of interruption exceeding a month or a week as the case may be [13. (1) a]. Where the interruption affects Jamaica there is to be a deduction of one-eighth of the Imperial and Canadian subsidy payable in respect of the period of interruption in excess of one month or one week as the case may be. [13. (2)].

If, however, during the continuance of interruption the Company maintains at the schedule rates uninterrupted connection by telegraphs or wireless belonging to another company to the satisfaction of the Treasury, the deductions are to be refunded. [13.].

If in any year after the first four the Company's revenue exceeds £74,000 a sum equal to one-half of such excess (up to a revenue of £106,000) is to be deducted from the Imperial and Canadian subsidy payable in respect of the next year: while if it exceeds £106,000, a sum equal to one-half of such excess (up to a revenue of £126,600) is to be deducted *pro rata* from the Colonial subsidies. [14.]. Furthermore, if in any year after the first four the

revenue exceeds £126,000, reductions in the current rates of charge are to be made. [4. (2)].

Clause 15 deals with the payment of subsidies which are deemed to accrue from day to day, but are to be paid quarterly. The sums payable by the Treasury for the Canadian Government being payable out of supplies appropriated by the Imperial and Canadian Parliaments respectively.

The agreement is to come into operation on the first day of the second calendar month following the month in which it is approved by a Resolution of the House of Commons and the Treasury has power to terminate the agreement in the event of any breach of it. [17.].

The Company may not assign or dispose of the agreement or any benefit under it. [18.].

The annual subsidies to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company which are guaranteed for ten years are set out below:—

Trinidad (including Tobago)	3,000
British Guiana	3,000
Barbados	1,500
Grenada	600
St. Kitts	500
Antigua	500
St. Lucia	500
Dominica	400
St. Vincent	300
Jamaica	—
Total British West Indies and British Guiana	10,300
The Imperial Government	8,000
The Canadian Government	8,000
Total	£26,000

THE following is from a recent News Bulletin of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company:—

London, August 14.—Lord Kitchener has informed the newspapers that any of them publishing unofficial war news will be suspended.

If this had been true, every newspaper in the United Kingdom would have been closed down weeks ago. Moreover, the Company would have been "compounding the felony," for its later bulletins are mainly unofficial.

WILLIAM CONNAL & Co., of Glasgow, announce that the publication of their monthly sugar circular which has appeared now for upwards of 100 years will be suspended indefinitely. Their decision is due to the following circumstances:—

The Government having made extensive purchases of raw sugar for distribution amongst Refiners, and assumed control of the market by fixing the prices at which the refined article is to be retailed, the business of Sugar Brokers has thereby been brought to a standstill for the present. Individual traders are naturally not inclined to take the risk of doing business in sugar, which, requiring to be sold on arrival here at Government-fixed prices, would, in all probability, entail loss to importers.

A complete list of publications can be obtained from the West India Committee Rooms, post free, upon application.

THE NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

Bound with the present WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR is a coupon for the use of those readers who may desire to contribute towards the National Relief Fund. Many members of the West India Committee have already sent in their contributions direct; but for the benefit of those who have not done so it may be mentioned that remittances should be forwarded to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Buckingham Palace, and that enquiries relating to the collection of subscriptions should be addressed to the National Relief Fund, York House, St. James.

The Fund was started the day after the Declaration of War. The Prince of Wales accepted the Treasurership, and immediately issued an appeal in the following terms: "All must realise that the present time of deep anxiety will be followed by one of considerable distress among the people of this country least able to bear it. We most earnestly pray that their sufferings may be neither long nor bitter. But we cannot wait until the need presses heavily upon us. The means of relief must be ready in our hands. To allay anxiety will go some way to stay distress. A national fund has been founded, and I am proud to act as its treasurer. My first duty is to ask for generous and ready support, and I know that I shall not ask in vain. At such a moment we all stand by one another, and it is to the heart of the British people that I confidently make this most earnest appeal, EDWARD P." This was supported by the following message from the Queen to the women of the country: "A National Fund has been inaugurated by my dear son for the relief of the inevitable distress which must be bravely dealt with in the coming days. To this end I appeal to the women of our country, who are ever ready to help those in need, to give their services and assist in the local administration of the Fund, MARY R." York House, St. James's Palace, was placed at the service of the staff that is organising the collection of the Fund.

The Fund is in every sense a National Fund, principally because it is a great advantage to have one central organisation to deal with distress throughout the whole country, during the war, both among industrial workers and among the families of the troops and sailors engaged in the war. Experience shows that when such funds are raised and administered locally, it sometimes happens that the wealthiest, and therefore the least necessitous districts, obtain disproportionate relief, and the poorer parts of the country suffer by comparison. Besides, no overlapping is possible when all the money is sent to, and administered by, one Fund for the entire Kingdom.

For this reason, arrangements have been made for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association and the Royal Patriotic Fund to co-operate with the National Relief Fund. Thus all the monies sent to the Fund will be used in the best possible way, and every description of distress during the war, in-

cluding distress among industrial workers and the wives and families of soldiers, sailors and territorials will be assisted by the Fund. The scale of relief adopted will relate to the need of the applicants and their dependents and not to their previous income or other circumstances. In all cases of civil distress the Fund will operate solely through the local representative Committees set up at the suggestion of the Local Government Board.

OUR WEST INDIAN "TURCOS."

A feature of the war has been the gallant fighting of the French Algerian troops, or the "Turcos," as they are called. A correspondent suggests that the West India Regiment—the Turcos of the British Army—a parade of which at Up Park Camp, Jamaica, forms the subject of our full page illustration should be utilised to swell the British forces operating on the Continent.

The history of this regiment is extremely interesting. It dates back to the American War of Independence when a British expedition from New York captured the State of Georgia. As a result, black and white loyalists flocked to the British camp where they were formed into corps of which the South Carolina was one. This regiment took an active part in the war, and in 1780 was converted into a cavalry regiment which at the close of the war was stationed in Jamaica under the command of Lord Charles Montagu.

The regiment at this period consisted of both black and white soldiers and on the general disbandment of provincial corps in 1783, the white members were compensated with grants of land, and the black formed into a foot regiment in combination with black mechanics, under the name of the "Black Carolina Corps." War broke out with France in 1793 and at that time various black corps were formed in the West Indies, all of which took an active part in the fierce fighting that took place during the succeeding years in those islands. With one of these corps, the Royal Rangers, the South Carolina Regiment was amalgamated in 1795 under the title of "Whyte's Regiment of Foot." In the West Indies, however, these regiments were called the West India Regiments, "Whyte's Regiment of Foot" receiving the title of "The First West India Regiment."

This regiment, which is now the only British black regiment surviving, has a magnificent record in the West Indies and Africa. It took part in the Ashantee Wars of 1864 and 1874 and was especially complimented by Sir Garnet Wolseley on its behaviour, and in all the multifarious punitive and other expeditions associated with African colonisation, its members having invariably maintained its reputation for soldierly qualities of the highest order.

It is interesting to note that in 1815 the regiment was strengthened by the Bourbon regiment of French emigrés which had been disbanded at the

outbreak of the French Revolution. The present Zouave uniform of the corps was adopted in 1858 at the suggestion of Queen Victoria who, seeing the French Zouaves on parade, greatly admired their uniform and asked why she should not have a regiment similarly accoutred. The officers wear the ordinary uniform of the British Infantry.

A few copies of a brief historical sketch of the history of this distinguished corps written by Colonel A. R. Loscombe, and published by the West India Committee can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, price 1s. per copy, or post free 1s. 2d.

THE WAR AND CONTINENTAL BEET.

In view of the war on the Continent the following account of the quantities of sugar produced by the several countries, and of the relation of the sugar areas to the war zones is of interest. For the figures we are indebted to Messrs. Willett and Gray.

In France the production in 1913-15 was 800,000 tons sugar, and the sowings for the coming crop 205,000 hectares (one hectare is 2.47 acres). Almost all the sugar is produced in the departments lying between the Belgian frontier and Paris, and several of the largest producers border on Belgium. Little sugar is produced on the Franco-German border.

In Belgium the production in 1913-14 was 230,000 tons sugar. With 54,000 hectares sown for 1914-15, Liège province is the second largest sugar producer in the country, growing about one-quarter of the crop. Brabant province, containing Brussels, is the next largest, being a slightly smaller producer than Liège. About one-third of the crop is produced in Hainault, south of Brussels on the French border. Namur and the other provinces produce but little sugar.

In Holland the production for last crop was 230,000 tons sugar. The sowings for next crop were 60,000 hectares. North Brabant, which stretches along most of the Belgian borders, contains sixteen of the twenty-eight factories of Holland. Limburg contains none, and there are but four other factories near the German border.

The production of Germany in 1913-14 was 2,738,000 tons sugar, the sowings for 1914-15, 550,000 hectares. Alsace, Lorraine and Baden produce little sugar, but Rheinland, which borders on Belgium, has about 18,000 hectares in beets this year, and last year produced 86,792 tons sugar.

The four districts of Prussia bordering on Russia are large producers of sugar. The sowings in East and West Prussia totalled 35,165 hectares, in Posen 64,803 hectares and in Silesia 80,828 hectares, a total of 184,796 hectares, or about a third of the German crop thus borders Russia. Each autumn it is customary to bring large numbers of Russians into these districts to work in the beets. West of Posen is Brandenburg containing Berlin, where 23,360 hectares were planted this year.

The other districts producing large quantities

of sugar are Pomerania and Mecklenburg, on the Baltic Sea, the Province of Saxony, in which is Magdeburg, growing 124,124 hectares, and Hanover, Brunswick and Anhalt. All these are in the centre of the country. The Kingdom of Saxony and other states and provinces of the Empire produce small amounts.

Russia produced in 1913-14, 1,750,000 tons sugar. The sowings for 1914-15 were 840,000 hectares. The sowings in Poland constitute about a tenth of these those in Podolia and Volhynie, on the Galician (Austrian) border, about a fourth, and Kief adjoining these latter, inland, another fourth.

In Austria the production last crop was 1,710,000 tons sugar. The sowings for 1914-15 were 440,000 hectares. Little sugar is produced near the Russian border. Galicia contains 2 factories and Bukowina 3. Hungary, further south, contains 32 factories. Bosnia and Slavonia each contain 1 factory. The other 188 factories are located mostly in Bohemia and other western sections bordering Germany.

The production of Italy in 1913-14 was 327,800 tons sugar. Sowings for 1914-15 38,600 hectares. Of the thirty-nine factories nine are located in the old Province of Venice, on which borders Austria, and two in Lombardy, which borders on Austria and Switzerland; fifteen are in Emilia, the next province south of these.

Servia produced in 1913-14, 6,500 tons sugar. The sowings for 1914-15 were 9,000 hectares. Servia has only two beet factories.

The production of Roumania in 1913-14 was 32,000 tons sugar, and the sowings 1914-15, 20,000 hectares. Roumania has five factories.

In Bulgaria the production was 7,800 tons sugar in 1913-14. The sowings 1914-15, 10,000 hectares Bulgaria has two beet factories.

THE NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

Nothing could tend more to break down the insularity which still characterises so many parts of the West Indies than a closer knowledge, on the part of the rising generation, of the geography of the islands and our great colonies on the mainland of Central and South America. Here the West India Committee map should serve a particularly useful purpose. The Board of Education of St. Vincent has already taken 30 copies and it is hoped that the other educational authorities in the West Indies will also adopt the map for their primary and secondary schools. The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

THE WORLD'S TRADE IN COCO-NUTS.

Germany and Austria's large consumption.

The coco-nut is said to be the world's most important food fruit. It is, however, only within the last fifteen years that it has been realised that in the oil obtained by pressing copra, the dried meat of the coco-nut, there is a very cheap source of vegetable fats besides valuable foods.

Mr. John J. Macfarlane contributes to the *Tea and Coffee Trade Journal* an interesting account of this palm and its products.

There is, says Mr. Macfarlane, a great difference of opinion as to the original home of the coco-nut tree. De Candolle and most writers after him have assumed that the Eastern Archipelago, somewhere in the neighbourhood of Java and Sumatra, was the original home, and that the nuts falling into the sea floated east to Central America and west to Ceylon and India. O. F. Cook, in two pamphlets published by the Smithsonian Institution, gives ample proof that America was the original home. He also combats successfully the idea that the coco-nut palm is only to be found along the sea coast. He shows that in Guatemala and other American localities it is found in the interior at a height of 3,000 feet, and in the Malabar region of India, from which the best coco-nuts are obtained, it is found growing in the interior at an elevation of over 2,000 feet.

Cook claims there is very little probability of self-sowing after floating thousands of miles, as even in the Pacific Isles it does not flourish unless where it is cultivated. An old Indian proverb says that the trees only prosper when the planter walks through them and talks to them, showing that their idea also was that man was necessary to the growth of the coco-nut palm.

The largest centres of cultivation are in the Eastern Hemisphere—in Ceylon, Dutch East Indies and the Philippines. An estimate of the number of acres devoted to coco-nuts and the average number of nuts produced annually by the different regions, as given by the Eastern Palm and Trading Syndicate, is probably as correct as it can possibly be.

	Acres.	Nuts.
British India and Dependencies...	380,000	1,400,000,000
Central America	370,000	300,000,000
Ceylon	800,000	2,200,000,000
Eastern Archipelago, including Philippines, New Guinea and Straits Settlements	260,000	2,000,000,000
Java and Sumatra	220,000	500,000,000
Mauritius, Madagascar, Zanzibar, Seychelles, and Reunion	130,000	50,000,000
Pacific Islands including Fiji and New Caledonia	270,000	350,000,000
Siam and Cochin China	100,000	100,000,000
South America	500,000	700,000,000
West Indies	110,000	125,000,000
West and East Africa	100,000	150,000,000
Total	3,240,000	7,875,000,000

This table does not include the vast tracts of land in the different countries where the coco-nut grows wild in quantities that can scarcely be ascertained.

Allowing 4,000 nuts to a ton of copra, the above quantity of nuts would make about 2,000,000 tons as the world's output, while in fact less than one-half of this amount is consumed, the value being about \$65,000,000.

It is estimated that of the world's product of coco-nuts 50 per cent. is consumed in the East and elsewhere as food; 20 per cent. is transformed into oil for use in the above regions, so that only 30 per cent. finds its way into the European and North American markets.

The varied products of the Coco-nut Palm.

So far as Western commerce is concerned, the principal products derived from the coco-nut palm are coco-nuts; copra, the dried kernel of the fruit, from which coco-nut oil is expressed; desiccated coco-nut prepared from the fresh kernel and largely employed for confectionery purposes, and coir fibre, which is prepared from the husk of the fruit. In tropical countries where it is grown, nearly every part of the tree is utilised by the natives. A favourite native drink, known as "tuba" in the Philippines and as "toddy" in the East, is obtained from the inflorescence before the flowers expand. As much as 6 pints a day is sometimes obtained from a single tree. After standing it ferments and becomes a beverage known as "palm wine." From the fermented liquid a spirit "arrack" is obtained by distillation, the yield being about 25 per cent. of the palm wine distilled. It is produced in large quantities in Ceylon, the Malay Peninsula and elsewhere in the East, where there is an important trade in it. By evaporating toddy before fermentation, "jaggery," or palm sugar, is formed.

Coir fibre obtained from the fibrous husk of the coco-nut fruit, is practically indestructible, does not harbour vermin and is free from offensive smell. It is used for the manufacture of door mats, carpets, brooms, brushes, bags and cordage. The refuse of the husk is used by gardeners to cover soil in bedding. The shell of the nut found within the husk is used for fuel, for drinking cups, spoons, lamps, etc.

The kernel or white flesh of the nut contains a high percentage of fat—about 70 per cent.—which is now largely used in various manufacturing industries, causing an increased demand. Coco-nut oil, as this fat is generally called, comes here, as a rule, in the form of white fat. It is extracted from the white flesh and has the taste and odour of the coco-nut. Cochin oil, prepared in Cochin India, is the whitest and finest in colour. Ceylon oil ranks next, and is expressed in large quantities.

Copra is the commercial name given to the sun-dried or kiln-dried strips of flesh, or kernel, of the coco-nut previous to the oil fat being extracted, and is exported in enormous quantities to Europe, where the oil is extracted. It is imported in sacks of 200

pounds. Malabar copra gives 68 per cent. of fat; Ceylon, 65 per cent.; Java, 62 per cent., and Manila, 59 per cent. The residue, sometimes called "poonac," is manufactured into cattle food cake. Four to five thousand full-sized coco-nuts yield about a ton of copra, which in turn yields 1,500 pounds of oil or fat.

Oil intended for food purposes is cold pressed, but when it is intended for manufacturing purposes heat is employed in the extraction. Copra oil is not as high-priced as the coco-nut oil, which is expressed on the spot where the nuts are grown. The oil or fat is extensively used in the manufacture of butter, margarine and other butter substitutes and soap. Fresh nuts are largely imported to manufacture desiccated coco-nut and for eating raw. Coco-nut butter is already in great demand in England, France and Germany. Its advantages are its purity, digestibility and the long time it can be kept. In England it is sold for from 12 to 15 cents a pound.

The Dutch East Indies exports more coco-nut products than any other country. In 1911 there were 266,578 tons of copra exported, valued at \$21,000,000. In 1912 the quantity fell off to 206,000 tons, and in 1913 to 190,000 tons. Of the 266,000 tons exported in 1911, the exports from Java amounted to 99,000 tons, and those from the other islands to 167,000 tons. The quantities exported to the leading countries were as follows: France, 78,536 tons; Netherlands, 73,425 tons; Singapore, 51,240 tons; Germany, 38,639 tons; Penang, 10,738 tons, and Austria, 6,773 tons.

The Philippines exported 115,602 tons of copra in 1911, valued at \$9,899,000; 169,342 tons in 1912, valued at \$16,514,000, and 113,053 tons in 1913, valued at \$11,647,000. This was a loss of nearly 30 per cent., and was caused by the serious damage to the coco-nut plantations in 1911 and 1912 by severe typhoons and unprecedented drought. The exports to France, which is the leading buyer, fell off 30 per cent. in quantity and 25 per cent. in value; those to the United States fell off two-thirds both in quantity and value.

Only a trifling portion of the copra output of the Dutch East Indies and the Philippines is shipped other than in the raw state. In 1913, however, 2,871,201 pounds of coco-nut oil valued at \$315,000, were exported from the Philippines. There has been established at Manila a large oil factory with modern equipments, and it is probable that the exports of the oil will steadily increase.

Ceylon, with an area of over 800,000 acres devoted to coco-nuts and an output of nuts estimated at over 2,200 million, exports a great variety of coco-nut products. The total value in 1912 was \$10,784,000, distributed as follows: Coco-nut oil, \$3,520,000; copra, \$3,360,000; desiccated coco-nut, \$2,230,000; coir and manufactures, \$1,010,000; fresh coco-nuts, \$411,000; poonac, \$253,000. There was an increase in 1913, but the quantities only and not the values are available at present. In 1913 there were 27,287 tons of coco-nut oil exported, an increase of

7,500 tons over 1912, of which 15,918 tons were to the United States and 2,227 tons to the United Kingdom. Of copra there were 57,706 tons exported in 1913, an increase of 26,300 tons. The principal purchasers were as follows: Germany, 40,314 tons; Russia, 12,094 tons. The exports of desiccated coco-nut amounted to 17,167 tons, an increase of 1,500 tons. The United Kingdom took 7,100 tons; the United States, 4,241 tons; Germany, 2,578 tons. The exports of fresh coco-nuts amounted to 16,858,000, an increase of about one million. Of the total, 11,294,000 were sold to the United Kingdom; 1,734,000 to Germany; 1,402,000 to Egypt, and 1,118,000 to Belgium. There was an increase in the exports of coir and manufactures of 1,600 tons, making the total for the year 18,613 tons. Of this amount the United Kingdom took 7,100 tons; Germany, 3,400 tons; Belgium, 2,600 tons. These increases in quantity will naturally make a large increase in the total value. Based on the prices of 1912 it would amount to about \$15,000,000 in 1913.

Religious uses of the coco-nut.

In India the coco-nut palm is found in the lower basin of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Irrawaddy Rivers and also along the Malabar and Coromandel coasts and adjacent islands. It is also found growing luxuriantly in the interior from 50 to 200 miles from the coast and at elevations of 2,000 to 3,000 feet. In the Bombay Presidency it is found in the south, and its chief value is in the rich supply of toddy it affords. Here the Hindus at the coco-nut festival at the end of the monsoon throw coco-nuts into the sea to propitiate the God of Storms.

In Cochin and Travancore along the Malabar coast is found the chief seat of the coco-nut industry of India. From Cochin, Calicut and ports of this region 99 per cent. of the copra and poonac, 96 per cent. of the coco-nut oil, and 75 per cent. of the coir exported from India is shipped. Very few coco-nuts are exported from India. In 1913 there were only 407,967, valued at \$7,500. The value of the copra was \$4,896,000. Of the total quantity exported—36,840 tons—28,287 tons were to Germany; 2,242 tons to Russia; 1,492 tons to the United Kingdom. There were 1,111,112 gallons of coco-nut oil exported, valued at \$773,000, of which one-half was to the United States, 20 per cent to the United Kingdom, and 14 per cent. to Germany. Of coir manufactured, 77,432 cwts. were exported, valued at \$2,976,000, of which 238,304 cwts. were to the United Kingdom and 195,078 cwts. to Germany. The total value of the exports of all coco-nut products from India is \$9,000,000.

These four countries are the leading exporters of coco-nut products. The Straits Settlements exported \$8,000,000 worth, but this is made up almost entirely of the products of the Dutch East Indies and the Malay States. Most of the islands of the Pacific included under British Oceania (Australia, Christmas Island, Papua and Borneo), German Oceania and French Oceania export copra, and in some of

them it is the principal export. There are also small quantities exported from West Africa. In South America, Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela are the largest exporters. In North America, Mexico, Central America and some of the West India Islands export the nuts mainly to the United States. Jamaica exported 23,000,000 nuts in 1912, valued at \$543,000. Trinidad and Tobago exported 17,000,000 nuts, valued at \$321,000, also \$144,000 worth of copra. Of the nuts exported 11,000,000 were shipped to the United States, 4,600,000 to Canada, and 608,000 to the United Kingdom. Porto Rico exported nuts to the value of \$321,000; Cuba, \$109,784, and Santo Domingo, \$22,023. These values indicate how insignificant the trade is in comparison with the Eastern countries, and also brings out the fact that most of the trade is in nuts.

As already said only about 30 per cent of the coco-nut products are consumed in Europe and North America, yet this is a large amount. The imports of these products into the five leading countries are valued at \$100,000,000. In some of these exact values are not given in the official statistics. In Germany, France, Holland and the United Kingdom, copra is the leading item, while in the United States coco-nut oil is the chief product.

Germany's demand for copra.

In 1913 the value of the imports into Germany was \$27,000,000, of which copra amounted to \$24,000,000, or more than double what it was in 1909. There were 196,449 tons of copra imported, the countries of origin being the Dutch East Indies, 80,883 tons; India, 53,392 tons; Ceylon, 27,624 tons; Philippine Islands, 12,905 tons; German Oceania, 7,323 tons; Christmas Island, etc., 4,013 tons; Malay States, 3,666 tons; Samoa, 3,059 tons; French Oceania, 1,349 tons; British West Africa, 506 tons, and Colombia, 168 tons. Germany also imported 5,476 tons of nuts, of which 80 per cent. came from Ceylon; 2,114 tons of coir fibre, of which nearly two-thirds came from India and one-third from Ceylon, and 10,000 tons of yarn, of which 80 per cent. came from India. Only 594 tons of coco-nut oil were imported into Germany, while 24,877 tons, valued at \$5,000,000, were exported, 80 per cent. being shipped to the United Kingdom.

France ranks second as an importer of coco-nut products, the value in 1913 being estimated at \$22,000,000. The French official statistics do not give copra as a separate item, so that it is necessary to depend upon the reports of the Marseilles Chamber of Commerce for the amount of copra imported. In 1913 there were 3,856 tons of coco-nut oil imported, two-thirds of which came from Germany, and 5,744 tons of nuts, of which 40 per cent. came from Colombia. There were 175,000 tons of copra imported into Marseilles in 1912, from which 100,000 tons of oil and 64,000 tons of oilcake were produced. Thirty per cent. of the oil manufactured is for edible purposes, as coco-nut butter, of which the principal brands are Vegetaline, Coco

Fruitinge, Cocosene, Cocogene, and 70 per cent. is used for soap making. Marseilles is the great centre for making oil from seeds and fruits. There are four large copra crushing plants in Marseilles, besides a number of smaller ones. Large quantities of oil are exported, and 9,520 tons of coco-nut butter were exported in 1912.

Holland imported, under the head of general imports, 149,959 tons of copra in 1912. The quantity from the leading countries of origin were: Dutch East Indies, 121,349 tons; Straits Settlements, 13,146 tons, and India, 7,873 tons. The total value of the imports was about \$20,000,000. In 1912 the value of the 102,330 tons imported for use was \$15,000,000, and that of the 20,000 tons of oil was \$4,000,000.

The value of the imports into the United Kingdom was \$19,000,000. There were 622,801 cwts. of unrefined oil imported, of which 397,016 cwts. came from Germany, 140,771 cwts. from Ceylon, 26,000 cwts. from Australia, 20,000 cwts. from India, and 21,000 cwts. from Denmark. There were also 546,742 cwts. of refined oil imported, of which 210,604 cwts. came from Germany; 194,000 cwts. from France; 66,000 cwts. from Denmark, and 53,000 cwts. from Belgium. The value of the oil imported was \$3,600,000. The United Kingdom imported only 30,868 tons of copra, valued at \$4,480,000. Of this 7,377 tons came from Australia, 6,126 tons from the Straits Settlements, 5,404 tons from New Zealand, 3,410 tons from the Philippines, 3,185 tons from India, and 1,094 tons from French Oceania. There were 332,234 cwts. of coir yarn imported, valued at \$1,663,000, of which 251,571 cwts. came from India and 75,221 cwts. from Ceylon.

The United States imported in the fiscal year 1913 coco-nuts in the shell to the value of \$1,781,377, of which \$1,625,000 came from North America and \$106,000 from South America. The values by countries were: Jamaica, \$593,060; Trinidad, \$274,208; Honduras, \$259,199; Panama, \$244,901; Cuba, \$178,373; British Honduras, \$103,340; Colombia, \$100,382; French Oceania, \$30,384. There was also \$324,000 worth imported from Porto Rico not included in the above. There were 17,000 tons of copra imported valued at \$1,531,000, of which 11,763 tons came from the Philippines, 3,342 tons from French Oceania, 1,000 tons from British Oceania, 686,000 tons from German Oceania, 212 tons from Trinidad. Of desiccated or prepared coco-nut meat 3,300 tons, valued at \$493,768, were imported. Of this 2,928 tons came from the British East Indies and 341 tons from the United Kingdom. Of coir yarn 3,661 tons were imported, valued at \$312,049, of which 2,760 tons came from India and 750 tons from Ceylon.

Indication of a boom in coco-nut lands.

Owing to the growing scarcity of animal fats the United States, as well as Europe, is turning its attention to the coco-nut. Along the Florida Keys are

found the largest plantings of coco-nut trees in North America. Almost every house has a grove and they form a striking feature of the horizon line. Very few coco-nuts are, however, shipped away, all the fruit gathered being consumed locally. Cheap labour is needed for husking the nuts and lower freights for shipping them in order to make their cultivation profitable. It is an open question whether coco-nut cultivation will ever become profitable in Florida, although there are some who think it will.

Porto Rico, Cuba and other West India Islands and other countries of North and South America grow coco-nuts, but the supply from these sources is not sufficient to meet the growing demand. At present the United States imports about 50,000,000 nuts and 50,000 tons of copra annually. This is used mainly by the confectioners, soap makers and other manufacturing industries. In Europe the use of coco-nut oil in the manufacture of butter is adding to the already great demand for these nuts. It is estimated that the total value of the output of coco-nut products of all kinds in all countries amounts to over \$300,000,000, and this value is growing at a rapid rate, because of the increase in price as well as in quantity. There is every indication that there will soon be a boom in coco-nut lands just as there has been lately in rubber lands.

Over 25 per cent. of all the coco-nuts raised in the world are grown in America, but as they are scattered over a larger area than in Asia, the collecting and shipping of them is more difficult and expensive. On this account the large stretches of coco-nut groves in America have never been largely exploited for coco-nuts. It is probable, however, that the completion of the Panama Canal and increasing demand, causing higher prices for coco-nuts than in former years, will result in a large increase of the trade in coco-nuts raised in America.

BRITISH GUIANA RUBBER.

Mr. Oliphant Devitt, of Messrs. Lewis and Peat, has kindly reported upon the rubber from British Guiana shown at the recent International Rubber Exhibition. On the day in which the report was drawn up fine hard Para rubber was quoted 2s. 10½d. and plantation rubber 2s. 3d. Mr. Devitt's report is as follows:—

HILLS ESTATE, BARTICA.—Good, clean, well prepared Hevea biscuits, in very fair condition, but some a little resinous when stretched. Quite a good sample of the grade. Value 2s. 2d.

NOTGEDACHT ESTATE.—Sample of biscuits exhibited by W. Hodgson, Esq. Fair, large, thin Hevea biscuits all fairly well prepared, but too thin. All more or less soft and stuck. Probably require more washing and should be thicker. Value 2s. 1d.

Small irregular sheets, rather too thin, and consequently some stuck—otherwise well prepared. All slightly soft and weakish. Value 2s. 1d.

LEONORA ESTATE.—Sample of biscuits shown by Messrs. Sandbach, Parker & Co. (1) Small Hevea biscuits, mostly well prepared, but some insufficiently dried, otherwise a fair sample of the grade. Value 2s.

Samples of biscuits shown by Messrs. Booker, Bros., McConnell and Co.—Similar to the above, but also very wet and mouldy, packed in bad condition. Value 1s. 11½d.

ONDERNEEMING FARM.—Shown by Board of Agriculture. A large sample fine, well prepared Hevea biscuits, in good condition. A very good example of the grade. Value 2s.

ISSORORA ESTATE.—Large samples of Para biscuits shown by Board of Agriculture. All good to fine quality Hevea biscuits, well prepared and in good condition. An excellent example of the grade.

Small sample of fairly clean, brown Scrap, in good condition, and well selected and cleaned, better quality than is usual for this grade. Value 1s. 8d.

BALATA.—Demerara, thin and medium amber sheet, Prime selected and clean. To-day's value (for small lot) 2s. 6d. per lb. (½d. more for a large lot).

Demerara Character: thin and thick amber to dark sheet, Pile 1 selected, part brittle. Value 2s. 6d. per lb.

All the above rubber is good and readily saleable in the market, but in one of two instances, a little more washing and more care in preparation generally would certainly improve the quality. The Hills Estate biscuits, also those from Issodora Estate are very good, but it will be found that the making of biscuits takes up too much room, and a small rolling machine to make sheets will very soon be required, if any useful out-turn is expected. Altogether the samples shown are most satisfactory, and certainly an improvement on those shown at the last exhibition.

GIFTS FROM THE WEST INDIES.

The West India Committee has been informed by Sir Walter Egerton, K.C.M.G., the Governor of British Guiana, that a branch of the National Relief Fund has been started in that colony, while from Trinidad comes the announcement that a Patriotic Fund has been opened in Port of Spain.

The following telegrams have been exchanged between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governors of Barbados and Jamaica:—

The Governor of Barbados to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, August 25th:—

The House of Assembly desires that £20,000 from the Colonial Treasury should be granted to His Majesty's Government as a gladly-offered contribution to the expenditure on the righteous war now being waged by the Mother Country, as a symbol of loyalty and attachment.—PROBYN.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of Barbados, August 26th:—

His Majesty's Government gratefully accept the generous offer of the House of Assembly, and they highly appreciate the spirit in which Barbados, through its elected representatives, endorses the justice of the British cause and hastens to its support. The gift would be most welcome in the form of sugar so far as practicable.—HARCOURT.

The Governor of Jamaica to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, September 1st:—

"The people of Jamaica unanimously desire to contribute to the Imperial Government in some way towards the expenses of the war other than its

own local defence. I should be glad to know if a gift from Jamaica of sugar from next crop would be acceptable to His Majesty's Government.—**MANNING.**"

"The Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of Jamaica :—

"His Majesty's Government heartily appreciate patriotic and generous offer of people of Jamaica, and would find a gift of sugar most acceptable.

"**HARCOURT.**"

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS.

Duckett's Spring, Jamaica.

By FRANK CUNDALL.

The Scarletts were amongst the earliest settlers in Jamaica. Captain Francis Scarlett, the son of Benjamin Scarlett, of Eastbourne, in Sussex, came out with Penn and Venables, but as his name is not mentioned in the "perfect list of all the forces under the command of His Excellency General Venables, Taken at muster, March 21st, 1654," he presumably must then have held rank below that of Captain. He patented lands on the Wag Water in the 28th year of Charles II and bought neighbouring land in the vicinity of the present Temple Hall estate. In the "Survey of the Island of Jamaica" sent home by Modyford in 1670, he is put down as owning 1,000 acres in St. Andrew, in which parish there were then 104 families, and people "by estimation," 1,552. Only five men—Archbold, Hope, Howell, Parker (his neighbour) and Totlill were larger landowners in the parish than Scarlett at that time. He was recorded as Captain Francis Scarlett, member of the Assembly for St. Andrew in 1680-1, his co-member being Colonel Samuel Barry. He returned to England, and died unmarried in Eastbourne; leaving his estate to his nephew, William Scarlett of the Middle Temple. It is interesting to note that one of his executors to whom he left legacies was Sir Bartholomew Gracedieu of London, Agent for Jamaica in England. A William Scarlett of Port Royal, merchant, named as one of the Commissioners to take the evidence of certain witnesses in the chancery suit of Elizabeth Smart versus John Parnaby, in 1685, may be identical with Francis's nephew.

On the 24th of April, 1673-74, Colonel Samuel Barry and Captain George Nedham took to the Council from the Assembly, with four other bills, a bill for compensating the loss of "Mr. Nicholas Scarlett, received by the pursuit of the rebellious negroes at Legonca." This was read three times and sent to the Assembly with the amendment in the sixth line after "be it enacted by the governor and council" add "and the representatives of the Commons of this island now assembled and by the authority thereof, that the said Nicholas etc. . . ." On the 17th of May it passed the House. A similar

bill was No. 14 on the list of 40 bills brought out by the Earl of Carlisle. It was voted "not to pass" on the 11th of October, 1678, the Committee's reasons against it being :—"because Mr. Scarlett hath been in England since, and when the former act was first made it was intended to continue only during the residence here, and, that if notwithstanding any further consideration ought to be had it were better that the entire sum were given, rather than to enlarge anything upon the revenue." What relation Nicholas Scarlett was to Francis Scarlett is not evident. He is not mentioned in the latter's will. The first William Scarlett, nephew of Francis Scarlett, was succeeded by his only son William. This William (the second) was married in 1705 in the parish church of St. Andrew to Judith, daughter and co-heiress of Gideon Lecount of St. Jago de la Vega. She must have been very young, for she was not of age three years later. He and his wife sold the Wag Water estate, some of it to Sir Nicholas Lawes, the rest to James Herbert of St. Andrew, planter; and from that time onwards the fortunes of the Scarletts were connected with the western parishes of the island. His wife had the Lecount Estate in the parish of St. John, which she parted with to Francis Morgan, mariner, her brother-in-law, he being the husband of her sister Elisabeth. This William (the second) had a son William, baptised in St. Andrew's parish church on the 17th of January, 1711, but he is the only child so recorded. His (William II) second son, James Scarlett, had estates in St. James, which by his will, proved in 1777, he left amongst his eleven children. This James's second son was the Robert Scarlett of Duckett's Spring, who was born in 1737, probably in St. James. He died in 1798, and was buried in Montego Bay on the 18th of March. He owned Duckett's Spring, Success Estate and Forest Pen in St. James; Scarlett's Hall (not far from Rose Hall and Palmyra) was a property of the family. Like most of the principal planters he held a commission in the Militia, being in 1873 1st Major of the Western Division of Horse. At the same time James Scarlett was 1st Lieutenant of the Leeward Troop, and John Scarlett was 1st Cornet of the St. James's Troop. His wife was Elizabeth Anglin, daughter of Philip Anglin, of Paradise Estate, who was born on the 25th of June, 1747, and married firstly to one John Wright, a planter, who was killed in her presence by revolted slaves in 1763 or 1764, in the month of March, on the estate of a Mr. Griswold. In 1765 she married Robert Scarlett, and had by him thirteen children, but only four sons and three daughters survived their father, the four sons being :—Philip Anglin Scarlett, Custos and member of Assembly for Hanover from 1816 till his death in 1823; James Scarlett, "Silver tongued Scarlett," afterwards Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer and first Lord Abinger; Robert Scarlett, M.D., of Edinburgh, 1795, member of the Assembly for St. James, in 1803-07 and later of the Council; and Sir William Anglin Scarlett. Elizabeth Anglin died in 1828 at Montego Bay, and was

buried there on the 28th of August. Her mother, Mary, daughter of John Lawrence, is said to have been the great grand-daughter of Henry Lawrence, Lord President of the Council to Oliver Cromwell; but there is reason to doubt the accuracy of this oft-repeated tradition. Born in 1713, she died in 1797.

Philip Anglin Scarlett, member of the Assembly for Hanover, was the eldest son of Robert Scarlett of Duckett's Spring, and the owner of Cambridge estate, where the railway now runs on the way to Montego Bay, and near the road to Duckett's.

William Anglin Scarlett was born on June 24th, 1777. He died at Grove Pen in Manchester, on the 9th of October, 1831, and lies buried at Mandeville. The following is the inscription on his tombstone:—"Here rest the mortal remains of the Honourable Sir William Scarlett, Knight, ten years Chief Justice of Jamaica. He died October 9th, 1831, aged 54. 'The memory of the just is blessed.'" He married in July, 1809, Mary, daughter of Joseph Williams of Luana Estate in the parish of St. Elizabeth: in that year he was member of the Assembly for St. James. He became Chief Justice of Jamaica in 1821; and was knighted in 1829. His widow survived him for one year, dying at Worthing in Sussex, England, in 1832. In 1823 he presided over the trial of Augustus Hardin Beaumont, the proprietor of a somewhat scandalous paper called *The Trifler*, first published in that year, for a libel on the Governor, the Duke of Manchester. The trial was the first to take place in the new court house, Kingston, which, wrecked by the earthquake of 1907 was only pulled down yesterday. The trial lasted for fourteen hours finishing at 12.30 a.m. and ended in a verdict of "Not Guilty." On leaving the court house the Chief Justice and Attorney General (William Burge) were hissed and pelted with stones.

In the rebellion of 1831 the great house and works on both Cambridge and Duckett's Spring were destroyed. On the former were 196 slaves, on the latter 221. At the time of emancipation nine Scarletts owned properties in Hanover, Trelawny, St. James, St. Ann, St. Thomas-in-the-Vale and Kingston, with an aggregate of 327 slaves.

At Cambridge is still to be seen a family burial vault. At Duckett's are the remains of the works and the great-house. The latter was a square building of stone, with two loop-holed circular towers at diagonally opposite corners. A similar arrangement is observable at The Cottage, on Cow Park, hard by, in Westmorland.

In the Portrait Gallery of the Institute of Jamaica, are photographic reproductions of five oil paintings of members and connections of the Scarlett family, in the possession of Lord Abinger: Robert Scarlett of Duckett's Spring; Elizabeth Anglin, his wife; Mary Anglin, mother of Elizabeth Anglin; Philip Anglin Scarlett, the eldest son of Robert; and his fourth son, Sir William Anglin Scarlett, Chief Justice of Jamaica. In the portrait of Robert Scarlett, a slave boy who holds the game bag was called Oliver. He was entailed at his master's death.

AT WESTMINSTER.

West Indian Cable Rates.

In the House of Commons on August 26, Mr. Montagu, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, moved "That the Agreement, dated the 10th day of August, 1914, between His Majesty's Government, the Government of the Dominion of Canada, the Crown Agents for the Colonies, and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited, for the reduction of rates in respect of telegrams passing over the company's system, be approved."

Mr. King: The right hon. Member for West Birmingham (Mr. Chamberlain) protested a little time ago against any business that was not emergency business being proceeded with. I am quite sure that he will not oppose this business which has nothing to do with the War, but is the ordinary business concerning the Empire. Upon that sort of business I think we ought to adopt as our motto, which is put up outside, "Business as usual." I hope a little explanation will be given of the Resolution, because there are a good many points which arise. I want first of all to ask what the previous amount of the subsidy was which was given by the Imperial Government and the Colonial Governments respectively. That is not stated, and I want to know whether it has been reduced or increased. Another point which is very material to the consideration of the Resolution is this: What has been the average gross income of the company during the past five years? A very large amount of reduction has been brought about under the subsidy. If the gross income ever reaches £74,000, and if in any year after the fourth year it reaches £126,000, a very large reduction in the rates paid for cablegrams will be due. We ought to know what prospect there is of those reductions being brought about, especially as affecting the public. I should like to know whether the company—I know it has had very great ups and downs, years of prosperity and cycles of comparative loss—has ever hitherto come up to £126,000 in one year? If so, there ought to be a prospect, especially in connection with the opening of the Panama Canal, of an increase of income, and a consequent reduction of the rates for cablegrams.

There are one or two further points I should like to see gone into. One is that in Clause 6 of the agreement there are provisions for deferred or delayed cablegrams at reduced rates. Will that be worked in connection with week-end telegrams that have been so very welcome and so much used by private persons for family matters in the Colonies? I see the representative of the Post Office on the Treasury Bench, and I hope he will enlighten us on that point. One further point. In connection with Clause 10 of the agreement daily news bulletins are to be issued free of charge to the Colonies. I am quite sure that at a time like this news from the centre of the Empire ought to be extended freely, and so far as concerns people in all parts of the Empire, I hope that the right hon. Gentleman will be able to assure us there will be, comparatively speaking, no restriction upon the daily bulletins that will be sent to the Colonies. Incidentally, in that connection, perhaps the right hon. Gentleman will inform us whether this system of news bulletins to the Colonies on public matters will have operation in regard to other parts of the Empire. In conclusion, I should like to congratulate the Treasury upon being able to bring forward an agreement of this kind, and I will point out to the House what very large reductions are being made. The rate to British Guiana at present is 5s. 6d. a word, and the British Government in future is only to pay 2s. 6d.; another rate of 4s. 1d. per word is in future to be only 1s. 6d. I am sure that this sort of

reduction on behalf of the various centres of Empire is greatly to be welcomed, especially by this House.

Mr. Montagu: This is not war business, but simply a case where the House is asked before the Session comes to a close to ratify an agreement entered into with our Colonies, largely at their request, to facilitate cheap and rapid telegraphic communication with the West Indies. The hon. Member has asked what are the subsidies at the present moment. We have paid two subsidies, one of £8,100 and the other of £8,000 a year. The first subsidy has already expired and the second one comes to an end in 1918. The liability under the new subsidy is £8,000. As to the other questions asked by the hon. Gentleman, they should be addressed to the Post Office rather than to the Financial Secretary.

The Resolution was agreed to.

West Indian Cable Facilities.

Replying to Mr. King on August 31st, Mr. Hobhouse said that it was not proposed to introduce week-end telegrams, at reduced rates, for the West Indian Colonies as one of the results of the new agreement with the West India and Panama Telegraph Company. The company would, however, give a deferred service at half the reduced ordinary rates.

Protection for English Sugar.

On August 31st Mr. C. Bathurst asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in view of the present and prospective shortage of beet sugar and the high price of all kinds of sugar, the Government would encourage the erection of beet sugar factories this autumn and the sowing of sugar beet in Great Britain next spring by exempting Home-grown sugar from Excise Duty for the next ten years.

Mr. Montagu, in reply, said: The Government have, of course, no intention in the present circumstances of proposing an Excise Duty on Home-grown sugar.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

Progressive Turks Islands.

Under the regime of Mr. F. H. Watkins, Commissioner from 1906 to the present year, when he was transferred to the Windward Islands as Colonial Secretary, Turks and Caicos Islands have made substantial headway. This is shown by the figures of the revenue and expenditure and imports and exports of the last five years, which are given in Mr. Watkin's report on the Blue-book for 1913 as under:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Imports.	Exports.
1909	7,748	7,454	25,262	18,936
1910	8,648	6,827	27,916	24,461
1911	8,318	7,695	24,722	23,703
1912	8,215	8,092	27,662	25,947
1913	10,867	8,505	30,231	27,808

Including £800 in 1909 for Hurricane Relief.

The direction of the trade of the islands during 1913 was as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
United Kingdom	3,861	—
British Colonies	9,088	7,806
Foreign Countries	17,282	20,002
	30,231	27,808

Salt, sponges and conchs were the chief articles

of export. In addition to the ideal conditions for salt raking which prevailed during the year, the outlook for the staple industry was brightened by the placing of salt on the free list of the United States tariff, which will, even if the price is not increased, aid in causing a steady demand for what is produced in the islands. The difficulty of obtaining charters of vessels at moderate rates still continues, the result being that a quantity equal to an average annual raking remained on hand at the end of the year. The present time is one of comparative prosperity to the salt pond owners, who, in view of the lessons of the past will be well advised to take advantage of the Government grants and propitious years to free themselves as much as possible from the burden of debt which has overwhelmed them in the past, and to combine in measures for the reduction of the cost of production to enable them to meet on more equal terms their competitors in the limited markets still remaining open to salt imported into the United States. The favourable prices for sisal in 1912 were not maintained, not a single bale, in consequence, being exported during the past year, which is a convincing proof of the fluctuating character of the fibre industry, which can only be carried on with financial success by strict adherence to rigid economy in cultivation and by the absence of heavy charges on borrowed capital.

In concluding his interesting report, Mr. Watkins writes: "After a decade of misfortunes and depression, it is pleasant to be able to point to signs of improvement in the immediate future, but, in writing of islands so wholly dependent on precarious industries and uncertain climatic conditions, it is safer to indulge in pious hopes than in sanguine prophecy, and to consolidate their financial position to meet every conceivable emergency."

Bermuda's Tourist Traffic.

It has frequently been suggested in the CIRCULAR that record might be kept of the number of tourists visiting the various British West Indian islands. The neighbouring colony of Bermuda keeps an accurate record of visitors, and the publication of the following figures from Mr. R. Popham Lobb's report for 1913 may induce the authorities in the West Indian islands to follow the example.

Mr. R. Popham Lobb gives this table showing the monthly number of visitors to Bermuda during the past six years:—

	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
January	556	676	1436	2142	2906	2096
February	1036	1747	2437	3801	3735	4217
March	1012	2537	2851	3830	3596	3649
April	322	1863	1557	2322	2164	1351
May	97	998	671	545	789	723
June	148	514	648	806	748	741
July	229	638	896	2755	1287	1118
August	182	801	1354	2460	1695	1595
September	292	323	1253	2298	1465	1647
October	505	645	953	2529	1158	1448
November	523	745	702	1309	1466	1131
December	516	1022	772	2152	1909	1881
Total	5418	12509	15485	27045	21918	21595

NOTES OF INTEREST.

MR. CECIL LUBBOCK, a nephew of Sir Nevile Lubbock, K.C.M.G., President of the West India Committee, has been elected Member of the Hudson's Bay Company.

* * *

It is expected that the refinery erected at St. John, New Brunswick by the Atlantic Sugar Refineries, Ltd., will be in operation within a few weeks from now.

* * *

THE *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse* which now lies at the bottom of the sea riddled by shot and shell from H.M.S. *Highflyer* is the vessel which collided with the R.M.S.P. *Orinoco* at Cherbourg on November 21st, 1905.

* * *

THE Government of the Dominion of Canada have accepted for the Canadian Continent, 5,000 lbs. of chocolate offered by the Cowan Co., Limited, of Toronto, who are purchasers of considerable quantities of British West Indian cacao.

* * *

By means of home made and borrowed instruments the Barbados Volunteers have managed to rig up and work a little wireless installation. They have picked up messages from a distance of 100 miles or more and have spoken over some 20 or 30 miles.

* * *

MISS WOOD, stenographer and shorthand writer to the West India Committee was in Paris at the outbreak of hostilities. She went there to study French, and with the approval of the Committee, offered her services to the British Embassy, where she remained until the Government left Paris.

* * *

GEORGE HUSSEY, one of the clerks of the West India Committee has joined the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry—a regiment which saw much active service in the West Indies in the old days—for the war. He will receive full pay and his position at Seething Lane will be kept open for him.

* * *

THE Expenditure on the Panama Canal to May 31 last amounted to \$329,676,058.11 which includes the following items: Civil administration, \$7,110,437.93; Department of Law \$60,109.73; Department of sanitation, \$17,299,537.96; Construction and engineering, \$208,458,690.49; General items, \$90,330,597.25; and Fortifications, \$6,416,884.75.

* * *

SUB-LIEUT. CHARLES P. BERTHON, R.N., a son of Mr. Claude T. Berthon, Consulting Sugar Engineer, received his baptism of fire in the recent scrap in the North Sea. He is in H.M.S. *Phoenix* of the 1st Destroyer Flotilla and was near the V. 187 when she was sunk. Mr. Berthon's second son is a midshipman in H.M.S. *Agamemnon*, with the 6th Squadron of the 2nd Fleet.

MUCH sympathy will be felt with Mr. Robert Bryson, the managing director of Geo. W. Bennett Bryson and Co., Ltd., of Antigua, upon the death of his wife, which took place at Brighton on September 2nd. Mrs. Bryson, who was the eldest daughter of the Mr. W. H. Leared, of Cahirciveen in Ireland, enjoyed great popularity in Antigua and will be much missed by many friends.

* * *

THE results of the Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company for crop 1913 are just published. The total weight of cane put through the mill was 362,483 (short) tons and from these 50,310 tons of sugar of 98° polarisation—or 13.89 per cent.—were obtained, as against 14.58 per cent. for the previous year. The grinding for crop 1914 commenced on the 11th November, and up to the end of February a yield of 7.9 tons to the acre of sugar had been yielded. The profit on the sugar for crop 1913 amounted to \$794,745.

* * *

IN spite of the cyclones of the previous years, the export of coco-nuts from Jamaica showed an increase of 820,000 nuts last year, and it is expected that the present year's figures will quite come up to the 26,000,000 nuts of 1902. The exports of cotton rose in 1913 to the value of £4,000. It was mostly grown by small settlers in Vere. The prospects of a rubber industry are not encouraging. Mr. Cousins repeats his statement of 1908-9 that he could not "recommend the planters of Jamaica to spend money in the cultivation of any rubber producing tree yet tested in the island."

* * *

DR. LOUIS S. MEIKLE, M.D., D.D.S., Graduate of the Medical and Dental Colleges, Howard University, Washington, is understood to be the prime mover of new body to be called "West Indian Confederation Committee." He was born in Manchester, Jamaica and is author of a work called "Confederation of the British West Indies versus Annexation to the United States," the object of which is "to record in a concrete form the aspirations of the people of the British West Indian Possessions to liberal political freedom." He cannot be said to represent in any way the official, mercantile or industrial interests of the West Indies.

* * *

"One of the Britannic People" in a letter on Cane v. Beet, published in the *Outlook* of August 29th writes:—

There is plenty of fine cane-land unexploited in the British Tropics owing to lack of encouragement. Security and continuity of policy are needed before capitalists can be induced to venture into a large and costly industry like sugar. Our Chancellor of the Exchequer will need all the funds he can get in the future, and to obtain a real British cane-sugar industry he might put back the former import duty confining it to non-British foreign sugar only, and admit all British-grown cane-sugar free. This will result ultimately in obtaining a large British sugar industry; finally in the British consumers getting duty-free sugar, and also in making us quite independent of Germany, Austria, and other foreign non-British countries for inferior beet-sugar.—I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

THE LONDON LETTER.

GREAT BRITAIN is awakening to the task that lies before her. The country to-day possesses a clearer perception of her responsibilities in the European struggle than was the case a fortnight ago. In no quarter is there any disposition to regard this as "a parade to Pretoria." The slow but steady advance of the German forces first through Belgium and now to within reach of the fortifications of Paris has sufficed to dispel any illusions. It has taken the English people some little time to get accustomed to the new conditions, but now that the situation is becoming accurately focussed there is eagerness to meet it

THE awakening of the ancient spirit of the people is seen in the growing response to the demand for men. At one time it was feared in certain quarters that resort might become necessary to some form of compulsion. Doubts were entertained of the early enlistment otherwise of the hundreds of thousands required. But in a moment there has developed a rush to the colours. It must be remembered that in this war the ordinary aids to recruiting are absent. The sounds of martial music, the march past of armed men in gay uniforms are missing. Not spectacular display but quiet unreported movements are the order of the day. Men proceed to the seat of war swiftly but silently, and brief official statements are our only reliable source of information regarding the conduct of our army at the front.

THESE plain unvarnished tales, however, have provided the stimulus to recruiting. Lord Kitchener's terse account of the British stand against overwhelming odds has done more than thrill the nation. It has stirred within the young men the spirit of emulation with the result that recruiting offices throughout the country are undergoing a prolonged siege. Recently within three days London provided 20,000 men. Patriotic effort on a like scale is reported from the provinces. Great cities, such as Birmingham and Leeds have set up a friendly rivalry in the furnishing of men. Political parties having buried their differences are combining in a campaign for the increase of the Army. Ministers and ex-Ministers speak from a common platform on behalf of the same object. The villagers are being canvassed.

NOTABLE is the aid lent by the chief employers of the country. Half-pay—in some cases full pay—is promised to employees proceeding to the front, with a promise of work on their return. Even the taxi-drivers of the Metropolis have joined the ranks of the missionaries. Literally they have "painted the town red." The taxis as they race along wear the motto in large red letters "Enlist for the War." Throughout the suburbs huge posters in type of like colour indicate an Army Recruiting Depot.

IF other incentive to patriotism were lacking it would be found in the return of our wounded from the front. Not merely "Patient under their sufferings," but happy and cheerful in regard to their experiences, their one desire is to return to the war. The note of optimism sounded by these men is a tonic to the nation as a whole.

MEANWHILE the country is endeavouring to live up to the motto "Business as usual." Tightness of money there is; a wise economy is being exercised; every section of the community is feeling some measure of financial strain. The security of the food supply, however, has removed one of the chief causes of anxiety, and a stranger visiting London might see little outward sign of the existence of a great war. He might even be misled into the belief that this continued absorption in business indicated a spirit of indifference. Any relaxation of activity, however, could result only in a moral and material damage to the national well-being.

THE capture of Germany's markets, now the special care of the Board of Trade and of our manufacturers, will have to be achieved by scientific methods if it is to be successful. So much is being realised as the campaign progresses. That is to say, German methods, their good and bad points, will have to be studied if this great opportunity is to be seized. Defects in our own system will have to be made good. This great share of the world's trade will not fall to us unless our manufacturers adapt themselves to the requirements of their prospective customers.

THE gallant conduct of France's coloured troops—the Turcos from Africa—invites the query whether Great Britain has made the most of the excellent material to be found in her own tropical colonies. No branch of the negro race is more thoroughly permeated by loyalty and zeal than its representatives in the West Indies. When we recall the records of the West Indian troops in Napoleonic days we are induced to ask whether the black men of the Caribbean might not be employed on a much larger scale for Imperial service as distinct from purely local defensive purposes.

MR. ALFRED PLOWDEN, the well-known magistrate, who died last month left estate of the value of £1,113. In his will he expressed indifference as to whether his body was interred or cremated, but left on record his desire that his executors should see to it that "there is no shadow of doubt as to my death before I am put into my coffin."

IT cannot be too widely known in the West Indies that the mobilisation of the Defence Forces and Volunteers forms part of the plan of the Imperial Defence Committee who should be loyally supported by all classes.

NATURE NOTES.

It is reported that a new method of obtaining nitrogen from the air for fertilizing purposes has been invented and put to practical application in Sweden. It is said that the process, which is secret, is not an electric one, and is much cheaper than the two existing processes.

* * *

THE addition of sugar to soils, say Messrs. Martin and Robson, so decreases the soluble nitrogen content as to cause a deficiency in nitrogen for crops, produces an increase in nitrate assimilation in all soils and a loss of gaseous nitrogen from the sand and loam soils. These investigators found that sulphate of ammonia decomposed more rapidly in all soils when sugar was added, but that there was no corresponding increase in nitrate formation.

* * *

MR. W. CRADWICK, in the *Journal* of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, advocates the use of sulphate of iron as a wash for preventing the growth of moss and lichens on citrus and cacao trees. The best proportion has been found to be one pound of lime to one gallon of water, and one pound of sulphate of iron to one gallon of water. On citrus trees it should, says Mr. Cradwick, be applied as vigorously as possible with the coarsest brush obtainable. To cacao it should be applied gently with a light brush.

* * *

VALUABLE work in the direction of the chemistry of flower pigments has recently been carried out by Professor Willstätter of Berlin. Proof has now been obtained that the reds, blues, and purples of flowers belong to one class of chemical compounds, and, moreover, are closely related to the yellows. These pigments have the power of combining with acids to form substances which vary in colour from bright red to magenta, whereas by uniting with alkali a blue colour is produced. The dream of a blue rose or a red corn-flower may thus be realised by horticulturists.

* * *

ACCORDING to the *Journal* of the Royal Society of Arts some attention has of late been directed in Lyons to an artificial wood, which it is stated, will be of great value as a substitute for natural wood. The process by which it is prepared consists in transforming straw into a solid material having the resistance of oak. The straw, after being cut into small pieces, is reduced by boiling to a paste, to which certain chemicals are added. When the paste has been reduced to a homogeneous mass it is put into presses, and planks, beams, laths, and mouldings of all sizes are readily made. This new material can be sawn like natural wood. As a fuel it emits a bright flame and little smoke. It is further stated to be adaptable to the manufacture of match stems. It will never replace greenheart.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The West Indies and the War.

Residents in the West Indies were becoming gradually accustomed to the new state of affairs created by the war when the R.M.S.P. *Orotava* left Barbados on August 19th. The Governors, Administrators and officials, upon whom a mass of extra work had necessarily fallen, were meeting the situation with that coolness and energy which is characteristic of the members of our Colonial Civil Service, especially in times of emergency. The belief that several German warships were in the Caribbean was causing apprehension in some quarters, but the defence forces and police were preparing to give the enemy a warm reception in the event of any raid being attempted, and a visit of H.M.S. *Bristol* to St. Lucia had had a reassuring effect. In accordance with anticipations, the price of food-stuffs was rising but effective measures were being taken to prevent "hoarding" by individuals, while supplies of sugar, flour, etc., were being secured by the Government for future use in case of need, and every encouragement was being given to the planting of ground provisions where climatic conditions permitted. From private letters received it would seem that the cause of the war was not properly appreciated by the less educated members of the communities. One black in British Guiana, for example, had been heard to express the belief that it was due to the Kaiser's determination to possess himself of that colony, owing to the favourable report upon it which he had received from a recent Royal visitor! The passengers, who included Mr. E. L. Agar, Mr. A. B. Carr and Mrs. Craigen, had the unusual experience of being landed at Tilbury, whence in the old days many merchant ships used to sail to join the convoys in the Downs. They reached that historic place at 5.10 p.m. on Monday, August 31. The voyage was quite uneventful and no enemy ship was sighted which was fortunate as the *Orotava* brought considerable supplies of sugar for the Government from Trinidad. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—A tribute to the late Mr. Chamberlain.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, AUGUST 14th.—The outbreak of war in Europe has affected the island in many ways. Martial law has been declared and the Local Forces mobilised. Food-stuffs have already advanced in price, but not to any great extent. His Excellency, the Hon. T. V. Best, has taken every possible precaution, and a timely word in season has prevented advantage being taken of the present crisis so far as the sale of food to the labouring classes is concerned.—Mr. Best presided at the last meeting of the Agricultural Society when Dr. Marshall read an address on the evils of "Hook-worm," and the steps to be taken by the Rockefeller Institute to combat it in the West Indies.

The following resolution was moved by the writer and seconded by Mr. J. T. Thibou and carried unanimously, all members standing to express their sympathy with it. Resolved: "That this Society do place on record its appreciation of the great work done by the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain during a long life of service devoted to Great Britain and her Colonies." It was added that during his tenure of office as Colonial Secretary he aroused in the Colonies a spirit of enthusiastic patriotism, making them eager to take their place in, and to assume their responsibilities as portions of the British Empire. He will ever be remembered by the inhabitants of these islands as the Statesman who recognised the claims of the West Indies and the part they have played in building up the Empire of which he was so pleased to belong. More especially we refer to the efforts made by him to secure the abolition of Continental sugar bounties on sugar, thus placing the staple product of these islands on a sound commercial basis. In Antigua particularly we have special reasons for gratitude to the late Statesman. The existence of two Central Factories in this island is due to his foresight, and to the generous assistance obtained by his efforts from the Mother Country at a time most urgently needed. We deeply deplore the irreparable loss we have sustained by the death of this great Imperial Statesman and Empire builder, and most respectfully tender to his widow and family our heartfelt expressions of sympathy in the great bereavement that has befallen them.—The weather has been very trying for the last two weeks and a good heavy rainfall would be appreciated.—Captain Benyon, Mr. V. Weil and Mr. Skinner have been appointed censors and little war news is being received. There have been rumours of the presence of a German man-of-war in these waters, and no doubt she is shadowed by an Englishman.

BARBADOS—Nine German prisoners taken from ships.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., AUGUST 18th.—Everyone thinks and talks of little except the war. The House of Assembly has voted £12,000 from the surplus revenue to provide for the defence of the island. Bills have been passed forbidding the export of food and regulating the prices of certain commodities, both very necessary measures in an island dependent on imported food. The price of vacuum pan crystals has been fixed at not more than 5 cents per lb., centrifugal muscovado not more than 4 cents and molasses sugar not more than 3 cents. Nine Germans have been taken off British ships and are retained as prisoners of war in the island.—The Barbados *Advocate* of August 19th complains of the absence of rains. At the end of July the rainfall in the highlands averaged 19 inches, and in the lowlands about 12 inches, and June had been the only favourable month. In an average year the rainfall should be just double what has been so far recorded. As a result of the unfavourable weather, the cane crop is low, and provision crops look scant and sickly. In some places they have ceased to exist.

BRITISH GUIANA—A vote for the colony's defence.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, AUGUST 15th.—The cables are keeping us fully informed as to the grave state of affairs in Europe. At the meeting of the Legislature on August 6th, the Combined Court passed a vote of \$25,000 for the defence of the colony.—At a meeting of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce on August 8th, Mr. A. P. Sherlock presiding, the prices of food-stuffs for the ensuing week were passed. The following retail prices were fixed: rice, brown, 32 cents per gallon, or white 32 cents per gallon, flour, extras, 5 cents per lb., or supers, 4½ cents per lb.; sugar D.C., 3½ cents per lb.; yellow 4½ cents per lb.; beef 18 cents per lb.; pork, 18 cents per lb.; butter, keg, 40 cents per lb.;

Copenhagen, 44 cents per lb.; onions 8 cents per lb.; potatoes, 5 cents per lb.; Pollock 10 cents per lb.; kerosene oil, ½ bottle 5 cents, bottle 10 cents. A meeting of the British Guiana Planters' Association was held on the 12th, when Mr. R. G. Duncau was re-elected Chairman until his departure from the colony. Messrs. J. B. Cassels, J. Gillespie and P. Cressall were elected to the Council, and the writer was re-elected secretary and treasurer. The question of adhering to the prices of refining and yellow sugar as fixed by the Chamber of Commerce was discussed at the meeting, as well as reserving sufficient sugar for local consumption. It was unanimously agreed that the prices of sugar as fixed by the Chamber of Commerce should be adhered to, and that each proprietor should reserve 8 per cent. of all sugars made and to be made from August 1st to December 31st for local sale. The Association pointed out that it estimated 5,500 tons would be available for sale to March 31st, 1915, and that as the consumption in the colony was between 8,000 and 9,000 tons per annum the estimate was a liberal one. The Government had, however, decided that 10% must be reserved.—The mail edition of the *Argosy* contains a minute by Mr. Clementi, the Government Secretary, regarding the Fyrish-Gibraltar irrigation scheme. If this is carried out the area to be dealt with will be 1,748 acres and the expenditure \$16,894, charging 4½ per cent. interest, 2 per cent. sinking fund and 5 per cent. maintenance; the average rate to be levied will be a little over \$1 per acre.—Mr. E. G. Woolford has been returned unopposed as Financial representative for New Amsterdam.

DOMINICA—Roseau in a state of defence.

MR. E. A. AGAR, AUGUST 14th.—Except for the presence of armed guards at various points and many men about Roseau in uniform, to whose presence we are getting quite accustomed, everything goes on much as usual. Last week for a day or two the price of food-stuffs rose suddenly, but a Quebec steamer unloading her usual supplies has put prices down again. Estates are running as if nothing had happened. The Defence Force is settling down into a very workman-like body, and in spite of the fact that at least half of them are planters, who are, of course, quite unable to look after their estates, all cheerfully do their duty in spite of the fact the crop is coming in fast. We get many rumours of German cruisers, one being to the effect that there are three haunting Marie Galante, and we hear of the *Karlsruhe* stopping merchantmen and removing their wireless. The steamers are running without lights, either ship's lights or even cabin lights. Last night at about 7 o'clock a tiny French steamer came in with a circus troupe on board, and the poor little circus band played "God Save the King" to disarm suspicion. A few circus performances will all help to keep people at normal level.—The weather has been beautifully fine.—I regret to announce the death of Mr. A.D. Riviere, the owner of Clarke Hall Estate in the Layou Valley. Few men have been so universally liked or have deserved the good opinion of their fellows so fully. Mr. Riviere was one of the very first to see the possibilities of the green lime trade with New York.

GRENADA—No serious food shortage anticipated.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, AUGUST 17th.—The war has naturally caused some excitement in the island and war prices are being charged for food-stuffs. The *Chronicle and Gazette* publishes a reassuring note pointing out that as regards the supply of food-stuffs there is no likelihood of the island being reduced to famine conditions so long as steamship communication between New York and Grenada is maintained. The Government have already taken steps to provide for possible delays in the service by arranging to keep on hand a reserve stock.—The shipment of cacao

date has been 65,376 bags, as compared with 63,222 bags in the corresponding period of last year.—Mr. F. H. Watkins, our new Colonial Secretary, arrived by the Royal Mail Canadian steamer *Caraquel* on the 14th inst. She sailed from Bermuda to St. Kitts with lights out and made a detour of 250 miles to escape German cruisers.—The Government has imported three "Ford" motor cars, and, if drivers can be obtained in time, the passenger and mail service to Sauteurs via St. David's and Grenville will be started on September 1st.

JAMAICA—The London Teachers' Association.

Major E. D. Dixon has been returned Member of the Legislative Council for St. Andrews by a majority of 115, polling 400 votes. Mr. Cox polled 285 and Mr. Myers 4 only.—The *Daily Gleaner* of August 5th, makes the following statement: "2.15 a.m. His Excellency the Governor informs us that Germany has declared war against Great Britain." In this country it is certainly understood that it was Great Britain which declared war on Germany, and one wonders who can have informed the Governor otherwise.—Owing to the war the visit of the London Teachers' Association attracted far less notice than would otherwise have been the case. However, the members of the party were being cordially received wherever they went. On the day before their arrival there was a sharp shock of earthquake which was more severe than any experienced since 1907, but Mr. Gautrey and his friends were in no way perturbed.—General Huerta left the island for Santander, Spain, on board the Elders and Fyffes steamer *Patia*, which had been especially chartered for the purpose.

ST. KITTS—The Government's timely action.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, AUGUST 14th.—At the time of writing our telegraphic communication is intact and telegrams flow in faster than our daily paper can handle them, rather to the chagrin of country subscribers like myself. The local Defence Force is under arms, and a fair number of recruits have come forward, the Central Factory furnishing a well set up and workman-like looking contingent. The Germans show scant respect for the laws of nations, and I doubt if they would hesitate to destroy our pretty little town if given the least excuse for doing so. The local authorities are fully alive to the exigencies of the situation, and by taking prompt steps at the close of last week to regulate the prices of the principal food-stuffs by the local shopkeepers they no doubt nipped in the bud a state of things which might easily have led to trouble. Planters have also been asked to make provision on their estates for the planting of ground provisions, and this is being generally done.—The bulk of the island crop has been already manufactured and shipped, but I am told that after the *SS. Chaudibre's* shipments on the 17th inst. there, roughly speaking, will remain in the island about 220 tons muscovado and 400 to 500 tons crystals at the Factory, and about 600 to 650 tons muscovado is estimated to be made to the end of the year.—We have only had a few scuds of rain for August to date, and a good general rain is needed for the 1916 crop, which is rather more advanced than usual at this time, owing to the May and June rains, which were abnormal this year.—Mr. Noel, of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, has been in the island studying a cotton disease which has broken out in some districts both here and in Nevis. It resembles what is known in the States as the "Leaf cut" disease.—The St. Kitts Nevis Turf Club held a very successful race meeting on August 3rd. The day was fine and the sport keenly enjoyed by all classes. A pretty little bay mare "Duel," imported from Barbados, and run by that good sportsman Mr. W. E. Leira, was the horse of the day, and she won easily both

the race for the Administrator's Cup and the St. Kitts-Nevis Turf Club Stakes.

ST. LUCIA—A wave of patriotism throughout the island

HON. S. D. MELVILLE, AUGUST 16th.—We had a service at all the churches to-day for the success of our arms and the restoration of peace. Stirring addresses were delivered from the pulpits of all denominations, calling on all to welcome their share cheerfully, whatever form it might take, in the struggle now commencing, and urging everyone to bear himself as becomes a son of the Empire. The volunteers, who are mobilised for active service, with the Police Force, together representing our Defence Force, attended the different services, at the close of which the National Anthem was sung with great fervour. St. Lucia is loyal to the backbone. His Honour, Mr. De Freitas, the Acting Administrator, with his wife, attended the service at the Anglican Church. Our Administrator, Mr. Douglas Young, who is Acting Governor, is still at Grenada.—We have had a visit from H.M.S. *Bristol*, and we are looking for a French man-of-war to-day. A good many merchantmen are clustered round our harbours waiting for orders, and some coaling business has been done.—Insufficient rain has fallen in parts of the island, especially the Pantheon Quarter, where the precipitation has been abnormally small.—The Government have offered land free of rent for cultivation in ground provisions, in view of the augmentation of prices for food-stuffs and any contingency which may arise, making things scarce. There is plenty of land all over the island if the people will only cultivate it, and they could become largely independent of imported food-stuffs if they would put some elbow grease into the tilling of the soil.

ST. VINCENT—Mobilisation gives rise to enthusiasm.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, AUGUST 15th.—The Defence Force Sports in Victoria Park on Bank Holiday, August 3rd, were the best held in the colony for several years, and the committee responsible for their management are to be congratulated. The programme was full and the events were well contested. Sports of this kind are apt to fall flat unless one or two enthusiasts are directing affairs and the sustained keenness on the part of precipitants and spectators must be largely attributed to the hard work and energy of Captain Henderson and Major Dunn. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Roden.—The stages which led up to the present gigantic struggle in which the Empire is involved are followed with much interest, and the Government and people in the colony have not been behindhand in taking precautionary measures both as regards the Defence Force and the possible difficulty of obtaining food-stuffs from abroad.—The sports of Monday gave place on the following day to more serious business; for on Tuesday the Volunteers and Police were mobilised and were put under military training for three days. The camp and barrack life was entered into with if possible, more zest than Monday's sports, and all, from the officers to the last recruit showed a determination and a willingness for their duties which speak well for the morale of the force. On Thursday a proclamation was issued prohibiting the exportation of food-stuffs and this should ensure that, whatever happens, the colony will not suffer from lack of necessities.—On Sunday the 9th special patriotic services were held in the churches and these were well attended. The Administrator was present at the service at the Anglican Cathedral, where the Volunteers and Police attended to the number of ninety. Here the service began with the National Anthem, and included the well-known hymn for peace (A. & M. 376), and the prayer for peace

composed by Bishop Hayes during the Boer War. An able and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Masters Richards.

TOBAGO—The island largely self-supporting.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, AUGUST 14.—The war telegrams are the absorbing topic of conversation and the sudden and rapid transformation of Europe into a battlefield came as a surprise to everybody. Evidently the old country wasn't caught napping, and we are all proud and pleased to read the patriotic response to the call to arms and our best hopes are with our soldiers and sailors.—In this little island our prayer is for peace, but there isn't a Briton among us who does not sympathise with the declaration of war with Germany and we hope to see her blustering ended for ever. With three German cruisers in the vicinity there were at first many wild rumours, and shopkeepers doubled prices and bankers all but closed their vaults. But the Government has fixed prices of food, and a 5 per cent. Bank of England rate should relax the nerves of bankers. There has been no "call to arms" in Tobago, although the occasion might well lead to the formation of a Rifle Association, and may yet do so. Vegetables and corn are scarce, but ought to be fairly abundant from September onwards. Unless our supplies from Trinidad are cut off, no great difficulties are likely, although the rise in prices will perforce lead to economy. It is reported that some Leeward Coco-nut Estates (limited liability companies) have stopped work as banks refused to cash cheques. Others are restricting expenses and giving out free gardens to enable labourers to grow provisions in case the war be prolonged. With its large peasant proprietary Tobago is remarkably independent, although the natives are already full of laments about the hard times, which are only 14 days old. They are greatly scared about possible warships coming in and the public telegrams are being greatly distorted, often in the most amusing way. Ours come via Roxburgh telephone exchange, and one message said that a German torpedo boat "threw up" in the Baltic!—The weather can only be described as "showery," under seven inches fell in July, and the rainfall to 14th August is 2.12 inches, which is much under the average. There are sufficient rains for growth, but the rivers need clearing out and the land much heavier soaking. Some cacao is being picked this month, and the crop is promising well, but no heavy pickings are expected before December.

TRINIDAD—The departure of the French reservists.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, AUGUST 18th.—When I last wrote it was not known whether England had actually declared war, and the situation had therefore not assumed its subsequent intense gravity. I spoke of a deputation from the Chamber of Commerce which was to wait on the Governor regarding the harsh operation of the censorship as to telegrams. This was abandoned, the Committee having resolved that, "in view of the extreme gravity of the situation no steps should be taken by this Chamber to embarrass the Government in any way, and that the Executive should be left to adopt such measures as they think best in the interest of the community with the least possible inconvenience to individuals, consistent with public safety, and that therefore the proposed deputation to His Excellency be abandoned." No end of inconvenience and extra expense have since been incurred, but both have been cheerfully borne, as well as everything else that is found necessary by those in authority until the common enemy finds his proper level. Sir George Le Hunte has met the situation with a promptness and energy that have won universal approval. The Proclamation announcing the declaration of war against Germany was issued on the 5th, and Martial

Law proclaimed at the same time. Since then about 17 further proclamations have appeared dealing with every phase of the situation. The price at which food-stuffs shall be sold has been determined; such measures of defence as the colony is capable of have been taken; the exportation of articles likely to be in demand or of use has been forbidden; and the relations with German subjects defined. Insurance policies of any kind with German offices are forbidden. Acting on this the Local Fire Insurance Association has removed from the list of members the names of four German companies who were hitherto doing a fair business through their Trinidad agents, and they will lose the accumulated connections of years. At this moment the Government is seizing a quantity of German goods recently landed in the Customs warehouse, some for local consumption, others for transhipment. The Telegraph Company must be complimented on the manner it has met the strain. The office is open day and night, and bulletins re the war (censored at Jamaica, why, we don't know) come through at all hours. Some excitement has been caused by the confirmation of the belief that the *Dresden* was still not far away. She was last heard of at about 300 miles south-east of Cayenne, when she held up a British steamer coming on here to bunker. The boarding party were very polite. They expressed themselves sorry that the state of war compelled them to destroy the wireless apparatus. Having done this effectively they left without touching anything else. Three other steamers, I understand, have since arrived at Barbados, who relate a somewhat similar experience, neither provisions or coal having been removed from either of them. There was another German cruiser hereabouts, the *Karlsruhe*, but no one seems to have heard of her since war broke out. The British ships we know are within call of our wireless, not because any one has told us, but because we know they may be relied on to be here quickly if wanted. The *Dresden* probably knows this too, hence her fondness for the coast of Cayenne. Germans passing through the Gulf have been seized, and are retained at the St. James' Baracks.—On Friday night a dinner with about 90 covers was held at the Union Club in honour of a number of young Frenchmen who proceed to the seat of war this week. The decorations were of the combined colours of Great Britain, France and Russia. Enthusiasm reigned supreme. A special Mass was offered at the Church of the Holy Rosary for these same reservists, when a most powerful and sterling address was delivered by Father De Vaste to a crowded congregation, so that altogether you will see we are living up to the times.—Dr. Clare has received well merited promotion. From Surgeon *General* he has been raised to the position of Surgeon *Lieut.-Colonel*. The *Sutlej* has arrived with 258 immigrants, rather a bad time, one would think when news was coming from all quarters of shutting down and discharging labour for want of money to pay them. Again the Executive has been ready for the occasion. They notify that all employers will be lent sufficient for payment of labour at usual rate of interest, the advances so made to be a first charge on the properties concerned.—The weather is splendid for the coming crops. The rise in sugar has been very helpful for those who have any left to sell. It is an ill-wind that doesn't blow even a sugar planter any good.

DEATH.

Bryson.—At 113, Lansdowne Place, Hove, Brighton, on the 2nd inst., Isobel Elliot, beloved wife of Robert Bryson of Antigua, B.W.I., and eldest daughter of the late W. H. Leared, Cahirciveen, Ireland.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

Sir John Jellicoe.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—I read in the issue of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of the 25th ultimo that there must be many readers of the CIRCULAR who have travelled with the proud father of the Commander-in-Chief, Sir John Jellicoe, when the former was in the Royal Mail Service as Captain of the R.M.S. *Moscille*.

I happen to be one of these many, and on more than one occasion I remember the pleasant voyage I made with the genial Commander either to or from the West Indies. But apart from actual travelling there is one little incident connected with him about which I feel special interest during the present time of our trouble and anxiety.

Early in 1878 I left Jamaica, where I had been a District Judge, to assume the duties of Attorney General in Barbados. Sir George Cumine Strahan—or Captain Strahan as he was at the time—was the Governor of the Windward Islands, of which Barbados was the seat of Government. I well remember his telling me one day, either in 1878 or 1879, that he had been asked by Captain Jellicoe, either verbally or in writing, if he would say a good word for his son to the Naval authorities, for what exact purpose I cannot at the moment recall, although Captain Jellicoe himself would probably be able to do so.

Sir George Strahan mentioned the request to me, and I at once encouraged him to say whatever he could to further the interests of a Commander who had always proved himself so popular among those with whom he had come in contact.

I little thought then that the son for whom the favour was asked was destined to play so distinguished a part in this country's history. But his great success, which we hope and believe, will be continued in every way, must be a source of pride and gratification to his father, as indeed it has been to all those who, from time to time, have watched his more than brilliant career.

Yours, etc., FRANCIS FLEMING.

1st September, 1914.

West Indian Freight Rates.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—During the crisis arising in consequence of the unfortunate war that has broken out, we are being urged to make our motto "Business as usual." The sentiment is excellent, but there is one matter which, to shippers particularly, is of very great importance. That is, the increase of freight rates.

There will, undoubtedly, be increases in costs apart from the matter of freights, but adding these latter the consequent rise in selling prices must be considerable, and this in turn will result in restriction of trade. Of course, this is a matter that affects other parts of the world, but it is in the West Indies which you are particularly interested in.

Cannot the West India Committee get some authoritative explanation from the shipping companies as to the justification for the large increases? If no satisfactory explanation is obtainable, cannot the Committee bring pressure to bear in the necessary direction?

It is obvious that representations from such an influential body as yours would carry more weight than the individual complaints of shippers.

Yours faithfully, "ANTILLEAN."

The West Indian Mail Service.

SIR,—I had not intended to refer to Mr. Abbott's last letter. It is evident, however, that he looks at the mail service more especially from a passenger's point of view, but if he will explain what the vehicular means of transshipment at Halifax are it would perhaps interest your readers. I take it there need be none.

Crieff, N.B.

Yours, etc., GUY WYATT.

31st August, 1914.

To Arms!

The voice of battle's on the breeze,

Arise ye, one and all.

—SCOTT.

SIR,—Shall we require more men? Send the summons to the West Indies. The warlike tribe of West Africa agrees to the Zouave uniform. Shall the French Army alone contain Turcos?

Arm, Englishmen, arm!

COLONIAL.

Southampton, 27th August.

OUR LIBRARY.

West Indies and Guiana: with Honduras, Bermuda and the Falklands. Six Lectures prepared for the Visual Instruction Committee of the Colonial Office by Algernon E. Aspinall. London: George Philip and Son, Ltd. Liverpool: Philip, Son and Nephew. Size 7½ in. x 5¼ in., pp. 152, 9 maps, 26 illustrations. Price in paper cover, 10d., post free 1s. or in cloth, 1s., post free 1s. 3d. Obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

In the Preface to this small book, Lord Meath, Chairman of the Visual Instruction Committee, writes: "These lectures have been written for the Visual Instruction Committee of the Colonial Office by Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary to the West India Committee, and, as in the case of all the preceding books of the series, have been very fully revised. The slides and illustrations have been prepared from photographs obtained from the Governments of the various Colonies, and from many other sources. Some of the slides have been coloured from sketches kindly supplied by Lady Hutchinson."

A set of 375 lantern slides has been prepared in connection with the book and is sold by Messrs. Newton and Co., 37, King Street, Covent Garden. The slides can also be hired at a fee of 10s. for each lecture set of about sixty slides. The lectures are as follows: I. The British West Indies and Barbados, II. Jamaica and its Dependencies, III. Trinidad and Tobago, IV. The Windward and Leeward Islands, V. British Guiana and British Honduras, and VI. The Bahamas, Bermuda and the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies—

British Guiana, DEMERARA—(Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.) Sept. 2nd, "Weather favourable." **BRITICE**—(Messrs. H. K. Davson and Co., Ltd.) Sept. 4th, "Weather is showery." **Jamaica**—(The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), Week ended August 19th. **PORT ANTONIO**, 13th/15th "Fine," 16th/18th "Rain," 19th, "Fine." **KINGSTON**—13th "Fine," 14th "Rain," 15th/17th "Fine," 18th, "Rain," 19th "Fine."

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Trinidad Central Oilfields, Ltd.

No report of this Company has been received by the CIRCULAR; but it is understood that Mr. A. Duckham, presiding at the annual meeting on August 29th, said that for the first time it was possible to issue a profit and loss account. The net profit was £378 17s. 10d., which was gratifying inasmuch as during the first eight months of the year the revenue had not been enough to meet the cost of production and refining, which decreased as the output increased. There was no reason to suppose that the war would affect the trading account adversely. The majority of the company's wells had been shut down in order to keep production within present requirements and within those of the refinery. Wells were only being drilled to such a depth as would establish the position in continuity of the oil-bearing formation. The first shipment (30,000 gallons) of crude petroleum was expected to arrive in England in a few days. The Board had decided to reconsider the position with regard to the proposed increase of capital owing to the financial position. The report and accounts were adopted, and Mr. Duckham, the retiring director, was re-elected to the Board.

SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS.

Messrs. Elders and Hylles announce that while their weekly sailings to Port Limon and Santa Marta will be maintained as usual, the weekly call at Kingston, Jamaica, and Colon, Panama, has been cancelled except in the case of the following steamers:—

	Leave Avonmouth	Arrive Kingston	Arrive Port Limon	Arrive Colon
"BAYANO"	Oct. 4	Oct. 20	Oct. 22	Oct. 24
"CHAGRAS"	Oct. 19	Nov. 3	Nov. 5	Nov. 7
"BAYANO"	Nov. 16	Dec. 1	Dec. 3	Dec. 5

Special fares will be charged for the above vessels as follows:—

To Kingston	£25 Single.
To Port Limon and Colon	£30 Single.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. 49 No. 67. Return of rainfall for week ended August 2nd. (Average 7.1. Highest District L 1.03 and the Lowest Central Station .55). Supplement Report regarding proposed wireless station. (The West India and Panama Telegraph Company offered to erect and maintain a service of 5 K.W. with a radius of 400 miles for £1,500 per annum for ten years. The Committee were of opinion that the service could be obtained at a less cost by accepting Preese, Cardew and Snell's offer subject to modification, viz., to supply and erect and sell the station outright for £1,256 or £3,800 without power plant, the Government to provide buildings and foundations. The cost and upkeep of maintenance with interest and sinking fund on a loan of £5,000 would be £1,000 annually. (This could be made by a small increase per ton in tonnage dues). Amendment to Customs tariff, making cotton seed and linseed dutiable (5s. and 2s. 6d. per ton respectively). House of Assembly. Address of condolence to Mrs. Chamberlain. No. 69. Order in Council fixing the maximum retail prices of food-stuffs. Minutes of the Legislature for the Sessions. Supplement. House of Assembly, Aug. 4th. Appointment of Hon. W. K. Chandler and Major W. J. Burdon as a Committee to co-operate with the Committee of the House as to best means of promoting the local oil industry. No. 72. Financial report of the Auditor-General for the quarter ending December 31. (Balance £53,559 18s. 4½d.). Trade and Exportation of food-stuffs Amendment Act and Regulation of Prices Act. British Guiana, Vol. 39—No. 16. Appointment of Mr. W. J. Gilchrist as censor. No. 17. Notice to Bondholders regarding conversion of 3½ per cent. bonds. No. 24. Tenders invited for supplies for public service. Returnable Aug. 28th. No. 38. Mr. A. G. Bell, C.M.G.,

appointed censor. Education Department. Particulars regarding examination of teachers, March 29th, next. Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Agriculture, July 31st. No. 43. Ordinance conferring powers on Montreal Trust Company. Proceedings of Board of Education, July 31st. Returns of Births and Deaths for quarter ended June Leeward Islands, Vol. 42. No. 41. Balance Sheet of Dominica Savings Bank, March 31st. St. Kitts-Nevis. Balance Sheet at April 30th and Return of Revenue and Expenditure to April 30th. Meeting of St. John's Commissioners, July 16th. No. 39. Regulations under Martial Law. St. Lucia, Vol. 83 No. 34. Government Lime Juice Factory, purchase prices. (Limes per barrel 2s 6d., lime juice testing 12 oz. and over, per gallon 3½d.). No. 32. Report on working of Reunion Estate. St. Vincent, Vol. 47—No. 28. Government Cotton Ginners. Purchase Prices. (1st White Market value of lint 30 cents per lb. Prices to be paid on account for seed cotton 6½ cents per lb.)

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. John T. Greg	Mr. G. Railton
Mr. G. H. Arthur	Hon. E. A. H. Haggart	Mr. L. A. Richard
Mr. G. Auchinleck	Mr. A. T. Hammond	Mr. W. C. Robertson
Mr. E. J. Baeza	Mr. G. F. Higgins	Mr. N. Maude Hooby
H. E. Sir H. Hesketh	Mr. F. Haughton James	Mr. W. N. Sands
Bell, K.C.M.G.	Mr. A. S. Kerahan	Mr. J. B. D. Seltzer
Hon. E. Du Boulay	Mr. A. H. Kirby	His Hon. Mr. Justice
Mr. W. A. Boyd	Hon. E. D. Laborde,	P.M.C. Sheriff
Mr. Geoffrey Brooke	1.s.o.	Mr. R. B. Short
Mr. D. C. Cameron	Dr. G. L. Latour	Lt.-Colonel W. J. Slack
Professor F. Carmody	Mr. G. Liddellow	Captain D. I. Slinger
Mr. A. B. Carr	Mr. A. H. Low	Hon. Denis Slyne
Mr. Albert Chery	Mr. W. Low	Hon. Adam Smith
Commander The Hon.	Hon. J. Challenger Lynch	Mr. Wm. Smith
W. H. Coombs, R.N.	Mr. J. A. Madgwick	His Grace The Arch-
Mr. F. A. C.	Major Marescaux	bishop of the West
Collymore	Mr. C. H. McLean	Indies.
Hon. F. A. Corea	Mr. H. P. C. Melville	Mr. Carl F. Wieting
Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa	Mr. James Peet	Mr. A. H. Wright
Mr. Wm. Durao	Mr. G. M. Peter	and
Mr. W. Greig	Dr. E. Frazer	Mr. G. Williams
Mr. W. Morris Fletcher	Mr. C. W. Peest	
Mr. J. R. Bancroft, c/o Messrs. S. Doherty & Sons, 7, Moorgate St., E.C.		
Mr. R. D. Hannayne, 39, Tavistock Square, W.C.		
Mr. R. E. Brassington, c/o, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.		
Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Hatwell Road, Putney, S.W.		
Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.		
Mr. Charles M. Calder, United Empire Club, 217, Piccadilly, W.		
Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoyne," Chessel Avenue, Bittere, Southampton.		
Mr. Frank Cundall, F.S.A., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.		
Mr. F. J. Dean, St. Brannocks, Mundesley, Norfolk.		
Fion. Fred. Driver, 68, Hartley Road, Nottingham.		
Mr. W. R. Durie, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.		
Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.		
Mr. Walter Fartell, 92, Kensington Gardens Square, W.		
Mr. J. M. Fleming, The Hermitage, Hadlow, Kent.		
Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Rose Cottage, Berkhamsted		
Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fore Street Avenue, E.C.		
Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 39, Bedford Square, W.C.		
Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o, Messrs. Coutts & Co., 430, Strand, W.C.		
Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, C.M.G., 78, Glenalton Road, Streatham, S.W.		
Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, 18, Livingstone Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham.		
Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.		
Mr. J. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, Gr. Tower Street, E.C.		
Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.		
Mr. C. McEneaney, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland.		
Hon. W. L. McKinstry, Ashford Grammar School, Ashford, Kent		
Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.		
Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W. Helensburgh, Scotland.		
Mr. W. Mearns, 39, Carlton Place, Aberdeen.		
Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, c/o Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co., 18, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C.		
Mr. W. Morrison, 193, Regent House, St. James's Court, Buckingham Palace.		
Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster.		
Mr. L. F. Nourse, 32, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.		
Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, W.		
Mr. M. A. Peters, 8, Pembroke Gardens, Notting Hill Gate, W.		
Mr. J. J. Rodrigues, c/o Messrs. J. Travers & Sons, Ltd., 109, Cannon Street, E.C.		
Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o, Messrs. Previte & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E.C.		
Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av.		
Mr. L. Schooner Scott, 20, Haven Green, Raling, W.		
Mr. F. B. B. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E.C.		
Mr. E. C. Skinner, c/o R.M.S. P. Co., 18, Moorgate Street, E.C.		
Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.		
Mr. W. C. Winston, Cranbourne Mansions, Cranbourne St., W.C.		
Mr. G. Liddellow, 114, Harrington Gardens, South Kensington		
Mr. G. R. Dewy Rust, 9, Heathfield Gardens, Chiswick, W.		
Mr. John P. Scully, Oakleigh, Camberley.		

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, (Captain W. C. Barratt) Tilbury, London, Aug 31st:—

Mr. Anderson	Mr. W. G. Engel	Count Leydet de Montmargy
Mr. E. L. Agar	Mr. Fullen	Rev. J. Noon
Mr. H. A. Allcock	Mr. H. Faulkner	Mr. Neal
Mr. F. Alexander	Mr. Fitzherbert	Captain M. M. Napier
Mr. R. Alexander	Mr. A. L. Hodges	Rev. W. Naish
Mr. M. H. Allen	Dr. G. Murray-Heiron	Mr. G. D. Oyston
Mr. J. Berkeley	Mrs. and Miss Haynes	Mr. C. E. Rice
Mr. J. Cruchley	Mr. J. H. Holliman	Dr. J. Rozo
Mr. B. Carr	Mr. F. S. Hollingsworth	Mr. N. L. Shaw
Mr. A. Cevalleur	Misses Irvine (2)	Mr. J. Scott
Mr. H. Colbe	Dr. A. Arcey Irvine	Mr. A. Stewart
Mr. Craig	Mr. J. B. Jones	Mr. A. R. Smith
Mr. E. La Coste	Mr. A. Luke	Mr. M. H. Simmons
Mr. K. Claret	Mr. J. S. Lockett	Dr. Thwaites
Mr. W. Denis	Mr. J. C. Lynch	Mrs. T. H. Waller
Mr. C. Rees Davies	Miss B. McDonald	Mr. A. Walker
Mr. T. G. Davson	Mr. J. B. McDonald	Mr. J. L. Williams
Mr. H. T. Dunn	Mrs. McKenzie	
Captain Elliot	Mr. F. W. Morris	

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM JAMAICA per S.S. *Patuca*, Avonmouth, August 31st:—

Mr. W. Sharman	Mr. J. Colinet	Mrs. E. Dearsley
Miss E. N. Smith	General G. Romain	Mr. T. Gautrey
Miss F. L. Letch	Mr. A. Robert	Mrs. A. Gautrey
Miss L. Stringer	Mr. C. Millett	Miss D. S. Gibbons
Miss A. M. Thurston	Mr. F. Dagnall	Miss A. Gill
Mr. H. Veal	Mr. W. K. Hugison	Miss K. Green
Mrs. L. Wier	Mrs. T. R. de Salar	Miss S. Hall
Miss F. Wilde	Miss R. de Salar	Mr. G. Harwood
Miss E. M. Williams	Miss B. de Salar	Miss A. Herring
Mr. F. Wrep	Miss A. de Salar	Mr. A. Hodge
Mr. T. Menbennet	Miss L. Barnes	Miss K. Letban
Mr. A. Scott	Mr. G. H. Bedloe	Miss J. Norwood
Mr. B. Vokes	Mr. H. C. Bedloe	Miss J. Phillips
Mr. T. Ellis	Miss D. Bedloe	Miss W. E. A. Platts
Mrs. H. M. Ellis	Miss M. R. Bedloe	Miss S. G. Potter
Miss M. Howarth	Mrs. B. Good	Mr. T. R. Rand
Miss A. B. Howarth	Mr. F. W. Blake	Mrs. F. C. Rand
Dr. A. Thurston	Miss E. Board	Mr. G. V. Rankin
Dr. J. Staggall	Miss E. L. Clarke	Miss A. Robb
Mr. F. Barrett	Mr. W. Corsie	Miss V. De Salsac
Mr. J. Loots	Miss G. F. Cross	Miss S. Lopez
Mr. A. Mezerville	Miss E. L. Curryer	Mr. S. Giannoni
Mr. A. Souefob	Mr. D. C. Davies	Mr. E. B. Grouzelles
Mr. E. Kronenberger	Mrs. C. Davies	Mr. Allen Stockley

SAILINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, (Captain W. C. Barrett) September 8th:—

Mr. V. Hanschell	Mr. G. D. Hatt	Mrs. Clarke
Mr. A. J. Hanschell	Rev. P. Dooley	Mr. G. A. Lee Lum
Mr. J. Adamson	Rev. J. J. Fitzpatrick	Rev. L. Whiteside
Dr. & Mrs. B. Prada	Mr. E. F. S. Bowen	Miss F. D. Brinac
Mr. C. H. Malone	Mr. W. D. Beamish	Mr. E. W. Powney
Mr. E. S. Debsle	Miss C. M. Bennell	Mrs. E. L. Edwards
Mr. J. P. Bam	Mr. E. K. Rideal	Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Gibson
Mr. C. K. Leotaud	Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Cortes	The Misses Gibson (3)
Mr. & Mrs. G. Liddlelow	Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Cortes	Mr. H. N. Haskell
Miss N. W. Billett	Miss R. M. de Ja T. Cortes	Mr. & Mrs. H.P.C. Simmons-Anderson
Mr. G. B. Verity	Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Raysada	Miss M. Mayes
Mr. E. Adam	Mr. G. Golborne	Mr. E. R. Howell
Miss H. E. Millington	Mr. G. Cabilloe	Mr. & Mrs. F. A. Gray
Mr. J. W. B. Milligan	Miss G. M. Lowe	Mr. J. H. Smithson
Miss A. C. Hardie	Miss M. L. Ince	Mrs. R. Congrains
Mr. G. Jacobs	Mrs. T. de Cubillos	Misses Congrains (2)
Mr. A. F. White	Miss E. Cubillos	Mr. & Mrs. A. Tait
Mr. E. L. Congrains	Mr. E. Fernandez	Misses D. & L. & M. Liddlelow
Miss J. Kelly	Mr. E. Gibbons	Mr. & Mrs. J. U. Fleming
Mr. & Mrs. J. U. Fleming	Mr. J. C. Ross	Mrs. M. Ross
Mr. & Mrs. C. K. Walbaum	Mrs. M. Ross	Master F. Ross

The Booker Line.—SAILINGS FROM LIVERPOOL TO DEMERARA per S.S. *Avakaha*, August 29th:—

Mr. D. C. Roberts	Mr. R. Herbert	Mr. F. H. Thornhill
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EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.

	Jan. 1 to August 13, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	43,600	30,803 Tons.
Molasses ...	827	680 Puns.
Rum ...	1,743,530	1,550,799 Puns.
Molasses, Re... ..	1,065	4,707 Tons.
Cacao ...	33,437	24,200 lbs.
Coffee ...	238,746	72,718 "
Coco-nuts ...	1,196,071	473,871 No.
Oranges	...	...
Bananas	...	...
Cotton	...	...
Pimento	...	...
Ginger ...	...	...
Honey ...	...	...
Dyewoods	...	...
Gold ...	57,470	46,922 ozs.
Diamonds	9,577	4,239 carats.
Rice ...	9,726,353	9,904,216 lbs.
Balata ...	477,404	395,148 "
Rubber ...	782	77 "
Timber ...	149,711	241,794 cubic ft.
Lumber ...	215,250	368,402 feet
Lime (citrate of)	2,421	686 lbs.

Jamaica.

	Jan. 1 to July 18, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	9,940	4,375 Tons.
Rum ...	975,209	753,860 Galls.
Molasses, Re... ..	...	...
Cacao ...	6,350,400	1,065,104 Lbs.
Coffee ...	5,604,144	3,810,576 "
Coco-nuts ...	16,438,371	12,285,648 No.
Oranges	2,281,300	15,216,349 "
Bananas	10,153,072	4,863,803 Stems
Cotton	32,609	47,543 Lbs
Pimento	57,002	64,647 Cwts.
Ginger ...	15,784	18,664 "
Honey ...	135,539	86,594 Galls.
Dyewoods	37,770	29,928 Tons.

St. Vincent.

	Jan. 1 to June 30, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	2,584,745	3,133,339 lbs
Cacao ...	126,819	151,226 "
Cotton	505,222	431,886 "
Seed	707,028	365,963 "

Trinidad.

	Jan. 1 to August 15, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	38,666	30,803 Tons.
Molasses ...	3,266	3,188 Puns.
Rum ...	679	697 "
Coco-nuts	10,024,025	8,351,348 No.
Asphalt ...	105,188	149,698 Tons.
Manjak ...	191	185 "
Butters ...	10,907	13,320 Cases.
Coffee ...	13,440	1,360 lbs.
Crude Petrol	11,931,252	7,808,731 Galls.
Cacao ...	59,196,660	42,530,200 lbs.
Cotton ...	...	...
Seed	...	...
Copra ...	5,796	4,163 Bags.
Spice	...	...
Kola	...	...

Barbados.

	Jan. 1 to August 13, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	29,810	8,643 Tons.
Molasses ...	95,992	72,978 Puns.

Grenada.

	Oct. 2 to Aug. 17, 1914	1913/14
Cacao ...	11,767,680	11,379,960 Lbs.
Cotton ...	1,122	1,265 Bales
Seed	3,558	4,804 Bags.
Copra ...	196	158 "
Spice	1,290,460	1,150,400 lbs.
Kola	8,140	2,330 "

Dominica.

	1914	1913
Cacao ...	474,320	758,016 Lbs.
Limes	27,308	31,658 Barrels
Lime Juice, raw	53,687	145,514 Galls.
" concentrated	27,206	25,425 "
" Citrate of	2,422	522 Cwts.
Lime Oil, dist'd	1,291	1,288 Galls.
" equalled	395	285 "
Hardwood ...	33,573	44,422 feet.
Bananas	1,747	2,100 Stems.
Coco-nuts	269,085	135,579 No.

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, (Captain E. R. E. Morrison) Oct 7th:—

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Bovell	Rev. and Mrs. MacGill	Mr. A. Stewart
Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Arthur	Hon. and Mrs. F. A. Corea	Mrs. R. Grant
Mr. A. Low	Miss Arthur	Miss J. Lyon
W. Wearns	Mr. M. J. S. Dyson	Miss C. M. Brown
Hon. and Mrs. Denis	Mrs. M. Kendall	Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Walker
Miss L. M. Hobson	Mr. J. Seabrook	Mr. A. R. Garnett
Mr. C. F. Whiting	Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Campbell	Mr. and Mrs. G. J. de Freitas
Mr. & Mrs. G. H. Bennett	Mrs. E. E. S. Rowland	Misses I. and B. Garnett
	Miss N. B. Rowland	

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—No change has been made in the Bank Rate which stands at 5% as from 8th August. A year ago it was 4½%. Consols quoted ex div. have been dealt in on a small scale on the basis of 67 to 67½. The Bank return last week is again satisfactory. The reserve has increased by £4,583,000, and the stock of bullion by £4,499,000. The latter is now about £4,500,000 more than it was a year ago.

SUGAR—In New York the market has been subject to fluctuations. On the 25th ult. it declined to 5.76c. for 96% centrifugals and 5.31 for muscovado without any business doing; but the offering of 4,000 bags Cuban which were sold on the basis of 5.76 c. fixed quotations at 5.76 c. and 5.31 c. for muscovado. With needy holders being swept off the market the tone strengthened and bids for Cubans were made on the basis of 5.89c. New York terms, or 13 points up, without leading to business. This was followed by the purchase of 15,000 bags for late September shipment from Havana by a speculative interest on the basis of 6.01 c. The spot quotation was accordingly advanced to 5.89 c. for centrifugals and 5.44 c. for muscovados. Refined was also firm and reports were current that there was a good enquiry for granulated on the part of English interests. Nominal quotations ranging from 6.90 c. to 7.15 c. mostly, the latter were, however unaltered.

Sugar continued firm with a quiet business passing; the only transaction reported recently being 3,000 bags Mexican centrifugals on the basis of 6.02 c. New York terms. Quotations, raw centrifugals 6.02 c. and muscovado 5.57 c. Refined granulated were without change before going to press.

The London speculative beet market remains closed and no quotations therefore are posted. A telegram was received on the 1st inst. from Fort Louis, Mauritius, stating that the Imperial Government had purchased 100,000 tons of vesou (white Mauritius) and other sugar at an average price of 17s. 6d. per cwt. f.o.b. 150 tons white Mauritius crystals prompt sold at 21s. 6d. c.i.f.; 1,600 bags white Mauritius sold on the spot at 28s. Further purchasers of Java on Government account have been made at about 18s. 6d. basis 96%. White Javas August to September sold at 22s. 6d., 23s., 23s. 6d. to 24s. c.i.f. Sept./Oct at 22s. 6d. Later some further purchases on Government account up to December shipment freight 30s. Charters have been effected for Javas, Sept. at 32s. 6d., Oct. at 31s. 3d., and 8,000 tons Oct./Nov. at 31s. 3d.; 6,000 tons Sept./Oct. 30s.; 6,500 tons Oct. at 30s.

Messrs. Willett and Gray cabled the sale to the United Kingdom of 1,000,000 bags Cuban centrifugals at 3.98 c. to 4.0 c. f.o.b., basis 96%. Great dissatisfaction is expressed by the trading community that the whole of the large business on Government account has been done through two or three houses.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Imports	24,076	34,118	23,410	31,671	28,347	Tons
Deliveries	22,574	19,725	20,467	25,116	24,583	"
Stock (15 Aug.)	14,454	16,233	7,433	10,915	8,839	"
Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, (Sep. 4th.)						
	27s. to 28s.	18s.	17s.	21s.	16s. 6d.	

The sugar market now being under Government control is in a lifeless condition. Limited sales are being made by refiners to the trade out of their very scanty stocks, and in grocery crystallised which has been firmly held for 27s. the following business is recorded: St. Lucia sold at 26s. 6d. to 27s.; Demerara at 27s. 6d. to 29s.; Trinidad at 27s. to 29s.; Surinam and Jamaica at 26s. 6d.; St. Lucia at 27s. and Antigua at 27s. Grocery crystallised closed firm.

Muscovado.—Barbados at 21s. to 23s., Jamaica at 20s., St. Lucia 16s. to 16s. 9d., Dabs at 17s. 6d.

Syrups.—St. Lucia sold at 19s.; St. Kitts at 23s. to 23s. 6d., Demerara at 20s. to 22s. and 21s. 6d. to 22s., and Surinam at 17s. 6d.

RUM—Stocks in London, August 29th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Jamaica	8,740	7,466	9,281	10,786	12,066	Puds
Demerara	9,720	7,845	6,693	4,763	8,248	"
Total all kinds	25,929	22,752	23,597	25,297	28,962	"

The Government were buyers of Demerara rum, not at all on a large scale, but the mere fact of their being in the market had the effect of raising prices 1d. per liquid gallon in Liverpool where everything available has been cleared and the recent decline of 2d. has been recovered. In London also the Government have been buyers and this has saved to a large extent the situation; for it has given support to a rather weak market. Apart from this extraneous demand there has been little support from the Trade. Jamaicas are quietly firm, but the export trade is nil.

CACAO—Stocks in London, August 29th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Trinidad	9,879	13,269	7,399	8,999	10,344	Bags.
Grenada	8,649	5,239	5,800	14,572	12,197	"
Stock all kinds	93,201	80,611	118,081	117,735	92,824	"

At auction 5,483 bags of all kinds offered; of which 2,327 bags comprised Trinidad, Grenada, St. Lucia and Jamaica. Practically there was only one buyer (the Government) and 1,195 bags Trinidad sold fine at 61s. being steady; for the small lot of Grenada there was no bidding; of St. Lucia 87 bags out of 161 sold, and of Jamaica the whole offering of 205 bags sold at steady prices. For Java considerably lower prices were accepted in the absence of export orders; fine selling up to 70s. Quotations after the sale were Trinidad middling red 57s. to 58s., good middling red 59s. to 60s., fine and superior 61s. to 64s.; Grenada ordinary to good fair 51s. to 54s., middling to fine 55s. to 58s. In the Trinidad circular of 18th August it is stated that owing to the war there had been no demand and their market fell right away until \$10.00 and \$10.25 were paid for the very few parcels to hand. The tone improved on the last day and as high as \$11.00 had been paid for "Montecito" mark.

COFFEE—The spot market is still closed and so is the terminal market. A small business only is doing in the former for the home trade. The London Produce Clearing House (Ltd.) decided on the recommendation of the Coffee Committee that the liquidation of contracts shall be allowed to continue by the coffee brokers on the basis of settlement of prices named in their circular of August 19 until further notice; communications should be made direct with the brokers by those who wish to liquidate any contracts. In accordance with this decision a number of contracts have been regulated comprising Sept. at 36s. 6d., Dec. 37s. 6d. to 38s., March 38s. 6d., May 39s. 9d.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended 3rd September 7 bales West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland report sales of 8 bales St. Kitts, good quality, at 16d.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (raw)—No supplies of good quality and no sales to report. Essential Oil (distilled)—Small sales at 3s. 9d. Otto of Limes (hand pressed)—Has been sold at 10s. 6d. per lb. Concentrated—No sales have taken place since last report and prices are nominal. **PIMENTO** and **GINGER**—Nothing whatever doing. **NUTMEGS** and **MACE**—No auctions since 20th July have been held, quotations are quite nominal. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West Indian, value £24. Market irregular, spot steady, shipment offering at a discount. **ARROWROOT**—Barely 300 barrels sold. Quotations 2d. to 4½d.

RUBBER—Fine plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot. 2s. 2d.; smoked sheet 2s. 4d.; fine hard Para 2s. 9½d. last year 3s. 9d.; do. soft 2s. 4d. last year 3s. 3d.; Castilloa sheet 1s. 8d. last year 2s. 2d.; scrap 1s. 3d. last year 1s. 2d. **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 7½d. landed terms, last year 2s. 0d. and block 2s. 2½d. landed terms, last year 1s. 11½d.

PETROLEUM OIL—American, 10½d.; Water White, 4½d.

TIMBER—Mahogany.—The depression caused by the war continues to press heavily on the cabinet wood trade which is practically at a standstill, and there is scarcely any inclination to make purchases.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone: 6644 CENTRAL.
Telegrams: CARIB. LONDON.14, SEETHING LANE
LONDON, E.C.1.

September 21st, 1914

SIR NEVILLE LUBBOCK, K.C.M.G.

THE announcement of the sudden death of SIR NEVILLE LUBBOCK, the President of the West India Committee, which took place on Saturday, September 12th, will, we may rest assured, have been received with deep regret throughout the British West Indies and British Guiana, where his name was a household word. How greatly his worth was appreciated in this country was demonstrated by the numerous congregation which attended the Memorial Service, appropriately held near the Committee Rooms at the Church of All-Hallows-Barking-by-the-Tower in the City of London, on Wednesday last, which was of a very representative character. It is in connection with the abolition of Bounties, which was practically his life's work, that SIR NEVILLE LUBBOCK will best be remembered among West Indians, who will not, however, be unmindful of the great benefits which he conferred on the communities as a pioneer of cane-farming by small proprietors in Trinidad, and the founder of the Central Sugar Factory system as applied to the British West Indian islands. Nor will it be forgotten that he was instrumental in securing for the West Indies many grants-in-aid when such assistance was necessitated through the *laissez faire* policy of successive Governments. A forceful and persuasive public speaker, he was equally at home

addressing Members of Parliament in a Committee Room at the House of Commons as he was in a meeting of working men in the East End. His straightforward speeches won over many hostile audiences in his campaigning days, and his persistence never failed to call forth admiration. Successively Deputy Chairman, Chairman, and President of the West India Committee, he was responsible for placing that historic body on a stable and permanent basis by securing for it the Royal Charter of Incorporation which was granted by King Edward. In official, no less than unofficial quarters his work for the West Indies was recognised. He received the knighthood of the Order of St. Michael and St. George as Chairman of the West India Committee from Queen Victoria, and on hearing of his death, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, MR. HARCOURT, wrote to express his sympathy and "at the same time to put on record his sense of the great services which SIR NEVILLE rendered to the West Indian Colonies." Though SIR NEVILLE LUBBOCK had retired from the fighting line as far as the West Indies were concerned his influence was still felt, and though he has gone from us, his name will live in the history of the West Indies.

THE CACAO INDUSTRY AND THE WAR.

REVIEWING in a recent issue the position of various West Indian industries in relation to the war, we expressed doubts whether the rise in the price of cacao which occurred on the outbreak of hostilities would be maintained. That there were good reasons for such doubts has now been made apparent. The initial rise was attributed to the shutting up of stocks in enemy countries, but a relapse has already taken place. The reason is not far to seek. The trade of Germany and Austria, which consumed 112,316,600 lbs. and 13,484,700 lbs. respectively in 1913, is already absolutely paralysed in consequence of the vigilance of our fleet and the mobilisation of their troops, and this makes a large and serious hole in the world's consumption which amounted in 1913 to 531,164,500 lbs. Meanwhile production continues without interruption, for with the exception of the crops from the Cameroon and other German Colonies which yield the comparatively negligible crop of 6,125,000 lbs., all the producing countries are either British or neutral. Last year the world's production of cacao was 557,300,000 lbs. and with Germany—the largest consumer in Europe eliminated—it is perfectly clear that as long as the war lasts there will be more than enough cacao to go round. In the circumstances a period of com-

parative depression, the duration of which will be coincident with that of the war, seems inevitable. The only countries in which there is likely to be no falling off in consumption of cacao are the United States, which took 150,225,600 lbs. in 1913, and our own which was responsible for 60,818,400 lbs. in the same year, and in the present emergency especially the proximity of our cacao producing colonies in the West Indies to the American markets should serve them in good stead. In this connection it may be noted that in 1912, the latest year for which statistics are available, the production of cacao in the British West Indies amounted approximately to 62,250,000 lbs. Of this total 26,255,000 lbs. went to the United States, 15,000,000 to the United Kingdom, 14,806,000 lbs. to France, and 3,350,000 lbs. to Holland, while only 1,210,000 lbs. and 31,600 lbs. were shipped to Germany and Austria respectively. 1912 was a year of short crops throughout the West Indies; but for comparative purposes figures will suffice. It will be seen that the British West Indies are less dependent on Germany and Austria than other cacao growing countries are, and in this respect they are fortunate. Meanwhile in view of the present crisis we can only counsel our cacao growing readers to prepare to meet the growing competition by doing all in their power, while endeavouring to reduce the cost of production, to improve the quality of their cacao, and thus to capture if possible a still larger share of the English and United States' markets.

EDUCATION IN JAMAICA.

ELSEWHERE in this issue will be found an interesting account of the recent trip of the London School Teachers to Jamaica and Panama. This trip was one of a series made by the members of the London Teachers' Association, and was organised and personally conducted by Mr. GAUTREY, the energetic Secretary of that body. Special leave had to be obtained, on account of the length of the trip, from the London County Council, and one of the conditions under which it was granted was that a Report of the trip should be supplied the Association. We have had the privilege of perusing a copy of this Report. The impressions of the educational system of Jamaica, so far as the elementary schools are concerned, made upon the visitors were not altogether satisfactory. The London teachers, for example, consider that the conditions resembled those which obtained in the Primary Schools of the Mother Country thirty years ago. It is, however, recognised that the difficulties under which the teaching staffs labour—such as the undue size of the classes, climatic disabilities, (heavy rains for example), and the irregular attendance due to the partial apathy of the people as regards the education of their children, are very great. Exception, however, is made in the case of the manual training schools, which were found to reach in many instances a high standard of efficiency, and in that also of agricultural teaching, as illustrated by the interest and zeal

shown in school gardens. But although the methods employed appeared to be in many cases mechanical, and although instruction in the "humanities" is slight as compared with that in reading, writing, and arithmetic, the Report warmly acknowledges the great work being done, as well as the greater work contemplated. Hope Farm School, the land for which, amounting to 1,700 acres, was recently acquired by the Government, adjoining Hope Gardens, met with the teachers' great approval. The object of this institution, which is spoken of as being splendidly equipped, is to give young men and lads over 15 a sound knowledge of the principles and practice of Agricultural Science, with a thorough training in all branches of tropical agriculture; and the feature which especially struck the visitors was the earnest endeavour made to encourage all forms of corporate life and self discipline. The system of education followed in the Secondary and Private Schools fell far short of the visitors' ideals. The objectionable feature noticed was the fixed standard of merit required, the passing of the Senior Cambridge Local Examination being the one generally accepted. The result is that success is measured by numbers and money receipts, and remains with those schools which have the best means and method of cramming their pupils. The Technical School is extremely well spoken of by the London teachers. Handicraft is stated to be well taught, and the manual work to have reached a high standard throughout. The advantage taken of native woods for inlaid work and marquetry is especially emphasized, and the metal work exhibited is stated to be quite on a par with corresponding work at home. The cooking department, however, is not considered to be so satisfactory, two lessons a week being rightly considered to be altogether insufficient for good results. We are sorry to say that the Mico and Shortwood Training Colleges failed to meet with the entire approval of the visitors, although the beauty of their external appearance and surroundings was recognised. The Colleges appeared to the visitors to be elementary in construction and organisation. Exception is taken to the "huge" dormitories, furnished only with iron bedsteads, of which sometimes twenty are in one room, while the "secrecy of class rooms, and apology for laboratory, absence of hall and common room for social life, show that not only are personal requirements primitive, but also that the curriculum is elementary compared with our own." As a set off to this criticism, however, it is stated that the Colleges "are having men and women to take up the work in hand," and, summing up what is said about them, the point is brought forward that the native student has, during training, the advantage of being brought into contact with some of the best men and women in Great Britain. "We see," the Report goes on to say, "the beginnings of a greater progress, and a greater influence, and it is hoped that greater financial help will be forthcoming to enable these noble institutions to realise their ideals in the future."

THE SOCIETY OF COMPARATIVE LEGISLATION.

THE Society of Comparative Legislation was the outcome of a Conference presided over by the late LORD HERSCHELL, then Lord Chancellor, held at the Imperial Institute on December 19th, 1894, to consider the best means of furthering the study of comparative legislation, as suggested in a paper read at the Institute by SIR COURTENAY LILBERT, K.C.S.I. The Society was then established with the object of promoting knowledge of the course of legislation in different countries, more particularly in the several legislatures of the British Empire and the United States. Several volumes of the Society's Journal have been published and include the yearly reviews of the legislation of the United Kingdom and British Possessions commencing with the legislation of 1895. The Society was from the first supported by a distinguished list of members of the bar as honorary contributors. In addition to concise abstracts of all legislative Acts and Ordinances, valuable papers are contributed by members of the bar holding judicial and other legal positions on various subjects of Public Law and Jurisprudence. The beneficial results of this valuable labour have been fully recognised by all Departments of State at home and in the colonies. A recent mail has brought us an interesting illustration of this important work in the report of the Bahamas Branch of the Society of Comparative Legislation, and a valuable Abstract of the Colony's Acts for the last legislative year. The HON. HARCOURT MALCOLM, K.C., Speaker of the House of Assembly, is the Hon. Secretary of this branch, and that his work is appreciated is shown by the fact that the Mother Society recently asked for a supply of copies of the report of the Bahamas branch to be used "as specimen copies for other proposed branches to adopt as models." We may mention that MR. WALLWYN SHEPHEARD, of Lincoln's Inn, a member of our Executive Committee, has been an honorary contributor to the Journal of the Society of Abstracts of West Indian legislation since its first establishment, as well as of papers on "Suzerainty," the Most Favoured Nation article, Confederation in the West Indies, the United States Tariff, and other subjects.

THE WEST INDIES HELP.

THE West Indies are responding nobly to the call of the Mother Country in the present emergency. A list which the West India Committee are preparing will show how many of their representative men are serving the Colonies, or have volunteered for active service. The gifts, too, to the Imperial Government from the West Indian colonies are numerous, the latest being 2,240,000 lbs. of sugar from British Guiana, and upwards of 5,500,000 lbs. from Jamaica, besides substantial presents of cacao from Grenada, and arrowroot from St. Vincent, and contributions to the National Relief Fund from Grenada and St. Kitts-Nevis. We are proud of the West Indies.

SIR NEVILLE LUBBOCK, K.C.M.G.

We deeply regret to state that Sir Neville Lubbock, President of the West India Committee, died at his residence Oakley, Bromley Common, on Saturday, September 12th.

Though Sir Neville Lubbock had been in indifferent health for some little time, his death was quite unexpected. On Saturday morning he was playing his favourite game golf, when he was taken suddenly ill, and in the evening he passed away. Sir Neville Lubbock was son of the late Sir John William Lubbock, third baronet, and younger brother of Lord Avebury, better known as Sir John Lubbock. Born in 1839, he was sent to Eton at the early age of nine; he remained there for five years, after which he entered the City, where his father was a banker and merchant. While some members of the family entered the bank, others went into the merchant's office in the same building, among the latter being the subject of this memoir. In 1862 he entered the firm of Cavan Brothers & Co., West India Merchants, which formed the basis of the Colonial, afterwards the New Colonial Company. This was his earliest connection with the West Indies, with which his life and work were for many years so closely connected. He first visited the Colonies and British Guiana in 1870, including in his tour the French islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique, where he inspected the large Usines or Central Sugar Factories. He was so much impressed with them that he at once realised that the future of the West Indian sugar industry must depend largely upon the adoption of the Central Factory system, and the establishment of the Usine St. Madelaine in Trinidad, which is still the largest Central Sugar Factory in the British West Indies was the result. With the late Dr. Morton he was also the pioneer of the cane-farming industry in the Nparima district which now gives employment to upwards of 12,000 persons in Trinidad.

East Indian immigration was another matter with which Sir Neville was closely concerned. Again and again, both on the platform and in the Press, he emphasized its importance, and in spite of the opposition of faddists he succeeded in keeping the question before the Government in a proper light.

In 1899 in company with Sir Cuthbert Quilter he paid an unofficial visit to the West Indies with the object of endeavouring to facilitate the erection of a Central Factory in Barbados. He formed, however, the impression that the island was at that time doing so well owing to the imposition of countervailing duties in the United States that there was less wish there than ever for the erection of factories with foreign capital. In later years his interest in the Central Factory system was shown by his joining the board of the Antigua Sugar Factory Company. Sir Neville Lubbock was a great believer in the application of science to sugar growing and manufacture, and was the first to establish systematic experiments in connection with cane manuring in Demerara and Trinidad, and to introduce a system of scientific sugar factory control in those colonies.

In 1874 he was appointed Deputy-Chairman of the Standing Committee of West India Planters and Merchants, as the West India Committee was then called, and the leading part which he took in the campaign against the foreign bounty system, which nearly ruined the West Indies, is too well known to call for further mention. Still it is only those who worked with him who can realise the energy with which he conducted the agitation which finally led to the abolition of bounties by International agreement embodied in the Brussels' Convention of 1902. Meanwhile in 1881 he had succeeded Mr. Thomas Daniel Hill as Chairman of the West India Committee, and in the same year he went to Washington to assist in negotiating a reciprocity treaty between the British West Indies and the United States, and it was a bitter disappointment to him and to those Colonies when Her Majesty's Government refused to ratify an arrangement which had been come to on the grounds that it was inconsistent with the favoured nation clause in our treaties with other countries. In 1891 he

went to Washington on a second mission; but again no treaty resulted. In 1886 he was one of the four members of the Royal Commission on the Depression of Trade and Industry. He signed the minority report which favoured, and was in a sense the forerunner of the Tariff Reform movement.

When the first Colonial Conference was held in London Mr. Lubbock was invited by the Government to attend, as representing the West Indies, a precedent which unfortunately has not been followed in the case of the recent Imperial Conferences. Ten years later the crisis in the West Indies resulting from the baneful effects of the foreign sugar bounties became acute, and it was largely owing to the representations of the West India Committee that a Royal Commission was sent out in 1897 to report on the condition of affairs in those colonies. The Report was a disappointment, for the majority did not recommend the imposition of duties to countervail the bounties, and, although the adoption of various palliative measures was advocated, the kernel of the trouble was left untouched and nothing was done to re-establish the staple industry. Only two months ago reference was made in these columns to the services which Mr. Chamberlain rendered to the West Indies by securing the abolition of bounties; but it must not be forgotten that, when he first became Colonial Secretary, that great Imperialist had not realised the full gravity of the situation, and that he was actually opposed to the measures which were recommended by the Anti-Bounty League for restoring to British Cane Sugar producers equality of opportunity in the markets of the world, and that it was Sir Nevile Lubbock and his colleagues of the last and most successful Anti-Bounty League who succeeded eventually in convincing him of the justice of the West Indies' case. Many Conferences had been held with the object of bringing about the abolition of bounties, but each proved abortive owing to the refusal of the Government to give the foreign Powers security in a Penal Clause that they should no longer be liable to compete in British markets with bounty-fed sugar. In 1902 Sir Nevile Lubbock and Mr. Martineau attended a further Conference, which was convened at the instance of the Belgian Government, in the capacity of expert advisers to the British Delegates.

On this occasion the attitude of the Government was firmer, and the abolition of bounties resulted. But the crisis was not wholly averted, as the Powers were not willing to consent to the Convention coming into force earlier than 1903, and here it must be stated that while Mr. Chamberlain was largely instrumental in persuading the Parliament to vote £250,000 as a free grant-in-aid to enable proprietors to tide over the period until the Convention came into force, it was Sir Nevile Lubbock and his colleague who induced the Government to bring forward this vote. This is made clear by the official correspondence published in April, 1902, which includes the Memorandum submitted by the expert advisers to the British Delegates in which they said: "If the British Government should decide to afford some adequate measure of relief in the meantime, it is clearly desirable to accept the Convention. If not, the question is one of very little interest to the West Indies, as by the time the effects of the Convention become operative their industry will have ceased to exist." The eminent services of Sir Nevile Lubbock in connection with the abolition of bounties were recognised on November 25th, 1903, when he was entertained at a Banquet by the West India Committee at the Whitehall Rooms, and was presented with a portrait of himself, which is reproduced on another page, painted by Sir Hubert von Herkomer, R.A., a handsome service of plate and a diamond brooch for Lady Lubbock. Sir Nevile Lubbock was proud of the historic associations of the West India Committee, and it was on his suggestion that the Royal Charter of Incorporation was petitioned for in 1904; the petition was granted by King Edward, which made that body a legal entity adding at the same time greatly to its prestige.

It is a matter for regret that the abolition of bounties came too late to save the company of which Sir Nevile Lubbock was chairman; but he continued his activities to the last. He was appointed Governor of the Royal Exchange Assurance in 1904. He was for many years a

director of the London and India Docks Company, which was taken over by the Port of London Authority, and for over a quarter of a century a director of the Colonial Bank, and he was one of the founders of the West Indian Club and its Chairman until he died. He received the honour of K.C.M.G. in 1899 in recognition of his services to the West Indian Colonies.

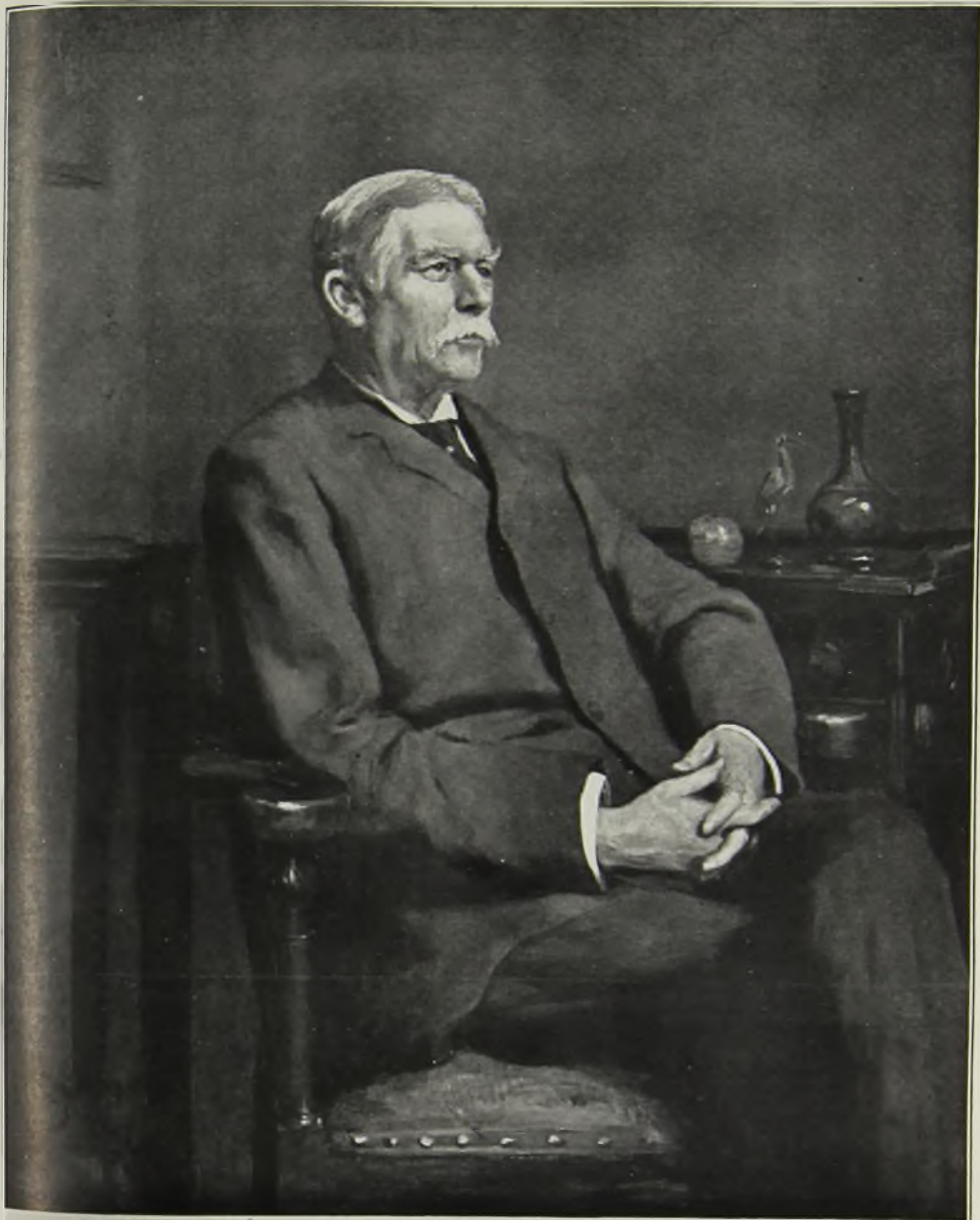
Sir Nevile Lubbock's interest in the West Indies was not merely financial; it was not just commercial prosperity for which he laboured. He saw in the conditions of those colonies and of their staple industry an object lesson of the highest interest and importance for political economists and statesmen, and he worked to crush the bounty system with such perseverance and energy because he felt that in so doing he was helping the whole British nation to a true conception of Free Trade and of the relations between trade and industry. He recognised in sugar a touchstone on which almost every theory of political economy could be tested.

Sir Nevile Lubbock was twice married, his first wife being a daughter of Mr. Western Wood, and his second Constance Ann, daughter of the late Sir John Herschel, the distinguished astronomer, who with six sons and seven daughters survives him.

The Funeral and Memorial Service.

The funeral of Sir Nevile Lubbock took place on September 16th at Farnborough, near Bromley. The officiating clergy were the Rev. J. C. W. Herschel (nephew of Lady Lubbock), the Rev. E. J. Welch (vicar of Farnborough), the Rev. G. Clowes (rector of Hayes), and the Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bromley Common. The chief mourners included Lady Lubbock, Lord Avebury, the Hon. Irene Pelham, Lady Wade, the Hon. Norman Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. B. Hambro, Mrs. Maxwell, Miss Hilda Lubbock, Miss Mildred Lubbock, Miss Dorothy Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Lubbock, Miss Agnes Lubbock, Mr. Mark Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lubbock, Miss Edith Lubbock, Mr. Bertie Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lubbock, and Dr. and Mrs. Montague Lubbock. Among those who sent wreaths were the Colonial Bank, the West India Committee (a chaplet of chrysanthemums, with spray of orchids and lilies), the West Indian Club (a wreath of lilies, orchids and croton leaves), the West India Association of Glasgow, and the Court of Directors of the Royal Exchange Assurance Company.

While the funeral was taking place at Farnborough a memorial service was held at All-Hallows Barking. This church, of which the full title is the "Church of All Hallows-Barking-by-the-Tower-in-the-City of London," which is one of the few which escaped the Fire of London, stands between Great Tower and Byward Streets in view of the windows of the West India Committee Rooms where Sir Nevile Lubbock presided so often. It was in it that the decapitated bodies of most of the victims of the block on the scaffold on Tower Hill were buried, and it is a tradition that the "lion heart" of Richard I, the founder, lies under the high altar. William Penn was baptised in its font and from the tower which was erected during the Commonwealth, Samuel Pepys the Diarist, who lived in Seething Lane, witnessed the Great Fire as recorded in the Diary under the date September 5th, 1666.



THE LATE SIR NEVILLE LUBBOCK, K.C.M.G.

PRESIDENT OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

From the painting by Sir Hubert von Herkomer, R.A., presented to him by members of the West India Committee and others, on November 25th, 1903, in recognition of his eminent services to the West Indian Colonies.

At the Memorial Service in this historic church the congregation was, as might be expected, largely composed of the colleagues of Sir Nevile Lubbock who had been associated with him in the strenuous agitation which he so ardently and fearlessly led for the rescue of our British sugar possessions from the fiscal domination of Germany and Austria. His sudden death found many of the Committee scattered in distant places for their holidays. But those present fully represented the absent in the sad and sympathetic congregation who mourned the loss of a true friend, whose memory will not fade in the future annals of the West Indies.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Robinson, the Vicar, assisted by the Rev. J. H. Kidd, the choir being under the direction of Mr. Arthur Poyscr. The hymns and sacred music were chosen by Lady Lubbock, the former being "For all the saints who from their labour rest," and "Peace Perfect Peace." The anthem was Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar." Music from Sullivan's "In Memoriam" was rendered as a voluntary and the service concluded with Chopin's "Marche funèbre."

The congregation included Mr. G. E. A. Grindley, C.M.G., representing the Colonial Office, Sir Acton Blake (Deputy Master of Trinity House, representing Trinity House), Lord Addington, Lord Rotherham, Lord R. Cavendish, Hon. R. Grosvenor and Sir Alfred Dent (representing the Royal Exchange Assurance), Mr. F. Faithfull Begg, Chairman of the Council of the London Chamber of Commerce, Dr. F. B. Vrooman, B.Sc., Ph.D., (representing the Royal Colonial Institute), Mr. W. Middleton Campbell, Chairman of the West India Committee, Mr. R. Rutherford, Deputy-Chairman of the West India Committee, and Mr. G. R. Alston, Mr. C. Algernon Campbell, Mr. George Carrington, Mr. Edward R. Dayson, Mr. E. A. de Pass, Mr. W. Gillespie, Mr. E. L. Marshall, and Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, members of the Executive, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary of the West India Committee; Sir Owen Philipps, K.C.M.G., Chairman, and Mr. A. H. Bennett, Secretary of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Mr. Charles R. Gurney Hoare, Chairman of the Colonial Bank; Mr. Walter B. Kingsford, Chairman of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company; Mr. Joseph Rippon, General Manager of the Direct West India Cable Company; Mr. W. A. M. Goode, Hon. Secretary of the West Indian Club; Mr. W. Tappley, representing the West Indian Produce Association; Mr. George Martineau, C.B. (who was Sir Nevile's colleague as expert adviser to the British Delegates to the Sugar Conference), the Hon. A. C. Ponsonby, Colonel W. Tolson, Mr. Alfred Martin (representing the Chilean Transandine Railway Company, Ltd.), Mr. T. A. Bischoff, representing Mr. T. W. Bischoff, Solicitor to the Royal Exchange Assurance Company; Mr. H. A. Tempany (Superintendent of Agriculture, Leeward Islands); the Secretary of the Antigua Sugar Factory, Mr. C. Adams, Mr. T. F. Anderson, Mr. H. W. Bailey (Lowndes & Co.), Mr.

R. E. Bartlett, Mr. C. T. Berthon, Mr. Clifton Brown (Brown, Shipley & Co.), Mr. Ernest Cunard, Mr. W. S. Eyre, Mrs. Ford, Mr. J. Ganzoni, Mr. James R. Greig, Mrs. Riversdale Grenfell, Mr. C. S. Grenfell, Mr. W. Goodwin, Mr. Lionel Harvey, Mr. Arthur Johnson, Mr. Lake, Mr. Howard Marsh, Mr. Alfred Martin, Mr. Philip Norman, Mr. James Peet, Mr. Spencer Portal, Mr. Thomas Prentice, Mr. J. Robarts, Mr. T. Robarts, Mr. W. W. G. Ross, Mr. J. G. Rust, Mr. Arthur Savile, Mr. J. Herbert Scrutton, Mr. F. I. Seard, Mr. Vivian Smith, Mr. Wellings, Mr. T. Windridge, Mr. C. F. Worters, Mr. Coventry Woodhouse, and Mr. John Young. Messrs. Previtè and Co., and Mr. H. F. Previtè also were represented.

SIR NEVILLE LUBBOCK AND THE BOUNTIES.

By GEORGE MARTINEAU, C.B.

Adviser to the British Delegates at the International Sugar Conferences 1875-1902, and Assistant British Delegate to the International Sugar Commission 1903-5.

It is seldom that a man can look back to forty years of close co-operation with a colleague, not as a business partner, or a private friend, or a political associate, but merely as a fellow worker with a common object worth fighting for. That has been my good fortune with our departed friend, and prompts me to say a few words in memory of one for whom all who knew him must have feelings of pleasant recollection and regard. The story of our friendship is the story of the sugar bounties—not an uninteresting subject, but one full of warnings for the future, though perhaps one with which people are getting rather sick now that it is regarded as a thing of the past. We must not be too sure of that, but should remain still on our guard.

The sugar refiners were the first to bear the brunt of the foreign attack on our industry, which came from Paris and began to be serious about the year 1872. They held a meeting in that year and appointed a Committee to tackle the subject. That Committee worked hard for twenty years, and one of its first duties was to put itself in communication with the West India Committee, because any injury to the refiners from unfair foreign competition must result in injury to those who, in those days, supplied the refiners with the raw material. The West India Committee saw the danger and showed readiness to co-operate. Those were the days when Sir George Chambers and Mr. Thomas Daniel Hill were in charge of the West India Committee, and they, with their Secretary, Mr. Ohlson, took up the matter warmly.

Almost immediately afterwards Sir Nevile Lubbock came upon the scene. By that time the Paris bounty-fed competition had killed every loaf sugar manufacturer in London, except my firm which managed to stand its ground. But then, 1875, it became evident that the producers of cane sugar, who hitherto had only been hit indirectly by the bounty competition, would soon have to encounter

direct blows against themselves from new bounties in Germany and Austria. Sir Nevile Lubbock saw the danger and began to fight in earnest. After three abortive International Conferences, in 1875-6-7, the two Committees demanded, through Mr. Ritchie, member for St.-George's-in-the-East, the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons to examine the question of these sugar bounties and their effect on the British sugar industries. This brought the two industries of raw and refined sugar into much closer co-operation, and the sittings of that Select Committee, in 1879 and 1880, were full of interest and resulted in a most conclusive Report, signed by a majority of 17 to 5, in favour of strong and determined measures to meet this violent artificial attack on British industry.

Sir Nevile Lubbock came to the front and showed his powers of argument and the marshalling of evidence—but, alas, to no purpose. The Government were frightened by outcries from misguided people who erroneously called themselves "Free Traders," and who declared themselves to be in favour of the competition of foreign bounties which enabled the British consumer to get sugar below cost price, and who, in their narrow and superficial view, failed to see that the sale of commodities below cost price is fatal to the interest of the consumer because it discourages natural competition and therefore results in reduced production and high prices.

The Report of the Select Committee was therefore ignored, and for eight years the bounties were allowed to continue, to increase, and gradually to injure most seriously our home and colonial sugar industries. In 1884, entirely owing to the overstimulation of production in Europe caused by the bounties, prices fell to the lowest figure ever known, and then proceeded to fall to half that price. The West Indies saw ruin staring them in the face. Sir Nevile Lubbock exerted himself in every way to move the Government to action. How well I recollect going with him to many a meeting of working men—real, not sham ones—and hearing him argue with them the economic principles involved in the question. He was always successful, the working man was convinced, and we had him at our backs ready to support us. But the sham Free Trader was still on the war path. Those were the days of the late Lord Farrer, then Mr. Farrer of the Board of Trade, soon to be the Sir Thomas Farrer who wrote essays on sham free trade in *The Times*, and who subsequently insisted on having the sugar bounty negotiations handed over from the Foreign Office to the Board of Trade. Sir Nevile Lubbock was in the thick of it then and remained so to the end. The Government of Lord Salisbury, greatly sympathising with the troubles of our sugar industries, assembled an International Conference in London in 1888, and every effort was made by Sir Nevile Lubbock, head of the National Anti-Bounty League, strongly seconded by Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, the late Mr. Forster M. Alleyne and many others, to make this Conference a success. But again, as be-

fore, when the Bill for ratifying the terms of the Convention came before Parliament, one speech by Sir Lyon Playfair, full of erroneous political economy, frightened Mr. W. H. Smith so completely that he withdrew the Bill.

It is impossible in this brief retrospect to describe the gallant deeds of Sir Nevile Lubbock during this phase of the great fight. Some day the details may be recounted and we shall know how hard he worked and how hard he hit his opponents. But his day of final victory was yet to come.

From 1888 to 1898, ten years, things went from bad to worse. The Government, whether Liberal or Conservative, would do nothing. The one was afraid of the sham free trader, the other was afraid of the Liberal opposition. Then came Mr. Chamberlain, a former opponent but now soon to be an all powerful supporter and help. The Royal Commission to the West Indies, in spite of a very feeble and erroneous Report, gave the alarm. In 1898 we got another International Conference, which was held in Brussels, and at which almost every European country was represented. Sir Nevile Lubbock took a conspicuous part as Adviser to the British Delegates and did good work. Russia, backed up by France, upset the proceedings, and nothing was done. But Mr. Chamberlain was at the Colonial Office and began to see that a duty to countervail a bounty was a perfectly sound economic principle. The United States adopted it and thus gave to our sugar colonies a market where they could find fair and open competition. India followed the example and thus brought about Mr. Chamberlain's great speech, in the debate on the Indian Tariff Bill in 1899, when he declared his determination that the House should affirm the principle of a duty to countervail a bounty. This, in 1899, was his dress-rehearsal for his new part, in 1903, of Tariff Reformer. The House responded with enthusiasm. Sir Nevile Lubbock's influence at this time was conspicuous.

But the Government had not yet plucked up courage enough to act on Mr. Chamberlain's declaration of faith. They wanted a mandate, and it was Sir Nevile Lubbock who gave it to them. The Conference of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire was held in 1900, and Sir Nevile Lubbock made a speech, in moving a resolution in favour of the abolition of the sugar bounties by means of a countervailing duty or prohibition, which carried the whole meeting with him, and the resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority. This was his great final coup, which immediately brought about the abolition of the bounties. The Government, furnished with a sufficient mandate by the vote of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, agreed to another International Conference at Brussels, held in 1901-2, and the bounties were abolished. The British Delegates went to the Conference with a revolver, but we do not know even now whether it was loaded or not. Fortunately the foreign Delegates thought it was.

MORE GIFTS FROM THE WEST INDIES.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies received the following telegram from the Officer administering the Government of the Leeward Islands on September 4th:—

"Members of the Representative Council of St. Kitts and Nevis unanimously request me to inform you that the Presidency desire to offer the Motherland some surplus funds, £5,000, to be devoted to such purposes as His Majesty's Government may see fit in connection with the existing war, and the Legislative Council respectfully offer at the present time special assurances of their most loyal devotion to the person and throne of His Majesty the King. Signed, Best."

The Governor of British Guiana has telegraphed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

"Resolution passed by Combined Court unanimously to-day asking His Majesty's Government to accept from British Guiana gift of 1,000 tons sugar, product of Colony.—EGERTON."

To the above Mr. Harcourt replied:—

"His Majesty's Government gratefully accept generous offer made by Combined Court of 1,000 tons sugar, and wish you to convey to the Court their warm appreciation of loyal and patriotic action of Colony."

The Officer Administering the Government of the Windward Islands has telegraphed to the Colonial Secretary that the Legislative Council of Grenada had adopted a loyal address to the King and had voted £6,000 to purchase a gift of Grenada cacao for the use of his Majesty's Forces, and a further sum of £4,000 as a contribution to the Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund.

Mr. Harcourt has replied accepting the above gifts and also £2,000 worth of arrowroot presented by the St. Vincent Legislative Council for the use of the troops.

The West Indian gifts received to date are as follows:—

- Barbados—2,240,000 lbs of Sugar.
- British Guiana—2,240,000 lbs. of Sugar.
- Grenada—Cacao to the value of £6,000 and £1,000 for the National Relief Fund.
- Jamaica—Sugar to the value of £50,000.
- St. Kitts-Nevis—£5,000 for the National Relief Fund.
- St. Vincent—Arrowroot to the value of £2,000.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

By virtue of Rule III of the West India Committee the subscriptions from new members elected during the last three months of the present year will not, when paid, be renewable until January 1st, 1915. The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1556.

Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or £5 0s per annum. The compounding subscription for life

membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

During the year to date 59 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

British Guiana	...	4	St. Vincent	...	1
Trinidad	...	4	Canada	...	2
Grenada	...	4	Mauritius	...	1
Jamaica	...	4	New South Wales	...	1
Dominica	...	3	Country	...	16
British Honduras	...	2	London	...	13
Barbados	...	1	New York	...	2
Nevis	...	1			

THE Editor of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will be obliged if members of the West India Committee will kindly forward to him the names of any relatives serving in the Navy, the Army and the Auxiliary Forces, including the West Indian Defence Forces and Volunteers at the present time, with particulars as to their ships or the units with which they are serving.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON SUGAR.

The official notification of the appointment of a Royal Commission on Sugar was made for the first time in the *London Gazette* on September 11th. The instructions are "enquire into the supply of sugar in the United Kingdom; to purchase, sell and control the delivery of sugar in behalf of His Majesty's Government; and generally to take such steps as may seem desirable for maintaining the supply."

The members are the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department; Lord Lucas, President of the Board of Agriculture; the Right Hon. Walter Runciman, President of the Board of Trade; Sir Henry W. Primrose, K.C.B., C.S.I., I.S.O.; the Hon. E. S. Montagu, Financial Secretary to the Treasury; Mr. G. S. Barnes, C.B., Second Secretary to the Board of Trade; Mr. R. P. Lyle and Mr. W. C. Slaughter.

The date of the issue of the Commission under the Royal Sign Manual was August 20th. The Commissioners have the usual powers to summon witnesses, etc., but it is understood that they do not propose to avail themselves of them, but rather to purchase supplies of sugar as they have been doing for the Government, as recorded in these columns. Mr. R. P. Lyle is the well-known sugar refiner while Mr. W. C. Slaughter is Chairman of the Home and Colonial Stores. The experience of these gentlemen will, no doubt, be extremely valuable but we would fain wish that a representative of the cane sugar industry had been added.

THE West India Committee have for disposal a limited number of photogravure engravings of the portrait of the late Sir Nevile Lubbock, President of the West India Committee, by Sir Hubert von Herkomer, R.A. The price of signed copies is £5 5s. and of lettered prints £1 1s. each, post free.

OUR SUGAR SUPPLIES.

A Hint for English Beet and Colonial Cane.

The *West India Journal* for September deals at some length with the situation caused through the sudden cessation of nearly two-thirds of our sugar supplies through the war. It recognises that the British Government have realised the position of affairs and welcomes the announcement made by the Treasury that the Government have no intention in the present circumstances of proposing an Excise duty on home grown sugar and to that extent at least are encouraging the erection of fresh sugar factories in the country this autumn and the sowing of sugar beet next year. "It will be more satisfactory still," says the *Journal*, "when they intimate that the duty on foreign sugar will continue as an established impost, as failing the existence of the latter the absence of an excise duty is of no benefit whatever. No doubt this intimation will come in due course, especially as the cost of the war will have to be met by increased taxation sooner or later, and the sugar tax has been proved to be one of particularly favourable incidence.

"Any British beet sugar industry that may be in existence within another twelve months will, of course, only supply a drop in the bucket of our needs in sugar. It is therefore necessary also for our Government to take steps to encourage the supply of sugar from the Colonies and Dominions of the Empire, and in view of the generous support that has been accorded by the latter to the mother country by means of both supplies of men and of food, it would be inconceivable that the Home Government should in future maintain the old policy of let well alone towards the efforts of the Colonies to develop their sugar industries. Instead, there ought to be a close agreement between them, and the present is an opportunity for cementing one such as is not likely ever to occur again. No doubt as regards the West Indies, the West India Committee will be relied on to push their case to the utmost. But the Government must see that all our sugar colonies benefit."

In this connection it will have been noted that a letter on the subject from the Secretary of the West India Committee was published in the *Times* of September 12th. He wrote: "We imported 594,185 tons from Germany and 324,274 tons from Austria, and paid a sugar bill to those two countries of well over £15,000,000 during the same season.

"Much has been written lately about capturing the enemy's trade. Why should we not in future draw the bulk of our sugar supplies from England—if this is possible—and from our sugar-growing colonies instead of from Germany and Austria, thus rendering ourselves to a great extent self-supporting as far as sugar is concerned?

"In the House of Commons on August 3 Mr. Montagu replying to Mr. Bathurst said: 'The Gov-

ernment have, of course, no intention in the present circumstances of proposing an excise duty on home-grown beet.' It is to be hoped that, while thus fostering the home beet industry, the Government will also encourage the erection of central sugar factories and the extension of cane cultivation and its maintenance upon a stable basis in our sugar-growing colonies. This it can do by giving advantages to British colonial sugar in the home markets corresponding to those which they are already affording to English-grown beet. In this emergency it is largely to our colonies that we have to look for our sugar supply, a fact which has been emphasized by the recent Government purchases from British Guiana, Mauritius, and elsewhere."

ENGLISH BEET SUGAR.

The London office of the Anglo-Netherlands Sugar Corporation has been closed, and the headquarters of the Company are now at Cantley. Mr. H. F. Easton, the Secretary, in an interview published in the *Eastern Daily Press* of September 8th admitted that in the last year or two the endeavour to float the new sugar industry in Norfolk had entailed heavy losses, and added that the local farmers had not risen to the occasion.

"I want the farmers to understand," he continued, "what the sugar industry might and ought to be. If the farmers give us greater help by supplying the biggest possible volume of beet, the Corporation will be enabled to make a profit, and in that case more capital will come in, and other ventures are sure to follow, not only in Norfolk, but in Suffolk, and perhaps elsewhere."

"What about the scheme which was to have been floated in West Norfolk, either at Lynn or Fakenham?" asked our representative.

"That suggestion and various others are for the present in abeyance," said Mr. Easton. "The first thing we have to do is to make a thorough-going success here. Enterprises in Cornwall and the North of Ireland are depending on what we can do. All over England we are being watched, and success with us means the up-growth of a great national industry. We are paying this year 35s. a ton for clean beet, free of earth, we paying carriage, whether by rail or barge. Taking things all round, the cost of cultivating the beet and putting it on truck ought not to be more than £10 an acre, and in some cases it might be cheaper. 35s. per ton of clean beet will give the farmer a return of £12 10s., or a clear profit of £2 10s. If farmers will only treat their crops decently, cultivate their land well, and get proper manure, there is no reason why they should not raise 12, 14, 15, or even 16 tons to the acre. A yield of 12 tons at our price will give £15 an acre, or a profit of £5.

"And that is not all. It has been known for generations on the Continent, and our growers in Norfolk are beginning to recognise, that the effect of beet-growing on subsequent crops is very great. Some of our growers have found that barley coming after beet has given an increased yield of as much as 30 per cent. in some cases; and some have told me that because of the subsequent benefit they would grow beet even if they did not make any actual profit out of it at all. Then there is the value of the tops to be considered. One Norfolk grower told me that having kept a careful record of last year's work he valued his tops at £5 an acre. He farmed 30 acres, and estimated that his tops were worth £150; he fed his ewes on them."

CANADIAN TARIFF CHARGES.

In the CIRCULAR of August 25th, particulars were given of the recent changes in the Canadian tariff affecting sugar, and it was shown that these had the effect of increasing the British preference. Several other changes were also announced on August 20, and were made in order to raise revenue to meet the financial requirements resulting from the war. The tariff changes are as follows :—

Article.	FORMER TARIFF.		NEW DUTIES.	
	Brit. Pref.	Gen.	Brit. Pref.	Gen.
Cocoa paste, sweetened ...	3½c.	4c.	4c.	4½c.
Cocoa powder ...	20 p.c.	25 p.c.	22½ p.c.	27½ p.c.
Cocoa and chocolate preparations	22½ p.c. and ½c.	35 p.c. and ½c.	22½ p.c. & 1c.	35 p.c. & 1c.
	per lb	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.
Cocoa, desiccated ...	3c.	4c.	3½c.	4½c.
Coffee extract ...	2c.	3c.	5c.	6c.
Coffee, roasted, N.O.P. ...	1½c.	2½c.	4c.	3c.
Coffee, roasted, indirect ...	10 p.c. & 1½c.	10 p.c. & 1½c.	10 p.c. and 2c.	10 p.c. and 5c.
Coffee, green, indirect ...	Free.	Free.	2½c.	3c.
Coffee, green, N.O.P. ...	10 p.c.	10 p.c.	10 p.c. & 3c.	10 p.c. & 3c.
Fruits, canned ...	1½c.	2½c.	1½c.	2½c.
Jellies, jams, etc ...	2½c.	3½c.	2½c.	3½c.
Preserved ginger ...	20 p.c.	30 p.c.	25 p.c.	35 p.c.
Sugar, refined, 99 degrees per 100 lbs.	83c.	1 07½	1 63	2 07½
Sugar, raw ...	40½c.	57½c.	1 03½	1 37½
Confectionery ...	22½ p.c.	35 p.c.	22½ p.c. and ½c.	35 p.c. & ½c.
Cigars and cigarettes per lb.	3 00 & 25 p.c.	3 00 & 25 p.c.	3 50 & 25 p.c.	3 50 & 25 p.c.
Other tobaccos ...	50 & 55c.	50 & 55c.	60 & 65c.	60 & 65c.

Lime and fruit juices having not more than 25 per cent. of proof spirits are placed under a duty of 75 cents, instead of 60 cents per gallon. If the proof spirit is more than 25 per cent., the specific duty is raised from \$2.40 to \$3 per gallon, the ad valorem duty remaining unchanged at 30 per cent. Lime juice and fruit juice N.O.P., are increased from twenty to twenty-two and a half per cent. under the general tariff and from fifteen to seventeen and a half per cent. under the British preference.

Alcohol is increased from \$2.40 to \$3 per gallon. On alcoholic perfumes in small bottles the duty is raised from 50 to 60 per cent; in larger bottles the specific duty is raised from \$2.40 to \$3, the ad valorem duty to remain unchanged.

The excise duties on spirits and tobacco are increased as follows :—
Spirits from \$1.90 to \$2.40 per gallon.
Cigars \$2 to \$3 per thousand.
Manufactured tobacco from 5 to 10 cents per pound.

The percentage of increase in rates of duty and excise on the principal items in the war budget are as follows: Customs: Raw sugar, 147 per cent.; refined sugar, 93 per cent.; canned fruits, 25 per cent.; desiccated coco-nut, 12½ per cent.; spirits, 25 per cent.; manufactured tobacco, 20 per cent.; cigars and cigarettes, 16½ per cent. Excise: Spirits, 25 per cent.; cigars and tobacco, 50 per cent.

The percentage of customs increase on imports exclusive of raw sugar is reckoned on the intermediate tariff in view of the fact that the increase

will at the present juncture affect principally imports from the United States under the intermediate tariff. In the case of raw sugar which comes from the British West Indies the increase is reckoned on the British preferential rate.

In his speech in the Dominion Parliament, introducing his "War Budget," Mr. W. T. White said that it was estimated that the country would derive an additional revenue of about \$7,000,000 during the remainder of the fiscal year. This would go towards meeting a situation in which the Government found itself compelled to face a capital and special war expenditure of about \$60,000,000, and to meet ordinary expenditures with revenues decreased by some \$10,000,000 as the result of the present unprecedented conditions. Where a revenue of \$145,000,000 had been looked for before the outbreak of war, the view was now held that revenue from present sources would reach from \$130,000,000 to \$135,000,000. By an avoidance of new expenditures, it was hoped to meet ordinary running expenditure with this amount.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The Waterway opened for Commerce.

Commercial traffic between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by way of The Panama Canal was inaugurated on Saturday, August 15, by the Government steamship *Ancon*, which made the trip from entrance to entrance in approximately nine hours, well within the previously estimated time for the passage of a ship through the Canal. As recorded elsewhere the opening of the Canal was witnessed by the members of the London Teachers' Association in the course of their West Indian tour. The complete trip from the ship's berth at Cristobal, to the end of the dredged channel, five miles out in the Bay of Panama, was made in approximately 9 hours and 40 minutes. There were, says the official *Canal Record* no unscheduled delays, and the handling of the vessel in the locks and through the channel sections characterized the entire operation as one of the smoothest up to that time.

The *Ancon* carried, as guests of the Secretary of War, about 200 people, the list including President Porras and his cabinet and other Panama Government officials, the members of the diplomatic corps and resident consuls-general, officers of the Tenth Infantry and Coast Artillery Corps, officials of the Panama Canal, and a few others. A special train was run, leaving Panama at 5 a.m., on Saturday, conveying the guests from the Pacific end direct to the dock at Cristobal.

The vessel left its berth at about 7.10 a.m., arrived in the Atlantic entrance at 7.30, and at Gatun Locks at 8 o'clock. It entered the lower lock at Gatun at the same hour and passed out of the upper lock on the water of Gatun Lake about one hour and a quarter later. The entrance to the Culebra Cut section at Gamboa was reached at about 11.15, and

Cucaracha slide was passed at 12.20 p.m. Pedro Miguel Lock was reached at 12.56, and the vessel passed into Miraflores Lake at about 1.19. It entered Miraflores Lock at about 1.56, and passed out of the lower lock into the sea channel at 3.20. It arrived off Balboa docks at 4 o'clock, and reached the end of the dredged channel at 4.30. This completed the official trip, and the vessel returned to Balboa, anchoring in the channel at about 5.10 p.m. People gathered to witness the passage at various points along the route, and at Balboa as many as 2,000 were present.

The *Ancon* was formerly owned by the Boston Steamship Company, and at one time was in the trade between Puget Sound and the Orient under the name of the *Shawmut*. The *Ancon* on her first trip through the Panama Canal carried a quantity of cargo for delivery at Balboa. She returned to the Atlantic side on Sunday, August 23, and sailed on her voyage to New York on Monday, August 24.

The following cable message was received by Colonel George W. Goethals, from Mr. Lindley M. Garrison:—

"On behalf of the Government and the people of the United States I express to you and through you to all concerned in the achievement, the intense gratification and pride experienced to-day. By the successful passage of vessels through the Canal the dream of the centuries has become a reality. Its stupendous undertaking has been finally accomplished and a perpetual memorial to the genius and enterprise of our people has been created. The fully earned and deserved congratulations of a grateful people go out to you and your collaborators."

PRAEDIAL LARCENY.

Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Kershaw, Inspector General of the Jamaica Police, in his annual report refers to a charge of murder heard at the Circuit, which deserves notice on account of the remarkable effect it had on the number of praedial larceny cases in the parish of St. Ann.

A peasant proprietor in the Cave Valley District, whose cultivation had been constantly plundered, set a guard on his yam fields at night. A man was seen to enter a field by a nephew of the owner, who was armed with a gun, and after the thief had dug up a few of the yams he was chased and eventually shot in the leg as he was about to escape. He received immediate medical aid on his arrival at the police station, and was sent on to the Public Hospital, where he died five days afterwards from blood poisoning, his assailant being tried for murder, but acquitted.

Before this occurrence, fully forty per cent. of the cases for praedial larceny were reported from this district, but since then the offence has been very rare indeed, the principal cases being those of destitute women with fatherless children to support, who are the offenders.

LONDON TEACHERS VISIT JAMAICA.

An adventurous and exciting tour.

BY T. GAUTREY, L.C.C.

Yesterday fifty L.C.C. teachers, who have been touring for six weeks in the West Indies and Central America, arrived home in good health after exciting experiences. Their objective was the Panama Canal. They were fortunate in arriving on the *Isthmus* on August 15th, the date fixed by the American Secretary of State for the public opening. On the way out on the *Changuinola* (Messrs. Elders and Fyffes) they specially called for a half day at St. Michael's in the Azores, where they got their first experience of tropical vegetation. Their next call was one of a week at Jamaica. On the Atlantic they had learned by Marconi of the outbreak of war. On arrival outside Kingston peremptory orders were given to take down our wireless installation. Martial Law prevailed. Before the ship was docked we were informed that a severe earthquake had just occurred, as intense as that of 1907 when over 2,000 lives were lost. The Jamaicans were in something like a panic. Fortunately, the wave was lateral and regular, and the buildings after thirty second shake, settled in their old positions. Cracks only indicated the seismic disturbance. Moreover, new large buildings are built of reinforced concrete. The Jamaicans gave us a whole-hearted welcome, and although recurrent "quakes" occurred daily, the attractions and excitements of tropical life and scenery made the party forget the possibilities of earthquakes. The week's programme included a public reception by Sir W. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., the Governor, visits to such beauty spots as Bog Walk, Spanish Town, Newcastle, and Hardwar Gap, 4,000 feet up in the Blue Mountains, and Port Antonio; inspections of educational institutions; studies of sugar, banana, cacao, coffee, coco-nut, mango, orange, nutmeg, pepper and bread-fruit cultivation. An Educational Conference with the native teachers was held, and a public concert for charity given by the party in the Ward Theatre. An enthusiastic entomologist of the party was captured by Jamaican soldiers outside Kingston as a German spy and taken to headquarters. Only his photographic film was detained.

With some anxiety the journey was continued on the *Patuca* across the Caribbean Sea to Port Limon, Costa Rica. It was known that German cruisers were about. The precaution was taken of varying routes and travelling at night without head or deck-lights. During the two days the ship's holds were being filled with the largest cargo of bananas ever brought to England (it numbered nearly 80,000 bunches or 16,000,000 separate bananas). The party took an excursion to San Jose, the capital, on that most wonderful trans-continental mountain railway, Limon to Puntarenas on the Pacific. It starts through miles of banana and cacao plantations with negro villages of houses on piles, and then up

for over 5,000 feet, following for over fifty miles the course of the beautiful River Reventazon. A volcanic mud slide on to the lines delayed the upward journey for over three hours. San José was 1,000 feet down on a plateau 4,000 feet high. It is modern, and set in a frame of mountains and volcanoes.

Colon, on the Atlantic side of the Canal Zone, was steaming with heat as we disembarked for our long day on the Isthmus. Owing to the public opening, all my arrangements had been set aside. An ordinary was substituted for a special train. On our way we inspected the huge Gatun Locks where the ships from the Caribbean are lifted up 85 feet, the Gatun artificial lake of 160 square miles, and the nine miles of the Culebra Cut which still causes some anxiety to the engineers. We passed over the River Chagres, which played so large a part in the construction of the Canal, and then reached Pedro Miguel. Here we were fortunate in catching up the great pioneer ship the *Ancon* (10,000 tonnage), which, be-flagged and carrying a crowd of America's public men, was the symbol of the commercial opening of the Great Highway. She had started six hours earlier from Colon. The lock quay-sides were guarded by young American soldiers, whose duty was to keep the rails clear for the electric motors on either side to draw the huge ship through the lock. The captain aloft threw out his arms, the motors ceased to draw, and the *Ancon* stopped. We gave, and repeated "Three cheers from London." The solitary figure of the maker of the Canal, Colonel Goethals, was standing down the slopes of the quay in his shirt-sleeves, with an umbrella under his arm silently watching the successful consummation of the greatest engineering feat of our time. Tall, erect, with iron grey hair and modest bearing, he might have been taken for a casual visitor. When the ship's passengers espied him, they gave him a round of American huzzas. Later on, by request, I congratulated him on behalf of London's teachers. He laughed heartily when, after stating that he had wanted the opening on the 12th, I suggested that that would not have suited my party. The culvert gates below the lock were opened, the water rapidly subsided, and with it the *Ancon* sunk thirty feet in a very few minutes, and so took the first of three great steps down to the Pacific, which stretched away some seven miles distant.

We passed on by rail to the two Panamas. As we arrived we experienced now for the first time, what a tropical rain can be. "Torrents" is scarcely an applicable word. After lunching we spent over two hours in motor cars in a visit to Old Panama with its romantic history associated with the buccaneer John Morgan and our Drake.

There is a great future for the new Panama, or, rather, for its new extension—Ancon. It is already spoken of as a health resort. The vigorous tropical vegetation has already covered the debris along the banks of the Canal, excepting two miles of over

fifty abandoned engines and tenders that line its banks. They lie there rusting in the rain and sunshine, not worth the cost of removal. The Gatun Lake looks for all the world like the English fenland in flood in winter, with thousands of dead tree stumps standing up from the water. The Canal cuts right across it.

There is a curiously divided opinion as to what will be the commercial effect of the Canal on the Zone. On the one hand it is declared that it will break up the commercial equilibriums of the world and introduce a new era in economic history, and on the other that its effects will be of slow growth and far from revolutionary. From Port Limon we took on our ship a number of French and Belgian reservists hastening to Europe to defend their Motherlands. To avoid capture by German cruisers we took an unusual course through the islands and until clear of the Caribbean travelled without prominent lights at night. Thus ended one of the most enlightening and stimulating holidays ever spent by a party of teachers. London's education will greatly benefit, and something has been done to knit together the Colonies with the Motherland.

SILK COTTON OR "KAPOK."

Little use is being made of the floss from the inside of the pods of the silk cotton tree in the West Indies. Yet in the Philippines the collection of this product—known throughout the East as "Kapok"—forms an industry of considerable promise. As it is being more and more used in the manufacture of patent life-belts, the price seems likely to rise, and agriculturists in the British West Indies might with profit turn their attention to the collection of this floss. The production for 1913 was 245,409 lbs., valued at \$28,584 gold, as against 69,606 lbs., valued at \$17,522 in 1912, and 216,968 lbs., valued at \$22,648, in 1910-11. The decline in 1911-12 is attributed by the *Mindanao Herald* to increased local consumption. Most of the Kapok formerly went to the Netherlands, either direct or via Hongkong; but in 1912-13 it was exported chiefly to the United States, Germany and Australasia, in the order named.

Much of the Philippine kapok has been shipped not cleaned or only partly cleaned, and complaints have been received from both American and Australian importers. Machines for cleaning this product are now available in the Philippines, and special attention is being given to cleaning, wrapping and baling.

Imports of kapok from Java and the Philippines into the United States during the year ended June 30, 1913, amounted to about 1,940 long tons, valued at \$811,406, the value per pound being taken as 12.3 cents at point of shipment. In 1911-12, about 2,096 tons were imported, the declared value being 12.1 cents per pound. For the seven months ended January 31, 1914, the imports were 387 long tons,

as compared with 1,023 tons in the seven months ended January 31, 1913.

A bulletin on kapok issued by the Philippine Bureau of Agriculture, gives the following description of the tree and its uses, quoting in part from Mr. E. D. Merrill, botanist of the Philippine Bureau of Science:—

"The kapok tree (*Ceiba pentandra* Gaertn., or *Enodendron anfructuosum* DC.) family Bombacace, is a slender deciduous tree 50 feet or less in height, the trunk cylindrical, usually with a pyramidal, stout, short, scattered spines the branches horizontal, in distant whorls, giving the tree a very characteristic appearance. The fruit is an oblong, 5-celled, 5-valved, pendulous capsule about 6 inches long and 2 inches thick, glabrous outside and silky inside, the seeds globose, black, numerous, completely surrounded by abundant, white or somewhat brownish, long, shining silky hairs, the kapok of commerce.

"In tropical America the remaining eight species of the genus *Ceiba* are also known, but their product is generally believed to be inferior to the true kapok. About 45 or 50 other species yielding a somewhat similar but decidedly inferior floss occur in the allied genus *Bombax*. One of them is said to be native to Africa, 5 or 6 to the East Indies and tropical Australia, and the rest to tropical America.

"There appears to be a tendency to use the term 'kapok' for designating the products of the allied species of *Ceiba* and *Bombax*, instead of restricting it to the particular product of the true kapok tree (*Ceiba pentandra*). The terms 'silk cotton' and 'tree cotton' are also commonly used to denote the floss on both the *Ceiba* and the *Bombax* species, but they should not be applied to the true kapok.

"Until recently kapok was considered unsuitable for textile purposes, for, owing to its shortness and brittleness, it could not be spun into yarn. But according to recent reports, a process for spinning the fibre into yarn has finally been discovered by Prof. Goldberg, of Chemnitz, Germany. Yarn of a fine quality is said to have been spun from it. The principal use of kapok, however, is for filling pillows, cushions, mattresses, bandages, and life-saving appliances. Kapok does not get matted with use, as is the case with all other filling materials. The use of kapok in the United States for life-saving appliances was restricted to the Java product until 1912, when Philippine kapok was shown to meet the requirements."

An oil is manufactured from kapok seed and the residue, which is said to contain about 5 per cent of nitrogen, is used as a fertiliser.

THE TORONTO EXHIBITION.

A Representative West Indian Court.

Arrangements were so far advanced when the war broke out that it was decided not to postpone the National Exhibition, which was opened at Toronto on August 20th. The British West Indian Court was the largest yet seen in Canada, occupying as it did 6,000 square feet of space, of which the lion's share was devoted to the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Jamaica whose interests were watched by Mr. W. Cradwick and Mr. Lewis Clemens. The other colonies represented were Barbados, British Guiana, Grenada, St. Vincent, Montserrat, Antigua, St. Kitts-Nevis, the Virgin Islands, and the Bahamas, whose sections were under the capable management of Mr. C. S. Pickford, assisted by Mr. John Allsop, the Halifax representative of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

To give an account of the exhibits would be to enumerate the various products of the colonies participating. Thus the Bahamas exhibited conch shells, sponges, fish and turtle, British Guiana, the far-famed "Demerara" and other sugar, timber etc., and so on. A happy idea was the holding of a reception in the Jamaica section on September 5th, which was largely attended, the visitors being regaled with refreshments exclusively from Jamaica. Sir George Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, visited the West Indian Court and expressed to Mr. Pickford and his colleagues his lively satisfaction at the representative nature of the exhibits. Altogether the Exhibition was a complete success.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Dr. W. H. Fretz, in his report on the health and sanitary condition of St. Kitts and Nevis for 1913, touches on Infantile Mortality, a question which it is hoped may some day form the subject of an Inter-colonial Conference as suggested in the CIRCULAR.

The following table of legitimate and illegitimate births is not without interest, from the invariable fact that the mortality among the illegitimate is greater than among the legitimate, and that many of them are still-born shows clearly how unfavourable their position is from the first.

	Legitimate Births.	Illegitimate Births.	Legitimate Birth-rate per 1,000.	Illegitimate Birth-rate per 1,000.
St. Kitts	278	644	10.457	24.225
Nevis	208	338	15.598	25.348
Anguilla	98	138	22.471	31.644

Infantile Mortality, considered as the annual number of deaths of infants under one year of age to every thousand births, is still high in the Presidency, as the following table shows:—

	No. of Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 of Births.
St. Kitts	228	247.288
Nevis	136	248.174
Anguilla	33	139.830

The appallingly high rate of Infant mortality, a rate which remains practically stationary, and one of the oldest problems which Health Officers and Sanitarians have to deal with, has of late years come more strongly to the front, and public interest has been roused to the importance of the subject. It is, says Dr. Fretz, generally admitted to be one of the most serious blots on our records. "Some thing might or should be done to minimise this 'Annual Sacrifice,' there can be no reasonable doubt that the main causes of Infant mortality lie in the adverse environment into which so large a portion of our population is born. The connection between Infant mortality and (1) bad or insufficient feeding and (2) the overcrowding of houses seems established. Increased deaths under the heads of Diarrhoea diseases indicate mal-nutrition as the root of the evil, and is proved by the study of the causes of death in individual cases.

"We cannot comfort ourselves with the idea that infant mortality is only the dying out of the weaklings. Such an idea is inconsistent on the face of it, and conditions of housing, of neglect, and of malnutrition which kill some, must inevitably weaken also those who survive. Experience compels one to come to the conclusion that it is hopeless to attempt to educate the present race of mothers and overcome the ignorant tradition of centuries, and it is only by school instruction of the rising generation that any real headway can be made; the question is, how is a beginning to be made? The obvious answer is that we must first educate the teachers, for however simple the instruction given to school children may be, it is essential that those who impart such instruction should be well grounded in the elements of the subject. Much may be looked for in the education of the girls at present attending our schools in the many important duties of a house-mother, and how they should be properly performed; how a house should be kept clean, and well ventilated; how food should be well cooked; how an infant should be nursed, fed, and clothed. Instruction of this kind given to the young will take root, and in due course produce fruit, and amongst the many good results proceeding from it, not the least important will be the reduction of our infant mortality."

AEROTUGS FOR BRITISH GUIANA.

The capability of the residents in our colonies to keep in touch with the latest scientific developments taking place in any part of the world is strikingly exemplified in the case of British Guiana, which is the first country to adopt aerial propulsion for the commercial working of its watercraft. The first aerially-propelled vessel, now at the service of the local sugar industry, is an aerotug.

As the name indicates, an aerotug is a tug which is aerially-propelled. Such a vessel is of especial value when she has to navigate a waterway which is too shallow for the efficient working of a submerged propeller, or a narrow canal, the banks of which are likely to be damaged by the action of the ordinary water screw, or weed-obstructed waters such as exist in many tropical countries. It should be clearly understood that, for the present at any rate, the aerotug is not offered as an alternative to the ordinary tug; but its use is suggested in such cases where the submerged propeller either cannot be employed through insufficient depth of water, or where it is likely to be damaged by rocks, mud or weed. The aerotug, therefore, should be regarded as fulfilling a part quite distinct from that of the ordinary tug to which its employment is not antagonistic but supplementary.

The first aerotug has been produced by the Aerial Propulsion Syndicate, Ltd., of 39, Victoria Street, London, working in co-operation with Mr. T. S. Cornish and Mr. Claud T. Berthon, who represented

Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell & Co., Curtis, Campbell & Co., and H. K. Dawson & Co., and The Demerara Co., and are to be congratulated upon their initiative in the matter, and for the services they have rendered by placing at the disposal of the Colony, what, it is hoped, may prove a means of mechanically hauling sugar punts on its shallow waterways.

The aerotug, now in Demerara, is made completely of steel plating rivetted over a strong angle-iron framework, and has an entirely flat bottom. The steel-plating at the sides of the tug is $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick, whilst, at the bottom, it is $\frac{3}{16}$ in. thick. The tug is 30 ft. long, 8 ft. wide, and, with the whole installation on board, draws only 9 in. of water. The propelling plant consists of a 15 h.p. motor consuming heavy oil, and of the necessary mounting and drive for transmitting the power of the motor to the propeller.

The motor is of the hot-bulb type, and works on the two-stroke principle. It is strong in construction and very easy of manipulation. It is of such design and manufacture as to stand easily the wear and tear of hard, everyday commercial work. The engine is fitted with a clutch situated between the motor shaft and a short piece of shafting on which is mounted a toothed-wheel. A Reynolds silent chain connects this toothed-wheel with another one vertically above it and mounted on the propeller shaft.

The propeller shaft rests horizontally on two plummer-blocks in which are housed the necessary ball-bearings. The bearings in one of the blocks are of the duplex type, and can take the propeller thrust in either direction. The plummer blocks themselves are bolted in position to a steel plate fixed on an angle-iron scantling, mounted over the motor-shaft. At the trials, which took place at Staines, previous to the despatch of the aerotug to British Guiana, the method which has been adopted to mount the propeller gave every satisfaction and proved very efficient and reliable.

SIR WILLIAM MAXWELL AITKEN, M.P.—better known as Sir Max Aitken—the well-known Canadian financier has been nominated for a seat on the Board of the Colonial Bank. Born in New Brunswick in 1879, Sir Max was in business in Halifax, N.S., until 1907. He has represented Ashton-under-Lyne in Parliament since 1910.

THERE were only four cases of burglary in Kingston, Jamaica, last year. "But," says Colonel Kershaw, in his report, "I have no doubt that in a few years our criminals will become bolder and more advanced in their professions, and the evil influence of the cinematograph pictures of crimes and criminals, will as surely make itself felt out here among the rising generation as it is in England, and I am in favour of a more strict local censorship upon moving pictures. The fact that they are passed in the United States is no justification for their being approved of out here."

THE INDIANS OF GUIANA.

Last month's *Guiana Diocesan Magazine* contains an interesting account by the Rev. W. G. White, missionary to the Indians of the Rupununi, of the death and burial of an old Indian chief named "John Bull" Chimurapang; and the election by his tribe of a successor, subject to the official approval of the Government Commissioner of the district.

The assembled Indians subsequently approved of a scheme for providing a Nursing Home for the sick, they agreeing to erect, themselves, the necessary building. Some simple facts about the spread of disease by mosquitoes, flies and filth, were explained by the missionary, the Indians being much impressed, as well as highly amused, at the story of the germ theory of disease, which was so entirely different from their own old superstition of the Kanaima, or evil spirit, as the origin of all sickness and disease, whose baneful influence has to be exorcised by the Peaiman, or native medicine-man. Mr. Thurn in his intensely interesting book, "Among the Indians of Guiana," amusingly relates his experiences of the weird rites practised on himself by one of these wild Peaiman witch-doctors, in a vain attempt to cure him of a headache.

AT WESTMINSTER.

Germany's Sugar Crop.

In the House of Commons on September 16th Mr. McCallum Scott, M.P., asked whether Germany was attempting to realise the value of their sugar crop by exporting their surplus, about £40,000,000 worth, through Holland.

Mr. Runciman replied that he was not aware of any steps that could be taken to prevent the export to neutral countries in neutral ships.

[It was reported on September 7th from Magdeburg that the German sugar industry had asked the Government to cancel the prohibition of the exportation of sugar, and that the Government had replied that at present this would be impossible, but that they would keep the application in mind and see what they could do with regard to neutral countries. The *Kreuz Zeitung* points out that the abolition of the prohibition is a vital question to the German sugar industry, as the production is far greater than the demand, and twenty-five million centner must be exported. Should this not be possible, commerce and industry will suffer immensely. In the event of the withdrawal of the prohibition, the journal proceeds, the German industry could avail itself of the neutrality of Italy, which would be the only country through which exportation to the Levant, Turkey and Greece would be possible. The Netherlands, too, would be an important country for this transit trade. Another possible channel by which to get rid of the surplus, says the *Kreuz Zeitung*, would be by way of Scandinavian countries, whence export to America could be inaugurated.]

THE wedding took place quietly on September 15 at Forest Row, Sussex, of Mr. Harold L. Q. Henriques, partner in the firm of D. Q. Henriques and Company, and Miss Frances L. Baggallay, daughter of the late Metropolitan police magistrate.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

Cotton Pests in Egypt.

The cotton worm did little damage in Egypt in 1913, having been largely killed by a spontaneous attack of a disease known as *Grasserie* in silkworms. With regard to the pink boll worm, the Government entomologists have obtained gratifying results from their experiments on methods of control. Three different methods of destroying the larvæ in cotton seed were tried and treatment of seeds by hot air, poisonous gases and cyllin solution are expected to afford great assistance in combating the pest. A new insect parasite, which has been named *Rhogas Kitcheneri*, after Lord Kitchener—hardly a compliment to our new War Secretary—has been discovered and may prove as effective in the control of the boll worm as *Rhogas Lefroyi* proved after acclimatization in India. As an alternative to the destruction by burning of the old cotton sticks, experiments have been carried out for the conversion of these sticks into charcoal, the value of which would reconcile the peasants to the measure.

Venezuela and Trinidad.

The trade between Venezuela and Trinidad continues to be hampered by the surtax of 30 per cent. imposed on imports from the West Indies. The transactions with Trinidad did not improve in 1912-13. The statistics show exports to that island of 358 metric tons of tonca beans in their uncured state, valued at £86,485. This is only done for the purpose of economy in the process of curing this product, large quantities of rum being needed in which to soak the beans, producing in this way the crystallisation of kumarine on them. On account of the heavy excise levied in Venezuela, rum is much cheaper in Trinidad. The tonca bean, on being cured, is exported to the United States, and only a few quintals are consumed in Trinidad. £4,000 worth of balata also appear as having been exported from Venezuela to that colony, and large quantities of coco-nuts and cacao are also sent from Venezuelan ports and the Orinoco delta to Trinidad, for shipment to Europe and the United States.

THE Local Government Board has issued a communication informing the public that syrup glucose may be used in place of sugar in the making of jam, marmalade, etc. They state that it is a perfectly wholesome material, and that its preservative properties are not inferior to those of sugar, though the jam, etc., prepared with syrup glucose would be somewhat less sweet than if prepared with sugar. About 1½ lb. to 1¼ lb. of syrup glucose would take the place of 1 lb. of sugar. They add, however, the warning that vendors of jams or marmalade which have been prepared with syrup glucose should be careful to bring the fact to the knowledge of purchasers by properly labelling the articles and otherwise, and so avoid committing an offence against the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

OBITUARY.

CAPTAIN JOHN H. JELlicoe.

We regret to have to announce the death of Captain John H. Jellicoe, which took place at his residence, "Northfield," Ryde, on Monday, 7th instant.

Captain Jellicoe, who, at the time of his death, was in his 90th year, was for many years Commodore of the Fleet and a Director of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. Until his retirement from active service twenty years ago he was the most popular captain in the Company, and there must be many readers of the CIRCULAR who cherish happy memories of a voyage with "John Jellicoe" in the *Moselle*. After his retirement he joined the Boards of the Royal Mail and the Southampton and Isle of Wight Steam Packet Company, of which he was appointed deputy-chairman in 1905. He was also a respected member of the West India Committee. Captain Jellicoe, who came of an old Southampton family, was the son of the late Samuel Jellicoe, of Millbrook, Southampton, and grandson of the late Samuel Jellicoe, of Uplands, Fareham, Hants. He was a typical English gentleman of the old school, who endeared himself to all whom he met. In spite of his advanced age he maintained his activity almost to the end his only affliction being deafness. He leaves two sons, Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet—of whose career he was justly proud—and the Rev. Frederick Jellicoe, and two daughters, besides a host of friends to mourn his loss.

MR. JAMES INNIS.

Mr. James Inniss died at 77, Hereford Road, Bayswater, on Friday, September 11th.

Mr. Inniss, who was one of the oldest members of the West India Committee, resided mainly in Barbados, where he owned "Trent's" plantation in St. James.

FOR some time past investigations as to the temperature and salinity of the surface water of the Atlantic have been carried on in an unorganised fashion by various vessels crossing it. The importance of this work has become more and more recognised of late years, and it is felt that the Central Bureau of the International Study of the Sea is hardly adequate to deal with the subject, and that some larger International organisation should be started. It has been suggested by Professor Otto Pettersen, of Sweden, and Professor H. C. Jones, of the United States, that the official opening of the Panama Canal would be a good opportunity for the initiation of such a work, and it is recommended that the first comprehensive transatlantic investigation should be made by ships of the navies when the warships of European nations are being despatched to Panama for the ceremonial opening—the date of which has, however, become uncertain owing to the war. Across the basin of the Atlantic is a ridge dividing it into two hollows. It is suggested that the area be divided into sections one to the east and the other to the west. These hollows are quite different hydrographically, and would be severally dealt with by the ships of the respective nations. As the *Morning Post* remarks, in this way the opening of the Panama Canal might inaugurate a new epoch in the study of the sea.

REVIEWS AND PERIODICALS.

Professor Herbert A. Strong writes "On Colonial Governors" in the September number of the *Empire Review*. Referring chiefly to the self-governing Dominions he writes that though a governor's political powers are very limited, his influence for good or for evil is unlimited. "It is no exaggeration to say that the loyalty and affection of the proud sons of our splendid transmarine possessions are strengthened or weakened by the words and actions of the Governor. He is supposed to represent the best tone prevalent in the society of the Mother Country, he starts with the prestige attaching to an ambassador, and besides this prestige he enjoys actually some of the power of the President of a Republic. He and his family and his aides-de-camp form a petty court, but one in which the etiquette insisted on seems rather to belong to the King of Yvetot than to that of Louis XIV. of France. . . . The Governor should be hospitable and ready to entertain in different ways various classes of society, always maintaining a dignity free from hauteur and what the colonists call putting on side. He need not be deeply learned, but he must have sympathy with education in all its branches, for he will be expected to make addresses at the local universities and schools, and if he is able to suggest real improvements they will be accepted on his proposal more readily than from any other authority. He must be something of a sportsman and show interest in the great racing event of the year, for racing is the sport *par excellence* in most of the colonies. At the same time he must ostentatiously abstain from betting, for gambling has led to their ruin countless young men in the colonies. Above all, he should be of a lofty moral character, and should remember that the eyes of all the community over which he rules are fixed on him, and that it is taken for granted by many in his community that what he does and says is precisely what the highest authorities in the old country would wish him to do."

MR. CHARLES BRIGHT, F.R.S.E., recently revisited Colon, which he had not seen since he assisted in laying the cable from Peru to Mexico in 1882. Asked by a representative of the CIRCULAR to give his impressions as to the place then and now, he said: "It is scarcely possible to recognise the present day Colon as the same place, for it is now a perfectly arranged and completely healthy town. The change is due to what the United States Government have spent on it and the evil effects of the mosquito are almost entirely defeated by all the Government buildings—connected with the canal, hospital, etc.—being encaged in wire netting." In conclusion he said he was glad to think that the West Indian islands would shortly be in a position to intercommunicate telegraphically—and also with the mother country—on a less costly basis than hitherto.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

THE United States beet sugar industry having been in the past dependent to a very large extent upon Europe for its supply of seed, the question of sowings for next crop is causing some anxiety.

SIR BOVERTON REDWOOD has given a certificate of test to the Trinidad Central Oilfields, showing that the percentage of motor spirit distilling up to 150° C. in a bulk sample of crude oil from their Tabaquite property was 44 per cent.

IT is officially announced in Rome that the Italian Government has authorised the exportation of 25,000 tons of sugar to England. Italy is no longer a party to the Sugar Convention, but her sugar is not subjected to countervailing duties by the signatory powers.

REGARDING Trinidad and the prospects of the Oil industry there the *Petroleum Review* of September 5th, says: "There is no reason for doubting that ultimately the island will become the most important centre for Colonial oil production; in fact, it has achieved this distinction already."

AMONG the callers to the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been, Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, Hon. E. D. Laborde, I.S.O., Mr. G. Russell Garnett, Mr. James Peet, Mr. Alexander Fraser, Mr. W. N. Sands, Mr. H. A. Tempany, Mr. G. R. Dewey Rust, and Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fairaudan.

ONE of the advertisers in the *Louisiana Planter* suggests that planters in Louisiana should make Demerara crystals and ship them direct to England. It is to be hoped that if this is done the genuine process will be followed, and that no attempt will be made to ship artificially coloured sugar and to sell it as Demerara.

THE Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have resumed issuing return tickets on the West Indian Transatlantic Main Line. The Company announce that the cruise of the *Arcadian* to the West Indies, scheduled for December 2nd, has been cancelled. Their new liner *Ebra*, a sister ship to the *Essequibo*, was successfully launched from the yard of Messrs. Workman, Clark and Co., Ltd, at Belfast, on September 8th.

THE *Board of Trade Journal* states that in connection with the harbour improvements at St. Thomas, the work of dredging and filling in the harbour, and constructing piers at Long Bay is in hand. Under the terms of the contract, a quay front 820 yards long, a breakwater about 175 yards long, and a ships' basin with a depth of 32 feet must be

completed by November. In connection with the quay it is proposed to construct a coal depôt with cranes, a road, electric plant, oil tanks, warehouses, etc. The electric power station and plant were completed in January last.

SOME time ago an apparatus for the utilization of the energy of the sun for the production of mechanical power, invented by Mr. Frank Shuman, and to be erected in Egypt, was described in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR. The manner in which this was to be done was by large parabolic mirrors reflecting the heat of the sun, and concentrating it on a boiler insulated on all sides except where the heat rays strike. With mirrors consisting of five sections 205 ft. long, and 13 ft. 5 in. wide, 1,442 lbs. of steam per hour at an absolute pressure of 15.8 lbs. per square inch (1.1 atmospheric) have been obtained.

SEVERAL members of the London staff of the Colonial Bank have enlisted for active service. They include Mr. F. L. Neynoe, the accountant of the Bank, and Mr. G. A. Swain—a nephew of Colonel Swain of Trinidad—who are now in camp at Colchester with the 10th Royal Fusiliers, Mr. A. R. Johnston (5th City of London Rifles), and Mr. R. N. Wilkinson (12th Batt. London Rifles). Mr. William A. C. C. Kaye, a member of the Grenada staff and son of Colonel Kaye, late of Barbados, is coming home to enlist. The Colonial Bank is keeping the billets of the above patriots open, and will continue to pay their salaries during their absence.

THE financial weeklies have been paying more attention than usual to sugar. *The Statist*, for example, is publishing a series of articles regarding that product, the first of which appeared on September 12th. Referring to the effects of the abolition of bounties it says "Now that a vast European war has been suddenly sprung upon the world we stand in a much more comfortable position from the policy consummated in 1903 than would have been the case had the production of cane sugar not been encouraged (as an outcome of the abolition of bounties)." It is satisfactory to find this fact appreciated by so important a fiscal authority. *The Economist*, beloved by sham Free Traders, on the other hand ignores the Sugar Convention and its effects, and regrets the declaration that the Government do not intend to impose an Excise duty upon sugar produced in this country. "If there was a time," it says, "when this infant industry could do without protection, it is the present, when double normal prices can be obtained. The confectioner has to pay the duty, although he is very badly hit by the increase of prices, and it is difficult to see why the growers of sugar should be singled out for State bounties." The poor confectioner again! As to the protection which cocoa and chocolate manufacturers have enjoyed for years *The Economist* is silent.

THE LONDON LETTER.

DURING the past fortnight the news from the front has been decidedly brighter, and though the "Great Victories" advertised on the contents bills of the newspapers have not been yet effected, there can be no doubt that good progress has been made by the Allies. The German army, which was perilously near Paris, has been driven back, and, in places, the retirement of the Germans has almost reached the dimensions of a rout, large numbers of their guns and supplies having been captured by the English and French—although this is contradicted in Berlin.

In many quarters there has been a tendency to attribute this turn of the tide to the presence of Russians in Belgium and France; but this has been denied by the official Press Bureau. The persistency of the rumour that Russians were being brought round from Archangel to Aberdeen, and thence by train to Southampton and other ports for transhipment to the Continent has been little short of remarkable. From many parts of the country came tales of troop-trains with lights out and white-washed windows passing along the line, while many people have friends who have been told by friends of friends who have actually seen strange bearded men by the thousand with curious furry caps talking an unknown language. Then follows the mysterious whisper "The Russians," and even now the official contradiction has not killed the rumour.

DURING the last few days we have experienced what seems to be the beginning of the equinoctial gales and the thoughts of everyone have been turned to our Grand Fleet in the North Sea. Though our sailors must experience much discomfort in stormy weather, they have long since gained their sea legs, which is more than can be said of the Germans. Confidence in the fleet remains unabated, and it is strengthened by the knowledge that the German sailors serve for a few years only, while it takes ten years to make our unsurpassable gunners. The latest success of the British Fleet is the sinking of the German cruiser *Hela* by the submarine *Eg. Pathfinder* is avenged.

The Government, too, continue to have the full confidence of the country, though their action with regard to the Home Rule and Welsh Disestablishment Bills has led to some not unjustifiable heart-burnings. The manner in which they are tackling the many problems with which they have been confronted evokes general admiration, and their work has been greatly facilitated by the whole-hearted co-operation of the Opposition, which for the time being has ceased to oppose.

The demeanour of the public in the country is really splendid; neither cast down by failure nor unduly elated by success they are facing the position stoically and are living up to the maxim "Busi-

ness as Usual" which is being displayed by many shops. The taxicabs and omnibuses all bear posters calling men "to arms!" inviting them to "Enlist for the War," and telling them that their Country needs them. The response has been remarkable. Lord Kitchener's first army is already complete and recruits are still flocking to the Colours.

INDEED the response has been so rapid that the staff of the Army Clothing Department has been unable to keep pace with the demand for uniforms, and the spectacle of regiments of "Kitcheners," as the men are called, marching through the streets in every day clothes and straw hats and caps is becoming very familiar.

"Fashionable Folkestone" has come into great prominence lately in consequence of the numbers of Belgian refugees who have sought its hospitality. These unfortunate people arrive every day by hundreds from Ostend and Flushing, and have terrible tales to tell of the atrocities of the War Lord's modern Huns. Committees have been set up to deal with the refugees who are now being billeted in such numbers throughout the country that the appearance of Belgian soldiers in their uniforms and nurses in their quaint peasant costumes no longer excites remark.

THE possibilities of a Zeppelin or aeroplane raid are eagerly being canvassed. Nothing is being left to chance, and at the request of the Commissioner of Police the "Lights of London" are being to a great extent left unlighted after dark, in order to make the identification of any particular spot difficult. Charing Cross is once more illuminated by gas, the "Empire" and "Alhambra" are no longer ablaze with electric lights, search-lights scour the sky from Hyde Park Corner and other points of vantage; and further precautions, the nature of which we must not divulge, are being taken to provide against any sudden attack from the air.

Lieut. R. L. Q. Henriques, of the Royal West Surrey Regiment, whose name we regret to say was included in the list of those killed in action published on September 19th, was brother of Mr. H. L. Q. Henriques of D. Q. Henriques and Co. Among the wounded in Nyasaland was Mr. B. Mason, formerly of Barbados, and brother of Dr. G. B. Mason, L.R.C.P.

FOR the time being at any rate Prince Albert has been deprived of the chance of a "scrap" with the Germans. While in H.M.S. *Collingwood* with the Grand Fleet, he was taken ill, and having been transferred to a nursing home on shore underwent an operation for appendicitis. It will be recalled with what lively satisfaction the Prince was welcomed in the West Indies, which he visited during the cruise of H.M.S. *Cumberland* in 1911-12. Indeed it is noteworthy that his visit to Dominica has,

among many of the inhabitants, replaced the memorable period known as "La Grange" as an epoch from which present events are dated.

The death of Sir John Henniker Heaton, to whom we are indebted for postal and telegraphic advantages too numerous to mention, took place on September 8th. Sir John was at Carlsbad when the war broke out, and the shock no doubt hastened the end, which came at Geneva. Born at Rochester in 1848, Sir John Henniker Heaton has spent many years in Australia where he owned several newspapers. It will be remembered that he was one of the guests of Sir Alfred Jones during the memorable voyage of the *Port Kingston* in 1907, which culminated with the disastrous earthquake.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

In reporting upon a sample of Para rubber seed oil which had been submitted, the Imperial Institute states that the result of technical trial showed that it could be employed in the manufacture of paints and soft soap, and could be utilised generally as a substitute for linseed oil. It was, however, inferior in drying value to the latter. The oil consists of glycerides of linolenic, linoleic, oleic and stearic acids, with possibly some palmitic acid.

The *Journal* of the Jamaica Agricultural Society gives some useful hints as to the cultivation of tobacco for cigar purposes. Nursery beds, it says, must be made as fine as dust so that the growth of the delicate young plants may not be checked. They can be made in the shade of trees, but it is better to shade them artificially by erecting crotch sticks and laying branches thereon, or, if expense is not a consideration, cheese cloth can be used for shade.

According to Mr. T. T. Baker, who has been working on the subject of the action of radium on plant growth, good results were obtained by mixing 1 part of radio-active material with 10 of soil, but with considerably larger quantities the yield was diminished and the growth retarded. Some crops were benefited to a much greater degree than others. Good results were obtained with radishes and wheat, in the case of radishes the sugar content being markedly increased.

The two champion egg-laying hens of last year produced 303 and 291 eggs respectively in the year, the total weight of the eggs of the 291-egg hen being 36 lbs., and of the 303-egg hen 42 lbs. The birds were of similar breeding, Plymouth Rock and White Leghorn, and had been raised as the result of selection breeding on the Oregon Experiment Station. Mr. Dryden, the author of the account of this mighty exploit, holds that the problem of increasing the egg yield is one of selection and breeding, and that the result depends upon the individual hen and not upon the flock or breed.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Reservists delay the "Danube."

When the R.M.S. *Danube* left the West Indies on September 2, there was an unusual scarcity of local news, the war absorbing attention and filling the columns of the newspapers as it is doing at home. In this connection it is noticeable that the West Indian Press appears to be permitted to speak with much greater freedom with regard to the movements of His Majesty's ships than our less favoured dailies in this country are. Further evidence of the intense loyalty of people in the West Indies is forthcoming and we may be satisfied that this is not only based on the belief prevalent in one island at any rate, that in the event of the German War Lord emerging from the war victorious—a contingency which we are satisfied will not arise—one of his first acts would be to revive slavery in the West Indies. The drilling of the Defence Forces, Volunteers and Police was continuing when the mail left, and various proposals for assisting the Mother Country in the present emergency, which have since taken shape, were under discussion. The R.M.S. *Danube* arrived at Tilbury at 9.30 a.m. on September 16th, nearly two days late, the delay being attributed to her detention at Havre to which port she took a number of reservists. Among her passengers were Mr. R. G. Duncan, Professor J. Cadman, Rev. F. H. Hammond, Mr. F. J. Morris and Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Paireudeau. The following notes are extracted from letters received from our Hon. Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—Local food-stuff prices still reasonable.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, AUGUST 29th.—The past fortnight has again been very dry. Some localised showers have fallen, but no general rains. Altogether August has been a disappointing month. There is quite a dearth of any local news, everything being overshadowed by the terrible calamity that has befallen Europe. Food-stuffs have advanced in price but not to any abnormal degree. The embargo on exportation of sugar has been removed, so shipments are going forward to-day for Canada, and during the week some factory sugar went on to Montreal. I understand that Bental's Factory is still gridding, and is giving 18s. per ton for cane. Gunthorpe's last payment was 16s. 3d. as against 9s. 11d. two weeks previously. Some local sales of sugar have been made at 27/30 shillings per bag for muscovado.

BAHAMAS—A new mail contract with the Ward Line.

The *Nassau Guardian* mentions that Colonel James D. McLachlan, at one time the popular Aide-de-Camp in Nassau of Sir William Haynes-Smith, and now commanding the 1st Battalion Cameron Highlanders, is to go to the front. Lieutenant R. A. D. Moseley, Royal Munster Fusiliers, is with the Expeditionary Force. An agreement has been arrived at between the Government and the Ward Line regarding the mail contract, and a weekly service has been arranged. The subsidy has been raised to £1000, and passenger and freight rates will remain the same as

before. An Emergency Committee has been appointed with Hon. J. P. Sands as Chairman, to deal with food-stuffs imported by the Government. The Norwegian S.S. *Rousdal* went ashore at Long Island on the 27th, and her cargo is being salvaged and placed on the Cay boats. The shippers and consignees were Messrs. J. E. Kerr and Co., Jamaica.

BARBADOS—The gift of 2,240,000 lbs. of sugar.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, SEPTEMBER 2ND.—Naturally, the war is the topic that engrosses our attention, and we look forward eagerly to the receipt of telegrams for news of how things are going, and what our sailors and soldiers are doing. We realise that on the issue depends the existence of the Empire of which we are all proud, and that all the Colonies should do all that lies in their power to help the Mother Country in this life and death struggle. Our contribution of £20,000 we know to be a mere mite; but it is a proof of our loyalty and devotion, and we show it in the only way possible to us. I am sorry to say that the dry weather continues. It is a very serious matter, not only is the cane crop suffering badly, but we cannot plant provisions which are scarce and likely to become more so under these conditions.

From the papers to hand by the mail it appears that Barbados' gift of 2,240,000 lbs. of sugar will be purchased with part of the surplus which has accrued to the £80,000 grant-in-aid (now controlled by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank) presented to the Colony by the Imperial Parliament in 1902. Regarding the weather and crop prospects the *Barbados Advocate* of September 1st, says: August 1914 has passed into local history as the driest ever recorded in the island's annals. In some districts the recorded rainfall is under two inches; in the most favoured parishes, the highlands, it is just under four inches. The drought this year is more severe than in 1912. As a result it is impossible to speak of the outlook. The cane-fields are green, and splendid tilth has done all that is possible to enable the plants to stand up against the weather conditions, but there is hardly any crop in the lands. The provision crops are better than might be expected, but that is all that can be said. If there is no rain at a fairly early date from now, they must fail. In several places the cornfields have been cut down for use as fodder, it being hopeless to expect any yield from them. The cotton plants are struggling into bearing, but the yield is small.

BERMUDA—A timely visit of American journalists.

Five representatives of the United States and Canadian Press have been spending a week in Bermuda to study the condition of the island and assure themselves that it is not an armed camp—vide a recent communication to the American Press, which had a most disastrous effect on the tourist trade. Dr. Wainwright, son of Mr. Masson Wainwright, M.C.P., has received a Commission on the hospital ship *Prince George*.

BRITISH GUIANA—Mr. R. G. Duncan's retirement.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, AUGUST 29TH.—The keenest interest is taken in the war by all classes of the community, and there is always a crowd in the neighbourhood of the West India and Panama Telegraph Office news-board. There is a calm feeling of confidence in the future, which the latest news as to the traditional steadiness of the British troops, helps to keep up. The Government have passed a special Ordinance regarding the prices of food-stuffs, and at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on August 15th it was suggested that the Government should take the matter in hand and a Committee has been appointed to advise His Excellency on the subject, the personnel being

as follows: The Hon. J. Hampden King, Immigration Agent General (Chairman), Mr. H. A. Cameron, Chief Commissary, Mr. A. B. Allt, Acting Comptroller of Customs, the Hon. A. P. Sherlock, President, Chamber of Commerce, Mr. P. Cressall, Vice-President, Chamber of Commerce, Mr. J. S. McArthur, Mayor of Georgetown, and Mr. Jorge Camacho. The Planters' Association had been informed of the subject of immigration for the season and the closing of the depots in India. The *Chcnab*, the second ship of the season left Calcutta on August 4th. Dr. Von Winckler who was to have returned by the last ship returned by the mail. The S.S. *Imataka* and *Crown of Navarre*, after being held up for some days were allowed to leave with their cargoes of sugar for the United Kingdom. The prohibition against the export of sugar has now been removed as far as shipments to the United Kingdom are concerned, and the Government here have notified us that 10 per cent. must be retained for sale for local consumption. Mr. R. G. Duncan is a passenger to England by the outgoing mail. Mr. Duncan is retiring after a residence of 40 years, and his departure is a loss to the Colony. He was entertained at dinner at the Georgetown Club on the 25th instant.—The weather continues much too dry and rains are wanted generally. We had a shower in town this morning.

DOMINICA—Smart work by the local Defence Force.

MR. E. A. AGAR, AUGUST 29TH.—The weather for the past fortnight has been fine on the whole and limes though coming in fast have not been rushed upon us by heavy rains or wind, and the trees are flowering again in places. The cacao crop also looks better than last year. Everything goes on here very quietly and except for the presence of the Defence Force in Roseau, it would be impossible to guess that we were at war by the general appearance of things. The stock of imported food-stuffs is not very high, though up to now, steamers have come in and delivered goods much as usual. We are probably very often much worse stocked than we are at present, and it is only the uncertainty as to how long food-stuffs can continue to be imported that causes us to consider the matter at all. Prices have risen a bit, but not abnormally. Unless we can make some arrangement for exchange we are likely to be out of sugar before long, the sugar islands having prohibited its export. All the cane we grow is converted into rum. Actual starvation is a thing absolutely impossible although it is quite possible should the war continue for some months yet, that holders of food will put up their prices considerably unless the Government interferes. On Sunday the 9th, we had some excitement in the town; about mid-day a telephone message from Portsmouth announced that a cruiser had been sighted, and at about 2.30 p.m. she was seen from Roseau. The Defence Force mobilized to a man within fifteen minutes, and all the available motor cars assembled outside the Court House. Naturally a crowd collected on the sea front to see what would happen, but there was no undue excitement as the ship came closer in. She turned out to be a French cruiser, which was on her way to Martinique. She came quite close in without slackening speed, dipped her flag in salute to the fort and turned out again. A friendly action, but one which gave us some uneasiness.

The *Voice of Dominica* records that a Pontifical Mass was celebrated at the Cathedral in Roseau on August 18th for the repose of the soul of the late Pope. The congregation included Mr. E. R. Drayton, the Administrator, their Honours F. H. Parker, and S. R. Pemberton, representing the local bench, representatives of the local bar, the defence forces and constabulary and the medical profession.

GRENADA—Cacao shipments still ahead of 1913.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, AUGUST 31st.—The shipments of cacao to date amount to 65,409 bags as compared with 63,253 for the corresponding period last year. His Hon. Chief Justice R. S. Jonstone leaves to-day for a holiday, and it is understood that he is unlikely to return. During his absence Mr. W. R. Commissiong, K.C., C.M.G. will act as Chief Justice.

JAMAICA—The Volunteer movement progressing.

The Jamaica Relief War Fund has been opened and meetings are being held in support of it. At a meeting of the St. George's Branch of the Agricultural Society held at Tough Bay on August 24th, the Hon. S. T. Stedman urged the people to plant peas, corn and food-stuffs generally so as to provide against the future. Colonel Moulton-Barret has been appointed by the Governor to re-organise the volunteer movement throughout the island. In some districts bicycle corps are being formed to patrol the coast and the movement is being taken up with enthusiasm. The *Gleaner* has been informed from Clarendon that the Government is proceeding to some extent with the Vere irrigation scheme, and it urges the adoption of more active measures in this direction. It points out that at present Vere is a desert, though it has the finest sugar lands in Jamaica, and that with irrigation they will yield bountifully, though the irrigation works must be constructed on sound and proper lines.

ST. KITTS—Death of the popular Rev. Canon Yeo.

MR. B. J. SHELFORD, AUGUST 28th.—The fortnight has passed quickly and uneventfully. Local tension is easier as these waters are now reported to be free of German warships. The S.S. *Chaudiere's* shipments of sugar to Canada were cancelled by Government order, but the ban against the export of sugar has been withdrawn, and shippers hope to forward about 360 tons muscovado to Halifax by the S.S. *Caraquel* on the 31st inst.—and it is to be hoped that in view of the higher duties now ruling there, and other charges, that the Canadian refiners will offer fair terms for the same. I learn that the Company is allowing the vessels of the Canadian service to call at Sandy Point for freight which will be a great boon to shippers, for which we are thankful. We are still in want of rain—August to date showing only 1.40 in. At a meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society on the 25th inst. two fine photographs of the Presidency's Exhibits at the Topical Products Exhibition were viewed with interest, and the small brochure supplied to enquirers was favourably commented on. At this meeting Mr. F. R. Shepherd read an interesting paper on root borers, and by an interesting experiment which he has conducted, and which he placed before the meeting he demonstrated that the weevil borer *E. Esuriens* is a root borer which is doing considerable damage to canes. There is a good deal of sickness—grippitis—in the island just now, and I have just heard with sincere regret of the death this morning of the Rev. Canon Yeo, of St. Peter's Parish—a most kind-hearted, genial and popular personality at all social gatherings.

ST. LUCIA—A welcome visit of British men-of-war.

HON. S. D. MEVILLE, AUGUST 29th.—We have had some English men-of-war here, welcome visitors! and the *Descartes* is now at the mouth of the harbour. Of course the war is the only topic—that and the high prices of food, the necessary accompaniment of such conditions as prevail. We have had some welcome rains about one inch and a half, which cannot fail to do good.

TOBAGO—Plain words for Sham "Free Traders."

MR. ROBERT S. REID, AUGUST 28th.—Excitement on this side is gradually calming down although we would all

feel more happy if the German cruisers were sunk or disposed of. Our own warships are on their track and before long we hope to bear that Britannia rules the waves, here and in the North Sea. Fortunately there is not much produce to ship at this season, but the little lots of cacao and coco-nuts marketed in Trinidad fetch much lower prices for lack of competition and uncertainty of shipment. The German buyers are, of course, out of the market, their bank credits being useless. The rise in price of sugar ought to smite the consciences of Mr. Lough and the radicals who were content to let the cane sugar industry be strangled by bounty-fed beet, so long as so-called "free trade" gave them cheap sugar. This little island, with its ring of ruined sugar works is only one testimony against the folly of allowing foreigners to feed us.—The first part of the fortnight was dry and exceptionally hot, and fears were entertained for the young cacao crop, but fine showers have since fallen and some peals of thunder give us the hope that the rainy season has really set in. The crop is, however, more promising than in August, 1913, although not likely to be marketed before December. Provisions (vegetables) are still scarce and dear, but corn will shortly be ripe and there will be less demand for expensive "shop goods." The natives are planting their own "gardens," but there is no demand (in this district) for "free gardens" which big proprietors would gladly give out if called upon. More sugar canes will probably be grown by Metayers, but there are few convenient "mills" (or factories) left in the island as most of the land adjoining them has been planted up in coco-nuts. King's Bay Works with its two feet thick stone walls is turned into store rooms. The chimney (dated 1871) is still intact, the machinery was sold as old iron and the boiler lies derelict, minus the tubes which are in service as bridges, etc., and all round the new coolie barracks are coco-nut and cacao fields! The only item of local interest is the report that Tobago may again have a representative in the Legislative Council, on which there are now two unfilled vacancies. Messrs. Seymour and Harries have returned from their holiday in the old country. Naturally they felt anxious at times on the trip out, with wars and rumours of war, but met nothing but a British cruiser when near their journey's end and were doubtless thankful of its watchful "searchlight." Somehow the natives have got an idea that the Germans would make them slaves again if they are victors. Consequently you may guess they are excessively loyal to Great Britain!

TRINIDAD—Patriotism at the Santa Rosa Races.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, SEPTEMBER 2nd.—War, war, war, nothing but war! In every house, every office, at every street corner, all classes, all races discuss war and war only. At intervals during the day special bulletins are issued, sometimes coming as general news, at others communicated specially from Government House, and all are caught up and read with feverish interest. Most noticeable and satisfactory is the unbounded loyalty and confidence of the masses in the British flag. I think they would go to the front to a man if called on. As one of them, expressing his views outside my office to a group of fellow labourers rather quaintly remarked: "It is the duty of all o' we to put we face to the wheel and smash he." "He," of course, being the Kaiser. On the 25th the cruiser *Bristol* came in to coal and oil. Who would have thought how soon the value of Trinidad as an oilfield of the Empire would be put to practical proof. On the 26th we were all delighted to see the *Good Hope* once more. I remember what a dapper ship she was on her last visit, in 1903. I think, and of the good time some of us had on board. She looked strangely different to-day with queerly painted funnels, with decks cleared for action, and with an all

over appearance that she would not be any the worse for a good wash. Next morning the *Berwick* came in. Bunkering being completed, the three left together with Admiral Cradock on the *Good Hope*, to which he had transferred his flag. The action of the Admiralty in so promptly despatching a ship of the *Good Hope* Class to these waters is much appreciated. No doubt we shall now soon hear something of the *Dresden* if not the *Karlsruhe*. It is time they were wiped off these seas, though it must be confessed that their officers and crews have not proved the barbarians on water that their countrymen are reported to have been on land. Meanwhile, thanks to the action of the Government to which I referred last mail, no one here has suffered much. Of course the cost of living has risen, but not to any prohibitive figure, and recent heavy arrivals from the States and Canada have relieved the situation a good deal. The Royal Mail brought nothing. The heaviest tax felt so far is on those whose business requires the frequent use of the ocean cable. Telegraphing full addresses (although the severity of this is now mitigated) and everything in plain language at 5s. 1½d. a word relieves many transactions of profit, but no one grumbles.* Freights have been doubled, and although sugar has gone up, there has been a serious fall in the value of cacao. Fortunately the bulk of the crop had already been placed. At first there was much difficulty in getting war risks underwritten, but thanks to the enterprise of one large Insurance Company of London, soon followed by others, cargo was covered both for Europe and America at reasonable rates by local agents. We learn that gallant little Barbados has voted £20,000 towards the war fund. So far nothing in that way has been done here until this morning when the *Port of Spain Gazette* announces a war subscription list headed with the names of three good citizens for \$100 each. The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce will meet to-morrow to consider what action should be taken in the matter, and I have no doubt that Trinidad will now, as on previous occasions, prove herself no indifferent daughter of the Empire.

The time honoured Santa Rosa Races were held at Arima on the 28th and 29th, and proved very successful. They were under the auspices of the Trinidad Breeders' Association, and were made the occasion of a patriotic demonstration. Nothing but patriotic airs were played, and the flags of the allied nations were much in evidence. One large banner had been specially made. The large design was the Union Jack and interwoven were the flags of France, Russia and Belgium. This was unfolded just opposite the Grand Stand, and stretched on framework. On the 29th, as the meeting commenced, the news came of the British naval victory. The band at once played the different national airs one after the other, the whole crowd joining with enthusiasm. Mr. A. A. Cipriani, well known in sporting circles here was the hon. secretary and organiser of the meeting and deserves much credit for its unqualified success. I should say that the motto printed at foot of the United Banner was *Arma pacis mundi custodes*. Cacao to-day is quoted, nominal 10½ c., but I am sorry I cannot give usual summary of month's shipments and market, owing to the official figures to end of August not being at hand yet.

The following telegram has been received regarding the matter in British Guiana. Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co. Sept. 20th "Three inches in Berbice, Demerara, one Essauil."

The question of facilities for cabling is receiving attention, and an announcement on the subject may be expected immediately.—ED. THE CIRCULAR.

THE NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

The Georgetown Club, Demerara, and the Kingstown Club, St. Vincent, have ordered copies of the West India Committee Map of the West Indies for the use of their members.

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

DEATHS.

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants," Crossed cheques or P O Orders, should be made payable to the Manager, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Henniker Heaton.—On the 8th September, at Geneva, Switzerland, Sir John Henniker Heaton, Baronet.

Jellicoe.—On the 7th inst., at Northfield, Ryde, John Henry Jellicoe, Commodore and Director of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., second son of the late Samuel Jellicoe, of Millbrook, Southampton, and grandson of the late Samuel Jellicoe, of Uplands, Fareham, Hants.

WANTS.

Wanted.—Wanted to purchase July issue of the *International Sugar Journal*, 1910. Apply G., West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Experienced Nurse, aged 28, wishing to return to Demerara, offers her services as nurse to young baby or children returning to the colony immediately. Address, M. T. c/o West India Committee Circular, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

The Dalston Charity Organisation Committee wish to recommend native of Jamaica as nurse or maid to family returning to Jamaica. Good references.—Apply C. O. S., 54, Shackwell Lane, N.E.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Barbados, Vol. XLIX—No. 73. Proclamations regarding war. Legislative Council and House of Assembly, Aug. 11th. **No. 74.** Marriages Memorandum. Warning to intending emigrants to Panama and Costa Rica in view of the large number of West Indians said to be out of employment there. Order fixing the price of food-stuffs (sugar v.p. crystals not more than 5 cents per lb., centrifugal muscovado 4½ cents, molasses sugar 3 cents, bakers' bread not less than 10 ounces for 4 cents, one cent loaf not to weigh less than 2 ounces.) **British Guiana, Vol. XXXIX—No. 28.** War proclamations and orders. **No. 29.** Foodstuffs Ordinance, 1914. **No. 33.** War Proclamation. **36.** Official Designations Ordinance, 1914. **Trinidad, Vol. 83—No. 46.** Order in Council regarding "Days of Grace." War Proclamations. **No. 47.** Procedure for license applications. **No. 49.** Proceedings of Board of Industrial Training, August 10th. Examination of Teachers, 1915. **Grenada, Vol. 32—No. 32.** Reports on Criminal Statistics, 1913. Police Department, 1913. Prisons, 1913. **St. Lucia, Vol. 83—No. 41.** Telegraph and "Wireless" regulations. **St. Vincent, Vol. 47—No. 34.** Reports on Criminal Statistics, 1913-14 and Treasury Department, 1913-14. Land and House Tax Roll, 1914. **Dominica, Vol. XXXVII No. 42.** War Proclamations. Roseau Town Board, June 16th. **St. Kitts-Nevis, Vol. XI—No. 39.** Colonial Bank (Moratorium) Ordinance, 1914. **No. 40.** Revised food prices.

INDIA'S SUGAR INDUSTRY.

The position of India, says *The Statist* of September 19th, both in respect of its production and consumption of sugar is, outside of expert quarters, very little known of by the general public. It will be a matter of surprise to a great number of persons to learn that India's own production of cane sugar equals not far off one-third of the total production of cane sugar of the world, and yet India not only keeps the whole of its home-grown sugar at home for consumption, but also imports to a considerable extent. It is estimated that the present production in India is at the rate of three million tons per annum. In addition to which, for the year to March 31, 1913, India imported about 617,500 tons of cane sugar, as to about three-fourths from Java and the balance from Mauritius. Then, further, it imported 57,000 tons of beet sugar, nearly the whole of it from Austria, but a trifling amount being received from Germany. Consequent on the European drought of 1911 the high range of price and increase in demand for cane-sugar gave India the opportunity to make the exceptional export of sugar to the United Kingdom of some 650,000 tons for which we paid £1,114,000.

Though in dealing in *The Statist* of April 27, 1912, with some opinions with facts and figures contributed by an Indian correspondent, we were not altogether in accord with his views, we noted that the country required an infusion of capital for lifting it out of a rut of producing and dealing with sugar in a very unscientific manner. But with demands that the Government should take up the matter by providing small cultivators with capital we did not agree. We regarded it as a matter that should be left to private initiative. We, however, fully agreed that the field scientifically dealt with, both from the finance, growth, and refining points of view, could be made a very important one, with probably early emergence to the condition of India becoming an exporter. The erection of local refineries certainly would put an end to the necessity to import European beetroot sugar.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Direct West India Cable Company, Ltd.

The directors in their report for the year ended 30th June, 1914, which was adopted at the Annual General Meeting, September 15th, state that the net result is an available balance of £7,865 15s. 9d., as compared with £3,267 os. 11d. for the previous year. An interim dividend of 3 per cent., free of income tax, has already been paid, and it is now proposed to make a further equal payment, free of income tax, which will leave £6,065 15s. 9d. to be carried forward. The balance to credit of revenue account, which was last year £48,922 18s. 8d., has been debited with £900 applied to dividend, and credited with £6,065 15s. 9d. surplus revenue of the past year, and it now stands at £54,088 14s. 5d. The Company's cables have worked efficiently throughout the year. During the year debentures have been paid off to the amount of £7,000, leaving £8,000 outstanding. Mr. Geo. G. Ward, and Mr. Fred Ward retired from the board and were re-elected.

Demerara Mutual Life Assurance Company.

The forty-fifth half-yearly meeting of this Company was held at Georgetown on the 28th ult. Mr. Jules Pairaudeau, the Chairman, presided. Dealing with the report, the Chairman stated that the half-year had been a most successful one, more proposals for assurance having been received and accepted than in the preceding six months by a considerable amount. The Assurance Fund stood at \$801,734.89 as against risks in force of \$2,129,450. It was, he said, interesting to note that the claims, including endowments matured, paid by the Company since its inception totalled \$428,611, while the annual income from all sources was estimated at \$165,000 as against an average of \$149,778 at the end of the last quinquennial period. The report was adopted unanimously.

SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS.

Messrs. Elders and Fyffes announce that while their weekly sailings to Port Limon and Santa Marta will be maintained as usual, the weekly call at Kingston, Jamaica, and Colon, Panama, has been cancelled except in the case of the following steamers:—

	Leave Avonmouth	Arrive Kingston	Arrive Port Limon	Arrive Colon
"BAYANO"	Oct. 5	Oct. 20	Oct. 22	Oct. 24
"CHAGRAS"	Oct. 19	Nov. 3	Nov. 5	Nov. 7
"BAYANO"	Nov. 16	Dec. 1	Dec. 3	Dec. 5

Special fares will be charged for the above vessels as follows:—

To Kingston	£25 Single.
To Port Limon and Colon	£30 Single.

While the present uncertainty continues it is best to post letters and papers for the West Indies (Jamaica excepted) in London before 6 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the departure of the West Indian mail steamer, the date and hour of which is subject to alteration at short notice. In the country letters should be posted earlier than usual. This week, however, the mail will not close in London until 6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 23rd.

Passengers to the West Indies have now to furnish themselves with passports. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, S.W., and application must be made before 5 p.m. prior to the day on which the passport is to be issued. The fee is 2s.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

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| Mr. A. K. Agar | Mr. A. T. Hammond | Mr. N. Maude Roby |
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. P. Haughton James | Mr. W. N. Sands |
| Mr. G. H. Arthur | Mr. A. S. Krishnaiah | Mr. J. B. D. Selmer |
| Mr. G. Auchinleck | Mr. A. H. Kirby | His Hon. Mr. Justice |
| Mr. E. L. Baera | Hon. E. D. Labotde, | P.M.C. Sherriff |
| H. E. Sir H. Hesketh | i. s. o. | Mr. R. B. Short |
| Bell, K.C.M.G. | Dr. G. L. Latour | Lt.-Colonel W. J. Sack |
| Hon. E. Du Houlay | Mr. A. M. Low | Captain D. I. Slinger |
| Mr. W. A. Boyd | Mr. W. Low | Hon. Denis Slynne |
| Mr. Geoffrey Brooke | Mr. J. A. Madgwick | Hon. Adam Smith |
| Professor P. Carmody | Mr. C. H. McLean | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| Mr. Albert Cherry | Mr. H. P. C. Melville | His Grace The Arch |
| Mr. F. A. C. | Mr. James Peet | bishop of the West |
| Collymore | Mr. G. M. Peter | Indies |
| Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa | Mr. C. W. Prest | Mr. Carl F. Wieting |
| Mr. W. Morris Fletcher | Mr. G. Raitton | Mr. A. H. Wight |
| Mr. John T. Greg | Mr. L. A. Richard | and |
| Hon. E. A. H. Haggart | Mr. W. C. Robertson | Mr. G. Williams |
| Mr. J. R. Bancroft, c/o Messrs. S. Dobree & Sons, 7, Moorgate St., E.C. | Mr. G. G. Brown, 60, Hazlewood Road, Putney, S.W. | Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C. |
| Mr. Charles M. Calder, United Empire Club, 117, Piccadilly, W. | Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoyne," Chesel Avenue, Bittern Southampton. | Mr. Frank Curdall, F.R.S., Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C. |
| Mr. P. J. Deane, St. Brannocks, Mundesley, Norfolk | Mr. W. R. Durie, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W. | Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C. |
| Mr. Walter Farrell, 62, Kensington Gardens Square, W. | Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fore Street Avenue, E.C. | Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 39, Bedford Square, W.C. |
| Mr. W. G. Gordon Gordon, c/o Messrs. Coutts & Co., 40, Strand, W.C. | Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, C.M.G., 28, Gledalton Road, Strathban, S.W. | Rev. F. H. Hammond, 10, Chapel Street, Warwick. |
| Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, 38, Livingstone Road, Perry Bar, Birmingham | Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Streatham Hill, S.W. | Mr. J. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, Gt. Tower Street, E.C. |
| Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meirion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire. | Mr. C. McEneaney, Newcastle, Co. Down, Ireland. | Major O. H. B. Marescaux, Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, S.W. |
| Hon. W. L. McKinstry, 57, Princes Square, Bayswater, W. | Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire. | Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland. |
| Mr. W. Mearns, 30, Carlton Place, Aberdeen. | Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, c/o Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co., 18, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C. | Mr. F. J. Morris, 4, Camden Gardens, N.W. |
| Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, S.W. | Mr. T. F. Nourse, 32, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex. | Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Maid Vale, W. |
| Mr. J. J. Rodrigues, c/o Messrs. J. Travers & Sons, Ltd., 109, Cannon Street, E.C. | Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o Messrs. Preville & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E.C. | Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Lane, E.C. |
| Mr. L. Schooner Scott, 20, Haven Green, Ealing, W. | Mr. F. R. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E.C. | Mr. E. C. Skinner, c/o R. M. S. P. Co., 13, Moorgate Street, E.C. |
| Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C. | Mr. G. R. Dewy Rust, 9, Heathfield Gardens, Chiswick, W. | Mr. John F. Scully, Oakleigh, Camberley. |

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME

ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Danube*, (Captain S. W. Plunkett) Tilbury, London, Sept. 16th:—

Professor J. & Mrs. G. Mann	Mrs. Grose	Mr. P. P. E. Meline
Hon. R. G. Duncan	Mrs. R. Gallegos	Mr. L. G. Murat
Rev. F. H. & Mrs. Hammond	Mrs. V. Gauvent	Mr. J. Malvern
Mr. F. J. Morris	Mr. E. Gayraud	Mr. R. Navarro
Mr. & Mrs. G. H. Pairaudau	Mr. J. Germain	Mr. L. Ogee
Mr. G. Abraham	Mr. J. F. Gilede	Mr. E. T. O'Connor
Mr. R. d'Arbelles	Mr. W. E. Goodwin	Mr. C. O'Connor
Mr. J. E. Appassorho	Mr. J. A. Goodwin	Capt. A. Purvis
Mr. M. P. M. Andriot	Mr. J. W. Gibb	Mr. J. M. Penen
Mr. J. L. Albouy	Mrs. F. B. Grant	Mr. & Mrs. J. Poncin
Mr. C. Acquier	Mr. V. M. Le Grand	Miss A. Priestley
Mr. F. Abadie	Mr. P. L. M. Le Grand	Mr. J. Picard
Mr. J. Berthier	Brig.-Genl. J. R. M. Dalrymple Hay, C.B., D.S.O.	Mr. C. Paris
Mr. P. Bloch	Mr. C. E. Henry	Mr. A. E. Parker
Mr. C. Bault	Mr. R. Halimboung	Mr. R. Poupart
Mr. J. L. Boussac	Mr. A. G. Heymann	Dr. P. Reinburg
Mr. F. L. Berrier	Mr. H. G. Kellman	Mr. P. Rosenfeld
Mr. E. C. Harlett	Mr. A. Herman	Mr. H. Rochereau
Mr. J. M. Bericot	Mr. V. Huard	Mr. G. Wichoux
Mr. P. Berauk	Mr. & Mrs. D. H. Haig	Mr. P. Romieux
Mr. S. Bianconi	Mr. A. Jean Joseph	Mr. Robinson
Mr. D. Bezert	Mr. A. J. G. Jordan	Mr. H. G. Rose
Mr. C. L. Seion-Browne	Hon. R. S. Johnston	Mr. J. A. L. Reys
Mr. A. Bohrer	Mr. E. M. James	Mr. L. Robert
Mr. C. Bresson	Mr. H. G. Kellman	Mr. N. C. Roberts
Mr. C. Browne	Miss H. Knages	Mr. C. Reiss
Mr. R. G. Castelli	Mr. J. Kirkness	Mr. R. Seidner
Mr. M. J. E. Chaigneau	Mr. R. Levy	Mr. A. Samuel
Mr. L. Chede	Mr. R. L. Levy	Mr. E. Sorian
Mr. L. Cabane	Mr. R. Levy	Mr. J. E. Sondoff
Capt. & Mrs. F. A. Corfield	Mr. G. Levy	Mr. Carlos Steffan
Miss M. C. Corfield	Mr. C. P. Laverick	Mr. & Mrs. S. J. Sands
Mr. W. Coghill	Mr. L. J. T. Lufoy	Mr. W. F. Stephenson
Mr. E. A. Crichlow	Mr. E. L. Lataste	Mr. G. Stampart
Mr. C. B. Collier	Mr. M. Levy	Mr. J. Sie
Mrs. Collier	Mr. A. L. Leclercq	Mr. J. Scott
Miss R. A. Collier	Mr. A. L. Lartigan	Mr. W. D. Thompson
Mr. J. H. Drouot	Mr. M. Larigan	Mr. L. E. Thomas
Mr. E. Dumont	Mr. H. Lavoile	Mr. S. M. Tubert
Mr. A. M. V. Delahis	Mr. V. Leclair	Mr. D. Le Tendre
Mr. P. Dubalde	Mr. A. F. Levy	Mr. E. Thorin
Mr. P. R. Delnot	Mr. M. F. Mollard	Mr. P. Tardieu
Lieut. G. R. H. Deane	Mr. J. B. Mattern	Mr. J. L. Timothy
Mr. L. J. Duriez	Mr. L. G. Masse	Mr. E. Turner
Mr. H. C. Desie	Mr. L. Millerieux	Mrs. Turner
Mr. E. Duffo	Mr. P. F. Montigny	Mr. G. Torre
Mr. A. Defendini	Mr. L. J. Margerit	Mr. M. L. Thierry
Mr. E. A. Duhaat	S. Sgt. W. F. McEvoy	Mr. J. Vellutini
Mr. F. G. Deane	Mr. C. L. Merle	Mr. H. Verdeille
Mr. A. C. Fol 2	Mr. M. A. Marthe	Mr. J. B. A. Vaudry
Mr. E. P. Ferry	Mr. J. B. Mondan	Mr. C. Vergez
Mr. G. Fety	Mr. V. A. Menu	Mr. R. L. Vaillanm
Mr. A. Fyfe	Mr. J. Mercier	Mr. A. Viard
Mr. C. E. Fancillon	Mr. E. MacDonnell	Mr. E. Williams
Major D. C. E. Grose	Mr. L. Mitchiner	Mr. P. J. P. Walter
	Mr. A. Mathieu	Mr. R. Wurmer
		Rev. Father Wilson

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES,

per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, (Captain E. R. E. Morrison) Oct 7th:—

Capt. D. E. L. Slinger	Mrs. A. Gutierrez	Mrs. L. M. Hobson
Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Boveil	Mrs. A. de Hederich	Rt. Rev. Edward A. Parry, D.D., Lord Bishop of Guiana
Mr. J. B. D. Sellier	Mrs. and Miss Haynes	Mr. J. McBain
Mr. A. M. Low	Mr. and Mrs. C. Viera	Mr. S. V. Woodcock
Mr. W. Mearns	Mr. C. Clements	Miss C. M. Brown
Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Rodriguez	Mr. M. J. S. Dyson	Mr. F. Pudsey
Hon. and Mrs. D. Slyne	Mrs. M. Kendall	Misses V. and A. Sellier
Mr. C. F. Wieling	Mrs. I. Seabrook	Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Sellier
Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Brown	Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Campbell	Miss E. Bustard
Hon. and Mrs. F. A. Corea	Misses M. Lucie-Smith	Mrs. Riheiro
Misses Sellier (2)	Mr. and Mrs. Lucie-Smith	Mrs. Bowles
Mr. R. C. Gooden-Chisholm	Mr. A. D. Ferguson	Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hart
Mr. C. B. Reid	Mr. A. Siewart	Rev. and Mrs. MacGill
Miss H. Schoener	Master J. Rodriguez	Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Walker
Mr. and Mrs. Villegas	Mrs. R. Grant	Mrs. R. A. Garnett
Miss J. Villegas	Miss L. Lyon	Mr. and Mrs. G. J. d. Freitas
Messrs. J. and J. Gutierrez	Miss K. Bolton	Mr. A. McKenzie
	Mrs. Lafrere	Misses Garnett (2)
	Mrs. J. Renshaw	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES

R.M.S.P. *Treni*, (Captain R. Hayes), October 21st:—

Mr. H. F. D. Gall	Master C. Williams	Sir Charles and Lady Major
Mr. G. L. Robert	Mrs. L. A. P. Reilly	Mrs. H. A. Alcazar
Miss M. Ferguson	Miss S. Mustard	Mrs. J. Addie
Dr. and Mrs. Bennett	Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams	Master A. Addie
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. McIntosh	Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Gomes	Miss Richards
Mrs. Evans	Mrs. A. V. Board	Miss R. Alkman
Miss Benckendorff	Mr. and Mrs. S. Hayward	Hon. and Mrs. C. J. Simmons
Mr. and Mrs. S. Davies	Miss I. E. Board	
Rev. and Mrs. H. R. Davies	Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Sands	

The Booker Line.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM DEMERARA

PER S.S. *Imataka*, LIVERPOOL, September 8th:—

Mr. and Mrs. J. Aising
 Miss L. Bee | Mr. A. Braggins |

SAILINGS FROM LIVERPOOL TO DEMERARA, per S.S. *Imataka*, September 20th:—

Mr. T. H. Stokes	Misses Field (2)	Mr. C. W. Peppiette
Mr. L. F. Tuck	Master W. Field	Mr. H. L. Lansell
Mr. and Mrs. Field	Master Cassels	Mr. Malcolm Young

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
Jan. 1 to August 27, 1914		Jan. 1 to July 25, 1914	
Sugar ...	48,259 Tons.	32,687	1913 Tons.
Molasses ...	827 695 Puns.	945,285	789,197 Galls
Rem ...	1,278,308 1,636,678 Proof Galls		
Molasses oil, &c.	1,069 4,904 Tons.		
Cacao ...	33,437 31,710 lbs.	6,522,992	3,168,256 Lbs
Coffee ...	238,745 77,913	5,680,192	3,874,192
Coco-nuts	1,231,021 473,571 No	16,819,761	13,109,038 No.
Oranges		2,320,100	15,761,745
Bananas		10,641,431	5,299,631 Steins
Cotton		32,667	47,545 Lbs.
Pimento		60,528	66,029 Cwts.
Ginger ...		16,067	19,062
Honey ...		116,337	92,824 Galls.
Dyewoods		39,320	28,998 Tons
Gold ...	37,765 50,633 ozs.		
Diamonds	9,519 4,637 carats.		
Rice	9,786,517 10,316,958 lbs.		
Balata ...	417,404 310,038		
Rubber ...	282 77	Arwrt. 2,384,745	3,133,339 lbs
Timber ...	167,936 277,216 cubic ft.	Cacao	126,819 151,246
Lumber ...	11,918 37,197 feet	Cotton	505,222 435,486
Lime/citrate oil	3,797 686 lbs.	" Seed	707,023 865,963

St. Vincent. Jan. 1 to June 30, 1914 1913

Arwrt.	2,384,745	3,133,339 lbs
Cacao	126,819	151,246
Cotton	505,222	435,486
" Seed	707,023	865,963

Trinidad. Jan. 1 to August 29, 1914 1913

Molasses	40,410	30,805 Tons.
Rum	769	697
Coco-nuts	10,357,995	8,334,698 No.
Asphalt ...	111,111	146,193 Puns.
Manjak ...	111	765
Bitters ...	12,547	12,283 Cases.
Coffee ...	13,440	1,080 lbs.
Crude Petrol	11,931,352	7,907,931 Galls.
Cacao ...	59,527,600	43,244,200 lbs.
Cotton ...		1,172
" Seed		3,555
Copia ...		199
Spice ...		5,796
Kola		4,372 Bags.

Grenada. Oct. 1 to Aug. 31, 1913/14 1912/13

Cacao	1,773,620	11,385,540 Lbs.
"	1,172	1,205 Bales
"	3,555	4,804 Bags.
"	199	158
"	1,205,610	1,274,080 lbs.
"	8,060	4,045

SAILINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Dauode*, (Captain G. A. Mackenzie) Sept. 23rd:—

Mr. & Mrs. H. A. Tempay	Mr. W. Mustor	Miss A. Messervy
Mr. & Mrs. G. F. Messrs. S. & B. Farara	Mr. & Mrs. W. Peel	Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Meade
Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Miss I. Peel	Mr. T. M. Forrest	Mrs. P. S. Murray
Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Pereira	Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Codeside	Miss. Henry Hedemann
Mr. & Mrs. W. S. E. Barnardo	Misses Codeside (2)	Mrs. A. M. Williams
Misses R. E. and W. W. Brassington	Mr. E. A. Hudson	Miss R. S. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Driver	Mrs. Huggins	Mrs. Eva Lang
Mr. and Mrs. W. Durno	Mr. & Mrs. H. S. Brown	Dr. Henry M. Alston
Mr. W. Savary	Mrs. W. M. Jackson	Mr. Thomas Ramsay
Mr. R. W. Dodd	Mr. J. J. Medina	Mr. H. A. Harris
Mr. W. J. Douglass	Mr. E. P. Baynes	Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Cole
Mr. F. W. Milling	Miss Fernandez	Mr. H. A. Freze
Capt. & Mrs. B. Shaw	Miss C. Pereira	Mrs. Meyer
Mr. P. Hodges	Mr. & Mrs. H. A. Nisbet	Sir Alfred Lucie-Smith
Miss K. McAdam	Misses Pereira (3)	ady Lucie-Smith
Mr. & Mrs. D. Luciani	Mr. J. R. Anderson	Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Knowles
Miss C. (2)	Rev. E. J. Lee	Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Cameron
Mr. A. Johnson	Rev. C. Culpnan	Mr. W. Rhodes
Mr. P. H. Lightfoot	Major & Mrs. Cecil May	Rev. de Lucy Evans
Mr. Bustamante (1)	Mrs. P. MeAdam	Miss Brill
Mr. & Mrs. J. Bustamante	Hon. A. D. Russell	Miss V. Langley
Mr. Bustamante	Miss K. Brassington	Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Friend	Miss R. Johnson	Mr. & Mrs. J. Goodwin
Misses Friend (2)	Miss H. M. Cole	Mr. & Mrs. A. V. Knowles
	Miss D. Knowles	Mr. W. Messervy
	Miss E. Garnett	
	Miss A. C. Hope	

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—No change has been made in the Bank Rate which stands at 5% as from the 8th August. Consols changed hands last week on the basis of 68½ to 68¾. The Stock Exchange is not yet re-opened. As showing the belief in the soundness of the financial position it may be mentioned that the third issue of Treasury bills since the war began was made on the 16th inst. with marked success. The amount offered was £15,000,000, but applications for £47,038,000 were received. The average rate of discount for 6 months' bills was nearly 1 per cent. lower than in the case of the previous issue.

SUGAR—The reports of the movements in the New York market have been delayed very much through the censorship. This market has been strong with an active demand and sellers reserved. Quotations were advanced 25 points and on this basis 10,000 bags of Cubans were sold, and refined was also active and very firm and most refiners advanced their quotations 25 points; the exception being the American Sugar Refining Co., whose prices were unchanged. Raw centrifugals quoted 6.27c., muscovado 5.82c., refined granulated 7.15 to 7.40 c.. Later, after exceeding firmness at recent quotations with little offering, the market became only steady with quotations a little easier at 6.25c. for raw centrifugals, and muscovado at 5.80c. Refined granulated quoted 7.15c. to 7.40c. Subsequently raws became weak, and quotations of centrifugals was reduced 36 points. The business reported included 50,000 bags of Cubans on the basis of 6.02, and later 38,000 bags of same on the basis of 5.89c. Refined ruled steady at unchanged quotations. During the past week it is estimated that British interests purchased from 25,000 to 30,000 tons of granulated at 6.00c. Quotations raw centrifugals 5.89c., muscovado 5.44c., refined granulated 7.15c. to 7.40c.

The London speculative beet market still remains closed. By a question put in the House of Commons last week it would appear that producers in Germany were anxious to realise the value of the sugar crop by exporting the surplus valued at about £40,000,000 through Holland; this is referred to on another page in this issue. White Mauritius sugar has been selling in this market at 29s. 6d. Ten steamers of 5,000 tons each have been chartered from Mauritius for the United Kingdom at 23s. 9d. freight. White Java has been sold at 23s. 6d., 23s. 9d., 24s. 3d., 24s. 6d. c.i.f. and some of these sales are re-shipments from India. The Italian Government have authorised the exportation of 25,000 tons presumably of white sugar to Great Britain. Although there has been some dislocation of trade, the imports at the London Docks have exceeded all recorded figures, which conclusively proves what splendid work our Navy has accomplished in keeping the several trade routes free from German cruisers.

Grocery West Indian—Crystallised has been firm and dearer. At the two auctions held last week 390 tons were offered. There was a good Trade demand, leading to most being sold at prices fully up to recent private sales. The sales recorded are Demerara from 29s. to 29s. 6d., Trinidad from 28s. to 29s. 6d., St. Lucia from 28s. to 29s., Jamaica at 28s., and Surinam from 27s. 6d. to 28s. 6d.

Muscovado—Barbados has been in good demand and has sold in barrels at 22s. 6d. to 22s. 9d., and in hogsheads at 22s. 6d. Syrups have been in request and have sold for Demerara at 16s., 17s. 6d., 21s. and 22s. 6d.; for Trinidad at 21s. 6d. to 26s., and for Surinam at 19s. to 19s. 6d.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	25,358	34,419	23,792	32,223	28,624
Deliveries ...	24,552	21,262	22,200	27,131	26,523
Stock (15 Aug.)	13,758	14,997	6,082	9,452	7,179

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, (Sept. 17th).

28s. 6d./29s. 14s. 9d./15s. 17s. 9d. 20s. 6d. 16s. 6d.

RUM—Stocks in London, September 12th.

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	8,516	7,603	9,336	11,080	11,981
Demerara	9,440	7,793	6,460	4,961	7,998
Total all kinds	25,191	22,880	23,633	25,603	28,771

The proof market is very steady, and a moderate business has been passing for recent importations without change in prices. In Jamaica a medium business has been done at steady rates; export descriptions are of course, now quite neglected.

CACAO—Stocks in London, September 12th.

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad	9,639	13,023	7,680	8,873	10,331
Grenada...	7,778	5,368	4,607	12,217	12,058
Stock all kinds	90,065	80,796	117,313	115,644	95,021

The market has been flat with practically no demand, and at one auction held on 15th inst. when 7,228 bags of all descriptions were offered only 421 bags sold, mostly consisting of 55 bags Trinidad, 254 bags Grenada, 68 bags St. Lucia, and 10 bags Jamaica. The prices obtained for fine plantation Trinidad was 60s. to 61s., for Grenada 53s. 6d. to 55s., and St. Lucia 54s. Privately the market is very dull. The quotations after the sale were for Trinidad middling red 55s. to 57s., good middling red, 58s. to 59s., fine and superior 60s. to 63s., for Grenada, good to fair, 49s. to 50s., middling to fine 51s. to 54s.

In the Trinidad circular of 31st August it is stated that nothing has occurred to alter the situation. Receipts have been restricted to small lots which have sold at varying prices, and therefore it is impossible to quote with reliability. The situation is bound to remain unsettled until the new conditions brought about by the war are fully realised. There is no doubt the next crop cannot become ready for reaping until considerably later than was expected some time ago.

COFFEE—There is but a very small business passing on the spot, and the market for futures is closed.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended the 17th Sept. 30 bales of British West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland report sales of about 40 bales of West Indian Sea Island including 17 bales St. Vincent, 22d. to 31d. offered before the war. The remainder being St. Kitts cotton, 15d. to 16d. for old crop, and 16½d. for a few bags of new. A fine trade continues disorganised owing to the war, and they are afraid it will continue to remain so, because some of the chief consuming markets are near Lille, where fighting is now taking place.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (Raw)—In good request, but no really good quality offering, value nominal—2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per gallon for good quality. Essential Oil (distilled)—Fair sales made at 3s. 9d., but now rather quiet. Otto of Limes (hand pressed)—Small sales effected at 10s. 6d. Concentrated—Remains quiet with prices nominal.

PIMENTO and GINGER—Nothing doing, very quiet. **NUTMEGS and MACE**—Auctions were resumed on the 16th inst. Nutmegs were depressed owing to the absence of Continental orders. Mace was flat and easier for red descriptions; but unchanged for good pale. Nutmegs 60's/80's 8d. to 5d.; 90's/100's 4½d. to 4d.; 110's/120's 4½d. to 4d. Mace good to fine 2s. to 1s. 10d.; middling to good red 1s. 9d. to 1s. 7d. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West India value £21. Market steady. **ARROWROOT**—No business reported except of a retail character. Quotations nominal 2d. to 4½d.

RUBBER—Fine plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot, 2s.; smoked sheet, 2s. 1½d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 8½d., last year 3s. 7d.; do. soft, 2s. 2d., last year 3s. 2½d.; Castillon sheet, 1s. 8d., last year 1s. 9d.; scrap, 1s. 2d., last year 1s. 4d.; **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 4d. landed terms, last year 2s. 3d.; and block, 2s. 1d. ditto, 1s. 10½d. last year.

VANILLA—Ordinary to fair—8s. to 9s. 6d. **PETROLEUM OIL**—American 7½d.; Water White 8½d. **TIMBER**—Mahogany—During the past fortnight rather heavy supplies have reached the London market, diverting a considerable proportion of wood diverted from Continental markets; the stocks have materially increased whilst consumption remains very restricted.

ALGERNON R. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

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15, SEETHING LANE
LONDON, E.C.

Telegrams :
CARIB, LONDON.

October 5th, 1914.

OUR SOURCES OF SUGAR SUPPLY.

CONSUMERS in this country cannot be reminded too often that the present high prices of sugar are due to our having been so dependent on Germany and Austria for our sugar supply in the past, and that the best guarantee against a shortage in times of drought on the Continent or war would be the development of a British sugar industry. The best way of securing this would be by giving a substantial preference to Colonial cane sugar, as the British Government is now entitled to do on giving six months notice to the signatories of the Brussels Sugar Convention. A preference is already being given to English beet sugar, and when corresponding advantages are afforded to Colonial cane our position will be far more secure in regard to sugar supplies in any emergency. The Sugar Convention did its work in securing the abolition of bounties and but for that agreement which stimulated and revived the dying cane sugar industry prices to-day would have been considerably higher than they are now. The international agreement had the effect of encouraging the cultivation of sugar all over the world instead of confining it to a great extent to the Continent. But though the production of cane sugar has increased very rapidly the amount produced by our Dominions and Colonies is still practically negligible, and people are not unnaturally surprised when

they learn that towards the world's production of upwards of 18,500,000 tons of sugar, the British Empire contributes less than 900,000 tons, if India, which consumes all the sugar she produces and more, is excluded. We have been informed that the operations of the recently appointed Royal Commission on sugar are practically confined to securing supplies of sugar in order to make good as far as possible the present shortage; but we should like to see representatives of the Colonial cane sugar added to it and an inquiry made into the future prospects of our sources of supply of sugar. We must no longer be dependent on Germany and Austria, to whom we paid £15,000,000 for sugar last year alone. We must capture that trade for this country if it is possible—and we confess that we are not optimistic about the prospects of English beet growing—and for our colonies. At the outset the Governments of the Dominions and Colonies should be asked to furnish data as to the land, not already under other profitable crops, which is available for sugar cultivation, and the quantity of sugar which it is capable of producing with the existing labour supply. This would clear the ground for recommendations as to how the cultivation of sugar within the Empire, with the view of giving the consumer as far as possible a constant and cheap supply of sugar from British sources, could be encouraged. The matter is of mutual interest to the producers and consumers, and we venture to hope that before long it may be possible to arrange a conference in which the confectioners, preserve makers and other consumers of sugar may meet the producers. The need for action will be more imperative than ever if Dr. Freund's statement that influential circles in Germany are proposing to found a powerful organisation for the purpose of excluding England from the German sugar markets is correct.

THE WAR AND CABLE RATES.

SINCE we last went to press, the new arrangement already outlined in these columns for cheapening West Indian cable communication has come into force. In the long run this should prove a great boon, but unfortunately the reduction in the message rates, which the West Indies and the Imperial and Canadian Governments have purchased at a cost of annual subsidies totalling £26,300 guaranteed for ten years, has been more than neutralised for the time being by the Government having prohibited the use of codes in consequence of the war. Being anxious not to embarrass the authorities we did not refer to this matter in the

early weeks of the struggle which is now proceeding; but the complaints regarding the existing restrictions have become so numerous that we now feel compelled seriously to call attention to it. It is hardly necessary to point out what a handicap it is to trade and industry when messages which can be sent in four or five words in code in ordinary circumstances have to be despatched in plain language involving the use perhaps of from sixteen to twenty words. That the Government should be acquainted with the contents of every telegraphic message leaving or reaching this country during the war is in the highest degree important; but it should surely be possible to adjust arrangements in such a way as to lighten the burden which the users of the cables now have to bear. In the case of messages to the East concessions have already been made, "plain language" messages being now charged for as though each group of ten letters made one word; but no similar privilege has been extended to the West Indies. We can understand the grounds for the objection to the use of private codes which would take a lifetime to decipher; but the objections to the use of recognised codes like the A.B.C., Liebers, etc., can only be based on the loss of time and the increase of staff which would be involved if every coded message had to be translated into plain language. It is easy to realise what a real difficulty this would present where many hundreds of messages had to be dealt with every day, but where the volume of traffic is slight it should be easily overcome. Now it has been admitted again and again by the cable companies operating in the West Indies that the traffic passing over their lines is exceedingly light, and we venture to think that in the circumstances the authorities might make an exception in the case of those colonies and allow recognised and well-known codes to be used. Copies of these codes could be at the elbow of the censors both here and in the West Indies. The work of the London staff would be facilitated if the sender of messages were compelled to append to his telegram a translation, while the fact that the communities in the West Indies are small and that all people receiving telegrams must be well-known to the vigilant consors already appointed there, would be an additional safe-guard against any undesirable information being disseminated. Lack of privacy might perhaps result, but at a time like the present some inconvenience must be put up with. Possibly some increase in the staff of the censors in London might be necessary, but we know of several ex-colonial civil servants who would we feel sure be only too eager to offer their services in this connection. It might be argued that the cable companies have to face "war risks," being danger of having their cables cut in which case their whole source of revenue would be gone; but the compensation of the cable companies has not as far as we are aware been adduced as a reason for increasing the charge for messages by prohibiting the use of codes. The question of making good losses resulting from the

war does not enter into the question, and we shall hope that the Colonial Office who may be expected to watch the interests of the West Indies in all matters concerning their welfare will endeavour to bring about some arrangement whereby recognised and easily translatable codes may again be used in cabling to and from those colonies.

THE WEST INDIAN SEASON.

THE Bermuda Development Association deserves well of the community whose interests it so ably serves, for having arranged a visit to their "yellow sauds," (as Shakespeare who derived his inspiration for "The Tempest" from the "Bermoothes," called them), of journalists from Canada and the United States. It seems that rumours had been widely circulated on the North American Continent to the effect that the Bermudas were, owing to the war, virtually an armed camp, and that the islands were quite unfit to receive visitors. Fresh from our experience regarding the alleged passage of the phantom Cossacks through England, we know how quickly rumours spread, and we are not surprised that those regarding military operations in the Bermudas "got around" with such rapidity. As a result the tourist business on which those islands depend to such a very great extent for their prosperity began to show a disastrous falling off, and it was with the object of dissipating the absurd rumours to which the decline was due that the American newspaper men were invited to visit Hamilton and to see for themselves how the land lay. We understand that their report has been wholly favourable. Indeed it would be difficult to understand how it could be otherwise. If we were asked to single out the part of our Empire least likely to be affected by the war (except, perhaps, in respect to the rise in the price of provisions), it would be Bermuda that we would select. Being the base of the powerful West Atlantic Squadron they are not likely to be attacked as long as the main German fleets are kept inactive in the North Sea and the Baltic, for which they are showing a not unnatural predilection. The West Indian islands, too, are favourably situated from the point of view of security from raids, thanks to the existence of our West Atlantic Squadron, whose ships, reinforced recently by the *Good Hope*, have of late been more frequent visitors to West Indian ports than usual. Hitherto the chief competitors of the West Indies as winter resorts have been Switzerland, the Riviera and Egypt, but this year it is improbable that many winter migrants will select Europe as the scene of their operations, for if the war continues throughout the winter, they will be faced not only with the difficulty of getting there, but also with the possibility of Egypt being involved in political complications in consequence of the European conflagration, which will certainly preclude people from going to the land of the Pharaohs during the coming winter. In the circumstances the West

Indies should make a strong appeal to many of those whose habit it is to winter abroad. No doubt the scarcity of money will preclude many people from following their usual practice of wintering abroad, though a winter in the West Indies can be spent more cheaply than one on the Riviera or in Egypt, while others will have an even more cogent reason to keep them in the old world—the call to arms; but there are many thousands of people who, from conditions of health, are unable to stand the chill and fogs of an English winter. For them it is not a question of choice. They are absolutely compelled to winter abroad, and to them the British West Indies should make a strong appeal, with their equable winter climate and their constant sunshine. We hope that the shipping companies will during the next few months put before the public the claims of the British West Indian islands in this respect. It is a great opportunity, and we are pleased to note that those responsible for the expenditure of the annual appropriation made by the Government of Barbados are maintaining the continuity of their policy, and are, in the Press of the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States, calling attention to the fact that Barbados is "a secure winter resort," and that they are inviting people to "go to Barbados" since they "cannot winter in European health resorts." Such enterprise deserves its reward, and we have little doubt that it will reap it, though we cannot say what the next few months have in store. But in any case continuity is everything in advertising, and the bread thus cast upon the waters will be found again in due season.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Passports for members.

Passengers for the West Indies are now required to produce passports or other documents of identification. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W., and for the convenience of members of the West India Committee forms of the declaration to be made by applicants are supplied at the Committee Rooms. Applications should reach the Foreign Office before 4 p.m. on the day prior to that on which the passports are to be issued, and the fee of 2s. must accompany the application. The Secretary of the West India Committee, being a Barrister-at-Law, is entitled to, and will be glad to verify the necessary declarations by members of the Committee who are applicants for passports.

By virtue of Rule III of the West India Committee the subscriptions from new members elected during the last three months of the present year will, when paid, be renewable until January 1st, 1916. The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1556.

Particulars regarding membership—for which Ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething

Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

THE Editor of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will be obliged if members of the West India Committee will kindly forward to him the names of near relatives serving in the Navy, the Army and the Auxiliary Forces, including the West Indian Defence Forces and Volunteers at the present time, with particulars as to their ships or the units with which they are serving.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON SUGAR.

The Royal Commission on the Sugar Supply, of which Mr. J. J. Runge, of the firm of sugar brokers Messrs. Tolme and Runge, is Secretary, has issued the following statement, explaining the origin and purpose of the Commission and the steps taken by the Government to prevent an excessive rise in prices by securing an adequate supply:—

On the outbreak of war it became evident that a very serious situation was likely to develop in connection with the supply of sugar for the United Kingdom. In the first place, Germany and Austria, on which this country has been dependent for about two-thirds of all the sugar consumed, he came suddenly closed as sources of supply, as well for immediate as for future delivery. Secondly, the complete dislocation of the financial market, and more especially of the remittance market, threatened to paralyse dealings with other countries from which supplies might be bought. Thus there was imminent danger of a positive famine in sugar once existing stocks had become exhausted, and the certainty that for some considerable period the price of sugar would rise to an almost prohibitive figure.

In the days which immediately succeeded the declarations of war granulated sugar, which at the end of July had been selling wholesale at prices about 15s. per cwt., was actually sold in London at prices from 35s. to 42s., while in Scotland contracts are known to have been made at 47s. 6d. and even as high as 59s. 6d. Excluding this latter instance as exceptional, it may be said that in a week wholesale prices were trebled, with the result that the consumer was threatened with having to pay 6d. per lb. retail or even more for sugar which he had been accustomed to get for 2d. per lb.

In these circumstances His Majesty's Government decided to take upon itself the task of ensuring an adequate supply and of arranging for its distribution on terms that would be no more onerous to the public than the actual conditions make inevitable. The first steps taken put an immediate end to speculation in sugar and to the rise in the price. The leading refiners were approached, and an arrangement was made that the whole body of refiners should stand aside from the market for raw sugars, leaving it free for the operations of the Government; that they should look to the Government alone for the supply of raw sugar for their factories; that the sugar should be issued to them at a fixed price, the difference between the two prices being no more than sufficient to allow them a fair profit on manufacture.

The price of raw sugar charged to the refiners was determined on the basis of protecting the Government from loss on their purchases, according to the best estimate that could be made of the prospects of the sugar market. Allowing for reasonable profit to the refiner, dealer, and retailer respectively, this price permits the sale to the public by

retail grocers of sugar at the maximum price of 3½d. per lb. for good granulated and 4½d. per lb. for good cubes, with other qualities at proportionate rates.

In distributing the sugars it is the intention of the Commission to make use as far as possible of the existing machinery and channels of the trade.

GERMANY'S SURPLUS SUGAR.

Under the heading "At Westminster" reference was made in last issue to the question of the exportation of German sugar. Mr. McCallum Scott asked in the House of Commons whether Germany was attempting to export her surplus sugar through Holland. Mr. Runciman replied that he did not know what steps could be taken to prevent the exportation of the sugar to neutral countries in neutral ships. Commenting on this the CIRCULAR pointed out that the German Government had prohibited the exportation of sugar, but had promised the representatives of the German Sugar Industry at Magdeburg to see what they could do with regard to neutral countries.

On September 22nd a further development occurred, the Board of Trade announcing that as evidence had reached the Board of Trade that, notwithstanding the prohibition of the export of sugar from Holland by the Netherlands Government, German merchants were disposing of their produce, and obtaining payment through Holland, the British Government had had to forbid the import of this produce through Holland.

SUGAR FROM ENEMY COUNTRIES.

In last CIRCULAR reference was made to the attempt on the part of the German sugar producers to persuade their Government to sanction the exportation of their surplus supply of sugar. The British Government has replied by prohibiting the importation of sugar from enemy countries into any part of the British Dominions. A Proclamation to this effect, the pertinent clauses in which are given below, was issued on September 30th.

1. From and after the date of this Proclamation—

(1) The importation of such sugar as is hereinafter mentioned is prohibited.

(2) The following prohibition shall have effect (save so far as licences may be issued as hereinafter provided) in addition to the prohibitions contained in Our said Proclamation, and We do hereby accordingly warn all persons resident carrying on business or being in Our Dominions—

(a) Not directly or indirectly to import or cause or procure to be imported or to be concerned with the importation into any part of Our Dominions or into any other country or place whatever through or from any port in Europe of raw or refined sugar made or produced by an enemy or in an enemy country or refined sugar (wherever made or produced) made or produced from raw sugar made or produced by an enemy or in an enemy country.

(b) Not directly or indirectly to deal in any sugar as aforesaid.

2. And We do hereby further warn all persons that whoever in contravention of the law shall commit aid or abet any of the aforesaid acts is guilty of a crime and will be liable to punishment and penalties accordingly.

3. Nothing in this Proclamation shall be taken to prohibit anything which shall be expressly permitted by Our licence or by the licence given on Our behalf by a Secretary of State or the Board of Trade, whether such licence be granted especially to individuals or be announced as applying to classes of persons.

GREAT BRITAIN'S SUGAR SUPPLY.

The present war, with its curtailment of the sugar supply of Great Britain to the extent of over 75 per cent., has brought prominently forward the question of the British Empire securing its own sugar, and has given considerable impetus to the British grown beet sugar movement. The latter question has been under consideration for many years. It has been demonstrated that beets suitable for sugar-making can be grown in his country to give a return to the acre quite as large as on the Continent. It has not, however, been shown that a profitable beet sugar industry can be established in this country under normal conditions of price and without tariff protection—rather the reverse. The question at what figure it will be worth the while of the farmer to grow the beet is still unsettled, as well as that of what price the factory can afford to pay for them.

It was hoped that the Cantley factory venture would definitely settle these questions, but it has not done so. But what it does appear to have settled definitely from the working of the first two crops is that considerable assistance in the way of a protective tariff will require to be given before a beet sugar industry will be a sound financial proposition either to farmer or fabricant.

Last year the Cantley factory paid 23s. per ton for its roots; this year it is paying 25s. per ton. The 23s. per ton did not pay the farmer, and the farmers' association supplying the factory had to obtain a grant from the Development Fund of £11,000—equivalent to about 7s. per ton of beet supplied the factory. This year the farmers are to receive 25s. per ton. Of course, with war prices for sugar, the factory can well afford to pay this sum, but can it do so under normal conditions of price? When the beet contract was made, the price of 88% beet was somewhere in the neighbourhood of 9s. 6d. per cwt. Can the factory pay the above high price for its beets and make a profit with sugar at its normal price?

There is no reason to believe that factory expenses in this country would be less than in Germany, rather the reverse. Skilled labour is dearer, and from the conditions of the rotation of crops practised here, the transport expenses are bound to be higher. German sugar receives a protection to the extent of £2 10s. a ton, the Cantley factory receives it to the extent of £1 18s. per ton. In this way the Cantley sugar makers are worse off than the German, and less able to pay so much for the beets as the German makers. Yet £1 per ton is a high figure to be paid on the Continent for the beets with 88% beet at 9s. 6d. per cwt. In 1911-12 when



A BLOCK-HOUSE ON SAN JUAN HILL.



A WAR MEMORIAL ON SAN JUAN HILL.



ROYAL PALMS NEAR SANTIAGO, CUBA.



THE "SURRENDER TREE" (EL ARBOR DE LA PAZ).

THE SCENE OF FIGHTING IN CUBA IN 1898.

January the price stood at the famine figure of 14s. 8d. the average price paid in Germany for that crop was only 25s. per ton.

Mr. Martineau, in *Sugar*, gives the balance sheet of a German factory which earned 29 per cent. on its capital with 88° beet at 10s. 6d. per cwt. The factory paid for 17 per cent. beets 21s. per ton. The Cantley price of 25s. per ton is for 15 to 16 per cent. beets—at which rate the equivalent value of 17 per cent. beets would be somewhere about 27s. 6d. per ton. At this figure the factory mentioned by Mr. Martineau would have made no profit, even at the higher price for sugar it obtained than that which prevailed when the Cantley contract was made for the present crop. In the United States with the protection standing at £8 per ton, 25s. 9d. per ton was the outside figure paid in the high price year 1911-12.

It is true that there have been many difficulties in connection with the Cantley factory inseparable from the starting of a new concern. What evidence has been afforded by the Cantley venture is in the direction that a British grown industry cannot be established without a substantial protection in the way of a customs tariff, and this is merely bearing out the experience of beet sugar producers all over the world. The only country not growing beet sugar under a protective tariff is Holland, and recent advices before the war gave anything but a flourishing account of the state of the industry there.

At the present time the cost of production of cane sugar is below that of beet—thus Cuba turns out 96° crystals at an average price of £8 10s. f.o.b., Java £8, Peru, with exceptional cane-growing advantages, at £6 10s. The cost of production of German beet sugar of rather lower polarisation is £9 per ton. With but moderate preferential treatment, therefore, Colonial cane sugar could be grown to supply Great Britain's wants, and render her independent of Continental beet.

The output of the West Indies and Mauritius could be increased, and the lands of East and West Africa could be utilised for the purpose. At the present time the West Indies produce about 220,000 tons, Mauritius 240,000 tons, and Fiji 100,000 tons. Last year India, above her own production, required about 800,000 tons, Canada 300,000 tons, and Great Britain 2,000,000 tons. Australia and South Africa require some sugar, say 100,000 tons above their production. There is thus still about 2,640,000 tons of sugar required to be grown within the Empire to make it self-supporting in this respect. India can grow what it now imports, and there thus remain 1,800,000 tons wanted for Great Britain and Canada. Australia and South Africa will probably soon supply the whole of their own consumption. Surely so far as Great Britain is concerned it would be better to obtain from her Colonies the 1,500,000 tons of new sugar which she requires than to attempt to establish a beet industry in this country which must displace other agricultural industries? The preferential treatment which there is every evidence

to show is required for the establishment of a sugar industry in this country would be ample to secure a supply of colonial sugar, and Great Britain would be thus strengthened in its food aspect instead of weakened in some essential particular of it, which would be the case if a sugar industry were established in this country at the expense of other agricultural industries.

Whatever has to be done in the direction of securing a British grown supply of sugar, whether in the way of a home-grown beet, or of Colonial cane—or both—should be taken in hand at once. The war and its effects as regards sugar must have made all realise what would have been the position of things had there been no Brussels Convention. There would have been no supplies of cane to draw upon as there are now. But the Brussels Convention still left two points against a Colonial British sugar industry—the one remediable, the £2 10s. protective tariff permitted the parties to the Convention, which the Continental powers have availed themselves of, and which also affects a home beet industry; the other unavoidable, viz., the contiguity of Great Britain to the Continent, and the consequent cheap shipping charges. It is unthinkable that with the lesson learnt by the war this country will go on in its blind dependence upon a Continental sugar supply, and measures for securing to this country a permanent supply of sugar should be taken in hand at as early a date as possible. Land has to be put into cultivation and factories erected. This cannot be done in a day, although fortunately the cultivation of sugar does not require the long period of waiting associated with products such as cacao, rubber or coco-nuts. But the sooner the future course and the measures to be adopted to secure it are fixed upon the better.

DEMERARA is the poorer by the retirement of Mr. R. G. Duncan to the second line of defences which he has established at The Lindens, Farnborough, and will, we hope, hold for many years to come. Mr. Duncan first went out to British Guiana in 1874 in the service of the Colonial Company, and soon became manager of Plantation Hampton Court, Essequibo. He rose rapidly to the position of Planting Attorney of the Colonial Company, which he left some years ago in order to supervise the estates of Messrs. Curtis, Campbell & Co. Mr. Duncan took a prominent part in public life in the colony, having been a member of the Legislature for many years and having sat on many Commissions. Among the many posts which he occupied were those of President of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society, member of the Board of the Agricultural Society and the Central Board of Health, President of the Institute of Mines and Forests, and Director of the British Guiana Mutual and Hand-in-Hand Insurance Companies. In this case Demerara's loss is our gain, and we welcome Mr. Duncan to the West Indian community in England.

CANE FARMING IN TRINIDAD.

THE CIRCULAR is indebted to Mr. Edgar Tripp, Secretary of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago, for the comparative statistics of the sugar-cane-farming and crop returns of Trinidad for the past seventeen years which are given below:—

ESTATE.	Total Sugar made. Tons.	Tons of Sugar made from Estate Canes.	Tons of Estate Canes Ground.	Tons of Canes Purchased.	Amount Paid for Canes.	No. of Farmers.	
						East Indian.	West Indian.
Brechin Castle	4,207	3,850	41,668	4,167	\$10,006	210	132
Bronte	3,977	*1,452	28,787	16,368	39,782	806	344
Caroni	*5,400	*2,234	34,850	24,606	60,180	411	503
Craignish	764	350	4,725	5,666	11,938	230	177
Esperanza	1,940	1,288	14,923	9,547	23,841	269	187
Forres Park	1,412	713	9,846	9,775	23,461	442	159
Hindustan	918	269	3,492	8,560	18,489	215	325
La Florissante	1,246	12	959	*47	*352	*15	*40
Mon Desir	127	23	1,922	315	585	*40	*35
Reform	830	*96	*1,053	8,077	19,373	*500	*400
Tacarigua Factory	2,885	1,284	16,413	20,332	50,098	808	545
Tennants', Mission Group	3,624	1,600	18,308	24,126	57,902	809	854
" Southern Group	3,927	3,057	31,022	9,455	24,396	306	240
Usine St. Madeleine	15,836	12,304	122,502	35,162	85,297	2,119	1,095
Waterloo	5,413	4,993	50,965	4,283	10,291	77	103
Woodford Lodge	3,982	2,165	24,362	21,108	50,639	193	114
	55,488	35,690	407,797	201,799	\$486,630	7,450	5,253
Return for 1913	42,331	31,095	346,912	136,724	\$330,364	6,942	4,612
" " 1912	40,936	27,856	315,762	151,697	358,428	6,983	6,042
" " 1911	46,718	34,539	366,599	166,720	357,360	6,621	6,391
" " 1910	51,950	37,446	454,530	170,447	412,658	6,443	5,820
" " 1909	52,974	30,553	451,801	154,663	337,817	6,077	5,344
" " 1908	48,933	30,340	380,334	139,422	303,631	5,922	5,619
" " 1907	50,564	31,597	373,577	169,709	340,527	6,557	5,777
" " 1906	62,975	39,735	397,912	237,844	469,122	6,127	5,446
" " 1905	38,240		244,418	144,868	482,953	5,424	5,462
" " 1904	50,744	1,669	385,015	171,947	160,046	4,646	5,685
" " 1903		1,783	337,632	166,590	348,445	4,443	4,440
" " 1902		4,379	337,911	184,867	327,183	4,506	4,850
" " 1901		1,652	434,003	169,918	369,482	3,819	4,737
" " 1900		1,286	364,355	105,096	227,865	2,826	3,591
" " 1899		1,571	426,306	106,741	219,011	2,826	3,870
" " 1898				105,753	202,901	2,326	3,824

* Estimated.

† All canes sold and ground at Caroni Factory.

REGARDING the memoir of the late Sir Neville Lubbock in last CIRCULAR, a correspondent writes:

Another cause underlying his interest in the West Indies was his belief in the moral value of industries in national life. He thought Governments should pay more attention to the development of industry than of commerce, because of the beneficial effect on character of industrial life, and I know that his efforts on behalf of coolie immigration, and for the development of cane-farming were dictated not by the mere desire of obtaining cheap labour or cheap canes but by a genuine wish to raise the character of the labouring classes by giving them greater opportunities of improving their condition by their own efforts. He had indeed a horror of cheapness for cheapness sake, and his great objection to the Cobdenite school of free traders was that he believed they had exploited free trade for the sake of cheap labour.

THE SCENE OF FIGHTING IN CUBA IN '98.

Memorials of the Spanish-American War.

The West Indian islands last tasted war in 1898, when Spain and the United States were trying conclusions with each other. The blockade of Havana and other ports in Cuba and of San Juan in Porto

Rico was begun on April 22nd in that year. On May 19th a Spanish squadron from Europe under Admiral Cervera entered Santiago harbour. There they remained until July 3rd, when the vessels steamed out to meet destruction at the hands of the American fleet through the bottle-necked entrance of the harbour, which Lieutenant Hobson had courageously endeavoured to block by sinking the collier *Merrimac*. Meanwhile Major General Shafter had landed 6,000 troops, which at first met with little opposition, and driven the Spanish force into Santiago. On July 1st the attack on Santiago was begun, and on the following day El Caney and El Paso were captured by the Americans. On July 4th the town was summoned to surrender, but the terms claimed by General Toral not being acceptable, the

bombardment was resumed on July 11th, and on the 16th Santiago and the province were surrendered out. The United States' flag was hoisted over the city at noon on the following day.

These happenings are commemorated in the manner shown in the illustrations which face page 460. On San Juan Hill stands a blockhouse, brass plates on which, with arrows engraved upon, point to the position occupied by the attacking forces, of the composition of which details are also given. Metal slabs on the sides give particulars of the lives lost in the battle. A simple column surmounted by a shell has been erected to those who died in the action. According to "The Pocket Guide to the West Indies," in the new edition of which the information with regard to Cuba and Porto Rico is considerably extended, it is inscribed:—

IN MEMORY OF
THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY,
WHO WERE KILLED IN THE ASSAULT AND CAPTURE
OF THIS RIDGE, JULY 1ST, 1898,
AND THE SIEGE OF SANTIAGO, JULY 1ST TO JULY 16TH, 1898.
WAR BETWEEN SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

Not far from this spot is a silk-cotton tree, under which General Toral handed his sword to General Shafter when he surrendered.

Porto Rico fell an even easier prey to the American troops. On July 25th the United States fleet made a demonstration before San Juan, while 3,400 men under General Miles were landed at Guanica on the south coast, 15 miles to the west of Ponce. Three days later that town was surrendered, the Spanish Governor, General Macias y Casado, falling back on the central ridge of mountains. The Americans then prepared to advance by separate routes across the island; Guayama, Mayaguez, and Comao were occupied, and part of the American army was within twenty miles of the north coast while the remainder had almost reached Aibonito along the Military Road, when news reached the island of the signature of the peace treaty of August 12th, and hostilities were suspended. The island was finally ceded to the United States on December 10th, 1898, by the treaty which was signed on that date and ratified on February 6th, 1899.

EMPLOYERS in the West Indies who have suffered from scarcity of labour due to emigration to the Isthmus of Panama will welcome the turn in the tide which is now apparent. Now that the Canal is virtually finished the services of hundreds of labourers are being dispensed with. In Colon there is actual unemployment, upwards of 1,000 labourers being idle. In view of this state of affairs the Panama Government is strictly enforcing the immigration laws which provide that no aliens may land on the Isthmus unless they have money equivalent to 15 balboas (£3 2s. 6d.).

A new edition of the Pocket Guide to the West Indies has just been published. Price 5s. nett.

THE WEST INDIES AND THE WAR.

In the following list we give the names of some of those closely connected with the West Indies who are serving their country at the present time. The Editor hopes that readers will help towards making this list (which will be published from time to time) complete, by calling his attention to any additions which might be made.

Arnold-Forster, Lieut. F. A., Royal Field Artillery, Territorials.

Arnold-Forster, Commander F. D., R.N., H.M.S. *Apollo*.

Arnold-Forster, Lieut. W. H., National Reserve.

Berthon, Sub-Lieut. Charles P., R.N. (Son of Mr. Claude T.

Berthon, A.M.Inst.C.E.), H.M.S. *Phoenix*, 1st Destroyer Flotilla.

Berthon, Midshipman E. Lyon, R.N., (ditto), H.M.S. *Agamemnon*, 6th Squadron, 2nd Fleet.

Berthon, Trooper Leonard T., (Brother of Mr. C. T. Berthon), 2nd King Edward's Horse.

Browne, Captain C. G., R.A.M.C., part proprietor of "Waltham" Estate, Grenada, at the front with the 19th Field Ambulance.

Calder, K. W., (Rhodes Scholar, son of Mr. J. V. Calder, of Worthy Park Estate, Jamaica), 2nd King Edward's Horse.

Campbell, Lieut. Evan, (Son of the Chairman of the West India Committee), 4th Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.

Collymore, Aubrey, (son of Mr. F. A. C. Collymore), University and Public School Corps.

Cummings, P. H., brother-in-law of Mr. Stanley Savile, and manager of his estate in Tobago, has rejoined his old regiment, the London Scottish.

Davson, Lieut. Gordon, 2nd County of London Yeomanry.

Davson, Captain Ivan B., City of London Yeomanry.

Davson, Major H. M., Royal Horse Artillery.

Delafons, Reginald A., University and Public School Force, Epsom.

de Laubenque, Charles, (son of the late Mr. Leon de Laubenque of St. Lucia), understood to be on active service with the Territorials.

de Pass, Lieut. F. A., 34th Poona Horse.

de Pass, Lieut. E. A., 3rd County of London (Sharpshooters) Yeomanry.

de Putron, Captain Cyril, Lancashire Fusiliers, part proprietor of "La Gloria" Estate, Trinidad, with the Headquarters Staff at York.

de Putron, Lieut. Hugh, Manchester Regiment, part proprietor of "La Gloria" Estate, Trinidad, with the British Expeditionary Force.

DuBuisson, 2nd Lieut. Thomas Gerard (Son of Mr. T. DuBuisson), Royal Field Artillery.

DuBuisson, James Melmoth (ditto), Officers Training Corps, Inns of Court.

Fawcett, Sub-Lieutenant Kenneth, (nephew of Mr. William Fawcett, B.Sc.), H.M.S. *Minotaur*, China Station.

Fawcett, 2nd Lieut. Robert Heath, (ditto), Royal Bedfordshire Regiment.

Fellowes, Captain A. R., 7th Battalion Norfolk Regiment.

Fretz, Henry E. K., F.R.C.S., (son of Mr. W. H. Fretz, of St. Kitts), was appointed navy surgeon on the *Aquilania* in August. Mr. W. H. Fretz's eldest son is a captain in the R.A.M.C., recently in Peshawar, India, and now probably recalled.

Gibbons, 2nd Lieut. Charles (son of Colonel F. F. Gibbons and nephew of Mr. C. Kenrick Gibbons) 13th Battalion City of London Regiment.

Gibbons, 2nd Lieut. John Noel (ditto), Army Service Corps.

Gosset, Lieut. William Beresford, 25th Brigade Royal Field Artillery, 1st Division, 1st Army Corps, serving at the front, (eldest son of Hon. B. S. Gosset, Custos of St. Andrews, Jamaica, and Hon. Correspondent of the West India Committee).

Hamilton, Cleveland B., (son of Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G.), has joined the Agricultural College, Wye, Corps

of the Territorials, C. Coy., 5th Battalion, The Buffs Regiment, stationed at Sandwich.
 Heath, Lieut. Philip, Royal Garrison Artillery.
 Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Alan Wylie (Son of Mr. George Hughes), 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers (at Front).
 Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Guy Wylie (ditto), 4th Middlesex Regiment, Luton.
 Maginley, J. W. A., (Estates' proprietor, Antigua), Company B, Colonial Infantry.
 Marescaux, Major O. H. E. (of Cherry Garden, Jamaica), D Staff A Central Force, Quarter-master General, Headquarters.
 Marriott, Captain F. C. (Son of Mr. Marriott, partner of Previté and Company), 7th King's Liverpool Regiment.
 Miles, Lieut. Geoffrey John, (third son of Mr. Audley C. Miles), with the China Fleet.
 Previté, Lieut.-Colonel E. J., V.D., 22nd Battalion The London Regiment (The Queens).
 Previté, Captain H. F. 22nd (County of London) Battalion London Regiment (Queen's).
 Rutherford, T. W., (son of Mr. Robert Rutherford, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee), Royal Fusiliers.
 Simon, Lieut. P. B., (Stepson to Mr. D. Delbanco), Royal Artillery, 5th Siege Battery.
 Stephenson, D. P., (Jamaica Rhodes Scholar), 4th Battalion P.W.O., North Staffordshire.
 Thomas, E. V. S., (Rhodes Scholar from Potsdam, Jamaica), King Edward's Horse.

Killed in Action.

SECOND LIEUTENANT RICHARD COMPTON-THORNHILL (Scots Guards), who was killed in action on a date unknown, was the only son and heir of Sir Anthony Compton-Thornhill, proprietor of Mount Gay Plantation, Barbados, and was 22 years of age.

LIEUTENANT FREDERICK WILLIAM DES VOEUX (2nd Grenadier Guards), was killed in action at the Battle of the Aisne. He was the younger son of the late Sir G. William des Voeux, G.C.M.G., at one time Administrator of St. Lucia, and afterwards Governor of Hong Kong, and received his commission from the Special Reserve in 1910. Age 24.

LIEUT.-COLONEL IAN GRAHAM HOGG, D.S.O. (4th Hussars), died at Harmond, France, on September 2nd, of wounds received on September 1st. He was the second son of the late Mr. Quintin Hogg, formerly Deputy-Chairman of the West India Committee.

LIEUT. M. R. SWEET-ESCOTT (King's, Liverpool Regiment), was a nephew of Sir Bickham Sweet-Escott, K.C.M.G., ex-Governor of British Honduras and of the Leeward Islands.

LIEUT. E. P. J. TINNE, R.N.R., the fourth son of Mr. John E. Tinne, was on board H.M.S. *Hogue*, when she was torpedoed in the North Sea.

CAPTAIN A. C. WARD, D.S.O., (2nd Lancashire Fusiliers), who was killed in action, was a son of the late Colonel Hon. C. J. Ward, C.M.G., of Kingston, Jamaica. He served in the South African War, and afterwards in West Africa, and obtained his company in March, 1910.

Wounded.

Davenport, Captain J. A., Lancashire Fusiliers, (now a prisoner of war).

Grey-Wilson, Lieut. W. A., Durham Light Infantry, (son of Sir William Grey-Wilson, K.C.M.G., late Governor of the Bahamas).

Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Alan, (son of Mr. George Hughes), Royal Fusiliers.

Maddick, Captain, 5th Lancers. Late 14th Hussars, and formerly A.D.C. to Sir Augustus Hemming, Governor of Jamaica.

Moody, Captain R. H. M., Lancashire Fusiliers.

Pepys, Captain, Worcester Regiment.

Missing.

Le Hunte, Lieut. J., Hampshire Regiment (previously reported wounded).

THE EFFECT OF WAR ON CACAO.

In a trade circular giving a few reflections on the effect of war on cacao, Messrs. Theo Vasmer and Co. give the following approximate figures of consumption based on last year's figures.

ALLIES.		NEUTRALS.	
	Tons.		Tons.
France	27,700	Holland	30,000
England	27,600	Spain	6,100
Russia	5,100	Switzerland	10,200
Belgium	6,100	Italy	2,500
		Denmark	2,000
	66,500	Norway	1,200
		Others	6,000
			58,000
ENEMIES.			
Germany	51,000	U.S.A.	66,500
Austria	6,650	Canada	2,200
	57,650		68,700

Commenting on these figures they say: "Of the above, Germany and Austria will be cut off entirely from all supplies until the end of the war, and will have to work on their stock. Of the Allies, Belgium will be able to take very little, as the country is too badly devastated, and we imagine that in France the bulk of the factories are crippled for the time being, as, owing to her military system, the greater portion of her manhood is at the front. In England, on the other hand, consumption should remain about normal. Taking these various factors into consideration through the duration of war, the power of absorption will be decreased about four to five-tenths. After the war there is likely to be a lot of replenishment, and if supplies are not heavy at that time, prices may have a considerable advance. We must, however, bear in mind that the longer the war lasts, the less the purchasing power of the world becomes. Our article may, perhaps, not be affected so much as some others, as it is a foodstuff.

"We must expect that a good deal of cacao that in recent years has, in the ordinary course of events, gone to Hamburg, will be diverted to this market, and already quite a few lots, originally intended for Germany, have found a home here, and we can only rejoice as we have no doubt that London will resume its former position of being the leading cacao market, to the detriment of Hamburg. In the meantime, however, it is very probable that the production of cacao will seriously suffer. We do not say that our own old-established colonies will be affected much, but we rather expect that some of the other producing centres will find great difficulty in bringing their produce to market. Financially strong estates can, of course, consign to Europe, but it is a long and tedious process, and takes a long time before they see their money; but the smaller farmers who rely upon the merchants at the shipping ports to advance them money with which to gather in their harvest, will find their supplies cut off, and again the merchants, if they could obtain the produce, would find it practically impossible to ship

owing to the breakdown in exchanges, it being impossible at the present moment to negotiate any documentary drafts on London, and in these days bartering of gold against produce is a thing of the past. Another factor which will also deter business is the lack of freight. Over 300 German ships have been captured or interned in foreign harbours, and many of the English boats are being used as transports or cruisers. Then again freights are greatly increased, optional facilities are withdrawn, insurance rates are higher, all of which charges fall on the producer. From the above we deduce that a decreased consumption will be counteracted by a decreased production, and the extent of the decrease in the latter largely hinges on the question of finance in the first instance, and freight in the second.

DOMINICA'S LIME INDUSTRY.

Dealing with the progress of this industry, Mr. Joseph Jones in his report on the Agricultural Department of Dominica for 1913-14 records another advance in the output of the staple industry of Dominica. Calculated in number of barrels the crop for 1913 amounted to 391,207 barrels of fruit, an increase of 21,207 over the crop of 1912. The lime crop for the past five years calculated in barrels of fruit is recorded below:—

	Barrels.
1909	284,000
1910	369,000
1911	355,000
1912	370,000
1913	391,000

The flour barrel which is generally used for measuring limes varies slightly in size, but the average capacity may be placed at 4.55 cubic feet. When filled to the top with limes the weight of the contents is approximately 160 lb. Calculated on this basis the weight of the crop gathered during 1913 was 31,000 metric tons.

The weather conditions were favourable and the rainfall again below the average. Unlike most countries, Dominica, owing to its high mountains and large areas of forest, suffers from an excess of rain. Consequently a decrease in the annual precipitation is generally regarded as beneficial to the planting industries.

Scale insects on the whole appear to have been kept under control by the beneficial action of fungus parasites. Dominica is highly favoured in this respect, the climatic conditions being such as to maintain in full vigour and activity the several species of fungus which are known to prey upon scale insects. Still it should be borne in mind that this favourable combination is the result of a delicate adjustment of conditions, any displacement of which might tend to make lime cultivation in Dominica both difficult and expensive. Many planters will remember the after-effects of the heavy falls of volcanic ash in the island during the eruption of Mont Pelée in Martinique in 1902. The dust appeared to affect adversely the insect and fungus parasites of

scale insects. The latter, unchecked, overran lime plantations. For two years their attacks inflicted great loss upon planters. In time conditions again became normal, and there has been no general outbreak since.

Market rates for concentrated lime juice and citrate of lime maintained a high level throughout the year. Never, since the industry assumed importance, has there been such a favourable year for lime growers. The satisfactory returns per acre have led to the more general application of manures to lime fields. It is hoped that these efforts will continue, and that in a short time all growers will recognise that each tree must receive an application of suitable manure yearly if good crops are to be obtained and maintained. The steady demand for lime seedlings continues, it being estimated that 300 acres are planted each year. This having gone on over a considerable period, there is annually a fairly large addition to the area of bearing cultivation.

Raw Lime Juice.

There was a considerable falling off in the export of this product which was largely due to a decreased demand in Canada. The exports of lime juice during the past four years are as follows:—

	Gallons.
1910	293,792
1911	311,377
1912	508,766
1913	336,728

During the year the Secretary of the Canadian and West Indian League drew attention to a report issued by the Chief Government Analyst, Ottawa, dealing with the adulteration of lime juice in Canada.

The report states that:—

Out of the thirty samples analysed, only five fully met the requirements of the standard set by law. Although several others approximate more or less closely to it, the report shows that no less than fifteen were adulterated according to the Act, while quite 30 per cent., as the Government Analyst points out, bore unmistakable evidence of having been reduced by the addition of water.

The standard fixed by the Government for lime juice is that it shall contain at least 10 per cent. of solids and 7 per cent. of citric acid. Of the fifteen samples declared as adulterated, the report shows that ten contained less than 6 per cent. of citric acid, while three contained as little as 4.55, 3.78, and 3.50 per cent., or little more than one-half of the legal proportion. In this quantity of solids, of the same fifteen samples analysed, no less than eleven contained less than 7 per cent. while one of these had only 5.1 of solids, and one actually had only 3.6 or about one-third of the proportion prescribed by law. One of the samples, which on analysis was proved to contain only 3.50 of citric acid, showed unmistakable signs of dye having been added to give the article sold the colour of lime juice.

In justice to the British West Indies, it may well be added that whatever adulteration occurs, does not take place there, but in the countries where the article is prepared.

In this connection, it may be stated that old established British firms in the lime juice trade consider it of the highest importance to take every possible precaution to secure a high grade juice for use as a beverage. Such firms, in the interests of their business, find it necessary to possess their own lime

estates in the West Indies in order that the fruits and the juice may be dealt with and shipped under expert management. Great care is taken that only sound ripe fruit is passed through the mill, all unsound limes being carefully excluded. The fruit is washed before crushing. The mills are fitted with three granite rollers, the first two of which lightly crush the fruit. This strong pure juice is used for making beverages, the second juice being converted into citrate of lime. After milling, the first juice must be stored in clean sound casks for shipment. All the appliances used, including the mill, must be kept in a clean condition.

Carefully prepared first juice can reach the manufacturers in Britain and Canada with very little loss of acid, and without the addition of preservatives, to which latter course there are many objections.

If a sound business in lime juice is to be built up by Canadian firms it will be necessary for them to make arrangements to obtain supplies in the West Indies, which have been prepared under the best conditions. Several firms already do this, but evidently others (probably new to the business) have failed to do so. This may be largely due to inexperience in purchasing and handling lime juice. A strong pure juice will cost more, but in the end will prove satisfactory to both suppliers and manufacturers. The keeping qualities of raw lime juice have recently been the subject of investigation by the Assistant Curator. In this case strong, medium and weak juices were stored for twelve weeks in open casks. The loss of acid at the end of six and twelve weeks is given below:—

	Six weeks, loss of acid, per cent.	Twelve weeks, loss of acid, per cent.
Strong juice	1.7	12.4
Medium juice	3.6	18.9
Press juice	70.0	93.0

The above rate of loss is minimised in the case of raw juice for export which is kept no longer than is necessary before being placed in closed casks for shipment. But the point to be remembered is that under equal conditions the weaker juice will deteriorate at a more rapid rate than the strong juice. The above investigation shows how very necessary it is for makers of beverages to purchase high grade, carefully prepared lime juice. It is difficult to see how medium juice can meet the requirements of the Government standard in Canada for the pure article if the time required to place it upon the market is taken into consideration.

Citrate of Lime.

Compared with the year 1912, there was a considerable increase in the output of this product, but the production is still below that of the years 1910 and 1911. The shipments for the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	Quantity in cwt.	Value £.
1909	3,447	11,203
1910	5,194	16,880
1911	5,926	19,259
1912	3,910	11,991
1913	4,753	17,026

Fresh Limes.

The trade in fresh limes continues to expand. The number of barrels of fruit shipped was 43,832 an increase on the shipments of 1912 of 6,794. The year is remarkable on account of the high prices paid for fresh limes, prices which reached a level never expected even by those planters with unbounded confidence in this section of the lime industry. Of the limes exported, the New York market took 43,026 barrels, and Canada, by direct shipment, 265 barrels. It is well understood that the latter market is supplied mainly by way of New York. The exports to the United Kingdom totalled 367 barrels, a decrease of 956 when compared with the shipments during 1912. Bermuda and Barbados took 103 and 71 barrels respectively.

In the last progress report, reference was made to the action taken by a business house in New York, which handles the bulk of the fresh limes exported from Dominica, in appointing their own agent in Roseau to look after their local interests. The step taken has worked well and has resulted in improvements in packing, and in raising the standard of the fruit shipped. The market for fresh limes is very active during March, April and May of each year,—months during which the production fails to meet the demand. Owing to the high prices prevailing at this period, the question arises whether it is not possible by cultural methods to increase the production during the months named. There is certainly need for experiments in this direction and it is hoped these will be undertaken by planters interested.

Lime Oils.

Prices for otto of limes, which is obtained by hand process, continued at a high level. Much ingenuity has been shown during recent years in attempts to devise and place upon the market a machine capable of extracting the oil from the fruits more speedily and at a cheaper rate than is possible by the old-fashioned system of écuelling. In the progress report for 1912-13 reference was made to a machine invented for this purpose by two local planters. Information has recently come to hand to the effect that the cream separator is suitable for the purpose of separating the oil from the lime juice, or in practice on estates, from the skimmings of the juice after sufficient dilution. Trials will shortly be made to test this statement. The market rates for essential oil of limes, which is obtained by process of distillation, again ruled low. The total values of lime oils shipped during 1913 were returned at £9,833. The exports of lime products during 1913 were:—

Product.	Quantity.	Value.
Concentrated lime juice	158,974 gals.	£60,841
Raw lime juice	336,728 "	15,083
Raw juice cordial	4,654 "	349
Green limes	43,832 brls.	39,298
Pickled limes	616 "	231
Citrate of limes	4,753 cwt.	17,026
Essential oil of limes	5,370 gals.	3,625
Otto of limes	1,505 "	6,208
	Total	£142,662

The increase in values over the crop of 1912 amounted to £45,989.

A LETTER FROM THE FRONT.

We are indebted to a member of the West India Committee for permission to publish the following extracts from a letter which he has received from his son who is at the front. The letter bore the post mark "Army Base Post Office."

September 16th, 1914.

My own dear Father,

I have received heaps of letters from you, and very glad I have been to get them. I have not been able to write to you before, for reasons you can guess. I will not tell you any news now for fear the letter might be censored, but I want to let you know that I am quite well, but you can understand what it is not being out of one's clothes for 14 days. I have not had one wink of sleep for five days. It has rained all the time, and I have been in wet things all that time.

The horrors of modern war are too terrible, and I hope I shall live to be able to tell you all that I have been through. I should never have thought I could live through it all. I hope — will not be sent abroad. I now find out from my brother officers that one can tell news after it is five days old. Well, I have been fighting for 10 days, night and day, and am absolutely fed up with it. It is awful to see fellows shot down on either side of you, and hear them crying. On Monday I went through the most awful experience of my life. On Sunday night I was sent out with my fifty men, as part of an outpost line. In the morning at dawn we found ourselves only about 300 yards from the Germans, who immediately opened fire on us, with rifles, two maxim guns and eight field guns. Well, I lay out in that field for about 6½ hours and the whole time they never stopped firing on us. The shell burst absolutely within ten yards of me and yet never touched me. At last I found that I was the only officer not killed in the firing line, so I thought it was time for me to retire, so this I did, but while I was retiring a shell burst just behind me, and blew me right up in the air, and I landed on my face. However, I found I was not hurt, so up I got and am glad to say I had the presence of mind to help a wounded man out of the firing line, who had a broken leg, so you see I have been in some fairly hot places. I cannot see how it was possible for anyone to get out of such a place, but I did. We lost 100 men out of our 1,000. I am writing you another note just to tell you I am well in case this one is censored.

Continued on 21st September.

I am now in hospital for a few days. There is nothing very much the matter with me, but I have my face cut open a little by a shell, which also hit me in the small of the back. It was a great big lyddite shell; you have no idea what it is like to be blown up by one of those things. I have had the most marvellous escapes that have ever been known. Each one of those little wounds would have killed me if they had been an inch or so to one side. To-day we have been withdrawn from the firing line, and General French came up to see us. He said that what we had done seemed to him impossible, and that he would never have believed that it could be done. He also said that he was proud of us, and that England was proud of us. This was to the — Regiment. Well I will tell you what we did. Our 1000 odd men kept the whole of a German Army in check for eight days. We had no guns, while they had hundreds of all kinds. We were shelled night and day the whole time and used to be attacked every night, but that was more fun, as it was bayonet work in

the trenches. No words of mine can express to you what the trenches were like at the end. Rain, rain, rain and dirt. Our regiment was 1,000 men, it is now 450, and I am one of the five officers left. If I should not get home you will know that the — Regiment have covered themselves with glory all through the war . . . I can't tell you what devils the Germans are, you would hardly believe it. . . .

OUR BELGIAN DEFENDERS.

A Tribute from Jamaica.

They kept the gate of the Westward shore, they have held the foe at bay,
Our records shall flame with the Belgian name and the crown that is their's to-day.
The crown of valour and fortitude and of hearts undaunted and high,
They feared to live with a trust betrayed, but not to suffer and die;

Steadfast they stood as a rock may stand when the whelming seas assail,
And the great waves pour with a leap and roar in the rending blast of the gale.
Wave upon wave of the German host came on like a heaving tide,
With the blast of artillery hurling death and terror on every side.

Then wave upon wave they crashed and broke, they melted and passed away,
And only the dead remained of those whom the Belgians had held at bay
As the spent wave shatters on shores unshaken its entire force and weight
And the foam and froth of its crested wrath lie prone at the touch of Fate.

All reverence then to the Belgian men who kept the gate of the West,
Honour and reverence evermore to their heroes lying at rest:

They fought for us to the uttermost, fought and suffered and fell,
Our children's children from age to age the tale of their deeds shall tell,

But we, we are mute from fullness of heart, we dare not measure our debt,
Never can we repay it we know, but as little can we forget.

They kept the gate of the Empire's fate for they held our foes at bay,
And Britons shall honour the Belgian name to the Empire's latest day.

H. S. BUNBURY.

Mandeville, Jamaica.

A GRENADA firm advertises "Domestics from 3 pence per yard." Is this a solution of the servant problem?

HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS.

St. John, Guanaboa Vale, Jamaica.

BY FRANK CUNDALL.

The parish of St. John, merged in St. Catherine since 1867, dates from the first partition of the island under Modyford in 1664. The old name of Guanaboa is either Arawak or Spanish, or possibly, as Long suggests, a mixture of both, but the prefix *gua* is suggestive of an aboriginal origin. The earliest reference to the district in English days is under date July 15th, 1661, when the justices of peace of Guanaboa were ordered by the Governor and Council "to nominate a person to sell drink at Cowhides," and in the map in Hickeringill's "Jamaica View'd," published in that year, Guanaboa is one of the four inland names given. Cowhides is marked on the map which accompanies the "Laws of Jamaica," of 1684, as a pen for cattle; it probably indicated the place where the skins of the wild cattle were disposed of and possibly survives to-day in Cowpen estate; albeit a spot near Aylmers is still called Cowhide. On the 1st of August of the same year (1661) permission was given to Captain Anthony Collier and Lieutenant Edward Morris "to pen their own with other wild horses for one month, with the assistance of the officers of Guanaboa, to whom half the wild horses are to be delivered." In 1663-4 Guanaboa returned two members to the first Assembly. One was William Clee, of whom even the erudite Roby has nothing to record. He was not a landowner in 1670. The other was Thomas Freeman, who was later member for St. Thomas-in-the-East, a brother-in-law of Colonel Cope (a member of the Council and Colonel of one of the seven regiments, and possibly a kinsman of Colonel Doyley) who lived at Cope Place hard by.

Amongst the representatives whom St. John sent to the Assembly were members of the most noted families in Jamaica history—Aylmer, Beckford, Price, Ayscough, Rose, Brodrick, Kelly, Modd, Fuller, Beach and Shand.

By the survey of the island in 1670, St. John was shown to have 83 families, and an estimated total population of 996; and a rate of one penny per acre then produced £200 in the parish. The largest landowner was John Styles with 3,200 acres. Styles, in a letter to the principal Secretary of State in that year, states that Jamaica "would maintain more people than the whole of England."

In May 1675 a petition was presented by him "that his land be made a distinct parish under the name of Styles Langley, he having left it by will to Christ Church College, Oxford, from whence he expects it will be supplied with preachers," and offering to build a church. The petition was refused on the ground that the land, which was at Magatee, was not sufficiently extensive. It was later taken from St. John and made part of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

In 1671 there were four clergymen ministering in

Jamaica. At St. John's was "Mr. Lennings, an Englishman, lately sent by my Lord of London." Of the others, one was Scotch and two Swiss. In 1675 "Mr. Lemon" (evidently the same man) "a sober young man and very good preacher," was minister at Guanaboa. "He has £100 per annum for the parish, and about as much from Colonel Cope for keeping a free school he has created."

In 1682 we learn from a very interesting account of the state of the church in Jamaica sent to the Bishop of London, by Sir Thomas Lynch, who took a keen interest in the cause of religion, that "St. John's parish, or Guanaboa, is supplied by Mr. Lemon, who has £100 a year by law. He had some advantages by a school built by Colonel Cope, but on the failure of that and on his marriage to a poor gentleman's widow he has been a little uneasy. However, since I came he has sold some land I gave him for £500, so that he is in a reasonably good condition. For all I have heard, he is a very honest, sober, fair-conditioned man, and esteemed the best preacher in the island. I think he has a parsonage, but the church is decayed, and he preaches in the school-house." This reference to the decayed condition of the church is, curiously enough, the earliest direct evidence of the existence of a church at Guanaboa, though it was probably one of the six churches existing in 1675. It was presumably at all events existing when Richard Guy was buried in 1681, the earliest dated tombstone in the church, but it is curious that there is no mark for a church at Guanaboa in the map of 1684 above referred to. In October, 1752, in connection with a bill to enable Charles Price, the Speaker, to take water from Murruring Brook at Luidas, or Worthy Park "for the turning of mills," it appeared that the notice required by law of posting up private bills on the parish church door could not be complied with as "there is no church in the parish of St. John" but the House waived the point and passed the bill. The existing register of baptisms, marriages and burials only goes back as far as 1751. Part of the original fabric probably exists in the present building, which from a reference in the "Votes of the Assembly" would appear to only date from 1845, the older church having been burnt down shortly before then.

Roby in his "History of the Parish of St. James," (1849) says, "In a wood near Aylmer's in St. John's, is a monument inscribed, under arms (the colours added) sable, a chevron erminois, between three spear-heads argent, embued at the points, proper. Crest, a dragon's head vert, crased gules, holding in its mouth a sinister hand, erect, couped, dropping blood from the wrist, all proper."

Roby gives the inscription with—marvellous to relate—one or two mistakes, e.g. *He* for *who* in the fourth line; *High* for *Hon.* in the tenth; and he corrects the Mason's *Pallida* into *Pallida*. It runs as follows:—

Near to this Mournfull Marble lies Interr'd the Body of the Hon. Coll. Charles Price who was divested of the

Robe of Mortality on the 23d day of May, 1730, Aged 52 years.

Who was a Loving Husband, an Indulgent Parent, a peaceable Neighbour, and a faithful Friend; Just, Charitable, Courteous, Affable to his Inferiors, patient of Injuries and Slow to wrath.

A Man of Integrity, and so firm to his word, that he inviolably preserv'd the same even to the strictest Nicety of Honour; meek he was but truly Brave, and every way fitted for his Hon. station, and for a Loyalist was second to none.

He was possessed of such a singular engaging temper and sincerity of mind, which render'd him a very desirable Companion to all, but more especially to those who had the happiness of being intimately acquainted with him for he knew no guile neither was deceit found in his heart. If he had any Enemies, they must have been the Sons of Envy, and became such not thro' any real cause by him given, but from some invidious and Malignant seeds planted and foster'd in their own turbulent and uneasy breasts.

To say more of him would be but still to say too little, only that he is now gone to that place which alone knows how to reward those virtues, of which he was here the happy possessor.

O may we then like him resign our breath,

In life his virtues share, and be like him in Death.

Pallidæ [sic] mors æquo pulsat Pede pauperum Tabernæ Regumque Turres.

Lawrence-Archer, in his "Monumental Inscriptions of the British West Indies" (1875), gives the same information as Roby. Nothing is now known of such a tomb near Aylmers, and the tombstone in memory of Price, as quoted by Roby, is now on the floor of the church near the north door; but the tinctures on the arms are quite gone. There is no record of the removal from wood to church. As Roby is very trustworthy, this was evidently subsequent to 1849, but the reference in Lawrence-Archer is no certain proof that it was in the wood in 1875.

Charles Price was the third son of Francis Price, who came to Jamaica as a captain under Venables. His eldest son, Charles, who achieved much fame in Jamaica and was made a baronet in 1768, lies buried at Decoy, his estate in St. Mary. Charles Price was member for St. John in 1713 and St. James in 1725, but was expelled for non-attendance in the same year. He was custos of St. Catharine. Two sons and six daughters, who all died between 1716 and 1727, lie buried in the church. He left three surviving sons.

Amongst other monuments in the church are those to the following: Richard Guy, who represented in the Assembly "the Northside" in 1671-1, St. Ann and St. James in 1673-4 and St. James from 1675-79. In 1676 he patented 1,000 acres of which Latium (not Latimer as Lawrence-Archer and Fuertado, after him, have it) in St. John, formed part: George Modd, who represented St. John in the Assembly in 1718, 19 and 22, and St. Catherine in 1721 in which year he was speaker; and Colonel Whitgift Aylmer. The arms on his monument are: a cross between four Cornish choughs close; the crest, a Cornish chough rising out of a ducal coronet. From the title "Honourable" it is possible, Roby points out, that he was custos of the precinct of St. Catherine (which comprehended the parish of St. John with St. Dorothy and St. Thomas-in-the-Vale)

as he does not appear to have been a member of the Council; and although, from the arms on his monument, it may be inferred that he was of the now noble family of Aylmers, of Balrath, Co. Meath, yet that family was not ennobled until 1718, seventeen years after his decease when Matthew (second son of Sir Christopher Aylmer, who was created a Baronet of Ireland in 1682), Rear Admiral of the Red, was created Baron Aylmer of Balrath.

The family, which had been long settled in Ireland, is said to have been descended from Aylmer, a Saxon Duke of Cornwall, and Sir Gerald Aylmer, who, 25 Hen. VIII (1533) was a Baron of the Exchequer in Ireland, was great-great-grandfather to Sir Christopher, the first Baronet before-mentioned.

The family gave an archbishop to Canterbury, and Whitgift Aylmer is supposed to have descended from Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury. He was member of Assembly for St. John's 1673-4, 77; St. Ann's 1680-1; and 87-8; and for St. John's 1701. The Christian name of his wife was Joyce, as appears from the register of St. Catherine, in which parish two of their children were baptised—Mary, 11th June, 1669, and John, 5th September, 1687. His son was also a member of the Assembly.

The following notice of his election for this parish appears under the date of 26th June, 1701. "It appearing by the return of the writs, that Lieutenant-Colonel Whitgift Aylmer was elected for the parish of St. John, and Whitgift Aylmer for the parish of St. James, and it being doubted whether the said Whitgift Aylmer, elected for the parish of St. James, was Colonel Whitgift Aylmer the father, or Whitgift Aylmer the son, and a debate thereon, it was put to the vote whether the House understood by the said returns, that Lieutenant-Colonel Whitgift Aylmer or Whitgift Aylmer his son were elected for the parish of St. James.

"Resolved, that it was understood by the return to be Whitgift Aylmer the son." The memory of the family still lives in Aylmers estate hard by.

THE Rome correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* recently stated that the Italian Council of Ministers had authorised the exportation of 100,000 tons of sugar per month, and added that as the beet crop was abundant, permission would no doubt be given for this amount to be increased. As the Italian beet crop of last year was only 327,800 tons, and as Italy at present consumes all the sugar she produces in a normal year, it is difficult to see how any sugar can reach us from the Italian beet fields. The British Government have recently prohibited imports of sugar from Holland lest they should be contaminated with German beet. It is to be hoped that they are alive to the possibility of Austrian sugar being shipped to these markets through a neutral country, or of any neutral country shipping to us her sugar while importing for her own local requirements sugar from one of the countries with which we are at war.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

THE total area sown with sugar-cane in India at the end of August was 2,372,800 acres, a decrease of 2.6 per cent. as compared with the area of the previous year. The crop is from fair to good.

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A WEST Indian newspaper received by the mail gravely announces that "the stately homes of England, *even the Alexandra Palace*, are being given up by their owners for public purposes in connection with the war." The italics are our own.

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IN addition to assisting in the formation of the 2nd King Edward's Horse, Mr. Gideon Murray is now helping to raise an Imperial battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. Mr. Conrad Simmons, who leaves for St. Vincent to-morrow, has also been assisting.

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THE *Indian Prince*, which was sunk by the German *Kronprinz Wilhelm*, was owned by the Prince Line, whose steamers call at Barbados and Trinidad fortnightly on their voyage between Brazil and New York. Most of her cargo was for New York.

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THE West Indian Club has received the thanks of Sir Robert Borden, Premier of Canada, for extending the privilege of honorary membership to all officers of the Canadian contingent while in England. For the convenience of members, a news tape machine has been recently installed at the Club.

* * *

MR. FRANK CUNDALL, the gifted Secretary and Librarian of the Institute of Jamaica, returned to the colony yesterday by the S.S. *Bayano*. Mr. Cundall has spent what is popularly known as a "busman's holiday," having occupied every spare moment in completing his work "Historic Jamaica," which will shortly be published by the West India Committee.

* * *

AN enthusiastic meeting was held at the offices of the Belfast Industrial Development Association at Belfast on September 17th, in connection with certain proposals for growing sugar beet in Ulster. Representatives of the Board of Agriculture were present and it was decided to investigate the possibilities of establishing a sugar industry in the county.

* * *

AFTER a connection with that institution lasting for over eighteen years, Mr. James Kennedy Morrison retired from the management of the Colonial Bank on September 30th, and his many friends will join with the CIRCULAR in wishing him happiness in his retirement. Mr. Morrison has been succeeded as Manager by Mr. Charles Henry Hewett, who has been Secretary of the bank and assistant Manager since 1909.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been: Hon. Adam Smith, Mr. Frank Cundall, Mr. S. Manning, Mr. G. H. Paireadeau, Mr. J. F. Loader, Mr. A. M. Low, Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, Mr. E. V. Lucie-Smith, Mr. F. B. B. Shand, Mr. J. J. Law, Mr. H. A. Bovell, Mr. G. R. D. Rust, Hon. Conrad J. Simmons, Mr. E. H. Grant, Mr. G. Williams, and Mr. A. K. Agar, who is reading for the Bar as a member of Gray's Inn, and will remain in England for some years.

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ACCORDING to Dr. Freund, who has contributed an article to the *Vossische Zeitung*, influential circles are proposing to found a powerful organisation for the purpose of preventing German sugar from coming to English markets after the war. This is good news as far as it goes; but the German sugar will have to go somewhere, and wherever it goes it will displace sugar which will then become available for England. Meanwhile the British Government, as announced elsewhere, is boycotting German sugar, and long may the boycott continue.

* * *

IN the Catholic Church of St. George's, Grenada, on August 27th, Mr. Harry Pantin, only child of the late Mr. H. F. Pantin, of Port-of-Spain, was married to Beryl, youngest daughter of Mr. C. Falconer Anton, Hon. Correspondent in Grenada to the West India Committee. The bride wore a dress of brocaded satin, with Chantilly lace and pearl ornaments, and was attended by her sister, Miss Clare Anton, as bridesmaid. A large number of friends were present in the Church, and at the reception at Mount Helicon House; a very hearty send off was given to the young couple as they left to spend the honeymoon at Point Saline House.

* * *

UNDER the new United States tariff, the limitation previously imposed on the free entry to the United States of cigars and sugar from the Philippine Islands (all other goods have always been free without limits) has been removed. Previously, any excess over 150,000,000 cigars and 300,000 tons of sugar per annum was liable to the ordinary tariff rates when sent to the United States. Neither of these limits was, however, reached in any year, though they will probably both be exceeded in the course of the next few years. The prospect of free sugar under the new tariff does not affect the Philippine Islands so much as it does the United States and Hawaii, as, according to Mr. Vice-consul Royds, sugar can be produced in the Philippines so much more cheaply than in America and Hawaii.

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THE first British steamer to use the Panama Canal was the *Daldorck*, a cargo steamer belonging to J. & M. Campbell, of Glasgow. She was loaded with 11,500 tons of wheat, and, arriving at Balboa on

Thursday, August 20th, she passed through the Canal bound for Limerick, Ireland, on Saturday, August 22nd. She left Tacoma, Washington, on the day of the outbreak of hostilities in Europe, intending to sail round South America. At Cape San Lucia, the captain received a wireless message instructing him to use the Canal instead, and this will probably effect a saving of about 40 days in the voyage. According to the *Canal Record*, eight vessels passed through the Canal southbound, and seven northbound, during the week ending 8 a.m., August 22nd.

* * *

THE *Indus*, which fell a victim to the *Emden* on September 10th in the Bay of Bengal was the well-known steamer of the Nourse Line, which has brought many hundreds of East Indian immigrants to the West Indies.

According to a Renter's message Mr. George Read, second officer of the *Indus*, has stated that the vessel was hailed by the *Emden* at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 10th ult., and by a quarter past one the crew had been transferred to the *Emden*. Beginning at three in the afternoon, the cruiser fired ten shots at the *Indus*, which, however, was not sunk until an hour and ten minutes later. The marksmanship of the German gunners was poor. The *Emden* was accompanied by the Hamburg-America liner *Markomanna*, acting as a collier. When coming up the Bay the cruiser had intercepted all the wireless messages announcing port departures, and therefore knew the position of all the vessels in the Bay.

* * *

SIR CHARLES MAJOR, who succeeds the late Sir Crossley Rayner as Chief Justice of British Guiana, will leave for Demerara on October 21st. He is no new-comer to the West Indies, having resided for some years in Antigua and Grenada. Called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1887, he was admitted to practise in the Leeward Islands in the same year. Nominated a member of the Legislative Council of Antigua in 1895, he was appointed a member and President of the General Council of the Leeward Islands in the following year. From 1897 to 1901 he was a member of the Executive Council of the Leeward Islands, and from 1897 to 1899 Acting Solicitor-General and Attorney-General, while in 1899 he acted as Second Puisne Judge. In 1901 he was appointed Attorney-General of Grenada, but in the following year he was promoted to be Chief Justice of Fiji and Chief Judicial Commissioner of the Western Pacific, in which capacity he received his knighthood in the Coronation year.

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THE suspension of the motor boat service between Nevis and St. Kitts is recalled by the introduction of an Ordinance into the Colonial Council of St. Thomas and St. Jan exempting the motor-schooner conducting the mail service between St. Croix and St. Thomas from the payment of harbour dues in St. Thomas. This vessel is the *Dannebrog* which plies semi-weekly between Bassin and Charlotte Amalia, for a subsidy of Frs. 9,500, of which Frs. 4,000 are paid by each of the Colonial Treasuries, the balance being contributed by the State

Treasury. The contractor is Mr. Robert L. Mervin, of Fredericksted, whose contention that the service cannot be maintained for so small a subsidy is upheld. The remission of harbour dues will be equivalent to Frs. 300, and a further grant of Frs. 200 from the State is also proposed. The subsidy paid for the *Windrush* which ran between Nevis and St. Kitts for some months last year was £300, but it was found that the service could not be conducted profitably on that basis.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

MESSRS. Hutchinson and Milligan have given to the public the results of some interesting experiments conducted at the Indian Experiment Station at Pusa, in the direction of green manuring. From these it would appear that there is an optimum depth for burial of green manure which varies with the age of the plant, and also, probably, with the character of the soil and its subsequent treatment. The authors conclude that the more mature plants should be buried at a greater depth to secure nitrification. From the figures given, it would appear that a depth of 9 inches gives the best results.

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THERE are at present in the East no less than 950,000 acres under rubber cultivation, although a considerable quantity of this will probably not be permanent. There are on this area about 110,000,000 trees, only a small proportion of which have been tapped. It is interesting to know that of the 35,000 tons of plantation rubber annually supplied the markets of the world, Ceylon and India gave about a quarter. Brazil supplies about 40,000 tons of wild rubber.

* * *

OF recent years there has been a constantly accumulating weight of evidence breaking down the sharp line of demarcation at one time supposed to exist between animals and plants. A further striking contribution in this direction has been recently made by Professor Bose, in *Nature*. By the use of apparatus of extreme delicacy most interesting and valuable information has been obtained in connection with the rhythmic sensibility of plants, particularly as to the effect of electric stimulation and the action of drugs and external conditions.

* * *

THUS in regard to the mimosa, a plant of well-known sensibility, it was found by systematic shocks repeated every hour of the day and night, that the plant keeps up very late and only falls asleep in the early hours of the morning. It makes up for its late hours by gradually waking by noon, and remains in a condition of uniform sensibility all the afternoon. In the presence of a large percentage of carbonic acid gas in the air, it shews symptoms of suffocation. Sulphuretted hydrogen, even in small quantities, is very fatal, and alcohol, in the words of Professor Bose, gives rise "to a ludicrous unsteadiness of gait."

THE LONDON LETTER.

THE nation is in good heart. Our overseas readers will find abundant evidence of that fact in the files of the home newspapers. Optimism pervades the ranks of the Allies. Whatever the ebb and flow of fortune the great plan of the German strategists has been defeated. Paris has been saved. The Kaiser's dream of European conquest has been shattered. At the moment of writing the Anglo-French forces seem in sight of decisive victory in the western theatre. Russia's "ever victorious army," having broken the power of Austria, is advancing in the direction of Berlin. Further, the Czar is able to take the field with the largest force ever assembled by one nation. Five millions is its reputed strength.

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It is not merely that "the tide has turned." That fact alone might justify the renewed confidence of the allied nations. Each week, however, sees some fresh development in their favour; some further loss inflicted on the enemy. That loss is not to be computed in casualties on the European battlefield. One by one the colonies of Germany are being seized. The atrocities and sacrilege which follow in the wake of the Kaiser's army are beginning to bear bitter fruit. Every neutral nation has become horrified by the records of callous murder and robbery. Germany has been specially anxious to retain in increased measure the goodwill of the United States. The feeling of America is however enthusiastically on the side of England.

* * *

THE contest waged against fearful odds and superior numbers by the British Army has stirred the hearts of their fellow-countrymen to an unwonted degree. It is little that we hear of the fighting from day to day. Official despatches supplemented by the letters of wounded soldiers suffice to show, however, that the spirit of Wellington's men is inherited by their descendants. The service thus rendered to the Empire is not confined to the defeat of the enemy. It has awakened among our young men at home the sentiment of emulation and will make possible at an early date the recruitment of the million men whom Lord Kitchener intends to place in the field after the necessary training. Wales, fired by the eloquence of Mr. Lloyd George, is to raise an army corps. Ireland will follow suit.

* * *

AMONG the exploits which have kindled the pride of British subjects everywhere none have been more conspicuous than the triumphs of our airmen. Aviation, before proficiency was attained, cost many lives and there were those who doubted the possibility of the army ever deriving practical assistance from this branch of science. The military airmen have now demonstrated their value not merely in reconnaissance work, but in raids in Germany and in combats in the air. They have merited in fact all the compliments paid them by Sir John French.

It will be readily deduced that the brilliant services of the army are facilitating in marked measure the efforts of the countless voluntary agencies which are seeking to minister to their comfort, and to succour their dependents. Money is readily forthcoming in response to every appeal. The National Relief Fund already totals nearly £3,000,000. Among the latest subscriptions is one of £100 from the West Indian Regiment stationed at Sierra Leone. Immense sums have also been given to the Red Cross organisations and to Queen Mary's Fund for providing work for women. Blankets and socks and woollen belts are being despatched by the ton to the front, to say nothing of countless private gifts.

* * *

THIS stream of gifts is no slight evidence of the financial well-being of Great Britain at this juncture. Business in fact is slowly reverting to normal conditions. In most of the trades coming under the Insurance Act unemployment is on a smaller scale than during the corresponding period of last year. In certain centres indeed work is being carried on at very high pressure. Sheffield will be engaged throughout the winter in coping with Government orders for ammunition and for razors for the army. At Northampton there has been received from the French Government an order for half a million pairs of boots for the Army of the Republic. Russia is having thousands of uniforms made at Leeds. The headquarters of the clothing industry is also busy in meeting the demands of our own Government.

* * *

"A decadent nation"—so the Germans describe us—is thus facing the anxieties of the world's greatest war amid conditions which must make Great Britain the envy of all countries which have passed through a like crisis. Not only is an ample supply of food obtainable at fair prices for our own population, but we are able to house and board thousands of Belgian refugees, and thousands of German prisoners. Moreover, should the war be prolonged, there is little fear of our wheat requirements not being met. Our Canadian friends are seeing to that. In Ontario the area under wheat is to be increased by 50 per cent. in order to satisfy our needs next year. The close of the first two months of the war, therefore, finds us as well prepared for the future as any nation might wish.

* * *

THERE were recently announced on the same day the deaths of two gallant officers whose fathers were at one time connected with Demerara. Mr. Frederick Des Voeux of the 2nd Grenadier Guards, who was killed at the Battle of the Aisne, was the younger son of the late Sir William Des Voeux, formerly Governor of Hong Kong. Sir William began his official career as a Stipendiary Magistrate in British Guiana, and afterwards became Administrator of St. Lucia. Lieut.-Colonel Ian Graham Hogg, D.S.O., Fourth Hussars, also killed in France, was the second son of the late Mr. Quintin Hogg, Deputy-Chairman of the West India Committee.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Patriotism in the West Indies.

Passengers by the homeward mail were again landed at Tilbury, the R.M.S.P. *Tagus* which left Barbados at 7 p.m. on September 16th, having reached there at 10 a.m. on September 28th. Among her passengers were, Hon. R. A. S. Warner, K.C., Mr. I. M. Frame, Mr. M. A. French, Mr. J. G. Gillespie, and Mr. E. H. Grant. Though sugar planters were encouraged by the prospect of good prices for their product for some time to come, cacao estates proprietors were viewing with some apprehension the not unexpected decline in the price of cacao, while cotton planters were concerned at the prospect of not being able to dispose of their crops. All classes of the community were, however, facing the situation with courage, and nowhere among the islands would the enquiry "Are we downhearted?" have been met with anything but a forceful "No." An improvement in the weather conditions was facilitating the planting of food crops, which was being very properly recommended by the Governments, who were still keeping a good grasp of the situation. The residents in the little island of Nevis had petitioned the Administrator for permission to raise a defence force, and there being fortunately enough rifles to go round, Mr. Roxburgh had acceded to the request, greatly to the delight of the people. The mail brought home several intending recruits for Kitchener's army, and in most islands subscription lists for the Prince of Wales's and other patriotic funds had been opened. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Honorary Correspondents.

ANGUILLA—Improvements at Forest Harbour.

MR. CARTER REY, SEPTEMBER 10th.—The progress of the war is the one subject engrossing all the attention of the inhabitants at this moment, and being without telegraphic communication, and also with only a fortnightly mail service with St. Kitts, the waits between the arrivals of news bulletins are always anxious times. The effect of the war upon the industry of the island will be disastrous. For many years now the produce of food crops has been practically abandoned for cotton, which staple will not now be saleable until after the war is over. In this position then, with but very limited food crops growing, and no sale for cotton, the prospect is gloomy. The people, however, have the faculty of easy accommodation to adverse circumstances. They are not grumbling about it, but feel that they must fall in line with the balance of the Empire, and will do so cheerfully and loyally. As far as was possible land that had not already been planted to cotton when the war began, has since been planted to food crops, principally Indian corn, and given good weather the produce may yet be in time to prevent any great suffering. A very neat and useful little pier has just been completed by the Government at Forest Harbour, where it adds a good deal to the appearance of the place. It is built of concrete.

ANTIGUA—Some amusing comments overheard.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, SEPTEMBER 12th.—The war is the sole topic out here. We are suffering in a small way from the increased prices of food-stuffs, although not yet to a very great extent. Our black people are intensely interested, the different telegraph stations being surrounded by crowds of people waiting for the latest news. Yesterday in St. John's the idea had got abroad that the Kaiser was caught, and if you had heard the black people and seen the excitement, no one would question the loyalty of the blacks. One man said "Lard, if dem got 'im, I hope dey will hang 'im as 'igh as 'ell." Well, I thought that was a place low down. Another one rushed into the place where I was being barred to buy cigarettes because "Dat British General French he am smoking dem in front of the enemy." A very large and influential Committee has been appointed with His Lordship the Bishop as Chairman, all denominations being represented, to collect subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers. I am glad we shall be able to do our little best. We had a short visit from Dr. Watts, who come yesterday and goes to-day. The weather is very dry and canes are suffering; for the whole of August and September so far there has been very little rain. Up to July everything had promised a bumper crop next year. I am afraid that promise will not be fulfilled.

BAHAMAS—A proposed offer of recruits for the Navy.

A public meeting was held in St. Andrew's Hall, Nassau, on September 5th, to decide what steps should be taken to help the Mother Country in the present crisis. His Excellency the Hon. G. B. Haddon-Smith presided, and the speakers included Mr. G. Weech, senior member of the House of Assembly for the city district, Mr. G. M. Cole, M.H.A., Mr. L. W. Young and Mr. S. A. Dillet. The Governor suggested that it should be possible to offer 200 men to the Navy, to man the ships in that part of the world and thus release a portion of the crews for home waters. The ladies could undertake work such as making flannel shirts, pyjamas, etc., for Queen Mary's Guild, and subscriptions might be raised for the Prince of Wales' Fund; a powerful committee was ultimately appointed. The meeting was brought to a close by a vote of thanks moved by the Hon. Harcourt Malcolm, K.C.

BARBADOS—A patriotic meeting in Bridgetown.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, SEPTEMBER 15th.—The war is naturally still the subject of one's thoughts and conversation. Last week there were two alarms of men-of-war in the distance, and the volunteers and police turned out and took up their allotted stations, but as the ships did not approach any nearer the troops were dismissed.

His Excellency Sir Leslie Probyn attended a Patriotic Demonstration organised by the Bridgetown Brotherhood at the London Electric Theatre on September 13th when the following resolution moved by the Hon. C. P. Clarke and seconded by Mr. R. G. Cave, M.C.P., was carried unanimously.

Resolved that: "The Bridgetown Brotherhood and other citizens of the Empire here assembled reaffirm their unwavering loyalty and devotion to their King and their Flag, declare their belief in the justice of their Mother Country's cause in the present righteous war, and pledge themselves to uphold by every means in their power the honour and dignity of the Empire, and to shoulder manfully their responsibilities as Barbadians, especially in the endeavour to make the conditions of life as tolerable as may be for their poorer fellow citizens during the period of stress."

Regarding weather and crop conditions the *Barbados Advocate* reports: September has been blessed with copious rains. Since October last year the earth has not got a good

soaking until the 4th instant, when the rain fell heavily all over the island, the records being between 2 to 3½ inches. Since 1st September we have had some rain every day in some part of the island; and the drought is now completely broken up. The past week has been very hot, an indication that more rain was at hand which has proved to be the case. . . There has been an instant and general recovery of the crops everywhere, and it is hoped that with a continuance of favourable weather, the canes, which thanks to a perfect system of tillage, have made gallant resistance against the drought, will sufficiently recover to yield an average crop. Here and there about the island, in parts of St. John and on the hill slopes of St. Thomas and St. Michael there are plantations that have very promising fields.

The papers to hand by the mail contain a report of the proceedings of the House of Assembly on September 1st, when the Bill was passed authorising the grant of £20,000 from the public treasury to the Imperial Government and authorising the loan of that amount to the Governor in Executive Committee from the Funds of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Book.

BERMUDA—The visit of American Journalists.

The American pressmen who were visiting Bermuda to satisfy themselves as to its suitability for receiving tourists in spite of the war had been received by the Mayor of Hamilton, His Worshipful A. W. Bluck, M.C.P., and hotel keepers and proprietors. They then went to the Frascati Hotel, where they stayed as the guests of Mr. Alonzo Peniston. The *Chronicle* states that during the evening they were visited by a number of the business men, and short speeches were made by the Mayor and others, all touching on the way Bermuda had been affected, and of the resultant good it was hoped would accrue through the visit of the newspaper men. Strong emphasis was laid upon one point—that Americans were not so much concerned with the state of affairs in Bermuda as with the possibility of frequent communication being kept up by the steamship companies with New York. Reference can be made here to the statement issued by the Governor recently, in which His Excellency said "The routes between Bermuda and New York and other northern ports are perfectly safe. These routes are adequately patrolled by British warships and there is no danger or menace whatever to merchant shipping using them."

BRITISH GUIANA—The gift of 2,240,000 lbs. of sugar.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, SEPTEMBER 12th.—The quantity of sugar to be retained for local consumption here has been now fixed at 9 per cent. The Association has furnished the Government with the figures of the crops from all the estates during the five years 1909-13, which show that 8 per cent. will be quite ample for the purpose, and it is hoped the Governor will now accept that as being all that is necessary. The food-stuffs committee have had several meetings and the price of sugar and other goods I understand will be raised to-day by Proclamation. Sugar will now be sold at: refining 3½c. wholesale, and 4c. retail; yellows 3c. wholesale, and 4½c. retail. Sales of refining crystals have been made for export at \$4.25 October delivery. A small lot of 200 tons for immediate delivery was made at \$4.37. Since then there has been an advance of 25c. in the cabled prices. We have had some excellent rains during the fortnight which were much wanted, and have been of great benefit to the cultivation. The local contributions to date to the Prince of Wales Relief Fund amount to \$15,300. The fifth Government steamer the *Lukunani* arrived on the 7th. There was a meeting of the Combined Court on the 7th, when Dr. Rowland was pre-

sented with the I.S.O. The Court granted the gift of 1,000 tons sugar to the Home Government, and also voted another \$10,000 for the Government steamer service. S.S. *Chenab*, the second vessel for the season, arrived on the 10th with 427 immigrants for this colony. The Guiana Scholarship for the current year has been won by Mr. S. J. Van Sertima, who leaves by the mail to study law in England.

BRITISH HONDURAS—The effects of the war on trade.

HON. ALAN DREDGE, SEPTEMBER 2nd.—On receipt of the news that Great Britain was involved in war, His Excellency called out the volunteers and recruiting was very brisk, so that now the Force is large as compared with our population and its martial enthusiasm is noticeable. Major Elphinstone, Acting Chief Justice, is in command of the defences. His Honour W. S. Shaw, our late Chief Justice, has been transferred to Ceylon, and while congratulating Mr. Shaw on his promotion, we have learnt this with general regret, as he was very highly esteemed in the colony. The outbreak of hostilities has naturally disorganised both our import and export trades, and we can only hope they will soon resume their normal course. We were peculiarly unfortunate in that the S.S. *Dramatist* of the Harrison Line, due here with a large supply of food-stuffs a few days before the declaration of war, broke down on the outward voyage and has since been reported from the Azores. She cannot arrive here before the end of September, which means an interval of three months instead of one between the arrivals of imports from Europe, and meantime there is already a shortage of supplies in many articles in constant consumption here, the replenishment of which from Europe we cannot now expect. It is true that a great proportion of our food-stuffs come here from the United States, but prices there have risen rapidly and we cannot apparently count on the execution of orders sent forward even at current rates. Our main industries will, of course, be very adversely affected by the war, if it is of long duration, as such products as mahogany cannot be regarded as necessities, and no doubt some persons engaged in wood-cutting will be forced to suspend operations at least temporarily. As unemployment is probably the worst misfortune that can befall us, it is hoped that employers will whenever possible continue to employ labour to the utmost of their ability. You will be pleased to hear that arrangements are now completed for the installation of a wireless telegraph station here, and its completion is promised in a few weeks.

DOMINICA—Fresh Limes for wounded soldiers.

MR. E. A. ACAR, SEPTEMBER 12th.—A Committee has been appointed to watch the price of food-stuffs with power to demand legislative regulations if they consider it necessary. A smoking concert was held the other night by the Defence Force to which many persons were invited. At the close a resolution was put, and unanimously passed asking that Dominica should defray the cost of sending 15 men to the front. I do not know whether any reply has been received from the Administrator yet. There will be no difficulty about the men, except that of selection, plenty are ready. Major Peebles' services for the front have been accepted and he leaves to-morrow. We all regret his going as we feel that he is a man entirely to be relied upon. The Defence Force are showing their appreciation of the way in which he has got the force into shape, by presenting him with some article to serve as a permanent memorial of the past few weeks, and had there been time to make the subscription general I fancy that the presentation would have been an exceedingly handsome one.

Everything goes on quite normally; prices have risen naturally and we are out of one or two articles of food, but there is no undue excitement or unrest.

The *Dominica Guardian* reports an element of competition in the local lime juice market, Mr. H. A. Frampton having announced that he is ready to purchase ripe limes and lime juice at his newly erected citrate factory on Brown's Lot, near the Roseau Valley. The price had risen, and Messrs. Rose were offering 5s. for ripe limes.

GRENADA—A loyal address to the King.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, SEPTEMBER 14th.—We were favoured yesterday with an old time rainy day, with thunder and lightning, a regular soaker. At a meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th inst., an address to be presented to the King was read and unanimously adopted, and a resolution passed approving of the expenditure from the General Revenue of a sum of £6,000 for the purchase of Grenada cacao as a gift to the mother country, and £4,000 as a contribution to the Prince of Wales National Relief Fund. The shipments of cacao to date amount to 65,975 bags. In the corresponding period of last year, the figures were 63,390 bags, a difference in favour of the current year's shipments of 2,585 bags. Mr. E. B. Amphlett, who has volunteered for service at the front, leaves by the mail steamer this afternoon for England.

JAMAICA—The scenes of 1782 repeated.

There was great enthusiasm in Kingston on September 10th, when the Hamburg American Line steamer *Bethania* with 500 naval reservists on board and 6,000 tons of Welsh coal, was brought into port by H.M.S. *Essex* as a prize. A seething mass of people assembled on the piers, sea front and the housetops, and the scene cannot have been unlike that witnessed when Lord Rodney brought the *Ville de Paris* and other prizes to Jamaica after beating de Grasse in the Battle of the Saints in 1782. The captain of the *Bethania*, who had witnessed the fight between H.M.S. *Highbury* and the *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse* off the coast of Africa, declared that the German vessel was not sunk by shot and shell, but had been blown up by the Commander, who acted on the strict instructions of the Kaiser to his fleet never to surrender, but to destroy the ships rather than give them up. The German reservists have been taken to camp. According to the *Gleaner*, the import duties from the beginning of the financial year to August 22nd amounted to £167,759, as compared with £175,572 for the corresponding period last year. At a public meeting held in the Ward Theatre on September 9th, over which His Excellency presided, it was decided to open a War Relief Fund.

MESSRS. J. F. KERR & Co., (Montego Bay), SEPTEMBER 14th.—We regret that the very severe drought on the north side still continues, and we fear that this will somewhat militate against the crops for next year.

HON. J. H. PHILLIPPS, (Morant Bay), SEPTEMBER 14th.—Our Governor has been particularly active in regard to all matters connected with the defences, etc., of our island, but as the censorship is still very strict, and as nothing in regard to our local defences is allowed to transpire, this cannot be conveyed to you. Loyalty of our masses has been something wonderful. When the *Essex* arrived with the *Bethania*, our blacks were heard wishing that they would be allowed to have a fight with them. Unfortunately for us the drought in the island has been an awful one, and continues to be to the moment of writing. Some of the estates have not got a shadow of a cane on them, and there is not much promise for crops for next year, and if the British Government would come to the help of the struggling sugar planters in Jamaica at this particular juncture,

it would not alone mean cheaper sugar for the United Kingdom, but would be a great help to our island in general. There are very few capitalists, and the actual laying out for one year for sugar with nothing coming in until crop time is not the sort of business that bankers would do, and there are owners in some instances who would hardly be able to carry on unless they get some help in the way of loans or otherwise. It is to be hoped that the "Cockpit" scheme for Vere will be carried through, though, as in this district, sugar is the only cultivation. Our natives depend solely on these estates for labour, irrespective of the large amount of indentured coolies on these properties, but as the Governor has all these matters well in hand we can predict that with his calm judgment, everything will be satisfactory.

MR. A. ST. G. SPOONER, (Vere), SEPTEMBER 14th.—The effects of the war are being felt in every part of the civilised world, and, although, thanks to our Navy, we in Jamaica cannot say that we consider our lives and property are in any way endangered, still we have to take our share of the financial troubles that such a war must inevitably bring. Loyalty and affection for our flag are everywhere evident and much is being done both by way of collecting money, forming volunteer bodies and assisting in soldiers comforts by everyone, from the highest to the lowest in the land. Our enemies have yet to learn that Empires nowadays are founded on the love and goodwill of peoples and not by the forces of military despotism; fortunately for civilisation, and with the aid of our brave soldiers, they are now learning the lesson. We have had a terrible time in Vere this year; on this estate less than 7 inches of rain has fallen so far for the year, and we have little or no prospects of any crop for next year. The financial position is equally grave and practically nothing in the way of estate employment can be found for their people. The Government has recognised the position and started the digging of the Cockpit River Irrigation Channel as relief work. One can only hope that some means may be found for continuing this work, it is all that stands between Vere, an arid waste, depopulated and unfit for agriculture, and Vere a verdant expanse of luxuriant cane and bananas. The matter is vital to Vere as a populated area, but it is also of very great importance to other parts of arid Jamaica, since success attending the Cockpit River scheme operations would mean an extension of irrigation on similar lines at other points. There are few arid places in Jamaica near to which abundant supplies of water cannot be obtained for irrigation, and much of the land in these dry districts is of very considerable natural fertility.

MONTSERRAT—A drought affects the cotton.

MR. K. P. PENCHEON, SEPTEMBER 12th. There is little of importance to write about just now. We talk and think and dream of war. The feeling here is as patriotic as anywhere in His Majesty's dominions, and the classes rejoice as we do when we hear of victory for the Allies. We are in the midst of a dry spell, which is bound to affect the bearing of the cotton crop. Large quantities of cotton are being reaped and the ginneries are at work. Meanwhile I need hardly say how depressed we are at the condition of the cotton market.

NEVIS—A local Volunteer defence force formed.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, SEPTEMBER 12th.—The Administration has taken a firm grip of affairs and food-stuffs remain in plenty and reasonably cheap, notice of the prices to be paid for sundries being issued weekly by the Government. How long this happy condition of things will last it is hard to say, and directions to the planters to plant provisions abundantly are made by the Government. So far

as Nevis is concerned response thereto has been impossible, through the almost entire absence of rain during the past four weeks, which is indeed unfortunate for the cotton crop. After thorough representation a volunteer defence force has been raised here, a rather small one it is to be regretted, but it appears that the number of men had to be governed by the number of rifles at the disposal of the Administrator. A Red Cross Fund has been energetically taken in hand here by Mrs. Hugh Wildy, which has met a ready response. It is gratifying to know that His Majesty's Government has been pleased to accept the small amount of £5,000 from this Presidency, when we remember how often the mother country has assisted us to tide over our hurricane and other disasters with a truly gracious hand; we feel how insignificant our quota is in this her time of need.

ST. LUCIA—R.M.S. "Towy" replaces "Taff."

The *Voice* announces that Mr. W. Porter, Assistant Master of St. Mary's College, has left for England to join the colours. The *Taff*, which is replacing the *Towy* for coastal service, made her first trip down the coast on September 1st, and did the journey in good time.

ST. VINCENT—A gift for the Mother Country.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, SEPTEMBER 12th.—During the first few days in the present month some heavy thunderstorms were experienced. On Thursday, the 3rd, a heavy thunderstorm was accompanied by a high wind which did a little damage on the leeward coast of the island. Strange to say little of the wind was felt in the windward districts. But for this bad storm the weather continues favourable for the staple crops and cotton looks very promising.

On Monday, 14th, the Legislative Council will be asked to vote £2,000; half of this sum to be spent on arrowroot and presented to the Imperial Government, whilst the remaining £1,000 will be a donation to the Prince of Wales' Fund.

TOBAGO—A Compliment to the West India Committee.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, SEPTEMBER 11th.—We all feel proud that the Old Country is able to keep open the trade routes and thus let us have our mails regularly and no doubt cargoes will come in due course. Some steamers have already arrived and although prices have advanced, there is no dread of starvation. You will have heard that a German cruiser sank a tramp steamer of St. Lucia, and part of the wreckage was washed ashore at Tobago, creating alarm and marvellous rumours amongst the natives. All the same we know and feel safe in that our shores are being guarded. It is this, and loyalty to the Empire that prompts the sympathy with our sailors and soldiers, which is finding expression in subscriptions to the Red Cross and Patriotic Funds all over the colony. The natives are keen to join, and my own labourers promise a day's pay for a start. The Commissioner Warden and the Hon. H. L. Thornton are the local treasurers, and Mrs. Strange has undertaken the duty of collecting for the Red Cross Society, and ladies all over the island are busy at work.—Since last mail we have had some fine showers, and on the 8th inst. a heavy downpour on the hills, gave the streams and ravines the first clearing out they have had since January. A little cacao is being picked, and the crop prospects are still encouraging, although nothing to speak of is expected before December. Local prices are far below the level abroad and planters are talking about direct shipments, although the present is hardly a good time to make the experiment. The natives in this district are not exciting themselves about future food supplies. Most of them are landowners and always keep a corner for potatoes and corn. Those who have no land or whose five or ten acres are

planted in cacao, are contractors or gardeners on the large estates and with a few days work occasionally to pay for "shop goods," are independent, their wants being so limited. I have followed with great interest your efforts to free the embargo on rice, fish and sugar, and all concerned in the West Indies must be thankful that their needs are so well cared for by the West India Committee. This ought to be a great inducement to secure new members.

TRINIDAD—The Death of Sir Neville Lubbock, K.C.M.G.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, SEPTEMBER 15th.—The news of the death of Sir Neville Lubbock was only received here late yesterday afternoon. It came as a painful shock to all of us who had the privilege of knowing him personally, and as a matter of sincere regret to everyone who realised all he has done for the West Indies and most of all for Trinidad. His life-long efforts in the general interests of these islands and his splendid and ultimately successful struggle against the Bounty system, after years of disappointment that would have discouraged most men, will not be forgotten any more than his commanding and genial personality. It is matter of regret that the sad news was delayed, which is the only reason that some tangible expression of feeling from this side will have been missed when the last sad rites were performed.—The splendid news from the seat of war that has been coming through for the last three days has been received with an enthusiasm spreading to all classes. We never doubted what would be the ultimate outcome, but the suspense before the German advance on Paris was checked was somewhat nerve-racking, especially for our French friends. One of them, Mr. J. A. Pollonais, who remembered well, if he was not engaged in, the horrors of 1870, told me a few days ago how he thanked God he had lived to see "the day" when his country would get her own again. He died almost suddenly on Saturday night, 12th inst.; I am wondering whether the joy brought by the cable which the news-boys were shouting in the streets was too great a shock, but of this I am sure, the old gentleman died happy. A public meeting was held in the Prince's Building on the 5th, under the auspices of the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, to form a fund "for the dependents of men fighting for the Empire." The Governor presided, and the Constabulary Band played patriotic music at intervals. It has been announced that the colony cannot spare money from the public funds, that anything given must be by voluntary contribution. The *Port of Spain Gazette* and *Mirror* have both of them opened subscription lists which have already been liberally responded to, but there is room for further effort. That of the Chamber has proved successful. That body itself headed the list with \$1,200, irrespective of individual subscriptions of members. The first of these was the president, Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, who set the ball rolling by telegraph with \$4,800, followed by the Vice-President, Mr. John H. Smith's firm, with \$2,400. Other prominent donors came in, but amongst the most noticeable were three Portuguese colonists who have given between them \$5,500. The list will be kept open while the war lasts. It has already reached nearly thirty thousand dollars. The springs of good work are far from dry in Trinidad. The auxiliary cruiser *Carpalman* has been here with 20,000 tons coal, presumably for the fleet on the high seas, and the British mercantile auxiliary *Hirondelle* with ammunition and stores. These will be far away, most likely, on the way home before these lines appear, so there is no indiscretion in referring to them. H.M.S. *Berwick* was signalled outside today, but has passed on. We are looking for the news of the sinking or capture of the *Dresden*, which cannot be long delayed now, although she has a very fast pair of heels which have

saved her more than once. The railway extension to Rio Claro was opened quite quietly on the first. There was no ceremony. There are other things now to think of, but it marks the conclusion of work which will go far to open up the interior of the colony.—The *Chenab* has arrived with 186 Indian immigrants.—Good rains have fallen and cultivation looks well. At a meeting of the Agricultural Society the long looked for report of the Agricultural Banks Committee was presented and passed, and the Governor intimated that early effect would be given to it.

Consequent on the outbreak of the war, the local market has been greatly disturbed, some buyers being reluctant to take up any even the reduced quantities coming forward, and prices, largely nominal, have fallen all round.

Approximate quotations are :

\$10.00 for Ordinary,
\$10.25 to \$10.50 for Estates,
\$10.50 for Venezuelan.

The most noticeable feature in the following statistics is the absence of the shipment of a single bag to Germany. That country, according to the Customs figures, took from us in 1913, 1,061,200 lbs., but probably a further quantity by transhipment.

Shipments of Trinidad Cacao during month of August, 1914, were as follows :—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	49,790
B.N. America	45,800
France	201,600
United States of America	1,414,175
Total for August	1,711,365
Shipped previously	57,606,311
Total from 1st January	59,317,676
To same date, 1913	43,776,161
" " 1912	38,291,456
" " 1911	40,532,691
" " 1910	46,044,541
" " 1909	39,997,499
" " 1908	34,763,102

BIRTH.

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants," Crossed cheques or P.O. Orders, should be made payable to the Manager, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Coombs.—On October 1st, at "The Little House," Waltham St. Lawrence, Berks, the wife of W. Heron Coombs, Commander, R.N. (retired), for many years Protector of Immigrants in the Colony of Trinidad, of a daughter.

WANT.

Englishman, 34, trained engineer with 3 years tropical and planting experience upon two of the largest sugar estates in British Guiana, and now foreman in large engineering works, desires a responsible position abroad. Can recommend site for sugar estate.—Apply "P." c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. Kenrick Stanton Wise, M.B., Surgeon-General, has been appointed a member of the Executive Council of British Guiana.

Three months extension of leave of absence from October 5th has been granted to the Right Rev. W. P. Swaby, D.D., Bishop of Barbados.

Mr. George Ball Greene, Principal Clerk, Government Secretariat, British Guiana, has been granted an extension of leave for four months from September 29th.

MORE GIFTS FROM THE WEST INDIES.

It was officially announced on September 22nd that the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago had offered with expressions of loyalty, raw cacao to the value of £40,000 for the use of His Majesty's forces, and that His Majesty's Government had gratefully accepted this generous offer.

The following telegrams have passed between the Officer Administering the Government of the Windward Islands, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies: "The Legislative Council of St. Lucia has passed a loyal address to His Majesty the King, and has voted £2,000 for the purchase of St. Lucia cacao for the use of his Majesty's forces and £1,000 contribution to the Prince of Wales's Fund.—YOUNG."

"Loyal address when received will be duly laid before His Majesty. His Majesty's Government appreciate highly loyal and generous gifts of St. Lucia, which are gratefully accepted.—HARCOURT."

On the initiative of Mr. John Eaden of Lasoye, Dominica, the planters of that island are presenting to the inmates of Netley Hospital consignments of limes to arrive fortnightly. The gift has been thankfully accepted.

The West Indian gifts received to date have been as follows :—

Barbados—2,240,000 lbs of Sugar.

British Guiana—2,240,000 lbs. of Sugar.

Dominica—Limes for the Military Hospitals fortnightly.

Grenada—Cacao to the value of £6,000 and £4,000 for the National Relief Fund.

Jamaica—Sugar to the value of £50,000.

St. Kitts-Nevis—£5,000 for the National Relief Fund.

St. Lucia—Cacao to the value of £2,000 and £1,000 to the National Relief Fund.

St. Vincent—Arrowroot to the value of £2,000.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

Practical Tropical Sanitation, by W. Alex. Muirhead, 288 pp., with 114 illustrations. London: John Murray, 1914. Price 10s. 6d. net. Mr. Muirhead is a staff sergeant of the Royal Army Medical Corps and Instructor at the School of Army Sanitation at Aldershot. Having been formerly attached to the staff of the Sanitary Officer in Sierra Leone, he has first hand knowledge of the subjects dealt with in this comprehensive hand-book. These may be classified under the following heads :—

The cause and incidence of Disease.

Tropical diseases and their transmission.

Notification and isolation of diseases.

Disinfection, and disinfecting agents and appliances.

Sanitary inspection and reports.

Water supply, filtration and purification.

Food characteristics and examination.

Housing, conservancy, air space and ventilation.

Collection, removal and disposal of refuse.

Sanitary laws and practice.

Considerable space is devoted to the germ transmission theory, mosquitoes and other insects, their life history and measures for their extermination, and protective measures against attacks, special reference being made to Sir Ronald

Ross and Sir Rubert Boyce as pioneers of the mosquito theory, and the efforts made by them in promoting and extending knowledge on the subject; and instancing the valuable preventive work done by Surgeon-General Gorgas at Panama. The following list summarises the principal diseases dealt with in the book, as prevailing, or commonly met with, in the tropics, together with their sources of infection and means of transmission:—

Yellow Fever—Mosquito (*Stegomyia fasciata*).

Malaria—Mosquito (*Anopheles*).

Blackwater Fever—Probably same as malaria.

Filariasis—Mosquito (*Culex fatigans*).

Relapsing Fever—Tick, bug, louse.

Sand Fly Fever—Sand Fly (*Phlebotomus papatasi*).

Sleeping Sickness—Tsetse Fly (*Glossina palpalis*).

Plague—Rat flea.

Enteric, or Typhoid Fever, Cholera, Dysentery—Through mouth and alimentary canal: indirect infection by flies polluting food.

Small pox, Tuberculosis, Cerebro-Spinal Fever—Foul or contaminated air and personal contact.

Ankylostomiasis, or hook-worm disease—Ingestion, or through the skin.

Special emphasis is given to early notification and proper isolation of cases as being of the utmost importance in coping with disease. Not the least admirable features of the book are the Appendix and Index, the former containing useful information, in a concentrated form, on various subjects, handy tables and formulae, weights and measures, and conversion factors; and the Index provides a ready-reference list of the various matters treated on in the text. Taken altogether the work forms a most useful and comprehensive book of reference, written in plain language, and we strongly recommend it to the notice of the Health Authorities of the West Indies, where every sanitary inspector and health visitor should possess a copy for his or her guidance in the discharge of their important duties in connection with the vital matter of public health.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Demerara Railway Company.

The directors recommend for the half-year ended June 30, 1914, dividends at the full rate on the 4 per cent. extension preference stock at 7 per cent. perpetual preference stock and at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum on the preferred ordinary stock.

The Colonial Bank.

The accounts for the half-year ended June 30th, 1914, show a net profit of £22,755 6s. 2d. (as compared with £24,773 19s. 6d. for the corresponding period last year), making, with the balance of £30,926 19s. 1d., brought forward from the preceding half-year, a total of £53,682 5s. 3d. available, as compared with £57,056 18s. 9d. at the same date in 1913. Out of this balance the directors recommended the payment of a dividend of 3 per cent. for the half-year, which will absorb £18,000, leaving £35,682 5s. 3d. to be carried forward. Of the authorised capital of £2,000,000 in 100,000 shares £600,000 has been paid up. On the debit side of the Balance Sheet there also figure the reserve £125,000, and the special reserve for depreciation of investments at £25,000; notes in circulation £414,245 5s.; deposits at interest, current accounts, etc., £2,276,514 5s. 4d.; and bills payable and other liabilities £518,303 2s. 4d. On the credit side appear: Specie at £578,726 7s. 9d.; cash at London bankers and at Call and Short Notice £68,078 15s. 10d.; English and Colonial Government and other Investments held in London, £1,098,553 16s. 9d.; bills receivable, etc., £923,380 14. 6d.; Due in the colonies on current accounts £357,250 17s. 3d.; Bills discounted in the Colonies, bills in transit and advances on security £876,534 5s. 10d. and bank premises and furniture in London and the colonies, £80,000.

In their Report the Directors point out that the events of the last three months have overshadowed the business of the six months preceding it. During the six months to which the present figures refer, the low price of money in London was not favourable to banking. So far the war has not interfered with the West Indies, with the exception of a few scares from the German man-of-war *Dresden*, which was in West Indian waters when war was declared. The present high price of sugar is satisfactory, especially to those parts of the West Indies of which sugar is the staple commodity and should reflect on the future prosperity of those Colonies. The Directors announce with regret the death of their valued colleagues, Sir H. E. H. Jerningham and Sir Neville Lubbock, and add that Sir William Maxwell Aitken, M.P., offers himself for the vacancy on the Board caused by the death of Sir H. E. H. Jerningham.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

Arrangements for the outward mail are the same as those of a fortnight ago. The general mails for letters and papers will close in London at 6 p.m. to-day Tuesday, October 6th, but a supplementary letter mail will be made up tomorrow at 6 p.m. for despatch from an English port.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. K. Agar	Mr. J. Gillespie	Mr. W. C. Robertson
Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. G. Graf	Mr. N. Maude Roxby
Mr. G. H. Arthur	Mr. F. H. Grant	Mr. W. N. Sands
Mr. G. Auchinleck	Mr. John T. Greg	Hon. Hon. Mr. Justice
H.E. Sir H. Hesketh	Hon. E. A. H. Haggart	P. M. C. Sheriff
Bell, K.C.M.G.	Mr. A. T. Hammond	Mr. R. B. Short
Hon. E. Du Boulay	Mr. A. S. Kernahan	Hon. C. J. Simmons
Mr. W. A. Boyd	Mr. A. H. Kirby	Lt.-Colonel W. J. Slack
Mr. Geoffrey Brooke	Dr. G. L. Latour	Hon. Adam Smith
Mr. C. S. Browne	Mr. J. F. Leader	Mr. Wm. Smith
Mr. J. J. Carlee	Mr. J. A. Madgwick	Hon. R. A. S. Warner
Professor P. Carmody	Mr. S. Manning	His Grace The Arch-
Mr. Albert Cherry	Mr. C. H. McLean	bishop of the West
Mr. F. A. C.	Mr. H. P. C. Melville	Indies
Collymore	Mr. James Peet	Mr. A. H. Wight
Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa	Mr. G. M. Peter	Mr. G. Williams
Mr. W. Morris Fletcher	Mr. C. W. Peest	and
Mr. I. M. Frame	Mr. G. Raitton	Mr. Percy R. Wilson
Mr. M. A. French, J.P.	Mr. L. A. Richard	

Mr. J. R. Bancroft, c/o Messrs. S. Dobree & Sons, 7, Moorgate St., E.C.

Mr. K. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.

Mr. Charles M. Calder, United Empire Club, 117, Piccadilly, W.

Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoyne," Chesel Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton.

Mr. F. J. Dean, St. Brannocks, Mundesley, Norfolk.

Private R. A. Delafons, No. 1 Company, 3rd Battalion, U. and P.S. Force, Epsom.

Mr. W. R. Durie, West Indian Club, 4, Whitehall Court, S.W.

Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.

Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fete Street Avenue, E.C.

Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 39, Bedford Square, W.C.

Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o Messrs. Coutts & Co., 440, Strand, W.C.

Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, c/w c/o, 98, Glenalton Road, Streatham, S.W.

Rev. F. H. Hammond, 10, Chapel Street, Warwick.

Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, 38, Livingstone Road, Ferry Barr, Birmingham.

Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 25, Hulsile Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.

Mr. I. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, 61, Tower Street, E.C.

Mr. Richard Lloyd, Meirion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.

Major O. H. E. Marescaux, Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, S.W.

Hon. W. L. McKinstrey, 57, Princes Square, Baywater, W.

Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Arch Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fairbanks, 25, Leinster Square, Baywater, W.

Mr. D. McPhail, 71, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.

Mr. Mark S. Moody-Stuart, c/o Messrs. Henckell, Du Buisson & Co., 18, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C.

Mr. F. J. Morris, 4, Camden Gardens, N.W.

Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Flat 1, Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster, W.

Mr. L. F. Nourse, 32, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.

Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, W.

Mr. G. R. Dewy Rust, 9, Heathfield Gardens, Chiswick, W.

Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o Messrs. Preville & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E.C.

Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Ave., E.C.

Mr. I. Schoener Scott, 30, Haven Green, Ealing, W.

Mr. F. B. B. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E.C.

Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Tagus, (Captain E. W. Morrison) Tilbury, London, Sept. 29th:—

Table listing arrivals from the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Tagus, including names of passengers and their origins.

SAILINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Tagus, (Captain E. R. E. Morrison) Oct 7th:—

Table listing sailings from England to the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Tagus, including names of passengers and their destinations.

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Trent, (Captain R. Hayes), Oct. 21st:—

Table listing advance bookings from England to the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Trent, including names of passengers and their destinations.

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Oruba, (Captain T. G. K. Cheret), Nov. 4th:—

Table listing advance bookings from England to the West Indies per R.M.S.P. Oruba, including names of passengers and their destinations.

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—SAILING FROM AVONMOUTH TO JAMAICA per S.S. Bayard, (Captain J. G. Parsons), Oct. 5th:—

Table listing sailings from Avonmouth to Jamaica per S.S. Bayard, including names of passengers and their destinations.

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM AVONMOUTH TO JAMAICA per S.S. Chagres, (Captain S. H. Simmons), Oct 19th:—

Table listing advance bookings from Avonmouth to Jamaica per S.S. Chagres, including names of passengers and their destinations.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

Large table showing exports of produce from British Guiana, Jamaica, St. Vincent, and Trinidad, including various commodities like sugar, molasses, rum, and other goods.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—No change has been made in the Bank rate which stands at 5% as from 8th August, as compared with 5% at this time last year. Consols 2½% are quoted 68½ ex div.

COMMERCIAL CABLING AND THE WAR—The increased cost of cabling under war conditions continues to be actively discussed in commercial circles. Most of the largest users of the cables declare that the present cost of cabling is seriously hampering business. The hardship is particularly felt by those firms which have now to send long technical messages in plain language in place of a code telegram of a very few words as used in normal times and so necessary for the profitable conduct of business. What useful purpose is served so far as censorship is concerned by treating well known commercial terms c.i.f. and f.o.b. as three words? except perhaps to mulet the public in time of stress for the benefit of the cable companies. These ought to be treated as one word and 15 collective letters should form one word. Such concessions and also dispensing with the full name and address of both sender and receiver would be genuine concessions, and would greatly assist the efforts at trade expansion with our overseas Dominions as well as remove a distinct obstacle to business.

SUGAR—In New York market raws have been quiet with an easy undertone, with Cubans freely offered at previous prices. Business was done in Mexican and St. Croix full duty sugar on the basis of 5.65 c. New York terms. Refined ruled easy and while most refiners including the Sugar Trust repeated previous quotations the Federal Refining Co. reduced its prices 1 cent to 6.56c. Raw subsequently ruled weak with liberal offerings; spot quotations of centrifugals were reduced 38 points, and on this new basis 30,000 bags of Cubans changed hands. Refined quiet with easy tone and all refineries reduced their quotations to 6.65c. raw centrifugals, 5.37c. muscovados, 4.82 refined granulated, 6.65c. Raw continued weak throughout the past week and quotations were reduced further 25 points. On this basis 10,000 bags of Cubans were sold. Refined ruled easy and the Federal Refining Co. reduced its quotations 3c., other refiners remained unchanged. Refined granulated quoted 6.15c. to 6.65c., raw centrifugals 5.02c., muscovados 4.57c. These quotations were unchanged up to the 30th September and the market was quiet.

The English Sugar Commission being no longer buyers of sugar, American granulated dropped ½ cent per lb. and the market developed weakness.

The London speculative beet market will probably remain closed until the war is over and peace is proclaimed. In a recent letter from Hamburg, it is stated, sugar could be had almost for nothing in Germany, as there was no outlet for the sugar crop. A considerable business has been passing in white Javas at 30s. on spot terms and for future cargoes at prices ranging from 22s. 6d. to 24s. and 25s. 9d. August shipment 28s. c.i.f. The *Tymertic* with 5,000 tons Java was sunk on the 27th September. Mauritius crystals on the spot sold at 30s. A cargo 7,500 tons Cubans, also 2,000 tons Manila, and 500 tons white Java has just arrived. A good business has been passing in American granulated at prices ranging from 27s. 10½d. to 28s. 6d. c.i.f. to Hull 26s. to 26s. 3d. c.i.f. and 31s. 9d. to 32s. on the spot, Spanish granulated has sold at 26s. 6d. to 26s. 9d. c.i.f.

Grocery West Indian—Crystallised on the spot has been steady, but the Trade are not prepared to go on buying until they know what policy the Government brokers will adopt in the future with their heavy commitments, and this aspect applies with greater force to the forward positions. In one week last month nearly 30,000 tons of raw sugar bought for the Government arrived. The general tone, however, is rather firmer owing to the prolonged scarcity of prompt sugar. A fairly good business has taken place in Trinidad at 28s., 28s. 3d., 28s. 6d., 29s., and 29s. 3d., in St. Lucia at 28s. 3d., and Surinam at 28s. 6d.

Muscovado—90 bags Antigua at auction bought in at

17s. 6d. Syrups—Trinidad syrups sold at 21s. 6d., 22s. to 24s., 23s. 6d. to 24s. 9d., 25s. to 26s. 6d.; Demerara dark at 16s. 3d.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	26,873	34,712	24,172	32,552	29,017
Deliveries ...	28,017	22,329	23,437	28,836	28,070
Stock (26 Sept.)	11,808	14,223	5,225	8,076	6,022

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, (Sept. 30th).

79s. 14s. 7½d. 18s. 4½d. 20s. 4½d. 15s. 3d.

RUM—Stocks in London, September 26th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	8,398	7,453	9,137	10,915	11,671
Demerara	8,880	7,459	6,670	4,609	7,804
Total all kinds	24,335	22,650	24,069	24,715	28,410

The proof market shows little or no change in values. Stocks have decreased somewhat, and a small business has been passing. Jamaicas are much in the same position, with the exception that the export trade is deficient.

CACAO—Stocks in London, September 26th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad ...	12,470	12,955	7,028	8,527	10,401
Grenada...	7,786	5,007	4,005	11,416	11,158
Stock all kinds	90,974	90,559	10,585	110,276	97,868

No auctions have been held in the fortnight which is not an unusual thing at this period of the year as the manufacturers and trade generally are not then in full work and this is further intensified by the total absence of an export trade at the present time. The market although quiet has been fairly well supported, and in many cases business on a small scale has been transacted at former prices. Some 600 bags Trinidad middling to good red sold at 56s. to 58s. with fine at 60s.; 60 bags Grenada fine sold at 54s.; 500 bags Guayaquil, Coraquez, and Machala sold at 55s. to 56s., and Arriba at 62s. 6d. Present values, however, are quite nominal. Some idea is entertained in some quarters that the gift of £10,000 worth of cacao to the Government by Trinidad is largely responsible for the present dragging market.

In the Trinidad circular of 15th September it is stated that no cacao was offering, which is as well as prices in New York (the only market now available) are very low.

COFFEE The terminal market remains closed. In the spot market auctions were resumed on the 29th ult. having been suspended since the 28th July last. Good home trade marks sold without much change, but the common kinds of Columbian were 6s. to 8s. lower than at last auction, and washed Dumont 8s. There was little competition and nearly all was withdrawn. No auctions since 29th ult.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended 1st October 3 bales of British West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. Since last report about 100 bales of West Indian Sea Island cotton have been sold at 12d. The market is depressed.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (Raw)—No first hand offering and no sales to report. Essential Oil (distilled)—Some business has transpired at 3s. 9d. per lb. Otto of Limes (hand pressed)—No sales to report. Concentrated.—No business to report.

PIMENTO and GINGER—Quiet. **NUTMEGS and MACE**—Unchanged.

COPRA—Fair merchantable West India value £24. Market uncertain and easier. **ARROWROOT**—Very little doing; 150 barrels of St. Vincent usual quality sold at 2½d. Quotations unchanged.

RUBBER—Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard crepe spot, 2s. 1½d.; smoked sheet 2s. 3½d.; fine hard Para 2s. 1½d.; last year 3s. 5½d.; do. soft 2s. 4½d.; last year 3s. 2d. Ceylon sheet 1s. 8d.; last year 1s. 7d.; scrap 1s. 3d.; last year 1s. 4d. **BALATA**—Sheet 2s. 2d. landed terms, last year 2s. 3½d.; block 1s. 8½d. c.i.f. last year 1s. 1½d.; market very dull.

PETROLEUM OIL—American 7½d., Water White ALGERNON E. ASPINAL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

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15, SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.1.
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.
October 19th, 1914

THE WEST INDIAN OFFER OF SERVICE.

FROM letters which we have received by the homeward mail we gather that the announcement that no contingents from the West Indies can be accepted for service in Europe during the war has caused bitter disappointment. But when the circumstances are reviewed, it will, we think, be appreciated that the decision arrived at by the War Office is the only one possible. Short of placing one or more battalions of the West India Regiment in the field—a course which many would like to see adopted—it is to be doubted whether a contingent could have been recruited which would have been sufficiently strong numerically to justify its recognition as a separate unit. Apart from this it is clear in any case that no contingent could have been sent without seriously depleting the existing defence forces which, in numbers of men, are certainly none too strong for the objects which they have in view, namely, the maintenance of order and the prevention of enemy ships from obtaining supplies. It may be some consolation to the West Indian volunteers for active service to know that there are many thousands of men in this country in the same position as that of which they complain. All round our coasts are regulars, reservists and

territorials, many of whom will not see active service unless a German raid or invasion takes place. Like their West Indian confrères they are thirsting to be at the front, though they are compelled to be content with the knowledge that indirectly they are doing their part in the great conflict.

SEA ISLAND COTTON AND THE WAR.

IT is becoming evident that the war must have a very prejudicial effect on the cotton industry of the West Indies. Indeed Sea Island cotton is already almost unsaleable except at prices which are perilously near the cost of production, and it is to be feared that little improvement in the market conditions can be expected for many months to come. The fine spinners of Lancashire have considerable stocks of cotton in hand, and as large numbers of users of Sea Island cotton yarn are located in Belgium and Northern France it is unlikely that they will be prepared to increase them yet awhile. Moreover the hoped for revival in the demand for lace, chiffon, and dainty lingerie for which Sea Island cotton is chiefly used will be further delayed. As far as we can see the growing crops in the West Indies will be sufficient to meet the consumers' requirements for eighteen months or more, and in the circumstances it will be appreciated that the position will require very delicate handling. Fortunately most of the larger islands where cotton is now grown have prosperous alternative industries; but some of the smaller ones have become dangerously dependent on cotton, and it is in them that the pinch will be felt. We are glad to learn that the British Cotton Growing Association is assisting the small proprietors in this emergency and have authorised planters to draw tenpence per pound against shipments of first-class Sea Island cotton. This will no doubt help to relieve the situation. During the present crisis the best advice that can be given to cotton planters who are in a position to do so is to plant sugar-canes instead of cotton for the present, for the supply of Sea Island cotton from those islands where there are few or no sugar factories will be quite sufficient for the demand.

AGRICULTURE IN MAURITIUS.

IT is rarely that the reading of a Report gives so much pleasure or conveys the idea of such sound agricultural progress as that of MR. F. A. STOCKDALE, the Director of the Agricultural Department of Mauritius, on the agricultural conditions which prevailed in that colony during last year. As regards the main industry, sugar, no fewer than

249,703 metric tons were produced, a crop but slightly less than the bumper one of 1909-10. The sugar content of the canes which yielded this sugar is not given; but as 10.70 per cent. of commercial sugar of high grade, mostly white, was obtained, we may be assured that the work was good. This sugar was furnished by fifty-nine factories, and it is instructive to see that chemical control was provided in thirty-two of these, a mutual control sheet of manufacturing results inaugurated by the Department having been circulated fortnightly. The facility with which the big crop was taken off, and the rapidity and skill with which additions, repairs, and alterations were undertaken by the local engineering firms are highly spoken of by MR. STOCKDALE. The canes for 23 per cent. of the total sugar crop of the island were supplied by small farmers, who either received payment in cash or in sugar. These planters are stated to have received prices for their produce which compare favourably with the prices which a co-operative basis, such as obtains in some colonies, would have yielded them. As regards the species of cane cultivated, the standard variety is the White Tanna, a local sport from the Striped Tanna, and the upper part of the island is almost entirely cultivated in this variety. In the central plateau the Iscambine Cane is still cultivated, while in the wetter regions the Striped Tanna, a cane originally imported from the Pacific, is grown. The Perromal seedlings 55 and 131, the Demerara seedlings 130, 625, and 74, and the local seedlings 133, 33, 87, 89, 30, 39, 1237 and 1474 are also cultivated. In face of the threatened scarcity of labour from the stoppage of the East Indian immigration, considerable attention has been paid to the question of implemental tillage. The area treated in this way is being gradually extended, "and," says MR. STOCKDALE, "I am convinced that this extension will become more rapid when it is realised that the work of one ox is equivalent to the work of three men, and that the cost of the upkeep and working of one ox is 80 to 90 cents per diem (manure being reckoned for interest on capital invested) while the cost of three men is Rs. 2.10." In respect of other agricultural industries, MR. STOCKDALE states that the production of aloë fibre during the year was above the average, and as prices were good, the industry was in a satisfactory condition. Some difficulty, however, was experienced in the manufacture of the fibre, the several small automatic machinery plants installed not having given general satisfaction. A large plant of this description has been ordered by the Government for experimental trial. As regards tea, satisfactory crops are recorded as well as remunerative prices. The latter, however, were local, and MR. STOCKDALE doubts whether there would be much margin of profit at the world's prices. The coco-nut, cacao and coffee industries are also well spoken of, as are other minor agricultural industries such as maize, vanilla, cassava, etc. It is impossible to read this able Report of MR. STOCKDALE and those of his staff, which include the well-known experts

M. BONAME, M. D'EMMEREZ DE CHARMOY and M. ROBERT, without realising that agriculture in Mauritius is in a really live condition, and the planters of the colony are to be especially congratulated on the splendid manner in which they have tackled the sugar question. It is not too much to say that by their enterprise and energy the sugar industry of Mauritius has been made second to none, in spite of the many difficulties and set-backs which it has had to encounter.

THE COHUNE PALM OF BRITISH HONDURAS.

SINCE the outbreak of war less than usual has been heard of the various propositions for collecting and crushing the valuable Cohune nut of British Honduras. Companies have been floated with the ostensible purpose of exploiting the nut; but it is to be feared that most of them have had in view rather the exploitation of the unwary investor. That a fortune awaits the individual or company which can overcome the difficulties in connection with the collection of the Cohune nut we are still convinced, and though a good deal of prospecting has been accomplished, and though it is claimed that a portable machine has been invented which will crack the nuts in spite of their varying so much in size, it cannot be said that a Cohune nut industry is much nearer establishment on a commercial basis. In our issue of July 1st last year we called attention to some of the pitfalls which beset the path of the seeker for wealth from this nut. As a warning to the unwary it may be well to recall what we then said. It was as follows: "The fact that the Cohune palm flourishes in great quantities in an absolutely wild state does not imply that the nuts are as easy to collect as cob-nuts in a Kentish orchard. Far from it. The Cohune ridges of British Honduras are of the temperature of the tropical house at Kew. Underbush and creepers grow riotously under the shade of the magnificent Attaleas. Ticks, sand-flies and bottle-flies (these last a peculiarly malignant pest which leaves the hands and face of the sufferer covered with black spots), are there in abundance to relieve the monotony, and snakes centipedes and scorpions are not uncommon." We added, however: "No doubt, in the course of exploitation, paths would be made by the gatherers, and a general and gradual cleaning up of the underbush would not only facilitate collection, but would, with a thinning out of the Cohune palms themselves, result in heavier bunches. All this necessitates a certain kind of labour and constitutes one of the problems of exploitation. The mere idea that an enterprising syndicate has only to send out a machine or machines and dump them down in the bush in order to start shipping copra is simply fatuous, and means mere waste of money and discouragement. Tropical industries in these days require to be in the hands of people of tropical experience, and it will only be by such that undertakings of this nature can be brought to a successful

issue." Since those remarks were made several prospectors have visited British Honduras, and we feel satisfied that they will confirm our view of the situation. Meanwhile it is satisfactory to be able to record that progress along the lines advocated by the CIRCULAR is being made by at least one corporation, which is embarking upon the enterprise in what seems to us to be a thoroughly business-like and practical manner. They recognised at the start that where the Coluine palms grow under natural conditions they are so crowded by other forest trees that only from five to ten per cent. of them bear properly, and they made their plans accordingly. Taking up a considerable area of land on which there are large collections of Coluine palms, they cleared the land for banana cultivation; but instead of making a wholesale clearance they only thinned out the Coluine palms. By doing this, and by clearing the ground round them with the object of affording them light and air they are hopeful that the palms may bear properly. The result of this experiment will be awaited with interest.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

In the absence of Mr. W. Middleton Campbell, who was unavoidably prevented at the last moment from being present, as he was detained at the Bank of England, Mr. R. Rutherford presided over the fortnightly meeting of the Executive of the West India Committee on October 5th. Those also present were: Mr. George Carrington, Mr. C. A. Campbell, Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. T. Greenwood, Mr. E. L. Marshall, Mr. C. Sandbach Parker, Mr. A. McConnell, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall. Mr. H. F. Previte wrote expressing regret that, as he was with his regiment, he would be unable to be present.

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been confirmed the following letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated September 15th, was read:—

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, in which you announce the death of Sir Nevile Lubbock, K.C.M.G.

Mr. Harcourt learned of the death of Sir Nevile Lubbock with great regret, and he desires to express his sympathy with the West India Committee in the loss of their President, and at the same time to put on record his sense of the great services which Sir Nevile rendered to the West Indian Colonies.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
G. V. FIDDES.

Mr. Rutherford having read letters of condolence received from the West India Associations of Glasgow and Liverpool and others, said that he had for many years enjoyed the privilege of being in frequent touch with Sir Nevile Lubbock, and acting as he did in the latter stages of the Anti-bounty movement as honorary treasurer of the Anti-bounty League together with Mr. Abram Lyle, he naturally saw much of Sir Nevile, and

would like to bear testimony to his unflinching courtesy and encouraging cheerfulness in the long drawn out campaign which they had fought together. Sir Nevile never lost heart and the many discouragements which he had to face only seemed to be an incentive to renewed efforts. His persistency, as they knew, had had its reward and he lived to see the battle won. All connected with the West Indies owed a deep debt of gratitude to Sir Nevile, not only for his life-long work in connection with the Sugar Bounties, but also for the great interest which he took in all matters concerning the welfare of those colonies. In conclusion he moved the following resolution:—

“That the Executive of the West India Committee in meeting this day assembled, hereby record their deep sense of sorrow at the death of Sir Nevile Lubbock, K.C.M.G., successively Deputy-Chairman (1874-1884), Chairman (1884-1909), and President (1909-1914) of the West India Committee, and desire to place on record their high appreciation of the eminent services which he rendered to the British West Indian Colonies, more especially in connection with the abolition of the Foreign Sugar Bounties, the inauguration of the Central Sugar Factory and Cane Farming systems, and the maintenance of East Indian immigration, and that it be an instruction to the Secretary to convey to Lady Lubbock and the family the expression of their sincere condolence.”

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The honorary treasurer reported the deaths of the following nine members: Sir Nevile Lubbock, K.C.M.G., R. Paterson, Esq., H. S. Tappin, Esq., Mrs. Senhouse, P. D. Lee, Esq., Joseph Jacobs, Esq., Captain J. H. Jellicoe, A. Danes Riviere, Esq., and James Inniss, Esq.

The resignations of six members were accepted, and it was reported that one candidate had failed to take up his membership. The following candidates were then admitted to membership:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
Mr. George R. Andrew (St. Lucia)	{ Mr. Claude Jongue. Mr. W. A. Harris.
Mr. José Anjo (Antigua)	{ Mr. E. L. Marshall. Mr. R. Rutherford.
Mr. C. H. Estcourt Creswell	{ Mr. F. I. Seard, F.I.C. Mr. R. Rutherford.
Mr. Alexander Fraser (Peru)	{ Mr. J. Peet. Mr. Howard Marsh.
Mrs. H. H. Sealy	{ Mr. James J. Law. Mr. R. Rutherford.
Mr. H. Haynes (Antigua)	{ Mr. A. P. Cowley. Mr. E. L. Marshall.

The Secretary reported the steps taken to open the question of the development of the cane sugar industry in the interests alike of producer and the consumers in this country, it appearing that out of the world's production of 18,000,000 tons of sugar only 900,000 tons were produced within the British Empire. Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. C. Sandbach Parker, Mr. E. R. Davson, and Mr. E. L. Marshall

were appointed a sub-committee to deal further with the matter.

The Secretary reported that he had been advised by the Honorary Correspondent in Nevis that at a Conference held on August 6th in Charlestown, at which Messrs. S. D. Malone, merchant, Patefield Mills, planter, William S. Maynard, planter, W. B. De Grasse, merchant, and E. Williams, planter, were present, it was resolved :—

That the West India Committee be approached and solicited to use their good offices with the Home Government to provide a steam- or motor-boat to ply with mails and passengers between Charlestown and Basseterre.

They added that the need was a long felt one, and that the situation resulting from the existing mode of transit was at times almost intolerable. Mr. E. L. Marshall and the Secretary were requested to lay the matter before the Colonial Office.

The following letter was read from the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated August 31st, regarding the uniformity of laws in the West Indies :—

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd of August and to inform you that a copy of your letter of the 27th July with copies of the two memoranda enclosed in which it is advocated that the laws as to the execution and registration of deeds in the West Indies should be made more uniform and that a form of statutory mortgage should be introduced, is being sent to the Governors of the West Indian Colonies for their consideration.

2. Instructions have been given to the Governors to make these suggestions known in legal and commercial circles in the respective Colonies, and to furnish Mr. Harcourt in due course with their observations upon them.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

H. J. READ.

For the Under Secretary of State.

Correspondence with the Board of Trade regarding the desirability of securing for the British Empire the trade in sugar with Germany and Austria which amounted in value last year to over £15,000,000 was reported. A letter from Mr. Guy Wyatt having been read on the same subject the Secretary was instructed to reply that the matter was receiving and continuing to receive attention, and to add that the Executive did not share his view that their policy should be to discourage the attempts to establish a new British industry.

Particulars as to Membership.

By virtue of Rule III of the West India Committee the subscriptions from new members elected during the last three months of the present year will not, when paid, be renewable until January 1st, 1916. The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1556.

Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

During the year to date 65 new members have been elected, residing in the following places :—

British Guiana	... 4	St. Vincent	... 1
Trinidad	... 4	Canada	... 2
Grenada	... 4	Mauritius	... 1
Jamaica	... 4	New South Wales	... 1
Dominica	... 3	Country	... 16
British Honduras	... 2	London	... 15
Barbados	... 1	New York	... 2
Nevis	... 1	Peru	... 1

Passports for members.

Passengers for the West Indies are now required to produce passports or other documents of identification. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W., and for the convenience of members of the West India Committee forms of the declaration to be made by applicants are supplied at the Committee Rooms. Applications should reach the Foreign Office before 4 p.m. on the day prior to that on which the passports are to be issued, and the fee of 2s. must accompany the application. The Secretary of the West India Committee, being a Barrister-at-Law, is entitled to, and will be glad to, verify the necessary declarations by members of the Committee who are applicants for passports.

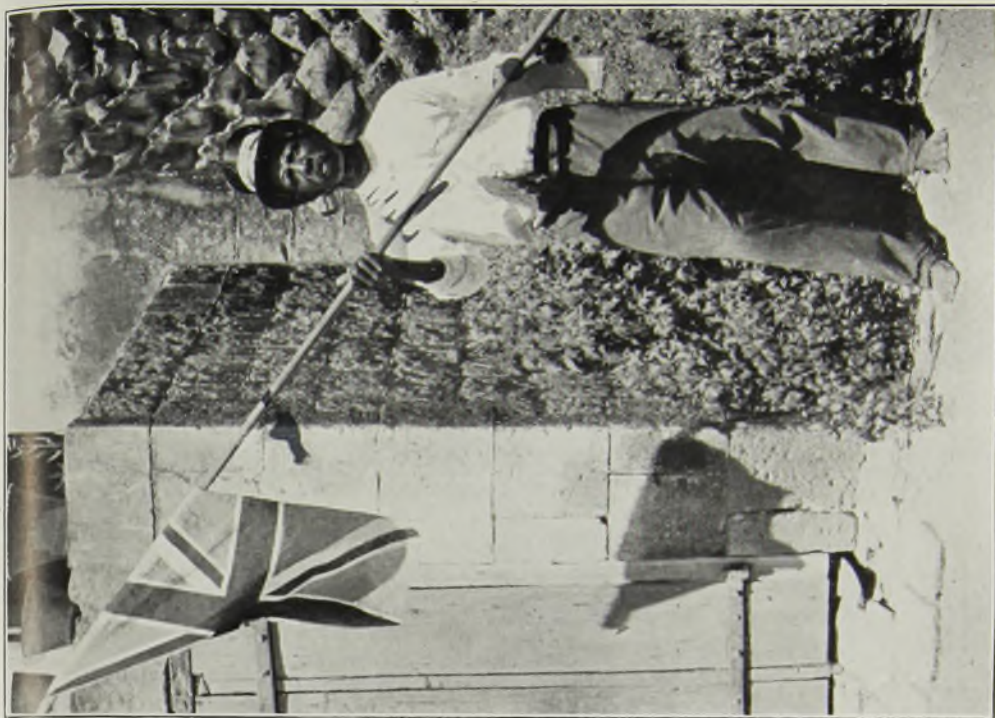
THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will be obliged if members of the West India Committee will kindly forward to him the names of near relatives serving in the Navy, the Army and the Auxiliary Forces, including the West Indian Defence Forces and Volunteers at the present time, with particulars as to their ships or the units with which they are serving.

THE NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

Among the various public bodies and institutions which have taken copies of the West India Committee Map of the West Indies are : the Governments of British Guiana, British Honduras, Antigua, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts-Nevis and St. Vincent ; the Agricultural Society of Grenada, the Institute of Jamaica, Codrington College, the Colonial Bank, the Royal Bank of Canada, the Georgetown Club, Demerara, and the Kingstown Club, St. Vincent.

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d. ; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

It is a curious coincidence, and it is to be hoped nothing more, that a serious landslide in the Culebra Cut on the Panama Canal should have synchronised with a sharp shock of earthquake in Jamaica, just 550 miles away. The fresh slide interrupted all traffic through the Canal ; but the earthquake, the intensity of which was registered as "3"—or sufficient to rock houses—did no damage.



Photograph by

Algernon E. Aspinall.

A PATRIOT OF ST. KITTS.



Photograph by

W. N. Sands.

A ST. VINCENT COTTON BALE.

THE JAMAICA WHARF QUESTION.

The Status of the Atlas Company.

As a result of the war, interesting developments have taken place regarding the question of wharf accommodation at Kingston, which, it will be recalled, was the subject of a rather acrimonious correspondence in the Press earlier in the year. The United Fruit Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes have been given temporary use of the railway wharf hitherto used by the vessels of the Atlas Service of the Hamburg-Amerika Line. The pier, it seems, was actually leased to the Atlas Company and though that Company is under the complete control of, and is owned by, the German Hamburg-Amerika Line, the lease has not been cancelled by the local Government, the contention of the local representative that it is an American Company, having been registered in New Jersey, being upheld. It is understood that both Messrs. Elders and Fyffes and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have protested against the refusal of the local Government to cancel the lease of one of their piers to what is to all intent and purpose a German Company.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

A St. Kitts Patriot.

Nearly all residents in St. Kitts and most visitors to that island will remember poor John Boyd. Known as "The Lion" he was a popular character during the Boer War. In a cocked hat and swallow-tail coat, or, as depicted in the illustration which faces page 484, with his old top hat decorated with streamers and carrying the Union Jack, he paraded Basseterre announcing in stentorian tones the latest British successes, while offering for sale the War News issued by the St. Kitts *Daily Express*. "The Lion" was never cast down when our troops were checked, and reproved those who were too easily downhearted. He was preparing for a great demonstration to mark the fall of Pretoria; but he "took sick," and was too ill to rejoice over Lord Roberts' entry into Johannesburg. When Pretoria was taken he was seriously ill, and on June 24th, 1900, he died. No doubt he has many successors, for the enthusiasm with which the present war is being followed in the West Indies is unbounded.

A Bale of St. Vincent Cotton.

Cotton growers in St. Vincent are justly proud of the neat way in which their Sea Island cotton is baled. It has again and again been held up as an example to American shippers from Charlestown and New Orleans, whose bales are characterised by their ragged and untidy appearance, the cotton in some cases being held together by a few strands of cordage only by the time it reaches Manchester. It is true that the bale depicted on the page facing 484 has only just left the ginney, but the two bales shown recently at the Tropical Products Exhibition

demonstrated that the packages arrive from St. Vincent in perfect condition. The Government Central Sea Island Cotton Ginney which is situated within five minutes' walk of the landing-stage at Kingstown is certainly one of the best of its kind in the West Indies, being capable of ginning and baling upwards of 4,000 lbs. of cotton lint per working day of nine hours. The rate charged to planters for ginning and baling is 1d. per lb. Large quantities of seed cotton are also purchased on a profit-sharing basis from the peasantry.

THE SUSTAINING POWER OF SUGAR.

During the present discussion as to the shortage of sugar and the interesting measures taken for counteracting it, it is curious that no one has pointed out that the people who need sugar most are our troops in the trenches. It has long been known, says the *Manchester Guardian* of October 3rd, though not universally, that a liberal allowance of sugar has an extraordinary effect in increasing the power to do hard muscular work and resist fatigue. It acts very rapidly, almost like a drug, and reaches its full effect about two hours after taking it. This property of sugar has been tested in the physiological laboratories, in sport, and in German army manoeuvres. The highest English authority on the subject tells us that for training purposes sugar is best taken dissolved in some liquid to the amount of from five to ten ounces spread over the day, and he adds, "It certainly seems as if it would be worth the while for captains of football teams to try the effect of serving small cups of black coffee strongly sweetened with sugar at half-time instead of the usual lemon. They would probably be rewarded by the greater endurance of their men in the second half of the match." Under campaigning conditions chocolates, Everton toffee, or mint-lumbugs would do just as well.

One of the first scientific observers to draw attention to this virtue in sugar was a Newcastle doctor, who had noticed the craving of tired miners for very sweet tea, jam, and other vehicles for sugar. Certain rowing clubs in Holland found that sugar made all the difference in training. The crews that used it always won by superior endurance, and it prevented the men from becoming stale during training. The same test, with the same results, has been tried in Alpine climbing. The scientific experiments on which all these trials were based were carried out twenty years ago with the help of the ergograph, an instrument for registering accurately variations of muscular power. The ergograph showed that sugar gave an increase of physical power of from 60 to 75 per cent. The moral seems to be that we ought not only to see that our soldiers are supplied with plenty of tobacco, but also that they are supplied with plenty of sweets.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" is obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Post free 1s. 2d.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES.

The war must necessarily involve some dislocation in the trade between the West Indies and Canada; but this will only be a transient feature. In the long run, as the outcome of the reciprocal trade agreement which came into operation on June 2nd, 1913, and the improved steamer service which was inaugurated in November last there should be a steady increase in the trade between these two parts of the Empire. In this connection the following tables, based on Canadian official returns, showing trade between Canada and British Guiana and the British West Indies should be of interest.

A COSTA RICAN COFFEE ESTATE.

Central American methods of coffee curing.

The Hon. Beresford S. Gosset, an Hon. Correspondent of the West India Committee in Jamaica, who recently visited Costa Rica, has communicated to the "Tea and Coffee Trade Journal" an interesting account of the coffee industry in that country, in the course of which he says:—

The Costa Rican plantations which I recently visited are situated from about two to four thousand feet above the sea, mostly in fine, level plateaux, which are intersected by streams flowing from the

Trade of Canada with British Guiana.

YEARS ENDED.	IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION.			EXPORTS.			Total Trade.
	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.	Canadian Produce.	Foreign Produce.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
June 30, 1899	34,349		34,349	238,523	91	238,614	272,903
" 1900	67,386	274	67,660	281,383	778	282,161	349,821
" 1901	77,039	348	77,387	370,653	2,694	372,757	450,144
" 1902	139,341	86	139,427	503,860	2,226	506,086	645,513
" 1903	602,863	1,456	604,319	513,265	1,069	514,334	1,118,653
" 1904	2,178,474	411	2,178,885	481,133	1,617	482,750	2,661,635
" 1905	2,545,339	2,383	2,547,722	465,138	3,400	468,538	3,016,260
" 1906	2,492,707	1,502	2,494,209	481,118	6,541	487,659	2,981,868
" 1907	3,001,330	1,710	3,003,040	490,076	3,007	493,083	3,496,123
Mar. 31, 1908	1,322,712	5,644	1,328,356	601,395	5,955	607,350	1,935,700
" 1909	2,329,989	3,215	2,333,204	502,072	2,958	505,050	2,838,234
" 1910	2,977,971	2,267	2,980,238	584,631	3,416	588,047	3,568,285
" 1911	3,388,459	3,657	3,392,116	614,070	8,665	622,735	4,014,851
" 1912	5,321,455	4,272	5,325,727	576,365	7,171	583,536	5,909,263
" 1913	3,548,938	1,827	3,550,765	627,244	3,236	630,480	4,181,245
" 1914	3,172,565	5,897	3,178,462	649,669	3,061	652,730	3,831,192

Trade of Canada with British West Indies.

YEARS ENDED.	IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION.			EXPORTS.			Total Trade.
	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.	Canadian Produce.	Foreign Produce.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
June 30, 1899	782,499	166,400	948,899	1,725,321	26,930	1,752,251	2,701,150
" 1900	654,909	146,704	801,613	1,673,163	25,724	1,698,957	2,500,570
" 1901	1,033,304	165,564	1,198,868	1,898,262	26,785	1,925,047	3,123,915
" 1902	1,382,018	229,096	1,611,114	1,922,098	52,281	1,974,379	3,585,493
" 1903	1,572,896	226,785	1,799,681	2,158,850	25,983	2,184,833	3,984,514
" 1904	3,722,779	474,021	4,196,800	2,152,129	27,645	2,179,774	6,376,574
" 1905	4,093,988	876,296	4,970,284	2,918,630	45,544	2,964,174	7,934,458
" 1906	4,760,371	1,102,739	5,863,110	2,726,995	31,421	2,758,416	8,621,526
" 1907	3,861,996	1,183,038	5,045,034	2,570,084	34,430	2,604,514	7,649,548
Mar. 31, 1908	6,423,515	1,243,188	7,666,703	2,828,117	53,591	2,881,708	10,548,411
" 1909	6,467,038	1,076,695	7,543,733	2,746,341	43,645	2,789,986	10,333,719
" 1910	4,018,782	1,758,916	5,777,698	3,534,766	63,537	3,598,303	9,376,001
" 1911	5,350,459	1,525,861	6,876,320	4,459,086	131,050	4,590,136	11,467,056
" 1912	4,364,353	1,391,711	5,756,064	4,494,265	83,432	4,577,697	10,333,760
" 1913	4,289,948	1,727,182	6,017,130	4,320,816	69,120	4,399,136	10,416,266
" 1914	2,235,328	2,119,521	4,354,849	4,852,450	42,498	4,894,978	9,249,827

In the second of the above tables Canadian trade with Bermuda is included.

high mountains rising to over 11,000 feet, with here and there volcanoes on the tops of the ridges.

The soil is mostly of a peculiarly rich-looking black loam, free from stones and very easy to work. The streams are used for working the machinery on the plantations as well as sawmills, electric light plants, cane mills and other machinery. I did not see any overshoot wooden water-wheels, but turbines and Pelton wheels of the latest designs seemed to be invariably used and are most effective.

The coffee fields on the older plantations are situated mostly on levels or easy slopes, as the cherry coffee is carried from the fields in carts or on mule or horseback to the works, or to tanks, from which it is spouted to the pulping house, and carried from the receiving tank in concrete gutters to the pulpers.

How New Clearings are made.

Great care is taken of the nurseries, and they are kept like large vegetable gardens. The best seed is sown in long beds, and when large enough the seedlings are pricked out in regular rows and kept weeded till fit to plant out, either in new clearings or for supplying vacancies in the existing fields. There seem to be no rats or birds in Costa Rica that eat coffee on the trees, and such a thing as "rat coffee" is unknown.

New clearings for coffee are made from forest land. The clearings are not burnt, but the limbs of the trees are lopped and packed in rows 12 feet wide, and left to rot by natural decay. When the coffee fields are exhausted the shade trees are cut down, and a portion of the land may be planted in canes, but most of it is turned into common pastures. The timber on the uncleared land is, as a rule, larger than in Jamaica, but the undergrowth not so dense. I noticed a good many of our timber trees, such as cedar, naseberry bullet tree, etc., and in the lower lands a considerable number of *Castilloa* rubber trees.

Planting and Weeding.

The coffee is planted in rows 12 feet wide, and the plants are put 6 feet apart in the row. No hoes are used for weeding, but what is there termed a machete is used to shave the weeds, with about a half inch of soil away from the stems of the coffee trees, and deposit them between the rows. The machete resembles a very thin rick knife, used for cutting hay; it is held in both hands, and used most skillfully by the peon men and boys.

The weeding jobs are calculated by the thousand trees, and cost about \$2 an acre. Now and then, when the weeds are rotted, they are spaded up to the stems of the coffee trees, which prevents exposure of the roots.

Moderate shade at high elevation.

Costa Rica planters consider that moderate shade, even at fairly high elevations, prolongs the life of the coffee trees. Where little shade is kept the coffee wears out sooner and becomes exhausted. On one property I visited at a lower elevation, the coffee had been planted with *Castilloa* rubber trees for shade; both seemed to be thriving and gave promise

of being successful. Plantains are planted in the central rows, and also a species of guava, which grows to a large size, for shade. The guavas are lopped when their shade is too dense, and the cuttings used as a mulch for the coffee.

I saw no pruning according to our Jamaica ideas anywhere, and such a thing as a pruning knife or saw is unknown. The young trees are stumped about 18 inches from the ground and two or three suckers allowed to grow, which in crop time bend down, making the picking easier.

Women Coffee pickers and their pay.

The coffee is picked by peon women and girls of Spanish descent, and dropped into baskets called canasters, which are fastened to their bodies. The usual price for picking is 25 cents for a *cuela*; twenty *cuelas* go to a *fanega*, which is expected to give 112 to 120 pounds cured coffee.

The coffee fields are intersected with rough cart roads, over which small, low cattle carts, with narrow, solid wooden wheels, on hardwood axles, are skilfully driven, or rather led, by peon cart men, who walk in front with their goads resting on the Cuban yokes, the cattle following the movements of the goad in a wonderful way, without any orders or flogging by the drivers. All the incentive they get is a slight prick of the point of the goad, which is about the size of the point of a pencil with a washer round it.

The coffee works are mostly made of concrete with iron roofs, and where practicable are built close to the railway. One is struck at first by the imposing size of a country railway station, but on closer inspection finds that the station proper is only a galvanized iron hut, the remainder being a large coffee *beneficio*, as the works are called, so planned that the coffee bags can be lowered from the store into the cars.

The Pulping and Washing Processes.

The system of pulpers struck me as very sound. They use, as a rule, three Breast pulpers, which are bedded in concrete. Two on the higher level pulp the cherry coffee, which is led from the receiving tank by concrete gutters into the hoppers of the pulpers, and the pulped coffee is carried by water into a rotary iron washing screen or cylinder, which separates the small beans and tails, and these are carried into a third pulper and pulped over. The parchment coffee in consequence is more even in size, as it is sized by the screen and can be more easily cured.

The pulped coffee is carried by water into concrete fermenting tanks, of which there are a large number. When fermented it is carried in broad, shallow concrete gutters, which wind backward and forward at an easy grade for a considerable distance, and washed in the gutters by men with wooden rakes in a very simple and easy fashion, instead of being rubbed by three or four men for an hour or more in a large washing tank, as in Jamaica.

When sufficiently washed it is let out on the patios

or barbecues from a delivery tank, and the water dried out of it by the sun. Some places use centrifugals to get the water out more quickly. It is then put in a rotary guarduola drier, and kept going for about forty-eight hours, when it is fit for shipment.

The pulpers, washing screen, hot air drier, etc., are all worked by water power; the power is transmitted from shafting with pulleys and belting. Very few patios are used in the newer works; a large beneficio may have only two or three, but the older works have plenty.

The Drying Process.

There are no coffee huts. At night, or when it rains, the coffee is simply heaped against the walls of the patios and covered with tarpaulins, in a way that astonishes a Jamaica planter, who locks up all his coffee securely in huts at night or when it rains.

Petty larceny does not seem to exist. Sugar and coffee are left bagged or in heaps in open works without any walls, and I heard of no losses by theft.

Most of the coffee is shipped in parchment, but a portion is hulled and sized as in Jamaica. I was rather surprised to find what high prices Costa Rican coffee realized, some of the best marks of high-class coffee fetching from 108 shillings (£25.92) to 110 shillings and 6 pence (£26.52) in London.

It has always been considered in Jamaica that drying coffee in hot air spoils the flavour and quality and though many of the works in the mountains have drying rooms, with furnaces below, the coffee being rotated in large iron screens by the water-wheel, they have all been given up, and were reported to have injured the quality and flavour of the coffee. I suppose there is no method to regulate the heat as there is in guarduola driers. I was told in Costa Rica that too hasty drying, with too great heat, spoils the quality.

All the coffee is shipped in bags, which are less costly than barrels, and as most of it is in parchment it is not liable to be damaged in transit.

How the Managers live.

Some of the managers' houses on the smaller plantations are rough wooden buildings, with a commissary store on the ground floor. On C. V. Lindo's properties the managers' houses are very fine buildings, handsomely furnished with cedar and hardwood furniture. They mostly have verandahs on both floors, which are enclosed in a narrow corrugated iron roofing to about 3 feet from the floor. Above that are large sliding glass windows, that run on rollers, so that they can be shut in bad weather and opened when fine, making the verandahs of much greater general use than ordinarily.

How the Labourers live.

There seem to be no West Indian native labourers employed on the coffee plantations. Most of the labour is done by white peons of Spanish descent, who are very reliable. The current rate of pay is 2 shillings and 6 pence (60 cents) per day for men,

and they work in a very steady way and do not require any driving or urging.

The peons, with their wives and families, live in wooden houses near the beneficios. They appear to do very little cultivation for themselves; the only grounds I saw under cultivation were planted with chochos, called there chioties. They were not grown on arbours or trees, as in Jamaica, but ran up the hillsides in long, narrow beds.

The houses are well built, mostly of cedar, but they are not at all well kept inside, and have not that air of comfort one sees in the homes of the labourers of Jamaica, and no attempt is made at any flower garden.

The peons are chiefly fed from the property store or commissary, where they can buy most of their food supply at moderate prices from the manager.

I did not find any Jamaica coffee planters managing Costa Rican plantations. They appear to be in great demand at high salaries as mandators and managers on the banana estates or farms, as they understand the handling of the Jamaica labourers and get on well with them. I met several Swiss, who seem good hands at coffee work, also several Canadians, who seem most strenuous workers, and a few Englishmen, some of whom own very fine coffee plantations.

C. V. Lindo seems to be the leading coffee estate proprietor, as he was the chief banana estate owner. I had the pleasure of staying with him and going over two of his coffee plantations, one of which, "La Gloria," was, I understood, the first plantation in the country. The beneficio was situated at the railway station.

The hillsides had been planted like we do in Jamaica and winding cart roads made through the clearings leading to the beneficio. There were not many planted shade trees in these fields, but a few large forest trees had been left for shade. There were about 700 acres of splendid bearing coffee trees in excellent condition. The coffee store was very large, but there were only two patios. They used two guarduola driers and a centrifugal drier, which seemed most effective.

Progress of Coffee Industry.

During the crop year ended September 30, 1913, Costa Rican coffee was exported to the amount of 14,350.9 short tons, an increase of 861 short tons over the previous year. The average prices per cwt. received in London in the past two years were: 1911-12, cleaned, \$16.07; in husk, \$15; 1912-13, cleaned, \$14.77; in husk, \$13.93. In each of the past five years the exports of coffee in kilos (one kilo = 2.2046 pounds) were as follows: 1908-9, 12,030,104; 1909-10, 14,396,926; 1910-11, 12,641,156; 1911-12, 12,237,875, and 1912-13, 13,019,959. The coffee exported during the crop year 1912-13 was destined as follows: To Great Britain, 82 per cent.; France, 3 per cent., and other countries 1 per cent.; Germany, 8 per cent.; United States, 6 per cent.; France, 3 per cent., and other countries 1 per cent.

TRINIDAD'S OIL INDUSTRY.

Early in the present year Mr. Percival Stevens, Assistant Director of Public Works of Trinidad and Tobago, was appointed Inspector of Mines for the Colony, an appointment which became necessary owing to the rapid development of the local petroleum industry.

His first report, which has recently been published, furnishes abundant evidence of the business-like way in which the industry is being conducted. It appears that during the year, although there was somewhat less drilling on private lands, more was done on Crown Lands—the figures being:—

	1912-13. feet.	1913-14. feet.
Private lands	31,358	26,546
Crown lands	11,111	15,387

The actual number of wells drilled was 41 and in 18 of these oil was struck, bringing the total number of wells drilled in the Colony to 174 of which 63 are on Crown Lands. There was a marked increase in production—22,523,060 imperial gallons being produced in 1913-14 as against 17,626,563 in 1912-13. The past year will, in the Inspector's opinion, prove to have been an exceedingly important one in the history of the oil industry of the Colony, three companies of the very highest standing having commenced drilling operations on Crown Lands.

At the close of the year under review there were eleven oil companies actively engaged in the winning of oil, of which three commenced operations during the twelve months. The General Petroleum Properties of Trinidad, Limited, did no work during the financial year, and the areas which they held under Lease from the Crown were included in a lease issued to the Trinidad Leaseholds, Ltd. This Company has also taken up other areas of Crown Lands under lease and has commenced operations in the Morne L'Enfer Forest Reserve. A road which was built by the Forest Reserve Oil Company, Limited, has been extended some two miles, and bungalows and offices have been built. Drilling operations have been commenced and oil struck. The Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company, Limited, have mainly confined their operations to their Union Estate; they have drilled several new wells in which oil has been struck. Their constructional work has been mainly confined to the various provisions to be made in connection with water and oil storage, and the extension of the roads. The Company have made regular shipments of crude oil during the year. The work done by the Trinidad Oilfields, Limited, during the first half of the year was not as good as it might have been, owing to the fact that negotiations were in progress regarding the taking over of their properties by the United British Oilfields of Trinidad, Limited. During August last this company assumed control of the properties, and since then work has been of a more satisfactory nature though the development work was rather confined to private

lands, no great amount having been done on the Crown area. Large earthen reservoirs for the storage of oil and water have been built, and the light railway used for conveying machinery to the field has been considerably extended. A road some two to three miles in length is being constructed to link up the field with the Southern Central Road.

The negotiations between the Trinidad Petroleum Options, Ltd., regarding the issue of a lease and the transfer of additional areas to them have continued during the whole of the year, and matters are not yet finally settled. No work has been done during this period. No work has been done by the Trinidad Cedros Oil Company either on the Crown lands held under prospecting licence or on their private lands. The prospecting licence has expired and the lands have reverted to the Crown. The Trinidad Oil Leases, Ltd., have taken over the areas belonging to the Guapo (Trinidad) Oil Company, Ltd. No work has been done with the exception of the extraction of a small quantity of oil which has been sold locally for fuel purposes.

Mr. C. C. Stollmeyer has continued drilling operations on his Perseverance Estate during the year. A small refinery was erected during the early part of the year, and this was replaced later by a somewhat larger one in which small quantities of petroleum spirit have been produced and sold locally. The pipe-line from the wells to the shipping place was extended; but apart from this little work has been done during the year. The prospecting licences held by the Trinidad Central Oilfields, Ltd., over Crown Lands in the Montserrat Ward were re-issued during the early part of the year, and development work has been continued on the same lines as before, small quantities of high grade petroleum being produced from the wells. A larger refinery has been erected and the bulk of the crude oil produced has been treated, the petrol and illuminating oil being disposed of locally.

The Venezuelan Oilfields Exploration Company, Ltd., have successfully continued drilling operations during the whole of the year. A considerable part of the crude oil produced has been disposed of by this Company to sugar estates in the neighbourhood for fuel purposes. The chief work apart from drilling has been the erection of a small refinery and the provision of steel tanks for storage purposes, and the laying down of an additional pipe-line. The Icacos (Trinidad) Development Company, Ltd., have continued drilling operations; but apart from this no work has been done.

The Trinidad Petroleum Developments, Ltd., continued drilling during the early part of the year and then closed down; during the latter part of the year a new company called the Trinidad Silverstream Oilfields, Ltd., took over the properties and have since continued drilling operations. Several wells have been drilled from most of which a moderate production was obtained. An earthen reservoir has been constructed for oil storage purposes, but no other work apart from this and drilling has been

done. A new prospecting licence was issued to the Petroleum Development Company, Ltd., over Crown Lands in the Morne L'Enfer Reserve in June last, and since then a great deal of work has been done by this Company. A number of wells have been drilled, and from most of them a fairly large production has been obtained. About eight miles of asphalt roads have been made into the property, and bungalows for the accommodation of the staff, stores, sheds, etc., have been erected, several earthen sumps have been made, and two steel storage tanks have been erected in order to deal with the production; a pipe-line has been laid from these storage tanks to connect with the main storage tanks at Brighton.

The Oil Concessions of Mayaro (Trinidad), Ltd., commenced drilling operations during the early part of the year on Crown Lands formerly held under prospecting licence by Messrs. Liddelow and Wharton, and which had been re-issued to this Company. A road some two miles long has been made into this property from the Naparima-Mayaro Road, and the usual bungalows for the accommodation of the staff, stores, etc., have been built. Wells are now in the process of being drilled. The Cruse Syndicate, Ltd., have commenced drilling operations under prospecting licence on Crown Lands in the Morne L'Enfer Reserve. A road about one and a half miles was built into the property, and the usual bungalows, offices, and stores were erected. The drilling operations were successful, a fair production of oil was obtained and stored in earthen reservoirs.

The companies operating during the year were as follows:—

NAME.	SITUATION.	ADDRESS.	MANAGER.
Oil Concessions of Mayaro (Trinidad), Limited	Rio Claro, Mayaro road	79, Bishopsgate, London E.C.	A. Covey
Perseverance Estate	Guapo	C. C. Stollmeyer, Port-of-Spain	E. Pereira
Venezuelan Oilfields Exploration Company, Limited	Barrackpore	London and San Fernando	G. A. Peat
Trinidad Silverstream Oilfields, Ltd.	Oropuche	6, Broad Street Place, London, E.C.	C. E. Burrows
The Cruse Syndicate, Ltd.	Guapo	79, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.	H. D. Fletcher
Trinidad Leaseholds, Ltd.	Oropuche	76, Marine Square, Port-of-Spain	H. Korkhaus
Petroleum Development Co., Ltd.	Brighton	Brighton, La Brea	W. D. Fowler
Trinidad Lake Petroleum Co., Ltd.	Brighton	Brighton, La Brea	G. W. McPherson
Icaeos (Trinidad) Development Co., Ltd.	Icaeos	London	F. S. Brack
Trinidad Central Oilfields, Ltd.	Point Fortin	The United British Oilfields of Trinidad, Ltd., 32, Bishopsgate, London	G. Bailward
Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd.	Tabaquite	79, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.	H. P. Ingram
Trinidad Oil Leases, Ltd.	Cap-de-Ville	6, Draper's Gardens, London	G. Trestrad

Two exploration licences covering 223,389 acres were issued during the year; that to the United British West Indies Petroleum Syndicate, Ltd., covering 204,362 acres being issued as from March 3rd, 1913, and renewed for a further year. Active exploration work has been in progress over these lands since the date of issue. Only one prospecting licence was issued, viz. : to the Trinidad Central Oilfields, Ltd., over an area of 500 acres in the Ward of

Turure. In addition 4 prospecting licences, covering an area of 8,041 acres, have been re-issued or renewed.

A GIFT FROM THE BAHAMAS.

The following telegrams have passed between the Governor of the Bahamas and the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

The Legislature, as representing the Colony of Bahamas, being justly proud of the action of H.M. Government in upholding the honour and plighted word of Great Britain, has voted £10,000 from public funds as a contribution to the expenditure of the war.

HADDON SMITH.

H.M. Government greatly appreciate the loyal message from the Legislature of the Bahamas and gratefully accept their patriotic gift of £10,000 towards the expenditure of the war.

HARCOURT.

The West Indian gifts received to date have been as follows:—

Bahamas—£10,000 towards war expenditure.

Barbados—2,240,000 lbs. of Sugar.

British Guiana—2,240,000 lbs. of Sugar.

Dominica—Limes for the Military Hospitals fortnightly.

Grenada—Cacao to the value of £6,000 and £1,000 for the National Relief Fund.

Jamaica—Sugar to the value of £50,000.

St. Kitts-Nevis—£5,000 for the National Relief Fund.

St. Lucia—Cacao to the value of £2,000 and £1,000 to the National Relief Fund.

St. Vincent—Arrowroot to the value of £2,000.

Miss Gertrude Baynes, formerly of Antigua, is serving as a Red Cross nurse with the British Expeditionary Force in France. Miss Baynes, who is a daughter of the late Mr. Edward Baynes, Commissioner of Montserrat, is a graduate of the Montreal General Hospital.

A new edition of the Pocket Guide to the West Indies has just been published. Price 5s. nett.

NURSES FOR THE COLONIES.

A very deserving Institution.

The object of the Colonial Nursing Association is to provide trained nurses for the British Colonies and Dependencies, and for British communities abroad, both for private and hospital work, and to facilitate and assist in any other way the work of nursing. Now in the nineteenth year of its existence, the Association continues its good work on these lines with increasing vigour. The annual report which is before us shows that the number of nurses at work on behalf of the Association was 329, of whom 92 were employed as private nurses, 15 in private hospitals, 13 under the Government of Western Australia, and 209 in Government service in the Crown Colonies. These figures show a marked increase over those for the previous year, when the nurses at work were 298 only.

Among the members of the Council of this useful organisation are Lady Musgrave, Lady Bruce, Lady Sendall, Sir Charles Bruce, Lady Davson, Sir Frederic Hodgson, Mr. C. T. Bruce and Mr. C. Sandbach Parker, and it is satisfactory to note that four nurses are now employed in British Guiana, and no fewer than fourteen in various parts of the British West Indies. During the year it was decided to apply the interest from a bequest of £1,000 by the late Sir Alfred Jones towards giving some financial reward to nurses of long and meritorious service, and it was decided to call the bequest the Sir Alfred Jones Pension Fund, and to consider it as the nucleus of a possible pension scheme. In this connection the Council appeal for more funds to add to this bequest in order that the nurses may not be left unrewarded after giving of their best in the best years of their life. For a nurse's career is a comparatively short one, and if she spends many years abroad, she inevitably loses touch with her profession at home. Neither are salaries so large that any considerable sum can be put by. The Association feel, therefore, that it is almost their duty to make service on its private staff pensionable. Considering the amount of work done, the funds of the Association appear to be remarkably small. Thus, the list of contributions for 1913 amounted to £185 7s. 6d. only. The great importance of good nursing in all cases of illness, especially in tropical countries, where the hot climate renders the work more difficult and increases the dangers, such as septic poisoning, to which patients are exposed unless tended with the greatest care, should ensure cordial support being given to the work of the Colonial Nursing Association.

A FURTHER list of those connected with the West Indies who are serving in His Majesty's Forces will be published in next issue. We regret to state that since the last list was published Mr. T. G. Du-Buisson's name, second Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery, and son of Mr. T. Du Buisson, has appeared in the list of officers wounded.

IN THE DAYS OF THE CONVOYS.

An episode of the year 1795.

With the exception of the Crimean War, in which the question of the protection of the sea trade of Great Britain did not figure largely, England has not been engaged in a European war for a century. During this period there have been enormous changes in the construction of merchant ships and the methods of the sea carrying trade of the country, as well as in naval architecture. The frigate of 1800 is now represented by the cruiser, the battleship by the Dreadnought, the privateer by the armed liner; the wildest imagination one hundred years ago had not pictured torpedoes. Cable communication and wireless telegraphy have also revolutionised the methods of the maintenance of sea supremacy and of the protection of commerce. Voyages were long and tedious. Days now take the place of weeks in this respect, while the introduction of steam has practically eliminated the influence of wind in regard to length of voyage and its effect on the strategy of naval battle tactics. As commerce protectors, the main, indeed, almost the whole care of the Navy was centred on the West Indies, and the minute books of the West India Committee teem with accounts of the arrangements with the Admiralty for the despatch and care of convoys.

The relatively small size of the sailing vessels of a century ago, and the consequent large number of them engaged in trade with the West Indies, together with the low rate of speed and varied sailing qualities, rendered their safe conduct and protection by the ships of the Royal Navy especially difficult. Convoys had to assemble at a given spot, and when assembled started in charge of one or more war vessels for their destination. The rate of speed was regulated by the senior warship with the view of the convoy maintaining as close a formation as possible. This, as can be imagined, was a work of considerable difficulty. The different sailing qualities of the members of the convoy—the copper-sheathed vessels in particular being much faster than those with wooden bottoms only—the occurrence of storms, the personal characteristics of the captains of the merchantmen, all tended to make the charge of a convoy one of the greatest responsibility. As a rule, judging from the many entries on the subject in the minute books of the West India Committee, the laborious and uncongenial task was carried out with the greatest care and solicitude by the naval officers in charge. In fact the occasions of the presentation of thanks and pieces of plate by the West India Committee in recognition of their services were far from being uncommon. There was, however, one case in which, owing to the disregard of the interests of the convoy by the captain of the frigate in charge, the loss of a considerable number of ships occurred.

From the statement of the facts of the case which was forwarded to the Admiralty by the West India Committee it appears that in July, 1795, a convoy

of 130 merchantmen bound for the United Kingdom was assembled at Jamaica, off the west end of that island. On the 26th it weighed anchor for home under the charge of the frigates *Medusa* and *Triton*, Captain James Norman of the former vessel being Commodore in charge, and "bore away for the Gulph." On the 5th of August they were off "Cape" Antonio, and well together, but on the 6th a smart squall came on, and from that day forward there was a constant dwindling in the number of the convoy.

Captain Norman seems to have shown an utter disregard of the capabilities of the merchantmen to keep up with him. It is recorded that from the 14th of August until the 13th of September, the *Medusa* was for the most part six to ten leagues ahead of the centre of the convoy, which was extended for upwards of 20 leagues from van to rear. The strain was great upon the slower merchant ships. These had to carry continuously all the sail they could set, and as a consequence lost very many spars. Occasionally Captain Norman would shorten sail on the *Medusa*, but never to the extent sufficient to enable the laggards to "ease their sails by night."

On the 13th of September the convoy was reduced to 110 sail. At 4 a.m. on that day the wind shifted from the southward, and a heavy squall came on from N.N.W. The gale continued up to noon when the weather cleared again. As the result of the press of sail some of the merchantmen had to carry to keep up with the rest of the convoy, topmasts were lost and sails split. It is recorded that during this heavy weather the *Medusa* carried so much sail that only 35 of the fastest sailing ships could keep up with her, and neither that vessel nor the *Triton* were to be seen by the greater part of the fleet. No attempt whatever was made by the *Medusa* or her consort to regulate their speed to that of the convoy, nor when the gale was over did they lie to to collect the members of it. The convoy was now reduced from 130 to 50 ships.

This state of affairs continued until the Channel was entered on the 2nd of October, and by the 4th the fleet was reduced to 21 vessels. Such was the anxiety of Captain Norman to get into port that ten more ships had been left behind by the time the destination was reached. As the result of this inconsiderate attitude of the *Medusa* towards the convoy, no fewer than 16 ships were taken by the enemy.

The West India Committee lost no time in lodging a complaint with the Admiralty, who at once ordered Captain Norman to be tried by Court Martial. The Court Martial took place on the 9th of the following February, and was held on board H.M.S. *Prince George* at Plymouth, under the Presidency of Rear Admiral Sir Roger Curtis, and among the other members were Rear Admiral Richard Rodney Bligh and Captain Sir James Saumarez. Mr. Sewell, the Agent for Jamaica, attended on behalf of the West India Committee, and the minutes state that he was supported by "Mr. Shawe and several eminent

counsel." The hearing of the case occupied no less than 20 days, much evidence being heard, and sentence was given on the 29th. This was "that the Court is of Opinion that the Charges have been in part proved against the said Captain James Norman, but in consideration of the want of Obedience to Signals and other Circumstances attending the Voyage, doth Adjudge him only to be Reprimanded and to be continued on half-pay for the Remainder of his Life."

In accordance with the graceful custom of the West India Committee in those days the vote of thanks tendered to Mr. Sewell for his services on this occasion was supplemented with the presentation of a "Piece of Plate to the value of One Hundred Guineas."

AEROTRACTION FOR CANE PUNTS.

Further experiments with aerial propulsion in British Guiana have hardly justified the sanguine hopes as to its possible value for hauling cane punts on sugar estates. As the result of a series of experimental trials at Plantation Ogle the conclusion was drawn that the system was not capable of doing what was claimed for it in England.

In the Ogle trials twelve punts were employed, each loaded with three tons of soil. As the punts weighed $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons each, the total weight drawn, leaving out of the question the weight of the tug itself, was 54 tons. The best results gave a speed of 1.1 miles per hour. With the load detached the tug attained a speed of three miles an hour. The fuel consumption was very heavy, and amounted to 32.6 cents per ton of sugar, a prohibitive figure.

As the Demerara *Argosy* says, it is difficult to reconcile the Ogle performance of the tug with the efficiency it was claimed to have shown in this country, when it is stated to have actually hauled a load of 60 tons at four miles an hour. The explanation suggested by our contemporary is that the load on the occasion of the Thames trial consisted of one or two lighters instead of twelve small punts, a considerably greater resistance to traction occurring in the latter instance. Another point that requires consideration is the depth of water, which in the Ogle trial would give a clearance of about one foot, or much less, of course, than that in the home trials.

The *Argosy* remarks that, disappointing as the results of the Ogle trial were, they cannot be taken as condemnatory of the system of aerotraction as applied to sugar estates' work. A better design for the tug itself, and a propeller of coarser pitch run at the actual engine speed, together with an alteration in the position of the propeller are means suggested for obtaining better results.

Messrs. Mackie's & Co.'s White Horse whisky was awarded a Gold Medal at the Anglo-American Exposition recently held in London.

THE CROWN AGENTS' REPORT.

EAST INDIAN IMMIGRATION.

The following figures are taken from the Report of the Crown Agents for the Colonies for 1913

Since the outbreak of war the emigration agencies of Calcutta have been closed, but it is assumed that

	Cost of Stores Purchased and Shipped.	Commission on cost of Stores Purchased and Shipped.	Fees for Inspection, Drawing Office, Selection of Candidates, Packing and Ship. Chg	Loan & Investment Business.	Sums payable for transaction of Loan and Investment Business.	Miscellaneous Business.	Total Business.	Total Payments to Crown Agents Office
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Antigua	2032 18 0	20 6 1	51 5 0	8505 13 11	15 8 5	16103 18 4	26724 6 4	86 19 6
Bahamas	3568 19 0	35 13 1	32 12 6	12804 19 6	17 9 9	29687 1 7	46138 6 2	85 15 4
Barbados	7242 3 4	72 7 11	179 18 9	77072 17 10	57 16 4	103151 6 1	187763 3 9	310 3 0
Bermuda	22519 5 6	225 3 11	42 9 9	20688 18 4	68 16 6	18278 14 0	61807 10 10	136 9 8
British Guiana	21893 7 3	218 18 1	362 5 3	91970 5 4	78 11 8	281827 9 8	396546 0 2	924 2 11
British Honduras	11231 2 10	112 3 4	215 3 5	17231 9 5	28 4 10	26252 5 7	55061 2 5	355 11 7
Dominica	4128 10 3	41 16 1	125 5 5	8948 3 1	14 7 0	19105 15 2	32409 10 0	181 8 6
Grenada	5911 1 6	58 13 5	57 18 3	11182 0 3	19 18 11	33886 10 4	51108 11 1	136 10 7
Jamaica	44100 0 5	441 2 11	929 1 1	232007 8 8	535 6 2	369623 9 6	647711 7 3	2055 10 2
Leeward Islands (Federal account)	392 5 11	3 18 1	5 2 9	165 4 11	13 8 10	2856 18 6	3436 18 2	22 8 10
Montserrat	1036 10 0	10 6 10	24 7 6	1030 2 7	2 5 7	4252 18 3	6355 5 2	36 19 11
St. Kitts-Nevis	1020 13 8	10 3 7	19 18 8	12366 15 9	18 16 9	16603 9 2	30027 8 0	48 19 0
St. Lucia	4175 18 3	41 14 6	67 18 4	13942 19 0	36 3 2	26090 9 3	44350 12 3	145 16 0
St. Vincent	2751 3 1	27 9 10	66 3 1	6273 2 9	1 7 7	18174 15 11	27292 14 8	95 0 6
Trinidad	80799 18 3	799 18 4	822 2 9	111966 1 5	198 9 7	562319 6 8	786943 10 11	1920 10 8
Turks Islands	218 2 5	3 2 9	4 12 0	193 9 6	1 7 6	1937 19 7	2357 6 8	9 2 8

British Guiana, Jamaica and Trinidad paid fixed annual contributions of £244 7s. 11d., £150, and £100 respectively. It will be noticed that the figures under "Total Business," do not respectively represent the sum of the figures of the previous columns. This is due to the fact that certain receipts, which were not directly derived from any colony, were not debited in the accounts of the colonies from which the "Total Business" column was compiled, although included in the office accounts and allocated in the previous columns to the colonies concerned.

The sugar question is now, says the Paris correspondent of *The Standard*, one of the principal anxieties of housekeepers. The trouble comes from the too optimistic forecasts of the authorities before the war began in earnest. In July prices ruled low, but on August 30 all the stock in Paris was requisitioned, amounting to about 318,000 bags. By the end of last month this stock was reduced to 47,000, and there seems to be hardly any in the ports, whilst the provinces vainly assail Paris with demands. The truth is believed to be that an enormous quantity was accumulated not very far outside Paris and destroyed in the first week in September to prevent it from falling into the hands of the enemy.

Large orders have now been placed abroad, and the factories are working as energetically as they can under the circumstances, but it will be some time before the supply and prices become normal. Meanwhile everybody is on rations in the shops, which only sell a few pounds at a time to each customer.

They will be reopened when the trade route between India and the West Indies is considered absolutely safe. It was in 1893 that Surgeon Major D. W. D. Comins, Commissioner for the Indian Government, described Trinidad as "the favoured home of the coolie settler where he can easily and rapidly obtain comfortable independence and even considerable wealth with corresponding social position." From the annual report of the Protector of Immigrants—the last to be issued by Commander W. H. Coombs, who has just retired after 18½ years' conduct of the Immigration Department—it would seem that Trinidad still enjoys its reputation as the ideal home for the East Indian emigrant. Of 1,143 statute adults who reached the island in the twelve months ended March 31st, 1914, 89 had formerly resided in the island or other colonies. On December 31st £135,785 19s. stood to the credit of 11,351 depositors in the Savings Bank, and quite a number of East Indians have attained positions of comparative wealth and affluence in the colony. In 1913 979 immigrants remitted to India £4,534 18s. 6d., or £4 12s. 7½d. per head, the highest figure recorded during the last ten years. Of 816 immigrants who were repatriated, 203 were availing themselves of the free passage to which they had become entitled, 200 received assisted passages after ten years' residence, 122 were returned as unfit, 18 were rejected, and 71 paid their own passages.

COPIES of Dr. Goulston's work "Cane Sugar and Heart Disease," which is reviewed in another column can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

THE Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Administrator of St. Vincent, and Mrs. Murray will return to the West Indies by the mail steamer leaving England on October 21st.

THE loss of the *Pegasus* at Zanzibar recalls the fact that it was in a frigate of the same name that Prince William Henry—afterwards William IV., the "Sailor King"—reached Antigua in 1786.

MR. R. T. BROWN, Manager and Secretary, having retired, Mr. J. L. Quick has been appointed Manager and Accountant, and Mr. J. Winser Secretary of the West India & Panama Telegraph Co.

AMONG other charities with which Princess Marie Louise is identified is the Princess Club for Girls on the Surrey side of the Thames. This club is now being used as a hospital for wounded troops and an account of a visit paid to it by a representative of the CIRCULAR will appear in next issue. The great need of the inmates is for newspapers, magazines, games, fruit and tobacco, and the Secretary of the West India Committee will be glad to receive at 15, Seething Lane, gifts of these for the men.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been: Sir Gilbert T. Carter, K.C.M.G., Hon. E. Du Boulay, Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, Mr. G. Williams, Mr. E. H. Grant, Mr. W. Mearns, Mr. J. J. Carlee, Captain J. B. Saunders, Mr. J. R. Bancroft, Mr. F. A. C. Collymore, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, Mr. R. Bryson, Mr. P. J. Dean, Mr. S. Manning, Lieut.-Colonel W. J. Slack, Mr. F. J. Morris, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, Mr. J. J. Law, Mr. Bovell, Mr. A. Cherry, and Mr. Ian MacG. Frame, who has received a commission in the Gordon Highlanders.

A SLIGHT change has been made in the itinerary of the mail steamers on the Canada-West Indies route. The *Chignecto* leaving Halifax on the 23rd of October will call at Montserrat, Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent on the southbound voyage, but will omit these ports on the northbound voyage. The *Chaudiere* sailing from Halifax on the 5th November will on the other hand omit Montserrat, Dominica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent on the southbound voyage and will call at these ports on the northbound voyage. The arrangement will be maintained alternately by the following steamers.

THE Canadian War Contingent Association has been formed to provide a hospital of 50 beds, and more if possible, for the use of His Majesty's forces, and to promote generally the well-being of the Canadian contingent. The hospital, by permission of Her Majesty, is to be known as The Queen's Cana-

dian Military Hospital, and the co-operation of the Canada Lodge of Freemasons has been secured. It is hoped that many Freemasons and others connected with the West Indies will support the movement, and will forward subscriptions with this end in view to Mr. G. C. Castles, Bank of Montreal, 47, Threadneedle Street, E.C.

SINCE the war began the fortnightly dinners of the West Indian Club have been suspended. An exception was, however, made on October 14th, when Sir Charles Major, Chief Justice of British Guiana was entertained informally, the Hon. A. C. Pensonby presiding. Amongst those present were: Mr. S. T. Harrison, C.M.G., Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, Mr. E. R. Davson, Mr. William Morison, His Honour C. Rees Davies, Mr. Allan E. Messer, Mr. H. F. Previte, Mr. W. B. Kingsford, Mr. G. Perch, Mr. F. J. Morris, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, Mr. N. Scott Johnston, Mr. H. P. C. Melville, Mr. C. G. A. Wyatt, Mr. A. D. Ferguson, Mr. Duncan Alves, Mr. C. W. Prest, Mr. G. Williams, Mr. John Mullin, Mr. J. Miller, Dr. W. J. Von Winckler, and Mr. W. A. M. Goode.

WE learn from a correspondent in Mauritius that the 100,000 tons of sugar purchased locally for the Government was plantation white sugar. English companies also sold 35,000 tons direct. The same informant states that the coming crop is likely to be a record one, amounting to between 260,000 and 270,000 tons. He describes the stand of canes as wonderful, and quite as good as yellow West Indian, and he adds, "There is real live progress throughout the industry. All factories are being modernised, and it is only a question of time when they will compare with the Java ones. . . . Here Indians own 30 per cent, of the land under canes and produce 23 per cent. of the crop. We have 15 Co-operative Credit Societies established during the year with a capital of about £10,000 all told."

The present movement for capturing Germany and Austria's sugar trade had its counterpart nearly two hundred and fifty years ago. The following extract is from a letter among the Shaftesbury Papers (40/4). It was written in Jamaica by "B. Worsley" to the Council of Trade, and is dated February 24, 1668/9.

I cannot but take the boldness to offer a great complaint to your Grace on the behalfe of Trade. As being humbly of the apprehension that it is this Nation's express fault that either the Dutch, french or any other have any encouragement't to persist in their planting of Sugar. And if it would not seem too immodest for mee and be looked upon as too great a confidence in me I durst yet affirme that a greater advantage by farr to make this kingdom powerfull opulent and superior to any in a way of commerce doth lye before this nacon at this instant than before any nation in Christendome. And that if his Ma ty shall in his princely wisdoms think fit to take upon him the absolute proteccion of his plantacons and Trade, noe nacon in Christendome would or could be Masters of Sugar but the English . . . it is our fault if any besides ourselves have the sole monopoly.

THE LONDON LETTER.

ENGLAND is gaining a clearer consciousness of the immensity of the struggle confronting her allies and herself. It is now generally accepted that the war cannot be short. That opinion has been strengthened by the latest events in Belgium. With the fall of Antwerp, and the march westward of the Germans, King Albert's dominion has been completely over-run by the Kaiser's troops. The Monarchy, the Government and the Army of Belgium have been transferred to French soil. Apart from the Allies' determination to restore the exiled Belgians to their native land, motives of policy and self protection compel Great Britain to expel from her own doors so dangerous a neighbour as the Germans.

THE task will not be light. For a month the encounter loosely styled the Battle of the Aisne has been in progress, and the decisive moment has not yet arrived. Happily the reports from day to day, although brief, are not unfavourable. Slowly but surely the Anglo-French Forces are gaining ground. The Belgian frontier has been crossed. This progress has derived fresh stimulus from the arrival of the Indian troops, and of reinforcements from this country, and soon the sons of Canada will take their place in the firing line. The omens, therefore, are highly favourable. Germany is making her bravest effort, but the resources alike of men and money are on the side of this country.

MEANWHILE the enemy is making the most of his presence in Belgium in order to intimidate the people of England. Antwerp, we are assured, is to become a base for a Zeppelin invasion of these shores. Our military experts, however, refuse to be disturbed. They point out that our airmen who have already paid visits to the Zeppelin sheds in Dusseldorf and Cologne will find Antwerp more accessible. Still, we are taking no risks. The darkened streets of London have become, by order, even darker. German airmen, if they come, are to derive no assistance from brilliantly lighted thoroughfares. Furthermore, they are not to be allowed an easy passage. We have the authority of one Cabinet Minister that our own airmen, whose exploits have already awakened admiration will be ready for fresh trials of skill and endurance.

The possibility of such an overhead attack has proved good business for the underwriters. Property owners are taking out policies against damage from hostile aircraft. Other persons are taking steps to insure themselves against personal injury. These precautionary measures, however, are not to be interpreted overseas as evidence of panic. On the contrary the low rates quoted for the insurance of buildings are sufficient refutation of such a feeling. Experience in Antwerp, Paris, Ostend and elsewhere, shows that the amount of damage and injury

inflicted by aircraft bears but little relationship to the populations of large cities.

THE conduct and progress of the war being left with full confidence in the hands of our naval and military chiefs, who rigorously censor the news, the attention of the country is concentrated almost wholly on measures of benevolence. Never have the sentiments of sympathy and generosity been exhibited on more lavish scale. The need is great, but the means of meeting it are eagerly forthcoming. Since the outbreak of the war millions of money have been subscribed. Every week sees some fresh appeal, and it is not made in vain.

No foreign country has ever touched the heart of Great Britain so deeply as Belgium in her hour of trial. It is estimated that there are now on our shores 100,000 refugees from that country. Yet food and shelter are found for all. Grief at her sorrows, admiration of her bravery and indignation at the unwarrantable cruelties inflicted upon her people have established for Belgium a claim upon the British people which they are only too glad to recognise. It is a sign of the times that several daily papers in the French language are now being published in London, and that advertisements in French are appearing regularly in our own newspapers.

AMONG the latest philanthropic schemes connected with the war is the establishment in a warm climate of hospitals for wounded Indian troops. The great value of motor ambulances, as distinct from slower means of transport, has been demonstrated, and *The Times* is making a successful appeal for the supply of these vehicles as a means of assisting the work of the British Red Cross Society and of the St. John Ambulance Association. Costing £400 each, many have already been presented. Towards this object Lord Harewood has subscribed £200.

In this connection the Hon. Gideon Murray is rendering good service. Co-operating with Mr. Arthur Du Cros, Mr. Murray is organising a motor ambulance column for the Indian Expeditionary Force. Such a column, it may be explained, consists of 54 vehicles, comprising 39 ambulances each carrying four stretchers, two travelling workshops equipped with spare parts and repairing requisites, three officers' cars and ten motor cycles.

His many friends in British Guiana will be pleased to learn that Mr. Charles Simon Davson has been appointed Chief Justice of Fiji. Mr. Davson thus succeeds Sir Charles Major, who proceeds to British Guiana in like capacity. A son of the late Mr. George Louis Davson, for many years manager of the former British Guiana Bank, Mr. C. S. Davson was highly esteemed in Georgetown, where he became Solicitor General, and where he acted also as Attorney General prior to his appointment to be a Puisne Judge in Mauritius.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

MR. SOMERS TAYLOR has been experimenting recently on the relation which exists between the proportions of potash and sucrose in the sugar-cane. In the same variety, very little indication was obtained of correlation between these constituents. When, however, the juice examined belonged to different varieties there was much greater evidence of correlation. The analysis of juices of a good many varieties showed also marked differences in the potash content.

* * *

THE *Agricultural Gazette* of Tasmania, on the subject of cream separation from milk, states that practically all the causes of variation of cream test are due to the conditions under which the milk is separated. Warm milk separates more completely than cold, and it has been found that the loss of butter-fat in the skim milk is much greater when cold milk is separated than when it is machined immediately after being drawn from the cow.

* * *

A CORRESPONDENT in *Tropical Agriculture* draws attention to the fact that there is a good demand in the United States and England for nuts, among which he enumerates three new varieties, the Peli nut or Java almond (*Canarium ovatum*), the Paradise nut (*Lecythis labucajo*) and the Queensland nut (*Macadamia ternifolia*).

* * *

THE Peli nut is stated to be the most important. It has a very thick shell, but the kernel is so delicate and nutritious that an emulsion of it is frequently used as a substitute for milk in bringing up infants. A valuable commercial oil is obtained from it, while the resin of the tree forms the "gum elemi" of pharmacists.

* * *

THE Paradise nut is somewhat like the Peli nut and first cousin to the common Brazil nut. The seeds are enclosed in hard woody "pots" or "urns," provided with lids which fall when the fruit is ripe, allowing the nuts to fall to the ground. The Queensland nut has a delicious flavour, somewhat resembling that of the Brazil nut. It requires very little care or water.

* * *

MESSRS. AVRES & JOHNSON have, as the result of an interesting series of observations, come to the conclusion that there are two classes of streptococci which survive Pasteurisation. One of these includes those streptococci which, while having a low thermal death point as a whole, have some cells which are able to survive the Pasteurizing temperature. The other class includes those streptococci which have a high thermal death point as a whole. The investigators conclude that this ability to resist destruction by heating is a permanent characteristic of certain strains of streptococci.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The Praedial Larceny Evil.

THE retirement of the enemy from what was almost the gate of Paris coupled with the capture of three supply ships, well laden with coal, provisions and Germans for the slippery *Dresden* and *Karlsruhe*, had had a marked effect on the spirits of residents in the West Indies when the R.M.S.P. *Oruba* left Barbados on September 30th. Throughout, a feeling of optimism prevailed while enthusiasm was unabated. The various assistance funds—as Sir Sydney Olivier would have them called instead of "relief" funds—continued to make progress, and in many islands the ladies were busily plying needle and thread for the Queen's Needlework Guild. It was becoming increasingly clear that the small islands which are dependent largely on cotton will suffer acutely through the war, and the agricultural authorities continued wisely to advocate the increased cultivation of ground provisions. The best progress in this direction appears to have been made in Antigua. Indeed there seems, from what Mr. Cowley writes, fair prospect of a valuable market gardening industry being established in that island. In Trinidad, on the other hand, matters were at a standstill, and though land had been offered free for provision growing none had been taken up owing to the prevalence of praedial larceny or theft of the growing crops, regarding which Mr. Edgar Tripp has some trenchant remarks to make. The *Oruba* reached Tilbury on Monday, October 12th. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—Malze being extensively planted.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, SEPTEMBER 26th.—The weather during the fortnight has been very peculiar, fine rains falling on some estates in the middle of the island, though Pope's Head and Valley got very little. September has been an unfavourable month owing to the variable nature of the rainfall; as an example, on the 19th instant one estate to windward had two inches of rain while its neighbour only registered 7 parts. Heavy forcing rains were badly needed. I have with deep regret to record the death of Mr. Alfred Buckley Harris, chemist at Gunthorpe's Factory. He was quite a young man, only about 25 years of age. The Antigua Defence Force had been ordered out for an early drill on the morning of Monday, the 20th, and Mr. Harris, who was a member of that body, in his anxiety to attend endeavoured to swim from Guava Island to the Narrows; but the current was too strong, and he was drowned, thus losing his life through the call of duty. The greatest sympathy was felt with his mother by all classes of the community. He was a young man, loved and respected by all who knew him, and his death cast a gloom over the entire island. Quite a sensation was caused by the refusal of the Roman Catholic priest to bury the body, and correspondence has appeared in the local paper on the subject. The funeral which was conducted by the Anglican Church was largely attended, His Excellency, the

Acting Governor, being present, besides the Bishop and all the Anglican clergy, who attended the service in the Cathedral.—Cotton growers are very alarmed at the conditions and prospects of the industry. Many bales of Antigua cotton for this year's crop are unsold and the outlook for the future is gloomy in the extreme. We can only hope the war cloud will soon pass and restore commerce to its natural basis. Sugar prices have gone up enormously, but the fall in cotton will help to counter-balance this. Maize and sweet potatoes are being planted largely. Just at present the peasants in the English Harbour district are selling a large amount of home-grown maize and are reaping a rich benefit from their grounds. They are very fortunate in having a large amount planted. It is also a good thing for the island, and will keep a large amount of money here that otherwise must have gone to purchase foreign corn. English Harbour is once more doing something to help the country. An effort is being made by the Agricultural Department to promote the growing of vegetables for the northern markets. Mr. T. Jackson, Curator, is keenly interested in the matter, and has placed before the Agricultural Society some facts and figures which show that kitchen gardening could be made into a gold mine out here, provided sufficient care were taken in the packing of such things as tomatoes, pumpkins, melons, potatoes, etc., all of which can be easily grown here, and also provided freight can be obtained at the right moment, and proper temperatures found to keep the vegetables en route. Major Beamish returned per mail. Mr. Malcolm Shepherd leaves to-day en route for England. He hopes to join the Army in some capacity. He is the first of Antigua's sons to leave here for such a purpose. He is the son of our loved and respected Dean. Two other of Antigua's men, viz., Clyde Dew, son of Captain J. T. Dew, and Jack Percival, son of Mr. W. Percival, have joined in England. Thus little Antigua is helping those who are fighting for "King and Country."

BARBADOS—The crop prospects below the average.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., SEPTEMBER 20th.—We have now two funds open, one in response to the Prince of Wales' appeal and the other in support of Queen Mary's clothing movement. The volunteers are subscribing to the National Relief Fund. The crops are looking very green and healthy, but they are very backward, and it will take continuous rains for several months to produce cane enough to make a crop of sugar. We are kept in a state of anxiety lest we should have a visit from a hostile cruiser, the two in these parts not yet having been accounted for.

Regarding crop prospects the *Barbados Advocate* states that September has been a month of rain in well distributed volume, and as a consequence there has been rapid growth of the cane crop which is green but very backward. With some splendid exceptions, the canes are no more than leaves, very little body having been established. With continuance of good weather there may be complete recovery up to a stage, but there is no room for hope now for more at the best than a crop slightly below the average.

BRITISH GUIANA—The Hook-worm disease campaign.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, SEPTEMBER 20th.—The news of the death of Sir Neville Lubbock was received with deep regret. The local contributions towards the National Relief Fund now amount to \$21,857 and the war continues to monopolise attention. The weather during the fortnight has been very hot and dry. There has been a drop in the cabled price of refining crystals from New York during the fortnight from \$5.27 to \$5.27. On the 11th Dr. F. E. Field delivered an interesting lecture in the presence of the Governor on Hook-worm disease. In the course of his remarks he said

that the disease was discovered about 100 years ago but no notice was taken of it until about 30 years ago when it was found to prove fatal to some people in North America who were engaged in railway tunnelling. The worms were present in all tropical and sub-tropical countries of the world. For about five or ten years doctors in the United States were doing their best to remove that pernicious worm from the inhabitants. Every person in the hall should ascertain whether he or she was infected and submit themselves to treatment and they would in course of time find themselves much stronger, and there would be a production of a much healthier race of people. I regret to report the sudden death of Mr. A. S. McAndrew, manager of Agatash lime estate, on the 21st. The *Daily Chronicle* reports that with the close of the Balata season the bleeders are returning to town. It is believed that they did well.

CARRIACOU—Lime cultivation still extending.

MR. TOM ARCHER, SEPTEMBER 25th.—We have experienced a great drought here this year, but I am pleased to say the lime trees have pulled through wonderfully. They are at present in good health, exceedingly green, and all of the old cultivation are bearing. I have 500 acres, in all, planted with limes, 350 of which are the first planting and 150 planted last year. I have also erected an addition to the factory 111 feet long with a battery of five seamless copper tacheles. The one copper tachele I had last year made me lose a lot of juice, but I was able to take off 52 hogsheads that tested an average of 105 ozs. to the gallon.

DOMINICA—H.M.S. Berwick's admirable work.

MR. E. A. AGAR, SEPTEMBER 26th.—A subscription list has been opened for the Belgian Relief Fund, and the amount received to date comes to well over £200. Food-stuffs continue to arrive in normal quantities and we are provisioned for some months now, rice is the only thing we are short of. H.M.S. *Berwick* has just been doing good work among the German supply ships and it looks as if the German cruisers will shortly have to abandon any idea of doing more than finding a safe port to lay up in, it is some time since we heard of any ships being molested by them. A good deal of rain has fallen during the fortnight, and the lime crop is nearing its end. Prices have been the best any of us have seen, and the quantity has been quite good. Trees are beginning to flower again, so we may look for another crop in January and February, but it is impossible even to conjecture what will have happened to the market by then. Undoubtedly few parts of the British Empire have suffered so little as we have so far. Higher prices for necessities have been more than compensated by the increased values of exports.

GRENADA—Subscriptions for the Prince of Wales' Fund.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, SEPTEMBER 28th.—A public meeting was held at York House on the 27th with a view of opening a subscription list towards the Prince of Wales' Fund. The shipments of cacao for the year to date amounted to 66,731 bags as compared with 63,156 bags for the corresponding period last year.

JAMAICA—The Cockpit River Irrigation Scheme.

MR. A. ST. G., SPOONER, SEPTEMBER 21th.—The Government has decided to present Great Britain £50,000, to be sent in the form of sugar, to the Imperial Government. In order to raise the money for this laudable purpose it has been thought desirable to raise import duties on certain articles (of which food-stuffs are excepted) by 6½ per cent. This will bring the duty on these articles to 10½ per cent. ad valorem, and this duty will principally affect textile materials. Naturally the first effects of such a high duty, in addi-

tion to the already high freight and insurance rates, will be that a good deal less business will be done in textiles. A second result will be that the source of supply of textiles will to some extent be transferred from England to the United States. The British shipping lines for reasons no doubt satisfactory to themselves, but very detrimental to British manufacturers, have raised freight rates in greater proportion than their competitors shipping from United States ports. This naturally results in certain goods, amongst them the cheaper grades of textiles costing less landed here from the United States than from Great Britain. The drought still continues in Vere, mitigated, it is true, by a few light showers during the last few days. The damage done to the 1915 crop canes is now perhaps irreparable, and nothing short of the most favourable weather possible during the next four months will produce even a small crop. On most of the estates no work is being done beyond that necessary to employ the indentured coolies, and of this work replant cultivation is almost neglected owing to estate finance difficulties. Two of the estates are transferring a number of their indentured coolies to other employers in the banana districts, a measure of the condition to which Vere has been reduced by drought and the war. The Government has started as relief work the excavation of the new canal in connection with bringing irrigation to Vere from the Cockpit River. Nothing stands between this district and great prosperity except an adequate supply of irrigation water. The work now being done is of course only relief work and may come to an end whenever the Government thinks fit to stop it; the continuance of the work is a matter of life and death to Vere and such stoppage of this work would rob us here of the last ray of hope.

MONTERRAT Advances to cotton planters.

MR. K. P. PENCELTON, SEPTEMBER 26th.—The cotton crops here will be only fair, the drought (for practically four weeks, middle of August to middle of September, we had no rain whatever) caused a lot of shedding and consequent falling off in the promise. The British Cotton Growing Association have agreed through me to advance the small cotton growers 2d. per lb. on seed cotton and this will tide over things a bit, though when it will be advisable to ship cotton to sell at anything but a sacrifice remains to be seen. Mr. Alex. J. Comacho, of Antigua, one of the agents out here for the Ford Cars arrived on the 20th inst. bringing a Ford 5-seater car, with him. He demonstrated here for some days and had it not been for the depressed condition of affairs he would not have taken the car back with him, as everyone was pleased with the appearance and movement. This is the first motor car that has ever been here.

NEVIS—Too dry for ground provision planting.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, SEPTEMBER 26th.—There is an absence of sufficient moisture to permit of the planting of provisions which is so necessary, but we are hoping that this will change soon. The prospect of our being able to grow sugar-cane on a paying basis is gratifying. It would not require much genius to find out what position a West Indian planter would be in, if with his cotton locked up in Liverpool unsold, and no price for cane sugar to warrant the growing of it. Happily we can now fall back on cane and breathe for a space, the length of which may be determined by the attitude the Government take in the matter after having it clearly demonstrated by the war, that continental beet should never have been permitted to hamper British grown cane sugar. It is gratifying to know that the people of St. Kitts-Nevis, stimulated by a couple of the leading ladies, have raised no less than £235 towards the Red Cross Fund in a couple of weeks.

ST. LUCIA—"Essex" brings three prizes to Castries.

HON. GEORGE S. HUDSON, SEPTEMBER 26th.—The weather for September has been showery with many thunderstorms and mostly sultry weather with not much wind. The rainfall has been quite moderate for this time of year, but quite sufficient for all branches of agriculture. The lime crop is turning out a long and good one, the Castries Government Factory being especially busy and useful. Cacao pickings constitute on many estates a record quantity for September, and there are larger pickings coming in next month. In November there will be a lull in the crop, while January promises to give the heaviest pickings. Taken all round the cacao crop is very promising, but what the cacao market will be like this crop is quite another question. Sugar prices should prove an incentive to larger crops in 1916, but they cannot appreciably affect the size of next year's crop which has suffered from dry weather—Port Castries has gained in importance as a naval and coaling station during the war, and is now protected by the French cruiser *Descartes* as a guard ship at the harbour's mouth, and is frequently visited by both British and French cruisers. H.M.S. *Essex* captured and brought to Castries the three German steamers *Spreccald*, *Thor* and *Larenzo*. The former is a small Hamburg-America liner with coals, ammunition and stores for a German cruiser. The ships will be sold by the Prize Court and an offer of £60,000 has been received from New York for the *Spreccald*. Such of the crews as were German are confined at Morne Fortune barracks to the number of seventy, as prisoners of war, guarded by the volunteers, and are not having by any means a bad time. The cruisers *Good Hope*, *Bristol*, *Herwick* and *Condé* (French) have also been at Castries. Successful efforts have been made by the Staff Officer Captain Henderson, to instal a small wireless telegraphy plant at Castries which should enable communication to be maintained with cruisers in the vicinity. Captain Louis Mallet-Paret in charge of the volunteers has also been most indefatigable in matters concerning defence and the force under his command, and assistance has also been rendered to the volunteers by all who have had any military experience. Mr. H. G. Grist of the Reserve of Officers who volunteered for service in Europe goes home by this mail, his services having been accepted, and Mr. Porter and Mr. Sydney Ferguson are also going home hoping that their services will be required.

Comparative exports from January 1st to June 30th for the past four years are given below:—

	1911	1912	1913	1914
Sugar ...	3,650	4,021	3,478	2,784 tons.
Lime Juice	—	1,195	2,060	2,180 gals.
Cacao ...	828,500	966,038	945,296	1,077,250 lbs.

ST. VINCENT—Arrowroot for the King's troops.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, SEPTEMBER 26th.—On Monday the 14th, the Legislative Council unanimously passed a resolution approving of the expenditure of £1,000 on the purchase of St. Vincent arrowroot as a gift to the Mother Country for the use of His Majesty's Forces, and of £1,000 as a contribution to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund. The following loyal address was also passed:—

The Legislative Council of Your Majesty's loyal Colony of St. Vincent, moved by the deepest feelings of affection and duty, desire on behalf of the people of St. Vincent at this time of great trouble and anxiety in the history of the British Empire to humbly tender to Your Majesty the assurance of their loyalty and attachment to Your Majesty's Throne and Person. Your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects in St. Vincent earnestly pray that the righteous now being waged by our beloved Mother Country against Germany and Austro-Hungary may by the blessing of God

and the valour and determination of Your Majesty's Forces by land and sea speedily be brought to a successful issue.

A committee has been formed to deal with public subscriptions towards the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund. The subscriptions already amount to about £200. On the evening of Tuesday the 23rd inst. a Patriotic Concert was held in the Court House. The loyal sentiment which this war has aroused in the Colony was exemplified by the attendance, for it must be many years since such a large gathering met together in this building. His Honour the Administrator and Mrs. Roden were present. The organisers of the concert, one of the most energetic of whom was Mrs. Roden, must be congratulated upon the success of their efforts. The sum of £16 10s. was realised.

TRINIDAD—The Progress of the Patriotic Fund.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, SEPTEMBER 29th.—As you will probably have heard through the Press the Colony has voted £40,000 worth of cacao for the use of the British Army. Local subscriptions for the benefit of the dependents of men fighting for the Empire, have made satisfactory progress. The Patriotic Fund, under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, has reached \$38,000 at the time of writing, and many lists, etc., have still to come in. The Port of Spain *Gazette* Fund for the Widows and Orphans now stands at over \$7,000, and the Red Cross Fund, of which Mrs. Edgar Agostini is President, is also collecting a considerable sum. Interest in the war is undiminished, and there is still a rush for each news bulletin as it comes out from time to time daily. We are now anxiously, although with confidence, waiting the result of the tremendous struggle near the frontier which would seem to be never ending. The fate of the *Indian Prince* comes home to us. This was her next port when she was sunk. Much cargo for New York awaited her, and as a regular trader she was well known here. The *Carmania* more than equalled matters by disposing of the *Cap Trafalgar*, and this event had also an added interest for us by reason of the fact that the former had been in the harbour here only a few days before. It is strange that no one appears to have even suspected the presence of these two merchant cruisers of the enemy in these waters, but the *Kronprinz Wilhelm* is a danger of some magnitude to be reckoned with, in addition to the elusive cruisers who so far have evaded capture and seem to have made such ample provision for the supply of coal and stores at sea. The Balance Sheet of the Colony as at 31st March last has now been published. It shows the total assets to be £999,617, and the liabilities £899,400, the surplus being £100,217. Of course this in no way represents the real balance in the Colony's favour, as all assets are excluded excepting cash or drafts, but it seems satisfactory. The Report of the Public Works Department is also out. It is a record of what is generally acknowledged to be very excellent work. Mr. Bell appears rather to have taken to heart some of the inevitable criticism which must arise regarding a department with ramifications all over the island, for he remarks: "Any lack of facilities, any curtailment of facilities in the means of inland communication, is very promptly and vigorously resented and reported; and even any imaginary slip in administration is the subject of caustic public or private comment, but improvements and good public service are taken largely as a matter of course." This I am afraid is the case all the world over, and public officers are not the only persons having cause to feel it. But I think our Director of Public Works may be well satisfied that although the right of criticism is reserved, the public generally recognise that the difficult and responsible work of his department is on the whole most efficiently performed by himself, as an able

chief, assisted by a very competent staff. Some effort has again been made in several directions to induce the planting of ground provisions as some relief should the war bring special hardship to the colony. Land has been offered free, but hardly an acre taken up. There is the old dread of praedial larceny. "What is the good," the poor man asks, "of planting food for others to reap?" One man to whom land was offered cynically replied that he wasn't going to plant provisions when he could so easily take all he wanted. There is only one remedy. The cat. Everyone knows it. Our law makes it obligatory to flog on a second conviction. But the thief may and does rob a hundred times before being caught once. If the cat were the certain penalty of the first offence, praedial larceny would disappear. A false sentiment in the matter has made this worst form of theft the curse of the West Indies, from which the very poor suffer most.

WANT.

Englishman, 34, trained engineer with 3 years tropical and planting experience upon two of the largest sugar estates in British Guiana, and now foreman in large engineering works, desires a responsible position abroad. Can recommend site for sugar estate. Apply "E." c/o West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

Mufflers for the Troops.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—I have been requested by the authorities at the War Office to collect 250,000 mufflers as quickly as possible for the use of our troops at the front. I shall therefore be most grateful for contributions either in money or kind towards the fulfilment of this object. The mufflers should be two yards long by 12 inches wide, with no fringes (but any length would be accepted), and the colour of the wool should be khaki or grey.

Parcels containing mufflers, if sent by post, should be addressed to me at the Manor House, Waltham Cross, Herts; but if sent by rail should be forwarded to Enfield Station (G.N.R.).

I am continuing to keep open my fund for the supply of socks and shirts, contributions to which should be sent to the depot at 54, Beauchamp Place, S.W. I would venture to request contributors to either scheme to be so kind as to mark their goods "Carriage Paid," as in many instances railway charges have had to be paid twice over. Might I add that I have now 90 women working for me, both at Messrs. Harrods' and also in a room kindly lent me by Messrs. Tudor? These women would otherwise be out of work owing to the war, and I am naturally anxious to obtain sufficient funds to enable me to keep them employed throughout the winter.

Yours faithfully,
ELEANORA FRENCH.

The Manor House,
Waltham Cross, Herts.
October 14th, 1914.

[We hope that Lady French's appeal will meet with a generous response. Might it not be possible for the Committees of the various Women's Self-help Associations to take the matter up? By collecting money to be spent in employing distressed

gentlefolk to make mufflers they would be rendering a service not only to the workers but also to our troops in the field. We commend the matter to their consideration.—Ed.]

What's in a Name?

Str.—You would perform a public service by denouncing, *ex cathedra*, the solecism, not to say vulgar error, of speaking of "the Barbados." One constantly meets it, both in print and in personal intercourse, and the obvious explanation is that it is conceived to be a group of islands like the Bahamas. Another form of the same currency is found in "the Mauritius."

On the other hand, I believe, it is equally correct to say "Bermuda," or "the Bermudas." Shakespeare in "The Tempest" alludes to "the still-vex'd Bermoothes."

While on the subject, it is interesting to note the somewhat archaic but still warranted expression "the Havana," which is analogous to "the Hague," "the Piræus" and "the Brazils."

Another popular idea is that Demerara and British Guiana are interchangeable terms. This arises, doubtless, from the fact that though the capital of the colony is Georgetown, people almost invariably talk of going to Demerara when they mean the port, irrespectively of their ultimate destination.

Yours faithfully, D. MACKINTOSH.

Rastbourne, 11th October, 1914.

[We agree. In spite of the existence of Pelican and Culepepper's islands, the use of "the Barbados" for "Barbados" is unpardonable. "The Bermudas," on the other hand, is strictly correct, Bermuda consisting of a group of about 300 islands. "The Havana" is as archaic as Antego for Antigua or Granadoes for Grenada. The use of Demerara as an interchangeable term for British Guiana, is, of course, strictly speaking, incorrect.—Ed.]

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

The Pocket Guide to the West Indies. British Guiana, British Honduras, The Bermudas, The Spanish Main and The Panama Canal: London, Duckworth and Co. Chicago and New York, Rand, McNally and Co. 6½ in. x 4½ in. Pages 488 + viii, 14 pages of maps, 8 plans, 24 pages of illustrations.

This Guide has been to a great extent re-written and several new features have been added, notably chapters devoted to the Bermudas—whose inclusion the author justifies on the grounds that so many travellers visit those islands on the way to or from the West Indies—the Bahamas, British Honduras and the Spanish Main.

Cane Sugar and Heart Disease. Arthur Goulston, M.A., M.D., Cantab., Hunterian Society Medallist 1912. Bailliere, Tindall and Cox. Demy 8vo., viii + 407 pages, 5s. net. (Obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, 5s., or post free 5s. 4d.)

For some years past Dr. Goulston has been studying in practice the effect of sugar in certain forms of heart disease. In the work under review he gives an account, not only an account of cases which have come under his own observation, but also of cases treated by other medical men on his system. To the layman the results appear little short

of marvellous. In one case in which the patient was moribund, suffering from chronic gastritis and cirrhosis of the liver, the heart was "in a shocking condition and the case appeared hopeless. On three ounces of cane sugar a day the improvement was so great that the patient was able to resume his daily work, and to take long walks without undue fatigue." In other cases where there had been severe strain, producing heart trouble and subsequent dropsy, after all treatment with drugs had been tried, the patient was placed upon the sugar treatment with the result that the condition improved in the most remarkable manner, and it was looked upon as being quite possible that he might recover to an extent sufficient to enable him to do light work. As regards the class of sugar to be used, Dr. Goulston strongly recommends cane sugar, in fact states that it is necessary to avoid beet sugar. Indeed in two cases that he quotes, where beet sugar was substituted for cane sugar, the patient at once retrogressed, and the point is suggested that there is "something" in cane sugar (West Indian) which is not present in beet sugar. The West Indian sugars to which he refers are, of course, unrefined. This experience supplies another link in the chain of evidence as to the superior dietetic value of cane sugar as compared with beet. The quantities of sugar given by Dr. Goulston varied from two to eight ounces a day, beginning with the former quantity. The sugar should be dissolved in hot water, and taken in good sips during the day: every two hours is suggested. If the quantity is large, half may be taken with the ordinary diet. The success which Dr. Goulston has obtained in the treatment of heart disease by cane sugar has caused many of his professional brethren to adopt the treatment, which will no doubt become universal. But apart from the pathological import of the case, Dr. Goulston's experience should lead to the greater consumption of cane sugar in health. He lays stress upon the fact that the mean weight of the adult heart is nine to ten ounces, and that the heart requires its own weight of sugar daily for nourishment. Much of this no doubt is prepared in the body in the ordinary digestion of carbo-hydrates, but seeing the stress which is laid upon the necessity for cane sugar it is advisable to depend upon the supply alone for heart nourishment, ten ounces a day, means nearly 230 lbs. a year. The present average consumption is 80 lbs a year per head of population, and this mostly beet sugar. There is, therefore, room for much greater use of sugar, especially of cane sugar, and Dr. Goulston's results go to emphasize still more the necessity for this country securing, not merely an adequate supply of sugar, but of cane sugar.

The Revised Edition of the Federal Acts of the Leeward Islands. Prepared under and by virtue of "The Statute Laws (Revised Edition) Act, 1909." By Sir Frederic Mackenzie Maxwell, Kt., K.C., of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law, M.A. (Oxon), Chief Justice of the Leeward Islands. Published by Authority. Antigua: Courtney Barrow, Government Printing Office, 1914.

In British Honduras the worth of Sir Frederic Maxwell, who was successively Attorney-General and Chief Justice of the Colony, was so fully appreciated that a petition was widely signed praying that he might be appointed Governor. He was, however, transferred to the Leeward Islands as Chief Justice in 1911, and that the loss of a capable lawyer by British Honduras has been the gain of those federated islands is demonstrated by the volume now under review which bears evidence of having been compiled with scrupulous care and precision. The period covered is 1871 to 1883 and the volume opens with the Leeward Islands Act, 1871, the "Act for the Federation and General Government of the Leeward Islands." In an Appendix a list of the Acts incorporated in the volume is given with its reference number in the new edition beside its original number and the year in which it was passed. When completed the revision should prove of immense value to lawyers and others, facilitating as it will speedy reference to the various enactments of the Federal Council. The volume is appropriately dedicated to Sir Ernest Bickham Sweet-Escott, to whom the revision is primarily due, and to Sir Henry Hesketh Bell, under whose auspices it is being carried out.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

The New Commissioner of Turks and Caicos.

Mr. George Whitfield Smith, lately Commissioner of Carriacou in the Grenadines, has been appointed Commissioner of Turks and Caicos Islands in succession to Mr. F. H. Watkins, I.S.O. Mr. Smith, whose official career dates from 1879, when he became a clerk in the Public Library of Barbados, subsequently served in the Treasury Department of St. Lucia and as Revenue Officer in St. Vincent. In 1890 he became Curator of the Botanic Gardens in Grenada, and eight years later Travelling Superintendent of the Imperial Department of Agriculture on the formation of that organisation. In 1904 he was made Police Magistrate in Grenada, and after a brief tenure of a similar position in St. Vincent he was promoted to be Commissioner of Carriacou, in which capacity he has been closely identified with the successful organisation and management of the Land Settlement scheme.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Colonial Bank Meeting.

Moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts at the half-yearly General Meeting on October 7th, Mr. Charles R. Gurney Hoare said that notes in circulation were £60,000 less as compared with the corresponding period of 1913, mostly due to the very low prices of sugar causing less money to circulate. Deposits were £30,000 more, the increase being principally in Jamaica, Trinidad, and Demerara. Bills payable were £30,000 more, principally owing to some Government purchases. The net profit was £2,000 less, as might be expected having regard to the very much lower rates for money which had been current during the half-year. On the other side of the accounts, specie was about £200,000 more. The principal reason for that was that the Bank had a considerable amount of money accumulated at New York, and the rate of exchange had been very much against it, so that it was better to keep it there than to bring it back. Cash at London bankers, etc., as would naturally follow, was £8,000 less. Investments were less by £25,000, due to the maturing of short term investments. Bills receivable were less by £50,000; that again was the result of the very low prices in the West Indies. The amount due in the Colonies on current accounts was £50,000 less, mostly due to the Barbados crop being marketed earlier this year than last. Bills discounted in the Colonies, bills in transit and advances on security were £75,000 less. The item of bank premises was the same. After referring to the loss sustained through the death of Sir Hubert Jermingham, who was a valued colleague, and Sir Neville Lubbock, Mr. Hoare proceeded to say that, during the six months to which the accounts referred, money had been very much cheaper than for the last few half-years, thereby reducing profits; still, the return had not been unsatisfactory, and whereas they had to write down investments at that time last year by £10,000, and to reduce the carry-over by £3,000, they had this year increased the carry-over by £5,000. On June 30th the market prices of the Bank's investments with the reserves made were well in excess of their book values, and this held good on July 31st, when the Stock Exchange was closed. With reference to the carry-over, it would be borne in mind what had more than once been mentioned from that chair, that it was really a reserve for equalisation of dividends, and it was satisfactory that it now stood within a very little of a whole year's dividends at present rates. But the events of the last two months had been so unprecedented to the present generation that the result of the previous half-year now seemed almost old world history. The war had produced financial results and questions beyond the experience of the oldest amongst us, and though, thanks to our fleet, our trade, especially in the West Indies, had not been seriously interfered with, it had been a time of anxiety, and points had arisen

which past experience helped but little to solve. By the moratorium of the 5th August all funds were more or less locked up, and the Directorate felt it prudent to accept the benefit for all larger bills for a short time. Matters had much settled down, and they and others, with the addition of a little extra care, were carrying on business much as usual, but a certain amount of money was still locked up abroad, which it might well take some time to recover. In the Colonies there was at first some alarm, especially as two German warships had coaled at St. Thomas not long before the declaration of war. This uneasiness had, however, now disappeared. Still, for a time the Bank was forced to curtail its business, and this must have some effect on the profits of the present half-year. On the other hand, whilst during the first half of the year, nearly all West Indian produce was at a very low level of prices, the sharp rise in sugar and other commodities should benefit customers in the Islands and Demerara. Minor questions in times like these sank into insignificance, but he thought that the shareholders would be interested to know that in the recent earthquake at Kingston, while many houses were more or less cracked and plaster stricken down, their Bank, as their architect had assured them would be the case, stood the shock without any damage at all.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Cyril Gurney, the deputy-chairman, and no questions having been raised, it was carried unanimously.

The resolution for the payment of the dividend having been agreed to, the Chairman moved that the vacancy on the Board caused by the death of Sir Hubert Jermingham, he filled by Sir William Maxwell Aitken, M.P., whom he described as a gentleman of great business capacity, who had a certain amount of knowledge of the West Indies and perhaps more of Canada, with which the West Indies were now closely tied.

The motion was seconded by the Deputy-Chairman, and supported by Mr. E. Goulding, M.P., who said that he had known Sir William Maxwell Aitken for a great number of years, adding that he was a man of very marked ability, a man who had been extraordinarily successful in the undertakings on which he had embarked, and having a very keen insight in commercial matters.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

The Demerara Railway Company.

The report of the Directors for the half-year ended June 30th, 1914, exhibits the following results: Gross Revenue £23,418 16s. 1d. (against £23,406 0s. 5d. for the same period in 1913), Gross Expenditure £18,103 13s. 2d. (£18,220 14s. 10d.), less Debenture Interest £1,400 (£1,400), making net revenue £3,915 2s. 11d. (£3,779 3s. 7d.). After adding the Government subsidy £0,250 (£0,250), withdrawal for the Renewal fund £789 15s. (£151 0s. 9d.), and the carry forward for the previous half-year £1,536 5s. (£771 15s. 8d.), there remains an available balance of £12,521 2s. 11d. (£11,191 11s.). Out of this sum there falls to be paid the Dividend for half-year at the rate of 4% per annum on 4% Extension Preference Stock £0,250 (£0,250), and the Directors recommended that the remainder should be dealt with as follows: (a) Dividend for half-year at the rate of 7% per annum on 7% Preference Stock £1,025 (£1,025), (b) Dividend for half-year at the rate of 3½% per annum on Preferred Ordinary Stock £503 10s. (£503 10s.), leaving to be carried forward £1,682 12s. 11d. (£333 11s.). The receipts on capital account have been £091,700 and the Expenditure £091,622 3s. 1d.

The number of Passengers carried during the six months was as follows:—

	1914	1913
Demerara Railway	205,214	190,718
Berbice Railway	28,491	28,047
West Coast Railway	94,014	89,306
	327,719	308,071

The tonnage of Goods was:—

	1914	1913
Demerara Railway	19,990	20,109
Berbice Railway	3,704	4,077
West Coast Railway	1,642	1,837
	25,336	26,079

The Parika Extension was opened for traffic on the 2nd July. The works are now so nearly completed that it appears improbable the estimated cost of construction will be exceeded. It has, however, been found necessary to increase the locomotive power on the West Coast Railway by the purchase of one new engine, to meet the additional traffic. The arrangement referred to in the last Report has now been entered into with the Government of British Guiana, under which the Company performs certain terminal services in connection with the Government Steamer traffic. The negotiations with the Government regarding the provision by this Company of additional wharfage and warehouse accommodation at Georgetown are still proceeding. No settlement has been arrived at with the Estate men the payment of an interim Dividend on the Ordinary Proprietors on the East Coast of Demerara on the question of rates. The Directors regret they are unable to recommend the payment of an interim Dividend on the Ordinary Stock, as they feel that under existing conditions it is still advisable to conserve the Company's funds.

The Barbados Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Mr. R. T. Racker, Chairman, moving the adoption of the Report at the 33rd Annual General Meeting on September 18th, said that the amount paid for claims from 1st August, 1913, to 31st July, 1914, was \$42,334.84, the largest since the formation of the Company. Cane fires had been exceedingly prevalent; indeed there had never been so many within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. The Company paid for 80 cane fires claims amounting to \$25,000. The Investment Account at the beginning of the year was \$405,248.01. It was now \$406,841.08, and thus showed an increase of \$1,593.07. The Premium Account was \$28,722.83 net, the largest since the formation of the Company.

Mr. G. A. McKinstry seconded, and the Report was adopted unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. John T. Haynes, seconded by Mr. G. C. Edghill, a dividend at the rate of 3 per cent. on the capital of \$216,000 for the six months ended 31st July, 1914, was declared. Hon. W. K. Chandler and Mr. John Mayers, the retiring Directors, were re-elected on the motion of Mr. Edghill, seconded by Mr. W. H. Wright; and on the motion of Mr. McKinstry, seconded by Mr. Haynes, Mr. E. B. Skeete was re-elected Auditor.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under the above heading some of the more interesting matters dealt with in the West Indian Official Gazettes are summarised for purpose of reference.

Barbados, Vol. 49 No. 82. Meteorological Report for August (Total rainfall 2.41 in., number of days with rain 17). No. 83. Draft Parochial Loans Bill (A measure to enable Vestries to raise money for the relief of distress). Report of the Central Poor Law Board (Total expenditure for the year £19,975 12s. 9d. 2,394 persons, or 13.3 per 1,000 of the population were in receipt of relief on December 31st, 1913. The Board express regret that the St. George's Vestry did not continue the system of Special Infant Relief, which if prolonged for two or three years "must have led to satisfactory results"). No. 84. (Supplement). Proceedings of Legislative Council, September 18. Parochial Loans Bill read third time and passed. Resolution concurring in grant of a sum not exceeding £300 to meet cost of repatriating Barbadians stranded in England or Europe. Adjournment to November 17th. **British Guiana, Vol. 39—No. 42.** (Gazette Extraordinary). Proclamation under the Food-stuffs Ordinance. No. 46. Bill for an Ordinance to repeal the East Berbice Drainage Ordinance (Difficulties as to Administration having arisen and

every provision required for the maintenance of the district by Local Government Ordinance, 1907, the Government is advised that there is no need for the Ordinance). By-Laws for the Sanitary Care of the Ports of the Colony. No. 47. Alien Expulsion Order (8 undesirable alien residents ordered to leave the colony). No. 48. Customs duties Ordinance, 1914, Amending Ordinance assented to September 24 (British preferential tariff extended to all British Possessions which are parties to the Canada-West Indies Convention or which may become parties thereto. Alteration of wording of item 54 re tobacco. Paper for book-binding, printing forms, etc., for Government added to free list). Tax Ordinance, 1914, Amendment Ordinance assented to September 24. (Affects stamp duties payable by Companies defining "loan capital" as debenture stock, funded debt, or any capital borrowed in the nature of borrowed money but not including Bills payable not later than 12 months from date or any overdraft raised for temporary purposes). Memorandum showing "times at which the official night commences and terminates" in October. **Leeward Islands, Vol. 42—No. 49.** Address of the Acting Governor to the Legislature of Antigua (Approximate excess of assets is £10,000). No. 50. Receipts and Expenditure of the General Government for 1913-14. (Total Revenue £12,976 6s. Expenditure £12,891 12s. 3d.). **St. Kitts, Vol. XI.—No. 45.** Price of farmers' cane 13s. per ton. **Grenada, Vol. 32 No. 42.** Reports of the District Medical Officer. **St. Lucia, Vol. 83—No. 45.** Revenue and Expenditure for year ended March 15th. Revenue £67,490 8s. 3d. Expenditure £68,352 10s. 1d. Surplus assets £30,863 14s. 3d. Reports of the Medical Officers for 1913-14. **St. Vincent, Vol. 47 No. 42.** Loyal address to the King and resolution of the Legislative Council, making a gift to the Mother Country. No. 41. Reports of the Medical Officers.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. K. Agar	Mr. J. Gillespie	Mr. L. A. Richard
Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. G. Graf	Mr. W. C. Robertson
Mr. G. H. Archib	Mr. John T. Greig	Mr. N. Maude Roxby
Mr. G. Auchinleck	Hon. E. A. H. Haggart	Mrs. Herbert H. Neely
H. E. Sir H. Hesketh	Mr. A. T. Hammond	His Hon. Mr. Justice
	Mr. A. S. Kinnahan	F. M. C. Sheriff
Mr. Geoffrey Bronke	Mr. A. H. Kirby	Mr. R. B. Shott
Mr. G. S. Browne	Dr. G. L. Latour	La Colonel W. J. Slack
Mr. J. I. Carlee	Mr. J. F. Lewis	Hon. Adam Smith
Mr. Albert Cherry	Mr. J. A. Mackintosh	Mr. Win. Sm. It.
Mr. P. A. C.	Mr. S. Manning	Hon. R. A. S. Warner
	Collymore	
Mr. D. C. De Costa	Mr. C. F. McNeill	His Grace The Arch-
Mr. W. Morris Fletcher	Mr. H. P. Melville	bishop of the West
Mr. J. M. Fraire	Mr. G. M. Peier	Indies
Mr. Alexander Fraser	Mr. C. W. Prest	and
Mr. M. A. French J. V.	Mr. G. Railton	Mr. A. H. Wight
Mr. J. R. Bancroft, c/o Messrs. S. Dobree & Sons, 7, Moorgate St. F. C.		
Mr. K. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Green Tower St. est. E. C.		
Mr. Charles M. Calder, United Empire Club, 117, Piccadilly, W.		
Mr. Col. J. H. Colliers, V.D., "Rossmoynne," Che sel Avenue, Bitter Southampton.		
Mr. P. J. Dean, St. Brannocks, Mundesley, Norfolk.		
Private R. A. Delatons, No. 1 Company, 3rd Battalion, U. and P. Force, Epsom.		
Mr. W. R. Durie, West Indian Club, 1, Whitehall Court, S. W.		
Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W. C.		
Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fore Street Avenue, E. C.		
Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 59, Bedford Square, W. C.		
Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o Messrs. Courts & Co., 40, Strand, W. C.		
Mr. E. H. Grant, Markham Lodge, Liverpool Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey.		
Mr. Sidney T. Harrison, c/o Messrs. 73, Glenalton Road, Sireatham, S. W.		
Rev. F. H. Hammond, 10, Chapel Street, Warwick.		
Hon. I. Spencer Hollings, 38, Livingstone Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham.		
Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Streatham Hill, S. W.		
Mr. J. J. Law, c/o Messrs. Wilkinson & Gaviller, Gr. Tower Street, E. C.		
Mr. Richard Lloyd, Merion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.		
Majors O. H. E. Marescaux, Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, S. W.		
Mr. Wm. McQueen, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.		
Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Poincoteau, 35, Leinster Square, Hayswater, W.		
Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Heliensburgh, Scotland.		
Mr. F. J. Morris, 4, Lenden Gardens, N. W.		
Mr. L. F. Nurse, 34, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.		
Dr. G. W. Paterson, 174, Sutherland Avenue, Maiden Vale, W.		
Mr. G. R. Dewey Rust, 9, Heathfield Gardens, Chiswick, W.		
Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o Messrs. Previte & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E. C.		
Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 17, Peckchurch Lane, E. C.		
Mr. L. Scherer Scott, 20, Flaven Green, Ealing, W.		
Mr. F. B. R. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E. C.		
Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W. C.		
Mr. P. R. W. Wilson, Manor Hill, Sutton Coldfield.		

MAURITIUS CANE SUGAR.

Judging from several press cuttings received it would appear that the planters of Mauritius are making a commendable effort to popularise their white plantation sugar in this country. It is pointed out that this sugar is similar in appearance to the white German and Austrian granulated made from beetroot, which it the sugar mostly sold by grocers in England. "The Mauritius sugar is a creamy white. The sugar manufacturers in Mauritius decline to employ washing blue in their refining process. The bluish white of the German and Austrian granulated is obtained by its manufacturers mixing washing blue with their beet sugar in the refining process. Consumers of this beet sugar, therefore, introduce into their system an unhealthy chemical which is especially prejudicial to young children. The Mauritius cane sugar is much sweeter than the beet sugar imported from Germany and Austria. Two teaspoonfuls of it go as far in sweetening power as three teaspoonfuls of beet sugar." Provided that this sugar is not dyed to imitate "Demerara," its appearance will be welcomed if it costs a corresponding quantity of beet sugar.

MARRIAGE.

Railward-Warner.—At All Saints' Church, Margaret Street, London, W., on Wednesday, October 7th, Geoffrey Railward to Sybil, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Auchler Warner.

DEATH.

Pilgrim.—On the 1st of October, at Brighton, suddenly, Lieut.-Colonel Herbert Wilson Pilgrim, M.B., F.R.C.S., Eng., Indian Medical Service (retired). Aged 56 years.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Oruba,

[Captain J. G. K. Cheret], Tilbury, London, Oct. 12th:—

Mr. G. J. Almitagegui	Mr. G. S. Kerr	Mr. P. A. Rostaat
Mr. Harold Brmand	Mr. W. A. Kaye	Mr. M. S. Row
Mr. Herbert T. Browne	Mr. R. J. Lunde ay	Mr. W. E. Shervin
Mr. I. D. He'l	Mr. V. Lodon	Mr. B. Sotton
Mr. Thos. H. Brinkley	Mr. Harry Lilley	Mr. R. W. Shepherd
Mr. W. Bam	Mr. W. C. A. Luckhoo	Mr. Fred Simpson
Mr. James L. E. Chow	Mr. R. J. Link	Mrs. Sherlock
Mr. Sydney H. J. Ferguson	Mr. S. Milton	Ven. Archdeacon Shepherd
Mr. R. Green	Mr. S. Mackay	Mr. Felix Solis
Mr. Owen Glendinning	Mr. Henry Morgan	Mr. M. J. Tait
Rev. & Mrs. Alec Grey	Mr. P. Manning	Mrs. & Miss Vance
Mr. H. G. Grist	Miss N. Neal	Mr. Charles Vaughan
Mr. C. O. Hazell	Mr. W. J. Opie	Mr. H. W. Wilkinson
Mrs. & Mrs. D. Ho. A.	Mr. & Mrs. F. W. Onion	Mr. G. K. Weisford
Shoo	Mr. W. Pollin	Mr. R. V. Fagan Wong
Mr. & Mrs. F. Ho. A.	Mr. A. Richardson	Mr. V. M. Weil
Shoo	Mr. R. E. Rhodes	

WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Teant, (Captain R. Hayes), Oct. 21st:—

Hon. & Mrs. Gideon	Mrs. B. de Villegas	Mr. G. W. Fisherbert
Murray	Miss Julia Ribera	Mr. G. E. Bodkin
Mr. C. H. Nicolson	Mr. K. Castresana	Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Littlepage
Mr. M. S. Moody-Stuart	Mr. J. G. McIntosh	Mrs. A. G. Hombersley
Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Gomes	Mr. A. Villegas	Miss M. Hombersley
Hon. E. du Boulay	Mr. O. C. Miles	Master G. S. Tait
Prof. P. Carrady,	Mr. C. Saunders	Mrs. J. Meek
F. C. F. C. S.	Misses Venn (2)	Rev. B. R. Weeks
Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams	Mr. J. J. Venn	H. E. De. P. M. Carrero
Mr. W. Low	Mr. J. H. Rankin	Mme. & Miss Carreno
Mr. A. F. Perkins	Mrs. & Miss L. Deraux	Mme. & Miss S. Garcia
Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Sands	Miss L. McHugh	Mrs. C. Beeton
Mrs. F. V. Cook	Mrs. Evans	Miss D. Shepherd
Mr. P. Santos	Miss Beuckendorff	Mr. A. G. Hopkins
Mr. H. F. D. Galt	Mr. & Mrs. D. A. Wiles	Misses Parker (2)
Mr. & Mrs. Ferguson	Miss D. K. Wiles	Mr. & Miss A. V. Board
Mr. G. Guppy	Mr. and Mrs. G. Hayward	Sir Charles and Lady Major
Mr. W. G. Francis	Mr. & Mrs. F. Thomas	Mrs. & Miss Adie
Mr. J. R. Rocha	Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Sworder	Miss Richards
Mr. D. W. D. Baird	Rev. and Mrs. H. R. Davies	Miss Ruth Aikman
Mr. J. P. F. de Freitas	Mrs. L. A. P. O'Reilly	Mr. & Mrs. Casseres
Mr. J. Morla	Miss Putter	Mr. A. E. Garcia
Mr. J. M. de Freitas	Misses Floissac (2)	Mrs. L. Abrams
Mr. J. M. de Freitas	Miss L. B. linear	Mr. F. J. de Freitas
Mr. J. M. de Freitas	Miss S. Mustard	Mr. J. S. de Freitas
Mr. J. M. de Freitas	Mr. Chas. Stollmeyer	Miss A. de Freitas
Mr. J. M. de Freitas	Miss Megham	Mr. A. F. Ferguson
Mr. J. M. de Freitas	Miss V. Cunningham	Hen. and Mrs. C. J. Simunson
Mr. J. M. de Freitas	Miss M. D. W. Moore	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES,

per R.M.S.P. Oruba, (Captain J. G. K. Cheret), Nov. 4th:—

Mr. S. T. Harrison,	Mr. and Mrs. E. G. L. Mason	Rev. D. Nolan
Mr. E. A. Robinson	Mr. and Mrs. J. Hewat	Mrs. Hay
Mr. & Mrs. H. A. Bovell	Mr. B. C. Shaw	Archbishop J. P. Dowling
Mr. A. Mendes	Rev. C. C. Elwes	Mr. R. A. Fawcett
Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bancroft	Mrs. and Miss Bowen	Mrs. and Miss Bowen
Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Law	Miss D. Emidge	Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Allport
Mr. and Mrs. F. A. C. Collymore	Mr. Arthur Barnard	Miss J. Allport
Mr. & Mrs. S. Manning	Miss Atkitt	Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Montana
Mr. J. P. Gun Munro	Miss F. L. Carrington	Miss M. Paterson
Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Paterson	Misses Lastic (2)	Miss A. Elliott
Mr. E. A. Wallis	Miss L. Bancroft	Miss Howes
Miss A. M. Hody	Miss C. Jlinkson	Mr. N. Moody
Miss M. O. Inniss	Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Whyham	Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Moody
Mrs. Barnard	Rev. W. Evered	Mr. & Mrs. F. Pedroza
Mr. G. S. Seecombe	Miss Kendall	Mr. & Mrs. E. Pedroza
Mr. C. H. Prodders	Miss E. Willis	Mr. A. Thomson
Miss A. Mendes	Mr. & Mrs. F. G. Inniss	
Miss A. Gomes	Mr. K. C. Evans	
	Rev. L. E. M. Loughlin	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES,

per R.M.S.P. Essequibo, Nov. 18th:—

Mr. T. Elton Miller	Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Leys	Mr. R. C. Moore
Miss E. S. Cunningham	Mr. J. Spencer Hollings	Mrs. Nigbingale
Mrs. F. Muir	Miss Hollings	Mr. and Mrs. Adam Smith
Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Shekell	Mr. W. Hart	Misses Smith (2)
Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Hall	Mr. C. Sadler	Lieut. Col. and Mrs. J. H. Collins
Sir Norman and Lady Lamont	Capt. and Mrs. J. B. Saunders	Mr. A. J. Russell
Mrs. and Miss E. F. Becher	Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Leeder	Mr. Wm. H. Thomas
	and two children	

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd — HOME ARRIVALS FROM KINGSTON, JAMAICA, AND LIMON, COSTA RICA, per S.S. Tortuguero, Avonmouth, Oct. 12th:—

Engineer-Lieut. J. Ash- ton, R.N.	Miss McPherson	Mr. Riddell
Colonel M. Barrett	Mr. J. J. Montalegre	Mr. E. P. Sibthorp

The outward mail arrangements are the same as those of a fortnight ago. The passenger train will leave St. Pancras at 9 a.m. on Wednesday next, October 21st. The parcels and general mails will close in London to-day at 6 p.m.; but supplementary letters can be posted up to 6 p.m. on the following day.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Sept. 24, 1914	1913	Jan. 1 to Sept. 13, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	51,640	37,320 Tons.	12,275	1,793 Tons.
Molasses ...	831	762 Puns.		
Rum ...	1,895,447	1,879,000 Proof Gall.	988,714	882,561 Galls.
Molasses, &c. ...	1,119	5,289 Tons.		
Cacao ...	41,932	38,500 lbs.	6,837,712	3,383,724 Lbs.
Coffee ...	238,767	80,663 "	5,750,496	4,733,536 "
Coco-nuts ...	1,482,166	488,728 No.	20,151,540	16,051,485 No.
Oranges ...			2,804,250	19,670,635 "
Bananas ...			13,678,332	7,523,563 Stems
Cotton ...			32,607	47,545 Lbs.
Pimento ...			64,428	80,215 Cwts.
Ginger ...			18,100	19,550 "
Honey ...			141,748	106,958 Gall.
Dyewoods ...			44,218	47,738 Tons.
Gold ...	46,291	57,020 ozs.		
Diamonds ...	8,197	4,785 carats.		
Rice ...	10,317,330	11,979,264 lbs.		
Balata ...	612,444	487,488 "		
Rubber ...	782	146 "		
Timber ...	173,174	589,306 cubic ft.		
Lumber ...	240,629	406,632 "		
Lime (hydrate of) ...	1,848	686 lbs.		

	Trinidad.		Barbados.	
	Jan. 1 to Sept. 26, 1914	1913	Jan. 1 to Sept. 18, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	45,685	30,505 Tons.	31,558	10,294 Tons
Molasses ...	3,118	3,118 Puns.	99,706	75,917 Puns.
Rum ...	269	227 "		
Coco-nuts ...	1,383,815	10,026,768 "No.		
Asphalt ...	115,242	162,227 Tons.		
Majak ...	111	419 "		
Antlers ...	13,507	15,111 Cases		
Coffee ...	13,440	1,680 lbs.		
Crude Petrol ...	11,973,828	8,753,547 Galls.		
Cacao ...	60,070,450	44,541,000 lbs.		
Cotton ...				
Seed ...				
Copra ...	7,378	5,197 Bags.		
Spice ...				
Kola ...				

	Grenada.	
	Oct. 1 to Sept. 28, 1914	1913
Cacao ...	12,011,580	11,422,070 Lbs.
Cotton ...	4,118	1,265 Bales
Seed ...	3,558	4,804 Bags.
Copra ...	205	199 "
Spice ...	1,372,940	1,318,305 lbs.
Kola ...	9,650	6,307 "

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—No change has been made in the Bank rate which stands at 5% as from 8th August as compared with the same figure at this time last year. Consols (2½%) are quoted unofficially at 68½. The financial strength of the country, notwithstanding the war, is shown by the Bank returns published on October 11th, which exhibited a stock of coin and bullion of 56½ millions, a sum without precedent in the history of the Bank of England. The reserve too was nearly 40½ millions compared with less than 25 millions last year. These figures speak for themselves and augur well for the maintenance of our Army and Navy in a high state of efficiency from now to the end of the war.

SUGAR—In New York the market has shown a declining tendency. For a time quotations remained stationary at 5.02c. for raw centrifugals and 4.57c. for muscovado, notwithstanding a quiet and inactive tone. Refined was freely offered and prices became irregular, the Federal Sugar Refining Co. reducing their quotations for granulated 15 points while other refineries maintained previous prices. Later a wave of weakness overspread the market with an absence of buyers and considerable quantities of sugar were reported to have been offered on the basis of 4.76c. duty paid, which would have shown a successive decline of 15 and 11 points respectively. Quotations were, however, left nominally unchanged both for raws and refined at 5.02c. for centrifugals, 4.57c. for muscovado and 6.15c. to 6.40c. for granulated. The efforts, however, to support values were abortive and depression ensued, for with no buyers in the market further offerings took place on the basis of 4.65c. per pound duty paid; a further decline of 11 points. In the absence of business current quotations were quite nominal, raw centrifugals standing at 4.65c., muscovado at 4.27c. refined granulated at 6.15c. to 6.40c. An interregnum for holidays and Columbus Day supervened last week and afterwards on the re-opening of the market the weakness further reduced quotations 13 points; but at this decline a fair business was done, 15,000 bags of Cuban being reported as sold at the reduction to local interests and 20,000 bags were reported sold over the holidays to British interests at a price equal to 4.76c. New York terms. Refined was easy and the Federal Refining Co. reduced its price to below 6.00c., other leading refiners to 6.15c., raw centrifugals 4.52c., muscovado 4.07c., refined granulated 5.90c. to 6.15c., and the tone at the close was steady.

The London Sugar market in anticipation of large supplies coming to hand in the next day or two became quiet at the commencement of the fortnight and American granulated sold on the spot at 31s. and at 28s. c.i.f. for shipments close at hand and at 25s. 6d. c.i.f. for arrival under a week. The arrival of 15,000 tons chiefly on account of the Sugar Sales Corporation produced a general tendency in the market to weakness and American granulated which had arrived sold at 28s., and shipments made a week later at 25s. 3d., and October at 25s. c.i.f. Generally no change has taken place in British refined. Italian crystallised has been sold at 23s. and 23s. 3d. c.i.f., for prompt delivery. White Javas have changed hands at 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. c.i.f., but latterly the demand has been quiet and limited. The Sugar Sales Corporation fixed their selling price of American granulated in the first instance at 31s. but as progress with sales was very slow they reduced the selling price to 30s., and White Mauritius crystals at 28s., 28s. 6d. and 29s. according to quality. The effect of this policy was to react unfavourably on the values of sugar in the United States as well as here.

Grocery West Indian—Crystallised has been quiet but steady; the disposition, however, towards the close has been to a rather easier tone. There is now very little sugar on hand to deal with. The business has been confined to Trinidad at 29s. to 29s. 6d. and at 28s. 6d. At auction last Friday medium parcels of Trinidad offered met with no offers from the Trade.

Muscovado—Antigua have been sold in part at 17s. 6d. for greyish brown and 23s. for strong yellow description. **Syrups**—In auction Demerara was bought in at 23s. to 24s.

Mauritius syrups have been sold at 25s. 6d. for yellow, some grey, and at 26s. for greyish white.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	27,085	34,775	24,212	32,899	29,252
Deliveries ...	30,702	23,413	25,246	30,491	29,417
Stock (Oct. 10)	9,335	13,202	3,456	6,768	4,910

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised (15/16 Oct.).

	28s. 6d./29s.	14s. 9d.	18s. 6d.	20s. 6d.	16s. 6d.
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RUM—Stocks in London, October 10th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica	8,220	7,436	9,091	10,827	11,466
Demerara	7,803	6,934	6,422	4,320	7,570
Total, all kinds	22,467	21,948	23,676	23,984	27,992

In the absence of supplies the market for proof rum has been fully steady at current and unchanged values. Jamaicans continue in much the same position, business being restricted for home trade marks, while, as advised before, fine export descriptions are quite defunct.

CACAO—Stocks in London October 10th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad	12,370	12,681	7,394	7,958	9,452
Grenada...	6,466	4,516	2,275	9,975	10,637
Total, all kinds	92,662	96,050	105,445	106,343	93,791

The market has been steady with a small business passing privately. At the one auction held last Tuesday the offerings were limited to 3,857 bags of all kinds, of which 1,174 bags consisted of Trinidad, Grenada, St. Lucia, and Jamaica, but only 341 bags were sold. Trinidad partly at steady prices, Grenada all at fully steady prices, Jamaica partly sold at 50s., and fine polished of same brought extreme prices, viz., 58s. 6d., a small lot of St. Lucia sold at 52s. while 21 bags Montserrat sold for fine at 70s. 250 bags common Trinidad sold privately at 54s. Quotations after sale Trinidad middling red 56s. to 57s., good middling red 58s. to 60s., fine and superior 61s. to 63s., Grenada ordinary to good fair 51s. to 52s., middling to fine 53s. to 55s.

In the Trinidad circular of 29th September, it is stated there is nothing new to report. Their market remains much the same, if anything, weaker, and they quote between \$9.25 to \$9.75. The weather was still too dry notwithstanding some heavy showers during the past fortnight.

COFFEE—The terminal market still remains closed. The spot market at the auction last week displayed very little animation, and prices were again in buyers' favour, except for Dumont San Paulo which was full up.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended October 15th 33 bales of British West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. Since last report a fair to good business has been done. Quotations generally are reduced 3d. per lb.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (Raw)—No sales to report, but fair quantities are now offering and buyers are not keen. **Essential Oil** (distilled)—Slow of sale after small business at 3s. 9d.; lower prices anticipated. **Otto of Limes** (hand pressed)—Very slow with no business worth reporting. **Concentrated**—Lower. A good business has resulted at prices not reported.

NUTMEGS—100's/80's 44d. to 5d., 120's/100's 4d. to 44d., 140's/120's 34d. to 4d. **MAICE**—Good to fine 2s. 1d. to 1s. 10d.; red, good 1s. 5d. to 1s. 9d.; broken 10d. to 1s. 4d.

COPRA—Fair merchantable West India Value £23, market easier. **PIMENTO** and **GINGER**—Steady.

RUBBER—Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe 28s. 1d.; smoked sheet 2s. 3d.; fine hard Para 28s. 10d.; last year 3s. 2d.; do, soft 2s. 3d.; last year 2s. 11d.; Castor sheet 1s. 8d.; last year 1s. 9d.; scrap 1s. 3d.; last year 1s. 3d.

BALATA—Sheet, nominal 2s. 1d., last year 2s. 10d.; block, nominal 1s. 84d., last year 2s. 04d.

PETROLEUM OIL—American 73d.; Water White 84d.

LOGWOOD—The market has been firmer, but business has been restricted owing to the war.

VANILLA—Nominal qualities 70s. to 14s. for good to fine and 8s. to 9s. 6d. for ordinary to fair.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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CARIB, LONDON.

November 2nd, 1914.

THE SUGAR PROHIBITION ORDER.

IT will be remembered that we recently called attention to the danger of neutral countries shipping to us their own sugar, and importing for their requirements sugar from one of the countries with which we are at war.* This danger has, we are glad to say, been recognised by the Government, who have issued a Proclamation prohibiting the import of sugar from any source whatsoever. This drastic step has been rendered possible through the Government having taken control of the country's sugar supply since the outbreak of war, and having purchased sugar to the value—it is said—of £18,000,000, the refining kinds of which have gone and are going to the refiners, the remainder into direct consumption. The Government have been criticised for suddenly and most unexpectedly reducing prices by 2s. 6d. per cwt., which is certainly a hardship to many grocers who had been re-stocking at the old rate in the not unnatural belief that it

would be maintained, and by economists who think that prices should have been maintained with a view of checking rather than encouraging the consumption as the reduction will do. But the Government have been still more adversely criticised for apparently overlooking completely the case of West Indian grocery sugar. This more than justifies the claim that cane sugar producers should have been represented on the Royal Commission on the Sugar Supply which has had the matter in hand. To quote our contemporary, the *Produce Markets' Review* :—

Unfortunately, the interests of the latter [the cane producers] have not been directly represented on the Sugar Commission, which has apparently busied itself with planning an adequate supply of White Sugar, and ensuring a sufficiency of Raw Cane to make it from. The question of providing enough Yellow Crystallised does not seem to have been discussed, and no maximum or minimum retail prices have been fixed, while the ignoring of the Sugar is the more inexplicable, as the Government have been for several years large buyers of Yellow Crystallised either for the Navy or the Army, and nothing has occurred to suggest a change of policy.

As we have stated, all sugars are included in the prohibition orders, but as sugar refiners are now compelled to buy their sugar from the Government this does not affect grey or refining sugar; but it *does* affect West Indian grocery sugar very materially. About 40,000 tons of this class of sugar, popularly known as "Demerara Sugar," is imported into the United Kingdom every year and the effect of the prohibition order if carried out, will be practically to throw the trade into the hands of the makers of dyed imitations. Elsewhere in the CIRCULAR we publish correspondence which has passed between the West India Committee and the Royal Commission on Sugar Supplies on the subject, and though it was at first stated very definitely that licences to import this sugar would only be granted where it had already been shipped, or where contracts for forward delivery had been made, we now trust from the tone of SIR HENRY PRIMROSE'S letter, that in the case of grocery sugar manufactured in the West Indies specially for the market of the United Kingdom will be met by issue of licences to import. It is to be hoped that now that the facts have been put fully before the Royal Commission, that nothing will be done to hamper a legitimate West Indian trade. For the moment the matter chiefly affects estates in British Guiana where Demerara sugar is now being manufactured. But it also affects the West Indian islands who will begin manufacturing sugar in the New Year, for as experience has shown, if a trade is once suspended it is extremely difficult to resuscitate it.

* THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, No. 418, p. 469.

THE EVIL OF PRAEDIAL LARCENY.

PRAEDIAL larceny, or the theft of growing farm products, has always been a serious evil in the West Indies. The somewhat lax inherent notions on the subject of *meum* and *tuum* as to food held by many West Indians leads to the extreme prevalence of this easy and fascinating form of thieving. Why work when your neighbour's provision beds contain the necessaries of life, and are so readily available? This form of crime is properly looked upon by civilised folk as being of a particularly low and despicable type. To commit a burglary within closed doors and relieve the owner of valuable and probably superfluous products is one thing; to deliberately deprive the agricultural peasant of the fruits of his labour just as the reaping point is being arrived at after a long period of work and anxiety is altogether another. Justice has always taken, and rightly, a strong view of the heinousness of crimes of this description, but there are many instances in which a false idea of the practice of philanthropy has operated in the direction of reducing the punishment for praedial larceny to a point when it ceases to become deterrent. This has especially been the case in the West Indies. From time to time the application of the cat has been legalized for the punishment of offenders, but the beneficial operation of this valuable instrument of justice has been invariably rendered practically inoperative by its application being withheld for first offences, or left to the discretion of a magistrate who prides himself on the exercise of false humanitarianism. In the West Indies the chances of discovery in thefts of this description are very small. The spoils of the raiding expedition are unidentifiable, the facilities for undiscovered trespass great, and the utmost rigour of the law should be exercised even as regards a first offence, or perhaps it would be better to say, a first discovery. Nothing is so calculated to discourage a peasant proprietor than the filching of his growing provisions by his less industrious neighbours. But apart from the personal hardships resulting from praedial larceny, there is another, and, if anything, a more important aspect of the case. A prime factor in the successful development of a colony is the peasant proprietor. Any cause which operates against the success of agricultural industries, or which discourages the farmer is against the development of the colony as a whole. It is not too much to say that the practice of praedial larceny has been a serious drawback to development in the West Indies. As an instance of this the case of Trinidad may be cited. The occupation and cultivation of Crown lands in that colony by industrious East Indians or others is extremely desirable, but this occupation is kept back by the shadow of praedial larceny. Large farmers do not suffer to the same extent as do the small. They are better able to protect their own interests, perhaps by means best known to themselves and outside the law. But the small proprietor is in a different position, and the loss of his provisions is a serious matter

to him. What is required to meet this serious trouble is the strict application of true humanitarian measures, that is to say, of measures which have the effect of effectively deterring would be thieves, and thus create in the mind of the industrial farmer a confidence in the supply of the results of his labour. To this end one remedial measure at once suggests itself—the cat; not applied in microscopic applications, or after other measures have failed, or at the discretion of an individual, but as a fixed and inexorable exposition of the law on the subject. Not so many years ago the practice of robbery with the aid of the garotte terrorised London and its vicinity. The only punishment which dealt with it successfully was the cat; and it is the cat, applied at once and strongly, which will be the means of putting an end to praedial larceny in the West Indies. In this way not only will the industrious peasant be protected from the praedial thief, but the praedial thief from himself.

PROGRESS IN CARRIACOU.

THE promotion of Mr. GEORGE WILTFIELD SMITH to the Commissionership of Turks and Caicos Islands gives an opportunity of drawing attention to the excellent work done by him during his ten years tenure of the corresponding post in Carriacou, the small dependency of Grenada. As will be seen by reference to the account of the successful working of the Land Settlement Scheme, Mr. Smith's period of office in Carriacou has coincided with the comparative regeneration of that island, and the credit for the successful carrying out of the scheme with that object in view must be given to him. In the first year of his charge the revenue of Carriacou amounted to £3,520, the expenditure to £3,410. In 1912 the revenue had risen to £8,313, with an expenditure of £7,189. In 1905 the exports only amounted in value to £5,770, while in 1912 the value of the exports was £12,276. Figures like these speak for themselves, and show what can be done in those West Indian islands not big enough for the operation of the capitalist, but eminently suited for the promotion of a peasant proprietorship under the auspices of a paternal government. The West Indian nature is extremely susceptible to environment, and requires encouragement, and, to a certain extent, sympathy, and it is evident that properly formulated schemes, carried out in the way Mr. WILTFIELD SMITH has carried out the Carriacou Settlement Scheme, have the power of lifting him out of the slough of despond in which he is apt to fall as the result of adverse circumstances.

ON another page we give an account of the Princess Club Hospital, which has been equipped and placed at the disposal of our wounded troops by Princess Marie Louise. It is hoped that readers of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will interest themselves in this admirable institution and will respond to the appeal for assistance which is needed in several directions.

THE WAR AND CABLE RATES.

GIFTS FROM THE WEST INDIES.

A leading article in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of October 6th dealt with the inconvenience and expense which was involved by the prohibition of the use of codes. The representations on this subject in which *The Times* took a leading part have proved effective. Following the withdrawal of the veto against code addresses announced on October 23rd, the Postmaster-General stated three days later that the Army Council, who control the arrangements for the censorship of submarine cablegrams throughout the Empire, had relaxed as from November 1 the prohibition against the use of code, subject to the following regulations:—

(1) The use of code will only be permitted in telegrams passing between the United Kingdom on the one hand and British possessions and allied or neutral countries outside the European telegraph system on the other.

(2) The use of code is at present prohibited by the following extra-European administrations:—Argentine Republic, Brazil, Danish possessions, Dutch East Indies, French possessions, Italian possessions, and Angola.

(3) The following codes selected in consultation with the Board of Trade are authorised:—A.B.C. 5th Edition, Scott's Code 10th Edition, Western Union Code, Lieber's Code. Messages in private code or in any other unrecognised code will be stopped before reaching the censors.

(4) Neither private supplements nor the numerical equivalents of the phrases in published codes are admissible. It should be remembered that groups or series of numbers and similar expressions (e.g., prices of stocks) are not necessarily admissible because they appear in code. If the decode would not have passed the censors neither will the coded message be passed.

(5) All messages in code will be decoded under arrangements made by the Post Office for submission to the censors. Every effort will be made to avoid delay in this operation. It will, however, tend to expedite the transmission of telegrams if persons handing in coded telegrams would deposit at the same time translations of the messages.

(6) In all cases the name of the code used must be indicated on the form.

(7) No charge will be made for the transmission of the name of the code, but a fee of 6d. will be charged for each outward telegram in code.

The regulations with respect to the use of code addresses, which came into force on October 26th, are as follows:—

(1) The address must have been registered before July 1 last.

(2) It can only be used as the address of a telegram: its use as the signature is still prohibited.

(3) Telegrams having such addresses can only be sent to, and received from, British or Allied territory in the extra-European telegraph system (and Egypt) or the United States of America.

(4) In the case of telegrams to Allied territory or the United States the full name and address of the addressee must be given on the back of the telegram form.

Miss Mabel Billson, of 17, De Vere Gardens, W., and Miss Sandeman, of 21, Bolton Gardens, W., are the Hon. Secretaries of a Jamaica Stall which is being arranged for the Combined Sale for Foreign Missions to be held at the Kensington Town Hall on November 4th and 5th. The Associations taking part include the Jamaica Church Aid Association and the West Indian Mission to West Africa.

Very satisfactory progress is being made with the various subscription lists opened in the British West Indies in support of the National Relief and other Patriotic Funds. The Jamaica Relief War Fund, which is being collected by the *Gleaner* stood at £7,653 3s. 9d. when the last homeward mail left, and £4,000 has already been remitted to England. Half of the amount collected is to be devoted to the Prince of Wales' Fund, a quarter to the Belgian Relief Fund and a quarter to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association.

In Barbados upwards of £3,150 have been collected towards the Prince of Wales' Fund, and £150 towards Queen Mary's Needlework Guild. The members of the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society, who contributed £2,000 to the former are to be asked to vote £500 for the relief of the Belgian Refugees, for whom, also, clothing is being collected by Mrs. W. L. C. Philipps, wife of the Colonial Treasurer. In Trinidad over \$40,000 has been collected through the Chamber of Commerce, and it is proposed that the amount subscribed shall be given to the Prince of Wales' Fund. The fund inaugurated by the *Mirror* has been incorporated with that of the Chamber of Commerce. The *Port of Spain Gazette's* fund stands at \$8,700, and the Red Cross Fund at \$7,500. Subscriptions to a Belgian Relief Fund started by the *Mirror* amount to \$844.

In British Guiana \$25,900.16 has already been subscribed to the Prince of Wales' Fund.

At the suggestion of Mr. Davidson Houston many residents in Montserrat have been busy making clothes for the Belgian refugees, and some idea of the energy which they have been putting into their task may be gained from the fact that after two weeks' work over 1,000 garments had already been completed. The merchants and others assisted materially by providing funds and bolts of cloth, and many of the peasant girls, besides making up the garments, have given what money they could afford.

In St. Vincent £143 has been collected to supplement the sum of £2,000 voted by the Legislative Council towards the National Relief Fund, His Honour R. B. Roden heading the list with a donation of £10, and 274 barrels of arrowroot have been received from the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' Association to supplement the island's gift of that product for the use of the troops, among the donors being Mr. G. R. Corea, 50 barrels, and Mr. V. Hadley, and Hon. C. J. Simmons, 25 barrels each.

On September 23rd, the Legislative Council of Montserrat, by resolution, the text of which is given under the heading "The Homeward Mails," voted £1,000 towards the National Relief Fund, £750 to be sent in money, and £250 to be expended in the purchase of Montserrat guava jelly for the sick and wounded.

In accepting this gift the Secretary of State for

the Colonies cabled to Lieut.-Colonel Davidson Houston, the Commissioner:—

"Please convey to the Legislative Council and people of Montserrat His Majesty's Government's great appreciation of generous gift to Prince of Wales' Fund."

In St. Lucia £550 has been subscribed towards the Red Cross Fund, and little Tobago has remitted \$300—the first of a series of monthly cheques to the Red Cross Society.

The West Indian official gifts to date have been:—

- Bahamas**—£10,000 towards war expenditure.
Barbados—2,240,000 lbs of Sugar.
British Guiana—2,240,000 lbs. of Sugar.
Dominica—Limes for the Military Hospitals fortnightly.
Grenada—Cacao to the value of £6,000 and £4,000 for the National Relief Fund.
Jamaica—Sugar to the value of £50,000.
Montserrat—£1,000 (£750 towards the Prince of Wales' Fund, and £250 worth of Guava Jelly).
St. Kitts-Nevis—£5,000 for the National Relief Fund.
St. Lucia—Cacao to the value of £2,000 and £1,000 to the National Relief Fund.
St. Vincent—Arrowroot to the value of £2,000.

BERMUDA'S HANDSOME CONTRIBUTION.

The people of Bermuda have presented to the Imperial Government a contribution of £40,000 towards the cost of the war. The Colonial Parliament have passed an Act making provision for the payment of that amount in fifteen annual instalments of £3,450 from January 1st, next, to the Treasury. In acknowledging the gift Mr. Harcourt cabled to His Excellency Lieut.-General Sir George Bullock, on October 4th as follows:—

"His Majesty's Government gratefully accept the generous contribution of people of Bermuda towards cost of war reported in your telegram of 3rd October. They warmly appreciate patriotic spirit which has prompted this gift."

MR. LOUIS WESSELS, the head of an important firm at Kingston, Jamaica, has been ordered to leave the island. He is partner in a New York house which is said to have supplied stores to the *Karlsruhe*.

Private Arthur Ware of the 4th Hussars, in a letter published in the Press, has supplied the following account of the death of Colonel I. G. Hogg, son of the late Mr. Quintin Hogg, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee, which was recorded in a recent CIRCULAR.

In one engagement the colonel of the 16th Lancers was shot dead, the colonel of the 5th Lancers was wounded, and Colonel Ian Graham Hogg, of the 4th Hussars, was shot by a rifle bullet in the chest and died from his wounds. During the action the Germans were shelling us the whole of the time. They fired on us 50 shells and not a single man or horse was hit. Colonel Hogg was well in advance of his troops, and was signalling us to fall back and drew the fire on himself. He was shot, and it was one of the few instances in which one of our men was hit by a rifle bullet. Our men picked him up and carried him to a cottage. We could not do much for him, as the R.A.M.C. were not up. Colonel Hogg was an extremely kind and clever officer, and the men were always ready and willing to follow him.

THE WEST INDIES AND THE WAR.

In the following list we give the names of some of those closely connected with the West Indies who are serving their country at the present time. The Editor hopes that readers will help towards making this list (which will be published from time to time) complete, by calling his attention to any additions which may be made.

- À Beckett, Lieut. P., (son-in-law of Colonel Kitchener of Jamaica), Royal Garrison Artillery.
 Ackerley, 2nd Lieut. I. R., (son of Mr. A. R. Ackerley, of Elders and Pyffes, Ltd.), 8th Battalion East Surrey Regiment.
 Ackerley, 2nd Lieut. P. R., (ditto), 11th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.
 Alleyne, Captain C. F., (son of the late Hon. Forster M. Alleyne of Barbados), Army Service Corps. At the Front.
 Alston, G. R. G., (son of Mr. G. R. Alston), Honourable Artillery Company, Infantry Battalion. At the Front.
 Arnold-Forster, Lieut. F. A., Royal Field Artillery, Territorials.
 Arnold-Forster, Commander F. D., R.N., H.M.S. *Apollo*.
 Arnold-Forster, Lieut. W. H., National Reserve.
 Berthon, Sub-Lieut. Charles P., R.N. (Son of Mr. Claude T. Berthon, A.M.Inst.C.E.), H.M.S. *Phoenix*, 1st Destroyer Flotilla.
 Berthon, Midshipman E. Lyon, R.N., (ditto), H.M.S. *Agamemnon*, 6th Squadron, 2nd Fleet.
 Berthon, Trooper Leonard T., (Brother of Mr. C. T. Berthon), 2nd King Edward's Horse.
 Bindley, Lieut. H. Duncombe, (son of Archdeacon Bindley, late of Barbados), 5th Battalion, Prince of Wales's North Staffs. Regiment.
 Blackwood, Lieut. O'Reilly, R.G.A., (son-in-law of Mr. Aubrey Robinson of Jamaica).
 Blagrove, J., (son of Colonel Blagrove, C.B., of Cardiff Hall, Jamaica), volunteered in Rhodesia.
 Blagrove, Lieut. H. E., (ditto), R.N. on H.M.S. *Tiger*, (Super-Dreadnought battle cruiser just completed).
 Blagrove, P., (ditto), Defence Force, Mounted Corps, Jamaica.
 Blagrove, Lieut. R. C., (ditto), 2nd Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Adjutant of new battalion.
 Browne, Captain C. G., (part proprietor of "Waltham" Estate, Grenada), 19th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps. At the Front.
 Calder, K. W., (Rhodes Scholar, son of Mr. J. V. Calder, of Worthy Park Estate, Jamaica), King Edward's Horse.
 Campbell, Lieut. Ryan, (Son of the Chairman of the West India Committee), 4th Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.
 Clare, Midshipman (son of Dr. Clare, Trinidad).
 Collymore, Alan (son of Mr. Ernest Collymore of the Colonial Bank, Barbados), East Lancashire Regiment.
 Collymore, H. Aubrey, (son of Mr. F. A. C. Collymore, of Barbados), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
 Cummings, P. H., (brother-in-law of Mr. Stanley Savill, and manager of his estate in Tobago), London Scottish.
 Davson, Captain and Adjutant Gordon, 2nd County of London Yeomanry (Westminster Dragoons).
 Davson, Captain and Adjutant Ivan B., City of London Yeomanry, (Rough-riders).
 Davson, Major H. M., Royal Horse Artillery.
 Deane, 2nd Lieut. E. W., (son of Dr. F. W. Deane, of Barbados), 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
 de Cordova, Lieut., (son of J. de Cordova, Esq., Kingstown, Jamaica), York and Lancaster Regiment.
 Delafons, Reginald A., University and Public School Corps, Epsom.
 de Laubenque, Charles, (son of the late Mr. Leon de Laubenque of St. Lucia), Territorial Force.
 de Pass, Lieut. F. A., (son of Mr. E. A. de Pass), 34th Poona Horse.
 de Pass, 2nd Lieut. E. A., (ditto), 3rd County of London (Sharpshooters) Yeomanry.



TWO PRIZES IN CASTRIES HARBOUR, ST. LUCIA.



OFFICERS OF THE "SPREEWALD" ON THE WAY TO MORNE FORTUNE, ST. LUCIA.

H.M.S. "BERWICK'S" PRIZES.

- de Putron, Captain Cyril, (part proprietor of "La Gloria" Estate, Trinidad), Lancashire Fusiliers, with the Headquarters Staff at York.
- de Putron, Lieut. Hugh, (part proprietor of "La Gloria" Estate, Trinidad), Manchester Regiment. At the Front.
- Dew, 2nd Lieut. J. C., (son of Mr. Joseph T. Dew, of Antigua), 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
- DuBuisson, James Melmoth, (son of Mr. T. DuBuisson), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Farle, 2nd Lieut. H. J. M., (son of Dr. T. M. Farle, British Guiana Medical Service), 4th Battalion Essex Regiment, (Foreign Service).
- Fawcett, Sub-Lieutenant Kenneth, (nephew of Mr. William Fawcett, B.Sc.), H.M.S. *Minotaur*, China Station.
- Fawcett, 2nd Lieut. Robert Heath, (ditto), Royal Bedfordshire Regiment.
- Fellowes, Captain A. R., 7th Battalion Norfolk Regiment.
- French, Captain (of Jamaica) R.A.M.C.
- Field, Lieut. Edward, (nephew of Mr. Robert Duff, late Immigration Agent-General of British Guiana), the Middlesex Regiment.
- Frame, 2nd Lieut. Ian MacGregor, (son of Mr. G. MacGregor Frame), 3rd Gordon Highlanders.
- Fretz, Henry E. K., F.R.C.S., (son of Dr. W. H. Fretz, of St. Kitts), was appointed navy surgeon on the *Aquilania* in August.
- Fretz, W. L. E., M.B., (ditto), Army Medical Corps, Peshawar.
- Garnett, Private Harry Seys, (youngest son of the late Mr. Harry Garnett, of British Guiana), 16th Lancers.
- Geddes, E. J., 2nd King Edward's Horse.
- Gibbons, 2nd Lieut. Charles (son of Colonel F. F. Gibbons and nephew of Mr. C. Kenrick Gibbons) 13th Battalion City of London Regiment.
- Gibbons, 2nd Lieut. John Noel (ditto), Army Service Corps.
- Gillespie, Private Arthur A. (son of Mr. James Gillespie, of Demerara), 3rd Glasgow Battalion, Highland Light Infantry.
- Gordon, Trooper Archibald, 1st Regiment Lovat Scouts, Machine Gun Section.
- Gosset, Lieut. William Beresford, (eldest son of Hon. B. S. Gosset, Custos of St. Andrews, Jamaica, and Hon Correspondent of the West India Committee), 25th Brigade Royal Field Artillery, 1st Division, 1st Army Corps, serving at the Front.
- Grant, Captain E. L. T., (late West India Regiment and 1st Norfolk Regiment).
- Greene, Private Frederick Edward, (son of the late Mr. F. E. Greene, County Inspector of Police, British Guiana), Hon. Artillery Company.
- Greenwood, Lieut. B. P., (brother of Mr. Thomas Greenwood, of Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.), Intelligence Corps.
- Greenwood, Private L. M., (ditto), 1st Battalion Public Schools and University Corps (Royal Fusiliers).
- Greenwood, Private J. E., (ditto), Artists Rifles.
- Hamilton, Cleveland B., (son of Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G.), Agricultural College, Wye, Corps of the Territorials, C. Coy., 4th Battalion, The Buffs Regiment, stationed at Sandwich.
- Harrison, Commander, R.N., (of Jamaica).
- Heath, Lieut. Philip, Royal Garrison Artillery.
- Hill, 2nd Lieut. Jacobus Darrell, (son of Mr. J. K. D. Hill, Magistrate, British Guiana), 1st Scottish Rifles. (Present at the battles of Mons and Compiègne. Still at the Front).
- Hill, Private James, Jr., (son of James Hill, of British Guiana), 2nd Bedfordshire Regiment. Left for the front.
- Hinkson, Corporal A. G. (of Barbados), Royal Fusiliers stationed at Hounslow.
- Hollinsed, Mr. R. E. L., (son of Mr. E. L. Hollinsed, Society Plantation, Barbados), D Company, 4th Battalion Canadian Contingent.
- Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Alan Wylie (Son of Mr. George Hughes), 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers (wounded at the Front).
- Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Guy Wylie (ditto), 4th Middlesex Regiment. At the Front.
- Hunter, 2nd Lieut. Cecil, (son of Mr. Hugh B. Hunter, late manager of the Dennery Company, St. Lucia), 4th Highland Light Infantry.
- Hunter, Lieut. Neil, (ditto), 4th Highland Light Infantry.
- Kerr, 2nd Lieut. H., "Orange Valley," Jamaica, 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
- King, Private Bernard F. (son of Mr. J. A. King, Crown Solicitor, British Guiana), Coldstream Guards.
- King-Church, Lieut., West India Regiment.
- Kitchener, Commander Henry Franklin C., (son of Colonel H. E. C. Kitchener, of Cornwall Estate, Jamaica, and nephew of Lord Kitchener), H.M.S. *Ajax*.
- Kysh, Claude, (of Barbados).
- Lubbock, Lieutenant Commander Alexander N., (son of the late Sir Nevile Lubbock), H.M.S. *Exmouth*.
- Lucie-Smith, Mr., (of Trinidad), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Maginley, J. W. A., (Estates' proprietor, Antigua), Company B, Colonial Infantry.
- Malcolm, Captain Maurice de W., (son of Colonel E. D. Malcolm, C.B., of Knockalva, Jamaica, and Poltalloch, Argyll), Jamaica Volunteer Armed Scouts.
- Malcolm, Colonel Neil, D.S.O., (ditto), on Headquarters Staff, 1st Army Corps.
- Marescaux, Major O. H. E. (of Cherry Garden, Jamaica), D Staff A Central Force, Quarter-master General, Headquarters.
- Marriott, Captain F. C. (Son of Mr. Marriott, partner of Previte and Company), 7th King's Liverpool Regiment.
- McGrath, Captain, (son of Hon. George McGrath, Jamaica), 2nd Dragoon Guards.
- McKinnon, Mervyn, (of British Guiana), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Mearns, Private George (son of Mr. William Mearns, of Plantation Hope, Demerara, British Guiana), 4th Battalion Gordon Highlanders, attached to Royal Engineers.
- Messer, 2nd Lieut. R. A., (son of Mr. A. E. Messer, late of Demerara), 5th Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps.
- Miles, Lieut. Geoffrey John, (third son of Mr. Audley C. Miles), with the China Fleet.
- Neish, Midshipman Donald C. G., (son of Dr. Neish, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Iron Duke*, Sir John Jellicoe's flagship.
- Ogle, Captain, West India Regiment.
- Percival, 2nd Lieut. W. H. F., (son of Mr. H. G. Percival, of Antigua), 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
- Peterkin, E. C., (of Barbados), has come to England to join the Colours.
- Porter, Major G. A., 3rd Dorset Regiment, (Special Reserve).
- Previte, Lieut.-Colonel E. J., V.D., 22nd Battalion The London Regiment (The Queens).
- Previte, Captain H. F. 22nd (County of London) Battalion London Regiment (Queen's).
- Rice, Major C. E., (British Guiana), Scottish Horse.
- Ritchie, —, (eldest son of Mr. D. Ritchie, late of Aurora, British Guiana), Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
- Robertson, Mr. James (lately an engineer in Jamaica, a nephew of Mr. William Morison, of Marionville, Demerara), the Scottish Horse.
- Rutherford, T. W., (son of Mr. Robert Rutherford, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee), Public Schools and University Battalion, Royal Fusiliers.
- Saunders, Captain, Indian Rifles, (son of Dr. Arthur Saunders of Jamaica).
- Senhouse, Captain, (son of the late Mrs. Senhouse of Barbados), Royal Garrison Artillery.
- Shears, Mr. Reginald, A.R.I.B.A., 9th Battalion County of London Regiment.
- Shepherd, 2nd Lieut. Malcolm, (youngest son of the Dean of Antigua), Cavalry Reserve.
- Simon, Lieut. P. B., (stepson of Mr. D. Delbanco), Royal Artillery, 5th Siege Battery.
- Simpson, Lieut., (son-in-law of Sir John Pringle of Jamaica).
- Smellie, 2nd Lieut. Geoffrey, 9th Battalion King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment.

Smith, Adam Clayton, (eldest son of Hon. Adam Smith of Trinidad), 2nd Battalion (Glasgow Civic) Highland Light Infantry.

Smythe, Lieut., R. G.A., (son-in-law of Mr. Aubrey Robinson of Jamaica).

Sproston, Private Noel, (son of the Late Hugh Sproston, Esq., of British Guiana), Public Schools Battalion, 12th Middlesex (Duke of Cambridge's Own).

Stephenson, Lieut. D. P., (Jamaica Rhodes Scholar), 4th Battalion P.W.O., North Staffordshire.

Stewart, Captain, (son-in-law of Sir John Pringle, Jamaica), Leinster Regiment.

Stockley, 2nd Lieut. Henry, (son of Mr. A. H. Stockley, of Elders and Pyffes, Ltd.), 3rd Worcester Regiment. At the Front.

Stockley, 2nd Lieut. Alan, (ditto), Army Service Corps.

Stuart, Thomas Charles, (son of Mr. Charles H. Stuart, late estates' manager, Demerara), Public Schools and University Corps, Middlesex Regiment.

Sturridge, 2nd Lieut., R. A. L., King's Liverpool Regiment, 11th Service Battalion.

Thomas, E. V. S., (Rhodes Scholar from Potsdam, Jamaica), King Edward's Horse.

Thomas, Lieut. (of Jamaica), Royal Marine Light Infantry.

Walker, Lieut., (of Jamaica), Welsh Fusiliers.

Wigley, Lieut. A. B., (son of the late Mr. F. S. Wigley, I.S.O., of St. Kitts), 1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment.

Wingrove, C. L., (late of Colonial Bank, Jamaica), Public Schools Battalion.

Wolsey, W. B., (son of Mr. W. A. Wolsey of Demerara) has entered the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

Wright, Midshipman, (son of the late Inspector-General of Police, Jamaica).

Yard, Captain E. C.

Killed in Action.

SECOND LIEUTENANT RICHARD COMPTON-THORNHILL (Scots Guards), who was killed in action on a date unknown, was the only son and heir of Sir Anthony Compton-Thornhill, proprietor of Mount Gay Plantation, Barbados, and was 22 years of age.

LIEUTENANT FREDERICK WILLIAM DES VOEUX (2nd Grenadier Guards), was killed in action at the Battle of the Aisne. He was the younger son of the late Sir G. William des Voeux, G.C.M.G., at one time Administrator of St. Lucia, and afterwards Governor of Hong Kong, and received his commission from the Special Reserve in 1910. Age 24.

LIEUT.-COLONEL IAN GRAHAM HOGG, D.S.O. (4th Hussars), died at Haranmont, France, on September 2nd, of wounds received on September 1st. He was the second son of the late Mr. Quintin Hogg, formerly Deputy-Chairman of the West India Committee.

LIEUT. M. R. SWEET-ESCOTT (King's, Liverpool Regiment), was a nephew of Sir Beckham Sweet-Escott, K.C.M.G., ex-Governor of British Honduras and of the Leeward Islands.

LIEUT. E. P. J. TINNE, R.N.R., the fourth son of Mr. John R. Tinne, was on board H.M.S. *Hogue*, when she was torpedoed in the North Sea.

CAPTAIN A. C. WARD, D.S.O., (2nd Lancashire Fusiliers), who was killed in action, was a son of the late Colonel Hon. C. J. Ward, C.M.G., of Kingston, Jamaica. He served in the South African War, and afterwards in West Africa, and obtained his company in March, 1910.

Wounded.

Davenport, Captain J. A., Lancashire Fusiliers, (now a prisoner of war).

DuBuisson, 2nd Lieut. Thomas Gerard (Son of Mr. T. DuBuisson), Royal Field Artillery.

Grey-Wilson, Lieut. W. A., Durham Light Infantry, (son of Sir William Grey-Wilson, K.C.M.G., late Governor of the Bahamas).

Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Alan, (son of Mr. George Hughes), Royal Fusiliers.

Maddick, Captain, 5th Lancers. Late 14th Hussars, and formerly A.D.C. to Sir Augustus Hemming, Governor of Jamaica.

Moody, Captain R. H. M., Lancashire Fusiliers.

Owen, Lieut. William, Welsh Regiment, (son of Captain Owen of the R.M.S.P. Co.).

Pepys, Captain, Worcester Regiment.

Prisoner of War.

Le Hunte, Lieut. J., Hampshire Regiment (previously reported wounded).

A MODEL MILITARY HOSPITAL.

Princess Marie Louise's Club and the War.

Some little time ago the writer was asked by a correspondent why Jamaica Road in South-East London was so called. But for the fact that the name appears in very old City directories he might have hazarded a guess that the thoroughfare was called "Jamaica" at the instance of Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein—whose love for the West Indies in general, and Jamaica in particular, is so well-known—for it is in it that her Club is situated. Let it not be supposed for a moment from this that the Princess repairs to Bermondsey (for that's where Jamaica Road is) to enjoy the usual amenities of Club life as known in the West End, though she is a frequent visitor to the neighbourhood. No, the Club, or the "Princess Club," to give it its proper designation is an institution for the use of factory girls, and its foundation is due to one of those kindly thoughts which earned for the Princess such a well-deserved reputation for carrying out good works during her two visits to the West Indies.

The East End of London is *terra incognita* to most residents in the Metropolis, and it must be confessed that the writer and a friend, who were privileged recently to visit the Club, had no little difficulty in finding the way to Jamaica road. The "taxi" driver was scarcely more successful until he was piloted by the inevitable man in blue, who beamed at the mention of the Princess's admirable institution. Eventually they pulled up outside an unpretentious three storied house and sought admission, which was readily granted. The visit could not have been made at a more unpropitious time, for apart from the fact that it was raining "cats and dogs," it proved to be "visiting day," and the entrance to the Club was packed with relatives and friends of the inmates. Here it must be explained that as soon as the war broke out the Princess determined that the buildings, which are admirably suited for the purpose, should be converted into a hospital for wounded soldiers, and that as such it is now being used. The rooms—and particularly the main hall, or ward, as it now is—are airy and spacious, and in every respect convenient for the purpose to which they are now being put.

The factory girls' Club which had previously been carried on in a house near by was reopened in the

present buildings in 1912. These were inspected in the early days of the war by the Red Cross Society who reported on them most favourably to the War Office. The Princess then proceeded to equip the buildings fully with its operating theatre, X-ray room, mortuary chapel—for which it is hoped there may be little use—all complete and the writer and his friend were shown a miniature hospital which might be compared with a first-class nursing home without suffering from the comparison. In making the general arrangements the Princess received the assistance of Miss Cox Davies, the matron, and Dr. McQueen, the resident medical officer of the Royal Free Hospital, and anyone knowing that institution must realise that this spells efficiency.

At present there is accommodation for thirty-six men and on the occasion of the writer's visit every bed was occupied. The soldiers were all wearing blue dressing gowns faced with red, and, having regard to the terrible experiences to which they had been so recently subjected, it was surprising how bright and cheery they all were. In one corner a group of men whose relations were too far away to avail themselves of visiting day was gathered round a gramophone; by most of the beds were friends and relatives, many with tiny infants—blissfully ignorant of the horrors of the war forced upon their parents. It was a joyous and yet pathetic scene. The men were willing to tell of their experiences, and one and all were eager to return to the front. A general favourite was a stalwart private who had been stripped of all his clothes by the Germans and eventually took refuge in a cottage, where he was compelled to avail himself of a woman's clothes for the sake of respectability and as a means of escape. In another bed was a reservist who declared that he had got out to the front by mistake though he appeared in no wise to regret his experience.

Miss Clepham, the Sister in Charge, a nurse of the Royal Free Hospital, acted as cicerone and one could appreciate from the general cleanliness and good order that she is a first-class organiser. The tidiness of the place was remarkable even for a hospital. Here were shelves with the uniforms, caps, boots, etc., of the wounded men, many bearing obvious traces of the rough treatment which they had received, and here cupboards of linen, all neatly folded, and crockery. Under the Sister-in-Charge are two fully trained nurses and seven probationers, while the resident medical officer is Mr. Gray and the visiting medical officer Mr. MacQueen of the Royal Free Hospital, both being responsible for the care of the patients to Dr. Robinson, of Millbank, to which the hospital is affiliated for military purposes.

Meanwhile the Girl's Club is not being neglected, the work in connection with it being carried on by a devoted band of workers under Miss Brodigan in rooms lent for the purpose. Here the girls have a night club with classes for drill, needlework, cooking, etc., besides the advantage of cheap dinners in the middle of the day.

Both Club and hospital are deserving of support

but it is for the hospital that most help is wanted for the moment. A complete dental department is about to be added under Mr. Ashley Smith for which funds are urgently needed. Will not some readers of these lines help by sending donations? They will be warmly welcomed by the Princess. Apart from financial aid, gifts of fruit, vegetables and game, such as pheasants and rabbits—will our sportsmen kindly note?—are most acceptable. And so, too, are games. Overcoats, again, for the men to wear on cold days on the roof of the principal ward, where, when weather permits, they tramp to and fro fighting their battles anew, are urgently needed. Who will help? The West India Committee has already been able to send many newspapers, besides lines (through the kindness of several Dominica planters), which are thoroughly enjoyed by our wounded soldiers, who have done their share nobly in the defence of the Empire. A messenger will leave 15, Seething Lane every few days for Jamaica Road; so, readers, send your gifts to the West India Committee Rooms!

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Passports for members.

Passengers for the West Indies are now required to produce passports or other documents of identification. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W., and for the convenience of members of the West India Committee forms of the declaration to be made by applicants are supplied at the Committee Rooms. Applications should reach the Foreign Office before 4 p.m. on the day prior to that on which the passports are to be issued, and the fee of 2s. must accompany the application. The Secretary of the West India Committee, being a Barrister-at-Law, is entitled to, and will be glad to, verify the necessary declarations by members of the Committee who are applicants for passports.

By virtue of Rule III of the West India Committee the subscriptions from new members elected during the last three months of the present year will not, when paid, be renewable until January 1st, 1916.

Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

THE Editor of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR will be obliged if members of the West India Committee will kindly forward to him the names of near relatives serving in the Navy, the Army and the Auxiliary Forces, including the West Indian

Defence Forces and Volunteers at the present time, with particulars as to their ships or the units with which they are serving.

SUGAR FROM ENEMY COUNTRIES.

In the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of October 6th attention was called to the possibility of neutral countries shipping their sugar to Great Britain while importing for their own local requirements from one of the countries with which we are at war; and the hope was expressed that the British Government were alive to this.

On October 24th an official statement was published in which it was announced that the Government had decided to prohibit the importation of sugar, with a view of overcoming this danger. It ran:—

A new and most important advance has been made by the Government in their efforts to bring economic pressure to bear upon Germany. Measures familiar to the public have already been taken to prevent the import into Germany and Austria of goods necessary in the conduct of the war. Much has been achieved in this direction, but when neutral countries have the opportunity of making great profits on the enhanced prices which Germany and Austria are willing to pay, it is impossible to put a stop to all importation. There is, however, one further step which can be taken by minimising the German power to buy. At the present time there are but few exports of great value which can be sent out in exchange for the goods Germany receives from neutral countries. Of these sugar is the chief. Already the exchanges are rising rapidly against Germany and Austria, and if the export of sugar could be prevented or rendered unprofitable, a further serious blow would be struck at their trade.

The import into this country of alien goods is, of course, already prohibited. German and Austrian sugar may not be imported here under its true colours; but if it be first exported to a neutral country and then re-exported from the neutral country to Great Britain, it passes as innocent, and the British purchasers unconsciously give vital assistance to German trade. Already advices have been received that bids for German sugar are being greedily sought in neutral countries. Even if this enemy sugar did not come back to this country—though there is good reason to believe that this traffic has in fact begun—it would set free a corresponding amount of sugar in the neutral country which might be shipped to the United Kingdom. In the first case, we should be buying enemy sugar itself; in the second, we should be buying enemy sugar at one remove. The only ultimate big market for this sugar is the United Kingdom, and nothing less than the total prohibition of the import of sugar into this country will hinder the German and Austrian export. In ordinary circumstances such a prohibition would be inconceivable, but the large purchases which the Sugar Convention have made assure ample supplies for British consumption for many months to come. The United Kingdom is secure from danger of a shortage of sugar. The price at which it has been bought permits the retail sale without loss at a rate below that now current. It is now generally sold at not more than 3d. per lb. for granulated sugar, and a reduction in this price may be expected.

In these circumstances the Government have decided to prohibit, for the time being, the import of sugar, with the object of defeating the German and Austrian effort to turn their stocks into money.

This announcement was followed on October 26th by the publication of a Supplement to the *London*

Gazette containing the following Proclamation on the subject:—

BY THE KING. A PROCLAMATION

Extending the Prohibitions contained in the Proclamation of the 9th September, 1914, relating to Trading with the Enemy.

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS by Our Proclamation dated the 9th day of September, 1914, called the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation, No. 2, certain prohibitions, as therein more specifically set forth, were imposed upon all persons therein referred to:

AND WHEREAS by Our Proclamation dated the 30th day of September, 1914, the prohibitions contained in the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation, No. 2, were extended, and the importation of sugar was prohibited as therein more specifically set forth:

AND WHEREAS by Our Proclamation dated the 8th day of October, 1914, Our Proclamation of the 9th September, 1914, called the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation, No. 2, was amended as therein more specifically set forth:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to revoke Our Proclamation dated the 30th day of September, 1914:

NOW, THEREFORE, We have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, to issue this Our Royal Proclamation declaring, and it is hereby declared, as follows:

1. The aforesaid Proclamation of the 30th day of September is hereby as from the date hereof revoked, and from and after the date hereof this present Proclamation is substituted therefor.

2. The importation into the United Kingdom of all sugar is hereby prohibited provided that the foregoing prohibition shall not extend to sugar (not being raw or refined sugar made or produced by an enemy or in an enemy country, or refined sugar made or produced from raw sugar made or produced by an enemy or in an enemy country) —

(a) cleared from the port of shipment to this country on or before the 26th October, 1914;

(b) imported under contract made prior to the 4th August, 1914.

3. Nothing in this Proclamation shall be taken to prohibit anything which shall be expressly permitted by Our licence, or by the licence given on Our behalf by a Secretary of State or the Board of Trade, whether such licence be granted especially to individuals or be announced as applying to classes of persons.

4. The words "enemy" and "enemy country" and "person" shall have the same meaning in this Our Proclamation as in Our said Proclamation of the 9th day of September, 1914.

Given at Our Court at Buckingham Palace, this twenty-sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and in the fifth year of Our Reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Meanwhile the following letter dated October 24th had been sent by the West India Committee to Mr. McKenna:—

24th October, 1914.

Sir,—With reference to the official announcement published to-day to the effect that the Government have decided to prohibit the import of sugar. I am to express the earnest hope that such prohibition may not be extended to British West Indian sugar.

Apart from other considerations which would render the prohibition of the importation of sugar from the British West Indies and British Guiana extremely prejudicial, it may be pointed out that a class of grocery sugar is manufactured in those colonies expressly for the London market and that it would be impossible to dispose of such sugar elsewhere.

I have the honour, etc.,

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,

Secretary.

On October 28th a further letter was written by the West India Committee to Mr. McKenna in the following terms:—

28th October, 1914.

Sir,—On Saturday last, October 24th, I wrote to you with regard to the decision of the Government to prohibit the import of sugar, and expressed the earnest hope that such prohibition might not be extended to British West Indian Sugar. Since then my Committee have seen the terms of the Proclamation on the subject, dated October 26th, and have noted that all sugars except those (a) cleared from the port of shipment to this country on or before the 26th October, 1914, or (b) imported under contract, made prior to the 31st August, 1914, are included in the prohibition, though licenses to import may be given by the Secretary of State or the Board of Trade to individuals or a class of persons.

2. I was yesterday informed by the Secretary of the Royal Commission over the telephone, that applications for such licenses would be judged on their merits.

3. In view especially of the fact that, as we pointed out to you in our letter of the 24th instant, a class of grocery sugar is manufactured in the British West Indies and British Guiana expressly for the London market, and that it would be impossible to find a market for it elsewhere, my Committee desire me again most strongly to urge that the prohibition may be withdrawn in the case of British West Indian sugar.

4. My Committee conceive that the only possible grounds on which His Majesty's Government could decide that the imports of sugar from British Colonies should be prohibited would be the possibility of sugar from enemy countries coming to this market through British Colonies, or displacing sugar in the Colonies which would then be free to come here. But this contingency could be guarded against by certificates of origin accompanying the shipments of the sugar, and the prohibition in the Colonies of the importation of sugar from enemy or even neutral countries.

5. From the point of view of the manufacturers of grocery West Indian sugar, the position is particularly serious. The trade in this class of sugar which is commonly known as "Demerara Sugar," is now firmly established. For years my Committee have taken measures to protect this genuine Demerara Sugar from dried imitations, both beet and cane, and it is obvious that their work will have been in vain, and that the trade in the genuine article will be lost if any restrictions are put upon the importation of Demerara Sugar. You will, Sir, I feel sure, appreciate that it would be a grave injustice thus to kill a legitimate Colonial industry which it would take years to re-establish.

6. The Secretary of the Royal Commission suggested in the conversation over the telephone, above referred to, that West Indian grocery sugar might be sent to Canada; but in view of the fact that in that Dominion sugar is assessed for duty purposes according to the Dutch Standard, this is impossible as the duty would be prohibitive; besides, there is no market for this class of sugar there. The suggestion that it might be sent to France is equally impracticable, for experience has shown the extreme difficulty of establishing in a market a sugar to which that market is not accustomed. But even if it were possible to find other markets for Demerara Sugar, my Committee would view with grave concern the interruption of a trade with this country which has been established for many years.

Trusting that in the circumstances the prohibition may be removed in the case of British West Indian Sugar,

I have the honour, etc.,

ALGERNON R. ASPINALL,
Secretary.

The following reply to the Committee's letter of October 24th was received on the 28th ultimo from Sir Henry Primrose, Chairman of the Royal Commission on the Sugar Supply.

Sir,—Mr. McKenna has asked me to reply to your letter of the 24th inst.

He quite recognises the special considerations which attach to the application to the British West Indies and British Guiana of the prohibition on the import of sugar to this Country. But the Government are advised that the Prohibition must, under the existing law, be universal in respect of Countries of origin, and it was not therefore possible to except from its operation even our own Dominions. The Order in Council does however permit of the issue of licenses to import in approved cases, and Mr. McKenna hopes that by the exercise of this power it will be possible to meet the case of the class of sugar which you indicate as being manufactured in the West Indian Colonies specially for the market of the United Kingdom.

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

H. W. PRIMROSE.

INSECT PESTS IN TRINIDAD

The need for co-operation among planters.

At a meeting of the Trinidad Board of Agriculture held on September 18th, Mr. F. W. Urich, the entomologist to the Board, reported that since the last report at the July meeting froghoppers had not been so numerous as in the same months of former years. The green muscardine fungus had been working well, and in fields that had been sprayed with spores large numbers of infected insects had been observed. There was no doubt that the various control measures adopted early in the season had produced good results in reducing the pest and it was hoped that they would be continued vigorously.

The coco-nut scale (*Aspidiotus destructor*) which, as reported at the July meeting, was numerous in some localities, had been completely wiped out by the predaceous beetle *Cryptognatha nodiceps*, Marshall, and the coco-nut fronds then coming out were free from scales and quite green. When the beetle had almost done its work of destruction of the scales it was noticed that it was attacked by a small hymenopterous parasite, that killed many pupæ.

Cacao beetles were still in evidence in all stages; in some districts there were more of one stage than the other. Wherever control work was carried out, whether hand collecting or spraying, there was always a decrease of the insects noticed, but re-infection easily occurred from adjoining places where less or no control work was done. As long as there was no co-operation right through the island, it could be never expected to keep down the beetles. No attacks of Thrips had been observed or reported.

The prohibition of the export from the United Kingdom of "molasses, invert sugar, and all sugar and extracts from sugar which cannot be completely tested by the polariscope" was withdrawn by Proclamation on October 19th. By the same Proclamation the prohibition of the export to all destinations of "sugar, unrefined and of sugar refined and candy" was withdrawn so far as regards exports to the Channel Islands, Malta, Gibraltar, the Falkland Islands, St. Helena, the East African Protectorate, and the British West African Colonies.

THE ST. LUCIA LIME JUICE FACTORY.

The Account of this Co-operative Factory given below is taken from the Report of Mr. J. C. Moore, the Agricultural Superintendent of St. Lucia, for 1913-14.

The St. Lucia Government Lime Juice Factory, the approval for the erection of which was granted by the Secretary of State in March, 1913, has now been installed. An iron-framed wooden building on the War Department's lands at La Toc was purchased, and has, with some adaptations, proved to be admirably suited for the purpose. It was dismantled, transported and re-erected on the reclamation land near the harbour, by the Colonial Engineer.

The actual plant was installed under the direction of the Agricultural Superintendent, and by the adaptation of materials to hand and constant personal supervision it has been possible to complete the factory within the £500 voted for the purpose.

The plant comprises the following:—

1 10 h.p. vertical multitubular boiler with injector and spares.

1 Donkey feed pump.

1 Siddall limes crushing mill for hand or power.

1 Juice store vat.

1 Wooden, steam-heated still.

1 "Ideal" condenser.

2 Wooden steam-heated juice evaporators.

4 Subsiding vats.

1 Rotary juice pump; and various accessories used in handling, measuring and testing the produce passing through the factory.

The Mill and Evaporators.

The "Siddall" mill consists of three iron rollers 2 feet by 1 foot, fitted with double gearing for either hand or power driving. It is placed near the side of the building to allow the lime skins from the mill to pass by gravity to the outside so that they are only handled once.

From the mill the juice passes through coarse and fine strainers and flows to the pump tank, from which it is lifted by means of a rotary force pump to a storage tank of 500 gallons capacity, in entering which it is again strained. The pump is one of Gould's make, has all parts coming in contact with the juice made of bronze, and delivers by hand power about 5 gallons per minute to a height of 15 feet. It is fitted with rubber suction and delivery hose and is placed in a position for dealing with either mill or subsided juice, the latter reaching the pump tank by gravity. From the storage tank the juice runs by gravity to the still and thence to the subsiders, and later to the pump tank to be pumped up to the evaporators.

The storage tank, still body and evaporators are constructed of wood, the staves being of wallaba and the bottoms of greenheart. Some difficulty has been experienced in keeping the evaporators perfectly water-tight, but it is probable that this will diminish or entirely disappear as experience is gained.

The evaporators and still are heated by steam coils of copper tubing $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches external diameter, and of lengths to provide 10 square feet of heating surface per 100 gallons of boiling capacity. There

are two evaporators of the respective capacities of 183 and 107 gallons, and 2 feet in depth inside. These have been successfully operated with charges of juice equal to 74 per cent. of their full capacity, and the liquid within 6 inches of the top when boiling commenced.

In boiling the subsided juice in these evaporators no trouble whatever has been experienced in controlling frothing—in fact no troublesome frothing occurs with rapid ebullition until the final stage is approached, when the tendency to frothing increases as the density of the juice reaches the "strike" point. This presents no difficulty, however, as the frothing is under perfect control and can be kept at a uniform level by an occasional slight adjustment of the steam supply. A "strike" of 62 gallons of finished juice, testing 111 oz. per gallon, has been easily handled in the small evaporator. Whether it is desirable or practicable to attempt to take off a larger "strike" than this is a matter for future investigation.

The Still and accessories.

The still, which has a total capacity of 175 gallons is adapted to take a charge of 100 gallons of juice. It is connected to an "Ideal" condenser which works very satisfactorily. The time required to deal with a single charge of juice, including filling and emptying the still, is about 100 minutes, made up as follows: charging and discharging 22 minutes, bringing to the boiling point 34 minutes, distilling 44 minutes. Under these conditions the volume of the distillate amounts approximately to 10.3 per cent. of the volume of the charge. The yield of essential oil averages .33 per cent. of the volume of the juice distilled, and about half of the oil comes over during the first ten minutes of distillation. The adoption of a wooden instead of the usual copper still was rendered necessary on grounds of economy in initial outlay. Apart from slight trouble due to an imperfect steam joint, the still has worked satisfactorily; but a more extended trial is desirable before a decisive opinion can be expressed as to its general efficiency in comparison with a more expensive copper still.

With the object of producing a product comparatively free from impurities, the juice from the still is run into subsiders of 108 gallons capacity. In these it needs to stand for about ten hours to allow the suspended particles to settle. In practice, the distilled juice entering the subsiders is ready for concentration on the following day. The subsiders used have an inside depth of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and a convenient position for the tap for drawing off the clear subsided juice is 7 inches from the bottom. The sediment and remaining juice, or "sludge," is drawn off at a lower tap. Difficulty was at first experienced in recovering the juice contained in the subsider "sludge," as it failed to filter satisfactorily through bag filters, but a method which promises useful results in the direction of overcoming the difficulty and in reducing the loss of acid to a minimum has been devised and will be given further trial with

the object of more thoroughly testing its efficiency and practical value.

The introduction of subsidizing into the process of manufacture involves some additional, but as yet undetermined, cost in the extra labour required and the loss of acid sustained. For the process to be a profitable one, the concentrated juice will have to realize prices sufficiently in advance of that paid for the ordinary product. Efforts are being made to test this point, and it is hoped that the next season's work will be productive of some useful information on the subject.

As regards work under hand power, the mill crushed, on an average, 1.75 barrels of limes per hour. The maximum was two barrels. An oil engine has been ordered for installation in time for the next crop, and it is expected that the mill will turn out juice in quantity equal to the capacity of the other units of the plant. Under hand power the mill requires two strong men to work it, each taking turns at feeding and crushing.

The juice extracted averaged 7.87 gallons per barrel of limes crushed. The acidity of the mill juice averaged 12.82 oz. per gallon, and ranged from 12.22 to 13.82 oz. per gallon. The acidity of the limes purchased ranged from 10.93 to 15.75 oz. per gallon. The limes and juice purchased were equivalent to 326.7 barrels of fruit, a quantity that is satisfactory, considering the operations were started so near the end of the crop season. The degree of juice concentration averaged 8.6 to 1.

Capacity of the Factory.

Although the factory has not been worked at its full capacity, results have been obtained which indicate that with an average steam pressure on the boiler of 40 lb., and under good working conditions, the plant is capable of evaporating 38.35 gallons of water per hour. This quantity is equivalent to dealing with 43.4 gallons of raw juice, which with a concentration ratio of 8.6 to 1 would produce 5.04 gallons of concentrated juice. It seems probable that under favourable conditions the boiler would work an additional evaporator, by which means the evaporating efficiency of the plant could be appreciably increased if necessary.

At the trial of the still under normal conditions, and with the distillate coming over at the rate of 1 gallon in 3.5 minutes, the volume of water that was required to operate the "Ideal" condenser satisfactorily was 4.5 gallons per minute or 15.75 times the volume of the distillate. With less than this rate of flow through the condenser it showed a tendency to become warm near the vapour intake.

Preliminary experiments to ascertain the loss of acid that occurred during concentration were carried out. The results of three separate trials indicated an average loss of 2.28 per cent. of acid. On each occasion the juice used was carefully measured and tested for acid before and after concentration. The loss of some acid from various causes in the processes connected with the preparation of concentrated juice is unavoidable, and the problem of reducing this

loss to a minimum appears to afford a field for useful investigation work. A beginning in this direction has been made by ascertaining the total loss of acid that has occurred at the factory during the period under review. The work involved the chemical testing of average samples of mill juice from each crushing, besides a large number of other samples, together approximating a total of over 100. The results show that the total unavoidable loss of acid during the period under review was 10.02 per cent. Considering the loss that must have occurred through leakage, imperfect filtering, and in handling generally, these results indicate that the loss was very low, as the above-mentioned experiments demonstrated. These results have the appearance of being very satisfactory for a beginning, though they may possibly be improved upon when more experience has been gained.

The business of the factory is conducted on a co-operative basis. In determining the profits there is deducted from the amounts realised for the sale of produce the amounts paid for the purchase of limes and lime juice together with all expenses of working the factory and disposing of the produce, and, in addition, a sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the amount paid for the purchase of limes and lime juice, the remainder being regarded as gross profits to be divided, one-third being paid to the Government and two-thirds to the vendors of fruit and juice, this latter to be distributed to the vendors by way of bonus, in proportion to the amounts paid to them for limes or lime juice.

The sum equivalent to 10 per cent. of the value of the limes and lime juice purchased, together with the sum representing one-third of the profits referred to in the foregoing paragraph is to be paid to the Government by way of interest and sinking fund in respect to the sum expended in erecting the factory. The price paid for limes and lime juice is based on a scale of prices having a relation to the value of concentrated juice, and insuring a safety margin of profit to the factory.

Owing to the unusually high prices for concentrated juice ruling at the time of opening the factory, fruit and juice were purchased on the basis of £24 per standard pipe of concentrated juice, arrangements being made to make a deferred payment to vendors in the event of the produce selling above this figure. During the short trial run of the factory, the produce dealt with was 233 barrels of fruit and 736 gallons of raw juice.

The produce shipped was 255.75 gallons of concentrated juice, which realised £114 4s. 1d. net. The amounts to be paid to vendors as deferred payments on produce purchased, and as bonus, are respectively £20 16s. 8d. and £10 1s. 2d. The bonus is equal to nearly 12½ per cent. on the total amount paid for the purchase of produce. Taking the bonus into calculation, the total payments to vendors will be equivalent to 5s. 8½d. per barrel of limes and 8½d. per gallon of standard raw juice. The amount of the Government's share, calculated as described above, will be £13 2s. 1d.

LAND SETTLEMENT IN CARRIACOU.

Prosperous peasant proprietors.

One of the interesting features in the development of the West Indies in recent years has been the attention which has been paid to the organisation of agricultural industries among the peasantry with the consequent materially improved condition of the labouring classes. Of the various schemes which have been formulated that of the Carriacou Settlement takes a foremost place. Carriacou, as our readers are all aware, is a portion or rather a dependency of Grenada. It is a small island lying to the north of Grenada, and contains about 8,466 acres, or 13 square miles. In the good old times, before the abolition of slavery, the island possessed a wealthy and flourishing community of sugar and cotton planters, and the ruins of sugar factories give an indication of what must have been the condition of the island in those days. In 1823 it is recorded that Carriacou exported 1,000 hogsheads of sugar, 1,282 bales of cotton, 1,370 puncheons of molasses, and 245 hogsheads of rum. The abolition of slavery affected Carriacou in the same manner as the rest of the West Indies. A naturally indolent people, suddenly relieved from the obligation of working, relapsed into idleness, while, as regards sugar, the competition in later years with bounty-fed beet, brought about the ruin of the industry before the sugar question in the larger and better capitalised sugar colonies had become acute from that cause. In 1870 only two estates were in working order, but these ultimately succumbed, and the sugar industry became completely extinguished. The cotton industry survived longer, but under the conditions gradually drifted from bad to worse, until the inhabitants were reduced to destitution and pauperism.

Such was the position when Mr. Edward Drayton, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Grenada, devoted himself to the idea of establishing a peasant proprietary settlement, and formulated a definite scheme to this end. The scheme was officially sanctioned by the Secretary of State in 1903, and the Government lost no time in putting it into effect. Beausejour Estate, the Harvey Vale Estate, the Belair Estate, and the North Belle Vue Estate, 1,510 acres in all, were purchased. Of this area 424 acres were reserved for forest conservation, leaving about 1,089 acres for allotment.

Although the object of the scheme did not contemplate any direct profit to the Government, the financial position in this respect has become extremely satisfactory. The purchase money of the property was £8,440. The actual receipts for allotments up to August 31st, 1913, were £8,587, £600 remained unpaid, bearing interest at 6 per cent., and fourteen house lots valued at £64 were unsold. In addition to this the asset valuation of buildings, reservoirs, etc., resulting from the acquisition of the estates as improved by expenditure amounted to £3,672. The basis of the scheme was the sale of the allotments in 12 yearly instalments, and the effect of the carrying

out of the scheme upon the character of the people and the fortunes of the island has been remarkable. Prior to 1904, as already stated, the condition of the island was deplorable. According to the Report of Mr. C. Whitfield Smith, F.L.S., to whom as Commissioner of Carriacou much of the success of the project is attributable, the town of Hillsborough was overgrown with bush and surrounded by swamps and acacia scrub. The once flourishing canefields were given over to fever-breeding mosquitos, and what little cultivation there was, on the métayer system of half profits, was done in a half-hearted manner, which, as Mr. Smith observes, betokened the efforts of a people lost to all hope, who were apathetically content with such feeble returns as could be extracted from a soil in which they had no interest or part beyond that of satisfying immediate needs.

With the advent of the scheme, a remarkable change took place. Lands were rapidly taken up, cleared and planted, agricultural lots being fenced in with barbed wire supplied by the Government on easy terms of payment. Even more significant was the development of the dependency. For years the able-bodied of the male population had been compelled to emigrate yearly to Trinidad and Venezuela, and having no means of investing their earnings at home were compelled to place their money in the Savings Bank at Trinidad. With the inauguration of the land scheme these savings were withdrawn and invested at Carriacou in the purchase of land, and in the erection of neat and substantial cottages on the holdings of their parents.

Not less remarkable has been the moral effect upon the people themselves. Prior to 1903, upwards of 500 cases were annually brought before the magistrate of the district. Ten years afterwards, the number had dwindled to 280, and these cases of the most trivial description. In fact, law and order are maintained among 7,000 souls by four policemen.

Mr. Whitfield Smith's Report gives in detail the strict rules which regulate the working of the scheme, and to the judicious and practical character of these a high tribute must be paid. One clause of these, taking into consideration how necessary it is to safeguard the peasantry from themselves, was to the effect that no allottee could sell, alienate or mortgage his holding for a period of twelve years from the date of allotment without the consent of the Governor, and further legislation now secures the control of the land to the Government in perpetuity.

In Carriacou, it has been found that a holding varying in size from two to three acres is as much as an unaided peasant can handle efficiently. The products cultivated are cotton, corn, peas, ground nuts and vegetables, stock and poultry, and in some instances breadfruit trees, bananas, and coco-nuts. In addition to the original purchases, the Mount Pleasant Estate of 488 acres has been acquired by the Government as an addition to the settlement, which now, therefore, consists roughly of 2,000 acres.

MOSQUITO WARFARE IN ST LUCIA.

Where are your clothes washed?

Dr. Alexander King, in reporting upon the anti-mosquito campaign conducted in the neighbourhood of Castries, says that an attempt was made to treat the running streams by the method which Ross in his report on Mauritius calls "rough canalization," that being all that the available money allowed. It appears that the results of this process are far from permanent, and to get any sensible diminution of anopheles in the streams it will have to be frequently repeated, as water grasses grow very rapidly. Results are also largely spoiled by the local washer-women, who look upon the proceedings as an infringement of their rights, and, as soon as a pool is drained, promptly dam it up again. An inspection of these streams, which are regarded—and used—by the inhabitants as a combination of wash-house, public latrine and refuse dump, says Dr. King, leads one to wonder how many people know where their clothes are washed. Some work of a more permanent nature was carried out in the Leslie drain and at Four-à-Chaux. In the former case it was found necessary to place a small foot-bridge at one point where constant traffic broke down the banks, whose debris plus stepping-stones dammed the flow of water, and led to the formation of a series of stagnant pools. The result appears to be good. In Four-à-Chaux a particularly offensive and slimy mud hole was filled up—principally with the collections of tins, bottles and other rubbish found in the neighbourhood—the drains were banked and so altered that each high tide enters them for some distance.

The use of "millions" fish was continued in practicable places, but, as a good part of the year was phenomenally dry, not much could be done with them except in pools and streams.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

For the first time for over a century three foreign vessels were recently brought into the harbour of Castries, St. Lucia, as prizes. The circumstances were recorded in last CIRCULAR, and our Hon. Correspondent described how H.M.S. *Berwick* (the credit was given to the *Essex* in error) brought into the harbour the steamers *Spreewald*, *Thor* and *Lorenzo*, the first of which contained ammunition of war and the others contraband for the use of the enemy's cruisers—presumably the elusive *Karlsruhe* and *Dresden*.

By permission of the Press Censor, and through the courtesy of the photographer, we are able to reproduce two photographs which Mr. M. J. Taurel took, shortly after capture was effected. In the first of these the *Spreewald* and *Lorenzo* are shown at anchor in Castries Harbour, and below this are the German officers being escorted by the police and

volunteers to Morne Fortune, the celebrated heights captured in 1794 by the Duke of Kent, great-grandfather of King George, where they have been interned. The doctor was subsequently released as a non-combatant only to be re-arrested in Guadeloupe.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has sent a circular despatch to the various Governors regarding the work of the Imperial Institute. He calls attention to the yearly increasing demands made on the Institute by private firms and individuals for reports on technical subjects and especially on the composition and value of raw materials. In the past it has generally been impossible to accede to such requests for investigations from private individuals and firms owing to the pressure of other work. At the same time the conduct of such investigations appears to Mr. Harcourt to be a legitimate function of the Institute, and he has been given to understand that the demand for such reports would be considerably extended if it were known throughout His Majesty's Possessions that the Institute was prepared to undertake them.

Mr. Harcourt goes on to say that the Institute is so occupied with reports for the agricultural, mining and technical departments of the contributing colonies that it is impossible for it to undertake on any considerable scale investigations for private firms and individuals without increasing the technical staff and adding to the general expenses.

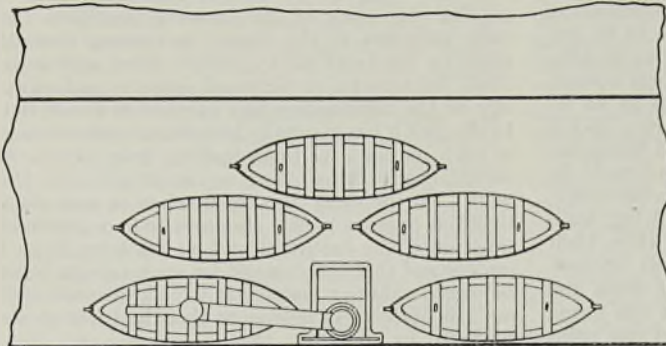
This being the case, Mr. Harcourt is authorising the Imperial Institute to undertake in future for an appropriate fee researches, investigations, analyses, etc., required by private individuals and firms, either in this country or any of His Majesty's oversea dominions. It will be left to the authorities of the Institute to decide in the case of each application whether or no the request for researches, etc., is one with which the Imperial Institute can properly comply.

Any reports which may be supplied under this arrangement will become the property of those who pay for them and will not be communicated either by the Imperial Institute or by any Government to other persons, or published without the consent of those concerned. As it is undesirable that the Institute should compete with the professional expert, Mr. Harcourt proposes that only special investigations, etc., should be undertaken, *i.e.*, on subjects of a technical character with which the Imperial Institute is exceptionally qualified to deal, especially those relating to the production and utilisation of materials which occur in the British Empire or which might be introduced into British countries and are considered likely to be of value to British commerce or trade.

A new edition of the Pocket Guide to the West Indies has just been published. Price 5s. nett.

BOAT LOWERING GEAR.

Travellers by ocean-going boats must have been struck by the clumsiness of the gear which has been in use for many years for lowering boats at sea. The davits, or lowering arms, have many disadvantages, prominent among which are their weight and slowness of action, their want of sufficient "overhang," the difficulty of handling more than one



Plan showing arrangement of boats.

boat with them, and the number of men required, coupled with the length of time the operation takes. It is also practically impossible to launch boats successfully with the ordinary davits when there is anything of a list on the ship.

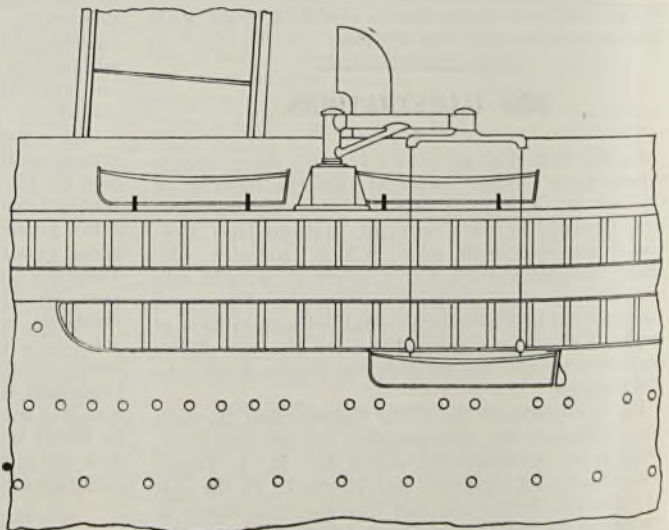
To get over these disadvantages, Mr. W. Harbinger has designed and patented a boat-lowering crane, an idea of the construction and adaptation of which is given in the accompanying illustrations. Without going into the mechanical details of an extremely ingenious and workable contrivance, it may be said that the points of advantage claimed over the ordinary davits are that it can be worked by two men, can handle with ease four to eight boats, and takes only twenty minutes to lower five fully laden boats. The boats can be easily swung out-board to 16 feet, are automatically disengaged when in the water, and can be launched when there is a list up to 12 degrees. The weight for the same duty is much less than that for the ordinary davits, and from the manner in which the ship's boats can be "nested," or grouped, with Harbinger's crane, a much higher boat-carrying capacity is given to the ship. The sole makers of this interesting invention are Messrs. George Fletcher and Co., Derby, the well-known sugar machinery makers.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

The Report of the Agricultural Department of Dominica gives an excellent account of the condition and progress of the lime industry in that island, and of the industrial products belonging to it. The increase in the value of these for 1913 amounts, as shown in last issue, to as much as £45,989, when compared with the receipts for the preceding years, and the rapid development reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. As regards cacao, 9,560 cwts. were shipped in 1913 as against 2,317 cwts. in 1912. The Report does not speak favourably of the prospects of this industry in Dominica. In fact, it states that under existing conditions there appears to be no hope of further development. Only the hardiest varieties of cacao can be grown in the island successfully, and these only where the rainfall is low and there is ample protection from the wind. The progress of the coco-nut industry is spoken of favourably. Although export of coco-nuts in 1913 was less than that in 1912, the deficiency is explained by the very large numbers of selected nuts laid down in nurseries for the purpose of supplying the considerable local demand which has arisen for plants. The exports for 1913 were 448,727 nuts.

* * *

The question of the establishment of agricultural banks has been for some time under consideration in Trinidad. A Government Committee on the subject was appointed in 1912. The Report of this



Elevation showing a boat being lowered.

Committee was submitted to the Agricultural Society of the island for an expression of their views on the subject. The Report of the Society's Committee is now to hand.

* * *

THE majority Report of the Government Committee was to the effect that no practical scheme could be evolved for the establishment of agricultural banks in that colony. This view is based mainly on the absence of demand for an agricultural bank by cane-farmers, owing to the system of advances by the sugar factories taking their canes; on the impossibility of a bank working profitably at the low rates of interest charged by such factories, and on the extent to which small properties are mortgaged to shopkeepers.

* * *

To these objections the Agricultural Society's Committee points out that banks of the Raffeisen type are successfully worked in the neighbouring island of St. Vincent, and is of opinion that in the Report of the Government Committee too much emphasis has been laid on the difficulties, which do not appear to differ essentially from those obtaining in other countries where co-operative banks are successfully worked. The Committee further urged that agricultural co-operative banks be formed by Ordinance as soon as possible on the same lines as those in operation in St. Vincent.

OBITUARY.

THE REV. A. H. GREY.

We regret to state that the Rev. Alexander Harry Grey, younger brother and heir-presumptive of Sir Edward Grey, K.G., died in London on October 24th, after an operation.

Mr. Grey was the third son of Lieut.-Colonel G. H. Grey, equerry to King Edward when Prince of Wales, and was a grandson of Sir George Grey, the eminent statesman. Born on June 10, 1870, he was educated at Keble College, Oxford, and Hatfield Hall, Durham. In 1896 he was ordained by the Bishop of Trinidad (Dr. Hayes) to the curacy of St. Paul's, San Fernando, in that colony, and after serving first as curate and then as vicar of St. Alban's, Tortuga, he became vicar of St. Jude's, Arima, with Brazil and Blanchisseuse, in 1905. He married, in 1900, Ethel Mabel Gertrude, daughter of the late Canon Higgins, rector of San Fernando, Trinidad.

THE REV. JAMES MILLAR.

The mail brought the sad news of the death on the 2nd October of the Rev. James Millar, minister of St. Thomas Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, Demerara, just a week after landing from the Royal Mail steamer on his return from England.

Mr. Millar had been home on sick leave, suffering from an internal complaint, and was returning in apparently much improved health, when a severe attack of jaundice developed a day or two after leaving England, the result it was thought of a chill caught in crossing the channel from Ireland a few days before. On arriving at Demerara he had to be carried on shore, and notwithstanding the

best attention of his doctors and nurses, he succumbed on the date mentioned. Mr. Millar had been resident in Georgetown for 24 years, and was universally liked and respected in the community as a hardworking, conscientious and sympathetic minister of the Gospel, whose helpful assistance was always available for every good work. He leaves a widow (a sister of the late Dr. Shannon of the West Coast, Demerara) and several children by a former marriage.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

AMONG the interesting papers read at the recent International Congress of Tropical Agriculture was one by Mr. E. E. Green, the late Government Entomologist of Ceylon, on "Some Animal Pests of the Hevea Rubber Tree." The copious flow of latex protected, he said, the tree to some extent if the bark became wounded, but this comparative immunity did not extend to the foliage. It might be thought that a substance which when coagulated became rubber would not appeal to any animal as an article of drink, but it appears that latex has no injurious effects upon animals, or, indeed, upon man himself.

* * *

ELEPHANTS, goats, pigs, porcupines and rats are among the animals Mr. Green mentions as attacking the rubber tree. The porcupine revels in the bark. The bandicoot, a huge rat with powerful saw-like teeth, will cut through a tree several inches in circumference. A species of slug actually imbibes the latex from recently tapped Hevea trees, and the only way to keep off such pests is by surrounding the tree with some strong smelling substance such as sawdust saturated with crude carbolic acid.

* * *

A SERIOUS antagonist to the coco-nut oil trade looms up in a prospective edible oil palm industry. It is stated by the Department of Commerce of Washington that a factory has just been installed in West Africa for the purpose of supplying such a product. West African palm oil possesses acid and perhaps poisonous qualities, and has up to now been used almost entirely in the manufacture of soaps and axle grease for railway carriages. If by a chemical process these objectionable qualities can be removed, palm oil will become a formidable competitor to copra.

* * *

It is estimated that in Egypt no less than 90 million of eggs are hatched annually by incubation. This art is nothing new in that country, having been practised for over 5,000 years. The incubators are constructed of mud and brick with a dome-shaped opening on the upper floor for the escape of smoke. No thermometers are used, the proper temperature being judged by holding the egg against the delicate skin of the eyelid, and of other parts of the body. The eggs are turned two or three times daily and after the seventh day judged by holding them up to a ray of light.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

MR. PETER ABEL, formerly of Trinidad, has just returned from Canada to his home, Moffat, N.B.

* * *

SIR DANIEL MORRIS has been appointed Chairman of a Vigilance Committee to deal with foreign spies in Bournemouth.

* * *

THE average price paid in 1913 to growers for sugar beets in the United States was \$5.69 per ton. The area planted in this year was 520,600 acres, or 18 per cent. less than in 1913.

* * *

THE new edition of the Pocket Guide to the West Indies (5s. net) includes chapters on British Guiana, British Honduras, the Bermudas, the Bahamas, the Spanish Main, and the Panama Canal.

* * *

IT is with deep regret that we learn that the Hon. J. T. Manchester, elective member of the Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands, has had a seizure and is lying seriously ill in St. Kitts.

* * *

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been: Mr. F. J. Morris, Mr. S. Manning, Mr. N. Scott Johnston, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, Mr. Albert Cherry, Mr. E. Astley Smith, Mr. Clifton Managin, and Mr. Leonard F. Nourse.

* * *

Messrs. G. Fletcher & Co., Ltd., of Derby, have forwarded to us the new edition of their Catalogue devoted to Concentrating, Crystallising and Curing Plants in connection with cane sugar manufacture. This 160 page volume not only contains full particulars of the various items of machinery, but also interesting and valuable particulars, in the form of tables of details connected with them. The Catalogue is well illustrated, and generally excellent.

* * *

THE list of subscribers to the Canadian War Contingent Association's £30,000 fund for the provision of a hospital and the promotion of the well-being of the Canadian Contingent to which reference was made in last CIRCULAR includes the names of: Mrs. Rippon £10, Mr. Randolph Rust £5 5s., Mr. Edward R. Davson £2 2s., Mr. A. A. Nathan £2 2s., Mr. C. Sandbach Parker £2 2s., Mr. R. Rutherford £1 1s., and Mr. A. Hirsch 10s. We shall be glad to forward to the proper quarter any further subscriptions which may be received towards this object.

* * *

THE Association formed in Antigua for the purpose of organising and controlling the onion trade of some of the island's growers, proposes to extend its operations so as to include the whole crop of onions grown in the island. In the scheme as outlined, the onions will be purchased at a flat rate from the growers of not less than 1 cent per pound. The onions then will be dealt with at the Association's

Station, graded, cured, packed, exported and marketed by the Association. After deducting working expenses and a commission of 3 per cent., the surplus proceeds will be divided pro rata among the contributing growers, in direct ratio to the market prices received for produce during each period of four weeks during crop. The old Cotton Factory Buildings have been placed at the disposal of the Association by the Government rent free for a period of three years.

* * *

ONE morning in the early part of October whilst young Michael McTurk, son of Mr. Michael McTurk, C.M.G., the well-known pioneer bushman of British Guiana, was bathing in the sea off Fort Frederick William, Georgetown, along with some fellow gunners of the British Guiana Military Artillery, they were attacked by a huge saw-fish. Fortunately it was seen by the sentry on the Fort, who quickly summoned assistance. A few rifle marksmen who hurried out on to one of the stone groins, which projects from the escarpment of the Fort, soon disabled the monster; but it was not without a severe struggle that the fish was secured and hauled ashore. It was found to measure 16 feet and weigh 6 cwt., the length of its formidable "saw" being no less than four feet. Gunner McTurk and two of his companions were so severely injured by the fish that they had to be removed to hospital, where they were surgically treated.

* * *

WE have received from a correspondent in Barbados a letter which shows what keen disappointment is felt at the refusal by the War Office of a West Indian Contingent for active service. The writer says:—

"The Motherland has been drawn into a war, since I received your favour, which I trust will end in success to our arms and a lasting peace to Europe. For our honour and for the preservation of the Empire it will have to be carried through to the bitter end. I only regret that our Governor did not press sufficiently the desire of this colony to send a detachment of volunteers to the front. We are very much cut up about it, and are by no means satisfied that it should rest there. We have put up sugar and money for the various subscriptions, but that won't win our battles. It's lives we desire to give as it's for the Empire that the Motherland is fighting and it is only fair to give these colonies the opportunity of showing the true spirit of patriotism that they have always evinced in the past in a crisis of this kind. I hardly think that our offer would be slighted if they realised how pained the community feels over a matter of this sort. The volunteers we have are fifty per cent. beyond the previous number, and any draft from these that should be sent home, could be filled twice over.

"I hope they will soon see their way to give our lads a chance of serving the Flag that they pride and honour, and so raise their spirits, which are at present very flat over the whole affair. They had actually a list of names of those who would go on foreign service, when they got this cold water douche from the Government. If they could only realise at home what it means to a colony like Barbados, and the other West Indian colonies for the matter of that, to be able to hand down to posterity that their sons have fought and bled with the sons of the Motherland in the most critical period of her existence. The worst is past, it is true, but there is yet a lot of uphill work to be done, and it will take a lot of lives to complete the task."

THE LONDON LETTER.

PUBLIC attention during the fortnight has been devoted almost as much to the enemy within our midst as to the foe without. The imminence of the spy peril is at last realised. Experience in Belgium has proved that no German subject can be considered innocent of espionage. With the Kaiser's people the "calling" is regarded as honourable and patriotic. Hence the Government has decided upon a vigorous rounding up of the Austrians and Germans in our midst, who will be kept in custody during the war. Little credit, however, attaches to the authorities in this matter. They have moved solely in response to public opinion as expressed by the newspapers.

A SUBTERFUGE hitherto successfully adopted by hostile "nationals" in this country will no longer be available. We refer to the custom popular among those who have made a little money or are fired by social ambitions to change their names for English appellations. It will be possible no longer for Mr. Hoggenheimer to be announced as Mr. Fortescue Curzon. We have been slow to awaken to the folly of our misguided tolerance of this and other alien abuses, but the war will purge the country at last. For many years to come the alien enemy will not find Great Britain the Paradise which it has proved to him hitherto.

NOT the least benefit to flow from these aggressive measures will be that the Englishman will be allowed to come into his own in the land of his birth. One cannot accurately compute the thousands of situations, whether as waiters, clerks and what not, monopolised so far by foreigners which will now become available for men of British nationality. In the light of present events it is amazing that the country has shown such laxity in the admission of aliens and of possible enemies. Irrespective of their capacity for espionage it is an established fact that for years the bulk of the crime of London has been committed by foreigners, who have thus imposed an annual charge upon the ratepayers. However, the war is compelling us in this, as in other respects, to think imperially.

The thousands of Portuguese resident in British Guiana will welcome the news that their Mother Country is likely to throw in her lot with Great Britain in this great struggle. Certainly our Portuguese friends in the "Magnificent Province" had already given evidence of their appreciation of British rule by their recent decision to take steps towards naturalisation. One advantage of the co-operation of Portugal will be that British warships will be able to coal if necessary in the Azores.

Now that £1 and 10s. notes seem destined to become permanent features of our currency it is welcome news that larger and better notes are being

issued. Those printed at the outset of the war were far removed in quality and appearance from the £5 and other notes of higher denomination. Poorly printed, of indifferent size, and easily counterfeited, the original notes had nothing to reconcile the public to their use.

STILL another blow for Austrian and German trade! Sugar from those countries can no longer enter this country. It really seems as though the highest hopes of those who fought the bounties years ago are to be realised, and that we are to become cane sugar consumers by compulsion. Apart from the great good that would ensue for the West Indies every medical man would agree that the health of the community would benefit.

THE Rev. H. J. Shirley is remembered in British Guiana as the Congregationalist minister who a few years ago attracted widespread attention by his active interest in the well-being of the black people. His friends in the colony will therefore be interested to learn that Mr. Shirley has now relinquished the pastorate of the successful church which he built up in Fulham Palace Road, London, in order to take Orders in the Church of England. For that purpose he has entered Bishop's College, Cheshunt, Herts, for a twelve months' course of study.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged and will take place shortly between Lord Herbert Hervey and Lady Jean Cochrane, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Dundonald. The prospective bridegroom is a member of the well-known family of which the Marquis of Bristol is the head.

THE party of London teachers who visited Jamaica and Central America in August held a reunion at Gatti's Restaurant on Saturday evening. Before dinner, at which Mr. T. Gautrey, the organiser of the tour, presided, some hundreds of photographs taken by the travellers were shown. After the usual loyal toasts Mr. G. J. V. Rankin proposed the toast of "The Chairman," and asked Mr. and Mrs. Gautrey to accept an illuminated address (executed by Mr. Bedloe) and four enlarged and painted photographs of scenes in Jamaica and Panama. Mr. Gautrey received many congratulations upon the admirable arrangements for the tour which were so successfully carried out.

THE name of Mr. H. A. Tempary appears in the list of students who have been awarded the degree of LL.D. of the University of London.

IN the table of oil companies operating in Trinidad, published in the Report of the Inspector of Mines, the address and management of the Trinidad Central Oilfields, Ltd., and the Trinidad Oilfields, Ltd., were transposed.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Offer of an armoured aeroplane.

If optimism in the West Indies had received somewhat of a check through the fall of Antwerp when the homeward mail left, the quiet confidence manifested throughout the islands was an ample assurance that this would only be a passing phase as it was in London at the same period. The assistance funds continued to grow and enthusiasm for the cause of the Allies was unabated. The question of the preference given by Canada to colonies not parties to the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, which had been the subject of representations from the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce to the Canadian Government direct had been revived by the receipt of a letter from Sir George Foster, who had promised to take the matter up before the expiration of the three years' time limit granted to the colonies outside the Agreement. This reply was naturally the cause of much satisfaction, more especially as the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who should be looked upon as the guardian of the interests of the colonies without responsible government, had declined even to forward to Canada the statement of the West Indies' case. The proposal of Dominica to present an armoured aeroplane to the Government recalls the old days when the islands presented armed brigs to the Mother Country as recorded in the CIRCULAR of September 8th last. The R.M.S.P. *Magdalena* which left Barbados at 4 a.m. on October 15th, reached Tilbury at 10.15 a.m. on October 28th. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents:—

ANTIGUA—A prolonged earthquake shock experienced.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, OCTOBER 9th.—It seems almost too late to express the general regret which is felt at the death of Sir Neville Lubbock, K.C.M.G. His visit with Sir Cuthbert Quilter to these islands is still remembered, and those who met him then, and at social functions at home, were always impressed with the intense earnestness with which he tried to impress upon all the injustice of the Sugar Bounties and their terrible effect on the West Indian trade. In this island his name will always be associated with that of Mr. Chamberlain in connection with the establishment of the first Central Sugar Factory. To-day one of the engines at Gunthorpe's is called "Sir Neville Lubbock." He will always be remembered as a good and true friend of the West Indies.

The weather during the past fortnight has again been dry, to the keen disappointment of the planters. Yesterday rain fell locally in the Parham district and some few estates in the middle of the island and Pope's Head benefited. In the neighbourhood of Parham two to three inches fell. Canes are holding up wonderfully well but crops are bound to suffer. Sir Hesketh Bell returned to the island on September 28th via New York in the *Guiana*. Major Branch has been appointed his private secretary and censor of telegrams in the place of Captain Benyon who has resigned. Hon. F. W. Griffiths, island treasurer, has been

appointed supply and transport officer with rank of captain in the Antigua Defence Force. Mr. Cyril Malone, native of St. Kitts, and an old Grammar School boy, has been admitted as a barrister to practice in the Leeward Islands. On the 3rd a protracted shock of earthquake was experienced. No serious damage was done but a few walls were cracked. It is an old saying locally that if there is no rain within twenty-four hours of an earthquake a prolonged drought may be looked for, and as twenty-four hours passed without any rain I can only hope the old time belief may be proved to be wrong. The Committee collecting for the war fund are continuing their labours and it is hoped £500 will be remitted from the people of Antigua. The subscriptions ranged from 1d. to £50. His Excellency reviewed the local forces on the 7th inst. They made a brave show, and the young men of the island are assuming quite a military air. Prices of food-stuffs have not further advanced. Mr. J. Goodwin, Superintendent of the Telegraph Office, returned to-day.

BARBADOS—£2,000 for the Prince of Wales' Fund.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, OCTOBER 13th.—We all deeply regret the death of Sir Neville Lubbock, President of the West India Committee, who was such a good friend to the West Indies.

We have been blessed with fine soaking rains, and the canes are growing rapidly. With a continuance of such weather the island ought to make a fair crop. The war is naturally the one absorbing topic, and we were rejoiced to hear that the Allies had been able to drive the Germans back almost to the frontier. We are proud of our troops. I regret to announce the death of Mr. Springer, an assistant master at the Combermere School, and scoutmaster of the Combermere troop of boy scouts who won the King's flag last year.

Regarding the weather and the crops the Barbados *Advocate* mail edition states: October has given us a continuation of rainy weather; and there is no lack of moisture anywhere. The canes are growing vigorously and fresh shoots are appearing. As nearly all the fields were healthy although very low, the coming of the rains has enabled them to develop surprisingly. Arrows are already appearing in some fields. There is much activity displayed in preparing the lands for planting the 1916 crop; but there is not as much work as usual in boiling-house and mill repairs. There is also less coöperage business going on. It is expected that the price of sugar will cause nearly all the canes to be sold to the Centrals and that there will be little for small windmills. The displacing of labour on packages by the use of bags is one of the economic features of the factory system that operates against the local workman. The members of the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society at an extraordinary meeting held on October 9th voted £2,000 of the Society's funds for the Prince of Wales' Fund and a further £500 is to be devoted to the Belgian Relief Fund.

BERMUDA—Notable enterprise in many directions.

DR. W. CARDY BLUCK, OCTOBER 9th.—Bermuda, in common with all the dominions and dependencies of the Empire, has responded to the call of the Mother Country. The first act of the Legislature on being convened for the fourth session of the present Colonial Parliament was to vote a contribution of £40,000 towards the cost of the war. This contribution is to be paid over to the Treasury officials in England or here as thought best, and a very cordial cable acceptance has been received from the Government forwarded through the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Added to this many collections for various funds and societies have been made, which by this time have totalled over £1,000 in cash or goods. The Prince of Wales' Fund

collection was well responded to; the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire have got together for the British Red Cross Society £175; the *Colonist* Appeal for Red Cross gift of Bermuda arrowroot realised nearly £200, and other appeals have met with response in like proportion. Affairs in Bermuda have been necessarily very quiet, the tourist traffic having been severely cut down, first by stoppage of the usual summer rush when it should be at its height, and secondly, after fears had been calmed and visitors were again preparing to come, by a series of ill-natured sensational reports to which the American press freely opened their columns without stopping to ascertain their falsity in any way. To crown all the removal of the steamers usually running (R.M.S.P. *Caribbean* and Quebec S.S. *Bermudian*) and substitution of a ten day service by a much smaller boat reduced this source of Bermuda's income almost to vanishing point. The people of Bermuda have, however, risen to the occasion, and a Bermuda Steamship Company has come into existence. The Legislature has passed the necessary Act of Incorporation and has also extended financial aid in the shape of a grant of £1 per passenger for six months up to a maximum of £6,000. The directors have succeeded in chartering the S.S. *Oceana* formerly on the route. This boat has been thoroughly overhauled and is capable of taking nearly 600 passengers, a number which with a weekly run will cover the requirements of the traffic up to the end of January according to the average of previous years. After Christmas we may expect the usual boats will have finished their trooping, and be released for this route if their directors see fit to put them on again. The Lincolnshire Regiment has departed for the front and their place in the garrison has been taken by the Royal Canadian Rifles.

DOMINICA—Proposed gift of an armoured aeroplane.

MR. E. A. AGAR, OCTOBER 10th.—The unexpected death of Sir Nevile Lubbock places a considerable portion of the work of your Committee into "history." His name has been so intimately connected with important matters concerned with the West Indies for so many years that his death seems to relegate the fact (not the effect) of their accomplishment to the past. The views of the CIRCULAR on the cacao outlook are not optimistic, but I fear likely to prove true ones.

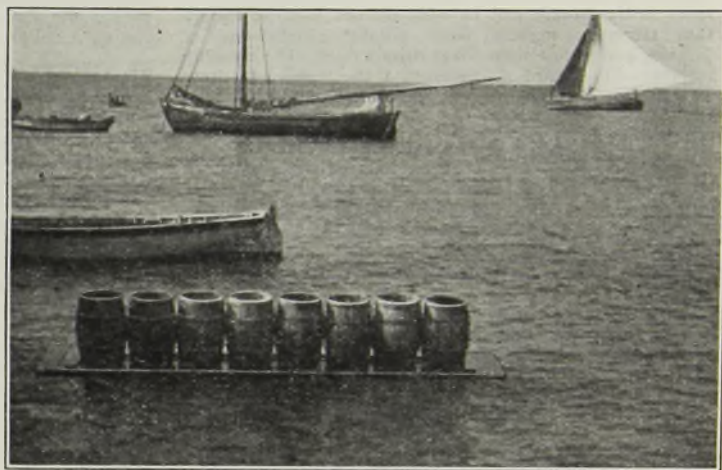
Some little time ago, the Agricultural and Commercial Society started a movement to present a large supply of lime juice for the use of the forces in the field, but many difficulties—notably that the available supply was largely required on contract by the Admiralty—led to this scheme being abandoned. In its place, the Legislative Council unanimously passed on October 7th the following resolutions:—

Be it Resolved by the Legislative Council of the Island of Dominica that this Council, mindful of the many benefits derived by this community from the protection and fostering care which the Mother Country has ever extended to this island, and being wishful at this time of storm and stress of giving tangible evidence of its firm loyalty and deep devotion to His Majesty the King

and the British Empire, approves of a grant of £4,000 from the surplus assets of the island being respectfully offered to His Majesty's Government preferably as a contribution to the war expenses of the Royal Flying Corps, or if that is not deemed practicable to be expended on such purposes connected with the war as to His Majesty's Government may seem fit.

Be it resolved by the Legislative Council of the Island of Dominica that this Council, being deeply impressed by the bitter sufferings cruelly inflicted by an unscrupulous foe on the brave Belgian nation, and borne by that nation with heroic fortitude, desires His Majesty's Government may be respectfully requested to offer the sum of £1,000 from the surplus assets of the island as a grant towards such relief of the distressed Belgians as to His Majesty's Government may seem fit and proper.

With regard to the first resolution, the Council expressed a hope that it might be possible to purchase an armoured aeroplane with a quick-firing gun, to be called the "Dominica." With regard to the second, the Bishop of



"A German Man-of-War."

This target, used by the Defence force in St. Kitts, is called by the blacks a "German Man-of-War."

Roseau and the priests now in charge of the Roman Catholic Church here are all Belgians, so that our sympathies are particularly with that nation. The Defence Force has now been demobilised, and is only to parade once a week. I am convinced that they have been most useful. Still no one wishes them to be called upon to put their training into practice. The weather continues fine and the cacao crop is coming in; it looks rather better than last year. The lime crop is practically over and has been quite satisfactory. One of the worst earthquake shocks experienced was felt here at 1.20 p.m. on the 3rd, but I have not heard of any damage being done.

GRENADA—The year's cacao crop figures.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, OCTOBER 12th.—The cacao crop for 1913-14 amounts to 66,736 bags as compared with 63,456 bags in 1912-13. The shipments in respect of the current crop are 209 bags against 98 in the corresponding period last year.

JAMAICA—The Vere Irrigation Scheme.

Tenders have been invited by the Chairman of the Vere Irrigation for debentures to be issued under the Vere Irrigation Law, 1913. A loan of £40,000 is to be raised in 400 debentures of £100 each, bearing interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. payable half-yearly on January 1st and July

1st. The amount will be repaid by the annual investments of a sum equal to 1 per cent. on the total value of the whole of the debentures issued. The debentures are redeemable not earlier than 40 years from the passing of the Law. Investigations made by the District Medical Officers show that the hook-worm disease is, owing to the lamentable ignorance of the people, unfortunately widespread in the island. Steps are, however, being taken to eradicate it. Matters generally are very quiet in the island. Parts, including, of course, Vere, have been suffering severely from drought. The increase of the ad valorem import duties from 10 per cent. to 16 per cent. continues to cause great dissatisfaction. The *Gleaner* has collected nearly £8,000 towards the Prince of Wales Fund, and there is already £1,000 to the credit of the Central Fund. Nothing is talked of but the war and many people are complaining that the treatment of the German prisoners interned locally is far too good. A correspondent writes expressing his belief that there have always been German spies in the island, and he adds that he is quite certain that Germans possess more accurate knowledge of Jamaica's coast line than Great Britain does. The monthly meeting of the Board of Governors of the Jamaica Institute was held on the 7th, when it was reported that the total membership was 1,023.

MONTSERRAT—Good Cotton picking weather.

MR. K. P. PENCHOEN, OCTOBER 10th.—There is little to write about here, the fortnight just passed has been dry with some fiercely hot days, good cotton picking weather, but the plants would be helped in their bearing by some rain. The outlook for cotton is gloomy. In the absence of a cable here war news is only obtainable from the other islands.

A correspondent writes that the first shipment of Guava Jelly presented to the Prince of Wales for the sick and wounded troops was despatched by last mail. It consisted of 13 barrels containing 104 1 lb. jars, and 20 more cases each containing 1 cwt. of jelly in 56 lb. tins has been prepared and it will be followed by 13 more cases, making 5,000 lbs. in all.

The following resolution was passed at a meeting of the Legislative Council of Montserrat on the 23rd day of September:—

Be it resolved that this Council desires on behalf of the people of Montserrat to express to His Majesty the King-Emperor assurances of continued loyalty and devotion to His Majesty's Person and Throne, and prays that the war now raging may be brought to a speedy and successful issue.

At this time of supreme necessity, His Majesty's loyal subjects in this outpost of Empire, fully realizing all that the Mother Country has done and is doing in the interests of civilization, wish to perform their duty by bearing their humble share of the burden now imposed on the Empire.

Be it therefore further resolved that the sum of £1,000 be voted by this Council as a contribution from this Presidency to the War Relief Funds, £250 to be spent in the purchase of guava jelly for the sick and wounded, and £750 to be presented to the Prince of Wales' Fund.

ST. LUCIA—A German liberated and re-arrested.

HON. G. S. HUDSON, OCTOBER 10th.—So far this year we have been spared the usual rainy season downpours, but are getting quite sufficient rainfall for all crops: our rainfall for nine months is only 40 inches and this shortage does not seem to have been prejudicial to any cultivation except sugar cane. There is naturally a renewed activity in cane planting both as a main crop and as a catch crop between young lime trees as prices for the next two years should show a fair profit margin. Port Castries has been very quiet during the past fortnight—the cruisers evidently

being engaged on a very wide sweep. The German doctor of the prize *Spreewald* having been liberated by us as a non-combatant was arrested again by the French authorities in passing through Gadeloupe. I erroneously advised last mail that the prize ships brought to Castries were captured by H.M.S. *Essex*, I should have said by H.M.S. *Berwick*. St. Lucia's subscription list to the Red Cross Society already totals about £550, this result being very creditable to the philanthropic energy of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. A. S. Duff, manager of the Colonial Bank. Two of the leading Castries firms subscribed £50 apiece and it is significant of the response to this call from all classes that the friendly societies alone contributed about £125. This, at a time of much financial depression combined with increased cost of living, is a valuable indication of feeling in St. Lucia. It has been announced that St. Lucia's proffer of £2,000 worth of cacao, and £1,000 to the Prince of Wales' Fund has been gratefully accepted by the home government. His Excellency the Acting Governor remains in Grenada, and His Honour A. de Freitas is Acting Administrator of St. Lucia.

ST. VINCENT—A Patriotic Concert in Georgetown.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, OCTOBER 10th.—From an agricultural standpoint perhaps the most critical time of the year for the colony has arrived. The past three seasons have seen promising crops of cotton badly damaged by heavy rainfall during the reaping season and now, as one learns that the first bale has been harvested on one or other of the early plantations, one looks forward with anxious hope to the next three months. Throughout the colony the cotton again looks in very fair condition and seasonable weather is the only thing needed to give at least an average return. Even with ideal weather and a consequent good crop the prospects of marketing the same do not look too rosy, thanks to this war, which has been responsible for so much evil. Another patriotic concert was held in the colony on October 5th, this time at Georgetown. Two motor cars took quite a respectable number from Kingstown including His Honour the Administrator. The concert was well attended, the proceeds amounting to about £17.

TOBAGO—Many signs of Patriotism in the Island.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, OCTOBER 8th.—The services rendered by Sir Nevile Lubbock to the West Indies will never be forgotten. Surely the war will bring about a change in the Government's policy regarding sugar. Apart from the question of preference, political economists will now see that it does not pay in the long run to allow the nation's industries to be strangled for the benefit of foreigners. The war continues to be the absorbing topic and even the natives take a keen interest in the public telegrams. My labourers frequently ask me what is the latest news and are greatly delighted if our side has scored a win or sunk or seized a steamer. Two patriotic meetings were held in this district since last mail to ventilate the causes and the course of the war and the noble service of the Red Cross Society for which subscriptions are being collected all over the island. By last mail, the treasurer, Mrs. Strange, wife of our Commissioner Warden, remitted \$300, and it is hoped that monthly cheques will be sent so long as the war lasts. Although there is not much actual poverty in Tobago the natives haven't much spare money, and their subscriptions are creditable and a new and useful experience. The motto is "We can't do much, but we shall lend a hand to help the Empire in this great war." Mr. Harries, a young Scot, goes home by this mail to offer his services in the fighting line, and this makes the third volunteer from little Tobago!

Although the rainfall for September was 7 inches a little under the average of past years, the weather is far too dry and the heat is greater than usual even for this season. Since January the rainfall is 25 per cent. less than 1913, which was a very dry year, and planters are getting anxious about the coming cacao crop. Some light pickings are being made, but the dry heat has scorched a large percentage of the young pods, and for December crop the prospects are much less cheerful. Coco-nuts are also suffering and there will be heavy "supply" bills on young plantations.

TRINIDAD—Sir George Foster on the Reciprocity tangle.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, OCTOBER 15th.—Trinidad is sharing in the world's sorrow at the fall of Antwerp and in horror and indignation of "cultured" barbarism, but we also share to the full all the confidence of the United Kingdom itself in the final triumph of civilisation and right.

The Chamber of Commerce has received a most encouraging letter from Sir George Foster in reply to their direct representations to him as to favoured treatment being accorded by Canada to colonies not participating in the Reciprocity Agreement. Sir George says that he notes the views of the Chamber "with satisfaction," and he concludes "I can assure you of my thorough and unabated interest in the promotion of reciprocal trade between our respective countries and shall be quite prepared to take the matter up before the expiry of the time limit and with a view to meeting all reasonable claims in the case." This reply is particularly gratifying in view of the refusal of the Secretary of State even to send on their statement of case in the matter.

Referring to a paragraph in my letter published in the CIRCULAR of 28th July, in which the Usine St. Madeleine crop of sugar of 1906 was spoken of as the largest yet made in Trinidad, it is pointed out in the current number of the Proceedings of the Agricultural Society that, other things being considered, the crop of last year, which goes to the credit of Mr. H. E. Murray, was really the larger for the estate proper. As to this I am not in a position to speak. One thing, however, is certain, and that is that both the crops of 1906 and 1914 were remarkably good ones and a credit to all concerned.

There was a meeting of the Legislative Council last week, when the new senior unofficial, Hon. H. A. Alcazar, delivered a brilliant speech in moving an address of loyal devotion to the throne, which was of course carried with acclamation. It was announced that Mr. Arthur Wight had been appointed to one of the vacant places on the Council. Mr. Wight is a member of the important firm of Messrs. G. R. Alston & Co., and will bring to the business element of the Legislative body some useful backing in which of late years it has been wanting. An Ordinance to regulate trading with His Majesty's enemies was introduced and passed through all its stages. Another popular appointment is that of Mr. Arneaud de Boissiere as Protector of Immigrants vice Commander Coombs resigned. He also took his seat for the first time on his appointment and received congratulations.

The Patriotic Fund under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce has now reached over \$40,000, and much more is to come in. The Committee will remit as soon as \$10,000 is collected. Of other funds, the *Port of Spain Gazette* stands at \$8,700, (the *Mirror's* is incorporated with the Chamber's), and the Red Cross \$7,500. Another list has now been started in aid of sufferers in Belgium, and is doing well. The *Mirror* sponsors it.

Since the 30th there is little change. Deliveries, as was to be expected, have been small. Prices to-day are \$9 for ordinary, and \$9½ for estates. The Government have

appointed a Committee to superintend the purchase of the £40,000 worth which is to be presented to the Home Government for the army. When they commence to buy, it will probably lead to improved prices, to which no one will object, as the fall due to the war has seriously affected many of those who rely altogether on the golden bean for livelihood.

With the limited production at this time of the year, it seems likely that the £40,000 worth of cacao, say 5,000 bags, given by the colony for the use of the British Army, will represent all cacao likely to come to market between now and December, so that probably local prices will harden somewhat.

The shipments of Trinidad cacao during the month of September were as follows:—

Destination	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	105,681
B.N. America	47,956
R.W. Indies	2,000
France	4,480
United States America	393,696
Total for September	552,893
Shipped previously	59,317,676
Total from 1st January	59,870,569
To same date, 1913	44,915,936
" " 1912	39,063,198
" " 1911	41,523,273
" " 1910	47,755,723
" " 1909	40,801,845
" " 1908	35,471,115
" " 1907	31,308,624

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants," Crossed cheques or P. O. Orders, should be made payable to the Manager, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

MARRIAGE.

Goodall-Copetake Gillespie.—At St. Ninian's Church, Glasgow, on the 21st October, by the Very Rev. M. B. Hutchison, D.D., Oxon, Dean of Glasgow, Henry Goodall-Copetake, B.Sc., to Catherine Hunter, second daughter of James Gillespie, Demerara.

DEATH.

Grey. On the 24th of October, in London, after an operation, the Rev. Alexander Harry Grey, third son of the late Lieut.-Colonel G. H. Grey, of Falldon, Northumberland, aged 44.

WANT.

Wanted.—6d. per copy will be paid for copies of CIRCULAR No. 404, returned to the Manager, The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE NEW MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom) 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination, for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" is obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Post free 1s. 2d.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

Cane Sugar and Beel.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR.—In your interesting article "Great Britain's Sugar Supply," in your issue of October 6th, I see no mention of the superiority of cane sugar over beetroot sugar as an article of food.

I have noticed several medical men writing in various papers declaring strongly against beetroot sugar as an article of human food, and in favour of cane sugar especially in cases of heart complaint.

I don't think that this point should be lost sight of.

Yours faithfully,

Poltalloch, Kilmartin.

October 25th, 1914.

E. D. MALCOLM,

of Knockalva, Jamaica.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

Owing to the exceptional circumstances under which operations have been lately carried on, the Court of Directors have issued an interim report. In this, after deploring the death of Captain Jellicoe, and referring to the depression in the trade with Brazil and Argentina, and the reckless competition of the German shipping lines, which made business unremunerative, they state that since the commencement of the war, and the cessation of the sailings of the German lines, there has been no trouble, in coming to an amicable arrangement with the other foreign lines, and steerage passenger rates have been in a large measure restored to normal figures, but the traffic is now much decreased. To meet the convenience of the British Post Office, and in the interests of British trade, the court of directors have, notwithstanding the war, endeavoured (although at great expense) to maintain a fortnightly service of mail steamers to South America and also to the West Indies. Owing to the dislocation of international exchange the Argentine freezing companies ceased shipments, thus depriving the Company of an important source of revenue. Shipments have, however, now been resumed to some extent. The Company have suffered very considerably from the closing (by the military authorities) of their home port at Southampton, where they have an extensive establishment of their own, including a factory, workshops, and laundry, besides provender and general stores, all of which have been rendered temporarily useless for the vessels still employed in the service.

The Court of Directors desire to draw the special attention of the proprietors to the exceedingly high cost of war risks insurance, which is still £2 per cent. for a period of 91 days, and is equal to £8 per cent. per annum on the value of the steamers. It will be seen that such an expenditure itself represents a dividend.

Since the outbreak of war the export of British products has been much curtailed, compelling the company to cancel a number of sailings on the various routes. Even in the case of vessels despatched, cargoes have been so small that, though rates of freight have been advanced by a moderate war surcharge, the earnings secured have been far less than normal. With these facts before them, the proprietors will realize that it is not practicable, much as the directors regret it, to recommend the payment of a dividend on the Ordinary stock, and they have accordingly decided to pay only the half-yearly dividend on the Preference stock, warrants for which will be posted on October 31. Eleven of the company's steamers are at present employed by H.M. Government, and two others were recently utilized by the Government of the Dominion of Canada for the conveyance of troops to England.

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTES.

Under the above heading some of the more interesting matters dealt with in the West Indian Official Gazettes are summarised for purpose of reference.

Bahamas, No. 36. Notice that powers of disallowance are not to be exercised with respect to the Act to provide for the appointment of a Development Board and the Act to amend the Mail Service Act, 1873. **No. 37.** Proclamations constituting the Supreme Court a Prize Court. **No. 38.** Proclamations regarding contraband, Order in Council adopting the Declarations of London subject to additions and modifications. **No. 39.** Circular despatch from the Secretary of State regarding the scope of work of the Imperial Institute. **Barbados, Vol. 49—No. 85.** Half-yearly report of the Poor Law Inspector January to June, 1909. **No. 86.** (Supplement). Proceedings of the House of Assembly, September 18th. Debate of Parochial Loans Authorisation Bill. Regulation of Price of Food-stuffs Amendment Bill. Vote of £500 passed for repatriating from England or Europe any distressed natives stranded there. **No. 87.** Report of Mr. J. Nichols and Mr. H. W. Greenhalgh on the teachers' certificate examination. Convention for the exchange of money orders between the Danish West Indies and Barbados. Report of Mr. Laborde on the Allexey School. **No. 88.** Water Works Amendment Act, 1914. The Reimbursement Act, 1914, authorising the Government to raise £9,000 to repay the money withdrawn for the purchase of War Department Properties in 1912-13, and £2,000 for the credit of the water works construction account. Public Loans Act, the Government and Executive Committee if authorised by special act may raise money by debentures. Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council for the Session 1914-15. Report of the Examination for the Barbados English Scholarship at Cambridge. (There were nine candidates of whom Clark—Natural Science was placed first and Cave—Classics—was placed second). **British Guiana, Vol. 39—No. 49.** Form for use under the Companies' Consolidation Ordinance, 1913, prescribed by the Government in Council. **No. 50.** Time-table of Government Steamer Services and Rail Services, including work services between Georgetown and Bartica and Berbice Ferry, and Passenger and Work Service between Leguan and Wakenaam, Aurora and Suddie. **No. 52.** Draft Bill to amend the Customs Ordinance (to legalise payment of the Comptroller of Customs instead of the Receiver General or Council Treasurer). Return and Grants of Licences for April, 1914, under Crown Lands Regulations. **No. 54.** Proclamation under the Food-stuffs Regulation and Price Ordinance. Return of vital statistics for the first quarter 1914 submitted by Dr. K. S. Wise, Acting Registrar General. **Trinidad, Vol. 83—No. 57.** Draft Ordinance to provide funds for lighting Scarborough. Minutes of Proceedings of the Board of Industrial Training. Statement of Accounts of the Trinidad Public Library (Total Expenditure to June 30, 1913 \$1,806.05, Balance in hand \$1,178.89. **No. 58.** Draft Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Reformatory and Industrial Schools. Draft Bank Notes Amendment Ordinance. Offer of Crown Lands without timber, in lots not exceeding two acres at 2s. per acre for two years, paid in advance with option of renewal for one or two years, if tenant is found satisfactory). Regulations under Ordinance 2 of 1913 for provisions on estates. Traffic Regulations for Port of Spain and San Fernando. Meeting of the Board of Agriculture, September 18th. Reports of mycologists and entomologists and officers. Education Department Examination of Teachers. **Grenada, Vol. 32—No. 41.** Agreement for the reduction of cable rates. **No. 46.** Revenue return for period ended July 31st, 1914, (Revenue £36,168 10s. 10d. as compared with £28,502 18s. 10d. for the same period in 1913. Expenditure £28,991 13s. 6d. as against £28,017 10s. 10d. **St. Lucia, Vol. 83—No. 47.** Annual Report of the Treasurer, Hon. A. Laborde. Report of Registrar of Friendly Societies. Draft of Quarantine Ordinance. **Vincent, Vol. 47—No. 46.** Revenue and Expenditure Return from 1st April to May 31st, 1914. Revenue £5,358 9s. 10d. as against £5,822 4s. 8d. Expenditure £6,239 12s. 6d. as against £5,673 3s. 6d.

THE WEST INDIAN MAI LS.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Magdalena*, (Captain A. G. Miles), Tilbury, London, Oct. 28th:—

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. C. Flannigan | Mr. Lum Qui Hoog | Mr. W. A. Smelhe |
| Mr. W. Adams | Mr. F. G. Johnston | Mr. D. G. Stoute |
| Mrs. M. Breuchly | Mr. Johnsons | Capt. C. Stuart |
| Mr. W. H. Bagot | Miss A. Kilby | Mr. T. Sorenson |
| Capt. W. W. Benyon | Mr. H. Korkhaus | Mr. W. J. Tombleson |
| Mr. G. Burch | Mrs. M. Liddle | Mr. S. Suelle |
| Mrs and Miss Bell | Mr. A. Leung | Mr. H. S. Tuppin |
| Mr. R. K. Campbell | Mr. G. H. Minars | Miss E. Ward |
| Mr. R. S. Cameron | Mr. C. McDonald | Mr. W. N. Wallace |
| Mr. E. Edwards | Mr. C. V. Monk | Mr. H. Wheeler |
| Mr. G. A. Gordon | Rev. A. H. Otway | Mr. A. T. Warren |
| Mr. P. E. Hart | Mrs. W. C. Palmer | Mrs. Warner |
| Mr. T. M. Harries | Mr. J. A. Parillon | Mr. H. Winshurst |
| Mr. T. Hiscocks | Mr. J. L. Riley | Dr. F. D. Walker |
| Mr. Harilal | Mr. Sinooker | |
| Mrs. Harilal | Mr. H. Stoddart | |

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. A. K. Agar | Hon. E. A. H. Haggart | Mr. W. C. Robertson |
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. A. T. Hammond | Mr. N. Maude Rosby |
| Mr. G. H. Arthur | Mr. A. S. Kernahan | Mrs Herbert H. Sealy |
| Mr. G. Auchinleck | Mr. A. H. Kirby | His Hon. Mr. Justice |
| Mr. Geoffrey Brooke | Dr. G. L. Latour | P. M. C. Sheriff |
| Mr. G. S. Browne | Mr. J. F. Loader | Mr. R. B. Short |
| Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa | Hon. J. Cballoner | Hon. Adam Smith |
| Mr. C. Flanagan | Lynch | Mr. Wm. Smith |
| Mr. W. Morris | Mr. J. A. Madgwick | Hon. R. A. S. Warner |
| Fletcher | Mr. C. H. McLean | K.C. |
| Lieut. I. M. Frame | Mr. H. P. C. Melville | His Grace The Arch- |
| Mr. Alexander Fraser | Mr. James Peet | bishop of the West |
| Mr. M. A. French, J.P. | Mr. G. M. Peter | Indies |
| Mr. J. Gillespie | Mr. C. W. Prest | and |
| Mr. G. Graf | Mr. G. Railton | Mr. A. H. Wight |
| Mr. John T. Greg | Mr. L. A. Richard | |

- Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.
- Col. J. H. Collins, V.D., "Rossmoyne," Chessell Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton.
- Private R. A. Delalens, No. 1 Company, 3rd Battalion, U. and P.S. Force, Epsom.
- Mr. Justice A. Earnshaw, Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
- Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fore Street Avenue, E.C.
- Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, 39, Bedford Square, W.C.
- Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o Messrs. Coutts & Co., 440, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. E. H. Grant, Markham Lodge, Liverpool Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey.
- Rev. F. H. Hammond, 10, Chapel Street, Warwick.
- Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, 38, Livingston Road, Kings Barr, Birmingham.
- Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Sreatham Hill, S.W.
- Mr. Richard Lloyd, Melion House, New Quay, Cardiganshire.
- Major O. H. E. Marescaux, Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, S.W.
- Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
- Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Pairedeau, 35, Leinster Square, Bayswater, W.
- Mr. D. McPhail, 71, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.
- Mr. F. J. Morris, 4, Camden Gardens, N.W.
- Mr. L. F. Nourse, 37, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.
- Mr. G. R. Dewar Rust, 9, Heathfield Gardens, Chiswick, W.
- Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o Messrs. Preville & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E.C.
- Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E.C.
- Mr. L. Schoeret Scott, 20, Haven Green, Ealing, W.
- Mr. F. B. B. Sband, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E.C.
- Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.
- Mr. P. R. W. Wilson, Manor Hill, Sutton Coldfield.

SAILINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Magdalena*, (Captain Mackenzie), Nov. 4th:—

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Paterson | Mr. M. C. Watkins | Mr. Wm J. Ingoldby |
| Mr. & Mrs. P. J. Dean | Mr. C. H. Progers | Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Moody |
| Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Law | Mrs. and Miss Bowen | Misses de Gale (2) |
| Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bancroft | Miss D. M. Athill | Rev. and Mrs. Thos. Streater |
| Mr. S. T. Harrison, c.o.g. | Miss A. Gomes | Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Allport |
| Mr. & Mrs. S. Manning | Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Paterson | Miss A. Allport |
| Mr. Albert Cherry | Rev. C. Cary-Elwes | Miss A. Mendes |
| Mr. & Mrs. H. A. Bovell | Miss L. Bancroft | Mrs. Tenperley |
| Mr. Albert Mendes | Misses Lister (2) | Miss S. E. Howes |
| Mr. and Mrs. F. A. C. Collymore | Miss M. O. Inness | Mr. MacCallum |
| Miss Willis | Miss Law | Mrs. J. Meek |
| Mrs Rita Kodger | Miss Carrington | Mr. and Mrs. E. G. L. Mason |
| Misses Paterson (2) | Miss D. Entage | Miss A. M. Hody |
| Mr. K. C. Evans | Mr. J. Ball | Mrs. R. M. Johnston |
| Mrs Hay | Mr. C. Solon | Mrs. and Miss Bowen |
| Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Saunders | Mr. and Mrs. S. Poole | Mr. Archibald Thomson |
| Hon. and Mrs. Adam Smith | Miss N. Moody | Mrs. E. H. Lavis |
| Miss E. Cunningham | Mrs. A. Elliott | |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Craw | Mr. S. Reyes | |
| Mr. G. S. Seccombe | Mr. & Mrs. F. G. Inness | |

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Essequibo*, (Captain T. G. K. Cheret), Nov 18th:—

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Sir Norman and Lady Lamont | Mr. V. I. Monplaisir | Miss M. Lamont-Briggs |
| Mrs. T. Ehon Miller | Mr. R. Alexander | Mrs. and Miss Becher |
| Hon. and Mrs. R. S. A. Warner | Mr. F. Alexander | Dr. & Mrs. S. Montana |
| Hon. J. Spencer Hollings | Mr. C. Sadler | Mr. & Mrs. Paul Ulrich |
| Lieut. Col. and Mrs. J. H. Collins | Mr. R. C. Moore | Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Luys |
| Capt. and Mrs. J. B. Saunders | Mr. & Mrs. E. Pedroza | Miss Leys |
| Hon. and Mrs. Adam Smith | Mrs. Nightingale | Miss J. M. Hollings |
| Miss E. Cunningham | Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hutson | Mr. & Mrs. C. Andrews |
| Mr. & Mrs. R. R. Hall | Mrs. C. K. Siretch | Mr. W. Hart |
| Miss Warner | Mr. W. A. Lea | Mr. and Mrs. R. London |
| | Mr. Wm. H. Thomas | Leader |
| | Mrs. F. Muir | Mr. & Mrs. T. Pedenza |
| | Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Shekell | Misses Smith (2) |
| | | Mrs. Nancy Blenkarn |
| | | Mr. A. J. Russell |

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Dunube*, (Captain Bennett), Dec 2nd:—

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Sir Charles and Lady Lox | Mr. and Mrs. Newburn | Mrs. Emptage |
| Mr. and Mrs. R. S. D. Goodwin | Garnett | Mrs. Challenger |
| | Miss K. Arthur | Miss S. R. Bladen |
| | Rev. & Mrs. J. B. Hill | |

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

British Guiana. (Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.) October 21st. "Showers generally." October 22nd. "Weather Showery." (Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), November 2nd. "Rainfall four inches—Berbice three." **Jamaica.** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.) Week ending October 14th. **PORT ANTONIO.** "Fine." **KINGSTON.** "Sh. to 11th. Fine. 12th. Heavy thunder-shower. 13th to 14th. Fine."

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Oct. 8.	1914	1914	1913
Sugar ..	54,050	37,670 Tons	13,667	5,071 Tons.
Molasses ..	831	767 Tons		
Rum ..	2,059,847	1,681,866 Gallons	980,216	974,004 Gallons
Molascuit, &c....	1,221	5,313 Tons.		
Cacao ..	41,937	40,510 lbs.	6,844,556	3,478,608 Lbs.
Coffee ..	238,746	81,463 "	5,792,080	4,463,984 "
Coco-nuts ..	1,521,481	523,588 No.	21,640,090	16,212,175 No.
Oranges ..			3,895,600	21,265,785 "
Bananas ..			14,214,944	3,154,647 Stems
Cotton ..			33,607	47,545 Lbs.
Pimento ..			66,201	84,705 Cwts.
Ginger ..			16,799	19,616 "
Honey ..			141,743	111,305 Gallons
Dye-woods ..			46,079	43,023 Tons
Gold ..	47,431	59,676 ozs		
Diamonds ..	9,517	5,575 carats.		
Rice ..	10,626,060	12,846,869 lbs.		
Balata ..	866,387	657,220 "		
Rubber ..	782	566 "		
Timber ..	173,171	391,683 cubic ft.	Areawt. 3,342,706	3,693,568 lbs
Lumber ..	241,229	423,509 feet	Cacao 134,450	109,209 "
Lime (citrate of) ..	4,570	686 lbs.	Cotton 530,666	475,255 "
			Seed 740,752	1,098,887 "

	Trinidad.		Barbados.	
	Jan. 1 to Oct. 13	1914	1914	1913
Sugar ..	45,202	30,805 Tons.	31,553	10,794 Tons.
Molasses ..	3,155	3,193 Tons.	99,706	75,917 Tons.
Rum ..	961	727 "		
Coco-nuts ..	11,785,205	10,772,238 No.		
Asphalt ..	117,142	171,253 Tons		
Manjak ..	224	463 "		
Bitters ..	13,537	15,927 Cases.		
Coffee ..	13,440	1,880 lbs.		
Crude Petrol ..	11,990,898	9,610,715 Gallons.		
Cacao ..	60,166,800	45,296,200 lbs.		
Cotton ..				
Seed ..				
Copra ..	9,057	1,680 Bags		
Spice ..				
Kola ..				

	Grenada.	
	Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.	1914/13
Cacao ..	12,012,450	11,422,050 lbs.
Bales ..	1,172	1,265 Bales
Bags ..	3,558	4,604 Bags
Spice ..	277	199 "
	1,322,940	1,328,365 lbs
	9,510	6,305 "

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—No change has been made in the Bank Rate which stands at 5% as from August 8th as compared with the same figure at this time last year. Consols (2½%) are quoted unofficially at 68½. The Bank return is again stronger with coin and bullion exceeding 60 millions and a reserve approaching 43½ millions for the previous week. The payment of fifteen millions of Treasury bills made on the 24th October the *Times* state did not cause a ripple on the surface of the money market.

SUGAR—In New York the market has shown a weaker tendency and the almost daily decline in quotations of raw centrifugals had registered reductions totalling 100 points, business from time to time took place in Cubans at these declines and free offerings brought about these successive declines resulting in a fall from 4.52c., as advised in our last issue, to 3.52c. to 3.61c. for raw centrifugals, 3.07c. to 3.19c. for muscovados, and for refined granulated 5.50c.

The London sugar market, owing to further considerable arrivals early in the fortnight and a weaker American market became easier and prices were again generally lower. Further large arrivals, mostly of Javas and another decline in raws in America tended to keep the market quiet, but values showed no material change. The Sugar Commission maintained their limits of 30s. for American granulated, 28s. to 29s. on spot for Javas, and 28s. to 29s. for Mauritius according to quality; but American granulated was sold in the market on the spot at 28s. and 28s. 9d. for October and 28s. 6d. c.i.f. London. White Javas on the spot sold at 27s. 6d. and landing ex *Clan Chisholm* sold at 26s. 3d. to 27s. spot terms, later sales of Javas were made at 27s., and subsequently white Javas were sold at 25s. 3d. and arrived in the River at 23s. c.i.f. and Italian crystals on the spot at 26s. 6d.

The proclamation of the Government referred to on another page prohibiting the importation of all sugar created some consternation in sugar circles, more especially in those connected with the British West Indian colonies, and whilst admitting the wisdom of bringing all legitimate means to bear to cripple the resources of the enemy it appeared to us that no effort has been made by the advisers of the Government to protect the vital interests of the planting and mercantile bodies connected with the West Indies in this proclamation. The Sugar Commission after keeping up their quotations for the sugar held by them reduced the price last week 2s. 6d., thus further unsettling the market.

Grocery West Indian.—Crystallised, small sales of Trinidad took place early in the fortnight at 28s. 6d., and at the end of last week at 27s. to 27s. 6d.; but the market is quite disorganised in consequence of the Government having prohibited the importation of all sugar for the time being, and further business is at a standstill. The Sugar Commission has acquired supplies to last at least six months at a cost of 18 millions sterling, so that there will be no dearth of sugar for our people. Representatives, however, by the West India Committee, we are glad to state have been successful in practically removing the British West Indies for the operation of this proclamation. Licences will, however, be necessary before the arrival of any steamer at the port of call or off the coast.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Imports ...	27,373	35,406	24,381	32,903	29,565
Deliveries ...	32,406	24,623	26,211	31,827	30,391
Stock (Oct. 24)	10,491	12,627	2,660	5,436	4,249
Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, Oct. 30th					
	27s. 6d.	14s. 6d.	18s.	20s. 9d.	16s. 10½d.

RUM—Stocks in London, October 24th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Jamaica ...	8,102	7,246	8,796	10,398	10,875
Demerara ...	7,188	6,629	5,753	3,997	7,472
Total, all kinds	21,817	21,615	22,680	22,851	27,472

The demand for proof rum continues steady, and Demeraras in small parcels to arrive have sold at prices full up

to rather dearer rates. The shipment recently arrived was mostly sold in advance afloat and as this period is between crops the business in first hands is rather restricted. Jamcaicas are also steady, but the little business passing is unimportant.

CACAO—Stocks in London, October 24th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Trinidad ...	10,806	12,280	7,091	7,262	8,999
Grenada ...	5,059	3,116	1,823	8,669	9,775
Total, all kinds	85,995	82,015	101,209	100,737	90,970

The market has been steady with a good business transacted and West Indian kinds have been sold privately at dearer rates. At the only auction in the fortnight held last Tuesday the small quantity of 2,960 bags was offered, of which 584 bags of West India sorts consisted, of these 252 bags of Trinidad sold at much dearer prices, 52 bags of Grenada were disposed of at fully private rates, 216 bags of Jamaica realised generally firmer prices, especially for fine polished quality, while 50 bags of Surinam and Demerara were sold at 60s. 6d., and a few bags Dominica and St. Lucia brought late rates. The private market closed firm.

Quotations after sale: Trinidad middling red 58s. to 59s. good middling red 60s. to 62s., fine and superior 63s. Grenada, ordinary to fair 53s. to 54s., middling to fine 55s. to 58s. 6d. In the Trinidad circular of October 13th it is stated that their market had continued weak right through the fortnight and prices were again lower. Quotations for "Montecito" were between \$9.00 and \$9.25.

COFFEE—On the spot the demand was again slow but Central American kinds were generally steady and washed Dumont San Paulo was dearer, 700 bags having been sold at full rates. At auction last week there was a better demand and Central American kinds were fully steady, and washed Dumont San Paulo 2s. to 3s. dearer.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended October 29th 74 bales of British West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. A fair business had been done at steady rates, but no business to report latterly.

LIME PRODUCTS—The sinking of the *Adjutant* with about 4,000 cases of Naples lemons, the last cargo of the season led to a hardening of prices for lemons. There has, says the *Produce Markets' Review*, been in consequence more demand for the better grade of Malaga fruit, and the scarcity of best lemons is likely to be rather pronounced, as the first shipment of new Messina fruit is not due here until the middle of November.

Lime Juice (Raw)—In slow demand and heavier supplies available. Good Jamaica nominally worth 2s. to 2s. 3d. and Dominica 1s. 9d. to 2s. **Essential Oil (distilled)**—Slow of sale, buyers holding off for lower prices. **Otto of Limes (hand pressed)**—A small business had resulted at 9s. per lb. **Concentrated**—The arrivals per mail steamer sold at £30.

NUTMEGS—100's/80's 4½d. to 5d., 120's/100's 3½d. to 4½d., 140's/120's 3½d. to 4d. **MACE**—Good to fine 1s. 10d. to 2s. 1d., red to good 1s. 5d. to 1s. 9d., broken red to 1s. 4d.

COPRA—Fair merchantable West India value £22 10s. for shipment, £24 10s. on the spot. **ARROWROOT**—Business reported is practically nil; quotations 1½ to 4½d.

PIMENTO—Sold on spot at 2d. and 17s. per cwt. c.i.f. **GINGER** Quiet.

RUBBER—Owing to the fact that the *Troilus* carrying about 1,200 tons of rubber had been captured and sunk by the German cruiser *Emden* a shortage in Plantation was expected for November and possibly December, and there was rather a rush to buy when the news first came through and up to 2s. 4d. was paid for fine crepe on the spot, 2s. 3½d. for November and 2s. 3d. for December, but subsequently there was rather more inclination to sell and quotations have been stationary since. Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot, 2s. 3½d. to 2s. 3d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 5d. to 2s. 4d.; hard Para, 2s. 6½d., last year 3s. 1½d.; do soft, 2s. 2d., last year 2s. 1½d.; Castilla sheet, 1s. 10d., last year 1s. 8d.; scrap, 1s. 3d., last year 1s. 3d. **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 10d. c.i.f. nominal, last year 2s. 3½d.; block 1s. 9d. landed, last year 1s. 11½d.

AJGERNON E. ASPINALL

West India Committee Circular.

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Governor Sir Hesketh Bell inspecting the Guard of Honour, St. John's, Antigua	} to face 532
The "Culebra Cut" on the New Irrigation Canal being made in Vere, Jamaica	

The West India Committee Rooms.

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Telegrams : CARIB, LONDON. November 16th, 1914.

THE WEST INDIES AND THE CALL TO ARMS.

THE recent loss of the *Good Hope* and *Mounmouth* in a naval engagement in the Pacific will still further bring home to residents in the West Indies the realities of war, for it was only in September last that MR. EDGAR TRIPP, in one of his interesting letters from Trinidad, published in these columns, referred to the pleasure which the return of the first-named vessel to West Indian waters had given to the people in the island. Few details of the fight have been as yet forthcoming, but the official statement of the Secretary of the Admiralty on the subject leaves little ground for hoping that any of the officers or men have been saved. Rear Admiral SIR CHRISTOPHER CRADOCK, who only recently transferred his flag from the *Suffolk* to the *Good Hope*, was a gallant officer who enjoyed great popularity on the West Atlantic station, and his premature death will cause genuine regret throughout the West Indies. DR. F. L. J. M. DE VERTUEIL was also in the flagship, and much sympathy will be felt with his father, DR. DE VERTUEIL of Trinidad. In this country a reverse of this kind stimulates recruiting in a remarkable degree. No doubt it will be the same in

the West Indies. The decision of the War Office that no West Indian contingent can be accepted for service at the front, on the ground that the men can best serve their country by defending their own colonies from the enemy, has by no means damped the ardour of aspirants for military honours in the West Indies. Every homeward passenger steamer is bringing seekers for commissions, and intending recruits for "Kitchener's Army," from those colonies, and the list of men connected with the West Indies who are serving their King and Country in this crisis, which is being published periodically in these columns, shows in a striking manner what the West Indies are doing. Among their young men the desire to serve their Country at the seat of war is widespread, and many are not satisfied with joining the local defence forces—an indication, perhaps, that no invasion is seriously anticipated. There is no mistaking the keenness that exists to be in the firing line, and we are assured that the feelings expressed by a Barbadian, whose letter we published in last issue, are not isolated but are widely shared. "We have," he wrote, "put up sugar and money for the various subscriptions, but that won't win our battles. It's lives we desire to give as it's for the Empire that the Motherland is fighting, and it is only fair to give these colonies the opportunity of showing the true spirit of patriotism that they have always evinced in the past in a crisis of this kind." When it is realised that these young men are giving up their positions in the stores and offices and on the plantations and that in most cases they are paying their own fares to England—no small matter to those whose savings can only be small—it will be appreciated how much they are sacrificing for the opportunity of fighting for the country. While financial considerations are of little account where a man may perhaps be going to give his life for his country, it does seem to us that these volunteers deserve a little more consideration than they seem to be getting in some instances. We think that the shipping companies might make substantial concessions in the case of passengers coming to England to join the colours—concessions which might take the form of a rebate of a proportion of the fares paid upon the passenger showing that he has enlisted. We fear, however, that in many cases the business houses and estate proprietors are not setting a very good example and are not meeting the situation in a patriotic spirit. In England there is not a reputable firm or employer not paying their, or his, clerks half pay at least—many are making no deduction at all—while they are with the colours, and instances where positions are not kept open for men while they are away at the war are very few and

far between. It must be admitted that where the employees would be going so far away as across the ocean some safeguards might be necessary to prevent abuses, but these should not be difficult to devise. The War Office has laid stress on the importance of not depleting the West Indian defence forces, and, though it would hardly be possible to raise large contingents without doing so, there are many active and physically fit young men in the West Indies who would form admirable recruits for our new army without seriously reducing the supply available for home defence. But, at the same time, it cannot be too strongly urged that recruits should make enquiries before starting as to whether they are likely to be accepted by the military authorities and that they should not embark upon a voyage to England on the chance of being enlisted. Provided then that financial difficulties can be overcome, we may expect a steadily increasing stream of men from the West Indies to the recruiting booths in this country.

WEST INDIAN FRUIT FOR THE TROOPS.

WE have already referred to what may be called the "official" gifts which have been made by the West Indian colonies to the mother country since the war began. They include, as we have seen, sums of money besides such West Indian produce as cacao and sugar, which, reduced to value in sterling, will amount to a very substantial sum. No doubt we shall hear in due course what is being done by the Government with the sugar presented to it; but if, as we have reason to believe to be the case, it is being "handled" by the Royal Commission on the Sugar Supply and sold by them to the refiners at a profit—as the sugar purchased by them is being sold—the gift will be even larger than was first contemplated. Not content with contributing, as they must do, indirectly, to the official gifts the West Indian communities are also subscribing liberally towards various assistance funds, and notably the Prince of Wales National Relief Fund, the Belgian Relief Fund and the Red Cross Fund—in aid of which special stamps are being sold in several of the islands—and from the figures given in another column it will be noticed that excellent progress is being made. Then there is the fruit for our wounded soldiers and sailors. It was a particularly happy thought of some planters of Dominica to send over for use in our military and naval hospitals, limes, oranges and grape fruit. That the fruit would be welcomed was a foregone conclusion; but it is to be doubted whether the planters can have realised the extent to which it would be appreciated. The West India Committee has been entrusted with the distribution of the Dominica gift and also with fruit from Trinidad, where an influential Committee has been appointed with Mr. JOHN H. SMITH as Chairman and the indefatigable Mr. RANDOLPH RUST, of oil fame, as Hon. Secretary, to collect and despatch to England citrus fruit every fortnight. A paragraph inserted in the London and Provincial papers

inviting applications for cases of limes, oranges and grape-fruits met with a striking response, requests for consignments coming from every part of the country where wounded are being treated. Indeed, no fewer than three hundred and fifty requests had been received before we went to press. It is hoped that all of these may be provided for, and that if, as we anticipate, fruit is also forthcoming from Jamaica, it may in the course of a few mails be possible to send fruit also to the base hospitals in France and Flanders, where the need for it is, if anything even greater than it is at home.

CANADA AND THE WEST INDIES.

SINCE the outbreak of war we have refrained from further comment on a matter arising out of the Canada-West Indies trade agreement which became the subject of rather acute controversy since it was first raised in these columns. We refer to the admission of Mauritius and Fiji to the benefits of that agreement without those colonies being asked to give any reciprocal advantages. It was pointed out that Jamaica, which was not a party to the agreement was scheduled to enjoy the concessions under it for a limited period only, and that no such limitations were made in the case of Mauritius and Fiji. The question was warmly taken up in British Guiana and the West Indies, whose delegates at an inter-colonial conference held in July, 1913, had made their intentions quite clear, having expressed the opinion in a resolution that the "Preferential tariff under the Reciprocity Treaty with Canada should apply to all British possessions which are parties to the Canada-West Indies Convention, or which may hereafter become parties thereto," thus showing that it was not contemplated that colonies not parties to the agreement should enjoy the advantages under it. The Trinidad Chamber of Commerce having made representations to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who, however, refused to bring them to the notice of the Canadian Government, then approached the Dominion Government direct. As we have been pleased to learn, they did not do so in vain. In a reply SIR GEORGE FOSTER, Minister of Trade and Commerce, has promised that he will take the matter up "before the expiry of the time limit and with a view to meeting all reasonable claims in the case." In this meeting the West Indian Colonies, SIR GEORGE FOSTER who has been recognised as the "Father" of trade between the West Indies and Canada since it entered the sphere of practical politics, has shown his continued interest in the promotion of reciprocal trade between these two parts of the Empire, which are so well able to fill each other's wants. But this is not all, the Canadian Government in readjusting the tariff to meet the circumstances arising out of the war has incidentally increased the preference already enjoyed by British Colonial sugar very substantially, for which the sugar planters will be duly grateful.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. Middleton Campbell presided over a meeting of the Executive at 15, Scething Lane, on Thursday, November 12th. Those also present were: Mr. R. Rutherford, Mr. G. R. Alston, Mr. C. A. Campbell, Mr. E. R. Davson, Mr. W. Fawcett, Mr. T. Greenwood, Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall, Mr. G. Moody Stuart, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary.

The following candidates were admitted:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
Mr. Walter S. Ascoli	{ Mr. E. Lomas Oliver. Mr. R. Rutherford.
Mr. Allan L. Keeling (Jamaica)	{ Mr. William Gillespie. Mr. Howard K. F. Smith.
Dr. W. Cardy Bluck (Bermuda)	{ Mr. W. Middleton Campbell. Mr. W. Rutherford.
Mr. Hugh B. Hunter	{ Mr. E. R. Davson. Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall.
His Hon. G. Whitfield Smith (Grand Turk)	{ Mr. Tom Archer. Hon. F. H. Watkins, I.S.O.
Mr. Henry W. Holgate (Jamaica)	{ Mr. J. H. Phillippis. Mr. W. Middleton Campbell.
Mr. Charles W. M. Saunders (Jamaica)	{ Mr. J. H. Phillippis. Mr. W. Middleton Campbell.
Messrs. Mathews and Yates	{ Mr. J. J. Law. Mr. W. Rutherford.
Messrs. James Robertson and Sons	{ Mr. E. I. Scard. Mr. W. P. B. Shephard.
Mr. George M. Fowler, C.M.G.	{ Mr. R. Rutherford. Mr. W. P. B. Shephard.
Mr. Laurence Keir	{ Mr. Harry Berger. Mr. R. Rutherford.
Mr. L. A. Kent (Grenada)	{ Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall. Mr. W. Middleton Campbell.

The following letter from Mr. T. B. Macaulay, President of the Canadian and West Indian League was read:—

Montreal, Canada, October 14th, 1914.

Gentlemen,—We in Montreal have heard with profound sorrow of the death of Sir Neville Lubbock, the honoured President of the West India Committee, and I have been requested to express to your Executive Council the sincere and deep sympathy of the Executive Council of the Canadian and West Indian League. We sorrow with you. The Empire needs more men like Sir Neville Lubbock—men who are ardent Imperialists, who glory in it, and work accordingly. Let us hope that one result of this terrible war will be that co-operation between all parts of the Empire will be greatly increased, and become better organized and more effective. I am sure that this would have been the desire of our late friend and co-worker had he lived to the end of the war.

I would like also to be permitted to associate myself personally, in a very deep and earnest manner, with the expressions of regret which I have voiced on behalf of our Council.

Sincerely yours,
T. R. MACAULAY,
President.

The Secretary was instructed to convey to the President and Executive Council of the Canadian-West Indian League their thanks for this expression of sympathy.

Correspondence regarding the prohibition of the import of sugar was confirmed.

Passports for members.

Passengers for the West Indies are now required to produce passports or other documents of identification. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W., and for the convenience of members of the West India Committee forms of the declaration to be made by applicants are supplied at the Committee Rooms. Applications should reach the Foreign Office before 4 p.m. on the day prior to that on which the passports are to be issued, and the fee of 2s. must accompany the application. The Secretary of the West India Committee, being a Barrister-at-Law, is entitled to, and will be glad to, verify the necessary declarations by members of the Committee who are applicants for passports.

Particulars as to Membership.

During the year to date 77 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

Jamaica	... 7	St. Lucia	... 1
Grenada	... 5	St. Vincent	... 1
British Guiana	... 4	Turks and Caicos Is.	... 1
Trinidad	... 4	Bermuda	... 1
Dominica	... 3	Mauritius	... 1
Antigua	... 2	New South Wales	... 1
British Honduras	... 2	Country	... 20
Canada	... 2	London	... 17
Barbados	... 1	New York	... 2
Nevis	... 1	Peru	... 1

By virtue of Rule III of the West India Committee the subscriptions from new members elected during the last three months of the present year will not, when paid, be renewable until January 1st, 1916. The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1550.

Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Scething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is 1s. or 5s.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

The West Indies and the War.

The list, published in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, of those closely connected with the West Indies who are serving their King and Country in the Navy and Army at the present time has been much appreciated. As it is proposed to publish a greatly extended list in next issue, the Editor will be obliged if readers will kindly send to him any names which can be suitably included.

LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH who, it will be remembered was Chairman of the Canada-West Indies Royal Commission will have many sympathisers in the West Indies on the death of his son and heir. The Hon. Robert Bruce, the Master of Burleigh, who was with his regiment, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, at the front, was reported "missing" on September 4th, and appeared in the list of those killed in action on October 7th. Lord Balfour's younger son, the Hon. G. J. Gordon Bruce is now the heir to the barony.

TRADE WITH GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

The British West Indies' small share.

In the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of the 11th of August tables were given showing the trade of the West Indies with various countries; these figures may now be amplified as regards trade with Germany and Austria.

As will be seen from the table of imports and exports for the year 1912 given below, out of a total trade of £19,196,253 that with Germany only amounted to £345,763, or 1.8 per cent., and with Austria to £23,103, or .001 per cent. The principal articles imported from Germany are beer, butter and substitutes, china, earthenware, porcelain, glass and glassware, cutlery, condensed milk, hardware, haberdashery and millinery, cotton goods of all descriptions, musical instruments, paper in various forms, perfumery, articles of wood manufacture, toys and games, wines, medicines and drugs, mineral waters, and woollen and silk goods. The exports to Germany include bananas, fresh and dried, cacao, coffee, asphalt, logwood, rum, coco-nuts, copra, hides, honey, pimento, spices and balata. The scanty imports from Austria include matches, furniture and millinery; the exports, which only occur from Jamaica, are coffee and pimento. The import figures represent, as far as the Blue-books will permit, the first cost values:—

	Imports.		
	Total.	From Germany.	From Austria.
	£	£	£
Barbados	1,465,431	17,044	450
British Guiana	1,793,355	15,731	646
British Honduras	366,049*	3,217	115
Jamaica	3,050,479	56,541	44
Trinidad	2,594,143†	32,721	—
Leeward Islands	113,483	2,457	—
Grenada	279,874	605	70
St. Lucia	214,769	2,764	—
St. Vincent	129,142	877	19
Total	9,916,725	156,354	1,341

* Exclusive of goods in transit £362,453.

† Exclusive of goods in transit £2,088,182.

	Exports.		
	Total.	To Germany.	To Austria.
	£	£	£
Barbados	1,085,569	1,136	—
British Guiana	1,798,396	2,669	—
British Honduras	232,555*	—	—
Jamaica	2,709,283	105,791	21,750
Trinidad	2,384,395†	97,680	—
Leeward Islands	593,342	8	—
Grenada	285,590	—	—
St. Lucia	108,514	2,006	—
St. Vincent	111,684	—	—
Total	9,279,528	209,290	21,750

* Exclusive of goods in transit £362,453.

† Exclusive of goods in transit £2,088,182.

The principal items of trade of Germany and Austria with the several colonies for the year 1912 were as follows:—

Barbados.—The larger items of import from

Germany were beer, which out of the total of £17,044 reached the large figure of £6,619. Wine came next with £1,712, while paper occupied the third place with £1,303. Hosiery accounted for £603, while the perfumery imports reached the respectable figure of £438. Manufactured glass was represented by £322, while haberdashery and millinery followed close with £314. Toys and games were imported to the value of £232; while the figures for china, porcelain and earthenware are recorded as £230; manures stand at £384. The remaining imports were for small amounts, ranging from dressed leather £203, down to soap £3. As regards exports the total of £1,136 is made up of old metal £1,101, the nature of the items constituting the balance not being enumerated. The imports from Austria, £44, consisted mainly of joinery and cabinet work scheduled at £39, while there were no exports.

British Guiana.—The largest import from Germany was that of millinery, which, out of the total of £15,134, accounted for £2,536. Hardware, and cutlery occupied the next place with £1,487. The value of the glass and glass-ware imports was £807; that of the paper and paper manufactured imports were £767. Sewing machines reached £607; cotton and cotton goods £612; perfumed spirit £406; drugs and chemicals £362. "Blue" occupied quite a prominent position with £324. Toys and games competed closely with garlic, the former supplying £298 as against £302 from the latter. The value of the imports of musical instruments and earthenware were £287 and £290 respectively. "Motor-buses and accessories" (from the amount of the item, it may be presumed that in this case only the accessories are referred to, accounted for £290. The lowest value was for filled cartridges, which stand at 14s. 10d.!

Towards £2,669, the value of the exports to Germany, rice-meat contributed £1,830 and coco-nuts £821. The imports from Austria are summarised in the Blue-book as being of the value of £646. The only items given, however, are boots and shoes £46, rifles and guns £25, cabinet ware £8, aerated waters £13 12s., and milk £2 13s. There were no exports.

British Honduras.—There is a considerable trade between British Honduras and Mexico and Guatemala, and the result is that a good deal of the articles imported are for transhipment to those countries. No less than forty items go to make up the £8,217, which represented the value of the imports for home consumption. The principal of these were condensed and preserved milk, £1,794, haberdashery and millinery, £902; and wines, £666. Earthenware and glassware together contribute £598, while wearing apparel was represented by £522. The hardware and cutlery import figures stood at £496, drugs and chemicals at £216. There were no exports to Germany. As regards Austria, the main items of the £115 worth of goods imported were furniture £47, preserved fruit and vegetables £75, haberdashery and millinery £17, and hardware and cutlery £8. There were no exports.



GOVERNOR SIR HESKETH BELL INSPECTING THE GUARD OF HONOUR, ST. JOHN'S ANTIGUA.



THE "CULEBRA CUT" ON THE NEW IRRIGATION CANAL BEING MADE IN VERE, JAMAICA.

Jamaica.—The trade of Jamaica with Germany bears a far greater proportion to the whole trade of the island than is the case with any of the other colonies; this is due rather to the variety of the imports than to the individual value of them. Out of £56,541 worth of goods which formed the German import trade, bottled beer was credited with £6,452, wines with £5,183, and cotton goods with £3,587. Hardware and cutlery imports were valued at £2,953, glass and glass-ware at £2,530. Paper contributed £2,894, haberdashery and millinery £4,208. Manufactured wooden articles amounted in value to £3,679. The value of the musical instruments imported was £1,950, while the condensed milk imports were worth £1,190. It is interesting to note that no less than £1,600 worth of butter substitutes were imported. The value of the goods exported was £105,791. Pimento heads the list with £23,356, logwood extract following with £23,308. There was also exported cacao to the value of £13,947, bananas (fresh) £7,029, bananas (dried) £7,312, rum £6,092, coffee £4,888, hides £5,812, honey £5,328, logwood £2,197, and essential oils £1,358, together with turtle and tortoiseshell to the figure of £618. In the case of Austria, the total value of the imports was £450. The principal items of these were matches £214, and jewellery £80, boots and shoes £74, and leather manufactures £30. The exports consisted of coffee beans to the value of £17,724, and pimento valued at £3,953.

Trinidad.—As might be expected, the trade of Trinidad with Germany was next in importance to that of Jamaica. The total value of the imports entered for consumption in the island was £32,721, and the original values of the principal items constituting this figure were sugar £2,517, glass and glassware £2,033, machinery £2,408, condensed milk £2,841, wearing apparel £1,233, earthenware, china and porcelain £1,314, hardware £1,112, fresh vegetables £1,146, textiles £975, and paper £933. The principal exports to Germany consisted of asphalt in various forms £29,119, cacao £19,876, cedar, £19,612, copra £12,298, hides £3,607, and bitters £2,589. There was no trade with Austria.

Leeward Islands.—The imports to the Leeward Islands from Germany followed the general lines. To the total of £2,451 earthen- and glass-ware contributed £366, beer £304, toys and games £280, textile fabrics £207, and haberdashery £196. The imports of musical instruments amounted to £59. The exports to Germany consisted of lime products of the value of £8. There was no trade with Austria.

Grenada.—To a total import valued at £279,874, Germany only contributed goods to the value of £605. Of these, china, earthenware and pottery head the list with £133, wine following with £129. The value of the glass and glass-ware imported was £118. Of the rest, cotton goods contributed £77, and musical instruments £21. There were no exports to Germany, and no trade whatever with Austria.

St. Lucia.—Wine occupied the foremost place in

the list of contributories to £2,764 of imports from Germany into St. Lucia, its value being £596. China, porcelain and earthenware goods were imported to the extent of £322. The other principal items were glass and glassware £184, toys and games £124, musical instruments £82, margarine £81, and perfumery £63. The bulk of the exports consisted of old iron and steel, valued at £1,709, out of the total imports of £2,006. £107 worth of pimento and £28 worth of honey formed the principal of the remaining items. From Austria, goods to the value of £70 were imported, the principal items of which were haberdashery £15, and macaroni £9. There were no exports.

St. Vincent.—As in St. Lucia, wines formed the principal item on the list of imports from Germany, the value standing at £407 out of a total of £877. Textiles £99, paper £79, musical instruments £33, and earthenware and glass £22, were the other main items. There were no exports to Germany. The trade of Austria with St. Vincent only amounted to £19 of imports, of which furniture provided £5.

The perusal of the Blue-books of the Colonies from which the above figures are taken brings forcibly home their want of uniformity, and the lessening of their value which results therefrom. It would take too much space to particularise the difference in the way in which the nature of the imports and exports have been tabulated and their value expressed. As far as possible the figures in this article have been brought into line so as to be directly comparable; but if in some instances the values have had to be expressed on a slightly different basis to the bulk of the figures, the blame must rest with the Blue-books. There surely can be no difficulty in making these uniform, and their value as works of reference would be enormously increased if they were adjusted. At present the way in which the trade statistics are dealt with varies with each Government.

MR. T. A. V. BEST, who administered the Government of the Leeward Islands, of which colony he is Colonial Secretary, from May to September last, arrived in this country by last homeward mail from Antigua on leave of absence until January next. Mr. Best has left for Switzerland to join his wife and son at a health resort above Montreux.

SIR GEORGE MELVILLE, who retired from the Colonial Civil Service in 1902, when he was Colonial Secretary of St. Lucia, will be the recipient of many congratulations upon the distinction achieved by his son, who has recently returned from the front wounded. Mr. George Melville, who was in the 2nd Welsh Regiment, was born at the Lodge, Belfield, Demerara. He was mentioned in Sir John French's first despatches, and has been made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour by the French Government. Sir George Melville's daughter, who was also born in Demerara, is returning from India, her husband having left with his regiment for France.

THE FRENCH SUGAR INDUSTRY.

The situation reviewed by M. Georges Dureau

M. Georges Dureau, who is recognised as the greatest authority on sugar in France, in a letter to the Secretary of the West India Committee, dated November 10, and written from Paris states: "The sugar factories beyond the zone invested by the Germans have made arrangements for handling the beet crop; but they are meeting with considerable difficulties in consequence of the lack of skilled personnel, the scarcity of field labour, and the insufficiency of means of transport. The sugar will cost very dear to manufacture. Stocks are probably very much reduced. The Paris group of Députés is urging the Government to purchase sugar abroad; but the 'Syndicat du commerce des sucres' is protesting against such a step being taken, holding the view that it would be an attempt on the freedom of trade. The fate of the sugar factories which are in the zone occupied by the German troops seems to be very alarming. I am informed that the three sugar factories of Roye (Somme) have been destroyed by the Germans. The large sugar factory of Cambrai appears to have been completely demolished. Several sugar manufacturers have been made prisoners, notably Monsieur Eclancher, sugar manufacturer at Saint-Leu d'Esserent (Oise); Monsieur Dervaux, sugar manufacturer in the Department of the Nord, and Monsieur Gilbert, sub-Manager of the Cambrai Sugar Factory. There is no news whatever of Monsieur Viéville, President of the 'Syndicat des fabricants de sucre de France,' who is manufacturer of sugar in the Aisne."

Since the outbreak of war the publication of that valuable sugar organ, the "Journal des Fabricants de Sucre" of which M. Dureau is the Managing Director has been suspended. It is much missed in the sugar world, and it is to be hoped that circumstances will soon permit it to reappear. Meanwhile readers of the CIRCULAR will share the sympathy which we feel for M. Dureau.

The imports of saccharin last month amounted to 226,287 ozs. as compared with 35,242 oz. in October 1913, and 17,976 oz. in October 1912. If, as is believed to be the case, these imports came mainly from Germany, the importation of saccharin should certainly be prohibited.

SPEAKING at a meeting of the Farmers' Club, on November 2, Mr. George Hughes said that he knew a gentleman who had had his sugar commandeered by the Government, and when asked the price that the Government should pay had said, "If you will pay me my losses for five years when bounties were given to German sugar I will give you my crop for nothing." Surely this country in years to come would remember that it is far better to encourage that which is grown under the British flag than that which is grown on the Continent with bounties to be used in armaments against us when war comes.

IRRIGATION IN JAMAICA.

The Vere Scheme Taken in Hand.

By A. ST. C. SPOONER.

As is well known, Vere is one of the most arid as well as one of the most fertile spots in Jamaica, possessed of a soil of ideal character for irrigation as well as for easy cultivation, being of alluvial origin and of considerable depth. The blending of detritus from both limestone and volcanic formations always produces good land, and the Vere soils are typical of the best kind of such land. However, good land is only one of the factors necessary for the production of wealth, and so Vere has had so far a very chequered career. A few years, more or less consecutive, of sufficient rainfall created prosperity and contentment, only to be followed perhaps by year after year of severe drought, blazing sun, and high wind gradually causing utter depletion of wealth and making ruin and starvation the order of the day. Considerable efforts have been made to equalise agricultural conditions by irrigation. The first effort of consequence was the Milk River Irrigation Scheme (1901-1903). Much was hoped for from this scheme and large sums of money were invested in up-to-date sugar machinery on the strength of its success. Of late years, however, the Milk River has been behaving very badly, and for some time now has become as dry itself as the lands it was intended to irrigate.

Irrigation from wells was then introduced, and large sums of money have been expended in this direction. At present irrigation from this source is the only means of making some insurance against the ravages of drought. This system has only been partly successful: the water level in wells varies with the rainfall on the watershed at higher levels, and several years of drought may reduce this to an extent not contemplated by the initiators. Pumping expenses are constant, and high, owing to the units being relatively small, whilst the water won may be very variable and least in quantity when most desired, i.e., in time of prolonged drought. Under any circumstances the irrigation of a large area from wells, under Vere conditions, would involve a large capital expenditure, and as many pumping units would be necessary the cost of working and maintenance would be considerable.

The Cockpit River has now been turned to as a solution of the irrigation question, and there seems little doubt that this scheme will be successful. The Cockpit River is really a large channel, nearly three quarters of a mile long, taking to the sea the waters which spring, almost at sea level, from the base of a range of limestone hills, and which form a large reed covered swamp of several hundred acres between the hills and the sea. Where this water comes from is uncertain, some say from the upper reaches of the Rio Minho, but what is remarkable is that the flow of water remains practically constant even during periods of prolonged drought, and so the

source must be some area having a heavy and evenly distributed rainfall. The water is very suitable for irrigation as the following analysis will show:—

	Grains per gallon.
Silica .....	.20
Oxide of Iron .....	.14
Carbonate of Lime	16.05
Carbonate of Magnesia .....	.90
Sulphate of Magnesia	4.15
Chloride of Magnesia	1.90
Chloride of Sodium	22.22
	45.56

The present scheme deals with 5,500 cubic yards, or 926,970 gallons of water per hour, an amount capable of keeping under irrigation about 2,800 to 3,500 acres of cane or bananas. The outflow from the Cockpit River averages about 23,000 cubic yards water per hour during dry times and rises to about 25,000 cubic yards under ordinary conditions, so that the present scheme will only deal with rather less than a quarter of the smallest flow of water that could be utilised, and which one hopes will be utilised at some future date. The water will be taken from the swamp at the foot of the limestone hills and conducted for about three miles by gravity to Salt River where will be installed a pumping station. The water will then be raised almost vertically for a height of about 70 feet and flow in a concreted channel about eight miles long to the canefields of the various Vere Estates. The pumping machinery to be installed will consist of a powerful Simpson triple expansion steam pump operated by steam from two Babcock and Wilcox boilers. The plant will be provided with mechanical stokers and all appliances for the cheap and rapid handling of coal and the saving of heat and of labour.

As there is a good anchorage for ocean steamers at Salt River Bay, coal can be landed with no difficulty at the convenient wharf which will be quite near to the pumping station.

Although the work done so far on the Cockpit Canal has been Relief Work, (evidence of the severe drought which we now hope is breaking up), the writer is glad to say that the scheme now rests on a much more solid basis for its completion. The Government has consented to the issue of debentures bearing 4½ per cent. interest, under its guarantee, for the amount of £40,000, and it is understood that these have been readily subscribed locally.

His Excellency the Governor is much to be congratulated on his association with a project that has so much promise. The benefits of the scheme will naturally not be confined to Vere, but will be shared by the whole island in one way or other, and the Government will certainly be rewarded by a substantially increased revenue due to the increase of industry and wealth in the district. Not only this, however, for the success of the Cockpit scheme will, no doubt, lead to similar systems of obtaining water for irrigation being installed at other points where supplies of water of similar origin to those of the Cockpit River exist, as is the case in several other places in the dry districts of the island.

The control of the Cockpit Irrigation Scheme is vested in the Vere Irrigation Commissioners, of whom Mr. A. W. Farquharson is Chairman. With the untiring energy and acknowledged ability of which he is the fortunate possessor, Mr. Farquharson has surmounted all difficulties in connection with the scheme that have arisen so far, and awaits the pleasure of surmounting any more that are likely to arise. The engineer in charge of the work is Mr. Henry Home, A.M.I.C.E., who holds the position of Government Hydraulic Assistant. Mr. Home has had much experience in hydraulic and other engineering work, as is evident from the photos, especially when it is borne in mind that only relief labour of a woefully unskilled type has been employed, and that the only contractor's plant so far available has been sugar estate portable tramline and cane waggons.

THE WEST INDIAN ASSISTANCE FUNDS.

Notable among recent contributions towards the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund is one of £48 4s. 1½d. collected in Anguilla as the outcome of meetings organised by the Rev. Louis Spinks and the Rev. W. Sunter, and presided over by Mr. Carter Rey. Coming from an island only 35 square miles in extent and peopled almost exclusively by peasant proprietors this donation would rank high if subscriptions were classified in proportion to the size and wealth of the communities.

The following acknowledgment was received from the Prince of Wales at Buckingham Palace dated November 13th.

I am desired by the Prince of Wales to thank you very much for the kind donation to the National Relief Fund which you have forwarded to him from Anguilla. His Royal Highness hopes that you will tell Mr. Carter Rey, the Rev. Louis Spinks and the Rev. W. Sunter how much he appreciates this gift and that you will ask them to convey a message of his best thanks to all those in Anguilla who so generously subscribed.

For the actual size of its funds Trinidad stood first when the homeward mail left, the subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund being raised under the auspices of the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce amounting to £8,850 13s. 7d., and those of the *Gazette's* fund to nearly £2,000. The *Mirror's* Belgian Relief Fund stood at £573 2s. 8½d. Jamaica was not far behind, the *Gleaner* having collected £7,831 12s. 1d. towards a War Relief Fund, while British Guiana had raised when the mail left £7,032 15s. 11½d. towards the National Relief Fund, the subscriptions including: Messrs. Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd., £208 6s. 8d., McConnell Family Estates, £520 16s. 8d.; General and Colonel Galloway (Plin. Port Mourant), £104 3s. 4d.; and the Porter Family (Enmore and Bachelor's Adventure), £104 3s. 4d.

The contributions towards the National Relief Fund which are being collected in Barbados amounted on October 26th to £3,242 4s. 10d., while £382 8s. 1d. had been subscribed towards a Belgian

Relief Fund, and £173 12s. 9d. for Queen Mary's Fund.

In St. Kitts £250 had been raised towards the Belgian Relief Fund, to which a sale of Belgian flags in St. Lucia has brought £22, and in Antigua the National Relief Fund has reached £180 15s. 6d.

THE CONTROL OF THE MOTH-BORER.

Mr. Quelch's successful work in Guiana.

Mr. John J. Quelch, B.Sc., who was commissioned by Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co., and Messrs. Booker Bros, McConnell and Co., to report on the control of the small moth-borers (*Diatraea saccharalis* and *diatraea canella*) which were causing much damage to sugar canes in British Guiana, has now presented his final report. In this he gives the results of the collection of eggs which has been vigorously carried on.

Though the collection, as a whole, has been but on a small scale, especially in the beginning, owing to labour conditions, yet the results show very clearly the immense benefit to the cultivation, not only by the destruction of enormous numbers of borers that would have attacked the young shoots and led to severe infestation through their excessively rapid multiplication, but also by maintaining and increasing the great natural assistance towards control through the egg-parasites, by their preservation and redistribution in the fields.

Quite early in the work, Mr. Quelch carried out experiments for the artificial rearing of these parasites, but there proved to be many drawbacks, more care and attention being, for example, required than could be expected from the general staff of an estate. It is quite a simple matter on the other hand, to preserve the parasites in the collected clusters, and to return them to the fields, where it is most likely that their chances of increase would be more favourable in open nature than in confinement, even though at times many of them will be found caught in the molasses in the tins.

Hot moist weather with favouring rains, has clearly led to a much more active egg-laying by the moths. Some part of the increased number is, however, due to a more regular attendance of the more experienced members of the gang, the average of which has been somewhat higher. It has been usually about 16. In addition to the increase in the numbers of clusters, the increase in the number of eggs per cluster has been very marked, a condition previously referred to during similar favourable circumstances for egg-laying. An extreme case gave 135 eggs to the cluster (all but four of which were parasitised by *Trichogramma*), but as mentioned in an earlier report, Mr. Moore has obtained one with 153. The average of the clusters therefore would be much higher in these collections than the 30 previously estimated for general conditions, and the work done has consequently been much more in lessening the greatly increased numbers of borers

that would have hatched out, though this would not be evident from the figures alone.

Had the investigation been continued over a time sufficient to trace, in the crop results, the effect of the measures of control, even on the small scale carried out—and not yet really completed in a first attempt over the area of the estate—and to measure its cumulative effect on the succeeding crop, Mr. Quelch thinks that it might have been possible to determine the scale of operations requisite for dealing satisfactorily with these pests. Time alone can give to any such investigation any real measure of completeness; and it is not easy for any one not intimately familiar with such inquiries, to grasp fully the necessity for such a continuance.

In spite of this, however, it is clear that any hope of arresting the development of these little creatures, and prevent or lessen their damage to the young plants, to any satisfactory degree, lies in the enforcement of control measures quite early after the shoots have appeared. It is essential to deal effectively with any new infestation through the eggs laid on the young plants in the fields, and this can most easily be done by the collection of the egg-clusters at the earliest possible time, certainly not later than about three weeks after the canes have been cut.

Some Preventive Measures.

Where labour allows, much might be done towards the prevention of egg-laying, by the destruction of the borers in the "dead hearts" revealing their presence, and in the refuse material infested with them, thus arresting the development of the moths; and where trustworthy labour is available, trap-lights for the moths may often be used with advantage where they are sufficiently under observation for their protection, though over the wide extent of the estates, it would be impracticable.

Over the young plants, an efficient egg-gang can regularly be maintained at work, the re-plants needing further attention when ratoons are already too leafy; and, especially in small sections between standing canes, the fields well repay extra work by the prevention, to a very great degree, of the spreading of the infestation already in the area, as well as that caused by moths flying in from surrounding districts, the young plants being thus used as a trap for the others. Favoured by winds, these weak-flying moths can yet cover relatively long distances; and on frequent occasions several specimens have been captured in the house, attracted by the light in the evening.

However much may be done by artificial measures, it is necessary to remember that natural checks are after all the great controlling factors. The influence of these, all through the growth of the cane, cannot be left out of consideration. In the later stages of the cultivation they are the only possible agents that can effectively work for control of pests; and it is a wise precaution to encourage them to the utmost in the earliest stages for the protection of the young plants that can so easily

be destroyed by borers. Parasitic and predaceous forms attack the eggs, the borers and the moths; and it is not too much to say that but for the help of these natural aids, any real crop would be out of the question.

The egg-parasites are particularly effective, as can readily be seen from the fact that, at times, a total parasitisation of 95 per cent., or more, of the eggs in the fields, is brought about at an early stage, where satisfactory encouragement has been given to their action by the methods recommended.

It must certainly be borne in mind that extermination of these pests cannot be looked for from any parasites, since this would mean their own destruction; and nature tends always to a balance between its forms. But where artificial and unusual conditions systematically tend towards the development of a pest, and towards the destruction of parasites and other checks, an increased infestation must necessarily take place: and this is the position under the local conditions of sugar production, made worse through the burning of the fields before the canes are cut, an unfortunate practice from many points of view, however great the economic convenience or necessity may be.

The need of labour and supervision.

In concluding remarks Mr. Quelch says: "The methods for the control of the chief pests on the canes are to-day well-known. The difficulty in dealing with them chiefly lies in the question of labour and suitable supervision. The damage caused throughout the growth of the crop by various pests, is so great, and especially by the small moth-borers over the whole area of the estates, that any realisation of its extent could not fail in bringing about very earnest efforts to lessen it as much as possible; and with but limited opportunities of doing much, it is important to use the most effective measures, and in the best way.

"The great point, however, is that such measures should be systematically and regularly carried out. None of the main pests can be safely left alone for any length of time, as this but means a steady re-occurrence of the trouble and a repetition perhaps of a great expense that might have been saved if a little had been methodically spent.

"I realise very thoroughly the heavy pressure of work that lies on attorney, manager and overseer, on estates spread over such wide areas under the conditions in the colony: but one must urge the importance of a sufficient effort being maintained against insect attack if the benefit or improvement aimed at, is to be secured. The work of the entomologist is of no effect, unless measures recommended are put into operation.

"New pests, or rather common forms not usually associated with much damage to the cane, may have to be dealt with, in such cases as the hard-backs and the frog-hoppers; and it is imperative that such efforts should be on a scale sufficient to prevent unusual forms from becoming normal pests, when extreme development under favourable conditions

may lead to heavy expenditure. It is possible that natural agencies may often in such cases lead to readjustment, as possibly may take place in connection with the increasing froghoppers on this estate, but the risks are too great; and it is wise to deal at the beginning with all such forms as show a threat of increasing damage to the cultivation. It is only by such measures that crops can be safeguarded."

BRITISH GROWN COTTON.

Mr. McCall, the Director of Agriculture of Nyasaland, attended a meeting of the British Cotton Growing Association on October 19th, and gave an interesting account of the prospects generally for cotton growing in that Protectorate, both as regards cotton cultivated on plantations controlled by Europeans and also as to native cultivation. The cotton crop last year in the Highlands was a failure, owing to unfavourable climatic conditions; on the other hand the crop in the Lowlands, which is largely grown by natives, was the largest on record. Mr. McCall estimated that the lowest cost at which it was possible for Europeans to deliver Nyasaland cotton in Liverpool was 5d. per lb., and this would not leave any margin of profit to the growers. The European planters would be likely to discontinue cotton cultivation unless they could obtain more than 5d. per lb., and they would plant tobacco instead. As regards native cultivation, the people were quite satisfied if the Government saw that they got full value for their cotton. With reference to transport facilities, satisfaction was expressed that the railway had now been completed from Port Herald to the Zambesi River, and it was felt that the next extension should be made from Blantyre to Lake Nyasa.

With regard to West Africa, the purchases of cotton in Lagos to the end of September amounted to 13,486 bales, as compared with 13,645 bales for the same period of last year, and 8,968 bales for 1912. In Northern Nigeria the purchases to the end of July amounted to 505 bales, as compared with 1,380 bales for the same period of 1913. Recent reports from Northern Nigeria are more satisfactory, and it is reported that splendid rains have fallen during the latter half of August, and all the crops, including cotton, are looking very well.

At the annual meeting of the Nottingham Association of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts on November 10th, the Ven. Archdeacon Josa, of British Guiana, in the course of a discussion as to how Germany's hatred might be quenched, chaffed the people of England for having preferred German to Colonial Sugar. "You went to Germany for your sugar," he remarked, "and now you have got to pay more for it. Serve you right! (Laughter.) We are putting down some more canes," he added, "and if you behave yourself we will let you have it cheaper." (Laughter and applause.)

THE LIME INDUSTRY OF MONTSERRAT.

Disease has played havoc with the lime trees in Montserrat, and though vigorous measures are being taken to combat it, it cannot be said that they have so far been completely successful. According to the report of Mr. W. Robson, the Curator of the Botanic and Experiment Station in the island, the exports of lime products for the calendar year 1913 were as follows:—

	Quantity.	Value.
Raw lime juice ...	61,903 gals. ...	£4,541
Concentrated juice ...	635 gals. ...	127
Citrate of lime ...	33 tons ...	1,009
Lime oil (hand pressed) ...	67½ gals. ...	60
Fresh limes ...	— ...	240

This reduced to raw juice produced, represents 96,118 gallons, compared with a total of 231,700 gallons produced in 1912, and an average for the previous eight years of 236,362 gallons. While there has undoubtedly been a falling off in the exports on account of the decline of much of the area in limes, it is doubtful if the actual reduction in the exports can be taken as a measure of this, on account of the shipping of part of the 1913 crop early in the present year.

The attempts to plant new areas in this crop in recent years, adds Mr. Robson, cannot be said to have been very successful, on account of diseases; and the outlook, on the whole, is less hopeful than ever.

It appears that the "hard-back" (*Exophthalmus esuriens*) is responsible for the damage to the roots of the citrus trees; but Mr. Robson considers that the scale insect problem is the more formidable of the two.

The observations in the year under review have chiefly been concerned with the purple scale, and the first infection of trees is a matter that has been strikingly brought under notice. The danger of lime trees becoming infected in the nursery beds, previous to planting out, was revealed by an examination of the plants grown for distribution in the Experiment Station late in 1913. The nature of the infection was such that it might easily escape detection, and in the majority of cases only one or two female scales were noticed, and the proportion of the plants so infected was about 25 per cent. The manner of infection is perhaps a matter of speculation, but that the crawling young of the purple scale were carried by wind, on the feet of birds, or by insects, from the surrounding groves of lime trees is the seeming explanation, as experiments in California have demonstrated that the crawling young of the purple scale have very little power of locomotion over the soil.

No very critical observations have been carried out in recent years in Montserrat to show the effect of the various insecticides or spray washes recommended for the control of the purple scale, the lack of confidence in their use having been caused by the apparent failure, as far as the Experiment Station is concerned, to control purple scale on citrus trees

by their means, the young trees having been kept free from scale by scrubbing with a stiff brush.

Fresh interest was aroused in the subject by the advent of Scalo, a mixture devised by Mr. J. C. Moore, now Agricultural Superintendent of Grenada, which is composed of whale-oil soap, kerosene and naphthalene. Experiments were commenced on young shaddock and orange trees then suffering from purple scale, in November, 1913. These experiments have been continued up to July, 1914. The conclusions formed in regard to Scalo are that it is destructive to crawling young and even half-developed scales, but the female scales carrying eggs are not as a rule affected, crawling young having been noticed to emerge shortly after spraying has been done.

Experiments are still being carried on, and if the above results are substantiated the successful use of Scalo would seem to depend on application of the wash a second and, if necessary, a third time at intervals of a month or so, in order to kill the young scales that emerge from their covering.

During a visit paid by Mr. H. A. Ballou, M.Sc., the Entomologist of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, to Montserrat in February, 1914, spraying experiments on lime trees were commenced on a field scale, and the work was carried out under his supervision. The field selected was in a very suitable condition for such experiments, being at the time severely infested with scale insects, the purple scale chiefly. The insecticides were applied with the aid of a barrelled truck to which a Pomona spray pump was attached having a pressure gauge, and the hose used carried a 10-foot extension rod. The nozzle used was a Mistry Junior, a Bordeaux nozzle being employed for the tops of some of the higher trees. The whole apparatus was found to work very satisfactorily. The plots, eight in number, varied somewhat in size, containing twelve to twenty-four trees each, according to the size of same.

AMONG the passengers for Trinidad by tomorrow's outward mail will be Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Collens, V.D., who, after thirty-seven years' service, has just retired from the position of Chief Inspector of Schools for Trinidad and Tobago. Colonel Collens is the author of several books and handbooks regarding the colony, and, now that there will be fewer calls on his time, it is to be hoped that more will be forthcoming.

MR. W. A. M. GOODE, Hon. Secretary of the West Indian Club, has been requested by the Prime Minister of Newfoundland, where he was born, to watch, on behalf of the colony, the interests here of their splendid military contingent. Mr. Goode would be glad to receive any gifts for the men of Newfoundland. Mr. Goode is also assisting the Belgian Relief Commission, which has its headquarters in London, and has already secured over £300,000 worth of food for those Belgians who are on the verge of starvation in their own country.

SANITATION IN GRENADA.

A practical suggestion for improvements.

The health of the native inhabitants in Grenada hardly seems to be a subject for congratulation. In his report on No. 9 District, Dr. Lee Bennett states that the general health was distinctly bad, owing in great measure to poverty, leading to under- and improper feeding.

The "Hook-worm" is becoming more common, while scarcely a child is free from the ordinary "Round-worm," a state of affairs which is certainly very serious. It is usual, he says, to look upon the infected children as the victims of the parasites; but the matter may be regarded the other way round: for, if the children were properly nourished, they would be able to resist the invasion of the worms; it is because they are sickly that the worms infest them, and not that these parasites have caused the sickness.

"In studying this very unsavoury subject," Dr. Bennett goes on to say, "one sees how simple is the prevention of nearly all this trouble, if it could only be carried out; for if all the fæces from the inhabitants could be destroyed, by disinfectants or otherwise, scarcely any worms would be found after the first few months, and many serious diseases would be entirely banished. Under present conditions, the worm infected persons are daily spreading their disease by voiding millions of the parasites' eggs, which are still further distributed in all directions by water, flies, etc.; for every worm comes from a minute egg, and does not develop spontaneously, as so many ignorant people persist in believing."

The destruction of the human fæces in Grenada, he thinks, would not be an impossible task, if everybody would assist, either by actual help or constant supervision; for the solid excreta from each adult scarcely weighs a hundredweight for a whole year. By a little individual assistance on the part of every person, the entire population would be relieved of the greater part of its present sickness.

THE TREATMENT OF PELLAGRA.

In his report on the use of salvarsan in the treatment of pellagra, one of the scourges of the West Indies, in the Kingston and St. Andrew Poor House, Jamaica, Dr. C. R. Edwards, while advocating the use of this drug, which he considers has been proved to be entirely successful, gives his views as to the method of dealing with the native population which should be adopted in stamping out the disease. He considers that the treatment should be voluntary, and not forced upon the patients, and feels sure, from his long experience, that, directly it is seen that it is to their advantage to undergo salvarsan treatment, they will do so readily and in large numbers. On the other hand, if it is forced upon them, the result will be the raising of a spirit of antagonism and opposition which will materially

mitigate against the wiping out of the disease. While there is much truth in Dr. Edwards' remark, is it not possible that if there were compulsory regulations as to the treatment with salvarsan, the fact of the success of the treatment in the first few cases would render compulsion unnecessary afterwards? If this success is so assured and evident, surely there would be no need for subsequent compulsion?

In administering the drug, the conclusion that Dr. Edwards has come to is that while there is considerable risk in the intravenous method of injection, the results obtained by the intra-muscular method are perfectly satisfactory and free from risk.

As regards the time that should elapse between the first and second injections, he considers that three months should be the minimum, and that the second injection should only then be made if the patient's condition is undergoing marked improvement. The effect of a single injection was found by Dr. Edwards to be greatly enhanced by following it up with a course of iodide of potassium and arsenic, and patients should be kept in bed as long as the reaction fever lasts. While a full dose should be given to individuals over 18 years of age, a third of a dose should be sufficient for a child of twelve. A close look-out should be kept for symptoms of arsenical poisoning.

THE SLIDE IN THE PANAMA CANAL.

Thirteen vessels impeded.

The Panama Canal which was closed by a slide on October 14th, was reopened a week later though no fewer than 725,000 cubic yards of earth and rock had been projected into the canal prism blocking the channel for 2,000 feet to vessels larger than tow boats.

The trouble occurred on the East Bank of the Culebra Cut to the north of Gold Hill, and the movement lasted from 5 p.m. until 9 a.m. on the following morning. According to the official *Canal Record*, the big dredges were working at Cucaracha slide, south of Gold Hill, at the time the slide started, and with commendable foresight steps were taken to move them northward; but for this action the results secured could not have been accomplished, as the condition of the channel was such that loaded barges could not be passed through the slide. The dredges were worked under triple shift. The 15-yard dipper dredges *Gamboia* and *Paraiso*, and the 5-yard dipper dredge *Mindi*, began excavation at the north side of the slide during the night of October 14-15, while the mass was still in motion. The dipper dredge *Cardenas* was added to the fleet on October 15, and during the 16th an extension of discharge pipe was laid from a point opposite Cucaracha slide, which allowed the pipeline suction dredge *No. 86* to take part in the work.

The channel was cleared sufficiently by noon of Tuesday, October 20, to allow the passage during

the afternoon of seven vessels, which had been delayed at the south end of the Canal. The vessels had been taken to Pedro Miguel Lock and moored alongside the approach piers and within the lock. The actual passage of the seven through the Cut occupied about four hours; they followed each other at intervals of about half an hour, propelled by their own power, but passing the slide under the control of a tug fore and aft, to hold them to the course. Thirteen vessels were awaiting passage from the Atlantic entrance; nine of them were transferred to the anchorage basin in Gatun Lake, south of Gatun Locks, on October 20th, and were then handled through the Cut next day.

The slide which blocked the Canal is 2,100 feet long, extending from station No. 1775 to station No. 1796, and broke back about 1,000 feet from the centre line of the channel. It occurred in a part of the bank, formerly involved in the east Culebra slide, and is designated as the "New Culebra" slide. The old slide appeared to be dead, and the channel opposite it had been cleared to almost full width and depth. At the present time, no further movement is indicated, but practically all of the 725,000 cubic yards involved in the movement of October 14-15 will have to be dredged from the prism, which may cause further motion.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR.

We regret to say that two sons of Lieut.-Colonel Sir James Hayes Sadler, late Governor of the Windward Islands, have lost their lives in the war. Captain Ernest Reginald Hayes Sadler, and Lieutenant Edwin John Berkeley Hayes Sadler.

Captain E. R. Hayes Sadler was Sir James' second son. Educated at the United Service College, Westward Ho! he passed direct from Sandhurst into the Indian Army. From 1906 to 1909 he was Aide-de-Camp and private secretary to the Governor of the East Africa Protectorate. He served with the Nandi expedition in East Africa (medal and clasp), and on Brigadier-General Gough's Staff in Somaliland (clasp). He passed through the Staff College, Camberley, in December, 1913, and wrote articles on military and topographical matters in East Africa, and on civil and military administration in India in time of war, for which he was honourably mentioned. He was proficient in Persian and other Eastern languages. He married, on February 2, 1914, Eleanor, elder daughter of Mr Arthur F. C. Tollenmache, of The Red House, Westgate-on-Sea. Captain E. R. Hayes Sadler fell when very gallantly leading on his men in an attack on a village occupied by the enemy.

Lieutenant Edwin John Berkeley Hayes Sadler, who was killed on October 28, was Sir James Hayes Sadler's third and youngest son. He was educated at Wellington, where he gained a scholarship. He passed from Woolwich into the Royal Engineers; was Aide-de Camp to the General Officer Commanding in Mauritius, and served latterly in the Military Works in India till war broke out, when he was appointed senior subaltern of the 20th Company, 3rd Sappers and Miners for active service.

The "Roll of Honour" also includes the names of Lieutenant Noel George Scott McGrath, and Second Lieutenant William Beresford Gosset.

Lieutenant Noel George Scott McGrath, of the 2nd Dragoon Guards (Queen's Bays), died on November 5th at

Boulogne, from wounds received on October 31st. He was the eldest son of Mr. George McGrath, of Charlemont, Jamaica, and obtained his first commission in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers from the Jamaica Militia in 1907. He received his step in February 1912, and in the following October joined the Queen's Bays. He was born in December, 1885.

Second Lieutenant William Beresford Gosset, R.A., son of the Hon. Beresford S. Gosset of Jamaica, was born on November 17, 1893, and was gazetted second lieutenant in December, 1912.

WEST INDIAN FRUIT FOR THE WOUNDED.

The distribution of the Planters' Gift.

The distribution of the limes and other fruit which is being sent over as a gift for our wounded soldiers and sailors by certain planters and estate proprietors in Dominica has been entrusted by Mr. H. W. Eaden, who undertook the preliminary arrangements, to the West India Committee.

The mail steamer which arrived at Tilbury on October 28th, brought 19 barrels of limes, contributed by Mr. Bryant, Mr. Eaden, Mr. F. A. Gordon, Mr. Honeychurch, Mr. A. R. C. Lockhart, Mr. J. C. Macintyre, Mr. J. Musgrave, Miss M. Riviere, Mr. H. W. Whitechurch, The Londonderry Co., and Messrs. L. Rose and Co.; besides 6 cases of oranges and grapefruit from the Botanic Gardens. These were distributed among the following hospitals and nursing homes, in each of which there are numbers of wounded soldiers or sailors from the front: Addenbrooke's, Cambridge; Bolingbroke, Wandsworth; Cottage Hospital, Chiswick; Devon Nook Nursing Home, Chiswick; Great Northern, Holloway; General Hospital, Hampstead; Guy's, London; Cottage Hospital, Hornsey; The London Hospital, Whitechapel; Prince of Wales, Tottenham; Princess Club Hospital, Bermondsey; Queen Alexandra Military, London; Radcliffe, Oxford; Red Cross Hospital, London; Royal Berkshire, Reading; Royal Free, London; Royal Naval, Haslar; Royal Victoria, Netley; Seaman's, Greenwich; Second London, Chelsea; St. Bartholomew's, London; St. George's, London; St. Thomas', London; and Westminster Hospital, London.

A committee has been formed in Trinidad to provide oranges and limes for the sick and wounded sailors and soldiers of our Empire lying in hospitals in England. Mr. John H. Smith is Chairman, and the members include Messrs. Louis Alston, A. B. Carr, C. E. Drayton, George Frost, George Huggins, Eugene Hernandez, L. M. Hobson, E. M. Lazare, George Liddlelow, John Lickfold, Roderick Lee Lun, J. J. McClod, Chas. McClean, John Phillips, E. C. Skinner, J. B. Sellier, John Stephens, C. C. Stollmeyer, B. Thompson, Hon. L. A. Wharton, K.C., and Mr. Randolph Rust, Hon. Secretary.

At the first meeting which was held on October 21, it was announced that sufficient oranges and limes had been given by Messrs. C. C. Stollmeyer, M. Leotaud and L. M. Hobson, to enable the first ship

ment of 150 cases of fruit to be forwarded by the mail of the 27th October. The crates were also generously presented to the Committee.

The Trinidad Government Railway and the Royal Mail Steamship Company undertook to convey the first shipment free, and promised to carry at least 50 cases free by subsequent steamers. Messrs. Smith Bros. offered the use of their motor lorry free for cartage of fruit from Santa Cruz Valley. Bagwhansingh gave \$24 towards initial expenses, and each of the committee present promised a like sum. Liberal offers of fruit, packages, and help have also been made by many individuals.

The distribution of the fruit has been entrusted to the Secretary of the West India Committee.

LOOKING BACK.

The extracts from the old records and minute books of the West India Committee which were published in these columns some years ago were so much appreciated that, at the request of several readers, it is proposed to publish a further series.

I. A Characteristic Letter from Lord Nelson.

On August 23rd, at a meeting of the West India Merchants in London, over which Sir Richard Neave, Bart., presided, a deputation was appointed to convey to Lord Nelson a resolution expressing the opinion that his prompt determination to quit the Mediterranean in search of the enemy's fleet; his sagacity in judging of and ascertaining their course; his bold and unwearied pursuit of the combined squadrons to the West Indies and back again to Europe had been "very instrumental to the safety of the West India Islands in general and well deserve the grateful acknowledgements of every individual connected with those colonies." At the same meeting it was resolved:

"That a Deputation, from the Committee of Merchants of London trading to the West Indies, be appointed to wait upon Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson, to express these their sentiments, and to offer him their unfeigned thanks.

"And the following gentlemen were named as a Deputation accordingly:

The Chairman.	Mr. Manning,
Mr. Beeston Long,	Mr. Blackman,
Mr. Samuel Long,	Mr. Saml. Turner.

"At a meeting of West India Merchants held at the Marine Society's Office the 18th of October, 1805.

Present, Beeston Long, Esq., in the Chair,	
Mr. Saml. Long,	Mr. Saml. Turner,
Mr. Hankey,	Mr. Saml. Turner, Jun
Mr. Lyon,	Mr. Maitland,
Mr. Wedderburn,	Mr. Higgin,
Mr. Shaw,	Mr. Plummer,
Mr. Timperon,	Mr. Rucker.

"The Chairman reported that the Deputation appointed at the Meeting of the 23rd of August

last had waited on Lord Nelson with the Resolutions of that Meeting, and that the following letter had since been received from Lord Nelson, by Sir Richard Neave.

London, August 28th, 1805

"Sir,

"I beg leave to express to you and the Committee of West India Merchants the great satisfaction which I feel in their approbation of my conduct.—It was, I conceived, perfectly clear that the Combined Squadrons were gone to the West Indies, and therefore it became my duty to follow them.

"But I assure you from the state of defence in which our large Islands are placed, with the number of Regular Troops, numerous, well disciplined, and zealous Militia, I was confident not any Troops which their Combined Squadron could carry, would make any impression upon any of our large Islands, before a very superior force would arrive for their relief.

"I have the honour to remain,

"Sir, and Gentlemen,

"With the highest respect,

"Your most obliged,

"and obedient Servant,

"Nelson and Bronte.

"Sir Richard Neave, Bart.,

and the Committee of West India Merchants."

[Sir Richard Neave, of Dagnam Park, Essex, like the present Chairman of the West India Committee, filled the Office of Governor of the Bank of England (in 1780). The son of James Neave, of Walthamstow, Essex, and Susanna, daughter of Thomas Tineman, he was created a baronet in 1794. Mr. Beeston Long, who was Chairman of the Committee from 1769 to 1819, was Chairman of the London Dock Company. Mr. Samuel Turner was Lord Mayor of London in 1769. The name of Hankey survives in the firm of Thomas Hankey and Co., West India Merchants, and Mr. Wedderburn and Mr. Plummer were presumably connected with the groups of estates in Jamaica which bear their name and are still famous for their rum.]

ACCORDING to the Havana correspondent of the *Louisiana Planter*, Mr. Noel Deerr has resigned his official position with the Cuban Department of Agriculture and taken over the charge of the manufacture at the Jobabo Factory belonging to the Cuba Company.

As we go to press we are informed that "the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company wrote to their representative in Trinidad on 30th September last, and also telegraphed on 13th October, that a generous refund would be made in the steamer fares of volunteers who should come from the West Indies to join the British Army. The arrangement is that the refund is to be made on proof of enlistment. The foregoing is in accordance with the general policy of the Company to aid Imperial Schemes in every possible way."

THE WEST INDIA ASSOCIATION OF GLASGOW.

The Annual Meeting of the West India Association of Glasgow was held at 134, Wellington Street, in that city on Monday, November 2nd. Mr. Humphry Crum Ewing presiding. The Directors in their Report reviewed the position of the various West Indian crops during the year ended June 30th last and recommended that a donation of £10 be made to the Lectureship in Sugar Manufacture at the Royal Technical College, Glasgow, and a donation of £25 be voted to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund. The Treasurer's Statement of Intromissions for the year ending 30th June last shows that the Funds of the Association on June 30th amounted to £438 3s. 9d., an increase of £20 14s. 11d. during the year. The Report and Accounts, which were certified correct by Mr. W. N. Armour and Mr. George McCalman, were adopted, and Messrs. Robert Harvey, James R. Greig, and Andrew Macdonald retired by rotation from the Board and were re-elected, and Mr. George Brown, who also retired, did not seek re-election.

In moving the adoption of the Report and Accounts, the Chairman, said there was but little comment to be made thereon, so uneventful had been the period under review. Before passing to the business of the meeting, he made reference to the loss sustained by the whole West Indian community through the deaths of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and Sir Nevile Lubbock, both of whom would always be gratefully remembered for their great services to the West Indies, particularly in securing the abolition of Continental Bounties. One could not refrain, he said, at the present moment, when sugar was one of the chief articles affected by the war, from wondering what the British public would have been paying to-day had the Bounty system continued to prevail. Referring to the large purchases of sugar made on behalf of the Government, the Chairman remarked that under other circumstances the composition of the Royal Commission on Sugar Supplies, which had carried through these operations, would have met with adverse comment, but the present was not the time for such action. Against a Proclamation, however, which had been issued prohibiting the import of all sugars into the United Kingdom, a vigorous protest had been called for, particularly in regard to the effect it would have in shutting out Demerara and West Indian yellow crystals from London, the only market for that class of sugar. Representations on the subject had been made to the Home Secretary by letter and wire. After a lengthy discussion a telegram, to indicate the feeling of the meeting on the matter, was despatched to the Home Secretary.

The donations to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund and the Sugar Lectureship at the Royal Technical College, Glasgow, were duly voted.

The Report was adopted and the retiring Directors except Mr. George Brown, were re-elected for a

further term of office. The resignation of Mr. Brown, who is now in London, was accepted with much regret. Mr. Humphry Crum Ewing, of Strathleven was re-elected Chairman, and Mr. Thomas Prentice, Vice-Chairman; Mr. A. H. Donald continues to act as Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. R. W. Tomlinson was appointed Hon. Secretary in succession to Mr. William Weir.

THE NEW WEST INDIAN LINER.

The R.M.S.P. "Essequibo."

It is probable that before this issue of the CIRCULAR has reached them many readers in Barbados and Trinidad will have made the acquaintance of the new mail steamer *Essequibo* which has recently been put into commission for the transatlantic route of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. A description of this vessel having already appeared in these columns it will, perhaps, be unnecessary to say more than that a visit paid to her in the Royal Albert Dock by the writer just before she sailed on her maiden voyage satisfied him that, if anything, it failed to do justice to the comfort and good taste of the fittings and appointments.

Those who have travelled in the famous "A" steamers of the company will be able to picture to themselves the new vessel, when it is said that she is like a smaller *Aragon* or *Araguaya*. But in several respects she will be even more comfortable than those steamers. The saloon, for example, resembles a spacious drawing room of a country house, rather than the lounge of a hotel—an apartment of which people are inclined to get rather tired—and the smoking room panelled in rough oak strikes an altogether new note for ocean steamers. The verandah cafe which opens from it will also be a novelty for many West Indian travellers which is certain to be appreciated. So, too, will the shop which, judging from the way the hairdresser's store is usually ransacked before a voyage is over, is sure to be well patronised. When normal conditions of ocean travel are restored, *Essequibo* and her sister ship *Ebro* will have a marked effect on the West Indian tourist traffic, and make the erection of the much talked of hotels absolutely essential.

Applications for copies of the West India Committee Map of the West Indies show no falling off, in spite of the stagnation of trade due to the war.

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" is a handy volume obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 1s.

CONSULAR REPORT.

Progress in the Bahamas.

Considerable improvement was shown in the financial position of the Bahamas in 1913-14, the excess of assets over liabilities having risen from £30,048 on March 31st, 1913, to £51,915 on the same date in 1914. In his report on the annual Blue-book of the colony, Mr. W. Hart Bennett, C.M.G., gives the following tables showing the revenue and expenditure and imports and exports for the past five years:—

Year	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £	Year.	Imports. £	Exports. £
1909-10	77,578	92,858	1909	342,758	168,692
1910-11	84,386	85,315	1910	329,014	190,682
1911-12	85,592	82,676	1911	308,726	209,251
1912-13	97,574	88,077	1912	357,808	276,115
1913-14	100,753	96,496	1913	398,244	253,954
Average	£89,176	89,084	Average	£347,310	221,739

The collection and sale of sponges, which in 1913 realised £99,343, at the Nassau Exchange alone, is still the chief industry of the Bahamas, and in this connection the shrinkage in the supply of the wool sponge—the most valuable found locally—continues to cause anxiety. It has been suggested that if the wool sponge were transplanted from one section of the sponging grounds to another, there might be an improvement in the growth, just as the yield of pine fields is improved by the introduction of foreign stock. The growth of sponge by grafting has been occupying the attention of the Marine Products Board for some time, and an experiment has been undertaken by them. It has also been suggested that it is quite possible to transplant Mediterranean sponge in Bahamas' waters, as the local marine conditions are almost identical with those of the more famous rival.

A resident of Abaco has been making experiments with the *bêche de mer* or sea-slug, a popular article of diet among the Chinese, and a sample case of this delicacy has been sent to China. Quantities of these sea slugs used to be shipped many years ago to Florida.

The re-establishment of an Agricultural Board for four years with a subsidy of £750 per annum leads to the hope that the agriculture may be stimulated. The policy of the Board has been to encourage the small farmer, and small quantities of Sea Island cotton seed were purchased and distributed. It was proposed to obtain the services of an expert cotton grower to teach the peasantry. The exports of sisal amounted to 7,249,496 lbs. valued at £69,950, as against 8,067,485 lbs. valued at £66,427 in the preceding year. The citrus fruit exported marked a notable advance though much leeway has to be made up before the figures of 1907, when over a million and a half of oranges were shipped, are reached; oranges rising from 121,180 valued at £172 to 222,257 valued at £599, and grape fruit from 200,280 (£563) to 565,322 (£2,032). The canning industry

showed a slight revival, the exports of tinned pine-apples rising from 27,536 tins valued at £5,175 in 1912 to 31,192 valued at £6,208.

As a winter health and pleasure resort Nassau has for many years past attracted a considerable number of American and Canadian visitors, and the hotels and boarding houses were fairly full. It is estimated that about 2,600 tourists arrived, in addition to 1,231 visitors from pleasure steamers staying here a few hours on their way north or south. Considering, however, that the colony pays £5,000 a year to subsidize a hotel and steamship service with Florida for only about ten weeks in the season Mr. Hart Bennett does not regard these figures as satisfactory, and adds that the colony has never been efficiently and sufficiently advertised. A certain amount of advertising is done by the steamship companies and the American hotel, but the attractions of the colony are not nearly so well known in the United States and in Canada as are those of Bermuda. Fired by the example of its sister colony—Bermuda—the House of Assembly has, however, at length tackled the question seriously, and a Development Board has been formed with power to advertise, to appoint agents, and to negotiate contracts for steamship communication. For this purpose the Legislature has voted to the Board £3,000 for each of the years 1914-15 and 1915-16, and £2,000 for each of the three following financial years. This, says Mr. Hart Bennett, is a leap in the right direction, and should result in a very large increase in our tourist traffic in the near future.

The representations of the West India Committee as to the desirability of preserving the historic sites and monuments in the West Indies is recalled by the statement that a Select Committee recommended that the guns in Forts Montague, Charlotte and Fincastle, which were dismantled when the Imperial troops were withdrawn from the colony in 1891, be remounted and that the interior of the forts and the water battery be properly maintained. Steps are being taken to carry these proposals into effect. In connection with this subject, a most interesting historical memorandum has been written by Mr. Harcourt Malcolm, K.C., the Speaker of the House, which contains quotations from the Calendar of State Papers (Colonial series), the early Minutes of the House of Assembly, Reports by Military Engineers in the 18th century, and Despatches from Lord Dunmore, Governor of the Colony in 1787, and Lieutenant D'Arcy, Governor in 1792. It deals most fully and ably with the early history of the forts.

THE trade returns of the United Kingdom show that the quantity of sugar in bond on October 31st last was 3,615,000 cwt. as compared with 2,797,000 and 3,771,000 cwt. on the same dates in 1912 and 1913 respectively. The figures regarding raw cacao in bond on the same dates were: 1914, 30,064,000 cwt.; 1913, 20,227,000 cwt.; and 1912, 18,990,000 cwt.; and coffee, 1914, 408,000 cwt.; 1913, 208,000 cwt.; and 1912, 217,000 cwt.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

THE picture of a German "man-of-war" which appeared in last issue was reproduced from a photograph taken by Mr. José Anjo.

A MEMOIR of the late Sir Alfred Lewis Jones by Mr. A. H. Milne, C.M.G., will shortly be published by Messrs. Henry Young and Sons, Ltd.

MISS MORISON, sister of Mr. William Morison, formerly of Demerara, is a Territorial Sister in charge of wards at the Military Hospital, Craighleith, Edinburgh.

THE exports of Sea Island cotton from the United States for the nine months ending March 31st, 1914, were 7,061,209 pounds, as compared with 2,219,039 pounds for the corresponding period of 1912-13.

MR. WALTER CUNLIFFE, Governor of the Bank of England, who has just been the recipient of a peerage was at one time interested in a group of cacao estates in the Toco district of Trinidad with Mr. Gordon Gordon.

MR. CHARLES STUART MORRISON, the well-known Jamaica cricketer, and a former secretary of the Jamaica Club, was married on October 15th to Doris, daughter of Mr. Adam Roxburgh, of Mount Plenty, St. Ann. We congratulate him.

IT may not be generally known that Mr. George Grant, formerly of Trinidad, has been very near the firing line in France. He visited Paris soon after the beginning of the war, and although frequently held up by sentries, managed to get to the front by producing a badge which showed that he was once in the old Trinidad Volunteers.

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been: His Honour T. A. V. Best, Hon. R. A. S. Warner, K.C., Hon. J. Spencer Hollings, Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, Mr. F. A. C. Collymore, Mr. E. Astley Smith, Mr. R. S. D. Goodwin, Mr. F. J. Morris, Mr. Adam Smith, and Hon. J. Challoner Lynch.

THEIR second West Indian tour having been postponed in consequence of the war, Miss Florence Glossop Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier have revived "Cheer Boys Cheer" at the Prince's Theatre. On several evenings every week this famous Drury Lane melodrama is varied by one of the plays out of their Shakespearean repertoire, which enjoyed so much favour in the West Indies last winter.

JAMAICA and perhaps other West Indian colonies will now have an opportunity of supplying tobacco for the British Army. The War Office specification

for tobacco for the troops which did not permit of the use of the British colonial product has, at the request of the Imperial Institute, been amended and tobacco of satisfactory quality grown in British Colonies and Protectorates is now included.

THE West Indian orange is pale but that is no indication that it is sour, for this fruit is often deliciously sweet. The consignments now arriving are heavy, therefore juicy and likewise thin skinned. Evidently, says the *Table*, the fruit is not being shipped in an immature state which is a great point in their favour. Frequently oranges have been sent from Jamaica in a "green" state, with the result that the public have been disappointed with the fruit, and have decided to avoid the use of oranges from the West Indies. Colonial growers who do their work well and conscientiously have suffered for the malpractices of others.

THE Governments of Barbados and the Leeward Islands are making through the press a strong appeal to those people who are accustomed to winter abroad to patronise their shores. On this page are specimens of the advertisements which have been appearing in many of the leading papers in this country, Canada, and the United States. A goodly crop of enquiries has already resulted, and it is not improbable that many people who have hitherto made the Continent of

FOR
CONTINUOUS
BRIGHT
SUNSHINE.



FAR
FROM
WAR'S
ALARMS.

WINTER IN
BARBADOS

(British West Indies).
Barbados enjoys a glorious winter climate. The sudden chills experienced in the health resorts of Southern Europe are unknown. The temperature is remarkably equable. The days are genial, the nights balmy.

SPLENDID HUNTERY, ECONOMICAL LIVING,
SPORTS, MOTORING, DRIVING, BOATING.

Write for new descriptive pamphlet to
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Secretary, The West India
Committee, 15, Beetham Lane, London, E.C.

A BEAUTIFUL LAND OF SUNSHINE
FOR THE WINTER.

THE LEEWARD
ISLANDS

(British West Indies).

Gorgeous tropical vegetation. Mountains, Forests and Glens.
Wonder sights of nature.

MOST HEALTHY CLIMATE. INEXPENSIVE
LIVING. SPORTS. AMUSEMENTS. SOCIAL LIFE

Write or call for free leaflet giving full particulars,
ALGERNON E. ASPINALL, Secretary, THE WEST INDIA
COMMITTEE, 15, Beetham Lane, London, E.C.

Europe their winter quarters will in the coming winter visit the West Indies. In Canada the pamphlets are being distributed by Mr. Lewis W. Clements, of 392, King Street West, Toronto.

THE LONDON LETTER.

THE death of Lord Roberts will be mourned throughout the Empire. The great Field Marshal died, as he would have wished to die, among his troops. It will not be overlooked at this time that if his views as to the importance of National Service had been adopted, the course of the war in its early stages would have been very different.

* * *

THE demand for more men for the Army has engaged a large measure of public attention during the fortnight. Since the original boom in recruiting there has been a decided decline in the number coming forward. The tone of some newspapers has been one of alarm. At the Guildhall banquet, however, Lord Kitchener, while indicating that there is need of thousands of recruits for the ranks, declared that he had no reason whatever to complain of the response to his appeal.

* * *

THE diminished enthusiasm is attributed to several causes. Prominence is given by the Press to lack of sufficient news from the front. It is noteworthy that whenever mention is made of the gallantry of some particular regiment a further battalion is readily recruited. Again there is lacking the pomp and circumstance which has attended the departure of troops to previous wars. Waving banners, martial music, and the tramp of men in gay uniforms represent a powerful attraction to certain types of the population. In this war they have been conspicuously absent. Again there has been dissatisfaction with arrangements for clothing and equipment. To married men, delay in the payment of separation allowances, and the inadequate amount of those allowances have constituted serious deterrents. The organisation of a new army upon an unprecedented scale has been a colossal task for the War Office, and allowance has to be made for temporary defects. Many of those enumerated are now being adjusted, and the effect is already seen in a revival of recruiting.

THE recent raid of enemy warships off Yarmouth doubtless created more alarm abroad than at home. To people in England the incursion was remarkable chiefly as furnishing further proof of the bad marksmanship of the German gunners—one British seaman being wounded as the result of the firing of one hundred shells. It is a cause at once for thankfulness and surprise that so little damage was done. A large defensive fleet cannot be assembled at every possible point of attack on the English coast, but it is satisfactory that the German ships which declined to fight were pursued so promptly.

* * *

THE annexation of Cyprus, consequent upon our war with Turkey, calls to mind several administrators connected at one time or another with the West Indies, who have seen service in the island. Among

High Commissioners of Cyprus within recent years have been Sir William Haynes Smith and Sir C. King-Harman. Sir Alfred Lucie Smith, Chief Justice of Trinidad was once a Judge in Cyprus. Sir Charles Tysler, Chief Justice of Cyprus, is a brother-in-law of the late Sir Alexander Ashmore, formerly Government Secretary of British Guiana, who was Receiver General of the eastern island a few years ago.

SEVERAL officers whose deaths are reported from the front are connected by family or other ties with the West Indies. Reference is made elsewhere to the loss which Lord Balfour of Burleigh, remembered as Chairman of the Royal Commission on Canada and the West Indies, has sustained through the death of his eldest son the Hon. Robert Bruce, the Master of Burleigh. Barbadians will regret to hear that their former Colonial Secretary, Lord Basil Blackwood, has been wounded. His eldest brother, the Earl Dufferin and Ava, was killed in the South African War.

* * *

THE Roman Catholic Vicar Apostolic of British Guiana (Bishop Galton) is placed in mourning by the death of his young relative Mr. Theodore Hugh Galton, Second Lieutenant in the Worcester Regiment, who was killed two days after reaching the firing line. Mr. Galton, who was only 26 years of age was the eldest son of Major and Mrs. Galton, of Hadzor House, Droitwich. Through his mother—a daughter of the late Sir Henry Clifford, the deceased officer was also closely related to Sir Hugh Clifford, late Colonial Secretary of Trinidad, and now Governor of the Gold Coast. The Galton family gave to this country two of the most distinguished scientists of the last generation—Sir Douglas Galton, once President of the British Association, and Sir Francis Galton, the famous eugenicist.

MR. AND MRS. SANDBACH, of Cherry Hill, Malpas, Cheshire, have also been called upon to mourn the death of their only son, Captain Hugh H. Sandbach. Captain Sandbach was killed on November 4th in an engagement at Longido, German East Africa. Only 36 years of age, he served throughout the South African War, and afterwards saw eight years' service in India. Retiring two years ago to take over an estate in British East Africa, he organised, and became commandant of, at the outset of the present war, a force of East African Mounted Rifles.

* * *

THE will has been published of Captain J. H. Jellicoe, a Director of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., and father of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, who died recently at the age of 89. Captain Jellicoe left an estate of upwards of £52,000. The death is announced of a well-known member of the Davson family in the person of Dr. Frederick Adams Davson, J.P. Dr. Davson, who resided at Dartmouth, passed away in London in his 75th year.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

THE *Journal* of the Royal Society of Arts draws attention to the value of teff (*Eragrostis Abyssinia*) which has been introduced into South Africa with great success. Teff is an annual hay-grass, particularly suited for a smother crop for weeds, owing to its rapid growth under anything like favourable weather conditions. It gives a heavy yield of grass of good quality and high nutritive value.

THE war has caused considerable attention to be drawn in British Guiana to the growing of food-stuffs which are at present imported to a large extent. Among the articles recommended to be grown is dholl, a product much used by the East Indians in that colony. Another product farmers are being urged to grow is the ground-nut, a prominent industry in many parts of the world, the Gambia alone exporting £500,000 worth last year.

It is not generally realized that Germany is the largest potato growing country of the world, the crop of last year being 54 million tons. The surplus stock is dried at regular factories designed for the purpose, and over 200,000 tons were thus treated last year, three to four pounds of potatoes producing one pound of the dried product. The *Journal* of the Jamaica Agricultural Society points out that at certain times of the year there is a scarcity of cassava, bananas, and bread-fruit in the West Indies; at other times an excess, and in the latter instance much waste could be avoided by drying them, while at the same time provision would be made for a rainy day.

IN drying copra, the point to which the operation should be conducted is an important one, as its keeping power depends a great deal upon its degree of dryness. The ordinary sun-dried copra contains from 8 to 14 per cent of moisture, which accounts for its poor condition on standing for some time. Mr. C. W. Hines, writing in the *Philippine Agricultural Review*, considers that the water content of dried copra should not be more than 5 per cent. The greatest amount of destruction, he states, comes when the moisture content is from 10 to 16 per cent. When in this condition the various moulds thrive best and consequently cause the greatest deterioration of the oil. A moisture content between 10 and 5 per cent. proves somewhat less favourable to bacterial action as well as to the mould growth. This quantity of water, however, will still be destructive to the copra and its value.

"Cacao," "The Banana" (7s. 6d. each; post free 8s. 4d.), the "Cane Sugar Factory" (1s.; post free 1s. 2d.), and "The Pocket Guide to the West Indies," the new edition of which contains chapters on the Spanish Main, the Bahamas, and Bermuda (5s.; post free 5s. 4d.), are obtainable at 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



THE R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, which left Barbados on October 28th, and reached Tilbury on November 9th, brought home a number of young men who intend to seek commissions or enlist in Kitchener's Army. They deservedly received a splendid send off. The West Indian communities were at last awakening to the dangers of having alien enemies in their midst and "coming events"—the closing down of firms owned by Germans or Austrians, which has since been announced by cable—were already "casting their shadows before," a question having been asked in the Legislative Council of Trinidad and Tobago as to the number of Germans and Austrians still at liberty in the colony. An enquiry into the numbers in other West Indian colonies would appear to be desirable. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our Hon. Correspondents:—

ANGUILLA—A donation to the Prince of Wales' Fund.

MR. CARTER REY, OCTOBER 21st.—On September 29th and 30th, two patriotic meetings were held here to consider how this island might help in the great war. The meetings were organised by the Rev. Louis Spinks, Rector of the Anglican Church, and the Rev. W. Sunter, Wesleyan Minister, and were presided over by the writer. Resolutions declaring the loyalty of the inhabitants, and their devotion to the King, were enthusiastically adopted with cheers for His Majesty, and the singing of the National Anthem, and it was decided to start a popular subscription, and to send the proceeds as a donation from the inhabitants to the Prince of Wales' Fund. The total amount subscribed is £48 4s. 13d., and I am directed to send this to you, and to request that you will be good enough to present the same to the Prince of Wales, Buckingham Palace, with an expression of the above loyal sentiment from the people of this island. It is felt that the amount is very small, but the market for cotton, the one money crop, is wrecked by the war, and there has been a four months drought in the growing season which has caused all other crops to be lost. Salt reaping began last week and is progressing well.

BARBADOS—October a favourable month for crops.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE OCTOBER 26th.—We have only had a few showers during the past fortnight, but the canes continue to look green and are growing. With regard to climatic conditions the *Agricultural Reporter* of October 24th states that the first six days of October gave from 4 to 11 inches of rain over the middle and southern parishes, but it took from the 7th to the 21st instant inclusive to make up an inch more. The northern end of the Island,—that is to say, St. Lucy parish as a whole,—has not enjoyed a favourable month thus far, the best record from any place so far as we have been able to ascertain not being as much as 2 inches. Most days of the past fortnight have been exceedingly hot, and the showers have been light. The last few days have been cloudy. There has been some thunder, but rain has not fallen as we could desire.

BRITISH GUIANA—The proposed harbour improvements

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, OCTOBER 24th.—Hon. J. J. Nunan gave an interesting and informative lecture on the Campaigns of France and Germany, in the course of which

he compared them with the present war, at a meeting of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society, on October 13th. His Excellency the Governor, who was present, said that so long as our ships were in West Indian waters he did not think that German cruisers would be bold enough to land a force in British Guiana. The quarterly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on October 16th, Hon. A. P. Sherlock presiding. Referring to the proposed harbour improvements he said that the Council approved of the suggestion made by the Government that there should be a lighthouse at Hampton Court, as it would lessen the voyage from Trinidad by one or two hours. Regarding the Cash on Delivery system he said that the merchants thought it unfair, and if it were to develop certain people would be deprived of their livelihood. He hoped that at the next meeting of the Combined Court there would be support for proposals to put an extra duty on importations by either the Cash on Delivery or the ordinary parcel post systems. The Board of Agriculture met on the same day, Sir Walter Egerton presiding. The Secretary of State has rejected the memorial against the proposed alteration in the constitution of the Georgetown Town Council, stating that the Ordinance appeared to him to be calculated to improve the administration of the municipal affairs of Georgetown. The autumn race meeting was held at Bel-Air Park on the 13th and 15th. The weather during the fortnight has continued hot and dry except on the 19th, when good rains fell in Demerara. I regret to say County Inspector Calder died on the 13th instant. The mail edition of the *Argosy* contains an admirable letter by Mr. Russell Garnett on the war.

DOMINICA—Recruits for Lord Kitchener's Army.

MR. E. A. AGAR, OCTOBER 23rd.—This year's report on the lime industry will show much higher values for juice (both raw and concentrated), but a falling off in the fresh lime trade. Exports will be, I think, more than maintained in raw juice by the quantity required by the Admiralty. Cacao is beginning to come in fast, but with the present low prices won't benefit the island as much as it should. The weather has been fine enough to give no anxiety as to drying what is being reaped. Mr. A. G. S. Davenport and Mr. Johns, of the Treasury Department, are leaving to join Lord Kitchener's army; this makes four men who have left Dominica for that purpose, and as they have to go at their own expense, it speaks well for them. Mr. Davenport has been for years a member of the Defence Reserve and is a good shot, so should prove a useful man. Interest in the war has in no way abated, and at all hours of the day and at any rate up to midnight, there is always a number of persons of all classes studying the Telegraph Company's board. If the home papers give a true account of events, it appears that our cables keep our successes as much as possible in the background, and if by any chance we have suffered any disaster, such as the loss of a cruiser, the most is made of it. But even this policy does not prevent the cables being heartening. His Excellency the Governor has been on a visit, bringing with him Major Beamish as his A.D.C. He gave an "At Home" at Government House last week which was well attended.

GRENADA—The new Superintendent of Agriculture.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, OCTOBER 26th.—Mr. G. Whitfield Smith leaves with Miss Smith to-day to assume his new duties as Commissioner of Turks and Caicos Islands. Captain David L. Slinger returned by the mail on October 21st. The shipments of cacao to date (new crop) have been 595 bags; last year, in the corresponding period, the shipments were 661 bags. The weather is all that can be desired, and the prospects for cacao are satisfactory, as far as number of bags is concerned, but prices are not. Mr.

J. C. Moore, the new Agricultural Superintendent of Grenada arrived from St. Lucia this afternoon.

We are indebted to Messrs. Jonas Browne and Sons for the following table of exports from Grenada and the Grenadines for the past five crop seasons.

Crops	Cocoa-bags.	Spice packages.	Cotton-bales.	Cotton-seed bags.
Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.				
1913-1914	66,902	11,696	1,199	6,203
1912-1913	63,476	11,418	1,340	7,256
1911-1912	70,094	10,279	1,209	4,495
1910-1911	67,144	7,589	910	1,702
1909-1910	73,863	6,970	1,231	6,037

Of which the following were shipped:—

	To N. America.	To Barbados.
1913-1914	17,608	2,635
1912-1913	19,989	2,454
1911-1912	14,548	?
1910-1911	12,500	973
1909-1910	10,739	2,076

and the remainder to Europe.

JAMAICA—Seasonable showers at Port Antonio.

The "season" has begun in Port Antonio. Showers are a daily occurrence and the banana crop is benefiting. Owing to the war trade is naturally depressed and fewer vessels than usual are visiting the island.

MONTSERRAT—The first motor car in the Island.

MR. K. P. DENCHOEN, OCTOBER 27th.—The weather continues very hot. October is well up to its reputation for heat this year, but not for rain. We have had some showers for the past fortnight, but no heavy rain, and this has so far been the driest October for years, though it is not too late in the month for downpours to bring it to the normal. There is little of interest here, the cotton crop will be fairly good as to returns per acre; but owing to heavy freights, heavy insurance, heavy warehouse charges, heavier warehouse insurance, no demand, and low prices, there is not much encouragement to ship, and we want to try and avoid the expenses that will mount up while the cotton awaits sale in England. Mr. S. W. Howes of Trant's Estate received a car from England by Royal Mail steamer yesterday. This is the first motor car that has come to stay in Montserrat. Mr. Howes took it right across the island yesterday and declares satisfaction. The journey across is 7 miles in which you go up to the height of 1,000 feet. The car is an A.C. English make. Mr. Dudley Johnson, Agent, Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, is improving and enlarging his well-known hotel Coco-Nut Hill House, and will have, when completed one of the largest and best accommodating hotels in these islands, with one of the best tennis courts attached. We anxiously look for news of the war. Several times this week at nights the important items of news have been flashed over from Antigua.

NEVIS—The war cited as a cause of drought.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, OCTOBER 24th.—Since I last wrote the drought has continued, paralysing every effort to grow anything at all, and playing havoc with the crops generally. A downpour of 1.30 on the evening of the 23rd, which seems to have been general, has relieved the anxiety somewhat, as it was freely asked around "Is it ever going to rain again?"; while the labourers persistently believe that the "war has caused the drought." Next in importance to the war is sugar, and its future here, if one may judge by the trend of conversation around. I am sure the West India Committee will leave no stone unturned to see that the best possible be done for these colonies and their staple industry, cane sugar, and if the moment is opportune, to obtain for all time a tenable position for West Indian sugar in the home market.

ST. KITTS—Belgian Relief and Red Cross Funds.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, OCTOBER 23rd.—Round Basseterre way and in the neighbourhood of Estridge's, the drought has continued to be severe during the fortnight, except that last night there was a fairly general rain. I measured here 1.19 ins., Botanic station .82, Brotherton's Estate .82. This was very welcome, and I hope more will follow. His Honour the Administrator held a meeting at Springfield House on Wednesday afternoon to discuss some means of relief for the Belgians rendered destitute by the war, and a working committee was formed for this laudable object. A very successful concert has been held in aid of the Red Cross Fund. The subscription list to the Red Cross Fund now amounts to £250, and I understand that this amount has been forwarded to London. Mr. Manchester's condition is much the same I hear, but I hope he may ultimately recover.

ST. LUCIA—The claims of British Colonial Sugar.

HON. G. S. HUDSON, OCTOBER 24th.—To those unaware of the usual West Indian October weather it might be misleading to refer to the past three weeks' rainfall as comparatively slight, but your readers will take my meaning and not conjecture any degree of drought when I mention that, so far, our wet season has been exceptionally dry. The lime crop still hangs out merrily; in fact, this has been an exceptional fruit year, with the mango and orange crops overlapping and guavas only now ripening. Cacao is backward, except on the forest estates, yet everyone anticipates a good crop. Small cacao planters who usually sell their crop locally are now realising the effect of the war in prices averaging 2d. per lb. for partly dried cacao; the case for a congested cacao market and a heavy drop in prices seems rather overwhelming, yet I have found that the cacao market invariably (like Mary's Lamb—revised edition) takes the direction that is conceived impossible by those who know it best. The sugar crop for 1915 is not likely to be large in St. Lucia, but every effort is being made by increased planting to secure a good crop for 1916. The well-timed efforts of the West India Committee to impress on the Imperial Government that a large supply of British colonial cane sugar can only be secured by the same protective methods that have secured to other Governments a large supply of beet sugar deserve the best thanks of the West Indies: a cursory glance at the statistics of West Indian exports for the past 25 years can only prove how sugar is gradually being displaced by other more lucrative cultivations. The *Descartes* is again guarding the mouth of Castries harbour, and H.M.S. *Berwick* and the *Condé* came in last week to coal, but we hear nothing nowadays of the *Karlsruhe's* exploits, or of any further prize ships being captured.

ST. VINCENT—Weather favourable for agriculture.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, OCTOBER 24th.—The past fortnight has been a quiet one, and there is practically nothing to report. The colony is looking forward to giving the Hon. and Mrs. Gideon Murray a warm welcome on their return by the next mail. The weather has been on the whole favourable for agriculture, although one or two isolated days of heavy rain caused a little anxiety for the cotton in the wet districts.

TOBAGO—An opportunity for capitalists.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, OCTOBER 27th.—The war news absorbs everyone's attention, and the natives take a keen interest in it day by day. The public telegrams are eagerly read in Scarborough and Roxburgh, and some enterprising storekeepers have copies at their doors with maps and flags to show the movements of the Army and Fleet. Patriotic meetings are being held all over the island and very creditable subscriptions are being collected for the

Red Cross Society from everyone from labourers up. The few East Indians in the island are liberal subscribers and are very proud to know that their fellow countrymen are fighting for the Empire. This war will be a great leveller and developments social as well as political are sure to result therefrom. The weather during the fortnight has been showery and favourable for the growing crops. Some cacao is being reaped and planters are glad that prices are now more in accordance with quotations from London and New York, last sales being \$9.75 per 110. There is little demand for coco-nuts and copra at 33c. per lb. gives a better return. Sugar cultivation is being extended in a small way under the Metayer system. In the Leeward district there is free acreage to provide canes for one or two Central Factories, if capitalists could only be assured of a steady market in the Old Country. It is to be hoped that the lessons of the war will not be forgotten when cheap German beet can be poured into the market again! The CIRCULAR brings information that will open the eyes of the Government and the people to the undeveloped resources of the West Indies.

TRINIDAD—The danger from alien enemies.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, OCTOBER 27th.—Trinidad is beginning to have its more personal share in the sorrows of the war. So far we have to be thankful that death has not snatched its victims from the colony, but His Excellency the Governor has all our sympathy in the anxiety he must feel for his son, Lieutenant Le Hunte, reported wounded and a prisoner. Surgeon Major Eakin, with whom we were only recently condoling on the loss of his wife, if now informed by telegram from the War Office, but without any detail, that his son, a lieutenant in the Shropshire L.I., has been wounded. Captain Owen, R.N.R., the popular Marine Superintendent of the Royal Mail Company here, who has sons officers in the Army and Navy both, is informed of the wounding of the former, fortunately not severely. Many others in the community have relatives at the front, so that we look with personal interest at the casualty records. Some weeks ago I referred to the departure of the young French reservists. By this mail there there will sail eleven young men, well connected, who leave comfortable homes, and in some cases good positions, to go and offer themselves in London in any capacity, so that it is near the fighting line, in the service of their country. In an hour's time they will be having a great send-off from the Jetty, and it is understood that the Governor will be amongst those going off in the special steamer taking them on board. Patriotic Funds are growing apace. That of the *Port of Spain Gazette*, for the widows and orphans, is nearing the amount that paper set itself out to get, viz., £2,000. The Red Cross is getting along swimmingly with its army of enthusiastic lady helps. Another fund for the Belgians has been opened in the *Mirror* headed with a contribution of \$500 from the consul of that country. Mr. J. H. Smith, and is rapidly increasing. The Chamber of Commerce Patriotic Fund is now about £9,000, and it is expected will total the £10,000 wanted for first remittance in time for next mail. The Council being in Session, our legislators now meet every Friday. At last meeting beyond laying some papers, nothing was done except to answer a question of which the Honourable George Fitzpatrick had given notice, viz., (1) Has the attention of the Government been called to the statements in the local Press with regard to the number of alien enemies at large in the colony? (2) If so, whether the necessary measures have been taken to safeguard the interest of the colony and the Empire? The answer was: "There are 38 German and 2 Austrian subjects at present resident in the colony, exclusive of those who are detained as prisoners of war." (2) The Govern

has taken measures for the registration, control of residence and movements of Austrian and German subjects, and other measures in his opinion necessary for the safeguarding of the colony and Imperial interest. These measures are strictly in accordance with law and the instructions of the Secretary of State." To this the Governor added: "There was not the slightest truth in the statement or allegation that no action had been taken by the Government." From this it would appear that the Secretary of State is responsible, but whether this be so or not, there can be no question that the feeling is almost universal that in local circumstances, especially with enemy cruisers for all we know in the near vicinity, a grave and unnecessary risk is being run by allowing these enemies to be at large. I have nothing to say against them personally, but they would be poor creatures indeed if they failed to avail of any chance to help their own country at our expense. That they would do it no intelligent man here doubts, and that there are opportunities of doing it seem also evident. I should not refer to this matter in this way did I not know that the whole British community here is behind me.



Indians roasting and kneading cocoa.

[From "Cocoa" by Dr. C. J. J. van Hall]

The deadlock between the Government and the San Fernando Borough Council gets more stringent. The correspondence has been closed by the former. It is demanded that not only shall the books of the Borough be submitted to Government audit, but that estimates of their expenditure must be previously submitted to the Government. The Council are willing to concede in the question of audit, but not with regard to estimates, which they say concern themselves alone. So the matter stands, and so also stand the neglected water works, the improvement of which is not to be undertaken until one side or the other gives way. But it seems rather hard that the poor people of San Fernando should continue to suffer for want of a decent supply of water because the Government and the Council have a quarrel. That water question is the bane of good feeling in Trinidad and has been so for the past 25 years. By the steamer to-day a large number of crates and cases of limes, oranges and lemons are shipped by the Red Cross Committee for the wounded in hospital, etc., and these shipments, through the generosity of many planters and others, will continue regularly.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Editor is glad to receive copies of publications relating to the colonies, photographs of West Indian scenery, or of local events of topical interest, and donations towards the Library Fund, which will be duly acknowledged under this heading.

Cocoa. By Dr. C. J. van Hall, Macmillan and Co., Ltd., London. Size 8½ in. by 5½ in. Pages 315 + xvi. Map and 140 illustrations. 14s. net. Director of the Institute for Plant-diseases and Cultures of Java, Dr. Hall stands in the front rank of scientific agriculturists. In his official capacity he has come into direct contact with the culture of cacao, and the work which he now gives to the public is the outcome of his valuable, and we may also say, unique experience. As mentioned in the Preface, the work is eminently practical, and the *raison d'être* of the many operations connected with the cultivation of cacao is put forward in a clear and lucid manner. A good instance of this is the explanation of the opposite views which obtain among cacao growers on the subject of shade trees. After reviewing the evidence on the subject, he concludes that "Though it is possible that in some countries the cacao tree will not thrive in untempered sunlight, we may assume that in most countries this is not the case, and that the untempered sunlight is not in any way detrimental to the tree. The usefulness of the shade trees lies not in giving shade to the tree, but in giving shade to the soil; in enriching the soil with nitrogen, by means of the nodules of the roots, and with humus, by means of the fallen leaves and flowers, and, finally, in loosening the soil by means of the widely developed root-system. When cacao is grown without shade, the planter has therefore to shade the soil by close planting of the cacao trees, to add nitrogen and humus to the soil by means of manuring with pen manure, and to keep the soil porous and loose by means of forking and hoeing." Commencing with a historical chapter, by no means the least interesting—Dr. Hall subsequently treats of Geographical Distribution and Climatic Conditions, the Chemistry of Cocoa and Cocoa Soils, the Botanical Characteristics of the Cocoa Plant, the Varieties of Cocoa, the Cultivation of Cocoa, Fermentation, Washing and Drying, Disease and Enemies, and Cocoa-growing Countries. The Commercial Aspect of Cocoa is also dealt with, and the work concludes with an interesting chapter on Notes on Cocoa and Chocolate Industry. The book is well illustrated and simply teems with knowledge. It is, perhaps, invidious to quarrel with the title of the book when the matter of it is so excellent, but why is it called "Cocoa," and not "Cacao"? On Dr. Hall's own showing, Cortez, the discoverer of the bean in Mexico, writes of it as "Cacao," and this is now the generally recognised way of spelling the name of the raw bean, "Cocoa" being reserved for the manufactured article. Our West Indian cacao planters will welcome this work, from which they should be able to derive much useful information of an eminently practical description.

The Coco-nut. By Edwin Bingham Copeland. Macmillan and Co., Ltd., London. Size 8½ in. by 5½ in. Pages 212 + xiv. Twenty-three illustrations. This work, although dealing almost exclusively with the coco-nut industry of the Philippines, is world-wide in its application. As Dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines, and Professor of Plant Physiology, Mr. Copeland has been exceptionally situated for dealing with the subject, and his book has been written with the object of providing the would-be coco-nut raisers with the knowledge and advice necessary for success. The subject has been well covered, and a useful chapter on coco-nut products is added to those on the physiology of the plant,

the climate and soil required, the cultivation, and the diseases to which the coco-nut is subject and their treatment. In these days of the spread of coco-nut cultivation this work should be widely welcomed and religiously read.

[Copies of all new books reviewed in THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.]

quite good crops of nuts. The soil is an ideal coco-nut soil, light and sandy, almost as sandy as the seashore. The land is undulating and covered with grass, with here and there a tree giving it the appearance of park land.

Ilorin, Nigeria,, West Africa.
14th October, 1914.

Yours sincerely,
THOS. THORNTON.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The Proposed West Indian Contingent.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—The following is a cutting from the *Daily Express* of yesterday, the 3rd of November. The writer is, I presume, a close admirer of the hero of Grenada, the famous Louis La Grenade, who in 1794-1795, was a loyal supporter of the Governor of the Island during Fedon's Rebellion. Louis La Grenade, for his loyalty, received a grant of land in Morne Jeloux, which was inherited by the late Samuel Mitchell, his descendant, for many years Colonial Secretary of the Island, and, I presume, an uncle of the writer.

Your Obedient Servant,
N. DARNELL DAVIS.

4th November, 1914.

From the "Daily Express" of November 3rd, 1914.

Sir,—There are in this small colony many young fellows—cocoa planters—accustomed to a hard, open-air life, who are simply burning with the desire to serve their King and country. The chief drawback at present is that the Secretary of State will not authorise the Governor to form a contingent, and only those who are willing to pay their own passages to England stand any chance of being accepted.

This is asking a bit too much from us, the majority of whom are earning under £200 a year. The colony has a reserve fund of about £50,000—£10,000 of this has already been given to the National Reserve Fund. Surely the fares of, say, 100 volunteers might be paid without in any way interfering with the funds. I am certain the Royal Mail Company would carry us at reduced rates—the ordinary rate being £25 single.

I have only stated the case of Grenada, but I know for a fact that a large contingent could be raised from all the West Indian Islands. We think it very hard to remain here and not to be able to do something in return for the protection given us by the cruisers in these waters.

W. H. STEELE MITCHELL.

Mount Parnassus, Grenada.

Can coco-nuts flourish away from the coast?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—In an article on "The World's Trade in Coco-nuts," which was published in the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of September 8th, it is mentioned that O. F. Cook has combated successfully the idea that coco-nuts are only found along the sea coast.

It may be of interest to West Indian readers to learn that here in the town of Ilorin, 250 miles from the coast, and at an elevation of between 1,000 and 1,200 feet, I find that coco-nuts are growing. No doubt they have been brought up country, but I cannot find out where they came from. There are not many, but some of them must be towards 40 years old. Some of the palms are bearing

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The Barbados Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd.

The profit for the year ended June 30th last was £1,381 as compared with £395 for the preceding year—an increase of £986, or about 250 per cent. This result was achieved after charging £483 for repairs and maintenance, or £319 more than in the preceding year. The expenses had been £1,823, or an increase of £139. Presiding over the annual general meeting on October 21st, Mr. A. W. Tait, Chairman, made the statement—which will no doubt be gratifying to residents in British Guiana—that it had been necessary to replace many of the Norwegian pine poles which soon rotted with Wallaba poles from Demerara. The number of lamps and motors connected, of an equivalent of 25 c.p., was 12,715 on June 30th, which was an increase of 3,285 during the year, or nearly 35 per cent. The number of consumers had now reached 737, the work of wiring and installing the new services, 281 in number, having been in most cases carried out by their own wiring department. The profit on this department was satisfactory. The profit, would, however, tend to decrease as there were now two other wiring contractors in Barbados. This change had facilitated the work of connecting consumers, as it had been difficult for the company to train and maintain a sufficiently large wiring and fitting staff to meet requirements. With regard to public lighting, this had grown during the year from 7,200 c.p. to 13,800 c.p. There were difficulties in the way of extending this supply, the principal being that a larger outlay was required than was justified by the length of the contracts, which were usually for a period of twelve months only. Last year he spoke as to the high cost of generation and explained that this was largely attributable to the low load factor. Everything possible had been done to encourage a day load, but the scope for power supply was small and their progress had not been appreciable. Reference was also made in this connection to negotiations with the Tramways Co., for the supply of power for electric traction. These negotiations had reached a certain point, and further proposals by the company were now being considered by the Tramways Co., but nothing definite had evolved so far. They were still hoping that they would be able to come to some arrangement which would be of advantage to both concerns, but, as the shareholders would appreciate, financial conditions were not favourable for the raising of capital. The question of oil fuel had again been one of the contributory causes of high generating costs, but this question had received very careful consideration and samples of various kinds of oil had been tested and tried during the year. They might be roughly summarised as follows: Barbados oil, of which the supply had ceased for the present, 9,000 gallons; Trinidad oil, 1,650 gallons; American oil, 26,071 gallons; total 37,621 gallons. Steps had been taken to ensure that their supplies did not run short owing to the war, and at the present time there should be sufficient oil in store, which they were able to secure largely from Trinidad, for over a year. No progress appeared to have been made by the Mexican Eagle Oil Co. to establish an oil depot in the island, which was a proposal he mentioned at the last annual meeting. The business now seemed to have turned the corner, and if they followed the usual experience of electric supply companies the results should be gradually progressive, although, of course, they had a long way to go before there could be any prospect of a return upon the share capital invested. The report was adopted without discussion.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—Home ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. *Orotava*, (Captain W. C. Barrett), Tilbury, London, Nov. 9th:—

Mr. W. R. Dunlop	Mr. B. F. N. Macrorie
Mr. V. Davier	Mr. A. Morris
Mr. R. M. Davy	Mr. K. Nordstrom
Mr. G. Evans	Mr. John Oliver
Mr. T. Ellis	Mrs. F. H. Pantin
Mr. T. P. Fitzmaurice	Mr. J. P. Price
Dr. & Miss A. L. George	Mr. & Mrs. D. S. Payne
Mr. K. S. Gordon	Mr. H. E. Rapsey
Mr. D. Grant	Mr. N. C. Robinson
Mr. C. R. Hilton	Mr. H. S. Reece
Mr. J. Henshaw	Mr. K. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Hurrell	Mr. Percy Scott
Mr. F. Helenus	Mr. J. L. Sellier
Mr. G. Johnson	Mr. Lois Saar
Mr. H. Johns	Mr. A. B. Sjoblom
Major and Mrs. C. de S. Duna	Mr. I. B. Sykes
Mr. A. Davenport	Mr. J. Sherwood
Mr. W. Driver	Miss J. Terry
	Mrs. A. Walter

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Essequibo*, (Captain T. G. K. Cheret), Nov. 18th:—

Mr. E. A. Robinson	Mr. & Mrs. R. R. Hall	Mr. & Mrs. E. Pedroza
Mrs. T. Elton Miller	Mrs. H. L. Briggs	Mr. & Mrs. T. Pedroza
Mr. P. R. W. Wilson	Sir Norman and Lady Lamont	Mr. A. J. Russel
Hon. R. A. S. and Mrs. Warner	Mrs. and Miss E. F. Becher	Mrs. Nightingale
Hon. & Miss J. Spencer	Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Montana	Misses Smith (2)
Capt. and Mrs. J. B. Saunders	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Ulrich	Mr. & Mrs. W. Eain
Mr. & Mrs. Brooke Short	Mr. & Mrs. L. Kemp	Hutson
Hon. and Mrs. Adam Smith	Mr. & Mrs. T. W. Lays	Miss N. Blenkarn
Lieut.-Col. J. H. Collins	Miss E. Lays	Mrs. C. K. Stretch
Mr. Joaquin P. Barona	Mr. V. J. Monplaisir	Mrs. L. O'Reilly
Misses Barona (2)	Mr. R. Alexander	Mr. W. A. Lea
Miss K. S. Cunningham	Mr. F. Alexander	Miss R. C. Perez
Lieut.-Col. Forbes Eden	Mrs. and Mrs. Charles Andrews	Dr. B. Alfredo Perez
Miss Bainbridge	Mr. Wm. Hart	Mr. E. J. Baeza
Mrs. F. Muir	Mr. C. Sadler	Mr. Wm. H. Thomas
Mr. E. A. Wallis	Miss Marlin	Mr. Thomas Meredith
Mr. H. Chatterton	Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Leeder	Mr. W. Hobson
Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Shekell	Mr. R. C. Moore	Mr. H. N. Thomson
		Mr. C. H. Ray

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Dunbar*, Dec. 2nd:—

Sir Charles & Lady Cox	Mr. & Mrs. N. Cassels	Rev. & Mrs. Hill
Mr. and Mrs. Mewburn Garnett	Misses M. & I. Cassels	Miss S. R. Bladen
Mr. and Mrs. R. S. D. Goodwin	Mrs. T. Clements	Mr. J. Gurney Lessey
	Miss K. Anhur	Mrs. R. Tullock
	Mrs. Chalonier	Mrs. Emptage

SAILINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, Dec. 16th:—

Mr. H. P. C. Melville	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fowler	Mrs. & Miss A. Cameron
Mr. & Mrs. E. F. Stoue	Mr. & Mrs. John Mullin	Mrs. & Mrs. G. N. Peter
Misses Stone (2)		Miss B. Dennehy

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM PORT LIMON, COLON AND KINGSTON, JAMAICA, per S.S. *Bayano*, (Captain J. G. Parsons), Nov. 8th:—

Mr. W. Clark	Mr. Cyril Major	Mr. & Mrs. E. V. Clark
Mr. B. Hughes	Miss M. Lowe	Mrs. E. Bolton
Mr. W. H. Ince	Mr. W. Williams	Capt. E. H. Hewitt
Mr. W. Allen	Mr. W. Charter	Capt. F. J. N. Smyth
Mr. A. E. Nesbit	Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Ogilvie	Lieut. Greenwell Lax
Mr. John Ingham	Mrs. Jas. Ogilvie	Lieut. M. S. Sandys
Mr. M. H. Potts	Mrs. M. Anthony	Lieut. W. Millar
Mr. A. Chesham		

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM AVONMOUTH TO KINGSTON, JAMAICA, per S.S. *Chagres*, (Captain S. H. Simmonds), Dec. 7th:—

Mrs. and Miss Jonas	Mr. H. E. P. Sibthorne	Mrs. C. Guild
Rev. & Mrs. J. Prentice	Mr. E. T. L. Simons	Miss H. Turner
Rev. & Mrs. J. Kedpath	Mr. F. A. Bond	Colonel C. Kitchener
Mrs. M. Malcolm	Mr. G. E. Parr	Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Smith
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Mr. S. L. Williamson, Strand Palace Hotel, Strand, W.C.

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	1914	1913	1914	1913
Sugar ...	58,333	44,021 Tons.	Jan. 1 to Sept. 26, 13,661	5,071 Tons.
Molasses ...	831	767 Tons.		
Rum ...	2,172,793	1,600,000 Gall.	988,246	914,004 Gall.
Molascuit, &c. ...	1,409	5,786 Tons.		
Cocoa ...	41,937	41,550 lbs.	6,844,656	3,478,609 Lbs.
Coffee ...	338,767	81,663 "	5,792,080	4,463,994 "
Coco-nuts ...	1,660,511	530,916 No.	21,640,090	16,912,173 No.
Oranges ...			3,895,600	22,265,783 "
Bananas ...			14,214,944	8,114,642 Stems
Cotton ...			32,607	47,545 Lbs.
Pimento ...			66,201	84,705 Cwts.
Ginger ...			16,799	19,616 "
Honey ...			141,748	111,305 Gall.
Dye-woods ...			46,079	43,023 Tons.
Gold ...	51,033	62,258 ozs.		
Diamonds ...	9,517	5,941 Carats.		
Rice ...	10,849,438	13,263,250 lbs.	Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 1914	1913
Balata ...	883,393	829,157 "	Arrwrt. 2,982,506	3,937,895 lbs.
Rubber ...	815	566 "	Cocoa 169,419	169,209 "
Timber ...	173,130	394,349 cubic ft.	Cotton 530,666	475,255 "
Lumber ...	241,629	431,673 feet	.. Seed 798,028	1,105,804 "
Lime (hydrate of) ...	7,204	686 lbs.		
	Trinidad.		Barbados.	
	1914	1913	1914	1913
Sugar ...	45,499	30,807 Tons.	25,766	11,053 Tons.
Molasses ...	3,431	3,304 Tons.	108,704	78,330 Tons.
Rum ...	1,087	886 "		
Coco-nuts ...	12,178,545	11,468,868 No.		
Manjak ...	117,142	182,125 Tons.		
Bitters ...	324	468 "		
Coffee ...	13,672	17,310 Cwts.		
Crude Petrol ...	13,440	1,680 lbs.		
Cocoa ...	12,001,148	9,731,479 Gall.		
Cotton ...	60,668,600	45,437,800 lbs.	107,100	118,900 lbs*
.. Seed ...				
Copra ...	9,848	5,197 Bags.	19	.. Bags-
Spice ...			81,365	129,370 lbs.
Kola ...			660	1,380 lbs.

Grenada.

Oct. 1 to Oct. 26, 1913/14	1912/13
107,100	118,900 lbs*

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—No change was made in the Bank rate which stands at 5 per cent. as from August 8th. Consols nominally 68½. Mr. Asquith, in his speech at the Guildhall on the 9th inst., referred to the very satisfactory financial condition of the country in the following words: "The gold reserves of the Bank of England which were: "The gold on July 22nd, and which had fallen in August to £27,000,000 now stand at the unprecedented figure of 69½ millions. The central gold reserve of the country, after three months of war amounts to £80,000,000, almost exactly twice the amount at which it stood at the beginning of the crisis."

SUGAR—The New York market was closed for the elections on the 3rd inst., and on re-opening the following day the tone remained easy and quotations were reduced one point and later a further decline of 6 points was established by a reported sale of 5,000 bags Cuban at the parity of 3.45c., a small parcel in the evening, however, was reported as sold at 3.51c. The market on the following day was unchanged, but on the 6th inst. the tone became firm with very little offering and prices for raws advanced 25 points, with buyers in the market at this rise. Refined granulated in sympathy showed firmness, and some 50,000 tons were bought during the last few days for export to France, followed up later by another purchase of 20,000 tons for the same destination. A considerable business was done; in the first instance 20,000 bags of Cuban were reported as sold on the basis of 3.80c. duty paid, and afterwards 50,000 bags were taken on the basis of 4.01c. Quotations raw centrifugals 4.01c., muscovado 3.56c., refined granulated 4.90c. An active market with a strong tone the following day resulted in the purchase of 150,000 bags of Cuban followed later by a transaction by a speculator for 20,000 bags for January shipment at 4.14c. The spot quotation was not affected, and remained at 4.01c. for raw centrifugals, muscovados 3.56c., and refined granulated 4.90c. Early next day a sale was reported of 10,000 bags Cuban at an advance of 6 points at 4.07c., although the market was quieter; but later the old price of 4.01c. was accepted for 35,000 to 40,000 bags. Subsequently raws were much firmer and all offers at 4.01c. New York basis were accepted, and a large business resulted at prices ranging up to 4.07c., at which there were more buyers. The business since the 12th inst. was estimated at 125,000 to 150,000 bags; refined sugar was more active and all refineries advanced quotations 10 points. Quotations at close: Raw centrifugals 4.01c., muscovados 3.56c., refined granulated 5.00c.

The London sugar market has continued steady but inactive. The Sugar Commission has made no further reduction in their prices of 27s. 6d. for American granulated and 26s. 6d. for White Javas, and so far only moderate sales have been passing. Sales generally have been on a very small scale, and mostly of sugars in second hands. White Javas in second hands on the spot have been sold at 25s. 6d., 25s. 9d., 25s. 10½d., 26s., and 26s. 3d., and due next week this sugar has been sold at 22s. 6d. c.i.f. White Mauritius has sold at 25s., American granulated on the spot at 27s. 6d. Arrivals during the last two days have reached 75,000 tons of Java, exclusive of other kinds. Imports for the week ending 4th inst. (raw and refined) total 62,000 tons for the United Kingdom and the week ending 7th inst., 68,000 tons ditto, and considerably larger quantities are expected in the following week. In consequence of the British prohibition of imported sugar two of the largest refineries in Amsterdam have been obliged to curtail their production to about a quarter of their normal output.

Grocery West Indian.—The crystallised market has been quiet with very little business passing. At the auctions last Friday week the good supply of about 640 tons was offered, and as sellers were willing to meet the market a reduction of fully 1s. was accepted at which a fair demand prevailed, and a good portion found buyers. The sales have comprised Demerara at 24s. 9d. to 26s. 9d., Surinam at 25s. 3d. to 26s., Jamaica at 24s. 9d. and washed at 22s. 6d. Since the market has been quiet and the transactions privately have been few, they include Trinidad at 26s. and 26s. 3d., and Demerara at 27s.

Syrups were likewise easier, the business being restricted to Surinam at 15s. to 16s. 6d.

Muscovado was not in request and business was limited to a few Nevis at 17s.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Imports ...	28,095	35,420	24,450	33,245	29,636	Tons
Deliveries ...	33,799	25,658	27,000	32,604	31,300	"
Stock (Nov. 7)	7,248	11,602	1,940	4,961	3,411	"

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, Nov. 13th:—
26s. 6d. 14s. 6d. 14s. 10½d. 21s. 7½d. 17s.

* The stock of West Indian on 24th October was not 19,491 tons as stated in last issue but the total stock of all sugar which was inadvertently, we are sorry to say, given instead of 7,919 tons; for which we apologise.

RUM—Stocks in London, November 7th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Jamaica	7,898	6,948	8,415	9,948	10,291	Puns
Demerara	6,598	6,366	5,633	3,788	7,016	"
Total, all kinds	21,078	20,955	22,414	22,114	26,429	"

The proof market keeps steady. The two small shipments now landing are not quite ready for market; the bulk having been sold forward there will only be a small balance to dispose of on importers account which will no doubt be sold in due course on the parity of the sales made to arrive. Values are unchanged at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. proof gallon. In Jamaica there has been nothing offering in first hands but values are unchanged.

CACAO—Stocks in London, November 7th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Trinidad	3,153	11,752	7,005	6,713	8,525	Bag
Grenada...	4,784	2,813	713	6,811	8,974	"
Total, all kinds	76,330	75,131	92,793	94,390	84,887	"

The cacao market was very firm last week and a fairly large business was transacted. At auction last Tuesday the good supply of 8,159 bags of all descriptions met with competition. Out of 2,338 bags of West India offered 975 bags sold at higher prices. Trinidad changed hands at an advance of 2s. (middling red selling at 61s. and plantation at 63s. to 64s.), Grenada was also in good request, and all sold at an advance of 2s. to 3s.; Dominica and St. Lucia realised a like improvement for all the offerings; but for Jamaica there was little demand. Quotations after sale: Trinidad middling to red 61s. to 62s., good middling red 63s. to 64s., fine and superior 65s. to 67s. Grenada ordinary to fair 56s. to 57s.; middling to fine 58s. to 61s. In the Trinidad Circular of the 26th October, Messrs Gordon Grant and Co., Ltd., report that while supplies from certain districts are expected to show some increase onwards, yet there is no occasion to alter the opinion expressed in recent Circulars that the next crop will be later than usual.

COFFEE on the spot has ruled quiet, but has been fully steady to firm, with a tendency to dearer prices. The terminal market has also been firm and the official prices were: Dec. 42s. 6d., March and May 1915, 42s.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended November 12th 92 bales of British West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. No sales of Sea Island this month.

LIME PRODUCTS Lime Juice (Raw)—Slow demand except for finest Jamaica 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d., Dominica 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. Essential Oil (distilled)—A small business at 3s. 3d. per lb. Otto of Limes (hand pressed)—No demand, value about 8s. to 9s. per lb. Concentrated—Steady, some business at £30.

NUTMEGS—100's/80's 43d. to 53d.; 120's/100's 44d. to 44d.; 140's/120's 44d. to 44d. **MACE**—Good to fine 2s. to 2s. 3d.; red to good 1s. 5d. to 1s. 11d.; broken 9d. to 1s. 4d.

COPRA—Fair merchantable West India value £24. Market firm. **PIMENTO**—Quiet. **GINGER**—Quiet.

RUBBER Vine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot, 2s. 4½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 7d.; fine hard Para 2s. 6½d.; last year 3s. 3½d.; do. soft 2s. 1½d.; last year 2s. 10d.; Castillon sheet, 1s. 7d.; last year 1s. 10d.; scrap, 1s. 4d.; last year 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 0½d.; landed terms, block 1s. 9d.; landed terms.

PETROLEUM OIL—American 7½; Water White 8½d. ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

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15, SERPENTINE LANE,
LONDON, E.C.4.
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.
November 30th, 1914.

SUGAR USERS AND THE PROHIBITION.

IT is improbable that the Manufacturing Confectioners' Alliance will meet with much sympathy in their protest against the prohibition of the import of sugar into this country. The main object of this prohibition is, as we have shown, the laudable one of preventing Germany and Austria marketing their sugar either by sending it to Great Britain through neutral countries or by consigning it to neutral countries to replace sugar which would be set free to come here. We are satisfied that to achieve this object the general public would be quite willing to pay, if necessary, a slightly higher price for their sugar; and so far not a word of complaint has been heard from the householder at the high range of prices which has prevailed since the outbreak of war. There is a lurking suspicion that the Government may have had also in view the not unnatural desire to protect themselves against loss through the heavy purchases of sugar made during the early days of the war, and details of their sugar policy may be open to question in many respects, but it will be generally agreed that the present would

be a most unfortunate moment to discuss what at any other time might have become a matter of acute political controversy. The threatened exclusion of grocery sugar fell in a different category altogether, for, if persisted in to the letter, it would have completely killed an established industry as the Government were not slow to realise. The confectioners are, however, faced by no such danger, and we cannot help stating that it ill becomes them, after battenning for years on bounty-fed sugar at the expense of the British colonies, to claim, while professing their patriotism and desire not to embarrass the Government as the Chairman did, to be provided with cheap sugar even though it would mean putting money into the pockets of our enemies. It is, perhaps, too much to hope that the confectioners may yet realise that if they had had their way, and there had been no abolition of bounties, we should have been entirely dependent on the Continent for our sugar supplies. It is true that even now our colonies produce a comparatively small amount of sugar; but yet it was West Indian and Mauritius sugar which helped the Government to prevent a sugar famine in the dark days of August. With the second part of the resolution of the Manufacturing Confectioners' Alliance we are more in sympathy. They claim that, inasmuch as their competitors abroad can use cheaper sugar, the importation of sugared products should be prohibited. Here they certainly have a good case and one which deserves adjustment. Without wishing to be vindictive we may, in conclusion, be pardoned for recalling the fact that when our sugar-growing colonies were being crushed under the weight of unfair foreign competition, the confectioners, crying for cheap sugar at any price, vigorously protested against the imposition of countervailing duties which would have restored equality of opportunity. Now, however, that the tables are turned and the confectioners are claiming to be injured by unfair competition they are clamouring for the prohibition of foreign sugared products. Is this human nature? If so, it is a sorry thing.

A STATE-AIDED SUGAR INDUSTRY.

THE question of establishing a home-grown beet sugar industry has come into great prominence since the war began. The facts that quite 80 per cent. of the sugar supply of Great Britain has in late years been drawn from the Continent, Germany and Austria alone contributing 65 per cent., has come as a revelation to the general public, and the attention of all parties has been drawn to this

unsatisfactory state of affairs, especially as sugar is the only article of food which has materially advanced in price as a result of the War. It is unnecessary to say that the advocates of a British beet industry are taking every advantage of the situation and the London and Provincial Press teem with articles on the subject. MR. ROBERTSON-SCOTT, in particular, has contributed some forcible statements to the October and November numbers of the "Nineteenth Century." He expresses the belief that the reasons why Great Britain has not a sugar industry of her own are attributable to the want of knowledge of the subject and to the lack of confidence in the profits to be derived from growing beet sugar on the part of the farmers on the one hand, and to factory mismanagement in those ventures which have been already undertaken on the other. He strongly advocates the establishment of two State factories, run on the co-operative principle, with a view of a start being made with the industry on a satisfactory basis. While there is no indication that the Government propose to take immediate action in the matter the subject has not been lost sight of in official circles. SIR SYDNEY OLIVIER, who is now Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, in delivering recently the annual address to the members of the Agricultural Society of the University College of Wales took as his subject "The Present Function of the State in Agriculture." Referring to the cultivation of sugar beet he considered that the reason why there was practically no sugar beet industry in Great Britain was due to the facts that the farmer was doubtful as to whether it would pay him better to grow beet than other agricultural products, and that the manufacturing capitalist was also sceptical, being in doubt as to whether he could not use his capital more advantageously in other directions. The question as to whether it would be profitable for the farmer to grow sugar beets at the price that could be offered for them was, said SIR SYDNEY, the main one, and, he added, that at the present time this was the problem which the advisers of the Board were engaged upon in the hope of being able to give a definite answer. Judging from this semi-official utterance it would seem that the Government may not be unwilling to institute State-run factories, or at least give State-aid in the event of the conclusion of the Board of Agriculture being favourable to a beet industry. If this is done the Government will surely not refuse to sanction similar aid being given to sugar factories in British colonies under its immediate control, which has recently been withheld.

A PROPOSAL TO PROHIBIT COCOA EXPORTS.

IF we correctly interpret the remarks made by MR. RUNCIMAN in the House of Commons on November 23rd, and reported elsewhere in the present issue, there is no prospect, or, at any rate, no immediate prospect of an embargo being placed upon the export of cacao from this country. But it is not

very clear from the report of the debate whether MR. LOUGH and MR. RUNCIMAN in discussing the matter had in view the raw material cacao or the manufactured article, cocoa. But in any case it is difficult to see what good purpose could be served by prohibition as both industries are in the hands of so many countries. As MR. RUNCIMAN said, if the export of cacao from this country were to be prohibited there is no evidence to show that a single German cocoa drinker would be injured, and these are the only grounds on which an embargo on the exports could be defended. The position must not be confounded with that of sugar. We are prohibiting the import of sugar with a view of preventing Germany and Austria from marketing their crops. In the case of cacao, on the other hand, it is the prohibition of export which has been suggested with the object of preventing Germany getting supplies of an important article of food; but the production of cacao is so widespread, that unless pressure could be brought to bear on every cacao producing country to cut off supplies to Germany direct, or through neutral countries, no prohibition could possibly be effective. There is another consideration which has to be borne in mind, that is the possibility of London replacing Hamburg as the cacao mart of the World. Any interference with cacao exports would effectively prevent the realisation of this ideal. In the circumstances it is to be hoped that no more will be heard of the proposed prohibition.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

IN the present issue we are giving the first of a series of articles from the pen of a well-known military and naval writer, dealing with the progress of the Great War. It being our aim to give a reliable précis of events from the outbreak of hostilities. The first instalment is necessarily very much condensed, covering as it does operations conducted during a period of nearly four months over such an extensive area. But in future issues the narrative will be continued in a more detailed form. This step has been taken at the request of several readers who have complained of the difficulty which necessarily exists in winnowing the grain of fact from the chaff of fiction which appears in the public press messages, even after they have passed through the local censors' hands. Our aim will be to give an uncoloured and concise account of the war in a connected form, which will enable our readers to view its operations in their true perspective, and from which they will be able to follow its progress.

"Cacao," "The Banana" (7s. 6d. each; post free 8s. 4d.), the "Cane Sugar Factory" (1s.; post free 1s. 2d.), and "The Pocket Guide to the West Indies," the new edition of which contains chapters on the Spanish Main, the Bahamas, and Bermuda (5s.; post free 5s. 4d.), are obtainable at 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

The subscriptions from new members elected during December will not, when paid, be renewable until January 1st, 1916. The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1559.

Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

Passports for members.

Passengers for the West Indies are now required to produce passports or other documents of identification. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W., and for the convenience of members of the West India Committee forms of the declaration to be made by applicants are supplied at the Committee Rooms. Applications should reach the Foreign Office before 4 p.m. on the day prior to that on which the passports are to be issued, and the fee of 2s. must accompany the application. The Secretary of the West India Committee, being a Barrister-at-Law, is entitled to, and will be glad to, verify the necessary declarations by members of the Committee who are applicants for passports.

THE WINDWARD ISLANDS.

Sir James Hayes-Sadler's Successor.

His Majesty has been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. G. B. Haddon-Smith, C.M.G., Governor of the Bahamas, to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands in succession to Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Hayes-Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., retired.

Mr. Haddon Smith, who was born in 1801, entered the army through the Royal Guernsey Militia in 1880, when he was gazetted to the 32nd Regiment (the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry). In 1886 he was seconded for service with the Lagos Constabulary. After holding various positions on the Coast he served in the Jebu Expedition, and was mentioned in despatches, receiving the medal and clasp. He was attached as political officer to Sir Gilbert Carter's mission to Yorubaland in 1893, and became Assistant and Acting-Colonial Secretary of Lagos in the two following years. In 1896 he accompanied Sir F. Scott in the Ashanti Expedition as private secretary, a position which prepared him for further duties as political officer to Sir J. Willcocks when Kumasi was relieved, for which he was mentioned in despatches, receiving the Ashanti medal and clasp. From 1901 to 1911 he was Colonial Secretary of Sierra Leone and in 1912 he succeeded Sir William Grey Wilson as Governor of the Bahamas. Mr. Haddon Smith was made a C.M.G. in 1901, and no doubt the C. will shortly be preceded by a K.

MR. FRANK BIRKINSHAW, till lately Mr. Sands' able adjutant in St. Vincent, will, in four months' time take up the duties of Agricultural Inspector in Mauritius, a position which will bring him under Mr. F. A. Stockdale, another ex-West Indian Agricultural officer.

OUR SUGAR SUPPLIES.

The Attitude of the Confectionery Trade.

A meeting convened by the Manufacturing Confectioners' Alliance was held at the London Chamber of Commerce on November 23rd to consider the position in which the trade was placed by the high price of sugar. Mr. George F. Davis, President, claimed that the manufacturers were as patriotic as any section of the community and did not wish to embarrass or hamper the Government. He then proceeded to attribute the rise in price of sugar to the action of the Government, in purchasing large quantities of sugar while markets all the world over were influenced by the panic, with the result that we were now paying more for our sugar than other countries. He complained of the constitution of the Sugar Commission and stated that the confectioners had asked, without result, to have one representative appointed on it. They then asked that manufacturers should be supplied with sugar at something like the world price in order that their trade might be maintained under normal conditions.

Mr. Stanley Machin then moved the following very comprehensive Resolution:—

That this meeting of sugar using manufacturers, from all parts of the United Kingdom, giving employment to upwards of 100,000 workpeople, protests that its interests should have been entirely ignored by the Government.

While manufacturers are prepared to support the Government in any measures that may be reasonably required to prevent contraband trade which may benefit the enemy, this meeting is of opinion that the Government's sugar policy, unless modified, must prove disastrous to the industries represented and lead to considerable unemployment.

It urges upon the Government that sugar using manufacturers be allowed to purchase sugar, their chief raw material, at prices which should have ruled if the Government had not at first bought such large quantities and had not later taken the unnecessary course of totally prohibiting imports.

And that, in the meantime, to prevent the British export trade passing into the hands of competing nations which have the advantage of cheap sugar, a rebate should be allowed immediately on exports, equivalent to the difference between the world's price of sugar and the artificial price charged by the Government; and that the importation of sugared products, made of enemy sugar or of sugar bought at much lower rates than those demanded by the Government in this country, cannot be logically permitted and should be prohibited.

That the above Resolution be sent to His Majesty's Ministers.

That manufacturers immediately bring the Trade's grievances before their Members of Parliament with a view to relief being afforded as indicated in the general Resolution.

In doing so, he said that the Government's sugar policy would prove disastrous and lead to considerable unemployment. He believed that the steps taken by the Government acted beneficially for the time in preventing prices going up but they had gone too far in purchasing 900,000 tons. America was paying 18s. 4d. to 18s. 6d. for sugar which cost 27s. here, and Australia and Switzerland were similarly favoured, and could send goods made with this sugar to compete with our products here. America was preparing to send travellers to compete in our

markets. The nation ought to pay the difference between the present price and the world price.

Mr. Boyd, in seconding, said that they were entitled to learn from the Government the terms on which the refiners, whose market risk had not been entirely eliminated, stood.

The resolution was adopted unanimously. Before the meeting closed Mr. Pascall moved a resolution asking for a relaxation of the order regarding the lighting of London for a few weeks before Christmas in the interests of the Christmas trade.

THE BRITISH SUGAR INDUSTRY.

Views of a Confectioners' Trade Journal.

The Confectionery Trade paper *Confectionery* expresses its views in its issue of November 16th regarding the proposals for making Great Britain less dependent upon foreign countries for her sugar supply.

"If the British Colonies can supply the Empire with the bulk of its sugar supplies, none, it states, will be better pleased than those engaged in the confectionery trade. The whole question of sugar is an interesting one, and provided that no antagonistic circumstances arise between the advocates of beet cultivation in this country and sugar growers in our colonies, any successful effort to make Great Britain and her colonies the suppliers of the nation's sugar requirements would be warmly welcomed in all quarters."

Elsewhere in the same issue the following appears,

"In what has been a very constant and long-protracted battle between the advocates of the use of cane sugar and those of beet sugar, the confectionery trade has occupied a fairly impartial position. Owing to the old respectability of cane sugar, many consumers showed a preference for it, and naturally many writers in newspapers attacked beet sugar. But the latter held its own, and a few years ago looked as if it were going to drive cane sugar entirely out of the market. In recent years, cane has come back more into favour, and we do not doubt but what if it could be produced cheaply most manufacturing confectioners and consumers would give it the preference. It would be a very curious development in commercial history if a revival in the use of cane sugar were brought about by the war, so that the war of the twentieth century would undo the results of the war at the beginning of the nineteenth century, when beet sugar was so largely helped by the action of Napoleon. It is a matter, however, which we can safely leave to the Government and sugar growers to decide. Already the battle is going on very strongly between the advocates of beet growing in this country and some of the Government departments. At present the indications are that the Agricultural Board for Ireland does not look with favour upon the expenditure of large sums of money in order to start this new industry in Ireland. Keeping in mind the sympathetic attitude of the Vice-President of the Board to Irish questions, it is unlikely that that attitude has been taken up except as a result of a firm conviction that the proposal does not offer a promise of success. . . ."

"Confectioners are probably more anxious than any members of the community to see a good supply of home-grown sugar. They would like to be independent of market fluctuations, natural and artificial, from which they have suffered so much in the past. The trade, as a whole, opposed the abolition of the bounties, and has always stood for a free market and for a free importation of sugar into this country. When all our ideas and former methods have been upset, and action, political, social, and commercial, is thrown into the melting pot, it is difficult to hazard the expression of an opinion of what will occur after peace has

been declared. One thing may be confidently stated, that the business people of this country will not view with favour a resumption of the old commercial ties which were so abruptly and disastrously broken. . . ."

"The trade desires to see the business interests of sugar growers and sugar merchants conserved as much as possible. They will gladly see the institution of some schemes that will benefit the agriculturists of this country in starting a new industry in beet-growing and sugar-making. It will really be a new industry, because the tentative experiences that we have had in this country are not sufficient to justify us in saying that a new industry has been inaugurated. If, however, these attempts are the forerunners of the successful commercial production of sugar, confectioners will be delighted. We have differed at times as has the confectionery trade, with our friends who so ably and so persistently advocate the claims and defend the interests of the West India sugar planters. We recognise the unreasonableness of asking the cane sugar planters to extend their enterprise on the bare chance of the maintenance of high prices. We cannot argue, nor can they, that additional land should be put under cultivation, that extensive and new machinery should be installed upon the basis of the prices that exist in an abnormal time of warfare. But it would be equally wrong to commit this country to an action which might involve the people of this country to pay very large prices for an article of such necessity as sugar. After all, every industry has to take its own risks regarding future developments. The introduction of all new machinery and methods frequently drives out old systems upon which many people have depended for their prosperity. No Government can ensure an industry against the effects of mechanical improvement, scientific discoveries, or economic changes. At the same time, it is to be hoped that the public will have been taught a much-needed lesson regarding the support of home industries."

MORE FRUIT FOR THE WOUNDED.

Gifts from Jamaica, Trinidad and Dominica.

The Jamaica Agricultural Society has presented to the War Office 185 boxes and 50 barrels of oranges and nine boxes of grape fruit for use in military hospitals in the United Kingdom. The fruit was despatched in the S.S. *Chagres*—Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., carrying it free of charge—and reached Avonmouth on November 23 in first rate condition.

At the request of Mr. Harcourt the arrangements for distribution of the fruit have been entrusted to the West India Committee, who are, as stated in last CIRCULAR, already handling oranges and limes sent over by the Trinidad Orange and Lime Committee and the Dominica planters. The Port of Bristol authorities are foregoing the dock charges on the packages and Dr. Lawrence Jones of Beaconsfield is voluntarily assisting in the distribution of the fruit.

The R.M.S.P. *Danube* brought over 260 crates of grapefruit, oranges, and limes from Trinidad and 15 barrels from Dominica, which will also prove most acceptable.

Requests for the fruit continue to be received from every part of the country, and with the co-operation of the Red Cross Society arrangements have been made for despatching many cases to the base hospitals in France and Flanders. The Indian troops have not been forgotten, consignments having already been sent to the Indian base hospital at



THE CROWD BY THE CUSTOMS' OFFICE.



SOME OF THE CROWD ON THE WHARF AT PORT OF SPAIN.

THE DEPARTURE FROM TRINIDAD OF VOLUNTEERS FOR
ACTIVE SERVICE.

From photographs by Randolph Rust, Esq.

Brockenhurst, the Lady Hardinge's hospital, and the Indian section at Netley Hospital, while the hospital ships *Syria*, *Gurkha*, and *Sicilian* are also receiving fruit.

How greatly the fruit is appreciated is abundantly shown by the letters of thanks received which will, in due course, be forwarded to the colonies.

CITRUS FRUIT IN EAST AFRICA.

The Possibility of an Export Industry.

In some notes which he contributes to the *Kew Bulletin*, Mr. H. Powell, Superintendent of the Economic Plants Division of the Agricultural Department of the East Africa Protectorate, deals with the prospects of citrus fruit cultivation there.

Mr. Powell who will be remembered in the West Indies as Curator of the Botanic Gardens, St. Vincent, from 1890 to 1903, writes that at various places in the coast littoral, and especially in the Changamwe District some few miles from Mombasa on the Uganda Railway, citrus trees of large size and good bearing are already fairly common, but in regard to the orange, the fruit is generally of very inferior quality, though here and there exceptions to the rule occur. A form of the Seville orange and a rough variety of lemon are more in evidence than the sweet orange, and in the case of the rough lemon, seeds are being used by local citrus growers for the raising of stocks for receiving buds from imported improved varieties of orange trees established during the last few years in several parts of the Protectorate. Plots of budded orange trees, which include several forms of the Washington Navel and other excellent varieties, are established at the Government Experimental Farm, Kabete, near Nairobi, and at the Experimental Station, Mazeras, in the Coast District.

The bulk of the oranges imported into the Protectorate come from Zanzibar, and is a large, thin-rinded, sweet and juicy variety; but in view of the attention now being given to orange growing, it seems likely that the Protectorate will, in a few years, be in a position to supply its own requirements and possibly have a surplus for export. Bearing trees raised from seeds of the Zanzibar orange are established at the Government Experimental Station, Mazeras, and as regards growth and the excellence of the fruit are quite satisfactory. This fact is interesting, as showing that seed-raised orange trees may be relied on to breed fairly true, yet where graded fruit is required, budded trees are undoubtedly preferable.

Small groves of choice varieties of orange have been established in the Nairobi District and other parts of the highlands. The trees commence to bear at least a year earlier than at the coast, and large handsome fruit is produced, but they have a somewhat thicker rind and are less sweet and juicy than coast-grown oranges. Lemons of commercial varieties are also thriving around Nairobi, and samples

of the fruit have been favourably reported on in Europe. Very fine samples of grape-fruit (*Citrus decumana*, var.) have also been produced at Nairobi and favourably reported on in England. Orange, lemon, citron and lime trees are thriving and produce large crops of fruit at the Government Experimental Farm, Kibos, adjoining Lake Victoria Nyanza, and furnish a further illustration of the wide range of country over which citrus fruits can be successfully produced in the East Africa Protectorate.

THE WEST INDIAN ASSISTANCE FUNDS.

Satisfactory progress is being made with the various Assistance Funds being raised in the West Indies. Trinidad and Tobago head the list with nearly £13,000, £10,301 having been collected by the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce towards a Patriotic Fund, over £2,000 by the *Port of Spain Gazette* (Manager and Editor, Mr. T. N. Laughlin) for the relief of Widows and Orphans of our Soldiers and Sailors, and £677 by the *Mirror* (Proprietor and Editor, Mr. R. R. Mole), towards the Belgian Relief Fund.

On behalf of the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce the West India Committee have forwarded to Buckingham Palace the sum of ten thousand pounds (£10,000) as a first instalment from the Trinidad and Tobago Patriotic Fund. This amount was made up of amounts collected throughout the colony in sums varying from a penny to £1,000. In connection with the collection of the fund special thanks are due to the Mayors of the Boroughs of San Fernando and Arima, through whom substantial subscriptions were received, and also to Mr. R. R. Mole, Editor of the *Mirror*, who handed over to the central fund the amounts collected through the medium of his paper. This munificent donation from Trinidad is to be earmarked for the dependents of men fighting for the Empire. The West India Committee has also, on behalf of the *Port of Spain Gazette*, of which Mr. T. N. Laughlin is manager and editor, forwarded a cheque for £2,000 to the National Relief Fund for the widows and orphans. Mr. Laughlin was the first to start a patriotic fund in Trinidad for which he deserves great credit.

In British Guiana £8,170 had been subscribed towards the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund when the last homeward mail left, and in Jamaica the *Gleaner's* War Relief Fund stood at £8,140 17s. 5d. The Barbados National Relief Fund stood at £3,242 4s. 10d., the Belgian Relief Fund amounted to £1,442—towards which the policy holders of the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society had voted £1,000, and towards the Queen of the Belgians' Relief Fund £275 had been collected.

The people of Grenada had subscribed £602 towards the Prince of Wales' Fund, and £256 towards the Red Cross Society, while in Antigua £504 had been subscribed towards the Prince of Wales' Fund.

It must be remembered that in addition to the above funds the communities in the West Indies and Bermuda are indirectly contributing towards the official gifts, which have been as follows:—

- Bahamas**—£10,000 towards war expenditure.
Barbados—2,240,000 lbs of Sugar.
Bermuda—£40,000 towards the cost of the War.
British Guiana—2,240,000 lbs. of Sugar, and 500,000 lbs. of rice for the British East Indian forces at the front.
Grenada—Cacao to the value of £6,000 and £4,000 for the National Relief Fund.
Jamaica—£50,000 for the purchase of Sugar.
Montserrat—£1,000 (£750 towards the Prince of Wales' Fund, and £250 worth of Guava Jelly).
St. Kitts-Nevis—£5,000 for the National Relief Fund.
St. Lucia—Cacao to the value of £2,000 and £1,000 to the National Relief Fund.
St. Vincent—Arrowroot to the value of £2,000.

The people of British Guiana have, through the Governor, offered His Majesty's Government 500,000 lbs. of rice for the use of the British East Indian forces at the front, and the offer has been accepted by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. This gift is in addition to the 5,000,000 lbs. of sugar already presented by the colony to the Government.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

A Summary of Events to date.

At the request of several readers it is proposed to publish fortnightly under the above heading an account of the progress of the war. In order that the narrative may be connected, the writer, who is a well-known expert on naval and military affairs, outlines in the present issue the events since the commencement of hostilities.

When Great Britain declared war on Germany in the early hours of August 5th, the European conflict at once assumed world proportions. Owing to a timely mobilisation of the Fleet we were prepared on sea. The first naval loss was the *Amphion*, which struck a mine, while engaged in patrol duty. She was soon avenged by the *Lance*, which sank the *Koenigin Luise*, as she was sowing the North Sea with drifting mines in violation of the Hague Convention. So complete was British control of sea roads that every day brought news of the capture of valuable prizes. With the opening of Parliament it was seen that national controversies were set aside, and all parties united in support of the Government, which was strengthened by the appointment of Lord Kitchener as Minister of War. A credit of £100,000,000 was voted, and authority given to raise an army of 500,000 men.

The *Birmingham*, by its brilliant shooting, sank the German submarine U15. In the meantime the Germans were invading Poland on the east and Belgium on the west. At Liège, their advance was checked and delayed, two army corps being held by the garrison, whose heroic defence was one of the many surprises of the war. The French for political rather than strategic reasons entered Alsace. The British Expeditionary Force, within a fortnight of the declaration of war, was landed in France

without a hitch, and, from the Empire came a continuous succession of offers in men, money, and kind. The Australians at once put their navy under Admiralty control, and set about despatching a Contingent of 20,000 men, the Canadians one of 20,000, and New Zealand one of 8,000. Each of them has since offered a second contingent, besides providing drafts to meet the wastage of war. South Africa, relieved the British garrison and undertook the conquest of South West Africa. Togoland, which possessed one of the largest wireless stations in the world, was occupied by a combined force of British and French. In the first fortnight of the war British captured 100 enemy ships, in addition to which 260 were held up in home or neutral ports, representing enormous losses. The Germans, on the other hand, took very few of ours, about .1 per cent. of the total.

France was soon obliged to withdraw from Alsace, and the Belgians, though Liège still held out, to remove their capital to Antwerp, the Germans menacing Brussels, which is an open town. The Russians, who had mobilised with unexpected rapidity, came into contact with the invaders at a point on the frontier of East Prussia, as a result winning their first victory, while the Austrians were routed by the Servians at Shabatz. A dramatic move was made by the Tsar in granting autonomy to Poland, which enabled him to traverse the country as a friend and liberator. Japan declared war on Germany, and invested Tsing-tau, the fortified port of Shantung, the Eastern Province of Germany's world empire that was to be. The Allied Fleets started the blockade of Cattaro, and closed the Adriatic to Austrian and German ships.

The war in Belgium began to cover a wide front with Namur as apex. At Mons the British were opposed to the full weight of the Germans, who outnumbered them four to one. They held their ground, covering themselves with glory, thus defeating the aim of the enemy, which was to break the Franco-British line. As General French said in praise of them "they established a personal ascendancy" over their foes. With the fall of Namur, against which heavy siege guns were brought up, the Allies were forced to retire. Brussels was occupied and condemned to pay a war fine of £8,000,000, Liège, of £2,400,000, an act contrary to the law of nations. Russia advanced into East Prussia, capturing Insterburg, the centre of a whole railway system. In their retreat the Germans lost guns, stores, and equipment. Russia continued her victorious advance in the north, centre, and south, outmanœuvring the German great General Staff by her superior strategy. It was in the hope of being able to release troops for the eastern theatre of war that the Germans made such violent attacks on the Allies' line at Mons. On August 23rd, the Admiralty protested against the indiscriminate laying of mines in the North Sea, and announced that, if it continued we should be compelled to defend ourselves against them. The Belgian Government published the first official account of atrocities com-

mitted by the Germans. Parliament authorised the raising of 1,000,000 men for the Army.

British Marines landed at Ostend. The little *Highflyer* sank the huge armed merchantman *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse* off the West Coast of Africa. The Germans, who had threatened to stir up a Moslem rising, had their answer in the dramatic announcement of Lord Crewe that Indian troops had offered to serve the King Emperor in Europe, and a contingent of enthusiastic volunteers was already on its way. One of the most exciting engagements of the war, so far, was fought off Heligoland Bight, when, through the superb seamanship and fine shooting, of a British squadron, 3 German cruisers and 2 destroyers were sunk or damaged. The Admiralty, driven to action by our continual losses in trawlers, mined certain areas in the North Sea. Part of the New Zealand contingent occupied German Samoa, and a combined naval and military force from Australia captured New Guinea and other German colonies in the Pacific, destroying their wireless installations. In the meantime the Allies were fighting a series of rearguard actions, drawing the enemy farther and farther into France without permitting our line to be broken, and all the world was shuddering at the deliberate destruction of glorious monuments of civilisation in Louvain, Malines, and Rheims, whose cathedral will soon be a heap of ruins, as it is still being bombarded by the Germans at intervals. The seat of Government in France was removed from Paris to Bordeaux.

The Russians met with a reverse in East Prussia, but advanced in the south where over a million men were engaged, and made good progress in the centre. To symbolise Russia's release from German influences St. Petersburg was renamed Petrograd. In the west suddenly the Germans, having failed in their endeavour to deal a smashing blow at the Allies, changed their plan, and recrossed the Marne. Here a battle, lasting many days of ceaseless and furious fighting resulted in forcing the Germans back nearly sixty miles. It did more, it broke the spell of German militarism. To the victory, which, unfortunately, was not decisive, the Belgians contributed. They issued from Antwerp, attacked two German army corps, which were hastening to the help of the hard-pressed forces on the Marne, and held them up. It was a brilliant coup. In the east Russia defeated the Austrians, taking 300,000 prisoners and 450 guns. A second report of authenticated atrocities was published by the Belgian Government.

The sinking of the *Aboukir*, the *Cressy* and the *Hogue* by German submarines on September 22nd, was a disaster, for though the ships were not new, the loss of life was heavy. It should not have been so great, but when one cruiser was struck, the other two sent out boats to rescue the survivors, thus presenting a broad target to the enemy, of which they took full advantage. Away in the Atlantic, the *Carmania* distinguished herself by sinking the *Cap Trafalgar*. This was an even fight, as both ships

were armed merchantmen of the same class. In the Indian Ocean the *Emden* began her picturesque career as a corsair. In France the Germans on the heights above the Aisne were pushed back inch by inch. In the east, the fortress of Jaroslav surrendered to the Russians, who invested Przemysl. The control of the petrol region of Galicia and an advance on Cracow were thus merely a question of time. Servia and Montenegro by their victory on the Drina, opened the road to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia, the siege of which is being fiercely pressed. The Germans crossed the Niemen in order to cut the line, which runs from Warsaw via Grodno and Vilna to Petrograd, thus playing into the hands of General Rennenkampf reinforced by "General Winter." In Belgium the German efforts to reach the coast were frustrated by British monitors, which, by the aid of flares, got the range and shelled the enemy's trenches, emptying them effectively, besides bringing down a Taube and a Zeppelin. The Allies, after forcing the Germans from the heights above the Aisne, pressed them back thirty miles, and lengthened their line to the coast, so as to enable the Navy to help. On the Yser they again came to grips with the enemy as they had on the Aisne and the Marne. So violent was the fighting that on the Yser Canal the Germans actually crossed on a barricade of their own dead. The French on the Nancy-Toul line were strong enough to take the offensive, and push the Germans back. In Poland the Kaiser's armies were no more successful than in Flanders. They were forced to withdraw from Warsaw, and were defeated at Augustovo. The result was a disastrous retreat over almost impassable roads, whose terrors were further increased by fierce fighting.

In South Africa German intrigues brought about a toy rebellion, led by Maritz, a soldier adventurer. He was, however, defeated and driven over the border. Unfortunately, General Beyers and General De Wet, who had all along been irreconcilable at heart, threw off the mask of friendliness, and declared themselves not against England, but against the Union Government. The British and Dutch as a whole rallied to the support of General Botha, who took command of the South African forces in person. So far De Wet has lost ground. In Flanders violent attacks and counter-attacks have been delivered for weeks round Ypres. Further west the enemy were driven out of one district by inundations, the Belgians having broken the dykes. Indian troops were brought into the fighting line, which proportionately strengthened it. Antwerp was besieged and big guns brought against it. To save it from the fate of Louvain and Rheims, it surrendered, but not before the petrol tanks and German ships in the port were destroyed, and, the Belgian Army and British Marines on their way to Ostend. The capital was removed to Havre. Australia sent £100,000 to the Belgian Fund. The *Undaunted*, aided by its attendant destroyers, cut off four German destroyers and sunk them all with only five casualties.

Evidently Calais has ceased to be the German

objective. It is now Boulogne, from which an invasion may be engineered against England. Turkey, which violated every law of nations bearing on the subject of neutrality with regard to belligerent ships, at last threw in her lot with Germany. She is under the control of the Young Turks, who are little more than adventurers and tools of the Wilhelmstrasse. As the Moslem world knows this quite well there is not the slightest reason to fear a Holy War. From Moslems in all parts of the Empire have come offers of sympathy and help. The *Emden* was sunk by the *Sydney*, Australia's finest ship. The losses caused by this roving enemy cruiser amounted to £2,000,000, not to speak of the paralysis caused to trade by the fear she inspired. The fast German cruisers at large in the Pacific out-manceuvred our little force of slower ships, and defeated them off the coast of Chili. The *Good Hope* and *Monmouth* were sunk, with Admiral Craddock, who was so well-known in the Caribbean and North Atlantic, as a gallant officer. The accounts of the disaster are pervaded by a tragic sense of loss and doom. But outclassed at every point as our ships were, officers and men maintained their coolness and discipline to the last.

All along the Allies front (300 miles) fighting has been incessant for weeks, positions having been taken and retaken several times. One of the most dramatic incidents of late was the defeat of the famous Prussian Guard, which was hurled back by the British. The losses of the Germans have been terrible, and our own have been very severe. In Poland interest has centred on the Warta-Vistula line for some time. Here Germany has been making a tremendous effort to avert invasion and take the offensive. The Battle of Lodz is still raging, though the advantage is with the Russians, who have turned the German right.

A daring raid was made by British aviators on the Zeppelin factory at Frederickshafen, on Lake Constance. It is said that every bomb found its mark. A naval attack was also directed against Zechbrugge, which was being transferred into a submarine base for the invasion of England. Enormous damage was done. Up to the present our casualties on the Continent have been 75,000, on sea about 7,000 including the men of the *Bulwark*, which was blown up in the Thames on November 26th.

(To be continued).

The New Map of the West Indies—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each, (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination), for mounted and varnished copies on rollers; and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

LOOKING BACK.

Under this heading extracts from the old records and minute books of the West India Committee are published. The earliest minute book is dated 1769; but there is evidence that the Committee was in existence before that year. In the earlier days there were two Committees, those of the West India Planters and the West India Merchants, which met jointly as the "Standing Committee of West India Planters and Merchants," a name which survived until 1904, when the West India Committee was incorporated by Royal Charter granted by King Edward VII.

II.—"La Grange."

At a general Meeting of West India Planters and Merchants held at the London Tavern, in Bishopsgate Street, the 22nd of May, 1805. Present,

The Right Honorable Lord Penrhyn, in the Chair.

The Dean of St. Asaph,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Jordan,	Mr. Bourdieu,
Mr. Colthurst,	Mr. Hughan,
Mr. Knox,	Mr. Sharpe,
Colonel Henderson,	Mr. Jas. Baillie,
Mr. Blackburn,	Mr. Timperon,
Mr. Lang,	Mr. Blagrove,
Mr. J. P. Hankey,	Mr. Innes,
Mr. Allen,	Mr. Plummer,
Mr. Johnston,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Aislabie,	Mr. Turner,
Mr. Milne,	Mr. Mason,
Mr. Welbeck,	Mr. Lewis,
Mr. Wildman,	Mr. White,
Mr. Turing,	Mr. Anderdon,
Mr. Elmslie,	Mr. Milligan,
Mr. Samuda,	Mr. Cameron,
Mr. Hall,	Mr. Neave,
Mr. Lyon,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. Murray,	Mr. Shaw,
Mr. Davidson,	Mr. Conolly,
Mr. King,	Mr. Voss,
Mr. Pinnock,	Mr. Yarr,
Mr. Townsend,	Mr. Malcolm,
Sir Alexr. Grant,	Mr. James Willett,
Mr. Manning,	Mr. Jackson,
Mr. E. P. Lyon,	Mr. Gammell,
Mr. Beeston Long,	Mr. George Hibbert,
Mr. Saml. Long,	Mr. Robt. Hibbert,
Mr. Finlayson,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Jobson,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Hobson,
Mr. Dehancy,	Mr. Currie,
Mr. Blackman,	Mr. Plummer,
Mr. Mair,	Mr. Norris,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Lushington,
Mr. Vaux,	Mr. Thomson,
Mr. Trecothick,	Mr. Jennings,
Sir David	Mr. Fuller,
Wedderburn, Bart.	Mr. Long,
Mr. Wedderburn,	Mr. Duprec,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. May,

Resolved unanimously,

That the thanks of this Meeting be given to his Excellency Brigadier-General Prevost, Governor of the Island of Dominica, for the distinguished gallantry and high military talents he displayed on the 22nd of February 1805 in the defence & effectual protection of that Colony against a numerous, powerful, & unexpected force from France.

And that this resolution be communicated to General Prevost in a letter from the Right Honorable Lord Penrhyn the Chairman of this Meeting.

That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Field Officers, Captains, & other Commissioned Officers of the Royal Artillery, the 40th Regiment, the 1st West India Regiment, & also to the Officers of the Colonial Militia, for the gallant conduct they respectively exemplified & the zealous co-operation they afforded on the same occasion, & that his Excellency the Governor be requested to communicate the same.

That this meeting, impressed with the highest sense of the important service rendered to all the West India Colonies by the able resistance made by General Prevost to the landing of the Enemy on the 22nd. of February, 1805, do request that he will accept from the general body of West India Planters, & Merchants, a piece of plate of the value of three hundred Guineas, with an inscription expressive of the sense of this resolution.

That His Excellency General Prevost be requested, in a letter from the Chairman, to signify to the Non-commissioned Officers and Privates of His Majesty's Regular and Militia forces at Dominica, the high sense this meeting entertains of their services in resisting the French force on the 22nd. of February 1805.

Resolved, that the above Resolutions be inserted in the Daily Papers.

Resolved,

That the Chairman be authorised to draw upon the Treasurer of the general fund for the sum of three hundred Guineas and that Mr. Manning & the Agents of the different Islands be a Committee to lay out the above Sum in the purchase of a piece of plate according to the foregoing Resolution to that effect.

That considering the uncertainty which yet prevails concerning the destination & actual position of a large portion of the Naval force of the Enemy, & that the general assurances which have been received from His Majesty's Ministers of a provisional Protection to the respective West India Islands have not led to a conviction of there having been actually dispatched to the West Indies any reinforcement either Naval or Military—it is necessary in order to remove the anxious state of suspense under which all those intimately connected with the West Indies now stand, that the Chairman shall ask an immediate conference with the Chancellor of the Exchequer in order to learn whether Re-

inforcements (exclusive of those under Admiral Cochrane) have been actually sent to the West Indies, sufficient for the defence of those possessions in case the Fleets of the Enemy which are said to have sailed from Toulon & Cadiz have been directed to an attack upon them.

[On February 20th, Dominica was invaded by General la Grange, who landed with his troops near Roseau under cover of a heavy fire from the ships of which Nelson was in pursuit. They captured the town but Brigadier-General Prevost, by a forced march, succeeded in reaching Prince Rupert's Bay, and declined to surrender the island. After leaving Roseau and levying £12,000 from the inhabitants la Grange withdrew after five days. The House of Assembly voted General Prevost a thousand guineas for the purchase of a sword and a service of plate, and the Patriotic Fund £100 for a sword and £200 for a piece of plate. The Centenary of the defence of Dominica was celebrated in 1905, when an exchange of courtesies took place between the officers of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, which formed part of the defending force, and the Administrator, Mr., now Sir, Hesketh Bell. At a regimental dinner held in honour of the occasion a service of plate presented to the regiment by the grateful colonists was used.

Lord Penrhyn, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the West India Planters and Merchants was the second son of John Pennant, a Liverpool merchant. He was successively M.P. for Petersfield (1761), and Liverpool (1767). He was created Baron Penrhyn of Penrhyn, co. Louth, in 1783. He died in 1808 leaving no issue, and his estates passed to his cousin, George Henry Dawkins, who assumed the additional name of Pennant. Sir George Prevost, who was the son of one of Wolfe's generals, became subsequently Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia (his portrait hangs in the Union Club at Halifax), Governor of Lower Canada, and Governor-General of British North America. His military career in Canada was less successful than in the West Indies.]

THE value of the banana as a food forms the subject of Chapter XV. of Mr. Fawcett's work "The Banana: its Cultivation, Distribution and Commercial Uses," which has recently been published under the auspices of the West India Committee. The author quotes several eminent medical authorities to show how advantageous bananas, banana figs, and banana flour are in this connection. He also cites the *Lancet* which pointed out that the starch of the banana is much more digestible than cereal starches are, and that the fruit contains a notable proportion of nitrogenous material. This important work is obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, price 7s. 6d., or post free 7s. 10d.

THE WEST INDIES AND THE WAR.

In the following list we give the names of some of those closely connected with the West Indies who are serving their country at the present time. The Editor hopes that readers will help towards making the list (additions to which will be published from time to time) complete, by calling attention to any names which may be added.

- a Beckett, Lieut. P., (son-in-law of Colonel Kitchener of Jamaica), Royal Garrison Artillery.
- Ackerley, 2nd Lieut. I. R., (son of Mr. A. R. Ackerley, of Elders and Fyffes, Ltd.), 8th Battalion East Surrey Regiment.
- Ackerley, 2nd Lieut. P. R., (ditto), 11th Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.
- Aikman, Lieut. Thomson, (son of Mr. Thomson Aikman), Army Service Corps.
- Alleyne, Captain C. F., (son of the late Hon. Forster M. Alleyne of Barbados), Army Service Corps. *At the Front.*
- Alleyne, Lt. Sir John, Bart., R.N., H.M.S. *Hebe*.
- Alston, G. R. G., (son of Mr. G. R. Alston), Honourable Artillery Company, Infantry Battalion. *At the Front.*
- Anglesea, Marquis of (nephew of Mr. R. S. Cotton), Royal Horse Guards.
- Arnold-Forster, Lieut. F. A., Royal Field Artillery, Territorials.
- Arnold-Forster, Commander F. D., R.N., H.M.S. *Apollo*.
- Arnold-Forster, Lieut. W. H., National Reserve.
- Arnott, Mr. G. (son of Mr. G. Campbell Arnott), R.R.A., H.M.S. *Sparrowhawk*.
- Armstrong, Corporal E. L., (of Barbados), the Royal Fusiliers.
- Aspinall, Algernon E. (Secretary of the West India Committee), A.B. in R.N.V.R. Anti-aircraft Corps.
- Bagot, Mr. W. H., (son of late Mr. Walter Bagot of Demerara), Public School and University Battalion, Royal Fusiliers.
- Bancroft, Mr. Kenneth, (of Barbados), Seaforth Highlanders.
- Bateman, Lieut.-Colonel B. M., Heavy Artillery.
- Bateman, Lieut. B. M. B., (son of Lieut.-Colonel B. M. Bateman), 49th Battery, Royal Field Artillery.
- Berthon, Sub-Lieut. Charles P., R.N. (Son of Mr. Claude T. Berthon, A.M.Inst.C.E.), H.M.S. *Phoenix*, 1st Destroyer Flotilla.
- Berthon, Sub-Lieut. R. Lyon, R.N., (ditto), H.M.S. *Agamemnon*, 6th Squadron, 2nd Fleet.
- Berthon, Corporal Leonard T., (Brother of Mr. C. T. Berthon), 2nd King Edward's Horse.
- Bindley, Lieut. H. Duncombe, (son of Archdeacon Bindley, late of Barbados), 5th Battalion, Prince of Wales's North Staffs. Regiment.
- Blackwood, Lieut. O'Reilly, (son-in-law of Mr. Aubrey Robinson of Jamaica), R.G.A.
- Blagrove, J., (son of Colonel Blagrove, C.B., of Cardiff Hall, Jamaica), volunteered in Rhodesia.
- Blagrove, Lieut. H. E., (ditto), R.N. in H.M.S. *Tiger*. (Super-Dreadnought battle cruiser just completed).
- Blagrove, P., (ditto), Defence Force, Mounted Corps, Jamaica.
- Blagrove, Lieut. R. C., (ditto), 2nd Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Adjutant of new battalion.
- Bolton, Lieut. W. F., (Formerly of the Calcutta Emigration Agency), 4th Royal Scots.
- Bomery, —, (of Jamaica), 97th Regt. of Sudbury, Ontario.
- Bourne, Mr. A. S., (son of manager Tacarigua Orphanage, Trinidad), 2nd Life Guards.
- Bourne, Mr. G. A., (ditto), 2nd Life Guards.
- Boxall, 2nd Lieut. Norman (nephew of His Hon. F. H. Watkins, I.S.O., of Grenada, and Hon. J. Freeland Foote, of Antigua), Royal Field Artillery.
- Royd, Sergeant Dalton Goring, (grandson of the late Dr. Charles Goring, Medical Service, British Guiana), B Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade Canadian Contingent.
- Boyle, Captain H. H. G., (son of the late Mr. H. E. Boyle, of Bannatyne, Barbados), 1st London (City of London) General Hospital.
- Royle, Lieut. A. R., (son-in-law of Mr. F. J. Constable Curtis, owner of Georgia Estate, Demerara), Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
- Briggs, Lieut.-Commander Herbert Gerald, (son of Mr. Joseph Briggs of Barbados), H.M.S. *Black Prince*.
- Briggs, Colonel Frederick Clifton, (brother of Mr. Joseph Briggs of Barbados), 8th Battalion Norfolk Regiment.
- Brooks, Lance-Corpl. G. W., (Demerara Staff, Booker Bros., McConnell and Co.), 22nd Cheshire Regiment.
- Browne, Captain C. G., (part proprietor of "Waltham" Estate, Grenada), 19th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps. *At the Front.*
- Burch, Colour-Serjt. G., (Demerara Staff, Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.), King's Liverpool Regiment.
- Bye, Mr. G. Frank, (eldest son of the late Mr. Bye, of Demerara), 3rd Battalion, First Brigade, First Canadian Contingent.
- Cake, Mr. Edward (son of Mr. E. Cake, Jamaica), 39th Fort Garry Horse.
- Cake, Mr. Norman (ditto), 2nd Canadian Contingent.
- Calder, K. W., (Rhodes Scholar, son of Mr. J. V. Calder, of Worthy Park Estate, Jamaica), King Edward's Horse.
- Campbell, Lieut. Ewan, (Son of the Chairman of the West India Committee), 4th Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.
- Carter, Lieut.-Colonel E. R., C.M.G., D.S.O., (son of Mr. E. Carter of Barbados), Army Service Corps.
- Chalmers, Mr. Henry C., (son of Mr. William Chalmers, former Crown Surveyor of British Guiana), 23rd London Battalion.
- Chetwode, Brigadier Lieut.-General Sir Philip, Bart., D.S.O., (son-in-law of Hon. R. S. Cotton). *At the Front.*
- Cipriani, Trooper M., (of Trinidad), 2nd Life Guards.
- Clare, Midshipman (son of Dr. Clare, Trinidad).
- Clemelein, Mr. D. L., (of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Jamaica), Sportsmen's Battalion.
- Clemetson, Mr. D. L., Sportsmen's Battalion.
- Cockell, Captain A. S. Buckland (late Superintendent of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., Jamaica), Military Embarcation Officer in France.
- Collymore, Alan (son of Mr. Ernest Collymore of the Colonial Bank, Barbados), East Lancashire Regiment.
- Collymore, H. Aubrey, (son of Mr. F. A. C. Collymore, of Barbados), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Combermere, Viscount (nephew of Mr. R. S. Cotton), Red Cross Motor Ambulance.
- Cotton, Flag-Captain Stapleton, M.V.O., R.N., (son of Hon. R. S. Cotton), Portsmouth.
- Coote, Mr. T. C., (brother-in-law of Mr. C. Lyon Hall of Haiti and Jamaica), 9th County of London Yeomanry.
- Cox, Mr. C. E. L., British Guiana Artillery, Georgetown.
- Cranes, Mr. A. C. W. (Lieut. W.I. Regiment), Adjutant 8th Service Battalion Yorks Regiment.
- Cranstoun, Mr. David Branch, (son of Mr. I. Craustoun, Antigua), Army Service Corps.
- Crengh, Lieut.-Commander I. V., R.N., (son-in-law of Mr. Philip Cork of Jamaica) H.M.S. *Myrmidon*.
- Cummings, P. H., (brother-in-law of Mr. Stanley Savill, and manager of his estate in Tobago), London Scottish.
- Curtis, Lieut. F. Maynard C., R.N., (son of Mr. F. J. Constable Curtis, owner of Georgia Estate, Demerara), H.M.S. *Grafton*.
- Curtis, Commander Berwick, (son of Mr. F. J. Constable Curtis of Georgia Estate, Demerara), H.M.S. *Kale*.
- Dalton, Mr. Norman Daneral, (youngest son of the late Mr. E. Dalton of Demerara, British Guiana), 4th Company Hon. Artillery Company.
- Davson, Lieut. Gordon, Royal Horse Guards.
- Davson, Captain and Adjutant Ivan B., City of London Yeomanry, (Rough-riders).
- Davson, Major H. M., Royal Horse Artillery. *At the Front.*
- Davson, 2nd Lieut. Cyril Were, (nephew of the late Sir Henry K. Davson), Royal Engineers.
- Dawson, Captain R. G., 1st Scottish Horse.
- Day, Signaller C. F., (son of Mr. B. Day of Demerara), 2nd Battalion Canadian Contingent.

- Day, Private F. A., (ditto), 9th Battalion Canadian Contingent.
- Day, Signaller W. R., (ditto), 1st Heavy Battery C.F.A., Canadian Contingent.
- Deane, 2nd Lieut. E. W., (son of Dr. F. W. Deane, of Barbados), 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
- de Cordova, 2nd Lieut. M., (son of J. de Cordova, Esq., Kingston, Jamaica), Army Service Corps.
- Delafons, Reginald A., University and Public School Battalion, the Royal Fusiliers.
- de Laubenque, Charles, (son of the late Mr. Leon de Laubenque of St. Lucia), Territorial Force.
- Dennahay, Mr. Charles, (son of Dr. Charles Dennahay, late Colonial Surgeon of St. Lucia), 12th Battalion, First Canadian Contingent.
- de Pass, Lieut. F. A., (son of Mr. E. A. de Pass), 34th Poona Horse.
- de Pass, 2nd Lieut. Harold A., (son of Mr. E. A. de Pass), 6th Reserve Regiment of Cavalry.
- de Pass, 2nd Lieut. E. A., (ditto), 3rd County of London (Sharpshooters) Yeomanry.
- de Patron, Captain Cyril, (part proprietor of "La Gloria" Estate, Trinidad), Lancashire Fusiliers, Brigade Major, the General Staff, Eastern Command.
- de Putron, Lieut. Hugh, (part proprietor of "La Gloria" Estate, Trinidad), Manchester Regiment. *At the Front.*
- Dew, 2nd Lieut. J. C., (son of Mr. Joseph T. Dew, of Antigua), 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
- DuBuisson, James Melmoth, (son of Mr. T. DuBuisson), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Duke, Mr. R. N., (son of Dr. Duke, Antigua), H.M.S. *Hermione*.
- Earle, 2nd Lieut. H. J. M., (son of Dr. T. M. Earle, British Guiana Medical Service), 4th Battalion Essex Regiment, (Foreign Service).
- Edmund, Lieut., (nephew of Mr. R. Duff, late Immigration Agent-General of British Guiana), 13th Battalion (Princess Louise's) London Regiment. *At the Front.*
- Ewing, Mr. A. Crum, (son of Mr. Humphry Crum Ewing), 2nd Lieut., 3rd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders.
- Fairbairn, Mr. Eric Playfair, (son of the late Mr. P. P. Fairbairn, Town Clerk of Georgetown, British Guiana), 2nd Battalion, 9th Regiment Highland Light Infantry.
- Farmer, Lieut. E. T. N., R.M.L.I., H.M.S. *Egmont*.
- Fawcett, Sub-Lieutenant Kenneth, (nephew of Mr. William Fawcett, B.Sc.), H.M.S. *Minotaur*, China Station.
- Fawcett, 2nd Lieut. Robert Heath, (ditto), Royal Bedfordshire Regiment.
- Fellowes, Captain A. R., 7th Battalion Norfolk Regiment.
- Ferguson, Mr. Sydney, (son of Hon. Duncan Ferguson of St. Lucia).
- Ffrench, Captain (of Jamaica) R.A.M.C.
- Field, Lieut. Edward, (nephew of Mr. Robert Duff, late Immigration Agent-General of British Guiana), the Middlesex Regiment.
- Forrest, Mr., (son of Mr. W. Forrest of Antigua).
- Forrest, Mr. A., (son of Mr. W. Forrest of Antigua), Staff Surgeon, Royal Navy.
- Forrest, Major I., (son of Mr. W. Forrest of Antigua), Royal Army Medical Corps.
- Frame, 2nd Lieut. Ian MacGregor, (son of Mr. G. MacGregor Frame), 3rd Gordon Highlanders.
- Fretz, Henry E. K., F.R.C.S., (son of Dr. W. H. Fretz, of St. Kitts), was appointed navy surgeon in the *Aquitania* in August.
- Fretz, W. L. E., M.B., (ditto), Army Medical Corps, Peshawar.
- Galbraith, Mr., (son of Mr. S. Galbraith, Antigua), Canadian Contingent.
- Galloway, Major Aylmer G. (son of Major General J. M. C. Galloway), Commanding No. 1 Advance Supply Depot B. E. Force.
- Gardner, Lieut. Austin, (nephew of Mr. C. Lyon Hall of Haiti and Jamaica), Essex Regiment.
- Gardner, Lieut. Harry, (ditto), Royal Horse Artillery.
- Gardner, Cadet Lycett, (ditto), H.M.S. *Cornwall*.
- Garnett, Private Harry Seys, (youngest son of the late Mr. Harry Garnett, of British Guiana), 16th Lancers.
- Garnett, Mr. Errol R., (son of Mr. G. R. Garnett of Georgetown, Demerara), 5th Royal Highlanders of Canada, (Black Watch).
- Geddes, E. J., 2nd King Edward's Horse.
- George, Rev. T. P., Chaplain 21st Brigade Infantry, 7th Division.
- Gibbons, 2nd Lieut. Charles Coulturst, (son of Colonel F. F. Gibbons, and nephew of Mr. C. Kenrick Gibbons), 13th Battalion City of London Regiment.
- Gibbons, Captain Edward Stephen, 1st Battalion Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.
- Gibbons, 2nd Lieut. John Noel (son of the late John A. Gibbons), Army Service Corps.
- Gibbons, Captain William Kenrick, (son of Sir William Gibbons, K.C.B.), 9th East Lancashire Regiment.
- Gibbons, Captain Sir Alexander, Bart., 2nd Battery, Royal Field Artillery.
- Gillespie, Private Arthur A. (son of Mr. James Gillespie, of Demerara), 3rd Glasgow Battalion, Highland Light Infantry.
- Glover, Mr. A. H., 2nd King Edward's Horse.
- Goodwin, Mr. A., (son of Mr. G. I. Goodwin, Antigua), Canadian Contingent.
- Gordon, 2nd Lieut. G. Arthur, (nephew of Mr. W. Gordon Gordon), 2nd Reserve Cavalry Regiment.
- Gordon, Kenneth B., (of Messrs. Gordon, Grant and Co., Trinidad), 3rd Battalion, Gordon Highlanders.
- Gordon, Trooper Archibald, 1st Regiment Lovat Scouts, Machine Gun Section.
- Graham, Staff Sergt. H. M., Honourable Artillery Company.
- Grant, Captain E. L. T., (late West India Regiment and 1st Norfolk Regiment).
- Gray, Private W., (Liverpool Staff Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.), 5th Battalion Cheshire Regiment.
- Green, Private George, (Liverpool Staff Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.), 2nd City Battalion King's Liverpool Regiment.
- Greene, Private Frederick Edward, (son of the late Mr. F. E. Greene, County Inspector of Police, British Guiana), Hon. Artillery Company.
- Greenwood, Lieut. B. P., (brother of Mr. Thomas Greenwood, of Booker Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.), Intelligence Corps.
- Greenwood, Mr. H. S., (ditto), Army Service Corps.
- Greenwood, Private L. M., (ditto), 1st Battalion Public Schools and University Corps (Royal Fusiliers).
- Greenwood, Lieut. J. E., (ditto), 5th Battalion East Surrey Regiment.
- Guise, Mr. A. V. J., British Red Cross Society, France.
- Hall, Mr. C. E., (ditto), 10th Battalion Middlesex.
- Hamilton, Cleveland B., (son of Mr. C. B. Hamilton, C.M.G.), Agricultural College, Wye, Corps of the Territorials, C. Coy., 5th Battalion, The Buffs Regiment, stationed at Sandwich.
- Hampton, Lieut F. A., (son of Mr. C. A. Hampton, Chairman of Messrs. James Nourse, Ltd.), Army Medical Corps.
- Hampton, Mr. J. L., (ditto), London Rifle Brigade.
- Hampton, Mr. W., (ditto), London Rifle Brigade.
- Harris, Captain R. E., (son-in-law of Mr. W. Gordon Gordon of Trinidad), Lancashire Fusiliers.
- Harrison, Commander, R.N., (of Jamaica).
- Hathorn, Lieut. G. H. V., R.M.L.I., H.M.S. *Formidable*.
- Haughton, Lieut. Harold M. S., (son of Mr. R. S. Haughton of Kingston, Jamaica), Royal Engineers, Special Reserve.
- Healing, Captain R. K., late West India Regiment and Garrison Adjutant, Jamaica), Duke of Wellington's Regiment.
- Heath, Lieut. Philip, Royal Garrison Artillery.
- Henderson, Mr. C., (grandson of the late Dr. Shannon, of Demerara), 9th Highland Light Infantry.
- Henderson, Captain C. F., Commander H.M.S. (Australian) *Penguin*.
- Herbert, Mr. Edward Grafton, (grandson of the late Mr. G. A. Forshaw, solicitor, of Woodbine, Georgetown, Demerara), Imperial Warwickshire Yeomanry.

- Heriot, Trooper George, (son of Mr. W. Scott Heriot, consulting engineer, late of West Coast Demerara), Queen's Own Glasgow Yeomanry.
- Hill, 2nd Lieut. Jacobus Darrell, (son of Mr. J. K. D. Hill, Magistrate, British Guiana), 1st Scottish Rifles. *At the Front.*
- Hill, Private James, Jr., (son of James Hill, of British Guiana), 2nd Bedfordshire Regiment. *At the Front.*
- Hinkson, Corporal A. G. (of Barbados), Royal Fusiliers stationed at Hounslow.
- Hinkson, Corporal A. G., (of Barbados), Royal Fusiliers.
- Holborrow, Mr. G., (son of Mr. F. Holborrow of Antigua), Cadet, R.M.C., Sandhurst.
- Hollinsed, Mr. R. B. L., (son of Mr. E. L. Hollinsed, Society Plantation, Barbados), D Company, 4th Battalion Canadian Contingent.
- Holme, Sergt. F., (late of Colonial Secretary's Office, Antigua), 10th Battalion Gloucester Regiment.
- Hood, Viscount, (son-in-law of Mr. R. S. Cotton), late Grenadier Guards.
- Howard, Captain L. M., Royal West Surrey Regiment.
- Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Alan Wylie (Son of Mr. George Hughes), 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers (wounded at the Front).
- Hughes, and Lieut. Guy Wylie (ditto), 4th Middlesex Regiment. *At the Front.*
- Hunt, Fleet-Surgeon Henry, (brother of Mrs. Davidson-Houston of Montserrat), H.M.S. *Superb*.
- Hunter, 2nd Lieut. Cecil, (son of Mr. Hugh B. Hunter, late manager of the Denmyer Company, St. Lucia), 4th Highland Light Infantry.
- Hunter, Lieut. Neil, (ditto), 4th Highland Light Infantry, Assistant Adjutant.
- Jones, 2nd Lieut. Charles H., (son of the Rev. Michael Jones, and nephew of the late Hon. B. Howell Jones, C.M.G., of Demerara), 3rd Hull Battalion East Yorks Regiment.
- Jones, 2nd Lieut. Hugh F. C., (ditto), 5th Battery, 2nd Home Counties Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.
- Jones, Lieut. L.J., West India Regiment.
- Kave, Colonel A. B. R., (late Inspector of Police, Barbados), Second in Command Shropshire Regiment.
- Kerr, 2nd Lieut. H., ("Orange Valley," Jamaica), 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
- Kerr, Captain H. Jarret, (son of Mr. Herbert Jarret Kerr of Hampden, Jamaica), Supply and Transport Corps, Indian Expeditionary Force.
- Kerr, Lieut. Norman Jarret, (ditto), 8th James' Scouts.
- Kerr, Lieut. Mark A., (late of St. Lucia), Army Service Corps.
- King, Private Bernard F. (son of Mr. J. A. King, Crown Solicitor, British Guiana), Coldstream Guards.
- King-Church, Lieut., West India Regiment.
- Kitchener, Commander Henry Franklin C., (son of Colonel H. E. C. Kitchener, of Cornwall Estate, Jamaica, and nephew of Lord Kitchener), H.M.S. *Ajax*.
- Kysh, 2nd Lieut. Claude (of Barbados), Royal West Kent Regiment.
- Layne, Mr. J. G., (of Barbados).
- Lee, John Hamilton, (formerly of Antigua), Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve Anti-air Craft Corps.
- Lubbock, Lieutenant Commander Alexander N., (son of the late Sir Nevile Lubbock), H.M.S. *Exmouth*.
- Lucie-Smith, Mr., (of Trinidad), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Lumsden, Major J. L., (brother-in-law of Mr. William Morrison, late of Demerara), Pife and Forfar Yeomanry.
- Lyon Hall, Lieut. C. E., (son of Mr. C. Lyon Hall of Haiti and Jamaica), 5th Battalion South Wales Borderers.
- Lynch, 2nd Lieut. James A., (son of Hon J. Challenger Lynch of Barbados), Royal Field Artillery.
- Lynch, 2nd Lieut. Arthur C., (ditto), Durham Light Infantry.
- Lynch, Mr. Cyril A., (ditto), — Hussars.
- Mackie, Mr. A., (son of the late Dr. Mackie), Territorial Force.
- Maginley, J. W. A., (Estates' proprietor, Antigua), Company B, Colonial Infantry.
- Malan, Lieut. C. de M., Commander Torpedo Boat Destroyer *Mallard*.
- Malcolm, Captain Maurice de W., (son of Colonel E. D. Malcolm, C.B., of Knockalva, Jamaica, and Pottaloch, Argyll), Jamaica Volunteer Armed Scouts.
- Malcolm, Colonel Neil, D.S.O., (ditto), on Headquarters Staff, 1st Army Corps.
- Marescaux, Major O. H. E. (of Cherry Garden, Jamaica), D Staff A Central Force, Quarter-master General, Headquarters.
- Marriott, Captain F. C. (Son of Mr. Marriott, partner of Previte and Company), 7th King's Liverpool Regiment.
- Maxwell, —, (son of Chief Justice Sir Frederic Maxwell, K.C., Leeward Islands).
- Mason, Lieut. B., Nyasaland Field Force.
- McCracken, Major-General F. W. N., C.B., D.S.O., (Assistant Adjutant General in Barbados 1892-1897).
- McCracken, Mr. R. (Liverpool Staff Bookers Bros., McConnell, Ltd.), 10th King's Liverpool Regiment.
- McDonald, Mr. C., (Demerara Staff Bookers Bros., McConnell and Co., Ltd.).
- McKinnon, Mervyn, (of British Guiana), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- McLeod, Private Norman, (of Trinidad), Highland Light Infantry.
- McPhail, Mr. Harry (son of Dr. McPhail, Medical Officer of St. Lucia).
- Mearns, Private George (son of Mr. William Mearns, of Plantation Hope, Demerara, British Guiana), 4th Battalion Gordon Highlanders, attached to Royal Engineers.
- Melville, Lieut. George, (son of Sir George Melville, K.C.M.G., late Administrator of St. Lucia), and Welsh Regiment, (was wounded at the Front. Mentioned in Despatches and made Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.
- Messer, 2nd Lieut. E. A., (son of Mr. A. E. Messer, late of Demerara), 5th Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps.
- Messervy, 2nd Lieut. Roney F., (grandson of the late Mr. G. A. Forshaw, solicitor, of Woodbine, Georgetown, Demerara), 11th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment.
- Messervy, Engineer Lieut.-Commander Charles de Faye, H.M.S. *Fearless*.
- Miles, Lieut. Geoffrey John, (third son of Mr. Audley C. Miles), with the China Fleet.
- Napier, Mr. W., (son of Mrs. Napier, of Milliken Estate, St. Kitts), King Edwards' Horse.
- Nathan, Lieut. A. A., Herts Yeomanry, 2nd Reserve Cavalry.
- Neilson, Commander D. L., Transport *Rohilla* (wrecked).
- Neish, Midshipman Donald C. G., (son of Dr. Neish, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Iron Duke*, Sir John Jellicoe's flagship.
- Netham, Hon. A., (nephew of Hon. R. S. Cotton), Wills Yeomanry.
- Netham, Hon. F., (nephew of Hon. R. S. Cotton), Wills Yeomanry.
- Ogle, Captain, West India Regiment.
- Paget, Lord Victor (nephew of Mr. R. S. Cotton), Royal Horse Guards.
- Percival, 2nd Lieut. W. H. F., (son of Mr. H. G. Percival, of Antigua), 4th Battalion Royal Scots.
- Peterkin, Sergeant E. C., (of Barbados), Middlesex Regiment.
- Phillips, Sir Owen, Bart., K.C.M.G., 2nd King Edward's Horse.
- Pinnock, Dr. D. D., Temporary Surgeon, R.N., Hospital, Haslar.
- Porter, Lieut.-Colonel G. A., 7th Service Battalion Dorset Regiment.
- Previte, Lieut.-Colonel E. J., V.D., 22nd Battalion The London Regiment (The Queens).
- Previte, Captain H. F. 22nd (County of London) Battalion London Regiment (Queen's).
- Quinn, Major Percy Wemyss, (brother-in-law of Mr. W. Morison, late of Demerara), 41st Dogras.
- Reece, Mr. H. S., (of Barbados).
- Rice, Major C. E., (British Guiana), Scottish Horse.
- Ritchie, —, (eldest son of Mr. D. Ritchie, late of Aurora, British Guiana), Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

- Ritchie, Mr. William Hodson, (son of Rev. W. B. Ritchie, M.A., late Minister of St. Andrew's, Georgetown, British Guiana), 2nd Lieut., Royal Field Artillery.
- Robertson, Mr. James (lately an engineer in Jamaica, a nephew of Mr. William Morison, of Marionville, Demerara), the Scottish Horse.
- Robinson, Mr. W. S., son of Mayor of Sangre Grande, Trinidad, 2nd Life Guards.
- Ross, Lance Sergeant G. H. T., (son of the late Mr. H. T. Ross, part proprietor of Plaisance Estate, Grenada), 11th Battalion Royal Fusiliers.
- Rutherford, T. W., (son of Mr. Robert Rutherford, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee), Public Schools and University Battalion, Royal Fusiliers.
- Saunders, Captain, Indian Rifles, (son of Dr. Arthur Saunders of Jamaica).
- Scott, Mr. P. J., (son of Mr. F. E. Scott, Trinidad), 2nd Life Guards.
- Senhouse, Captain, (son of the late Mrs. Senhouse of Barbados), Royal Garrison Artillery.
- Sellier, Mr. J. L., (son of Mr. E. L. Sellier, of Trinidad), 2nd Life Guards.
- Seton-Browne, Mr. M. W., (son of Mr. B. S. Seton-Browne), 2nd Leinster Regiment.
- Shears, Mr. Reginald, A.R.I.F.A., 9th Battalion County of London Regiment.
- Shepherd, 2nd Lieut. Malcolm, (youngest son of the Dean of Antigua), Cavalry Reserve.
- Sidney, Mr. T., (son of Hon. T. S. Sidney, Attorney General).
- Simon, Lieut. P. B., (stepson of Mr. D. Delbanco), Royal Artillery, 5th Siege Battery.
- Simpson, Lieut., (son-in-law of Sir John Pringle of Jamaica).
- Smellie, 2nd Lieut. Geoffrey, (son of Mr. T. Smellie, Georgetown, British Guiana), 9th Battalion King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment.
- Smellie, 2nd Lieut. Archie, (son of Mr. William G. Smellie, Georgetown, British Guiana).
- Smellie, 2nd Lieut. John O., (ditto), King's Own Royal Lancasters.
- Smith, Mr. Maxwell Augustus Kenrick, (grandson of the late Dean of Port-of-Spain), 2nd Life Guards.
- Smith, Adam Clayton, (eldest son of Hon. Adam Smith of Trinidad), 2nd Battalion (Glasgow Civic) Highland Light Infantry.
- Smith, Mr. W. Maxwell (son of Captain Smith of Trinidad Cycle Corps Vol.), 2nd Life Guards.
- Smythe, Lieut., R. G.A., (son-in-law of Mr. Aubrey Robinson of Jamaica).
- Sproston, Private Noel, (son of the late Hugh Sproston, Esq., of British Guiana), Public Schools Battalion, 12th Middlesex (Duke of Cambridge's Own).
- Steadman, 2nd Lieut. W. E. A., (Representative in the West Indies of Messrs. Steadman & Co., Ltd.), Intelligence Department, Interpreter at *the Front*.
- Stephenson, Lieut. D. P., (Jamaica Rhodes Scholar), 4th Battalion P.W.O., North Staffordshire.
- Stewart, Captain, (son-in-law of Sir John Pringle, Jamaica), Leinster Regiment.
- Stoby, Mr. Percy, (son of Mr. W. S. Stoby, Secretary British Guiana Building Society), The Artists.
- Stockley, 2nd Lieut. Alan, (ditto), Army Service Corps.
- Stuart, Captain H. C., 2nd Highland Light Infantry.
- Stuart, Thomas Charles, (son of Mr. Charles H. Stuart, late estates' manager, Demerara), Public Schools and University Corps, Middlesex Regiment.
- Sturridge, 2nd Lieut. E. A. L., (of Jamaica), King's Liverpool Regiment, 11th Service Battalion.
- Symonds, 2nd Lieut. H. S. P., (of Jamaica), 7th Battalion, City of London Regiment.
- Talbot, Captain Edward Charles, (son-in-law of Sir William Gibbons, K.C.), 47th Sikhs.
- Tebbs, Sub-Lieut. J. G., H.M.S. Zaza.
- Temple, Lieut. George, (nephew of Mr. George Carrington, Barbados), Royal Field Artillery.
- Thomas, Lieut. (of Jamaica), Royal Marine Light Infantry.
- Tinne, Mr. C. E., (son of Mr. John E. Tinne), 1st Reserve Brigade Royal Field Artillery.
- Thomas, Lieut. H. R., (son of Mr. Herbert Thomas of Jamaica), Royal Garrison Artillery, Hong Kong and Singapore Battalion at Kiau Chou.
- Thomas, Lieut. F. H., (ditto), Royal Marine Light Infantry, Instructor of Musketry to the Fleet on China Station, in H.M.S. *Triumph*, also at Kiau Chou.
- Thomas, Lieut. A. C., (ditto), Royal Garrison Artillery, *At the Front*.
- Thomas, Lieut. H. F., (ditto), 126th Baluchistan Infantry, Indian Army.
- Thomas, Midshipman, G. M., R.N., (ditto), H.M.S. *Colossus*, 1st Battle Squadron, North Sea Fleet.
- Thomas, Mr. E. V. S., (Rhodes Scholar from Potsdam, Jamaica, nephew of Mr. Herbert Thomas), King Edward's Horse.
- Tudway, Mr., (son of Mr. C. C. Tudway, estate's proprietor, Antigua), Grenadier Guards.
- Verley, Dr. R. C., (of Jamaica), Royal Army Medical Corps.
- Walker, Lieut., (of Jamaica), Welsh Fusiliers.
- Warner, Captain Pelham F., (Attached to War Office Staff).
- Watkins, Commander C. Hervey, R.N.R. (Retired), (brother of His Honour F. H. Watkins, I.S.O.), Commander Red Cross Ship *China*.
- Whyham, Engineer Lieut.-Commander Sydney, (nephew of Hon. W. H. Whyham, I.S.O., late R.N., Magistrate, Antigua), H.M.S. *Bonaventure*.
- Whyham, Mr. Arthur S., (ditto), H.M.S. *Aquarius*.
- Whyham, Engineer Lieut.-Commander Harold V., (ditto), H.M.S. *Lynx*.
- Whyham, Mr. Maurice W., H.M.S. *Forward*.
- White, Mr. M., (son of Montague White, Esq., late of Montpellier Estate, Antigua), Canadian Contingent.
- Wigley, Lieut. A. B., (son of the late Mr. F. S. Wigley, I.S.O., of St. Kitts), 1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment.
- Wingrove, C. L., (late of Colonial Bank, Jamaica), Public Schools Battalion.
- Wolffsohn, Mr. Arthur Norman, (son of Mr. S. Wolffsohn of British Honduras), 1st Squadron, 3rd Reserve Regiment, the Scottish Horse.
- Wolseley, W. B., (son of Mr. W. A. Wolseley of Demerara) has entered the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.
- Wright, Midshipman Arthur, (son of the late Inspector-General of Police, Jamaica).
- Wright, 2nd Lieut. (ditto), 9th Battalion Gordon Highlanders.
- Yearwood, Mr., (son of Mr. T. E. L. Yearwood, Parry St. Diamond Estate, Antigua), Canadian Contingent.

Killed in Action.

SECOND LIEUTENANT RICHARD COMPTON-THORNHILL (Scots Guards), who was killed in action on a date unknown, was the only son and heir of Sir Anthony Compton-Thornhill, proprietor of Mount Gay Plantation, Barbados, and was 22 years of age.

SURGEON F. L. J. M. DE VERTEUIL, son of Dr. de Verteuil of Trinidad, was in H.M.S. *Good Hope*, and lost his life in the naval engagement off Chili.

LIEUTENANT FREDERICK WILLIAM DES VOEUX (2nd Grenadier Guards), was killed in action at the Battle of the Aisne. He was the younger son of the late Sir G. William des Voeux, G.C.M.G., at one time Administrator of St. Lucia, and afterwards Governor of Hong Kong, and received his commission from the Special Reserve in 1910. Age 24.

LIEUT. WILLIAM BERESFORD GOSSET, the eldest son of Hon. Beresford S. Gosset, Custos of St. Andrews, Jamaica, and Honorary Correspondent of the West India Committee, was in the 25th Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery, 1st Division, 1st Army Corps.

LIEUT.-COLONEL IAN GRAHAM HOGG, D.S.O. (4th Hussars), died at Harau, France, on September 2nd, of wounds received on September 1st. He was the second son of the late Mr. Quintin Hogg, formerly Deputy-Chairman of the West India Committee.

CAPTAIN E. R. HAYES SADLER, second son of Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., late Governor of the Windward Islands. Captain Hayes Sadler, whose distinguished career was dealt with in last CIRCULAR, was in the 8th Gurkha Rifles. He fell in the trenches while gallantly trying to stem an overwhelming force of the enemy, who broke through and surrounded the wing of his regiment.

LIEUTENANT EDWIN JOHN BERKELEY HAYES SADLER, the third son of Sir James Hayes Sadler, K.C.M.G., C.B., of whose military service a record was also given in last issue, was in the Royal Engineers. He fell when very gallantly leading on his men in an attack on a village occupied by the enemy.

SECOND LIEUTENANT M. W. SETON-BROWNE, of the Leicester Regiment, whose name appeared in the list of killed under the date November 26th, was a son of Mr. G. S. Seton Browne, of Dunfermline, Grenada.

LIEUT. M. R. SWEET-ESCOTT (King's, Liverpool Regiment), was a nephew of Sir Bickham Sweet-Escott, K.C.M.G., ex-Governor of British Honduras and of the Leeward Islands.

LIEUT. E. P. J. TINNE, R.N.R., the fourth son of Mr. John F. Tinne, was on board H.M.S. *Hogue*, when she was torpedoed in the North Sea.

CAPTAIN A. C. WARD, D.S.O., (2nd Lancashire Fusiliers), who was killed in action, was a son of the late Colonel Hon. C. J. Ward, C.M.G., of Kingston, Jamaica. He served in the South African War, and afterwards in West Africa, and obtained his company in March, 1910.

Died of Wounds.

LIEUT. N. S. G. McGRATH, (eldest son of Hon. George McGrath, Jamaica), 2nd Dragoon Guards.
CAPTAIN PEPYS, Worcester Regiment.

Wounded.

Bateman, Lieut. B. M. B., (son of Lieut.-Colonel B. M. Bateman), 49th Battery Royal Field Artillery.
Blackwood, Lord Basil, 2nd Lieut., 9th Lancers.
Davenport, Captain J. A., Lancashire Fusiliers, (now a prisoner of war).
Captain John H. Disney, who at the outbreak of war, returned from Trinidad, where he has interests, to rejoin the Essex Regiment, was wounded and invalided to England. He returned to the front and was wounded a second time, and is now missing.
DuBuisson, 2nd Lieut. Thomas Gerard (Son of Mr. T. DuBuisson), Royal Field Artillery.
Gibbons, Captain Edward Stephen, Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.
Grey-Wilson, Lieut. W. A., Durham Light Infantry, (son of Sir William Grey-Wilson, K.C.M.G., late Governor of the Bahamas).
Healing, Captain R. K. (late West India Regiment, and Garrison Adjutant, Jamaica), Duke of Wellington's Regiment.
Hughes, 2nd Lieut. Alan, (son of Mr. George Hughes), Royal Fusiliers.
Maddick, Captain, 5th Lancers. Late 14th Hussars, and formerly A.D.C. to Sir Augustus Hemming, Governor of Jamaica.
Mason, Lieut. B., Nyasaland Field Force.
Moody, Captain R. H. M., Lancashire Fusiliers.
Owen, Lieut. William, Welsh Regiment, (son of Captain Owen of the R.M.S.P. Co.).
Stockley, 2nd Lieut. Henry, (son of Mr. A. H. Stockley, of Elders and Fyffes, Ltd.), 3rd Worcester Regiment.

Prisoner of War.

Le Hunte, Lieut. J., Hampshire Regiment (previously reported wounded).

TRINIDAD VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FRONT.

We are indebted to Mr. Randolph Rust for the photographs from which the illustrations facing page 556 are reproduced. They depict the scene on the wharf at Port of Spain, Trinidad, on the occasion of the departure of eleven young men for England to join Kitchener's Army. Their names were: Geoffrey and Alfred Bourne (sons of the Rev. G. F. Bourne), Kenneth Gordon (son of Mr. John Gordon), L. Sellier (son of Mr. Ernest L. Sellier), "Mikey" Cipriani (son of the late Mr. Jules Cipriani and Mrs. Cipriani), Norman McLeod (son of Mr. J. J. McLeod), Percy Scott, (son of Mr. F. E. Scott), Kenneth Smith (son of Mr. Max Smith and grandson of Archdeacon A. E. Smith), "Bonin" Robinson (son of Mr. W. H. Robinson), William Moore (of Grenada), a clerk at "The Bonanza," and Horace Rapsey (son of the late Mr. J. A. Rapsey).

The departure of these volunteers for Active Service was made the occasion of a great patriotic demonstration. His Excellency Sir George Le Hunte, who was present delivered an address to the young men before they embarked, and in the saloon of the *Orotava*, Mr. Randolph Rust wished them God speed in a few stirring words. Reference to the list on succeeding pages will show that six of the young men have joined the 2nd Life Guards.

OBITUARY.

MR. JOSEPH MONKHOUSE.

News recently reached England of the death of Mr. Joseph Monkhouse, who for the last fifty years had been a prominent sugar planter in British Guiana.

Mr. Monkhouse was born in the north of England in the year 1840, and early in the sixties arrived in Demerara, where he spent a few years as an overseer and manager on the West Coast, under the late Hon. William Russell. In 1870 he was transferred from Pln. De Willers, West Coast, to the management of Pln. Vryheids Lust, East Coast, the property of Messrs. James Ewing and Company, where he spent four years before assuming the management and attorneyship of Pln. Providence, East Bank, Demerara River, the property of Messrs. Sandbach, Tinne and Co. (The Demerara Company, Ltd.), which he held for thirty years, retiring about ten years ago, when he took up residence in Georgetown, where he occupied the position of director of the British Guiana Bank, Sproston's, Ltd., the Hand-in-Hand Fire Insurance Co., and the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society. Whilst manager of Pln. Providence he was closely associated with the late Hon. William Russell and Hon. B. Howell Jones, in the development of the East Demerara Water Supply and Lamaha Canal conservancies, of which he remained a commissioner after his retirement from active work as a sugar planter; and up to the last, he continued to take a practical interest in constructional work connected with local cricket clubs, football grounds, etc., and was ever ready to lend a helping hand to assist friends in distress through family bereavements. Towards the end of October he was attacked with a severe heart affection, to which he succumbed the second week in November much regretted by a large circle of friends.

AT WESTMINSTER.

Rum for the Troops.

In the House of Commons on November 16th, Mr. Tennant, replying to Mr. Chancellor and Sir George Toulmin, said that a considerable quantity of rum had been supplied for the use of the Army, but he was assured that rum rations had not been issued in coffee or other beverages to soldiers who did not ask for or desire it; nor that a rum ration was in some cases given to the troops in the field in their tea, thus allowing no option of refusal to those who objected to alcohol as reducing the efficiency of shooting and reducing the power of resistance of the body to cold and damp. The instructions provided that the rum ration is issued only on the recommendation of the medical authorities, and the unit was asked the number of officers, non-commissioned officers and men who desired such a ration, and the amount for that number only was issued by the supply branch. Rum was not issued at home except in most exceptional circumstances. None had been issued this year.

The Sugar Prohibition.

In the House of Commons on November 19th, Mr. Fell asked the President of the Board of Trade why the importation of sugar from Russia into England was not allowed; and if he had considered whether the 300,000 tons of sugar which was estimated to be available in Russia for export would be a useful addition to our supplies and tend to keep down the price in this country when the spring navigation opened at Archangel.

The President of the Board of Trade: Since the beginning of the War the export of sugar from Russia has been impracticable. The prohibition of import in this country is general, but in the circumstances it has no actual effect as regards Russia. It is impossible to foresee the conditions when the spring navigation opens at Archangel.

[Though Russia is our ally it must be noted that Russian sugar is bounty-fed.]

State Aid for the Dye industry.

In the House of Commons on November 23rd, Mr. Runciman, replying to Mr. Sherwell, said that since the beginning of the war the earnest attention of the Government had been given to the best means of averting the grave danger of stoppage of employment in the textile and other industries which depended upon a supply of colours owing to the interruption of imports from Germany. Emergency measures were already being taken to secure for the time being the continuity of supply of dyestuffs by encouraging the immediate development of existing sources in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. In addition, however, the inquiries of the Government had led them to the conclusion that the excessive dependence of this country on a single foreign country for materials of such vital importance to industries in which millions of our workpeople are employed constituted a permanent danger which could only be remedied by a combined national effort on a scale which required and justified an exceptional measure of State encouragement. Accordingly the Board of Trade had entered into consultations with the principal interests concerned with a view to the elaboration of a scheme for the establishment of an undertaking for the production of synthetic dyes and colours. In the main it was hoped that the capital required would be forthcoming from the industries by which dyes and colours were mainly used, but the Treasury were prepared within certain limits and subject to certain conditions, to afford financial support to a well-considered scheme which would be permanently under British control.

Mr. Barnes, a Labour Member, said: Will it be within the purview of the Committee to inquire or take steps to prevent the importation of German dyes after the war?

The Proposed Prohibition of Cocoa.

In the debate on the Consolidated Fund Bill in the House of Commons on November 23rd, Mr. Thomas Lough, M.P., protested against the prohibition of the export of tea, and

urged that a General Committee of the House, to which some business men might be appointed, might be set up, to consider such matters.

Mr. Runciman, defending the action of the Government, said that he felt that he ought to say a few words with regard to that, and the suggested prohibition of the export of cocoa. He thought he should inform the House that there was a difference in the sources of supply of these two commodities. He would ask hon. Members to bear in mind what were the supplies which were likely to reach Germany. He would point out that German supplies in the past had gone, not entirely, but to a large extent from countries over which we have no control. The goods supplied by the cocoa industry of Switzerland found a large consumption in Germany. There was a cocoa industry in Holland and Denmark, and in both cases the products were sold in normal times very largely in Germany. There had been undoubtedly a much greater purchasing of cocoa in Germany from these three sources than ever before in the history of the trade. They had had instances brought to their notice at the Board of Trade, not only of the ordinary purchases going on freely from Switzerland, but of wholesale commandeering immediately on the outbreak of the war of large quantities of cocoa in transit from Switzerland when passing through the strip of German territory just to the north of Basle. The cocoa trade was undoubtedly much more widespread than the sources from which tea was drawn. If they had prohibited the export of cocoa from this country they had no evidence to show that they would have injured a single German cocoa drinker, whereas there had been heavy exports of cocoa from this country to neutral countries, almost exclusively, and, as far as they could ascertain up to the present they had gone to those markets which would have been supplied from the neutral countries that had had their produce bought up at excessive prices by Germany and Austria. There had been a complete dislocation of trade, and owing to the high price paid in Germany and Austria there had been directed to these two consuming countries great quantities of cocoa that had in the past been produced in the neutral countries and disseminated over the northern countries of Europe, and to a smaller extent over the southern countries. If it became necessary to stop this export trade he feared that he could not take the advice of the Member for West Islington (Mr. Lough). It would not be possible to call into consultation before they took action those gentlemen interested in the business. They took the best means they could of obtaining information regarding the industry in this country, and they could assure the House that if they saw any sign of the cocoa industry in this country, either directly or indirectly, supplying the enemy, of which at present they had not evidence, they would without the least hesitation put a stop to the export of cocoa from this country, and take such steps as were necessary to secure the conviction of those who had traded with the enemy.

Mr. Chamberlain said the right hon. gentleman had spoken of our comparatively smaller control over the cocoa trade than over the tea trade. He did not know whether the right hon. gentleman had considered what influence he could bring to bear on the sources of supply. Tea was largely grown in Java, and cocoa was also grown in the tropical possessions of other countries than our own. Then it had to be borne in mind that if we supplied the vacuum in a neutral country created by the enemy's demand we were enabling the neutral country to supply the enemy with more cocoa than they could otherwise supply. He thought that point was worth attention. He also asked whether the Government had considered what their policy ought to be with regard to the importation of sugared goods. If sugar went from Austria or Germany to Switzerland to be used in manufactured goods which we then took in the form of chocolate, for instance, to that extent we defeated our own object.

Mr. Runciman said these prohibitions were not always exactly what they appeared to be on the surface. It was most inconvenient to discuss them in full detail in the House, but the Government would be delighted to have private conferences with the trades affected.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

SIR JOSEPH GODFREY, Surgeon-General of British Guiana, is about to take charge of a Red Cross hospital at Boulogne.

AMONG those who lost their lives by the sinking of the *Aboukir* was the Rev. E. G. U. Robson, brother of the Auditor-General of British Guiana.

MR. AND MRS. GORDON GORDON of Trinidad will be the recipients of many congratulations, with which we wish to associate ourselves most cordially, upon the birth of a son, which took place on November 27th.

A useful ready reckoner, (Dollars to Sterling and Sterling to Dollars), has been printed on stout card, eyeletted and strung, and can be obtained at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, post free, price 6d.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to say that slices of peeled limes bandaged to the forehead are an excellent cure for a headache. Will our readers tell us of any other convenient and interesting uses to which limes can be put?

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been: Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, Mr. F. N. Martinez, Mr. G. R. D. Rust, Mr. E. H. Grant, Mr. Julian Rust, and Mr. G. H. Pairaudau.

MAJOR-GENERAL F. W. N. McCracken, C.B., D.S.O., formerly of the Berkshire Regiment, who has been promoted for distinguished service in the field, was Deputy Assistant Adjutant General in Barbados from 1832 to 1837.

THE Very Rev. Dean Sloman, M.A., has been appointed Archdeacon of Demerara, in the place of Archdeacon Josa, who has retired. Dean Sloman, who is an Oxford man, was ordained in 1878, and went out to Demerara in 1884, as Principal of the East Indian Training College.

MISS MAV BRODIE, of Trinidad, who trained at the New York Hospital, and who held a responsible position in New York, is now doing Red Cross work with the American Ambulance Corps in Neuilly, near Paris. Miss Brodie's many friends in Grenada and Trinidad will be glad to hear she is helping in the noble work.

THE following telegram was sent by the Governor of British Guiana to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the occasion of the death of Lord Roberts:—

The Executive Council on behalf of the Colony wish to express deep regret with which the news of the death confirmed of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts has been received,

and the profound sense of gratitude which inhabitants of British Guiana in common with all British Colonial subjects feel for the eminent services rendered by the late Field-Marshal to the Empire during his long and invaluable connection with the Imperial Army.

THE amended specification for tobacco for the troops, issued by the War Office, to which reference was made in last CIRCULAR, is as follows:—

Strength. Medium.
Composition. A blend of tobaccos of sound American growth or grown in British Colonies or Protectorates from American seed.
Manufacture. To be cold pressed, straight cut unless otherwise stated.
Packing. On edge or on the flap, put up in 2 oz. or 4 oz. airtight tins fitted with some cutter or opener, the tins to be packed in strong wooden cases according to the War Department Specification.

THE gift of guava jelly made for the wounded by the women of St. Lucia has been distributed by the West India Committee. From the variety of tins used it would seem that the packing was done by the kindly donors. Each package bore an official label but several of the tins were embellished with the flags of the allies, and such sentiments as the following:—

There is no greater honour to a man than to suffer for the sake of that which he thinks to be righteous.

God bless the brave defenders of the honour and liberty of the British Empire.

We are members one of another. If one member suffer all the members suffer with it.

Strong reasons make strong actions. Courage and comfort! All shall yet go well!

The guava jelly was particularly good being light in colour and as clear as a bell.

In a letter published in the *Manchester Guardian* of November 11th, Mr. Guy Wyatt throws doubts on the prospects of a British beet sugar industry being a "paying proposition," and proceeds to urge the case for extending the colonial cane sugar industry.

With the Continental beet fields and factories suffering the infliction of war, the 1915 and 1916 crops must result in great shortage there, but present non-exportable stocks will make the position comfortable for Continental consumers up to the end of 1916. Admitting, under such circumstances, that there is special need for prompt Government action to ensure supplies for the United Kingdom, for the next two years and hereafter, from British sources, why do not the Liberal and Unionist parties agree at once to put back the 1908 import duties for twenty years, to 1935, on all foreign sugar, admitting British cane sugars free? This will do away with the risk of a State beet industry, encourage immediately private enterprise, and bring forth capital and labour to produce in the British tropics, near by, the 2,000,000 tons or more of the health-giving cane sugar required for British consumers, who will then ultimately get all duty free sugars. A very important point that seems to be entirely lost sight of is that, owing mainly to State aid on the Continent, the world's production of sugar at present exceeds the world's consumption. This alone accounts for private enterprise not entering the field to establish a British industry. What we have to aim at is gradually to substitute tropical British cane in place of foreign cane and foreign inferior beet, which can best be done on the lines put forward in the previous paragraph.

THE LONDON LETTER.

LITTLE change has taken place in the look of London during the last fortnight. In the daytime the streets are as crowded as usual, the underground railways and 'buses having their usual complement of passengers and the pavements their customary crowd. In fact, beyond the inevitable sentries by railway stations, bridges and public buildings, the prevalence of khaki in the streets and the prominence of the Red Cross Badge, there is little to show that a state of war exists.

* * *

At night the dimly-lighted streets recall the London of half a century back, and the early closing of public houses and restaurants produces at a comparatively early hour a feeling of virtuous loneliness little associated with the recent years of the Great City. Crime, judging from the records of the Police Courts, is at a low ebb. Special constables fill the gaps in the police force caused by the departure of the reservists for the front, and no astonishment is produced by the sudden apparition of a familiar friend with a badge of office round his arm, a strained look on his face, and a right hand firmly clutching a concealed truncheon.

* * *

THERE is, however, one condition which brings home at once at night time the overhanging peril. From time to time searchlights concentrate their rays on, and sweep, the sky, and we know that here and there in elevated places in the big city, watchful eyes are scanning the heavens, and hidden forces in the shape of suitably constructed guns are lying ready to deal with hostile aircraft. Of the men who, night and day, are at this work many are volunteers and in one busy centre of city life, city men—among whom is one well-known in connection with the West Indies—take their watch.

* * *

THE women of England, there is not the slightest doubt of it, are knitting. Evidence of it is afforded everywhere. In trains, in omnibuses, in theatres, and in homes, woollen articles, some of weird design, are to be seen in the course of construction, for the soldiers at the front. How many of these will reach their destination? It is to be hoped that the experience of the Boer war, where the side-tracking of gifts was the order of the day, will not be repeated. The organisation of supplies for the front has, however, been so admirably conducted up to now, that it may be expected that our forces will gain the full benefit of the material results of the anxious care of the women of England.

* * *

THE spirit of the nation is showing itself in its usual independent manner. All over the country, men, who from age or claims are prevented from joining the regular or territorial forces, have banded themselves together for the defence of the country. Over a million men are devoting themselves to

drilling, shooting, and the cultivation of the other arts of war to this end. Naturally much of the work goes on after the day's labours, and it is a common thing to see, in the misty darkness of a November evening, bands of men of all ages and of all classes quietly contributing their quota of duty to the Mother Country.

* * *

To such an extent has the movement grown that the Government are recognising it as an important factor in national defence. It is not proposed to place this auxiliary force on an army footing, but to give each force an independent existence after the manner of a Boer Commando. Badges will be given the members of the force by the Government which will legalize their position as combatants, and protect them from being shot, if taken prisoners, as *franc-tireurs*.

* * *

THE sudden stoppage of the supply of Continental beet sugar has brought home to us the danger of not having a sugar supply of our own. Mr. Robertson-Scott, in some trenchant articles in the *Nineteenth Century*, has strongly advocated State-run sugar factories in this country; but, although the Government has shown an active desire to strengthen and establish British industries, it is extremely doubtful that they will commit themselves to such a step without further evidence as to suitability of a beet sugar industry to home agricultural conditions.

* * *

WHERE so much individual bravery has been shown—it would seem from the accounts of brave deeds which flood the papers that each one of our soldiers is a hero—to particularise is invidious. The recent testimony of a soldier in the firing line to the bravery of an officer belonging to a family associated for many years with the West Indies, shows that the old British spirit still exists in our officers. Sir Philip Chetwode, the son-in-law of Colonel the Hon. R. S. Stapleton Cotton, is described as strolling among the trenches, in the midst of a storm of shot and shell, puffing his cigarette as calmly as if he were in Hyde Park.

* * *

COLLECTORS of curios will be interested in the fate of the first £1 Treasury note issued at the commencement of the war. The possessor hit upon the happy idea of offering it for sale to the highest bidder, the proceeds to go to the funds of the Red Cross Society. As a result the sum of £135 was realised. Had the matter been left over a little time longer a larger sum would have been received, £155 having been offered after the transaction had been completed.

* * *

THE National Relief Fund continues to increase in a most gratifying manner, upwards of £3,972,000 having now been placed to its credit. With the colonial subscriptions now coming forward it should soon pass the £4,000,000 mark.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

ON the subject of poultry, the Journal of the Jamaica Agriculture Society states that one of the best foods for fattening is the ripe banana. Fowls like bananas; the fruit is easily digested, and gives the flesh a good flavour. Associated with coco-nuts, bananas form a splendid well-balanced ration for fowls, which not only put on flesh under this diet, but flesh of an epicurean quality.

* * *

THE value of the Dwarf, Cavendish or Chinese banana—to give it its various names—is not fully realised on account of its not being required for shipment abroad. As it will grow on steep hillsides, and on poorer land than shipping varieties, it forms an extremely useful food for local purposes. The Journal of the Jamaica Agricultural Society states that in one instance where it was planted in every corner on steep hillsides among rocks, bunches of bananas were yielded all the year round.

* * *

In preparing oil from the cus-cus grass (*Andropogon Muricatus*), the oil is steam-distilled from roots which have been thoroughly macerated in water. The light oils come over first, the heavy oils afterwards. These oils can be separated by using a steam jacketed still, with steam at a pressure of 10 pounds on the square inch, until no more oil comes over. The heavy oil is then obtained by passing steam at a high pressure directly into the retort. One per cent. of oil should be obtained.

* * *

MR. LEWTON-BRAIN, in his report on the subject of the cultivation of coco-nuts in the Federated Malay States, cautions growers against too rapid development. Efficiency and economy, he says, should never be sacrificed to rapidity. He advocates the growing of coffee, preferably Liberian, as an inter-crop. As regards soil, whereas rubber grows well and affords satisfactory yields on almost any class of soil, the coco-nut, he goes on to say, is much more fastidious. While a yearly yield of 20 nuts per tree may be taken as the average, 80, or even 100, nuts are not uncommon.

At a meeting of the Agricultural Society of Barbados on October 30th, Mr. J. R. Bovell mentioned that the Governor had been making enquiries regarding the suitability of the "Caterpillar Tractor" as a means of transport on the local sugar estates. It is claimed for it that it can be driven over "sand, soft land, mud, rough ground, irrigation ditches, hills and hollows." If we are not mistaken this form of tractor is in use at the front.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The news received from the West Indies by the homeward mail is on the whole quite favourable. There were no signs of the severe economic disturbance which many had feared might result from the war. With various crop seasons approaching matters agricultural were engaging attention, which since August had been completely monopolised by the war. Keen disappointment was still felt at the refusal of the War Office to accept a West Indian contingent for active service, and this will, no doubt, be accentuated when it is learnt that one is to be sent from Fiji. Still the West Indies have sent many to the front and others are now being trained in "Kitchener's Army." From Bermuda Dr. Bluck writes of the arrangements being made to ensure a successful tourist season, and his remarks regarding advertising the colony are worthy of consideration in the West Indian colonies, where altogether too little is now being done in this direction. The following notes are extracted from the letters of the Hon. Correspondents of the West India Committee received by the R.M.S.P. *Danube*, which left Barbados on November 11th.

ANTIGUA—An Anglo-German Romance.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, NOVEMBER 7th.—The weather still continues very dry, and also hot and close. But no rain of any consequence falls and the canes are consequently suffering very much, and the crop next year is bound to be a short one. Local showers are falling, but they are too little to force growth; so the young ratoon canes are very low. Onion planting has begun—the seed beds were looking fine, but more rain was wanted to ensure growth after transplanting. We have lately had a German, Mr. Teetze, detained here; yesterday his engagement to a young lady was announced. To-day he has been arrested and deported to Trinidad, where he will be better cared for.

BARBADOS—No Coal for Alien Enemies.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., NOVEMBER 9th.—The opinion is now general that on no account should the enemy be allowed to take coal or be allowed to land at Barbados if we can with our force possibly prevent it. This strengthens the hands of the Defence Committee. We get good news of the Allies and are very proud of our "contemptible little army." We are grieved at the news of the sinking of the *Good Hope* and *Monmouth*, as we looked on them as more particularly our ships. We have had nice showers, and the crop is promising.

Regarding the weather and crop prospects the mail edition of the *Barbados Advocate* says: The fortnight has been a favourable one agriculturally. October yielded but little rain in the northern parishes; but Christ Church and the central parishes were fairly served. November has been showery but very hot also. The 1916 crop is being planted in some parishes, and everywhere preparations have been completed. The canes are arrowing freely and are putting on length of joints. It is not expected that reaping opera-

tions will be started until next year in order to give the canes time to recover from the set back by the drought; but in the meanwhile the factories are being put in order. At Wakefield, St. John's, property of Mr. Taylor, a small factory purchased from St. Croix is being erected.

On November 3rd the House of Assembly voted additional grants for military expenditure. At a meeting of the policy holders of the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society £1,000 was voted towards the Belgian Relief Fund. Mr. W. L. C. Phillips, in an eloquent speech outlined the state of affairs resulting from the war. Mr. C. D. Bascom, owner of Bagatelle and Chance Hall plantations in St. Thomas, died on October 31st.

BERMUDA—Proposals for Advertising the Colony.

DR. W. CARDY BLUCK, NOVEMBER 9th.—The most important local matter that has transpired since my last letter is the report of the Trade Development Board to the Governor on the subject of advertising the colony in the past and the prospects of the future. An influential sub-committee have spent a fortnight in New York going very thoroughly into the affair, and on their return have presented the result of their labours in a series of letters from advertising agents and firms interested in Bermuda passenger transportation. The present uncertainty prevailing has prevented any definite recommendation being made, but the work is still going on, and the report is now being considered by the Legislature. Much interest attaches to a letter from Messrs. Sanderson & Son, who stated that most of the steamship agents to whom they had spoken expected travel to Bermuda this winter to be good. They recommended that a considerable amount of advertising should be done from early November, reaching the climax in December and January, and that an appropriation should be made to cover the six months from November to April. These remarks were based on the assumption that one Royal Mail steamer and one Quebec steamer would be running during January, February, March, and April, and one if not two of these vessels during December. Later Messrs. Sanderson & Son wrote that on the assumption that they were running one steamer on a 10 day schedule during December on a joint account with the Quebec Co. and the *Arcadian* independently on a weekly schedule during January, February, March and April, they would be prepared to contribute to the joint advertising fund of the Bermuda Trade Development Board, Quebec December \$1,200, January \$2,000, February, \$1,000, March \$750, April \$500, for specific kinds of advertising; but they recommended the Board to make an appropriation equal to that of the steamship lines during the first three months of the period mentioned.

The Committee came to the conclusion that "a concentrated and consolidated campaign including the Colonial grant and the appropriations of all the steamship companies operating on the New York-Bermuda route would be far more productive of results than can be obtained in any other way, but nothing can be done along these lines until it is finally determined as to the course of action to be taken by the Bermuda-American S.S. Co. We have, therefore, not been able to finally settle on any definite plan of action, to be set in motion by a cable from Bermuda. We would recommend for serious consideration by the Board, the question of the publication of a Government booklet giving authoritative information respecting Bermuda."

The information contained in the above gives hope that an attempt will be made later on to better the transportation service and the advertising question will naturally improve with it.

BRITISH GUIANA—Dean Sloman appointed Archdeacon.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, NOVEMBER 7th.—Excellent rains, which were much needed, have fallen. The War Relief Fund has reached the sum of £39,217. A meeting of the Court of Policy has been held at which a Bill to prevent trading with the enemy was passed. A Review and Assault at Arms of the Local Forces has taken place at Belair, the proceeds being devoted to the War Relief Fund. A small steamer attempted recently to enter the harbour after dark, but a shell having been fired across her bows, she turned round and disappeared. Her identity is not known. Mr. A. P. Sherlock has been elected President, and Mr. G. R. Garnett, Vice-President of the British Guiana Political Association. Dean Sloman had been appointed Archdeacon of Demerara.

DOMINICA—Heavy Rains Hinder Cacao Drying.

MR. E. A. AGAR, NOVEMBER 6th.—For the past week we have been having extremely wet weather accompanied by an unusual amount of thunder. Cacao drying has been a difficult matter.

GRENADA—£948 Collected for the Relief Funds.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, NOVEMBER 9th.—Mr. J. C. Moore, our new Superintendent of Agriculture arrived on October 26th. I understand that Mr. Arthur Ross has been appointed manager of the Diamond Estate in St. Mark's. The shipments of cacao to date are 3,464 bags. In the corresponding period of 1913, they were 1,004 bags, so that we are now 2,460 bags more, a small difference in favour of this year. In round figures £948 has been collected for the Prince of Wales' Fund and Red Cross Society, namely, Prince of Wales' Fund £692, Red Cross Society £256.

JAMAICA—A New Tourist Service for the Island.

The United Fruit Company have decided to start a special tourist steamship service between New York and the West Indies. A visit to Santiago de Cuba is part of the itinerary, and the Quarantine Board have agreed to waive the restrictions against the Cuban port on the understanding that the visit is only to be between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., and that no fresh passengers or cargo are to be taken on board. Further, the carrying of the passengers to and from the shore was to be done by the steamer's boats. The serious drought in the Pen district had broken, and good rain had fallen.

NEVIS—The Break up of the Drought.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, NOVEMBER 7th.—You will be pleased to learn that the drought has at last broken up, and copious showers are received daily, just in time to relieve a situation that was becoming difficult.

ST. KITTS—Seasonable Showers Falling at last.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, NOVEMBER 14th.—You will be glad to hear that we have had seasonable showery weather generally all over the island during the fortnight. I have measured here 5.52, which I believe is rather below the average. Advanced fields for 1915 in many instances have felt the severe drought too severely to make any recovery; but these rains will materially improve the later fields for 1915 crop. A very successful gymkhana held at Government House on the 28th ult. realised £23 for the Belgian Relief Fund. Two concerts have also been held this week.

ST. LUCIA—Trade with alien enemies stopped.

HON. G. S. HUDSON, NOVEMBER 7th.—The last week has been true November weather, with heavy and continuous rain and thunderstorms, but not sufficient to cause damage. Cacao pickings have been small for the past fortnight, but

there will be a large amount of cacao ripe at the end of the month, and the lime crop still continues. The annual report of the St. Lucia Agricultural Department for 1912-13 has just been issued, and it is full of useful information more especially in regard to the cost and details of working of the Government Lime Factory at Castries. The reduced loss of citric acid by concentrating the juice in wooden vats heated by copper steam coils confirms the evidence from private estates on the desirability of this method over open *tayche* boiling. Summarized the machinery and building cost £500, and is capable of producing 40 to 60 gallons of highly concentrated juice per 8 hours' day. The total payments to vendors averaged 5s. 8½d. per barrel of fruit and 8½d. per gallon of raw juice (this refers to last year's crop and prices—during the present year prices will be much higher). [A summary of the report to which Mr. Hudson refers was given in CIRCULAR 420, page 514]. At a Legislative Council meeting on the 2nd presided over by the Acting Commissioner, an Ordinance prohibiting trading with British enemies was passed, also a vote of £2,000 for war expenses.

ST. VINCENT—A cordial welcome for Mr. & Mrs. Murray.

MR. W. N. SANDS, NOVEMBER 8th.—Mr. F. Birkinshaw left a few days before I returned to the island, having been granted two months leave of absence before he proceeds to Mauritius as an Inspector of Agriculture. The Administrator and Mrs. Murray received a most enthusiastic welcome on their return. The weather has been wet recently, though the last few days have been fine and warm. The Administrator is to preside at a meeting of planters on Wednesday next to discuss the agricultural situation in view of present war crisis and future prospects of agriculture generally. It is hoped that ways and means will be found of tiding over successfully some months at least.

TOBAGO—A concert in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, NOVEMBER 7th.—During the fortnight the weather has been most favourable for our growing crops and cacao planters look forward to good pickings in December. The spurt in prices locally was welcome, although it is not likely to last unless war conditions change. Coco-nuts are quoted \$13 to \$5 for selects and culls, but copra at 3½c. pays better, and most Tobago nuts will be made into the latter till the market improves. Red Cross concerts are being held in the country districts, and over \$300 was collected for this fund in October. Scarborough is arranging for a concert in aid of the Belgians for whom the greatest sympathy is expressed. Let us hope that in due time the Kaiser will be made to pay twice over—nationally and personally—for the terrible ruin wrought on that country.

TRINIDAD—Several German firms closed down.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, NOVEMBER 10th.—A bombshell exploded in the German camp here on the 31st October in the shape of a proclamation by the Governor that "from this date it is absolutely prohibited for any business to be carried on in the colony by, or on behalf of, any alien enemy, etc." This was followed by the immediate seizure of the premises and assets of seven German firms, viz., Wessels, Bros., and Von Gontard, Schjølseth and Holler, Max Reimer, Hugo Hoffmann, Paul H. Scheerer and Co., The English Pharmacy (run by a German called Meyers), and the German Kali Works Agency. These stores were placed in charge of receivers appointed by a liquidating committee nominated by the Governor. All amounts realised are to be deposited in the Treasury to be dealt with as directed by the Governor.

All Germans of a fighting age have been arrested and

placed with the other prisoners of war at the St. James' Barracks. Those over 45 years of age are or will be deported so soon as opportunity offers. This action which the community has been calling for some time, meets universal approval from everyone excepting, it is presumed, those specially interested, the alien enemies. It was about time they were no longer exposed to the temptation of mischief, if indeed they have not already succumbed to it. The loss of the fine steamer *Vandyck* bound for and within a few days of Trinidad, came as a shock, after the recent loss of the *Indian Prince* under similar circumstances. However, we are still not downhearted, notwithstanding that the news of the disaster off Chili has also reached us. We know that it is only a matter of time and that the British ships will get their own again. The Indian population is very enthusiastic over the achievements of their countrymen in France, and well they may be.

San Fernando was always progressive and sound, but it has of late enjoyed a special awakening. This was the result of the official duties of Dr. Perez being transferred to that Borough, together with the residence of himself and wife. As a matter of course when the Red Cross Fund was started in town Mrs. Perez was selected as the Naparima representative, and equally as a matter of course she threw herself heart and soul into the good work. Needless to say she has collected and handed in more than any other to whom the task has been entrusted, and has worked up the whole countryside into enthusiasm, if they did not feel it before, for the cause. Her last effort was a Grand National Concert in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund, held on the 6th inst. The house was crowded to overflowing. The Belgian consul was patron. Mrs. Perez herself conducted. Every item on the programme was excellent, and the whole thing went with a "go," and without undue waits which helped to unqualified success. The whole was thoroughly enjoyable, and I do not propose to single out any part where all was so good, but reference must be made to one song which brought the house down, not only because the author was who she was, but because of its intrinsic merit, and admirable rendering. It was called "A new version of the rebel Fenian song," inspired by recent events, and the fighting together of British and Irish. May I quote one verse:

"When this bloody war is past,
And the world's at peace at last,
Will our English and our Scottish brethren, too,
Kindly think of our Green Land,
And stretch forth a friendly hand,
For the Irishmen, loyal, brave and true?"

A splendid addition to Patriotic Funds is the result.

To-day the Committee of the Patriotic Fund remit £10,000 for the Prince of Wales's Fund; the Red Cross Committee have remitted £2,400; and the *Port of Spain Gazette* Widows' and Orphans' Fund, £2,000. The Belgian Relief Fund stands at about £750.

The shipments of Trinidad cacao during month of October were as follows:—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	610,634
B.N. America	20,060
B.W. Indies	1,600
Holland	1,232
United States of America	240,522
Total for October	874,048
Shipped previously	59,870,509
Total from 1st January	60,745,517

To same date, 1913	...	...	...	45,780,272
" " 1912	...	...	...	40,143,025
" " 1911	...	...	...	42,127,478
" " 1910	...	...	...	49,332,789
" " 1909	...	...	...	41,367,387
" " 1908	...	...	...	37,020,821
" " 1907	...	...	...	35,052,616

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants," Crossed cheques or P.O. Orders, should be made payable to the Manager, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

BIRTH.

Gordon—On November 27th, at Redhill House, North Havant, Hants, the wife of Mr. William Gordon Gordon of Knowsley House, Queen's Park, Trinidad, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

Bowen-Haynes.—On November 21st at All Saints Church, Port of Spain, Trinidad, B. W. I., by the Venerable Archdeacon Homborsley, Harry Townsend Bowen, son of the late Aderderley Bowen, of Penang, and of Mrs. Bowen, England, to Medea, only daughter of the late John Haynes, and of Mrs. Haynes, of Trinidad.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

Ste Madeleine Sugar Company, Ltd.

The Directors in the first annual report of this Company which was incorporated on July 16th, 1913, recall the fact that of the capital of £150,000, the sum of £50,000 was allocated in fully paid shares of £1 each, in payment of the purchase of the properties to be acquired, the remaining £100,000 being offered for subscription, this amount to be available for working capital. The company entered into possession in July, 1913, but the legal formalities of the transfer have not even yet been entirely carried through, so that the 50,000 shares still remain unallotted. It is expected that the formalities will be completed shortly, when allotment will be duly made. The 100,000 shares were duly subscribed, 10s. per share has been called up and paid in cash. Further calls will be made if money is required, but this is not likely to be the case at present. The Vendor Company [the New Colonial Company, Ltd.], carried on an Agency business in Port of Spain, but it is doubtful if any real profit accrued therefrom. As it involved considerable expenditure of time and energy to work it properly, situated as it was at forty miles distance from the factory and estates, the Board decided not to continue it, and have sold the town premises and lighters for the sum of £8,788 18s. 9d. This sale has not impaired the earning power of the properties generally, probably the reverse, and accordingly the price has not been written off the original £50,000, but it is proposed to deal with it as mentioned below. The Estate of Picton, at one time belonging to the former company, but latterly held by other owners, was offered for sale, and the Board has acquired it, its possession being desirable in order to ensure the continuance of the supply of its canes to the factory.

The canes crushed during the year amounted to 97,174 tons from the company's estates (4,697 acres reaped) and 60,491 tons from outside estates and farmers, total 157,665 tons. The sugar produced was 15,721 tons, being 9.97 per cent on the canes. Various adverse circumstances have prevented the first year of the Company's work being a representative year. The crops suffered much from the absence of manure and from the limitation of estate work to a minimum during the three important months that elapsed between the appointment of a receiver for the former company and the incorporation of this company, added to which the rainfall for the year was very short, 42.46 inches against a normal of 65 to 70 inches. These

circumstances resulted in the company's estate canes falling seriously short of what the land should produce in normal years. Also the price of sugar ruled £2 per ton below the average of the seven previous years. Further, a large proportion of the canes on the estates was found to be of an undesirable description, with low sugar content. These will be eradicated, and good varieties introduced in their place.

The Profit and Loss Account shows a surplus of £5,806 3s. 11d. The Directors recommend the payment of a dividend equivalent to 6 per cent. per annum on the capital paid up, in accordance with Article of Association No. 156, this amounting to £5,181 13s. 6d. and that £624 10s. 5d. be carried forward, also that the sum of £8,788 18s. 9d., being the proceeds of the sale of the town premises and lighters referred to above, be carried to Reserve Fund. In view of the low price of sugar and the unfavourable circumstances of the year, the Directors are of opinion that the results show that the enterprise is thoroughly sound, and warrant the expectation that, under normal conditions, the company should earn a very substantial profit. The reports of the growing crop are favourable, and a sale of the company's output of sugar up to 31st March next has been made on advantageous terms, the price of sugar having advanced greatly since exports from Germany and Austria have been prevented by the war. Mr. Thomson Aikman resigned his seat on the Board some time since, and it is not proposed to fill the vacancy at present.

Presiding at the Annual General Meeting on November 24th, Mr. G. Moody Stuart, Chairman, said that what they had learned from the first year had entirely confirmed the anticipations formed before they ventured on the undertaking. Any feeling of uncertainty, and there was always something of this in the untried, had been dissipated. He spent between three and four months at Ste Madeleine last winter and found that many things had suffered from want of proper up-keep as was doubtless inevitable during recent years owing to the financial difficulties under which the former owners had been labouring. What specially required attention was buildings of all sorts, roofs and other parts, some of the minor parts of the factory plant, also the railway permanent way and rolling stock. These were being brought into good order. Much could be done for a moderate sum, but the railway permanent way and rolling stock would require considerable expenditure for some years, and this was the case also with various estate buildings.

The main parts of the plant and machinery were quite up to expectations. The report received from Mr. Claude T. Berthon, their consulting engineer, before the purchase was concluded, was that the factory, with some outlay on renewals, was capable of doing satisfactory work, and experience had quite confirmed this. In fact, he, the speaker, was agreeably surprised to find it in many ways so well fitted out. A good deal of the plant was in good working order.

Turning to the estates, in that district there had been no ploughing or tillage by implements drawn by animals, and (partly in consequence of this) the soil had had little pen manure. The field labour had been entirely hand labour, every foot of these thousands of acres having been turned over by the fork, very laborious and very costly work, so laborious that it could not all be done at the proper time, nor done thoroughly. Then, again, to make up for the want of pen manure, a large quantity of sulphate of ammonia and other artificial manures had been given. He believed the land had suffered from too much of these, especially as it had never been limed, except on one estate. But the estates, though they had suffered from the causes mentioned, were, on the whole, as regards their natural conditions, better than had been expected, and with pen manure, lime, and thorough tillage, most, if not all, of the cane land can be brought into good bearing, and any portion that could not would have to be thrown out.

They had spent about £3,000 in the past year on the purchase of live stock, and something on building and

repairing pens to conserve manure—all of which had been charged to the year's working expenses. Similar expenditure, though not to the same extent, would have to be made for some years. They had also made a satisfactory start in horse-hoeing, or rather mule-hoeing, and in ploughing—not an easy task when the man behind the plough and the oxen in front were new to the work. Still they had ploughed a very considerable acreage satisfactorily, and were pressing on with the training of more men and more oxen for the work.

The records of former years showed that on average about two tons sugar per acre had been produced, and they had believed that this could be increased, partly by agricultural changes and partly by a better system of factory work. Indeed, it was this yield and the good hope of increasing it that made the enterprise attractive. Now after a year's experience they felt justified in reckoning on $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons of sugar per acre in normal years, with a good hope of rising to $2\frac{3}{4}$ tons. After deducting factory expenses, this might be taken as equivalent to £15 or £16 per acre, which would leave a margin for profit. In Germany they raised $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons and in Austria $1\frac{1}{4}$ tons sugar per acre, and the cost of labour in these countries was probably quite as high as in Trinidad. It was difficult to compare one country with another, when so many of the conditions of the industry were so different, but starting with 40 or 50 per cent more sugar per acre than beet growers, they need not fear their competition. Cane cultivation was very expensive and very short crops meant big cash deficits. So to be safe one must have money enough to carry through bad times. Their capital was sufficient for ordinary times, and they had started a Reserve Fund from the sale of assets that they did not require.

With regard to oil on their estates, he could not say in the least what the prospects were. The more hopeful district lay to the south of their land. But one of the big syndicates was now making borings on their ground near San Fernando, as there seemed reason to hope for oil there. If they were successful they would have a revenue from royalties, much or little according to the measure of their success. They did not propose to carry on any oil work themselves, but they gladly gave facilities to those whose business it was.

The West India and Panama Telegraph Co.

The Directors submitting the Accounts for the six months ended 30th June, 1914, and Balance Sheet stated that the amount to credit of revenue is £41,482 9s. 8d., against £15,534 5s. for the corresponding half-year of 1913, and the expenses have been £26,900 4s. 10d., against £26,260 11s. 6d. The result is, therefore, a balance of £14,582 4s. 10d., to which is added £1,724 5s. 7d. interest on investments, and £1,905 2s. 11d. brought forward from last account, making an available total of £18,211 13s. 4d. The Directors propose that this amount be dealt with as follows: Dividend, 6 months to 30th June, 6s. per share on the first preference shares (£10,368 18s.); dividend, 6 months to 30th June, 6s. per share on second preference shares (£1,400 14s.); and 1s. 3d. per share (free of Income Tax) on the ordinary shares (£6,520 1s. 3d.), leaving a balance to current half-year's account of £922 0s. 1d.

The traffic receipts for the six months show a decrease of £4,482 6s. 1d. as compared with those for the corresponding period, arising to a great extent from the competition at Porto Rico referred to in the last Report. The Directors proceed to refer to the conclusion of the negotiations with the Imperial and Canadian Governments for a reduction of message rates, adding that the reduced rates came into operation on October 1st, from which date the new subsidy of £16,000 a year became payable by the Imperial and Canadian Governments, the West Indies continuing to contribute £10,300 per annum for ten years. The Danish islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix have also renewed their subsidies, amounting to £800 a year, for a period of 10 years, in consideration of a reduction in tariffs, which became effective from the 1st October.

The 5th Ordinary General Meeting was held on November 25th, Mr. Walter Bishop Kingsford presiding. The Chair-

man, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, expressed great regret at the retirement, after 40 years' service, of Mr. Robert T. Brown, the late manager and secretary, and warmly testified to the services which had been rendered to the company by that gentleman both abroad and in London. Mr. Quick had been appointed manager and accountant, and Mr. Winsor secretary, both of whom had had about 40 years' experience of the company's affairs. He (the speaker) had again visited the company's stations in the West Indies, and the shareholders would be glad to know that his visit had been a satisfactory one. He had found that the company's business at their various stations was being conducted with great attention and efficiency. The reduction of rates came into operation on the 1st ult., but it was too early yet to say what the result of the first month's working would prove to be, nor could he forecast, as he generally did, the result of the traffic receipts for the current half-year up to the present time. For the month of July, however, they were about the same as in the corresponding period of last year. In August and September, owing to the war, the volume of traffic was very largely in excess of that of the corresponding months in any previous year since the Spanish-American War in 1898, but until all their returns were received it would be somewhat haphazard to say what the effect would be. On the other hand, their working expenses would be in excess of what they usually were. The company's British stations had been practically taken over by the Government, and were required to be kept open day and night without intermission. He could not speak too highly of the willingness with which their officials had accommodated themselves to the unusual circumstances which had been forced upon them. He concluded by proposing the adoption of the report and the declaration of the dividends therein recommended.

Mr. George von Chauvin seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously; and the sum of 200 guineas was voted to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund.

WEATHER TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received regarding the weather in the West Indies:—

British Guiana (The Demerara Co., Ltd.), November 25th. "Rain wanted." (Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), November 30th. "Weather dry." **Jamaica** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.) Week ended November 11th. PORT ANTONIO, 5th to 6th "Fine." 7th "Rain." 8th to 10th "Fine." 11th "Rain." KINGSTON, 5th to 9th "Fine." 10th "Rain." 11th "Fine." **Turks Island** (The Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.) November 11th "Very unsettled weather since 1st inst. Last 24 hours 2.95 precipitation registered. Northern portion of the island one huge swamp. Heavy rains throughout whole dependency.

COTTON growers in Montserrat continue to contemplate the present economic position philosophically. On September 19th an address on the agricultural prospects of the island was delivered by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture at the request of the Commissioner of the Presidency. There is some likelihood that the area under Indian corn will be extended in this and other islands within the next six months. In this connection it may be mentioned that a pamphlet on Indian corn is now being published by the Imperial Department. This institution has also issued a valuable pamphlet on cotton growing, a companion to the well-known brochure on lime cultivation which met with such a favourable reception in the West Indies and in other parts of the world.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Danube, (Captain H. J. Bennett), Tilbury, London, Nov. 25th:—

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|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. & Mrs. A. Campbell | Mrs. Glendonning | Mr. E. C. O'Brien |
| Mr. R. Morrison | Misses Glendonning (2) | Mrs. A. Ozzard |
| Dr. N. Walmsley | Mr. R. Hadley | Mr. T. Poulsen |
| Mr. W. Adams | Mr. W. B. Hanmann | Mr. & Mrs. R. D. Philpott |
| Capt. C. Andrews | Mr. A. E. Johnson | Mr. J. Roberts |
| Mr. J. Baldwin | Mr. E. Jones | Miss V. Rome |
| Mr. & Miss Bushe | Mr. A. Kenope | Mr. J. Skelly |
| Dr. C. R. H. von Braun | Mr. W. Luggie | Mr. R. N. Savory |
| Mrs. S. V. Brodell | Mr. J. A. M. Lawrence | Miss L. S. Sharp |
| Mr. W. J. Cann | Mr. P. D. McCanechy | Mr. J. Thompson |
| Mr. P. Cassidy | Mr. W. J. Mitchell | Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Watson |
| Mr. C. Doherty | Mr. A. N. MacKay | Misses Watson (2) |
| Lady Eve | Mr. J. McMillan | Mr. J. Wilson |
| Mr. H. F. H. Eve | Mr. J. McPherson | |
| Mrs. A. Fry | | |

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Mr. A. K. Agar | Mr. J. Gillespie | Mr. C. W. Prest |
| Mr. A. F. Anderson | Mr. G. Graf | Mr. G. Railton |
| Mr. G. H. Arthur | Mr. John T. Grex | Mr. W. C. Robertson |
| Mr. G. Auchinleck | Hon. E. A. H. Hagkart | His Honour Mr. Justice P. M. C. Sheriff |
| His Honour T. A. V. Best | Mr. A. T. Hammond | Mr. A. S. Kernahan |
| Mr. Geoffrey Brooke | Mr. A. H. Kirby | Mr. A. H. Kirby |
| Mr. G. S. Browne | Mr. J. F. Loader | His Grace The Archbishop of the West Indies and Mr. A. H. Wright |
| Mr. A. Campbell | Hon. J. Challoner Lynch | |
| Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa | Mr. J. A. Madewick | |
| Mr. A. Cory Davies | Mr. C. H. McLean | |
| Mr. W. M. Fletcher | Mr. H. P. C. Melville | |
| Mr. M. A. French, J.P. | Mr. G. M. Peter | |

- Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane Great Tower Street, E.C.
- Private R. A. Delafons, No. 1 Company, 3rd Battalion, U. and P. S. Force, Epsom.
- Mr. Frank Gill, c/o Messrs. Smith Bros. & Co., 25, Fore Street Avenue, E.C.
- Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o Messrs. Courts & Co., 440, Strand, W.C.
- Rev. F. H. Hammond, 10, Chapel Street, Warwick.
- Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Sreatham Hill, S.W.
- Major G. H. E. Marescaux, Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, S.W.
- Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
- Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Paicaudeau, 35, Leinster Square, Bayswater, W.
- Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, W., Helensburgh, Scotland.
- Mr. F. J. Morris, 4, Camden Gardens, N.W.
- Mr. L. F. Nourse, 32, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.
- Mr. Julian G. Rust, c/o Messrs. Previte & Co., 2, Crosby Square, F. C.
- Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E.C.
- Mr. F. B. B. Shand, 5, Pump Court, Temple, E. C.

SAILINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Danube, (Captain Barrett), Dec. 2nd:—

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sir Charles & Lady Cox | Mrs. Cassels (2) | Mr. A. Milne |
| Mr. and Mrs. Mewburn Garnett | Mrs. T. Clemetti | Miss G. Layne |
| Mr. and Mrs. R. S. D. Goodwin | Miss K. Arthur | Mr. J. C. Culpeter |
| Mr. C. Flannigan | Mrs. Chaloner | Mrs. R. Garnett |
| Mr. & Mrs. E. H. Grant | Rev. & Mrs. J. B. Hill | Misses Garnett (2) |
| Mr. J. P. Matthews | Dr. & Mrs. T. C. Orford | Miss I. Hawkins |
| Mr. G. P. Portbury | Rev. Robert M. Young | Mr. M. Duran |
| Mr. H. Dah | Mr. Wm. S. Weston | Mrs. Enptage |
| Rev. H. C. Shepherd | Miss S. R. Bladen | Rev. Father F. G. Vermeiron |
| Mr. J. Gonsalves | Messrs. J. & W. Lessey | |
| Mr. G. Wilkinson | Mrs. R. Tullock | Mrs. and Mrs. J. E. Davison |
| Rev. G. A. Lowe | Mr. J. A. Bayly | Miss M. L. Benjamin |
| Mr & Mrs. H. Cassels | Mr. F. B. Freise | |
| | Mr. Arthur Haycock | |
| | Misses Haycock (2) | |

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Tagus, Dec. 16th:—

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Mr. H. P. C. Melville | Mr. & Mrs. F. Fowler | Mr. Mullin |
| Mr. James Peet | Mr. A. B. Sayles | Mr. A. C. V. Prior |
| Mr. & Mrs. G. M. Peter | Mrs. & Miss M. Cameron | Mr. S. L. James |
| Mr. Thomas Fraser | Mr. & Mrs. L. Mills | Dr. & Mrs. W. G. Reath |
| Mr. & Mrs. E. F. Stone | Mrs. Mullin | Miss B. Denehy |
| Misses Stone (2) | Miss C. Mullin | |

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Trent, Dec. 30th:—

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Mr. and Mrs. R. E. L. Winter | Miss A. Nicholson | Mrs. A. Grey |
| | Dr. & Mrs. Darwent | Mr. H. P. Tiger |

The Booker Line.—SAILING FROM LIVERPOOL TO DEMERARA per S.S. Imataka, Nov. 28th:—

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Mr. A. H. Baker | Mr. L. S. Dougall | Miss N. Francis |
| Miss H. Brentnall | Miss A. L. Collier | Mrs. C. W. Widdup |
| Mr. & Mrs. J. Schulz | Miss D. Dougall | |

Elders & Fyffes, Ltd.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM PORT, LIMON, COLON AND KINGSTON, JAMAICA, per S.S. Chagres, (Captain S. H. Simmons), Nov. 23rd:—

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr. D. Reece | Mr. D. Stanton | Mr. C. Bentley |
| Mr. W. E. Taylor | Mr. H. Loughlin | Capt. J. Roberts |
| Mrs. R. Woolridge | Mr. Frank Gibbs | Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Harrison |
| Mr. R. L. Hart | Mr. and Mrs. W. MacCausline | Mr. H. Kemble |
| Mr. R. H. Bulkeley | Miss N. Mitchell | Mr. M. Wortley |
| Mr. C. H. Canning | Mr. A. W. Gibson | Mr. W. J. Heppel |
| Miss M. Cover | Mr. F. Tolleton | Miss M. Heppel |
| Mr. W. D. Moore | Mr. A. Brierly | Mr. P. MacGregor |
| Mr. J. Barclay | Mr. G. W. C. Mills | |
| Mr. A. Mira | Mr. G. Hillier | |
| Mr. E. Chutterback | | |

SAILINGS FROM AVONMOUTH TO KINGSTON, JAMAICA, per S.S. Chagres, (Captain S. H. Simmons), Dec. 7th:—

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs. E. Jonas | Mr. H. E. P. Sibthorpe | Miss H. Turner |
| Misses Jonas (2) | Mr. F. A. Bond | Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Smith |
| Rev. & Mrs. J. Prentice | Mr. G. E. Farr | |
| Rev. & Mrs. T. Redpath | Mr. A. J. Bailey | Miss C. Myers |
| Mr. and Mrs. E. Walworth | Mr. A. T. Woodhams | Colonel C. Kitchenor |
| Miss B. Hopley | Mr. & Mrs. Charles Don | Miss O. Burke |
| Mrs. J. Davenport | Mrs. & Miss Peck | Dr. F. T. Auden |
| | Mrs. C. Gould | |

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

	British Guiana.		Jamaica.	
	Jan. 1 to Nov. 5, 1914	1913	Jan. 1 to Sept. 26, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	67,636	49,390 Tons.	13,661	5,071 Tons.
Molasses ...	831	767 Puns.		
Rum ...	2,325,660	1,953,560 Galls.	988,246	914,004 Galls.
Molascuit. &c. ...	1,677	5,809 Tons.	6,844,656	3,478,608 Lbs.
Cocoa ...	41,937	48,950 lbs.	5,792,080	4,463,984
Coffee ...	238,767	81,663 ..	21,640,090	16,912,173 No.
Coco-nuts ...	1,693,846	548,186 No.	3,895,600	22,265,785 ..
Oranges ...				
Bananas ...			14,214,944	8,114,647 Stems
Cotton ...			32,607	47,545 Lbs.
Pimento ...			66,201	84,705 Cwts.
Ginger ...			16,739	19,616 ..
Honey ...			147,748	117,305 Galls.
Dyewoods ...			46,079	43,023 Tons.
Gold ...	53,799	66,965 ozs.		
Diamonds ...	9,517	5,941 Carats.		
Rice ...	11,363,609	13,616,308 lbs.		
Barana ...	912,453	904,593 ..		
Rubber ...				
Timber ...	191,164	413,372 cubic ft.	Armsr. 2,982,306	3,937,895 lbs.
Lumber ...	242,500	450,067 feet	Cocoa 163,419	169,209 ..
Lime (airate of)	10,387	636 lbs.	Cotton 530,666	475,255 ..
			Seed 799,028	1,105,804

	Trinidad.		Barbados.	
	Jan. 1 to Nov. 7, 1914	1913	Jan. 1 to Nov. 6, 1914	1913
Sugar ...	45,788	30,807 Tons.	33,113	11,124 Tons.
Cotton ...	3,465	3,425 Puns.	109,704	79,273 Puns.
Rum ...	1,258	922 ..		
Coco-nuts ...	12,824,575	12,343,478 No.		
Asphalt ...	117,144	184,475 Tons.		
Manjak ...	232	482 ..		
Bitters ...	14,493	17,725 Cases.		
Coffee ...	15,920	1,680 lbs.		
Grode Petrol ...	12,001,148	11,288,330 Galls.		
Cocoa ...	61,824,575	45,705,800 lbs.	623,530	180,720 lbs.
Cotton ...				
.. Seed				
Copra ...	11,315	5,490 Bags.	19	3 Bags.
Spice ...			234,875	164,235 lbs.
Kola ...			900	1,770 ..

	Grenada.	
	Oct. 1 to Nov. 9, 1914	1913
Cocoa ...		
Spice ...		
Kola ...		

The new edition of the Pocket Guide to the West Indies (5s. net) includes chapters on British Guiana, British Honduras, the Bermudas, the Bahamas, the Spanish Main, and the Panama Canal.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—No change has been made in the Bank rate which stands at 5% as from August 8th, as compared with the same figure last year. Consols (2½%) are quoted unofficially at 68½. The War loan was launched under very favourable circumstances for in three days the applications reached 700 million sterling, being more than twice the amount of the loan. Success was assured by the Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement that the Bank of England would be prepared for a period of three years to lend money on this loan at the issue price without margin at 1 per cent. under the current Bank Rate. This concession converts the loan into a potential currency. The Stock Exchange being closed there was little "staggering," and therefore speculators' subscription figures were not expected nor were they desirable. Consequently the results will be genuine and will provide clear evidence of the financial strength of the country.

SUGAR—In the New York market the movements in quotations have been within a small compass; for, although raw centrifugals became firmer with numerous buyers at current prices sellers wanted an advance of 6 points, and it was reported that fair sales had actually been effected on the basis of 4.07 usual New York terms; the firmness was of only two days duration and easiness once more prevailed, and on increased offerings by Cuban holders it was stated they had accepted 4.01c. New York terms for 75,000 bags, spot quotations were modified accordingly and quotations were established at 4.01 for raw centrifugals, 3.56 for muscovados, and 5.00c. for refined granulated. After another short spell of quietude a better demand with the market swept of cheap sugar the previous week, buyers advanced their limits 3 points for near at hand parcels, but they only secured 8,000 bags. The speculative purchase of 7,000 bags for December on the basis of 4.01c. New York terms was reported. Subsequently there was little demand and sellers were reserved. A speculative sale was reported of 5,000 bags of Cuban for March shipment on the basis of 4.01c. New York terms. For refined there was a fair demand. Quotations, raw centrifugals 4.04c., muscovados 3.59c., refined granulated 5.00c. The market was closed for Thanksgiving Day on Thursday last, but on Saturday was easier.

In London a fair trade has been passing in all descriptions without very much change in prices, except that last week an advance of 3d. to 6d. was gained in Grocery crystallised. Consumers have not shown much inclination to buy freely from the Government's imports as there were still some second hand parcels available offering at prices slightly below the Government price; but these are gradually becoming scarcer. From America reports received state that sales of granulated to France still continue. In other directions such as Italy and Holland there seems to be a strong inclination to sell if possible.

The Sugar Commission keeps up its limits for American granulated and White Javas, while British refined continues in good request, but foreign is neglected. Italian crystals have sold at 26s. and White Javas at 25s. 9d. 2,000 tons White Javas in second hands due the middle December have been sold at 25s. 6d. c.i.f. The increased taxation proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer has met with little opposition so far as our markets are concerned; an increase on tea from 5d. to 8d. per lb. has been quietly accepted; but the brewers are trying to get some modification of the increase on beer, which works out at 17s. 3d. as compared with 7s. 9d. per barrel of 36 gallons.

Grocery West Indian.—In crystallised at auction early last week there was rather more demand, and a fair business was done at practically an advance of 3d. to 6d. Privately a fair business has been passing, and at last Friday's auction the offerings at current values met with a good response on the part of the Trade at full rates to an advance of 3d. The following business has been recorded, viz., Demeraras from 26s. 6d. to 27s. 9d.; Trinidad from 25s. 6d. to 27s.; Antigua from 26s. to 26s. 9d. and Surinam at 27s.

Syrups.—Business has been done in Demerara at 16s. and 18s. 9d. to 20s.; in Trinidad at 19s. 6d.; and in Antigua at 18s. 6d. to 20s.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Imports ...	28,577	35,991	25,199	33,674	30,100	Tons
Deliveries ...	35,196	26,729	27,689	33,734	32,554	"
Stock (Nov. 21)	6,333	11,102	2,000	4,280	2,621	"
Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, Nov. 27th—						
	26s. 6d.	14s. 6d.	18s. 9d.	21s. 1½d.	17s.	

RUM—Stocks in London, November 21st:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Jamaica ...	7,695	6,857	8,051	9,590	9,742	Puns
Demerara ...	6,077	5,872	5,574	3,985	6,757	"
Total, all kinds	20,394	20,175	22,440	22,024	25,456	"

Markets generally unchanged. Proof kinds have been in fair demand with further sales of Demerara to arrive at about 18. 5d. to 18. 6d. per proof gallon. Jamaicas continue quite steady. A few parcels recently landed, say 100 puns., are offering, but not yet sold.

CACAO—Stocks in London, November 21st:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Trinidad ...	8,140	11,218	6,540	5,777	7,823	Bags
Grenada ...	3,742	2,316	1,187	6,229	8,530	"
Total, all kinds	77,399	73,652	76,691	91,384	82,673	"

The market continues firm with a large business passing. At auction last week 9,250 bags of all descriptions met with a good demand and mostly sold at dearer rates. Some 1,600 bags of West India formed part of the offerings, and 663 bags sold, Trinidad being fully a 1s. up, while fine sold at 3s. advance. Grenada brought an advance of 1s. to 2s., and other West Indian, comprising Dominica, St. Lucia, Jamaica and St. Vincent, sold at firm to dearer prices. The private market has been very firm lately. Quotations after the auction were, Trinidad middling red, 65s.; good middling red, 66s. to 67s.; fine and superior, 68s. to 69s. 6d.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair, 59s. to 60s.; middling to fine, 61s. to 63s.

In the Trinidad circular of 9th November it is stated, that a slight increase in receipts had become apparent from some quarters, but although the weather had lately been more seasonable it will be well into the New Year before the reaping of the crop can become general. Increased quotations from several consuming centres had stimulated the local position and led to competition for several available supplies.

COFFEE—The spot market has been steady, and a small business has been transacted more particularly in Columbian kinds; other descriptions were rather neglected, but at recent auctions there was a fair demand.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended 26th November 56 bales of British West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. The only business in Sea Island since last report has been 15 bales stained at 7½d.

LIME PRODUCTS—**Lime Juice (Raw)**—Slow demand except for finest Jamaica 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d., Dominica 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. **Essential Oil (distilled)**—A small business at 3s. 3d. per lb. **Otto of Limes (hand pressed)**—No demand, value about 8s. to 9s. per lb. **Concentrated**—Steady, some business at £30.

NUTMEGS and MACE—No auctions have been held, last quotations are therefore unchanged. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West India value £24 10s., steady. **ARROW-ROOT**—The business effected has been small, but it is impossible to obtain accurate information. Quotations 1½d. to 4½d. **PIMENTO and GINGER**—Very quiet. No change in quotations.

RUBBER—Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 25. 1½d.; smoked sheet, 2s. 3d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 8½d.; last year 3s. 1d.; soft, 2s. 1½d.; last year 2s. 9½d.; Castillon sheet 1s. 9d., 1s. 10d.; last year 1s. 8d.; scrap 1s. 4d., last year 1s. 2d. **BALATA**—Sheet, 2s. 1d., and block 1s. 9½d. landed terms.

PETROLEUM OIL—American, 7½d.; Water White, 8½d.

ALGERNON E. ASPINAL, Ld.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

Vol. XXIX.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 1914.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone: 6642 CENTRAL.
15, SEETHING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.1.
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON.
December 14th, 1914.

THE WEST INDIAN MAIL SERVICE.

IT will be interesting to learn what the views of the West Indian colonies are regarding the proposed modifications in the mail service conducted by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company under the contract of November 4th, 1911, in return for the annual subsidy of £63,000. Briefly, the Company proposes to cancel the transatlantic sailing scheduled for December 30th, and to turn their ocean steamers round at Colon, omitting the calls at Jamaica, Cuba and New York. To the suspension of the sailing we take the strongest exception, and while nothing can be said regarding the omission of the calls at ports beyond Colon, since they are outside the contract service, we must protest with equal force against the alteration in the timetable arising from it. The time between the arrival and departure of the mail steamer at and from the various ports will be radically altered, with the result that as regards Trinidad—which of all the colonies contributes the lion's share, £16,300, towards the subsidy—the homeward mail will leave that island on the day before the outward mail arrives, leaving 13 days between mails; in Barbados there will be only one day for answering correspondence; and in

the United Kingdom three business days only—assuming that the steamers run to time. The inconvenience which will be great in London, will be accentuated in the north of England and in Scotland. Admitting that the Company has suffered severely from having to leave its home port, from the falling off of passenger traffic and freight, and from the rise in working expenses, we do not think the fortnightly mail service should be arbitrarily interrupted, and we fail to see why the schedule should be altered in such a way as to cause inconvenience. We understand that certain of the Company's steamers have been commandeered; but we note that the *Trent*, *Magdalena*, *Danube*, and *Tagus* are scheduled to take the four sailings from January 13th. And what has happened to the *Essequibo*? To make matters worse it is announced that a 25 per cent. increase in the passenger rates will come into force in January next. This will not help to relieve the situation. The war risk on hulls has, we understand, fallen from £5 to 30s., and as the risk on goods has fallen from 25s. to 10s. per cent. since the Battle of the Falkland Islands, it is to be hoped that this impost, which certainly will not help to fill the Company's vessels with passengers, may be obviated. In the case of the P. & O. contract service there has been no increase of fares; nor has there in that of the Orient Line, though a few sailings by the latter on the risky Australian route were abandoned—owing to the commandeering of the vessels—and we fail to see why the West Indies should be treated differently. The West India Committee have been informed by Mr. Harcourt, to whom they addressed a letter on the subject, that he is in communication with the Postmaster-General and with the colonies concerned, with regard to the proposed alteration of the time-table, and it is earnestly to be hoped that negotiations may result in a schedule more generally acceptable being framed.

THE COLONIAL CANE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

OUR contemporary the *Daily Gleaner* of Jamaica, dealing with an article by SIR HENRY BLAKE published recently in the *Nineteenth Century*, in which he makes a plea for the West Indian sugar industry, deploring the lack of unity among the West Indian colonies. Having regard to the fact that Jamaica has been one of the chief obstacles in the way of bringing the West Indian colonies closer together even in respect of matters in which uniformity has been desirable, we wish we could take

this view as reflecting public opinion as a whole in our largest West Indian colony. We fear, however, that it would be premature to do so. While we welcome the views of the *Gleaner* as to the desirability of pulling together we may be pardoned for taking exception to their statement that "when an old West Indian Governor comes forward with a proposal in their (the West Indies') behalf, it is found that there is no organisation existing whereby that proposal may be forced upon the attention of the parties who could, if they wished, take it up and transform it into an accomplished fact." Our contemporary must have a short memory if it has already forgotten that it was largely owing to the existence of the West India Committee that Jamaica's sugar industry is alive to-day, though the proposals for securing the abolition of bounties did not, it is true, emanate from an ex-West Indian Governor. We hope that the *Gleaner* will accept our statement that the Committee is very much alive to the importance of developing the British colonial cane sugar industry and that action in the matter is already being taken. It is to be doubted, however, whether SIR HENRY BLAKE'S contribution to the discussion will help to carry the matter much further, though it was no doubt conceived in the best possible spirit. Though SIR HENRY was Governor of Jamaica for ten years, the sugar industry of the island was at its lowest ebb during his tenure of office owing to the effect of the foreign sugar bounties, and though he was subsequently connected with a small sugar concern which had a chequered career, he would, we may be certain, be the last to claim any intimate knowledge of such an intricate subject as sugar, after so passing an acquaintance with it. For these reasons we have hitherto refrained from criticising his article in the *Nineteenth Century*, which though, no doubt, prompted by the best intentions lamentably falls short of the mark as an exposition of the present state of affairs in the West Indian sugar growing colonies. Had SIR HENRY BLAKE been acquainted with the condition of the sugar industries of British Guiana, Trinidad, Antigua, and other West Indian islands his views would have been very different to those which he now expresses. To suggest, as he does, that "there is not sufficient scientifically trained examination into the selection and improvement of canes in central nurseries" is to do a grave injustice to the work which has been and is being done by the scientific departments, more particularly of British Guiana and Barbados, and by private enterprise on many estates. It will, perhaps, surprise SIR HENRY to learn that selected seedlings from the above-named colonies may be met with in almost every sugar-cane growing country in the world. As regards the factories, it may be stated without fear of contradiction that science has been applied to their work for a very long period, and if there is ignorance of this fact in the outside world it can only be attributed to the estates' proprietors not being accustomed to publish and circulate the results, as we certainly think they might do. With

respect to the question of labour, we hold that while the continuance of East Indian immigration is essential in the case of British Guiana and Trinidad, the existing population in the West Indies as a whole, if properly utilised, is capable of producing far more than it does at present. In 1805 a population of 605,000 in the islands produced 146,055 tons of sugar—the equivalent of 200,000 under modern conditions of manufacture—107,000 puncheons of rum, 11,400 tons of coffee, and 62,000 tons of cotton, besides many minor items. At the present time a population of 1,716,000 is responsible for about 95,000 tons of sugar 1,500,000 puns. of rum, 4,500 tons of coffee and 13,000 tons of cotton, about 40,000 tons of cacao, 20,000,000 bunches of bananas, together with a certain amount of oranges and limes. But fruit and even cacao calls for far less labour than sugar, and it is safe therefore to conclude that there is a wide margin for the expansion of the sugar industry, even with the existing labour supply. But no material expansion of the colonial sugar industry can be expected unless there is some definite assurance that it will be permitted to compete on equal terms with its competitors. MR. F. I. SCARD makes this very clear in the December number of the *Nineteenth Century*, and, though we do not concur in his view that beet growing in this country should be discountenanced, we trust that his arguments for the encouragement of cane sugar production will receive the attention they deserve. At present sugar producers on the Continent enjoy an advantage of £2 10s. per ton in the difference between the customs and excise duty permitted to them under the Sugar Convention, and we hold very strongly to the view that a corresponding customs advantage should be given to British colonial cane sugar in United Kingdom markets. This would ensure a substantial development of the industry, not only in the West Indies, but in other of our sugar-growing colonies, and thus render the consumer in this country less dependent than he will otherwise be, when peace is once more restored, on the Continental beet sugar, after which we regret to notice a section of the confectionery trade is still hankering. The Government in the early stages of the war initiated the movement for wresting trade from Germany and Austria, and it must have been made clear to them from the semi panic in August last that sugar is a particularly vulnerable spot. With reference especially to the Colonial cane sugar industry the Board of Agriculture in a letter to a correspondent have stated that they "do not doubt that the Colonial Office, which is the Department more directly concerned with this matter, is taking such action as may be considered needful." We trust that this may be so.

THE PROHIBITION OF CACAO.

SINCE we last went to press, nothing further has transpired regarding the threatened prohibition of the exports of cacao, beyond the publication of articles in the *Times* and *Daily Chronicle* in which the writers assume that the cacao exported

from the United Kingdom to neutral countries passes into Germany. If this were the case and Germany could not obtain cacao from any other source there would certainly be a good case for prohibition. But the statements referred to above are based on pure conjecture and, even if exports from this country were prohibited, it is clear that Germany would still have Ecuador, Brazil and San Thome—three of the largest cacao producing countries—from which to draw her supplies, to say nothing of New York. But we are not inclined to believe that any illicit traffic is proceeding, for cacao cannot now be exported unless a sworn declaration is made by the consignee in the neutral country that it will not be re-exported, either in its raw state or manufactured, to countries with which we are at war, and the Netherlands and Danish Governments have forbidden the export of any commodities for which the consignee has given such a sworn declaration attested by a British Consul. The exports of cacao from the United Kingdom have certainly been much larger than usual during the last few months, but this is not unnatural for the following reason. Twenty-five years ago London was the leading cacao mart of the world; but, in the last ten years, Hamburg has taken its place. As such, Hamburg supplied the greater part of the requirements of the neutral countries, and at the outbreak of war, had large delivery contracts running with these countries. None of these contracts were fulfilled, and manufacturers in Holland, Denmark, Italy, etc., have consequently been forced to come to the United Kingdom for supplies. Moreover, during ordinary times, the bulk of the cacao supplies from abroad came by direct shipments from the countries of production without touching English ports. It must also be remembered that a large quantity—estimated at about 150,000 bags—chiefly from Ecuador, is, at the present moment in German steamers which have been forced to take refuge in neutral—mostly South American—ports and is, therefore, not available. Much of this cacao belongs to Dutch manufacturers who, in order to supply their wants, have had to replace it by purchases in the United Kingdom, where an abnormally large quantity of the variety needed was in stock, in consequence of large consignments. Although exports have been larger than usual, the greater part of them have consisted of foreign grown not British.

If we were satisfied that the prohibition of the export of cacao would prevent Germany getting supplies we should not be slow to advocate it, but we share the views of Mr. Runciman, who, in the House of Commons, on November 23rd, said that if they (the Government) had prohibited the export of cacao from this country they had not evidence to show that they would have injured a single German cocoa drinker. On the other hand prohibition would be a serious blow to our cacao-growing colonies and effectively prevent the realisation of our hopes that London may be restored to its position as the cacao market of the world.

CANADA AND THE DUTCH STANDARD.

CANADA rejoices in being one of the few countries in the world which retains the Dutch Standard of colour in connection with the assessment of sugar for Customs purposes. By means of it sugars are divided in the Canadian tariff into two classes, those above and those below the Dutch Standard, the sugars of a colour above this standard paying duty at a higher rate per polariscopic degree than those below. In this way the refining interest, which would be prejudiced by the introduction of sugars capable of going into direct consumption, is protected. Recently, however, a new "16 Dutch Standard" has been issued by the Government which is stated to be materially darker than the No. 16 previously in use. The effect of this is seriously to threaten a considerable section of the trade in sugar with the British West Indies. It will particularly operate against the importation into Canada of Barbados centrifugals, grocery muscovados, and Jamaica yellow grocery crystals, which, under the new standards, have to be assessed at the higher rate of duty. Some of the 96° crystals from Demerara and Trinidad also come perilously near the higher duty point. It is impossible to believe that the Canadian authorities would deliberately be parties to a sophistication of the Standard; and if the facts are as stated, if there has been an actual alteration in the degree of colour of the Standard, either the old Standards were wrong, or there has been some extraordinary mistake in Holland or in Canada. An enquiry ought at once to be made into the matter, and the Standards now used compared with an authentic Standard procured from Amsterdam. But in any case the use of the Dutch Standard should be dispensed with in favour of the polariscope. Before the polariscope came into vogue the Dutch system was no doubt a most useful means of assessing duty. But its employment was open to abuses and the introduction of the polariscope did away with its necessity. The United States have given it up after years of use, and the trade in sugar between the West Indies and Canada would be much stimulated if this medieval weapon, now used solely for the benefit of the refiners, were abolished altogether. But while it still exists in the tariff, it is of the utmost importance that the Standards used should be without reproach.

If a suggestion which we made recently is adopted, it is probable that much of the sugar presented to the Government by the Colony of Barbados, and now in the hands of the Royal Commission, will be used by the Indian troops in British East Africa and in France. This would be preferable to the Commission selling the gift at a profit. The muscovado sugar is the nearest approach to the raw cane sugar known as "gur," of which Indians consume quantities not only for sweetening and eating purposes, but also mixed with the tobacco in their hukkas.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. Middleton Campbell presided over a meeting of the Executive at 15, Seething Lane, on Thursday, December 10th. Those also present were: Mr. R. Rutherford (Deputy Chairman), Mr. E. R. Davson, Mr. W. Fawcett, B.Sc., Mr. Thomas Greenwood, Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall, Mr. A. McConnell, Mr. W. P. B. Shephard, M.A., and Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary. The following candidates were admitted:—

Names.	Proposers and Secondors.
Mr. Thomas Hicks Sharp (Jamaica)	{ Mr. Archibald Spooner. { Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall.
Colonel the Hon. E. A. Moulton Barrett, C.M.G. (Jamaica)	{ Major O. H. E. Marescaux. { Mr. W. Fawcett, B.Sc.
Mr. H. J. S. Mackay	{ Mr. R. Rutherford. { Mr. W. Middleton Campbell.
Mr. W. R. Dunlop (Barbados)	{ Mr. E. R. Davson. { Mr. E. Luxmoore Marshall.

A letter, dated November 28th, was read from Mr. E. A. de Pass in which he requested to be relieved of his duties as Hon. Treasurer, and as a member of the Executive. On the motion of the Chairman it was unanimously decided to ask Mr. de Pass to continue his membership of the Executive Committee.

Correspondence with the Colonial Office and Army Council regarding gifts of fruit from the Jamaica Agricultural Society and the Trinidad and Dominica planters for hospitals receiving sick and wounded, was ordered to be laid on the table. This included a letter from Mr. Harcourt, thanking the Committee on his own behalf and on behalf of the Army Council for undertaking the distribution of the fruit.

The purchase of £300 of the new War Loan was approved.

The Secretary reported that the Hon. Treasurers had forwarded to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund the sums of £10,000, being the first instalment of the Trinidad and Tobago Patriotic Fund opened by the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce, and £2,000, being the first instalment of the *Port of Spain Gazette's* Widows and Orphans (War) Fund.

A discussion took place regarding the Dutch Standard used in Canada for assessing sugar for duty purposes. It was stated that several complaints had been received to the effect that the No. 16 Dutch Standard now used in Canada was darker than the standard hitherto recognised, and that as a result certain sugars were debarred from entering the Dominion except at a prohibitive rate of duty. It was decided to communicate with the Commercial Department of the Foreign Office on the subject, and to request the Secretary of State to enquire if any modifications had been made in the samples issued, and to obtain from H.M. Consul at Amsterdam a sealed sample of the No. 16 Dutch Standard now in use.

In the discussion it was further pointed out that the use of the Dutch Standard for assessing sugars for duty purposes was an anachronism, and that every effort should be made to induce the Government of the Dominion of Canada to substitute the polariscope, and thus fall into line with practically every other country of the world.

THE WEST INDIAN MAIL SERVICE.

Drastic Alterations contemplated.

The R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, which was to have sailed tomorrow, has been delayed at London owing, as we learn from the Company, to the difficulty in getting work done, the lack of adequate dry dock accommodation, and the absence of general facilities in the port. She will not leave Tilbury until Saturday morning next, December 19th.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have announced that their fortnightly sailing to the West Indies fixed for December 30th next will be cancelled. They give as the reason for this decision the dislocation of business resulting from the surrender of their home base at Southampton to meet the requirements of the military authorities, the great reduction of exports, the entire absence of tourist traffic and the falling away of ordinary passenger traffic, the high cost of war insurance, the increase of working expenses notably under the head of wages and coal, and the competition of neutral tonnage.

They further announce certain modifications in their future sailings on the transatlantic route. The mail steamers will turn round at Colon, omitting their calls at Jamaica, Cuba and New York. The effect of this will radically alter the length of time between the arrival and departure of the steamers at and from the various ports. The extent of this is best shown in the following table:—

Time between Mails at various Ports.

Place.	Now.	Proposed.
London	... 9 days	3 days
Barbados	... 9 "	1 day
Trinidad	... 7 "	13 days
British Guiana	... 3 "	9 "
Grenada	... 5 "	11 "
St. Vincent	... 5 "	11 "
St. Lucia	... 3 "	9 "
Dominica	... 3 "	9 "
Antigua	... 1 day	7 "
Nevis	... 1 "	7 "
St. Kitts	... a few hours	7 "

The Company have also recently notified their agents and the travelling public, that in consequence of the expenses resulting from the war, and the imperative need of obtaining extra revenue to meet them, and in order to enable the mail steamers to continue running, the fares to and from Trinidad, Barbados, the Northern Islands, and Demerara, will be increased by 25 per cent. from January 1st next.



Audinet sculpt

A NEGRO FESTIVAL drawn from Nature in the ISLAND of ST. VINCENT.

From an Original Picture by Agostino Brugnara in the possession of the Museum Society, Paris. E.R.S.

YULE TIDE IN SLAVERY TIME.

By J. GRAHAM CRUICKSHANK.

I am afraid the old West Indian travel books are not read very much now-a-days, and more's the pity, because there is a great deal of pleasant reading to be found in them. None of it is more kindly than that which tells of the unaffected merriment among the negroes at Christmas time. Pinckard's "Notes on the West Indies," "Monk" Lewis's "Journal of a West Indian Proprietor," Mrs. Carmichael's "Domestic Manners of the West Indies": the very titles recall many a little picture, happily drawn, of negro festivities in the olden time when December came round.

With the Christmas rains there began to be quite a bustle in the negro quarters. Ordinarily the slave had not much use for the "bitts" and "quatties" he got for his pigs and poultry in the town market. He put them in a stocking which he hid below the thatch, or in an earthen jar which he buried beneath the fire-place. "Quattie a gadda rust da time," I was told by an old man, whose quatties, when I knew him, had certainly but a slender chance of gathering rust. To the slave, fed and clothed, doctored and buried by his owner, money was not of vital moment, ordinarily. At Christmas it was different.

One can imagine how the negroes, young and old, gathered round the huckster. She, shrewd woman, was usually a person of colour, attended by a somewhat thin and spidery negro. The huckster's slave, tramping long distances with a heavy box on his head, had probably a hard time, certainly much harder than the average negro at the sugar-mill, over whom, quite unnecessarily, there fell many a salt tear in Exeter Hall.

Around the box there gather a gaping and merry crew. "Daddy" tries on a scarlet "bow-tie,"—"Daddy" who came long ago from Guinea Coast, but is now past field labour and spends the evening of his days in tending the poultry, keeping free from grass and leaves the avenue and yard of the Great House, and in telling prodigious Nansi stories on wet or moonlight nights. "Daddy" tries on the "bow-tie."

"Ky!" cries an onlooker, "Daddy an' all a nyanga!"

"Tan' sof'ly," says Daddy, trying to see himself in a cheap and villainous mirror.

"Bakara se'f no stan' lika dis," says another.

"No mek you yeye pass Daddy," remarks a woman. "No Good Time?"

Daddy grunts. "Berra well."

A small black urchin, with a superfluity of garment, tears past, in full cry after a pig. As a rule the negro's diet consisted of simple, or "naked," salt-fish and plantain. At Christmas time it blossomed into pie and guinea fowl and roast pig, regardless of expense. Elia did not discuss the tender suckling with a greater gusto. Mrs. Carmichael

notes that the kitchen at the Great House was not infrequently lent to the negroes to enable them adequately to prepare for the Festive Season.

On Christmas morning most of the slaves gathered at the Great House to wish massa and missy "howdye plenty," and a good Christmas. To-day was distributed the annual allowance of clothing with a special allowance of good cheer. It must have been a churlish planter,—and further a very foolish one,—who did not try to make merry for his negroes. The successful planter, then as now, and then more than now, was not so much the dab agriculturist as the Bakara who knew how to handle his people.

An important item in the proceedings at the Great House was the speech-making. The negro is never backward with the tongue, as is natural in a race without books. Nowhere does one find a more piquant talker—a talker who uses all the aids of gesture and intonation, and whose language is more pithy and abundant in striking and sometimes poetic metaphor—than in the old negro. At the Great House he had his chance, and used it, sometimes quaintly. Mrs. Carmichael quotes the kindly wish of an old woman: "Me massa, me hope you live long, long: me hope you live fo' bury all you' pikaninies."

Three days were allowed for the Christmas Carnival, and on rare occasions alone was the Proclamation suspended, as after a rebellion. In general the slave looked for his Christmas holiday, and got it, as punctually as a schoolboy. It was a time of almost perfect freedom. Jupiter left the stable, Effiba left the pantry, and the ear of neither might be reached by voice or shell-blow. The mistress cooked the rice, the master brushed his boots, or left them unbrushed, just as it suited his individual taste. It was a time for roaming from plantation to plantation, generally in bands, accompanied by music. "Saltwaters," who had come in the same ship from Africa, met again, and "sang their country." Even the bush-negroes, the old run-aways, emerged from their hiding at Christmas time—sometimes to their own undoing, when someone spotted a strange face, with matted hair, or wild eyes among the merry crowd.

The main entertainment of the time, as of negro-land at any time, was dancing. To the African, dancing is more than physical gymnastics: the "ganda" is his theatre in the open-air, and the dance an opera or a drama or a tragedy.

One knows that the native Africans kept up their country dances. A ring would be formed on the green grass. A drum-man would be in attendance—perhaps two—naked from the waist up, and, what with perspiration and palm-oil, shining from the vigour of his movements as, with stick or fingers, he awoke all the tone and echo of the goat-skin drum. A shak-shak or two gave point and precision to the rhythm. There was little variation in tone, but infinite and sudden variation in the time.

Within the ring, two people, sometimes more,

danced by themselves,—“throwing” a song to the drum-men and to the audience, who gave back the refrain. Perhaps it is a Kongo dance, or Oyeh or Yagba.

The Creole negroes—the type of the buck who told “Monk” Lewis he liked to look “erie”—preferred to dance “English fashion.” For them the shak-shak was too common, the gombay too barbarous. Their instrument was the fiddle. There seem to have been some rather good negro fiddlers in the old time—terrific dandies, usually, be-ribboned—who were much sought after at Christmas time. One fiddler in Barbados kept a sort of rough engagement paper: to get the great man you had to book him well ahead. For those, sometimes, the planter would give up the hall of the Great House. Palm leaves and coffee blossom adorned the wall. At door and window all of the children, and many of the grown-ups, had gathered, laughing merrily, or gazing solemn-eyed at the merry-makers. The master led off the dance with old Phyllis, a withered dame, who protesting that her day for the “shake-foot” was done, yet contrived very creditably to do a turn down the hall and up again. The mistress footed it with Pompey—“Uncle” a veteran whose white head and black face, wrinkled like leather, suggested it were fitter that he prepared himself for his latter end than to jig about—“old man already”—on the Bakara’s slippery floor.

Most of the old negroes of that day have passed away. As they might put it, they are “dead out.” Much has been written of cruelty in slavery time. Undoubtedly instances of cruelty did occur—shocking cruelty; but they were isolated instances, by no means the rule. A great deal of kindness and consideration was shown by the Bakara to his negro. Nor was the negro ungrateful for it. Some of the pleasantest pages in the old books which attract more dust than readers—alas, even in West Indian libraries—are just those that show the white helping forward, and watching sympathetically, the jolly merry-makings of the black at Christmas time.

[The illustration which faces page 580 in the present issue depicting a negro festival in St. Vincent is reproduced from “The History Civil and Commercial of the British Colonies in the West Indies,” by Bryan Edwards (who was a member of the West India Committee), which was first published in 1793. It would be interesting to know if the original picture by Agostino Brunyas, which in Edwards’ day was in the possession of Sir William Young is still in existence. Can any reader tell us? Brunyas was an Italian who, after residing in London for some years, went out to Dominica. In 1777 and 1779 some landscapes painted by him in the island were exhibited at the Royal Academy. Sir William Young was the son of the first baronet, who was Governor of Dominica. He owned estates in the West Indies, and visited the Windward Islands in 1791. He was the author of “The West Indian Commonplace Book” (1807), and an appendix to

Bryan Edwards’ History. Sir William Young was Governor of Tobago from 1807 until his death in 1815.]

GREAT BRITAIN’S SUGAR SUPPLIES.

How British Colonies can Help.

It is of interest to note that the *East Anglian Daily Times*, which is published in the sugar-beet growing district, appreciates that home-grown beet alone will not suffice to render this country independent of foreign sugar. The following is taken from an editorial in that paper of December 4th:—

Another side to the sugar question is that relating to Colonial cane sugar, and, as we urged a month ago, it should receive careful consideration. We have been brought face to face now with the risk we run in pinning our faith to a foreign-grown sugar, and although the average Britisher has a firm belief in the wisdom of buying in the cheapest market, no matter from whom, it must be admitted that the production of Colonial sugar, if adequately encouraged, might easily become a valuable Imperial asset. It is quite obvious that we shall never produce in this country all the sugar we want, even under the most favourable circumstances, and without abandoning the idea of sugar factories and sugar beet growing in favourable districts of the British Isles we are glad to see that the question of what support should be given to the Colonial sugar industry is receiving careful attention and advocacy from many quarters. It is pointed out by the advocates for Colonial cane sugar that the growers have a great advantage over British growers of sugar beet in the matter of the value of land and the cost of labour, but as a set-off to that advantage comes the question of freight, shipping expenses, etc. We cannot pretend to do more than mention these points, but it does seem that this Colonial industry has a claim upon our consideration, more particularly as against sugar exported—after the war, of course—from Germany and Austria. The Colonies are showing splendid loyalty to the Mother Country, and as far as it can be done without introducing embarrassing complications of a fiscal character the British Government ought to help by every means in its power the staple industry of the Colonies. We have seen how the Government has treated the produce of British beet fields, and so far there has been no outcry against it. If our West Indian Colonies had the same forbearance assured them, would it not so revive their sugar producing industry as to enable them to compete with foreign sugar on favourable terms?

On the same subject the *Irish Independent* of December 3rd, said:—

It has been urged that to meet future demands the Government should now encourage British and Irish farmers to grow sugar beet and establish factories for the purpose of extracting the sugar. There is another thing the Government could do, and that is encourage the British cane sugar industry in the British tropical colonies. At any rate, the £20,000,000 annually spent by the United Kingdom on foreign sugar could in large measure, if not entirely, be divided between the producers of home-grown sugar beet and the Colonial producers of sugar cane.

United Empire, the official organ of the Royal Colonial Institute, says:—

In securing, by the use of British credit, a sufficient supply of sugar for our markets, they (the British Government) have met the needs of the moment; but it is necessary to look forward and to see if the present emergency cannot be utilised for the ultimate advantage of the Empire as a whole. We have deflected a large supply of sugar to ourselves, but in doing so we do not, necessarily, increase the amount available for the world’s consumption. ¶

things are left like this the resumption of our ordinary purchase of sugar from the Continent will be merely a matter of time. It is probable that neglect of the beet crops may lead to a shortage; but this must be only temporary, for the industry is very firmly established. It has been pointed out that the beet-sugar industry owed its origin to the enterprise of Napoleon, when the Continent was cut off by British sea power from the usual sugar supplies; and in our last issue we suggested that an opportunity now occurs for the development of the beet-sugar industry in Great Britain. This view is much criticised by those who believe that a sounder course would be to develop the sugar industry in the West Indies; but so far as *United Empire* is concerned the two possibilities have never been regarded as antagonistic, but rather as complementary. Those who habitually use cane sugar have not only medical evidence in its favour, for it is recognised as a valuable heart stimulant, but are firmly convinced that it is both economical and pleasant for household purposes, being of greater sweetness and more flavour than the beet product. Chemists declare that sugar is always sugar—its chemical ingredients do not vary; but, as Sir Henry Blake says in an article in the *Nineteenth Century*, they might just as well say that milk is always milk, yet we know how much it varies in quality. Granted, however, that cane sugar is the superior article, can it be grown at the same rates as beetroot sugar? If not it will not be able to compete in the market as the staple for many industries. The critics of beet-growing point to the not very successful attempts in that direction made in England hitherto, but the fact remains that beet sugar is most economically produced in countries adjacent to the British Isles, and that, after the war, our industries will revert to using that product unless they can get it equally cheap elsewhere. The advocates of beet-culture in England see in it a supplementary advantage as a new agricultural industry; but, again, it is difficult to see how such an industry can be established, on a basis to enable it ultimately to compete with the Continental product, under our existing system of agricultural rating and taxation, and with the standard of wages which we desire to maintain.

In conclusion *United Empire* urges that the whole question is of such importance and interest that it should engage the attention of the Royal Commission.

RUSSIAN SUGAR AND THE WAR.

The *Australian Sugar Journal* for October contains an interesting letter from its Russian correspondent dated August 1st, on the subject of the effect of the war upon the Russian sugar production. In this it is stated that the military operations then entered upon would probably affect the beet fields more seriously than even was feared from the drought. The leading beet cultivation districts are geographically situated so as to be directly affected by the mobilisation orders; consequently much of the labour that would in ordinary course have been used in gathering the beet was already in the ranks, and unless provision had been made for this long foreseen contingency in the form of " supernumerary " labourers, Russia was in face of a serious shortage in the supply of raw material for the sugar mills during the new campaign due to open on 1st to 14th September.

Whether the war be long or short, our contemporary authority goes on to say, there is going to be no surplus sugar in Russia. The provision of 86,000,000 poods for the inland market would in

any case have exhausted all the small balance being carried over from this campaign to the next plus the next campaign production, and would have left a very moderate margin for the Convention markets after the contingent for Persia had been provided for. But it may be very seriously doubted now whether the restricted labour supply will gather sufficient beetroot to provide Russia with what she considers strictly necessary to satisfy her home market, even if she were to abstain from making use of her cherished preserve—Persia, which she has so carefully and successfully cultivated as a sugar market. Her home market must relatively suffer; but it must be remembered that this war finds Russia in an unparalleled state of industrial prosperity for her; therefore, the probable drop in the natural home demand for sugar will be relatively small, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that the always wasteful requirements of the active army will more than counterbalance the economies of the civilian population.

THE SHORTAGE OF FIGS AND RAISINS.

An Opportunity for the Banana.

In view of the probable scarcity of figs and raisins (sultanias) arising out of the state of war existing between this country and Turkey, it might be well to consider the possibility of obtaining substitutes for these fruits by the utilisation of the dried products of bananas for that purpose.

There is nothing new in the preservation of bananas. Père Labat, in his "Nouveau Voyage aux Isles de l'Amerique," published in 1722, tells how they can be preserved "like figs, raisins and other dried fruit." "They are," he says, "allowed to ripen thoroughly in the house, in which condition the skin is very easily removed; they are then cut lengthwise into four, and dried on a trellis-like stand in the sun or in an oven after the bread has been baked; the fruit becomes covered with white sugary powder deposited from its own juices. In this condition they will keep for years."

But it is only in recent years that a banana fig industry has been established in the West Indies. There are now a dozen or more factories in Jamaica devoted to the production of banana figs, the largest of which has a potential output of nearly four tons a week.

In "The Banana,"* which was published under the auspices of the West India Committee, Mr. Fawcett gives some particulars of the industry. "Banana figs," he writes, "have been prepared in Jamaica during the last few years with success which has varied according to the care and knowledge displayed in the preparation. An article is wanted that will give all the delicacy of flavour of the ripe fruit with inviting appearance and perfect keeping quali-

* "The Banana" is obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, price 7s. 6d., or post free 7s. 11d. (8s. 3d. abroad).

ties. There are now eleven factories at work in Jamaica, but probably only those that turn out 'figs' . . . will be able to continue. An inferior preparation damages not only the manufacturer, but the whole trade, and probably accounts in some measure for the present small demand. The export has fluctuated considerably, but has steadily increased to Germany and Holland."

Some years ago, Mr. J. Rodway, Assistant Secretary of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana, made some very successful experiments in drying and boxing the small variety of bananas, which were distributed under the auspices of the Society. They were found sweet and palatable, forming a very fair substitute for Smyrna figs. In these experiments the ripe bananas were dried whole in hot sand, and afterwards packed in small wooden boxes, just as the Turkish fruit is. Towards the end of 1902, a Professor Spawn, from the United States, arrived in Demerara, and tried to establish a joint stock company for the preparation of banana food products, amongst which were substitutes for figs and raisins, prepared from ripe bananas, dried in a revolving oven. The "sultanas" were made from small cubes, or dice-like pieces, cut from ripe bananas and dried on revolving trays, and proved an excellent substitute for the real raisin fruit used in cakes and puddings.

At a demonstration coffee-tea given by Professor Spawn in Georgetown one afternoon in October, 1902, where nothing but banana products were provided on the menu, a local newspaper man mentioned in his report of the proceedings that "the banana fruit cake was indistinguishable from any ordinary rich plum cake, the fruit being practically the same in taste and appearance as the imported article."

Although a small factory was started in Georgetown, Professor Spawn's scheme, unfortunately, never got beyond the initial stage on account of financial difficulties in floating the company; but now that there is a likelihood of a considerable shortage in the supply of dried fruit from the Levant, the matter may possibly be found well worthy of reconsideration.

Hitherto the bulk of the banana figs produced in Jamaica has been sent to Germany which took no fewer than 8,753 packages valued at £7,312 3s. out of a total export of 9,389 valued at £7,808 10s. 9d. in 1912—the latest year for which complete statistics are available. It is to be feared, therefore, that this young industry will be in rather a parlous condition unless new markets can be steadily opened up. There should be no great difficulty in doing this and in the circumstances those connected with the production of banana figs would do well to take steps to bring their product before the notice of consumers in this country. In conclusion, it may be mentioned, that banana figs have for some years been stocked by the West Indian Produce Association, of 14, Creechurch Lane, London.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The New Waterway's Promising Start.

During the first two months in which the Panama Canal was open for traffic, namely August 15th to October 15th, nearly 600,000 tons of cargo were carried through it.

According to the *Canal Record* the heaviest traffic has been between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States. Manufactured goods of great variety and general merchandise are carried from the Atlantic seaboard, principally from New York, and secondarily from Boston, Philadelphia, and New Orleans, to the principal California and Puget Sound ports; also, to Honolulu. On the eastbound voyage, these vessels carry chiefly canned fruits, vegetables, and salmon, lumber, grain, sugar, pineapples, and wine. This trade is restricted to vessels of American registry, and nearly all the American vessels which have used the Canal have been engaged in it. During the period of Canal operation, 24 vessels have passed through eastbound on this route, with 151,290 tons, and 25 westbound with 135,214 tons. These passages, 49 in all, have constituted approximately 44 per cent. of all the 113 passages through the Canal. The total cargo carried on this route, 286,504 tons, has been almost exactly 50 per cent. of all cargo.

A route between the eastern coast of the United States and the west coast of South America has been second in cargo through the Canal. Northbound vessels carry principally nitrates from the fields of Chile, with secondary cargo of raw material products of the western countries of South America, and southbound vessels carry manufactured goods from the United States and Europe. The northbound traffic, passing 13 vessels with 93,139 tons, through the Canal during the two-month period, has considerably exceeded the southbound consisting of three vessels with 18,800 tons, and one in ballast, though the latter seems to be getting under way.

There has been a marked, though probably seasonal, traffic from the Pacific ports of the United States and south-west Canada to Europe with grain. Ten vessels, each heavily laden, have gone through eastbound, with 71,560 tons, and eight vessels, all of foreign registry, have gone from the Atlantic to the Pacific in ballast, to return on this route with grain.

The fourth great route has been from the Atlantic seaboard of the United States to China and Japan, with refined petroleum in bulk and in cases, and other petroleum products. Four vessels have gone through in this trade from the Gulf of Mexico, with 24,931 tons, and four from Philadelphia and New York with 26,570 tons, an aggregate of 51,501 tons. No vessels have gone in the other direction.

The development of a line from Liverpool around South America, with vessels sailing both ways, via the Canal, has been arrested by the European war.

THE PRODUCTION OF INDIGO.

An Extinct West Indian Industry.

The recent decision of the Government to support an institution for the manufacture of blue dye in this country, recalls the fact that the West Indies at one time numbered the growth and manufacture of indigo among their industries. In 1804, 54,397 lbs. were exported from the British West Indies to Great Britain; but subsequently the Prices Current only quoted indigo from Caracas and Guatemala.

In Père Labat's wonderful work on the "Isles de L'Amérique," published in 1722, a description of the process of manufacture of indigo in Martinique occurs. According to him there was neither brook nor river in the particular district he referred to where "indigoteries," factories for making indigo, were not found. They consisted of tanks constructed of solid masonry in which the leaves of the plant were steeped. These were generally three in number, arranged the one below the other so that the lowest tank received the liquor from the second, and the second from the first.

The first tank, which was the largest was called the "tremperie," or the "pourriture," and was commonly twenty feet in length by fifteen feet in width and three to four feet in depth. The second tank was called the "batterie," and was rather smaller than the first. The third, which was still smaller, was called the "diablotin," or "little devil."

In the first tank the leaves and bark of the indigo were steeped and fermented until they became rotten. In the second the runnings from the first were thoroughly stirred until "the grains which composed the dye" were "reunited and coagulated."

Père Labat was quite unable to explain the cause of the name of the third tank, unless it was that

the contents were more coloured than those of the others, on account of the indigo which was already formed. It was in this tank that the indigo settled. The water having been run off, the indigo was placed in small linen bags in which it was drained and dried, out of the sun, the rays of which would discolour the indigo.

The illustration, which is also taken from Père Labat's work gives an excellent idea of the arrangement of the indigo factory of those days. It shows the tanks and the pressing and drying sheds, with



An Indigo Factory in Martinique in 1722.

some of the indigo, in the small linen bags mentioned, being transferred from the "diablotin" to the finishing shed.

The natural indigo which survived until recent years in the East was practically killed by the synthetic German product; but the owners of those estates in Ceylon which still produce indigo are for the time being reaping a small fortune.

"The Cane Sugar Factory" is a handy volume obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms. Price 1s.

THE WEST INDIES AND THE WAR.

In the last WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR we gave the names of some of those closely connected with the West Indies who are serving their country at the present time. The Editor hopes that readers will help towards making the list (additions to which will be published from time to time) complete, by calling attention to any corrections and additions which may be made. Some further names are given below.

SECOND LIST.

- Austin, Major J. Gardiner, (son of the late Hon. J. Gardiner Austin, of Enmore, Barbados), Army Ordnance Department, Chief Ordnance Officer, Commonwealth of Australia.
- Baggett-Gray, 2nd Lieut. C., (son of Mr. W. Baggett-Gray, of Kingston, Jamaica).
- Bateman, Mrs. B. M., (daughter of the late Mr. Augustus B. Hinkson, of Barbados), Army Medical Service Commandant attached to St. J. A. B. Voluntary Aid Detachment, Suffolk.
- Bovell, Sub-Lieut. Henry C., (son of Sir Henry Bovell, late Chief Justice of British Guiana), H.M.S. *Hornet*.
- Branch, Lieut. C. D., (son of Canon Branch, of Trinidad), Army Service Corps. *At the Front*.
- Bushe, H. Grattan, (son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Chambers), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Challoner, Major B. L., (son of the late Mr. Robert Challoner, of Barbados), Officer Commanding the Depot, the Leicestershire Regiment.
- Chambers, Colonel C. Ernest, V.D., (son of the late Sir George Chambers, and brother of Mr. Edward Chambers, late of Demerara), O.C., the 7th London Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.
- Clarke, Major James Sealy, (part owner of Coverley, Barbados, and brother of Sir Frederick Clarke, K.C.M.G.), 3rd Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment.
- Clarke, Sub-Lieut. Keith Alexander, R.N., (son of Major James Sealy Clarke, of Coverley, Barbados—see above), H.M.S. *Monarch*.
- Connell, Lieut.-Colonel A. M., F.R.C.S., (Edin.), (grandson of the late Hon. Joseph Connell, of Barbados), Officer Commanding the 3rd Northern General Hospital, Territorial Force.
- Da Costa, Captain Herbert C. C., (of Barbados), H.M.S. *President* (late *Buzzard*) in command of Coast Guard, Western District.
- Dennistoun, Captain I. O., M.V.O., (lately A.D.C. to Brigadier-General Sir William Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B., Governor of Jamaica), Grenadier Guards.
- Dison, Major, (M.L.C. for St. Andrew, Jamaica).
- Drought, 2nd Lieutenant C. F., (nephew of Sir Frederick Maxwell, Chief Justice Leeward Islands), 7th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment.
- Edwards, Lieut.-Commander H. D., R.N., (son of Dr. C. R. Edwards, of Jamaica, and grandson of the late Dr. W. H. Edwards, of Antigua), H.M. Submarine C31.
- Edwards, Donald, (ditto), Despatch rider. *At the Front*.
- Byans, F. W., (son of Sir Frederick Byans, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O. late Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands and Jamaica), Inns of Court Officers Training Corps.
- Ferguson, 2nd Lieut. Sydney (son of Hon. D. Ferguson, of Castries, St. Lucia), 5th Reserve, Cavalry Regiment.
- Gordon, Midshipman Oliver, (son of Mr. W. M. C. Gordon, Assistant Colonial Secretary, Trinidad, and grandson of the late Sir Oliver Nugent, of Antigua), H.M.S. *Thunderer*.
- Greig, Sergeant Marshall, (of Greig Brothers, Port of Spain, Trinidad, son of Mr. James R. Greig), "D" Co. 11th (Service) Battalion, the Rifle Brigade.
- Haynes, Private C. Graham, (son of Mrs. Haynes, of Port of Spain, Trinidad), 28th (County of London) Battalion, the London Regiment, (Artists Rifles).
- Hill, Col.-Sergeant C. A., (Direct West India Cable Co., Ltd.), 21st County of London Regiment (1st Surrey Rifles) Territorials.
- Hinkson, Lieut. Evan A., R.N., (son of the late Mr. Augustus B. Hinkson, of Barbados), H.M.S. *Columbine*.
- Ireland, 2nd Lieut., (son of Dr. T. Ireland, Government Medical Officer of British Guiana), 5th Battalion King's Royal Rifles.
- Lake, 2nd Lieut. J. L. R. R., (only son of the late Mr. James Lake, magistrate of Anguilla, and of Mrs. James Lake, of Antigua, and nephew of Mr. Carter Rey, Anguilla), 3rd Battalion, the Border Regiment.
- Lane, Captain George, (Estates' proprietor, Barbados), 4th Battalion, Coldstream Guards.
- Laurence, Midshipman G. S., R.N., (son of Mr. H. H. Laurence, of Georgetown, Demerara), H.M.S. *Ajax*, 2nd Battle Squadron.
- Lee, Mr. Arthur C., Sportsman's Battalion.
- Little, Lieut.-Commander J. G., R.N.R., (First Officer of H.M.S. *Port Kingston* at the time of the Jamaica earthquake), H.M.S. *Proserpine*.
- Lushington, Colonel S., C.M.G., (late Inspector-General of Police of British Guiana), 41st Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. Recently returned on leave after 90 days *at the Front*.
- Mackie, Mr. A., (son of the late Dr. Mackie, of Antigua) Highland Brigade, R.A.M.C.
- Maxwell, 2nd Lieutenant P. M., (son of Sir Frederic Maxwell, Chief Justice Leeward Islands), City of London Yeomanry.
- McGowan, Captain W. H., (son of the late Mr. D. H. McGowan, of Georgetown, Demerara, and London), Royal Artillery, 25th Indian Mountain Battery.
- Mitchell-Thomson, Lieut. W., M.P., (member of the Executive of the West India Committee), Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, (*On the North Sea*).
- Moore, Private W. A., (clerk to Messrs. Smith Bros. and Co., Trinidad), Royal Naval Division.
- Morgan, Gunner A. C., (Direct West India Cable Co. Ltd.), 20th Battery Royal Field Artillery, Territorials.
- Ogilvie, Major C. M., (of Kingston, Jamaica).
- Oliver, —, (son of Mr. V. L. Oliver, Editor of *Caribbean*), Armoured Motor Gun Car Section, 2nd King Edward's Horse.
- Orrett, Mr. A. A., (of St. Mary's, Jamaica), The "Queen's Own" (Toronto) Regiment.
- Peebles, Captain H. W., (late Private Secretary to the Administrator of Dominica), The Army Service Corps.
- Previte, Lieut. A. W., Unattached List, Territorial Force.
- Rapsey, Private H., (son of the late Mr. J. A. Rapsey, of Trinidad), 2nd King Edward's Horse.
- Ross, Private Edward Hope, (son of Mr. D. Hope Ross, of Barbados, Antigua, St. Kitts and Montserrat), the Public Schools and University Corps, the Middlesex Regiment.
- Ross, Private Hubert Hope, (ditto), St. Paul's School Officers' Training Corps.
- Sandbach, Brigadier-General A. E., C.B., D.S.O., (part owner of Ph. Leonora, British Guiana). *At the Front*.
- Sanguinetti, Midshipman, (of Jamaica), Training Ship *Comway*.
- Shand, Mr. Francis B. B., (of Dominica), R.N.V.R. Anti-aircraft Corps.
- Stokes, Lieut. Haldane Day, M.V.O., (grandson of the late Mr. Samuel Browne, of Barbados), the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment).
- Swayne, Colonel Sir Eric J. H., K.C.M.G., C.B., (late Governor of British Honduras), Assistant-Quartermaster General.
- Tappay, Mr. Sydney Lansdell (late Secretary of the West Indian Produce Association, Ltd.), King Edward's Horse.
- Tolson, Lieut. W. G., (grandson of the late Hon. John Connell, of Barbados), Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry.
- Tudway, Sub-Lieut. Lionel C. P., R.N., (son of Mr. C. C. Tudway, of Wells, Somerset, and proprietor of Vernon's Estate, Antigua), H.M.S. *Hampshire*.
- Webb, Lieut. J. R. D., I.M.S., (son of Mr. Samuel Webb, of Georgetown, Demerara), attached to 6th Cavalry Regiment, Indian Contingent.

Wright, Mr. D. A. (son of the late Mr. H. F. Wright, late Inspector-General of Police, Jamaica, and formerly Deputy Inspector of Police, British Guiana), Public Schools' and Universities' Battalion, the Royal Fusiliers. Woolrych, Sub-Lieut. S., (for some time assistant to the Secretary of the West India Committee), Despatch rider. *At the Front.*

Young, 2nd Lieut. W. W., (son of Mr. John K. Young, and for some time assistant to the Secretary of the West India Committee), 5th Battalion, the Rifle Brigade.

Young, Lieut.-Commander C. L., (nephew of Sir Frederic Maxwell, Chief Justice, Leeward Islands), H.M.S. *Irresistible.*

CAPTAIN EDWARD STEPHEN GIBBONS, of the 1st Battalion Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment, son of Sir William Gibbons, K.C.B., and grandson of Mr. Robert Gibbons, who was an estates' proprietor in Barbados, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Order for the great coolness and zeal which he displayed in action at La Maisnil on October 21st in a serious emergency. Captain Gibbons is a descendant on Sir William Gibbons, Bart., Speaker of the House of Assembly of Barbados from 1735 to 1752.

Killed in Action.

LIEUTENANT FRANK A. DE PASS, of the 34th Poona Horse, who was killed in action on November 25th, was the son of Mr. Elliot A. de Pass and Mrs. de Pass, of 23, Queen's Gate Terrace, London, S.W. He met his end gallantly. In a letter to Mr. de Pass, relating the circumstances, the Adjutant of the Regiment, on behalf of the Colonel, wrote that "Frank de Pass had been behaving in the most gallant way possible ever since he went out to the trenches. The German trench was only 30 yards from ours, and they had made a sap which ran right into our trench. We took over this portion of the trench on the night of the 23rd/24th. The next night Frank at considerable risk crept out of the trench and helped by a man of the 7th D.G., succeeded in bringing in a wounded man of the 58th Rifles. During the next two days they were much worried by bombs which the enemy threw from the sap head. Three times Frank succeeded in creeping along this sap and turning the Germans out with well-placed bombs. The throwing of these bombs needs considerable skill both in timing and aiming, owing to the close range it is also very dangerous. Three times he had succeeded and won a temporary security for those in the trench. The fourth time he was unlucky and received the wound that proved fatal. His death was instantaneous. While we mourn his loss, which will be almost irreplaceable, we are all tremendously proud of his gallant conduct. It is just what was to be expected of him. I have been with him pig-sticking and have played polo regularly with him, and I have no hesitation in saying that he was quite the most gallant fellow it has ever been my good fortune to meet."

LIEUT. CHARLES MILNE HARVEY, 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment, who was killed in action on November 23rd, was the only son of the late Thomas Lloyd Harvey, of Spanish Town Jamaica, and of Mrs. Harvey, Champéry, Switzerland.

CAPTAIN ERNEST SCOTT BROWN, of the York Fire Regiment, who has been killed in action, was until recently Private Secretary and A.D.C. to Sir Leslie Probyn, K.C.M.G., Governor of Barbados. He served in the South African War from 1899 to 1902, receiving the Queen's medal with six clasps and the King's medal with a clasp.

DEKRICK ALLAN KIRKPATRICK PILE was killed in action near Ypres on November 27th. He was the younger son of the late Mr. Theodore Pile, of Barbados and Trinidad, and nephew of Mr. Pile, of Wickham Road, Brockley, and was only 19 years of age.

Died of Wounds.

LIEUTENANT HERVEY ROBERT CHARLES TUDWAY, Grenadier Guards, died on November 18th in hospital at Boulogne from wounds received in action at Ypres on November 9th.

Born in 1888, he became second lieutenant in February, 1910, receiving his step in the following September. He was the eldest son of Mr. C. C. Tudway (of Wells, Somerset, and proprietor of Vernon's estate in Antigua), by his second wife, Alice Constance, youngest daughter of Sir Frederick H. Hervey Bathurst, lit.

ALTERATIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

Alleyne, Captain C. F., (son of the late Mr. Forster M. Alleyne, of Porters, Barbados, and of Mrs. Alleyne, of 21, Overstrand Mansions, Batterssea Park), Army Service Corps, has returned to England from the front, where he had been since the commencement of hostilities, having been selected to train the new army at Aldershot.

Bateman, Lieut. B. M. B., (son of Lieut. Colonel B. M. Bateman), 49th Battery Royal Field Artillery. *At the Front.*

Calder, 2nd Lieut. K. W., (son of Mr. J. V. Calder, of Worthy Park Estate, Jamaica), Royal Garrison Artillery.

Clementson, Mr. D. L. (of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Jamaica), Sportsman's Battalion.

DuBuisson, Lieut. James Melmoth, (son of Mr. T. DuBuisson), 7th Battalion of the Queen's, (Promoted from the Inns of Court O.T.C.).

DuBuisson, 2nd Lieut. Thomas Gerard, (ditto), Royal Field Artillery, (now recovered from wounds).

Marescaux, Major O. H. E. (of Cherry Gardens, Jamaica), D.A.Q.M.G., Headquarter Staff, Central Force.

Mason, Bertram, (son of the late Mr. John P. Mason, senior member of the Barbados House of Assembly), Nyasaland Field Force.

Mearns, Private George (second son of Mr. William Mearns, of Plantation Hope, Demerara, British Guiana), First Class Division Signaller, 4th Battalion, Gordon Highlanders.

[Copies of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, of December 1st, in which the first list, containing 314 names was published, are obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane. Price 1s. per copy, post free.]

We are glad to know from personal inquiry, says the *Wine and Spirit Trade Record*, that, contrary to the general opinion, the Government is sending to the troops a really good quality of rum, which ought to be a source of great comfort to our brave soldiers, many of them knee-deep in half-frozen slush. The work of packing and despatching the spirit from the West India Docks proceeds rapidly, two gallon jars being packed in each case. Confirming what we stated last month, a writer who has spoken with many soldiers returning from the front, says:—

"Certain pettifogging hugglers and teetotal fanatics, in Parliament and out, are horrified at the fact that rum is supplied to men in the trenches. It may interest these people to know what the soldiers themselves say about it. I was told with pathetic earnestness by many of these men, maimed and battered from the field, that, standing waist-deep in water, they felt it a God-send when they got a drop of rum. 'You can feel the warmth and glow of it going through your veins,' said one man. And another told me, 'Oh, it is a comfort. It seems to put new life into you when you are soaked through and chilled to the marrow.' And he might have added, when you are likely to be killed by a shell at any moment. Yet there are actually members of Parliament and members of that pious and moral body, the United Kingdom Alliance, who have approached Lord Kitchener and raised the question in Parliament in their zeal to get the soldier's rum stopped. I should like to send these cold-blooded gentry into the battle themselves, to stand in cold water, and face cold bayonets on cold stomachs."

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

The King's Visit.

The presence of the King with his war-worn veterans at the front was at once a symbol of sea power, a consecration of the alliance sprung from the *entente cordiale*, and an expression of the close relation which exists between the Sovereign and the Army. His visit was well-timed, since there is a general belief that a new chapter in the history of the war is about to open. Through the King England acknowledged her enormous debt to her heroic soldiers and personally re-affirmed her determination to stand by her allies until the purpose of their united action is accomplished. The presentation of honours to those who have won them, by the King in person on the field of battle has given great satisfaction to the Army. The most picturesque incident in the ceremony, and one which has stirred India to enthusiasm, was the decoration of an Indian with the V.C. for the first time.

A Brilliant Naval Action.

The news that Admiral Sturdee has avenged Admiral Cradock's honourable defeat by a victory off the Falkland Islands, in which the German armoured vessels *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, and the light cruiser *Leipzig* were sunk, will be received with profound satisfaction by the whole Empire, particularly as it is reported that the British casualties were very few. The *Dresden* and *Nürnberg*, no doubt owing to their speed, got away. They were pursued, and the *Nürnberg* sunk the same day. The search for the *Dresden* is still proceeding. The victory will be far-reaching in its effects on British trade, and to Germany means a considerable loss in men and *materiel*. Admiral Sturdee is to be congratulated on finding the German squadron which probably sought Atlantic waters to avoid the combined British and Japanese naval forces in pursuit, and bringing it into action with such notable results.

The Despatches of Sir John French.

These are stirring reading. They show the masterly strategy of General Joffre in the unparalleled flanking movement which compelled an enemy, which was about to close on Paris, to draw the bulk of his forces farther and farther to the north, where they were baffled and checkmated by combined sea and land warfare. They show, also, the instinct for generalship and command of Sir John French, who saw the weak part of the line, and determined to throw himself in the path of the Germans, whose objective was Calais and Dunkirk. Without attracting the attention of the enemy, the British Expeditionary Force was withdrawn from the Aisne and placed between Lille and the Yser in a line so thin that at hotly contested points it was often opposed to four and five times its own numbers. Nevertheless for two months it was equal to the strain of beating off the series of terrific attacks, which culminated in the onslaught of the Prussian Guard, individuals,

regiments and divisions performing deeds which add fresh lustre to the glorious history of the British Army. What have been termed "eleventh-hour reinforcements" arrived just as the exhausting ordeal was proving too much even for British soldiers.

The Pause in the West.

With the Russian pressure in the East the enemy's offensive in the West is relaxed, the violent attack on St. Eloi notwithstanding. Evidently their intention is to entrench themselves solidly behind their present line. In trying to effect a double offensive they have failed on both fronts, a belated discovery, which accounts for the rapid removal of troops from Flanders to Poland. But the Germans will not yield a foot of ground in Belgium or Northern France without fighting for it. The Allied Forces on their side will not be able to take a vigorous offensive without large reinforcements. These will not materialise till Lord Kitchener's Army is ready for the field, which may not be till the early spring. Both sides are, therefore, digging themselves in, and with such method that the trenches extending from the sea to the frontier of Switzerland are, practically, underground barracks. They are heated by braziers and stoves, floored with straw, bricks, and boards, and every day the sanitary arrangements are being improved. Hence, so far, there has been little sickness.

Russia's Campaign.

The reports from the theatre of conflict in Poland were so contradictory that it was difficult to understand what was actually happening. Apparently each side has been placed in the same critical position as the other in turn, extricating themselves with heavy losses. Had the three German movements on Warsaw been simultaneously successful the advantage would have been with the enemy. As it was General von Hindenburg was able to avert disaster only by a supreme effort, and the Russian advance on Cracow, the capital of Galicia, was not checked, though now it is being stubbornly resisted to avert the invasion of Silesia, one of the most vital parts of the German Empire. Defeat here would turn the defences of the Oder, and thus involve military as well as economic ruin. As the Russian forces are concentrating in the Cracow region decisive events may ensue rapidly. On the other hand the conditions of the West may repeat themselves in the East.

That Lodz, "the Manchester of Poland" has no military importance is admitted by the Germans themselves, since their offensive in the Lodz-Lowicz line has failed. The Russians, to save the city from bombardment, evacuated it, and with strategic intent, drew in their flanks. Already their line in this region is being reformed. The latest news is that on the left bank of the Vistula in the north the Germans under cover of darkness, attacked the Russians along the whole Iloff-Glovo line in dense masses. They were repulsed and decimated by a fire which was directed under searchlights.

The French Front.

The operations on the French front continue to comprise mainly attacks on entrenched positions, particularly in the Argonne and Vosges districts. The fighting is so heavy and arduous that it is almost literally true that the ground is being contested inch by inch. The advantage lies with the French, who are forcing the enemy back to the northern frontier. In Alsace, Altkirch is occupied, and General Joffre was recently able to visit Thann, where his meeting with the citizens was deeply affecting. In Lorraine, the French are now advancing towards the outer forts of Metz. On the Aisne the position is practically unchanged. Between Lille and Arras all the enemy's attacks were not only beaten off by the French, but, in a brilliant counter-attack, they made themselves masters of Vernelles, which for two months was the scene of a desperate struggle. It is hoped that from this part of France the last German invader will soon be driven out.

Servia and Austria.

Owing to the victorious advance of the Russians, who have seized the passes in the Carpathians, dissensions in the Dual Monarchy are coming to a head. It is assumed that the object of Count Tisza's recent mission to Berlin was to ask for the release of Hungarian troops to repel the Russian invaders, who are running over the Hungarian plain. The Magyar view is that their country is being sacrificed to keep Germany inviolate.

Belgrade fell on November 30th. The Servians, undaunted, turned on six divisions of the Austrians at Valievo, gaining a complete victory and enormous booty. Servia has suffered from a dispersal of her forces in the pursuit of several objectives as well as the unfavourable character of her frontier for defence. She has, however, rendered signal service to the Allied cause by keeping at least 230,000 Austrians away from the scene of the decisive operations in Poland and Galicia for four months.

An East African Reverse.

In East Africa the Germans are fighting as they have fought nowhere oversea except at Tsingtau. No fewer than seven different actions took place up to November 25th, involving us in heavy losses, particularly in the attempt to seize an important railway terminus, which was reported to be weakly held. The little force despatched from British East Africa for the purpose, not only found that the enemy was in superior numbers and in a strong position, but, after some lively fighting, in the course of which the town was actually entered by our men, that a retirement was necessary to avoid disaster.

The Persian Gulf Expedition.

The operations in the Persian Gulf region have been crowned with complete success. The Turkish forces, which were beaten in the fighting of November 16th and 17th, fled in disorder, leaving eight

guns and their wounded. In consequence Basra was occupied by the British naval and military forces on November 21st, and in less than a fortnight after England declared war on Turkey. The credit, it should be noted, belongs to the Government and Army of India, whose military arm was thus felt so swiftly 1,500 miles away. The occupation of Basra is a serious blow both to Germany and Turkey, seeing that it was to have been the terminus of the Baghdad Railway, and is a port with an annual trade which totals £2,000,000.

With the aid of the Navy the British forces have since driven the Turks across the Tigris from Kurrah, and from Masera on the opposite bank. By this "smart little affair" England has now complete control of the Tigris and Euphrates from their junction to the sea, and of their most fertile part of the delta. In the north, Russia, after a slight check, has forced the Turks to retire into Erzeroum and behind the Deveborgun Pass.

In South Africa.

What General Smuts described as "the five-shilling" rebellion is petering out. The once elusive De Wet was captured with ease, which proves either that with advancing years he has lost some of his old slimness or else he has found it more difficult to evade his brother Boers than British troops. Another of the leaders, General Beyers is believed to have met an inglorious end by drowning in an engagement in the Vaal River. The task of rounding and capturing the rebels has been greatly facilitated by skilful use of a fleet of motors.

General Botha is now in a position to turn his attention to the conquest of German South-West Africa.

In Egypt the Australians and New Zealanders are forming part of the Imperial Army until they are ready to take their place in the firing line in Western Europe.

(To be continued).

The Commissioner to the Danish Government in London has issued a communication in order to show that Denmark is not being made a channel for German trade, as many have assumed it to be owing to the large increase in exports and imports. With regard to sugar, he points out that the production in Denmark has increased by leaps and bounds. It was :

1906-10	...	69,700 tons	1912	...	131,070 tons
1911	...	116,150 tons	1913	...	162,390 tons

In 1910 the production and inland consumption balanced. In 1912 Denmark exported 47,208 tons, half going to Great Britain; in 1913 the export was 45,800 tons, of which the United Kingdom received 31,400 tons. He concludes "There is nothing surprising or new in the fact that Denmark wishes to sell sugar to England; Denmark's increasing production of sugar, as of all other crops, makes an outlet necessary, and there is no need for any other explanation."

LOOKING BACK.

Under this heading extracts from the old records and minute books of the West India Committee are published. The earliest minute book is dated 1769; but there is evidence that the Committee was in existence before that year. In the earlier days there were two Committees, those of the West India Planters and the West India Merchants, which met jointly as the "Standing Committee of West India Planters and Merchants," a name which survived until 1904, when the West India Committee was incorporated by Royal Charter granted by King Edward VII.

III.—West Indian Cacao for the Navy.

At a Meeting of the Standing Committee of West India Planters and Merchants held at the West India Club House in St. James's Street, this 22nd. Day of October, 1824.

Present,

Charles Ellis, Esquire, Chairman,	D. Lyon, Esqre.,
C. N. Pallmer, Esqre.,	P. Vaughan, Esqre.,
A. C. Grant, Esqre.,	A. Browne, Esqre.,
J. Lawson, Esqre.,	G. Hibbert, Esqre.,
G. Carrington, Esqre.,	I. Colquhoun, Esqre.,
J. Innes, Esqre.,	R. Grant, Esqre.,
D. Hall, Esqre.,	W. Mitchell, Esqre.,
Sir A. Grant, Bart.,	J. P. Mayers, Esqre.,
S. Taylor, Esqre.,	Dr. Kidson,
Revd. J. Bromé,	A. Stewart, Esqre.,
Geo. Chalmers, Esqre.	I. Laing, Esqre.,
Colville, Esqre.,	
W. P. Litt, Esqre.,	

The Minutes of the Proceedings of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Resolved,

That the following Gentlemen be appointed a Committee to make application at the Board of Trade for a renewal of the preference in favour of British Cacao for the consumption of the Navy, which was for a time granted, but has in some recent instances been withdrawn.

G. Hibbert, Esqre.,
J. Marryat, Esqre.,
J. Higgin, Esqre.,

[The Admiralty still shows preference for British cacao. It purchases for the Royal Navy chiefly Trinidad and Grenada cacao, a small quantity Guayaquil (Ecuador) cacao being added for flavouring purposes. In the cacao used by the Navy the whole of the cacao butter (the most nutritive portion of the cacao bean), which is largely eliminated in the powdered cacao is retained. Mr. George Hibbert was the son of the first chairman of the West India Dock Company, of which he, himself, was chairman in 1838. Mr. J. Marryat was the father of Mr. Charles Marryat, Chairman of the West India Committee in the 70's, grandfather of Mr. A. P. Marryat, of Port of Spain, Trinidad, and a kinsman of the late Captain Marryat, the novelist.]

SOME COLONIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith's Successor.

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. William Lamond Allardyce, C.M.G., Governor of the Falkland Islands, to be Governor of the Bahamas in succession to Mr. G. B. Haddon Smith, whose appointment to the Windward Islands was recorded in last CIRCULAR.

Mr. Allardyce entered the colonial civil service in 1879 as clerk and interpreter to the Provincial Department of Fiji. He was successively stipendiary magistrate, inspector of native taxes, native lands commissioner. He eventually administered the Government of the colony, of which he was made Colonial Secretary in 1902. Two years later he was appointed to succeed Sir William Grey Wilson as Governor of the Falkland Islands, a position which he has held ever since.

Mr. Douglas Young has been appointed to succeed Mr. Allardyce as Governor of the Falkland Islands. The Hon. C. Gideon Murray, who has been Administrator of St. Vincent since 1909, has been promoted to be Administrator of the Government and Colonial Secretary of St. Lucia.

Mr. Robert Blair Roden, Chief Justice of St. Vincent has been appointed Chief Justice of British Honduras.

THE MAP OF THE WEST INDIES.

The Government of British Guiana, which had already taken six copies of the West India Committee Map of the West Indies, has sent a further order for sixteen more copies. Among other Governments which are now using the map are those of British Honduras, Antigua, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts-Nevis and St. Vincent. It is hoped that eventually the map will be adopted by all educational authorities in the British West Indies. Until the publication of this map, there was no map giving the whole of British Guiana and British Honduras besides the West Indian islands, which did not include too much of the mainland to render it serviceable. The inclusion of the principal railways, sea distances in nautical miles, cables, wireless and coaling stations, etc., besides diagrams showing the area and population of the various islands, make the map invaluable to all who have business dealings with the West Indies. The inset showing routes and distances between the West Indies and Canadian and United States ports is also a useful feature.

The map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen both mounted and in sheet at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., at Messrs. George Philip and Son, Ltd., 32, Fleet Street, E.C., or at Messrs. Sifton, Fried and Co., Ltd. (The Map House), 67, St. James' Street, S.W. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination) for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions.

The map can also be supplied mounted, folded and bound for 8s. 6d. per copy, or 8s. 9d. post free.

GIFTS FROM THE WEST INDIES.

A Parliamentary White Paper [Cd. 7646] just published contains the correspondence which has passed regarding gifts from the oversea Dominions and Colonies. The West Indies figure largely in it and in next issue it is proposed to publish a further summary of the many handsome contributions made by those colonies to the Mother Country and the various relief funds. The gifts, as we have already shown, take a variety of forms, including as they do presents of sugar, cacao, rice, guava jelly and cigarettes as well as substantial sums of money. At the request of the Army Council and the Colonial Office the West India Committee with the assistance of Dr. Lawrence Jones is continuing to arrange the distribution of the fruit from Jamaica as well as that from Trinidad and Dominica, a task of some magnitude. From the last named islands and Grenada over 250 cases of fruit were delivered at the Victoria Docks from the R.M.S. *Tagus*, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company having generously carried them freight free. Fifty were immediately consigned to the Red Cross Society for despatch to the base hospitals in France, and the balance with upwards of 600 cases and barrels of oranges collected by the Jamaica Agricultural Society, and carried to Avonmouth—also freight free—by the S.S. *Aracataca*, thanks to the generosity of Messrs. Elders and Fyfes, Ltd., were distributed as before among the various hospitals and nursing homes of which upwards of 350 are now on the books of the Committee.

It has to be noted with regret that from each of the colonies on this occasion much unsuitable fruit was sent. In most cases there was a complete absence of grading, the packages were poor, and the fruit was unwrapped, with the result that much of it was hopelessly bad. But these results will no doubt be remedied when the scheme for collecting and sending over fruit for the wounded gets into full working order. Meanwhile it will be a matter of satisfaction for the generous donors to know that the fruit is immensely appreciated.

OBITUARY.

Three Well known Demerarians

The last mail from the West Indies brought news of the death of three prominent colonists, well-known in Demerara, namely, Mr. Joseph Monkhouse, Hon. Duncan M. Hutson, K.C., Barrister-at-Law, who died at Georgetown on the same day, November 12th, and Captain Louis L. Kerr, Inspector General of Police, who died at Mauritius on November 7th.

HON. DUNCAN M. HUTSON.

Mr. D. M. Hutson was a native of British Guiana, born 1857, and his early legal training was in the chambers of Mr. Justice Atkinson, now retired from the Bench, but at that time a practising barrister and acting Solicitor General in Georgetown. Having completed a course of study at the

Inns of Court, Middle Temple, he was called to the Bar in 1887, and for twenty-seven years practised his profession with marked and distinguished success, particularly as a criminal lawyer. He was created a K.C. in 1903, and from time to time acted in the Colony as Solicitor General, Attorney General and Puisne Judge. Mr. Hutson was an active member of the Political Reform Association, and on the coming into force of the new constitution in 1892, he was elected a member of the Combined Court. He afterwards represented the City of Georgetown in the Court of Policy, and in 1896 was appointed to the Executive Council, of which he remained a member up to the time of his death. In his earlier days he served as a member of the Georgetown Corporation, and continued to be its legal adviser up to the end of his life. He was a keen sportsman, a steward of the Race Club for many years, and owner of several successful racehorses. He owned a stud farm at Pn. De Kimleren, Mahaicony, where he took a great interest in agriculture, and improving the breed of horses and cattle. He had never been a man of robust health; but his amiable and courteous disposition made him universally liked and respected.

CAPTAIN LOUIS L. KERR.

Mr. Louis L. Kerr was born in British Guiana in 1863, the son of Captain Claude Kerr, a former very popular Superintendent of H.M. Penal Settlement at Massaruni. He entered the Police Force in 1888, and passed with distinction through the various stages up to that of Deputy Inspector General, holding at the same time the position of Superintendent of the Georgetown Fire Brigade. He was a most painstaking and able officer and a general favourite amongst all classes of the community, and in the ranks of the Police Force as well as amongst the habitual criminals, with whom he was constantly in touch, but, nevertheless, seemingly to them, in an amiable sort of way, as he exercised considerable tact in dealing with them. He was appointed Inspector General of Police in Mauritius in 1911, and news of his early demise was received with much regret by his many friends in Demerara.

An obituary notice of Mr. Monkhouse was published in last CIRCULAR.

SIR JOHN ROCHE DASENT.

We regret to state that Sir John Roche Dasent, C.B., died on November 22nd, at his residence, Ascot Heath House.

Sir John Dasent, who was a nephew of the great Delane of the *Times*, was successively Private Secretary to Lord Spencer, Lord Carlisle, Lord Kimberley and Lord Rosebery, entered the Board of Education in 1876, and rose to the position of Assistant Secretary before he retired in 1908. For many years he was in the habit of spending some weeks every winter in St. Vincent, where he was the owner of Montrose House, a former residence of the Porter Family. His wife, who survives him, is a daughter of Admiral of the Fleet Sir H. Codrington, K.C.B., whose family was for so long prominently connected with the Leeward Islands.

AT WESTMINSTER.

Brewing Sugar and the Prohibition.

On November 17th in reply to Mr. Hogge, M.P., who asked whether the Government were permitting the importation under licence of brewers' sugar notwithstanding the general prohibition of the importation of sugar; and, if so, why the brewing industry should be specially favoured, Mr. Robertson said: Raw sugar which it destined for conversion into invert sugar is being admitted under licence. The reason is that the admission of such sugar into our market could not in any way facilitate trading with the enemy, which it was the object of the prohibition to prevent.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

THE prohibition of vodka in Russia may have far reaching effects on sugar consumption in that country. It is well known that the man who does not drink has a craving for sweets and sugar.

* * *

THE *Globe* considers the action of the Government in prohibiting sugar imports as "a mere bolstering up of a bad speculation, for the loss on which the British consumer is being required to pay." This view seems to be very widely held.

* * *

AMONG the callers at the West India Committee Rooms during the fortnight have been: Sir Frederic Maxwell, Kt., Sir Joseph E. Godfrey, M.D., Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, Mr. R. G. Duncan, Mr. Frank Gill, Mr. H. E. McCulloch, Mr. G. H. Arthur, Rev. F. H. Hammond, Mr. H. P. C. Melville.

* * *

Mr. A. C. Messer, Dr. E. Sturridge, and Mr. J. S. Westwood, form the Committee for the West Indian Club Billiard Tournament, the entries for which close on December 28th. In addition to the Sir Alfred Jones' Cup, a smaller cup will be presented by the Club to the winner.

* * *

THE estimated number of tons of sugar made from estate canes on the Bronte and Caroni Estates should have been given as 2,617 and 3,168 tons respectively in the Cane Farming figures in the CIRCULAR of October 6th (page 462). This brings the total sugar from Estate canes to 37,756 instead of 35,690 tons.

* * *

MR. W. R. DUNLOP, who has just been admitted to membership of the West India Committee, is one of Dr. Watts' able lieutenants on the staff of the Imperial Department of Agriculture. Mr. Dunlop is at present in London, and is to be found on most days at the Imperial Institute, where he is temporarily working.

* * *

IF one may judge from the report of a speech which he delivered in Melbourne, Mr. J. R. Boosé, the Secretary and Missionary of the Royal Colonial Institute, is very much himself again. He appears to have quite recovered from the slight breakdown which prevented his many friends from greeting him at the annual conversazione last summer.

* * *

WRITING on the subject of Australian sugar supplies, the *Australian Sugar Journal* says that, given an adequate degree of protection as an assurance against unprofitable rates in the future, the production of sugar can be so increased during the next two or three years as to render that country permanently independent of outside sources of supply.

* * *

THE attention of readers who may wish to possess themselves of a cacao estate in Trinidad as a going

concern may be called to the attractive announcement regarding "Glenside" and "El Carmen" which appears in the advertisement pages of the present issue. The estate has come into the market through the retirement of Commander W. H. Coombs, R. N., its present owner.

* * *

IN correspondence, both confidential and otherwise, which Mr. Guy Wyatt has recently been publishing, is included a letter from the Board of Agriculture, dated November 26th, in which it is stated: "relative to the growing of sugar-cane in the British tropics, that the Board do not doubt that the Colonial Office, which is the Department more directly concerned with this matter, is taking such action as may be considered needful."

* * *

PROFESSOR JOHN CADMAN, D.Sc., M.Inst.C.E. of the University of Birmingham, is to read a paper entitled "Notes on the Development of the Trinidad Oilfields," at a meeting of the Institution of Petroleum Technologists at the Royal Society of Arts, on Thursday next, December 17th. It is expected that Mr. F. H. Cunningham Craig, F.C.S., will open the discussion. Readers of the CIRCULAR wishing to attend the meeting should communicate with Dr. W. Hope Henderson, 17, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.

* * *

THE North American sugar beet growers have hitherto obtained their yearly supply of seed from Germany through the usual channels. The war found them in a difficult position. The situation has been saved by representatives of the industry proceeding to Holland in a specially chartered vessel. Their steamer came in contact with a mine, but was not severely injured. 70,000 bags of seed were quickly purchased, and the buyers returned triumphant with their spoil, safe under the American flag.

* * *

IN the CIRCULAR of November 17th, the announcement was made that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, had, in accordance with their general policy of aiding Imperial schemes in every possible way, decided to give a generous refund in steamer fares of volunteers coming from the West Indies to join the British Army. Several correspondents have called our attention to instances where refunds of £3 15s. only on first-class ticket, and £2 14s. have been made. It certainly cannot be said that such concessions are very generous, or that they are much calculated to aid Imperial schemes.

* * *

THE report of Messrs. Henry Tate and Sons, the well-known refiners, for the year ending 30th September, is especially interesting just now. After transferring £40,000 to reserve, against £10,000 last year, the net profit amounted to £274,950, compared with £109,159. A dividend of 25 per cent. and a bonus of 25 per cent., making 50 per cent. in all

will be paid to the ordinary shareholders, as against 18½ per cent. last year, and 23 per cent. for 1911-12. The balance carried forward is £33,308 as against £24,852. It will be noticed that the period of the Report covers two months of war prices.

* * *

DURING October 40 vessels passed through the Panama Canal northward and 45 southward. According to the *Canal Record* the total of tolls collected to November 1st was \$746,793.01, made up as follows:—

	\$
Prior to August 15	11,610.69
August 15 to August 31	88,232.60
September	269,863.00
October	377,086.72
Total	746,793.01

The first shipment of cotton through the Canal was made on October 22-23, when the SS. *Penrith Castle* passed through with 3,270 bales from Galveston to Yokohama. It is claimed that by using the Canal the *Penrith Castle* will save at least 5,280 nautical miles.

* * *

A statement having appeared in an evening newspaper that Sir Ernest Shackleton had taken maple sugar with him to the Antarctic on account of its sustaining and invigorating qualities the Secretary of the West India Committee wrote that it was cane that the great explorer insisted upon having. Sir Ernest Shackleton, it will be recalled, said that cane sugar, was "the only sort of sugar which the Polar explorer should take," and it was this class of sugar, both in its raw and refined state which the West India Committee presented to the explorer, who described it as being "as important in its way as the ship of the expedition." At the outbreak of war there still remained a small sum towards the Shackleton sugar fund to collect. Towards this Mr. C. H. B. Fryer, of the New Schoonard Company, has contributed £3. 3s. Further donations will be acknowledged in these columns.

* * *

THE Board of Trade have published a pamphlet showing the value of the exports of starch and starch products from Germany and Austria to various countries before the war. In 1912, the value of the German exports to Great Britain were, for potato starch £148,000, rice starch £34,850, and for maize and wheat starch £4,050. The Austrian exports to Great Britain included rice starch £5,890 and potato starch £1,970. It is worth the while of West Indian growers of rice, cassava, tapioca, maize, etc., to consider whether an effort should not be made to permanently displace some of the enemy starch products in the British market. The demand for starch and starch-yielding agricultural products is rapidly growing. The manufacture of glucose, once almost the prerogative of the United States, is spreading, the demand for it having been considerably increased on account of the high price of sugar.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

THE *Queensland Agricultural Journal* considers that for tomato cultivation the soil cannot be too rich, especially in lime, potash and phosphoric acid, and that a perfect tomato soil is a good sandy loam. A manure consisting of two parts of nitrate of soda, two parts of bonemeal, three parts of kainit, and four parts of superphosphate. Two ounces of this mixture may be applied to a square yard of soil.

* * *

IN the Report of the Cuban National Horticultural Society, Mr. W. P. Ladd gives an account of the ravages of the blue beetle among the Cuban citrus groves. He speaks of as many as 90 grubs working at the roots of a single tree, not a foot from the trunk or more than twelve inches from the surface. The only remedy he advises is the removal of the grubs with consequent applications of a complete fertilizer containing a large percentage of nitrate of soda, coupled with a liberal supply of water.

* * *

As the result of experience in India, Mr. W. H. Harrison concludes that rice soils need manuring with bulky organic manures which readily decompose under anaerobic conditions yielding humus; that nitrates are unsuited for the purpose, whereas ammoniacal manures or manures which yield ammonia under anaerobic conditions of fermentation are of great value; and that nitrogen and phosphoric acid must be applied to all rice soils, whereas potash should only be applied when the soil is in particular need of that ingredient.

* * *

WRITING on the subject of crepe rubber in the *Tropical Agriculturist*, Mr. W. A. Williams says that the planters have sacrificed everything to appearance, with the idea of obtaining a nicely finished product. It is obvious, he goes on to say, that no advantage is gained by having the nerve of the rubber destroyed by the creping rollers, which must inevitably be the result of the process. The manufacturer is not interested in the pretty appearance of the rubber; what he wants is strength and reliability. Further, with the use of creped rubbers, vulcanisation difficulties are greatly increased.

* * *

IN the recent *Bulletin* of the Trinidad Department of Agriculture, Mr. J. B. Rorer, draws attention to the occurrence of a disease of cacao which had not been noticed before. He considers the trouble to be caused by a parasitic alga (*Cephaluros virescens*), which is very widespread throughout the tropics. It generally develops on the upper side of small twigs, coating them with a light orange-red down, which can be seen by turning the twigs towards the light and looking at the surface. Characteristic black spots are produced on the twigs, and usually the leaves drop prematurely. In Trinidad, however, the leaves do not drop but die and turn brown. Heavy shading is advocated as a remedy.

THE LONDON LETTER.

CHRISTMAS, which will have come and gone by the time this issue of the CIRCULAR reaches the West Indies, will be a subdued festival this year. Managers of the great London hotels where family and New Year dinners are now commonly given are dubious regarding the patronage which will fall to their lot. So many families are in mourning through the war that Yuletide rejoicing is out of place. Moreover much of the money usually spent on personal enjoyment will this year find its way into philanthropic channels.

* * *

THE recent protests in Parliament have not been fruitless, and we are now receiving more frequent and more detailed accounts of our soldiers' doings. The official "Eye-Witness" at the British headquarters is being allowed more latitude. As a result the papers contained a report running to several columns of the King's visit to the front. Among the many honours conferred by His Majesty while in France, we noticed the bestowal of several Grand Crosses of St. Michael and St. George upon distinguished French generals.

* * *

It is good news that fears of widespread unemployment engendered at the outset of the war have not been realised. On the contrary, in the insured trades at least, there are fewer hands idle than during the corresponding period of last year. Furthermore, those industries directly concerned in the supply of commodities needed by the fighting forces are engaged night and day seven days a week. Makers of ammunition, clothing, and boots can barely meet the demands of our own and allied Governments. This activity is bound sooner or later to make things more expensive for the civilian, who will certainly have to pay more for his boots.

* * *

THE reduction in crime, notable at the present time, bids fair to be accompanied by diminished drinking by the working classes. This is not attributable so much to the limited hours within which public houses now remain open as to the effect of the new war tax on beer. True, the tax means only an extra halfpenny per half pint, but a falling off in consumption is already reported from many quarters.

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No foreigners are to be allowed henceforth on British trawlers. An extension of this order would provide us with an all-British mercantile marine. In this direction as in several others the war seems destined to effect reforms which years of agitation have failed to realise. The presence of the foreign seaman on our ships, as of the foreign waiter in our hotels and restaurants has long contributed a danger of which we have been too tolerant. In both cases,

however, the Englishman would seem likely to come into his own at last.

* * *

FOOTBALL has been made the scapegoat of slow recruiting. At the same time no small section of the public regards devotion to sports and pastimes as responsible in large measure for the physical fitness and some at least of the military virtues which characterise our men at the front. As the result of conference international matches are to cease for the present season, but ordinary matches will continue. It has been pointed out that attendance at matches is the recreation of thousands of the skilled hands now hard pressed by the execution of Government contracts.

* * *

It has fallen to the lot of a former Colonial Secretary of Trinidad, Sir Hugh Clifford, to announce the largest gift yet made by a tropical colony at the present juncture. The Gold Coast, of which he is now Governor, has undertaken the entire cost—£60,000—of the recent capture of Togoland, and has also offered the Imperial Government a present of £80,000 towards the war cost.

* * *

THE heroism of Belgium, the subject of so many tributes from the platform and the Press has evoked a fresh exhibition of the musical genius of Sir Edward Elgar. At the Queen's Hall, the other evening, the famous composer conducted a performance of his new work, which has been written to illustrate M. Emile Cammaerte's poem in honour of Belgium entitled "Carillon." The work was honoured with a most cordial reception, both Sir Edward and M. Cammaerte being called to the platform repeatedly.

* * *

THE estates are announced of two officers of West Indian connection, who have recently been killed in action. Lieut.-Col. Ian Graham Hogg, D.S.O., son of the late Mr. Quintin Hogg, left £7,781 with net personalty of £1,934. He left his medals and decorations to the officers mess, 4th Hussars, and legacies to his soldier servants. Lieut. Ernest Percy James Tinne, R.N.R., fourth son of Mr. John E. Tinne, who perished in the *Hogue*, left unsettled estate of the gross value of £1,387 with net personalty £1,329.

* * *

THE tragic fate of Earl Annesley, who with Lieut. Beevor was shot down and killed by the Germans while on an aerial flight to Ostend, is of direct interest to our readers. Countess Annesley is a daughter of Mr. Alfred Miller Mundy—a family which was represented in the West Indies years ago by the late Major Sir Robert Miller Mundy, who administered several colonies in turn. A member of the Annesley family, the late Lieut.-Col. F. Annesley, of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was stationed at one time in Demerara and married a daughter of the late Mr. Jacob Conrad who survives him.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



Newspapers and letters received by the R.M.S.P. *Tagus*, which left Barbados on the 25th November at 9 p.m. and reach Tilbury at 2.45 on Tuesday, December 8th, brings further evidence of the patriotic manner in which West Indians are facing the crisis resulting from the war. Many gifts are being sent home for our sick and wounded soldiers and sailors and the local Red Cross Society and National Relief Funds continue to expand in a most satisfactory manner. The efforts to make people generally realise what the war means, how much they are affected and what they should do, have been conspicuously successful and those unable to help in the field have realised what services they can render by contributing to the various funds for the relief of distress and unemployment in the mother country. In connection with the rounding up of alien enemies, to which reference was made in last CIRCULAR, an interesting point has been raised in Trinidad, namely, whether it is desirable to deport German subjects to Venezuela. It has been suggested that there may be a danger in sending influential Germans, who have intimate knowledge of Trinidad, to the neighbouring republic, whose people might be in communication with the enemy. Cacao planters will be interested to know that the officers of the Gold Coast Agricultural Department have been much impressed with cacao cultivation as practised in Trinidad and Grenada. The following notes are extracted from the letters of our honorary correspondents.

ANTIGUA—The Services of the late Sir Nevile Lubbock.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, NOVEMBER 21ST.—I have again to record a comparatively dry fortnight. Rain falls in patches. Quite a good rain has fallen on some of the Pope's Head estates and in the Parham District. The Windward and Valley have, however, had none. On one estate 4 inches fell whilst its neighbour only received 10 parts. The 1915 crop is bound to be a short one.

Mr. Robert McDonald has returned to the island by Danish steamer from St. Croix. Mr. and Mrs. Whyham, the Rev. and Mrs. Streater and Mrs. Duke have arrived by Royal Mail steamer. The Committee of the local branch of the Prince of Wales' Fund have remitted £512 as a first contribution. Miss Ruby Grant has started a fund for the Belgians, and is meeting with success. On November 19th what was perhaps the finest concert I have attended in Antigua was held on behalf of the Belgian Fund. It was organised by Mr. Gallwey, and everyone worked hard to make it a success. Among those who figured in the programme, which was a long and interesting one, were Dr. Tempany, Mr. Mackie, The Archdeacon, Miss Grant, Miss Fisher, Mr. E. Thilou, Mr. D. McDonald, Mr. C. Gallwey, Mr. Martin, Mr. W. Essex, Mr. A. Essex, Mr. G. T. Gallwey, Mrs. Oliphant, Mr. Simpson, Mrs. Jones, Miss Langley, Miss McDonald, Mr. W. Howell, Mr. Spencer, Mr. C. Piggott, and Mr. R. Henry. When all did so well it would be invidious to specialise, but Mrs. Oliphant's topical

song, "From the Banks of the Spree," brought down the house. A recitation by Mr. R. Simpson, "The Last Shot," was magnificently rendered. The packed audience, which thoroughly appreciated the programme, included His Excellency the Governor, and the Administrator of St. Kitts. The setting of the scenery was admirably arranged by the Hon. D. McDonald. The Agricultural and Commercial Society had two important meetings last week at which His Excellency presided. The ordinary general meeting was the first since the return of Dr. Tempany, who gave an excellent address on the Exhibition he had attended in England and the International Tropical Agricultural Congress. The following resolution, moved by the Hon. D. McDonald, seconded by Dr. Tempany, was carried unanimously:—

Resolved: That this Society desires to place on record its sense of the irreparable loss which the West Indies have sustained through the death of Sir Nevile Lubbock, K.C.M.G., President of the West India Committee, and to express its sympathy with Lady Lubbock and the members of her family in their great bereavement.

It is further desired to express the Society's deep appreciation of the many services rendered by him to the West Indies during his long and distinguished career especially in connection with the sugar industry in relation to which the part taken by him in connection with the abolition of sugar bounties will be ever remembered; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the West India Committee and to Lady Lubbock.

An important resolution was moved by Mr. Harper, and passed unanimously on the subject of praedial larceny in the following terms:—

Whereas praedial larceny has become so prevalent in this island that it is affecting landlords as well as tenants and other cultivators and embarrassing industrial undertakings to a very serious extent,

Resolved: That this Society do respectfully approach and ask the Government to take the matter into serious consideration and protect the industrious people with an Ordinance that will make punishment for praedial larceny severe and deterrent.

At the second meeting we had the privilege of listening to addresses from Dr. Marshall and Dr. Howard (who is at the head of the investigation being conducted in the West Indies re ankylostomiasis and its relation to the economic condition of affairs in these islands). Dr. Marshall has concluded his preliminary investigations here and finds our labourers are infected to an extent that justifies him in recommending a regular campaign against the disease in this island. The address of Dr. Howard was a plain straight talk, and has helped very much to awaken serious thought on the subject. Our Superintendent of Agriculture has had the degree of D.Sc. conferred on him by the London University, an honour well-deserved and appreciated by us in Antigua, who are acquainted with Dr. Tempany and the amount of work he does here. The engagements of Miss Emily Goodwin, daughter of Mr. R. Goodwin, North Sound, to Mr. T. D. Foote, Engineer, Antigua Sugar Factory, and of Miss McSweeney, second daughter of Mr. I. McSweeney, Parham New Work, to Mr. W. Conacher, Engineer, Rendal's Factory, are announced. The Royal Bank of Canada are going to commence operations here in the near future, and have secured premises in Long Street, where necessary alterations are being made to make the premises suitable. Mr. J. S. Wall has been appointed Auditor-General of the Tonga Islands. Mr. Wall is one of the most efficient officers in Government service here, and has been made use of in many capacities. The promotion is well deserved. The whole community were shocked to hear of the death of Lord Roberts. A memorial service attended by all classes of the community,

from His Excellency downwards—was held yesterday (Friday) in the Cathedral of St. John's. A full turn out of all the local forces and boy scouts giving the necessary military touch.

BARBADOS.—The Planting of the 1916 Crop proceeds

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G.—The weather during the past fortnight has been on the whole dry, a most undesirable feature for this time of the year, especially so with the crops in such a backward condition. We require at least two months more of good weather to get anything like a good result.—In the same subject the *Barbados Advocate* says: On the whole the weather has been showery, but the fall has not been sufficiently heavy to give the soaking that is still wanted. On Monday evening last, however, we had a downpour in St. Michael, which if it was general over the island, would have been all that could be desired; but at the time of writing our out reports have not yet come to hand. The old cane crop continues to make some progress not as accelerated as is to be desired. The provision crops are favourable and there is now no dearth of local food-stuff. Potatoes are still cheap and yams are being added to the available food supply. The supply of fodder is also good. Only there is an absence of corn. The planting of the cane crop for 1916 is proceeding.

BRITISH GUIANA.—Deaths of some prominent Colonists.

MR. J. C. MCCOWAN, NOVEMBER 21ST.—The weather has been extremely favourable to cultivation, nice showers having fallen. A meeting of the Legislature has been held, and the regulations controlling the cultivation of tobacco approved. The Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates, Ltd., have decided to cease their operations in Berbice. Great regret has been felt at the death of Mr. Louis Kerr, the Inspector General of Police in Mauritius, who had been Deputy Inspector General of Police in British Guiana, and was a native of the Colony. The deaths have also occurred of the Hon. H. M. Hutson, K.C., and of Mr. Joseph Monkhouse, a well-known retired planter. The War Relief Fund stood at \$42,500 at the time of the departure of the mail. An interim Report of the Primary Education Commission has been published. The establishment of Government Primary Schools was not recommended, as it was considered that these were not so cheap as denominational schools. It was also suggested that the Board of Education be abolished.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—A Demand for Dyewoods.

HON. ALAN DREDGE, NOVEMBER 26th.—There has been little of interest to communicate from here of late. Trade is dull and prospects for the immediate future are by no means bright. The collapse of the mahogany market both in England and the United States is very discouraging to the wood-cutting industry, and we must assume that preparations for next season, which usually make December the busiest month of the year, will be on a very reduced scale. The consequent restricted supply of money in circulation must react unfavourably on the local Christmas trade in Belize. There are some signs of improvement in the demand for the dyewoods which were exported in substantial quantities some years ago, but were ousted by German aniline dyes; however, as the quantities of these woods now accessible are by no means so large as in the days when their export was an important industry, this slight improvement is no offset to the failure of the demand for mahogany. The price of coco-nuts since the war broke out has been very low as compared with corresponding periods in previous years, and this is apparently due to the condition of trade in the United States, which has been

our principal market for this product. Indeed, the only article of importance to the Colony for which really good prices are obtainable in Chicle, though, owing to the dryness of the season, the output of this is probably less than usual. The alleged explanation of the good demand for this article is that the more excited people get in talking about the war news, the more gum they chew, but I do not vouch for this.

The above report sounds rather like a tale of woe, but we assume that the adverse conditions are temporary, and are not unduly "downhearted."

A Colonial Fund has been started for the Red Cross Society and subscriptions at present exceed \$5,000. In addition, several cases of hospital garments for the same society, and of winter clothing for war refugees in England have been despatched. We cannot hope to rival the gifts of the larger colonies, though the spirit is equally willing.

DOMINICA.—A successful Patriotic Concert.

MR. E. A. AGAR, NOVEMBER 21ST.—Your report on the probable condition of the cacao market in the near future is not so pessimistic as some, but I do not think any of us would wish to see prices highly inflated if the commodity is required for troops at the front, now that winter is upon us; all we wish for is that stocks should not accumulate unduly. On the 16th a Patriotic Concert was held in aid of the War Funds: it was organised by Mrs. Woolward, which ensured its being good, but it turned out to be the most excellent of its kind that we have ever enjoyed here. There were some 120 performers, the majority of whom were children, and the songs were almost all of the "Hearts of Oak" type, than which nothing could have been more suitable. The second half of the performance consisted of a series of tableaux representing the British Empire and the Allies in various appropriate scenes and the grouping and costumes could not have been improved. The concert was held in St. Gerard's Hall lent for the occasion by His Lordship the Bishop of Roseau, and large as the hall is, it was necessary to turn away hundreds of persons for whom even standing room could not be found. The weather has been exceedingly dry for the past fortnight, good for everything; I only hope we shan't attempt to make up the annual rainfall this year to the normal or we shall have some serious falls during the next month.

Mr. J. O. Henderson, of Grandbay, died on November 9th, as the result of an accident.

GRENADA.—Gold Coast Agricultural Officers' Visit.

MR. C. FALCONER ANTON, NOVEMBER 23rd.—Among the passengers who arrived from England by last mail, were, Hon. and Mr. P. J. Dean, Hon. and Mrs. N. J. Paterson, Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Paterson and son, Miss Paterson, Mrs. F. H. Watkins (wife of the Colonial Secretary), Mr. J. P. G. Munro, and Messrs. H. T. and A. C. D. Gale, and from Trinidad, Mr. C. E. Jemmott and 46 Deckers (including 12 from Colon). Among those departing by the mail, this afternoon will be Mr. Julian DeFreitas, son of the Hon. D. T. DeFreitas, of "Dougalkston," St. John's. Messrs. A. C. Miles and C. Sanders, of the Gold Coast Agricultural Service, who are visiting the West Indian Colonies in connection with the cultivation and curing of cacao, are expected to arrive this afternoon, and will probably be here until the next outgoing mail. A regular general meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society, will be held on the 27th inst. The shipments of cacao to date (for the new crop) amount to 4,324 bags. In the corresponding period of last crop the figures were 3,131 bags, so that, so far, we are 1,193 bags to the good this crop.

ST. LUCIA.—Good Cacao and Lime Crops.

HON. G. S. HUDSON, NOVEMBER 21ST.—November is living up to its reputation as the wettest month in the year, but so far we have been spared any abnormally heavy rainfall. Cacao pickings are still light, but will be rather heavy throughout December, and the long drawn out lime crop still continues. We have had a very unexciting fortnight (except for the war news, which is always exciting) varied by a concert in aid of the Belgians at Castries. Chief Justice Collier's Prize Court judgments, published in the Official Gazette in addition to being very sound are rather humorous. One would not exactly look for amusement in such a publication, but Mr. Collier will not be denied by any situation, and his humour is always appropriate and good natured. Messrs. Crist, Porter, and Sydney Ferguson, who lately left St. Lucia in search of commissions in the new army have all been successful. Lieut. Crist is attached to the Lancashire Fusiliers at Barrow, 2nd Lieut. Ferguson to the 5th Cavalry at York, and, I think, 2nd Lieut. Porter is with the North Lancashire Fusiliers. There were 18 St. Lucian coal trimmers on board the *Good Hope*.

The contributions to the local Red Cross Fund are equivalent to 3d. per head of the population. The various Friendly Societies contributed £160 10s. 8d.

ST. VINCENT—The Extension of Sugar Cane Cultivation

MR. W. N. SANDS, NOVEMBER 21ST.—During the past fortnight we have been favoured with reasonable weather. Rather too much rain has, perhaps, fallen in some districts but on the whole the weather has been fairly favourable for the different crops. On the 11th instant a large meeting of planters and others was held under the auspices of the Agricultural and Commercial Society under the presidency of the Administrator to discuss the agricultural situation in view of the war, and the future prospects of agriculture in the colony. The Administrator and the Agricultural Superintendent both addressed the meeting on the present position of our staples, cotton and arrowroot, which were both adversely affected by the war. It was suggested that there might be a partial substitution for two or three years of other crops for these products of the colony. It was pointed out that sugar-cane planting appeared to offer a reasonable prospect of a profitable return for two or three years at least and that on those few estates where suitable mills existed, or where mills could be put in good order at reasonable cost, it was thought that the planting of cane might be extended. The question of growing other crops for export such as Indian corn, cassava, peas, beans, ground nuts and ground provisions was also discussed. The Agricultural Superintendent is holding similar meetings in the country districts.

TOBAGO—Why Cane Cultivation Does Not Increase.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, NOVEMBER 21ST.—An effort is being made to increase sugar-cane cultivation at Studley Park and Mount St. George, and I saw some fine canes there last week which shows what the land can produce. But even if other circumstances were favourable, the uncertainty of even fair treatment from the Home Government is sufficient to scare away the capital, which would be required for machinery and development. Since last mail heavy showers have fallen, greatly benefiting all our growing crops; but they were rather late to save the young cacao pods excepting in favoured localities. Fine pickings are expected in December, but there is little to be seen in the fields that will ripen before March or April, and that depends on the weather until then. Cacao prices are more favourable locally, but coco-nut values have quite collapsed, and now barely cover the cost of picking and shipping. Copra may again come to the rescue for the manufacture of margarine, which will be wanted if Continental butter is

no longer procurable, unless Canada re-enters the West Indian market. There was a Patriotic Concert in the Delafons Roman Catholic School last Tuesday for the benefit of the Red Cross Society, and Scarborough is to have a concert next week in aid of the Belgian Refugees, for whom all felt sincere sympathy. Mr. H. Hamilton passed round the hat for the "Patriotic Fund" and raised \$303 in addition to sums previously collected and added to the Trinidad and Tobago list. The war telegrams show that much has yet to be done and Tobago in her small way will continue to help.

TRINIDAD—A Memorial Service for Lord Roberts.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, NOVEMBER 24TH.—Overshadowing everything has been the news of Lord Roberts' death. I should imagine that no man of our time has been held higher in honour and veneration. On receipt of the news the Chamber of Commerce at once telegraphed to Lady Roberts "The Chamber shares in universal mourning for Empire's greatest soldier and one of its noblest sons." It was intended to hold a memorial service at Trinity Cathedral on the day of the funeral, but our first notification of this was after it had taken place. It will now be held at 4-30 this afternoon. Official invitations to Consuls and others have been sent out, and the ceremony bids fair to be an imposing one. The singular honour was paid to the memory of Lord Roberts of all flags in the town being half masted for the whole of last week, and again to-day. Such evidence of respect and sorrow has never before been accorded except to Royalty.

The loss of the *Good Hope* brings home to Trinidad once more the sorrows of war. One of our best went down in her in the person of Dr. Fernand de Verteuil. He had previously been in the Navy and at the outbreak of war at once offered for service. The opportunity came with the visit of the *Good Hope* to this port, when he joined her, so shortly afterwards to add his name to the Honours' Roll. On the same ship there also perished Lieutenant Gaskell, son-in-law of Mr. Atkinson, manager of the Colonial Bank. Mr. Gaskell was well known here having been an officer of the cruiser stationed here at the time of the riot in 1903, when, with the other officers and men, such splendid work was done in saving the city from the fire and plunder with which it was threatened by the mob. News from the Continent also tells of the wounding of Captain Disney who has considerable interests here, and of his friend, Lieut. Owen Josephs who in the course of a visit a few years back became very popular with all who met him. But we are filling up the gaps. By this mail boat there will proceed to take up commissions in the army three of our constabulary officers, viz., Inspector Jack Wilson, and Sub-Inspectors Thornton Warner and Ellis. Given the chance they will all give a good account of themselves. Another whom his many friends are mourning is among the killed—Captain Bently, lately Staff Officer at St. James' Barracks. He was one of the cheeriest and brightest of men, and very sincere sympathy is felt for his widow.

The deportation of alien enemies has been completed, except in the case of one or two derelicts who begged to be imprisoned rather than thrown out of the colony starving. In response to a generally expressed feeling a Committee of the Chamber of Commerce waited on the Governor and expressed the view that it was inadvisable to deport influential Germans to the neighbouring republic where their countrymen were all powerful, and where their intimate knowledge of Trinidad and its people might easily be communicated to the enemy, or other damage done. It was pointed out that owing to the close proximity of Venezuela to our shores, this colony was placed in a different position to most of the Dependencies of Great

Britain and that therefore exceptional measures were called for. In reply, His Excellency said that from first to last he had acted, and was now acting strictly according to instructions from the Home Government, so there was nothing further to be said.

At the last meeting of the Agricultural Society there were present Mr. A. C. Miles and Mr. C. Saunders, Agricultural Officers from the Gold Coast, who were studying cacao cultivation here and elsewhere. Special interest attached to addresses that both these gentlemen delivered by reason of the fact that in an article which appeared in the *Philippine Agricultural Review* in September last, and quoted in the *Tropical Agriculturist*, it was stated that Trinidad was far behind the Gold Coast in cacao cultivation. This view was vigorously contested by Mr. W. G. Freeman in an excellent article appearing in the *Bulletin* of the Department of Agriculture in April last, and it must have been specially gratifying to our Assistant Director of Agriculture, as it was indeed to everyone, to learn from the lips of the Gold Coast experts themselves that in practically everything concerning cultivation Trinidad was far in advance of its formidable African competitor.

Another splendidly successful Patriotic Concert has been given, this time in Port of Spain. The chief organiser was Miss Rapsey, whose beautiful voice, to which I have before had occasion to refer, was never heard to more advantage. The Governor and all Trinidad Society were present in the densely crowded audience.

It is hoped that members will help to strengthen the West India Committee by introducing eligible candidates for admission. Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are eligible—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

The total membership of the West India Committee is now 1561. During the year to date 81 new members have been elected, residing in the following places:—

Jamaica	...	9	St. Lucia	...	1
Grenada	...	5	St. Vincent	...	1
British Guiana	...	4	Turks and Caicos Is.	...	1
Trinidad	...	4	Bermuda	...	1
Dominica	...	3	Mauritius	...	1
Antigua	...	2	New South Wales	...	1
British Honduras	...	2	Country	...	20
Canada	...	2	London	...	18
Barbados	...	2	New York	...	2
Nevis	...	1	Pern	...	1

Passengers for the West Indies are now required to produce passports or other documents of identification. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W., and for the convenience of members of the West India Committee forms of the declaration to be made by applicants are supplied at the Committee Rooms. Applications should reach the Foreign Office before 4 p.m. on the day prior to that on which the passports are to be issued, and the fee of 2s. must accompany the application. The Secretary of the West India Committee, being a Barrister-at-Law, is entitled to, and will be glad to, verify the necessary declarations by members of the Committee who are applicants for passports.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

The Proposed West Indian Contingent.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—I have read with interest your comments on the non-acceptance of the offer of men for military service from the West Indies, and beg to differ from you on practically all points mentioned.

Why should you assume that these islands, with a population of close on 11 millions, could not raise a regiment of able-bodied men and yet leave behind a defence force in each island, of those who from various circumstances were prevented from going abroad on service?

It may interest you to know that, speaking for Dominica, there are good active men who would willingly give their services abroad, who from local reasons have not joined the Defence Force, which, after all, need not be large for the maintenance of order in such orderly communities as these islands. As for preventing the enemy from obtaining supplies, surely, sir, you cannot be serious, how could a handful of riflemen, however brave and well-trained stand up unsupported by artillery of any sort or kind, against quick-firing 6 inch and 9.2 inch guns of the modern cruiser. We cannot imagine the German commanders to be foolish enough to send a boat-load of armed men ashore as targets for our forces.

I can assure you there is much dissatisfaction at the prompt and unconditional rejection of our offer of service. We feel that something might have been said about "later on." We are among the most ancient colonies of the Crown, and in loyalty hold ourselves second to none; we wish to do something more than we are doing for the King. Let them give us a chance, then. Surely we could do even garrison duty in England, or guard lines of communication in Belgium, and, later on, on the road to Berlin.

I am, etc.,

(Dr.) A. A. MYERS.

Dominica, November 7th.

Ste. Madeleine Sugar Company, Ltd.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

SIR,—In your issue of 1st inst. a verbatim reprint of the Directors' report and the chairman's speech at the shareholders' meeting on the 24th ult. is given, but you give no report of the shareholders' criticism on the accounts following the chairman's remarks. As my having resigned my seat on the board was mentioned in the report I then stated my reason for this course was my inability to accept a share of the responsibility for some of the administrative appointments which followed the visit of the chairman and myself to the estates last December, and I urged the desirability, in the interests of the shareholders, of whom I am a considerable one, of filling the vacancy caused by my retirement, either in London or in Trinidad, by the appointment of a director with practical experience of the local conditions of sugar cultivation in Trinidad, which the board, as presently constituted, lacks.

I am, etc.,

THOMAS ATKMAN.

Pendreath, Wimbledon.

December 12, 1914.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.

BANK RATE—The Bank rate still remains at 5% as from August 8th. Consols (2½%) continue sellers at 68½.

With regard to the applications for the war loan referred to in our last CIRCULAR the writer in quoting 700,000,000 was misinformed by one of the leading newspapers supposed to be an authority on finance. As a matter of fact it should have been given as 2% in excess of the 350,000,000, the amount of issue of loan. The Board of Trade returns issued recently show that the total value of our foreign and colonial trade last month was 86½ millions, as compared with about 87½ millions in October, but as last month was one day shorter than the previous month, and as October in normal times is usually the best month of the year, the figures for November cannot be regarded as unsatisfactory. Imports advanced by nearly 4½ millions, the bulk of this increase being in food products. Exports declined by 4 millions.

SUGAR—The New York sugar market under the influence of increased offerings and a small demand became still weaker, and quotations fell away about 6 points, and with further liberal offerings on 1st inst. at a further decline. Cuban shippers did a large business, estimated at about 125,000 bags on the basis of 3.95c. New York terms; quotations standing at 3.95c. for raw centrifugals and 3.50c. for muscovados. Refined was quiet but steady at 5.00c. Another 15,000 bags Cuban were sold on the basis of 3.95c. the following day, but the market was pretty well sold out. Depression followed on free offerings two days later, and holders accepted 3 points decline for 7,000 bags Cuban, and in order to make further progress accepted bids of 6 points under the previous days level. Spot quotations were, therefore, reduced 6 points in sympathy, establishing quotations at 3.89c. for raw centrifugals. For four days the market was quietly steady at unchanged quotations with little business passing. Subsequently a firmer tone for raws ensued with a better demand from consumers, but the market was devoid of sellers, and although offers at 6 points advance were made no business of importance took place. Refined, which had been quiet, remained steady at 5.00c., while quotations of raw centrifugals declined to 3.89c., and muscovados to 3.44c.

Messrs. Willett and Gray's estimate of the European beet crop production computed by them in grand total is as follows:—5,700,000 tons for 1914/15 as compared with 8,185,165 tons in 1913/14 and 8,341,063 tons in 1912/13, but the opinion here in well-informed circles is that it will be 10% more.

The London sugar market remains steady and the gradual absorption of second hand parcels continues. Sales of Government sugars have been unimportant, which is not surprising, seeing that the limits of 27s. 6d. for American granulated and 26s. 6d. for White Javas fixed at the end of October still remain in force, while second hand parcels have been available just below these limits; but the time is drawing near when the trade will have to buy from the Government. White Javas on the spot have sold at 27s. 3d. and to arrive early this week at 22s. 6d. c.i.f. Italian crystals have been disposed of at 26s. to 26s. 1½d., and Argentine soft white at 24s. 6d.; Mauritius crystals (second hand) have been sold at 25s. About eight steamers to accommodate 40,000 tons sugar have been chartered for Cuba to the United Kingdom for January at 28s. 9d. to 30s.

Grocery West Indian—In crystallised a quiet but steady tone prevailed last Friday when 460 tons met with a good demand for grocery kinds which sold at fully previous rates. Trinidad brought 25s. 9d.; privately 100 bags of Demerara sold at 27s. 3d., low brown quality was neglected.

Syrups—Slow of sale at auction, 540 bags Trinidad were offered, of which 340 bags sold without reserve, low heavy yellow at 14s. 9d. to 15s. Last Friday 150 bags sold at 18s. 9d. in auction.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Imports	30,301	37,362	25,886	34,769	32,362	Tons
Deliveries	36,698	28,171	28,659	34,912	33,830	..
Stock (Dec. 5) ...	6,555	11,031	1,697	4,217	3,607	..

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, December 5th :
26s. 6d. 14s. 1½d. 18s. 9d. 20s. 1½d. 16s. 1½d.

RUM—Stocks in London, December 5th :—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Jamaica	7,422	6,807	7,701	9,220	9,443	Puns
Demerara	5,557	5,895	5,464	4,286	6,568	..
Total, all kinds	19,311	20,045	21,778	21,749	24,053	..

In the proof market a steady demand for all brown descriptions has prevailed. Apart from the quantity contracted for to arrive, comprising the bulk of arrivals, improved prices have been paid for some free parcels offering. Jamaicas are without change. A fair enquiry exists for home trade marks, but as little has been offering there is nothing to report in the way of business.

CACAO—Stocks in London December 5th :—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	
Trinidad	6,999	10,660	5,189	4,816	7,399	Bags.
Grenada	2,826	2,966	2,659	5,851	9,250	..
Total, all kinds	63,653	70,232	74,766	90,581	83,174	..

A strong demand has existed for all descriptions; prices at the last auction on 8th inst. showed an advance of 6s. to 10s. on previous auctions. The offerings then amounted to 4,328 bags of all kinds; of these 1,361 bags consisted of West India and the sales reached 1,329 bags. Trinidad was in request at an advance of 6s. to 7s. on last auction prices. For Grenada there was a strong demand at 9s. to 10s. advance on last sales, and 2s. on recent private business. Dominica, St. Lucia, and Jamaica sold on about the same basis as Grenada sales. Quotations after the last auction were Trinidad middling red 72s., good middling red 73s., fine and superior 74s. to 76s.; Grenada, ordinary to good fair 69s. to 70s., middling to fine 70s. 6d. to 72s.

The Trinidad circular of 23rd November states that little cacao had been received since last mail from any part of the country. The crop is fully as backward as recently reported, and regular deliveries will not be forthcoming before January/February. A decidedly stronger feeling has been exhibited in their market, and but for shortness of supplies more activity would have been shown. Transaction on the cost and freight basis have in consequence of the war been restricted; but shipments are going forward freely to London and are selling for distribution to various consuming countries.

COFFEE—In the spot market a small business has been passing at steady prices. In auction a small quantity of Salvador was sold at firm prices, but other sorts were withdrawn; later at auction small supplies were mostly sold at steady prices. Futures—the prices fixed on December 10th were Dec. 43s. 3d., March/May 41s. for Santos.

COTTON—During the fortnight ended December 10th 131 bales of British West Indian cotton were imported into the United Kingdom. Since last report about 30 bags of new crop West Indian Sea Island cotton have been sold at 14d. with a limited demand. Prices are steady.

LIME PRODUCTS—Lime Juice (Raw)—In poor demand. Small sales of good Dominica have been made at 2s. 3d. Good Jamaica is nominally worth 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.; but no business to report. **Essential Oil (distilled)**—Small sales made down to 3s. **Otto of Limes (hand pressed)**—Quiet. Sellers at 8s. per lb., but no business reported. **Concentrated**—There has been a fair business done at £28.

NUTMEGS and MACE—No auctions held in the fortnight and quotations are unchanged. **COPRA**—Fair merchantable West India value £26. Market firm. **ARROW ROOT**—Only about 100 barrels are reported as sold in the fortnight at 1½d. to 3½d.; quotations 1½d. to 3½d. **PIMENTO** has advanced one-eighth per lb. on a small business done. **GINGER** remains very dull and inactive.

RUBBER—Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot 24. 0½d.; smoked sheet 25. 3½d.; fine hard Para 25. 0½d.; last year 35. 1d.; soft 25. 6½d.; last year 25. 7½d.; Castilla sheet 15. 9d. to 1s. 10d.; last year 15. 8d.; scrap 1s. 4d.; last year 1s. 2d., both nominal. Owing to the prohibition of the export to America a large stock has accumulated, and buyers cannot take very much more. **BALATA**—Sheet 2s. 2d., and block 1s. 10d., both London landed terms.

PETROLEUM OIL—American 7½d.; Water White 8½d. ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

The . . .

West India Committee Circular.

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The West India Committee Rooms,

Telephone: 6642 CENTRAL. 15, SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.4.
Telegrams: CARIB, LONDON. December 23th, 1914.

The present number completes Volume XXIX of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, the index for which will be published with next issue. Members of the West India Committee are reminded that subscriptions are renewable on January 1st, 1915, and it is hoped that they will kindly assist the Hon. Treasurers by forwarding a remittance at their early convenience.

THE WEST INDIAN MAIL SERVICE.

IN another column we publish correspondence which has passed regarding the decision of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company to cancel one of the fortnightly sailings under the contract signed in 1911. It will be noted that the West India Associations of Glasgow and Liverpool have supported the West India Committee in protesting against what they properly regard as the unwarranted action of the Company. It appears, however, that the Postmaster General has offered no objection to the proposed abandonment of the sailings "as a measure of relief" "in consequence of the falling off of trade in the West Indies, and the heavy cost of insurance on their (the Company's) mail steamers," which rendered it difficult for them to maintain "regular fortnightly sailings from this country," and consequently nothing more can be said on this score for the moment. We must, however, point out that the falling off in trade, except in so far as the passenger carrying business is concerned, is more imaginary than real—indeed, several of the cargo carrying lines are extremely busy at the present time,—and that it seems to us deplorable that a great concern like the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company should be pleading for relief from its contract merely

because a certain sailing does not hold out prospects of profit. There remains the question of the modified time-table for immediate consideration, and we must repeat the hope that efforts will be made to adjust the schedule in such a manner as to remove the inconvenience which must result if the proposals now put forward are agreed to. Under these only three working days will be available for dealing with correspondence in London and less, in proportion, in the north. Apart from the fact that this period is altogether inadequate for merchants having shipments to make, etc., it leaves no margin for contingencies, and the delay in the arrival of the R.M.S. *Trent*, which was attributed to engine trouble, and in that of the departure of the R.M.S. *Tagus*, which was held back at the docks for three days owing to difficulty in securing a crew, gives some idea of what may be expected, unless a more reasonable time-table can be propounded.

"THE KING'S SHIPS."*

WHEN reviewing the first volume of LIEUTENANT—NOW COMMANDER—HALTON STIRLING LECKY's work "The King's Ships," just over a year ago, we little thought how near we were to a great war which, while adding laurels to so many of His Majesty's ships must also, alas, bring to a close the careers of others bearing famous names which have been dealt with so ably by the author. Thus, the first volume opened with an account of H.M.S. *Aboukir*, whose name has temporarily disappeared from the Navy List, like that of the *Cressy* which is dealt with in the second volume. On the other hand fresh triumphs have to be credited to the "*Saucy Arethusa*," besides many of the ships dealt with in succeeding volumes of "The King's Ships" now doubtless in the press. Still, it is the fate of books of this character to be in a sense out of date, like guide books and directories, almost before they leave the printers' hands. But we say "in a sense" advisedly for COMMANDER LECKY's book will never be "scrapped," but will live as a work of reference; and we trust that author, who has, we believe, recently been engaged in the hazardous occupation of sweeping for mines in the North Sea, will be spared to publish an appendix telling of the latest honours gained by the King's ships. The arrangement of

* "The King's Ships: together with the important historical episodes connected with the successive ships of the same name from remote times, and a list of names and services of some ancient war vessels." With over 2,500 illustrations from old paintings, prints and models, naval crests, Admirals' signatures, &c., &c. By Halton Stirling Lecky, Lieutenant, Royal Navy. In six volumes. Vol. II. *Cadmus* to *Encounter*. London: Horace Muirhead, 1913.

the present volume, like that of the first, is alphabetical and uniform. To begin with we are given each vessel's name in sequence, then we have the actions in which she has taken part, and a brief note giving the origin of her title, and then in bolder type a summarised and succinct account of the sea fights or special duties in which she took part, or upon which she has been engaged. This necessarily involves a certain amount of repetition, such actions as the Battles of the Saints and of Trafalgar appearing over and over again; but this is to a great extent unavoidable, and, after all, it is really welcome as it spares the reader much tiresome reference from page to page, which would otherwise be involved. COMMANDER LECKY is a writer not without distinction, and he is to be complimented upon his easy and lucid style. Many of his descriptions are vividly written, and the reader would indeed be callous who failed to be moved to excitement by the dashing account of the race between H.M.S. *Canopus* and H.M.S. *Superb*, which took place off Lisbon in 1847—in reading of which, by the way, we cannot help regretting that *Canopus H.* did not prove to be as nimble off Chili recently as her forbear. Scarcely less exciting is the account on another page of the efforts made by the crew of *Donegal* to reach Nelson in time to take part in the Battle of Trafalgar. We are told how "the *Peace* arrived off Gibraltar with the news that the enemy were at sea. The *Donegals* worked all that night, embarked powder, restowed the holds, rove the running rigging, and bent sails, and sailed out of harbour after 22 hours' work, towing a new foreyard alongside the ship, which was not crossed until they were at sea." How bitter must have been their disappointment when, in spite of their efforts, "they failed to reach the Fleet until the 24th of October, just three days after the battle." Nowadays it is possible to make arrangements for sailing with greater speed, as we have lately been reminded by ADMIRAL STURDEE'S prompt departure in search of the German Pacific squadron to which he was thus enabled to give battle and to annihilate. In the pages of this entertaining volume the West Indies are naturally much in evidence. Here we have accounts of RODNEY'S victory over DE GRASSE, and the historic actions off Martinique and Santo Domingo for example. The author pays MR. ASPINALL the compliment of quoting his account of the glorious episode of the defence of the Diamond Rock from "West Indian Tales of Old," and accepts his statement, based on a successful search among the contemporaneous despatches preserved at the Record Office, that it was the sloop attached to the rock and not the rock itself which figured in the Navy List as H.M.S. *Diamond Rock*—thus shattering an illusion fostered by CHARLES KINGSLEY and others. Believers in the existence of the Great Sea Serpent will have their faith strengthened by a drawing by the Ward Room Officers of H.M.S. *Daedalus* which is included among the illustrations of the King's Ships. The standing of the artists demands respect; but the fearsome-looking creature

has, we believe, definitely been disposed of by matter-of-fact scientists, who attributed its appearance to an unusually large accumulation of weed which had drifted from the Sargasso Sea that is so well known to voyagers to and from the West Indies. The illustrations with which the book is profusely supplied have been admirably selected. The two which we have been permitted to reproduce in the present issue are characteristic specimens which we selected on account of their connection with the West Indies, for the *Conqueror* was wrecked off Rum Cay in the Bahamas (on December 29th, 1861), while the *Crescent* whose graceful lines will be familiar to many readers of this publication, was the cruiser commanded by H.R.H. the Duke of York, now King George the Fifth, from June 8th to August 26th, 1898, when His Majesty was on the North American and West Indies Station. Besides the numerous half-tone illustrations there are also five coloured plates which, though perhaps a little lacking in suggestion, are well executed. As one turns over page after page in which the great sea fights of the old days are depicted, one wonders who will paint the "scrap" off Heligoland, or the Battle of the Falkland Islands. We sincerely hope that copies of COMMANDER LECKY'S work, which should be in every West Indian library, will find their way to the ships of the Grand Fleet, which with all others in commission, are only longing for an opportunity of emulating the great deeds of their predecessors. To our sailors in particular the book will be a lasting joy.

THE USE AND ABUSE OF SACCHARIN.

AT the recent half-yearly meeting of the National Union of Mineral Water Manufacturers' Associations a report was read and discussed dealing with the subject of saccharin. The report showed that negotiations had proceeded between the National Union and a body supplying saccharin respecting the price at which the latter was to supply it. The subject of the price which the makers of sweetened waters are paying for saccharin is not a matter to which we desire to draw attention. What we do want to point out is the light which the report throws on the growing use of this drug as a substitute for sugar. As many of our readers know, saccharin is one of the many coal tar derivatives. It was discovered in the eighties by DR. FAHLBERG, some years previously chemist to the Colonial Company in British Guiana, and rejoices in the euphonious name of ortho-benzic sulphinide, *alias* sulphobenzoimide. History says that saccharin was discovered as the result of DR. FAHLBERG not washing his hands before supper, a sickening and unaccountable sweetness, traced to the work upon which he had been engaged, being imparted to the food by this irregular proceeding on his part. Be this as it may, saccharin, the sweetness of which is 500 times that of sugar, was soon considered a valuable commercial property. In 1888 its vogue had spread to such an

extent that the Commissioners of Customs and the Board of Inland Revenue of this country prohibited its use in beer. In the same year, PROFESSOR P. C. PFLUGGE, of the University of Groningen, experimented in the direction of the action of the then lately discovered saccharin on digestion, and the results were published in the *Netherlands Medical Journal*. All his experiments went to show that, with small quantities of perfectly pure saccharin, the process of digestion in the mouth, stomach and intestine was considerably retarded, even a very small quantity completely preventing the action of the saliva on starchy bodies. In 1900, BORNSTEIN followed up the work of PFLUGGE and confirmed his results. It is recorded that in 1902 an entire family in Prague were poisoned by saccharin, with fatal result in one instance. In Germany a law was promulgated in 1903, by which saccharin was only allowed to be sold by apothecaries, and no person whatever was allowed to have more than 1½ oz. in his possession. In 1904 DR. JULIUS STOKLASA, of Prague, conducted experiments which went to show saccharin was an actual poison to those suffering from diabetes on account of the paralysis of the action of the ferments of digestion. In 1911, the whole question was most carefully gone into by the Referee Board instituted under the Pure Food Law of the United States, and the conclusion arrived at was that the effect of saccharin was to injure digestion when quantities over 4½ grains a day were taken. The result was that in that year the use of saccharin in articles of food was forbidden by the United States Government. This drug is the body which the mineral water manufacturers substitute for sugar, and which has been recommended by an official body to be used to sweeten glucose in the manufacture of jams!

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

It is hoped that members will help to strengthen the West India Committee by introducing eligible candidates for admission. Particulars regarding membership—for which ladies as well as gentlemen are qualified—can be obtained from the Hon. Correspondents, or from the Secretary, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C. The minimum subscription is £1 1s. or \$5.00 per annum. The compounding subscription for life membership is £10 10s. (\$50.40). Members receive the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR fortnightly, post free, enjoy the use of the Reading Room and Library, and may have their letters, etc., addressed to the Committee Rooms.

Passports for Members

Passengers for the West Indies are now required to produce passports or other documents of identification. These are obtainable from the Passport Department, Foreign Office, Whitehall, S.W., and for the convenience of members of the West India Committee forms of the declaration to be made by applicants are supplied at the Committee Rooms. Applications should reach the Foreign Office before 4 p.m. on the day prior to that on which the passports are to be issued, and the fee of 2s. must accompany the

application. The Secretary of the West India Committee, being a Barrister-at-Law, is entitled to, and will be glad to, verify the necessary declarations by members of the Committee who are applicants for passports.

THE WEST INDIAN MAIL SERVICE.

The following correspondence has passed between the West India Committee and the Colonial Office on the subject of the recent decision of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company to cancel one of their contract sailings and to modify their subsequent time-table:—

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE TO THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

10th December, 1914.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that the attention of my Committee has been called to the proposed modification of the contract mail service of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., and of the decision of the company to suspend the transatlantic sailing, hitherto scheduled for the 30th inst.

2. I am respectfully to ask whether these proposed alterations have received the sanction of His Majesty's Government and of the West Indian Colonies, which contribute towards the subsidy.

3. I am further to ask if you will kindly inform my Committee what arrangements it is proposed to make for the conveyance to the British West Indies and British Guiana of the outgoing mails, which would in ordinary circumstances be despatched on December 30th.

4. My Committee will esteem it a favour if they may have a reply before the outgoing mail, closing on Tuesday next.

I have the honour, etc.,

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

Secretary.

Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Whitehall.

THE COLONIAL OFFICE TO THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Downing Street, 12 December, 1914.

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, with regard to the West India Mail Service.

2. Mr. Harcourt is in communication with the Postmaster General and with the Colonies concerned with regard to the proposed alterations in the time-tables of the service.

3. At present Mr. Harcourt is not in a position to give any information with regard to the conveying of mails on the 30th instant.

I am, etc.,

H. W. JUSZ.

The Secretary to the West India Committee.

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE TO THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

16th December, 1914.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 49424/1914 of the 12th inst., from which I note that Mr. Harcourt is in communication with the Postmaster General and with the Colonies concerned, with regard to the proposed alterations in the time-table of the West Indian mail service, and that he is not in a position to give any information with respect to the conveyance of mails on December 30th.

2. Since I last wrote you on this subject I have ascertained the views of the Executive regarding the proposed mail sailing scheduled for December 30th, and the subsequent modification of the time-table, and I am now to state that the members desire to protest most strongly against the proposals which they consider certain to cause much inconvenience and not a little dislocation of business.

3. While making every allowance for the disadvantages to which the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., are subjected, owing to the present disastrous war, they do not feel that there is sufficient justification for the abandonment of a

sailing and the suggested drastic alteration, together with the increase of 25 per cent. in the passenger fares, and they trust that negotiations may be opened with a view of securing some more favourable arrangement than that fore-shadowed.

4. I enclose herewith an extract from the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR of to-day's date,* in which the views of my Committee on this question are given, and I am to express the request that Mr. Harcourt will kindly bring them before the notice of His Majesty's Postmaster General.

I have the honour, etc.,

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL.

Secretary.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Colonial Office, Downing Street.

THE COLONIAL OFFICE TO THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

Downing Street, 22 December, 1914.

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant with regard to the West Indian mail service.

2. As regards the cancellation of the voyage scheduled for the 30th instant, Mr. Harcourt learns that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have recently represented to the Postmaster General that, in consequence of the falling off of trade in the West Indies, and the heavy cost of insurance on their mail steamers, they find great difficulty in maintaining regular fortnightly sailings from this country. The company therefore proposed that, as a measure of relief, they should be allowed to cancel the voyage of the 30th instant; and, after full consideration of all the circumstances, the Postmaster General caused the Company to be informed that he would offer no objection to this proposal, on the understanding that the subsidy would be reduced proportionately to the value of the voyage in default. Colonial contributions to the subsidy will be proportionately reduced.

3. Mails for Barbados, Trinidad, British Guiana and the Windward and Leeward Islands will be despatched by the Harrison Line steamer *Navigator* on the 26th instant, and letter mails for Jamaica will be sent by way of New York.

4. Mr. Harcourt is in communication with the Governments of the colonies concerned in regard to the modifications of the time-table for subsequent sailings; and he has caused a copy of your letter of the 16th instant and its enclosure to be submitted for the consideration of the Postmaster General.

I am, Sir, etc.,

H. J. READ.

for the Under Secretary of State.

The following memorandum was received by the same post :—

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies presents his compliments to the Secretary to the West India Committee, and with reference to the third paragraph of the letter from the Colonial Office of the 22nd instant, is directed to inform him that it is understood from the General Post Office that the departure of the Harrison Line steamer *Navigator* is postponed, but that it appears from the Post Office Daily List that mails for Barbados, Trinidad, British Guiana, Windward and Leeward Islands will be made up on the morning of the 26th instant and will be sent via New York.

Downing Street, 22 December, 1914.

The West India Association of Liverpool has sent the following letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies :—

THE WEST INDIA ASSOCIATION OF LIVERPOOL TO THE
COLONIAL OFFICE.

December 18th, 1914.

Rt. Hon. Lewis Harcourt, M.P.

H.M. Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, London.

Sir, It is announced that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company propose to cancel the scheduled sailing from this

* Not reprinted here. See the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, No. 423, page 577.

country to the West Indies on 30th instant, and an alteration in the time-table is also advised.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company receive an annual subsidy of £63,000 in connection with the West Indian Mail contract, and it may therefore be fairly claimed that the suspension of any scheduled sailing, unless absolutely unavoidable, is against the spirit and intention of the contract.

The revised time-table which has been published meets with the strongest objection from merchants in the North of England who are engaged in commerce with the West Indies. Assuming that the steamers run to time, which is not always the case, the outward mails would be made up very shortly after the inward mails have been received, and sufficient time would not be available for adequate replies, which would cause very great inconvenience, and would be detrimental to business.

I shall be obliged if you will represent to H.M. Postmaster General (to whom I send a copy of this letter) that the members of my Association strongly protest against the proposed suspension of sailing and change of itinerary, and trust that pressure will be brought to bear upon the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, who in this matter are not considering the interests of the West Indies.

I have the honour, etc.,

(Sgd.) J. A. TENNE.

Chairman.

The West India Association of Glasgow sent the following letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on December 16th :—

THE WEST INDIA ASSOCIATION OF GLASGOW TO THE
COLONIAL OFFICE.

134, Wellington Street, Glasgow.

16th December, 1914.

To the Right Honourable C. E. Hobhouse, M.P.

Postmaster General, London.

Sir,—The Secretary of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. has intimated that his Company are making such alterations in their West India and British Guiana itinerary as will (*inter alia*) allow of little or no time for answering letters here in Glasgow by the next outgoing mail. From Trinidad the outgoing mail will leave on the day before the inward mail arrives. These arrangements would be very inconvenient and prejudicial to the interests of the correspondents concerned.

My Directors, while recognising that owing to the war, some alteration in the old service may be warranted, venture to express the hope that some modification of the suggested new itinerary may be made so as to give, as nearly as possible, the old intervals between the incoming and outgoing mails.

Intimation has also reached this Association that the Royal Mail sailing of December 30th is to be altogether suspended. If this is the case my Directors would be obliged by your letting them know how the mail service at that date is to be provided.

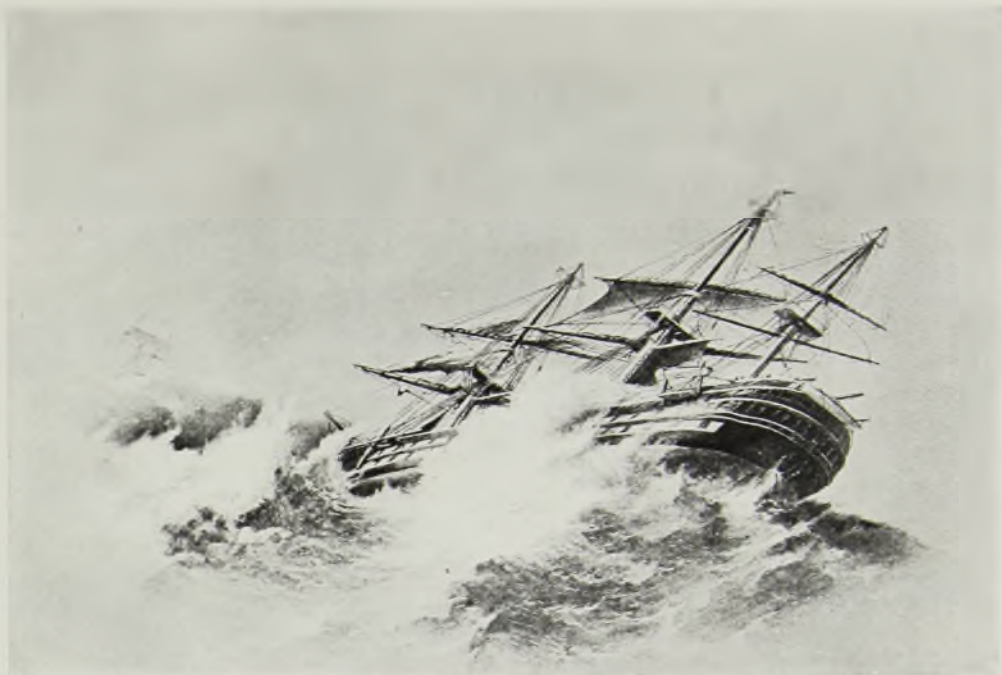
I have the honour, etc.,

(Sgd.) R. W. TOMLINSON.

Hon. Secretary.

A Newcomer to the West Indian Trade.

Following the decision of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company to turn their transatlantic steamers round at Colon, and to suspend their calls at Jamaica, Cuba and New York, comes the cabled announcement that the Ward Line has made Kingston a port of call. This line is owned by the New York and Cuba Mail Steamship Company, and its steamers have for some years conducted a fortnightly service between New York and Nassau (Bahamas), Santiago and Guantanamo (Cuba), a weekly service between New York and Havana (Cuba), and weekly services between New York, Havana and Mexican ports.



THE FIFTH "CONQUEROR."



H.M.S. "GRESCENT."

Two typical illustrations from Commander Halton Stirling Lecky's work
"The King's Ships."

It is further announced that the Alfred Holt Line have decided to establish a monthly service to Kingston. This company, which must not be confused with Messrs. Lamport and Holt, manages the joint service of the Ocean Steamship Co., Ltd., and the China Mutual Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., between Glasgow and Birkenhead and the East. The S.S. *Moyune*, which will inaugurate the new service was scheduled to leave Glasgow on December 24th, and Birkenhead to-morrow. Kingston, Jamaica, will be her first port of call, and she will proceed from there via the Panama Canal to San Francisco, Seattle, Victoria (Vancouver Island), and Vancouver City. The S.S. *Astyanax* will follow, sailing from Glasgow on January 21st, and Birkenhead on January 28th. The steamers will at present carry cargo only the freight rates being the same as those charged by the Leyland Line.

It will be recalled in connection with the new service that in these columns and elsewhere we have always pointed out that one of the advantages which the West Indies would derive from the Panama Canal would be an increase in shipping facilities. Here already is a case in point.

FACILITIES FOR CABLING.

At the request of the Barbados Chamber of Commerce, Incorporated, the West India Committee recently addressed the Postmaster General, urging that the permission for the use of certain codes, enjoyed in this country, since November 1st, might be extended to the British West Indies intercolonially and to the Dominion of Canada, as early as possible. The correspondence is set out below:—

THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.
1st December, 1914.

Sir,—I beg to inform you that my Committee have received a letter from the Barbados Chamber of Commerce, Incorporated, requesting us to press for the extension to the Dominion of Canada and to the British West Indies intercolonially the permission granted by the Government for the use of certain codes from November 1st.

2. It seems that on October 25th the Secretary of State for the Colonies informed the Colonial Governments by cable that it was intended to extend the concessions to intercolonial telegrams as soon as local censors were furnished with copies of codes and the necessary decoding staff had been appointed by the local Governments.

3. In view of the fact that the sugar crop season is approaching and that all sales of produce depend entirely on the use of the cable, I am to express the hope that matters may be accelerated, and that we may be informed whether the codes referred to by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his telegraphic despatch have now been sent out to the Colonies.

4. The Barbados Chamber of Commerce further desire to urge that the use of reversible cable addresses may be permitted, thus obviating the signing of messages, and I am to express the hope that this further concession may be granted, if this is practicable without in any way hampering the authorities. Trusting that the representations of the Barbados Chamber of Commerce may engage the attention of his Majesty's Postmaster General.

I have the honour, etc.,

ALGERNON R. ASPINALL,
Secretary.

The Secretary, General Post Office,
St. Martin's Le Grand.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL TO THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE.

General Post Office, London.

28 December, 1914.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 1st instant, I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that he is advised by the Army Council that there is every reason to anticipate that copies of the four codes originally authorised, namely A.B.C. 5th Edition, Scott's 10th Edition, Western Union and Liebers, will be in the hands of the Censors throughout the Empire by the end of the current month and that the use of these codes between the British West Indies and between those islands and Canada will then be admitted. The Council add that it will not be possible simultaneously to extend the use of the three additional codes recently authorised, namely Bentley's Complete Phrase Code, Broomhall's Imperial Combination Code and Meyer's Atlantic Cotton Code, 39th Edition, but that no time will be lost in despatching copies to Censors abroad.

It is regretted that it will not be practicable to authorise the use of reversible cable addresses.

I am, etc.,

F. J. BROWN.

for the Secretary.

The Secretary, the West India Committee.

GIFTS FROM THE WEST INDIES AND BERMUDA.

In the Correspondence regarding Gifts from the Oversea Dominions and Colonies, to the publication of which as a Parliamentary White Paper [Cd. 7608] reference was made in last CIRCULAR, British Guiana and the British West Indies figure prominently. The telegrams and despatches which have passed between the various Governments and the Secretary of State for the Colonies offering money and produce to the Mother Country and various assistance funds are published in full. The nature and amounts of the official gifts—if we may call them so—have already been dealt with in these columns; but readers will probably learn from this paper for the first time of the handsome offers of two private firms—Messrs. S. Davson and Company, of London and Berbice, British Guiana, and Messrs J. and J. B. Machado, of Kingston, Jamaica. The former offered 50,000 lbs. of Demerara sugar in bags to the National Relief Fund, and 10,000 lbs. to the Belgian Relief Fund; 7,000 proof gallons of Demerara rum in puncheons to the Royal Navy, 100,000 lbs. of Molascuit to the Expeditionary Force, and 50,000 lbs. to the Blue Cross Fund which is being raised for the succour of wounded horses. All these gifts will be delivered at the Docks, and Mr. Edward R. Davson, in his letter to the Secretary of State adds that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have consented to carry them freight free. Mr. Harcourt, it is hardly necessary to say, thanked Messrs. S. Davson and Company for their "patriotic offer of sugar, rum and molascuit." Messrs. B. and J. B. Machado offered 300,000 Jamaica cigarettes, and it is characteristic of Mr. Harcourt, whose tactfulness is so well known, that he should have cabled to Jamaica for the name of the giver, which, curiously enough, was veiled by Sir William Manning in his telegram on the subject. The cigarettes were, of course,

accepted by the Army Council and they will soon no doubt be gladdening the palates of our brave soldiers in the trenches in Flanders.

Another private gift mentioned is that made by the Jamaica Agricultural Society, of oranges, etc., for our wounded soldiers, which has since been the subject of further correspondence, that will, no doubt, be published in due course.

Of outstanding interest is the correspondence between the Acting Governor of the Leeward Islands and the Colonial Office with regard to the Dominica gift. A vote of £4,000 was being introduced into the Legislative Council of the Island to be offered to His Majesty's Government for expenses in connection with the War, and Mr. Harcourt cabled back suggesting that any contribution offered should be made to the Prince of Wales Fund. But Dominica determined otherwise, and decided that the £4,000 should be given to the Flying Corps. Mr. Harcourt then concurred, and at the suggestion of the Admiralty the contribution is to be divided between the naval and military wings of that splendid corps, which, as Sir John French recently stated, has gained such an ascendancy over the enemy.

In conclusion it will not be amiss to publish a further list of the gifts both official and private.

	Official.	£	Private.
Antigua ...			
Bahamas ...	To War Expenses	10,000	To National Relief Fund
Barbados ...	Sugar to value of	20,000	£2,000
Bermuda ...	To War Expenses	40,000	
British Guiana ...	Sugar to value of 300,000 lbs. of Rice for British Indian Forces	20,000	S. Davson & Co. — 50,000 lbs. Demerara Sugar to National Relief Fund: 10,000 lbs. Demerara Sugar to Belgian Relief Fund: 2,000 galls. of Rum to Royal Navy. 100,000 lbs. Molasses to Expeditionary Force; 30,000 lbs. Molasses to Blue Cross Fund Fruit for the wounded fortnightly
Dominica ...	To the Royal Flying Corps	4,000	To the Belgian Relief Fund
Grenada ...	Cacao to value of To National Relief Fund	1,000 6,000	20 barrels of Fruit: a case of various Jellies
Jamaica ...	Sugar to value of	50,000	Messrs. J. & J. B. Machado — 300,000 Cigarettes. The Jamaica Agricultural Society: Fruit fortnightly
Montserrat ...	To National Relief Fund Guava Jelly to value of	1,000 250	
St. Kitts-Nevis			To British Red Cross Society £246 9s. 6d.
Anguilla ...			To National Relief Fund £48 4s. 10d.
St. Lucia ...	Cacao to value of To National Relief Fund	2,000 1,000	The Women of St. Lucia (per Miss McHugh), several cases of Guava Jelly for the Wounded
St. Vincent ...	Arrowroot to value of Cacao to value of	2,000 40,000	250 barrels of Arrowroot Trinidad Patriotic Fund; To National Relief Fund (1st instalment) £10,000
Trinidad and Tobago			Port of Spain Gazette: Widows and Orphans (War) Fund (1st instalment) £2,000

We shall be glad if the Hon. Secretaries of the various Assistance Funds will assist us to make the list complete by informing us of the remittances which they make from time to time.

THE TRINIDAD OIL INDUSTRY.

Professor John Cadman had an appreciative audience at the Royal Society of Arts on December 17th, when he delivered an address on the progress of the Trinidad Oil Industry to the members of the Institution of Petroleum Technologists. Dr. Cadman, in the course of his remarks, described the difficulties which have delayed progress. These had been mainly in connection with the transport of drilling machinery through the tropical forest, the malarial conditions which affected the oilfields, though the residential parts of the island were quite healthy, the unsuitability of soft Tertiary clays and sands for drilling wells, and the presence of gas under high pressure. The solution of these problems took time, and accounted for what might seem a slow development of a petroleum source, the potential value of which has been unquestionably demonstrated.

The great progress made on the oilfields of Trinidad during recent years was shown by this table:—

Year.	Imperial gallons output.	Feet drilled.	Number of Wells.
1902 ...	—	1,015	1
1903 ...	—	2,665	3
1904 ...	—	1,904	2
1905 ...	—	nil	—
1906 ...	—	2,229	2
1907 ...	—	2,837	4
1908 ...	5,900*	3,758	4
1909 ...	2,000,000*	5,927	6
1910 ...	5,000,000*	7,321	7
1911 ...	9,985,740	14,485	14
1912 ...	15,288,162	40,418	46
1913 ...	17,626,563	42,552	44
1914 ...	22,523,660	41,933	41
	72,430,025	167,044	174

* Estimated.

Dr. Cadman paid a high tribute to Mr. E. H. Cunningham Craig, of whose exploration of the field he spoke in terms of great praise. With the activity now being pursued by such companies as the Trinidad Lake Petroleum Company, the United British Oilfields, the United British West India Petroleum Syndicate, the Trinidad Central, the Cruse Syndicate, the Venezuelan Oil Exploration Company, and Messrs. Stollmeyer, who were all producing oil at the moment, the future of the oilfields of Trinidad was, said Dr. Cadman, assured.

Dr. Cadman mentioned that though upwards of 30 years ago drilling took place in Trinidad no serious attempts were made to test the possibilities of the island until 1902, following Mr. Randolph Rust's and Mr. Lee Lum's successful experimental borings at Guayaguayare. In 1903 the Government realised the importance of attacking the problem in a scientific manner, and appointed a Mining Engineer to the Colony, who early in 1904 presented his first report, and in 1906 gave the first account of the Trinidad oilfields to a London audience at the Royal Colonial Institute. Early work done by companies during 1907 and 1908, whether successful or unsuccess-

cessful, it was pointed out, was of national importance in figuratively breaking the ice in a difficult region to investigate.

Up to the present time about one-half of the wells had failed to produce, and many that had produced had temporarily ceased to do so, owing to sanding up, due to the encountering of enormous gas pressures, which were difficult to handle because of the unusually soft and ever-caving ground met with, and causing much disappointment, many delays, and not infrequent failure.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE WEST INDIES.

An Interesting American Report.

In the winter of 1912-13, Mr. Waldo Lincoln, President of the American Antiquarian Society, visited the West Indies, with the object of securing copies of early newspapers and Caribbeana generally. The results of his tour are recorded in the Proceedings of the Society, from which it appears that Mr. Lincoln was fortunate enough to secure nearly one hundred volumes of newspapers, published in Trinidad, Grenada, St. Lucia, Barbados, Antigua and St. Christopher between 1790 and 1880, which, runs the report, it would be very difficult, if not impossible to duplicate, and which have placed this Library far ahead of any other, in this country at least, in early West Indian newspapers. There is reason to hope that files of Jamaican, Porto Rican, Cuban and other island newspapers may yet be found to enrich the collection still further.

Little interest, says Mr. Lincoln, seems to be taken in most of the islands in their bibliography, and while there is a public library in each of the British Islands no attention has been paid to the collection of West Indian imprints, save the very creditable work which has been done by Mr. Frank Cundall in the Institute of Jamaica at Kingston. This lack of interest, which makes the search for early imprints difficult and often discouraging, is probably due to several causes, but it is well nigh universal. Though it is certain that printing presses were established in many of the islands before the middle of the eighteenth century, the writer was unable to find, except in the Institute of Jamaica, a single book, pamphlet, or broadside printed in the islands previous to 1850, save two almanacs and a book of the Laws, all printed in the island of St. Christopher, and of these, the two almanacs could not be located.

The small percentage of white population, which in the British islands is only about 2 per cent., and the temporary residence of the white officials, who are frequently moved from colony to colony, are contributing causes; but perhaps the chief reason for this scarcity of early imprints is the difficulty, one might almost say impossibility, of preserving them in a climate where literally moth and rust do corrupt. Moreover, nearly every town has been the victim of earthquakes or of one or more disastrous conflagrations, when, in the absence of adequate

protective equipment, everything within reach of the flames has been entirely consumed. Wars, too, which one hundred years and more ago were constant between England, France and Spain, have devastated many of the islands more than once, and change of masters was not conducive to the preservation of property so easily destroyed as books and papers. At one time or another nearly every newspaper office has been burned and with it the office file, and only such newspapers escaped as through change of ownership were removed by the retiring editors, and were thereafter preserved in their own houses. Such are the volumes fortunately discovered during the past winter and now in the Society's library. It is probable that England, or even the older coast towns of the United States, many of which had an active trade with the West Indies one hundred years ago, will offer a better hunting ground for Caribbeana than the islands themselves.

High Praise of Mr. Frank Cundall.

A brief description of the conditions found in the several islands visited may be of interest; and since, with the opening of the Panama Canal, the Greater and the Lesser Antilles, will probably become easier of access and more frequently visited, perhaps other members will soon be able to supplement this account with a description of the conditions in the other islands. Jamaica, third in size of all the Antilles, possesses in Mr. Frank Cundall, now a member of this Society, the one man in the British West Indies who is interested in their bibliography. He is manager and librarian of the Institute of Jamaica, whose building was destroyed by the earthquake of 1907, but whose library was saved from the destruction caused by the ensuing conflagration. The Institute has recently built a new building of brick and concrete, unfortunately not so fireproof as its valuable contents deserve. The library contains excellent files of nineteenth century Jamaican newspapers, mostly well bound and in good preservation; a very good collection of books relating to the West Indies, including many West Indian imprints; and a remarkable collection of portraits of colonial officials. All these are due to the activity and exertion of Mr. Cundall, and it is feared are hardly appreciated by the members and supporters of the Institute who are mostly interested in the circulating department of the library which is devoted to the ephemeral literature of the day. The writer did not visit the record office and cannot report on the conditions of the records therein. He was informed, however, that they are well cared for.

Trinidad has, at Port of Spain, a well-selected circulating library, adequately housed in a new building, brick, but not fireproof. No attention has been paid to collecting West Indian imprints, although through the exertions of Miss Hart, the capable librarian, the library has a good file of nineteenth century Trinidad newspapers, the earliest number dated Jan. 18, 1817, most of which are in good order. The public offices were burned in the

riots of 1903, but have been replaced with substantial stone buildings, and the records are said to be in good order. The writer was informed that no one in the island was particularly interested in its history and bibliography, and though it is evident that a printing press was set up as early as 1804, no example of its work was found earlier than the newspaper of 1817.

Grenada possesses at St. George a small public library of modern literature. It is installed in one room of the public buildings, and no attention is paid to collecting Grenada imprints, of which no examples exist in the library save a partial file of a Grenada newspaper, the earliest number of which is considerably later than 1800, though the newspaper was first published in 1784, and the writer secured a partial file for the year 1790. The public record office was not visited. Though a file of St. Lucia newspapers was secured, it was obtained in Grenada of a descendant of the editor; and the island was unvisited save for a brief stop at midnight on a voyage to the northern islands.

Bookless Barbados.

The library at Bridgetown, Barbados, is installed in a handsome limestone building, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, but it has no historical collection and but an imperfect file of rather late nineteenth century newspapers. In the public offices are some early Barbados maps in fine condition, and the public records are said to be well cared for. The writer learned that there was a complete file of the "Agricultural Reporter," which was established between 1830 and 1840, and is still being published, in the possession of the present editor. He was also told that there was a good collection of Barbadian imprints in the island, to which visitors were not welcome, and which he was therefore unable to see, and cannot report upon. The native white Barbadians are a patriotic people and take great pride in their island and in its history, but up to the present time have not been generally interested in the productions of its press, though Thomas claims that one was established as early as 1730.

In Dominica there is a small library building at Roseau, also the gift of Mr. Carnegie, containing an unimportant circulating library. There is no interest in local imprints and no attempt has been made to collect and preserve them. There was, however, a very good loan collection of Carib tools of stone and bone. Speaking generally, much more interest is taken in many of the islands in archaeological research than in bibliography and history, and there are several really good private collections. Owing to the absence of carriage roads in Dominica a search through that island would be conducted with much discomfort and probably with poor result.

Queen Anne's Letter in Antigua.

St. John's, Antigua, possesses an unimportant library with nothing of historical note save an interesting autograph letter from Queen Anne, relative

to troubles which occurred in the island during her reign. Some newspapers of comparatively late date have been preserved, but they were unbound and in bad order, and entirely useless for consultation. The papers in the public record office were in shocking condition; no attempt apparently having been made to preserve them from damage by insects and dampness. It was really painful to consult them as it was impossible to handle some of the volumes without inflicting further injury. The Governor's attention was called to this sad condition of the record books, and he promised to take the matter in hand and to see that money was provided for their better care—a promise which he undoubtedly kept, since he took so much interest in the writer's quest for old newspapers that, learning of a collection for which the writer made an offer, he promptly raised the bid and bought them for the island library, a course which this Society can only praise since it seeks to encourage local interest in historical and bibliographical matters.

Although St. Christopher, or St. Kitt's, as it is commonly called, is said to have possessed the first printing press in the Lesser Antilles, its library has been established but a few years and possesses nothing of historic interest. It is kept in an upper room of the Court House. The sister island, Nevis, which is separated by a narrow strait from St. Kitt's, and which until fifty years ago was of considerable importance, has no library and a very trifling white population. The public records of these two islands are well kept. Considerable time was devoted to a search of the two islands for early imprints, which yielded several volumes of newspapers; the discovery of a volume of Laws printed at St. Kitt's in 1791, which the owner would not part with; and the report of the existence of two numbers of almanacs printed before 1810 which, after diligent search, could not be found.

* The writer learned of the existence of early files of newspapers published in the island of St. Bartholomew and in the Danish island of St. Croix; but as he visited neither of these islands he obtained only a single copy of an early St. Croix paper through the kindness of an English travelling salesman, who reported that the local government had been clearing out its offices of accumulated rubbish and that he had picked up this copy out of curiosity. This simply shows that early files are still in existence, and that a systematic search through the islands might return a rich reward.

ATTENTION has been drawn by several correspondents to an error in the article on "Trade with Germany and Austria," in our issue of November 17th. It is with the utmost regret that we find that Barbados has been credited with a consumption, in 1912, of German beer to the value of £6,619, and hasten to remove the slur by informing our readers that the £6,619 referred to manures, and not to German beer, the imports of which were only valued at £156 for the year in question.

THE WEST INDIES AND THE WAR.

In the preceding issues of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR we have given the names of those closely connected with the West Indies who are serving their country at the present time. The Editor hopes that readers will help towards making the list (additions to which will be published from time to time) complete, by calling attention to any corrections and additions which may be made. Some further names are given below.

THIRD LIST.

- Alexander, Captain D. D., (son of the late Hon. A. H. Alexander, Inspector of Immigrants, Jamaica), the Gordon Highlanders.
- Alexander, Captain A. C., (ditto), Seaforth Highlanders.
- Anderson, Captain Abdy F., late 13th Hussars, (Estates' proprietor in Dominica), The Scottish Rifles, attached to the King's Own Scottish Borderers. *At the Front.*
- Archibald, R., (son of Mr. R. B. Archibald, of Roxburgh, Tobago), 16th (Service) Battalion, The Royal Scots, (2nd Edinburgh).
- Archibald, Murray, (ditto), 16th (Service) Battalion, The Royal Scots (2nd Edinburgh).
- Armstrong, 2nd Lieut. E. L., (son of the late Mr. S. A. Armstrong, of Barbados), 11th Service Battalion Gordon Highlanders.
- Ashton, Midshipman A., R.N., (son of the Rev. S. C. Ashton, Malvern, Jamaica).
- Bain, William, (son of Mr. J. P. Bain, of Juvernes, Princes Town, Trinidad), The London Scottish.
- Blake, Flight Lieut. Maurice, (son of Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., Governor of Jamaica, 1888-1898), The Royal Flying Corps.
- Bushe, 2nd Lieut. Gervase, (son of the Hon. R. G. Bushe, and nephew of Mr. Gordon Gordon of Trinidad), 11th Service Battalion Cheshire Regiment.
- Cameron, Sub-Lieut. Alistair Gordon, R.N.R., (son of Mr. Alistair Cameron of Pln. Sanbury, Barbados).
- Caulfield, Brigadier-General J. E., (formerly officer commanding the troops in Jamaica), recently gazetted to the Staff.
- Chambers, Major Edward, (son of the late Sir George Chambers, and late of Demerara), The Surrey National Reserve.
- Clough, Eustace M., (son of the late Mr. David G. Clough, of Kingston, Jamaica), Queen's Own Rifles, Canadian Contingent.
- Clough, Private E. M., (of Jamaica, nephew of Mr. E. N. Leon, of Kingston), 3rd Battalion Queen's Own Rifles, Canadian Contingent.
- Conran, Captain R. E., (son of Mr. W. Conran, of St. Ann, Jamaica), Indian Army.
- Cousins, J. A., (London Staff of Fitzpatrick, Graham, Greenwood and Co., of London, Liverpool, Demerara, Jamaica and Trinidad), 2nd London Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.
- Cox, H. B., (son of the late Mr. T. P. Cox, of Jamaica), Canadian Contingent.
- Dodd, G. J., (son of Mr. J. H. Dodd, of Kingston, Jamaica), 2nd Canadian Contingent.
- Dickson, W. Martin, (son of Mr. W. M. Dickson, of Princes Town, Trinidad), Royal Flying Corps.
- Elmslie, Brigadier-General F. B., (Part proprietor of Gray's Inn Estate, Jamaica), Commanding 23rd Divisional Artillery.
- Elmslie, 2nd Lieut. Ronald F. C., (son of Brigadier-General F. B. Elmslie, C.B., part proprietor of Gray's Inn Estate, Jamaica), Royal Monmouth Royal Engineers. *At the Front.*
- Elmslie, Lieut.-Colonel W. F., (Part proprietor of Gray's Inn Estate), Commanding 13th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers.
- Fryer, Captain F. E., (brother of Mr. C. H. Barr Fryer, General Manager of the New Schoonord Company, Ltd., of British Guiana), Royal Garrison Artillery. *At the Front.*
- Garland, Vincent, (member of the Staff of Messrs Elders and Fyfes, Ltd.; nephew of Mr. J. B. Lucie Smith, Postmaster of Jamaica, and grandson of the late Mr. S. S. Burke, M.L.C., Jamaica), Universities and Public Schools Battalion.
- Gibb, Midshipman Roger B., R.N., (son of the late Dr. J. M. Gibb, of Jamaica), H.M.S. *New Zealand.*
- Gibson, 2nd Lieut. John, (born at Georgetown, Demerara, son of Mr. David Gibson), London Electrical Engineers, Thames Haven, Essex.
- Gibson, Miss, (daughter of Mr. David Gibson, late of Smith Bros., and Company, Demerara), Nurse, *at the Front.*
- Gould, G., (son of Mr. George Gould, of Kingston, Jamaica), 2nd King Edwards' Horse.
- Graham, H. M., (of Fitzpatrick, Graham and Co., of London, Liverpool, Demerara, Jamaica, and Trinidad), "A" Battery Honourable Artillery Company.
- Haigh, D. H., (of the Trinidad Staff of Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Graham and Co.), 1st City of Birmingham Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
- Harty, Dr. H., (son of Mr. T. H. Harty, of Alley, Jamaica), R.A.M.C.
- Harvey, Lieut. R. G. C., (son of Dr. C. E. Harvey, of Savannah La Mar, Jamaica), The Suffolk Regiment.
- Herriot, Private W. Maxwell, (second son of Mr. W. Scott Herriot, Managing Director of Messrs. Mirlees, Watson & Co.), 2nd Battalion, 9th Highland Light Infantry.
- Hovil, Fred, (grandson of the late Mr. W. O. Benekendorff, of London and Jamaica), London Rifle Brigade. *At the Front.*
- Hussey, Private George, (clerk, West India Committee), Orderly Room Clerk, 18th Battalion Cyclist Corps.
- Isaacs, L. S., (son of Mr. L. A. Isaacs, of Mandeville, Jamaica), 5th Battalion, 2nd Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery, 1st Canadian Contingent.
- Jarrett-Kerr, Captain H. J., (Jamaica), Indian Army, Supply and Transport Corps. *At the Front.*
- Jones, 2nd Lieut. Leonard, (son of Mr. Thomas Edward Jones, of Messrs. Curtis, Campbell and Co.), The Royal Fusiliers.
- Keddie, G. F. D., (London Staff of Fitzpatrick, Graham, Greenwood and Co., of London, Liverpool, Demerara, Jamaica and Trinidad), The Artists Rifles.
- Kemp, 2nd Lieut. T. N. C., (son of Mr. T. Kemp, Constant Spring, Jamaica), 9th Gurkha Rifles.
- Kimble, Arthur, (son of Mr. Fred Kimble, of Kingston, Jamaica), 1st Canadian Contingent.
- Lane, Lieut. R., (was in Jamaica in connection with the earthquake and fire litigation), 11th (the Duke of Cambridge's Own) Middlesex Regiment.
- Layne, Able Seaman John G., (son of Mr. F. A. Layne, of Carrington and Sealy, Barbados), Wireless Section, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.
- Lewis, Captain S., (son of Mr. J. D. Lewis, of Mandeville, Jamaica), Royal Army Medical Corps.
- Lopez, A., (son of Mr. C. Lopez, of Chapelton), 3rd East Surrey Regiment.
- Loscombe, Colonel A. R., (formerly Colonel of the 2nd West India Regiment, stationed in Jamaica), 9th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment.
- McPhail, Donald, (son of Mr. J. H. McPhail, of Bog Walk), Canadian Contingent.
- McFarlane, 2nd Lieut. Maynard, (son of Mr. A. B. McFarlane, of Mico College, Jamaica), 5th Battalion Middlesex Regiment.
- McGrath, Lieut. Donal S., R.N., (son of the Hon. George McGrath, of Fwarton, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Lancaster.*
- Miles, Lieut. W. H., (son of the Hon. A. H. Miles, of Kingston, Jamaica), The Dorsetshire Regiment.
- Miles, R. D., (ditto), 2nd Canadian Contingent.
- Moulton-Barrett, Colonel R. A., C.M.G., (Aibion, St. Ann's, Jamaica), A.D.O.S., Eastern Command.
- Moxsy, 2nd Lieut. A. R., (son of Mr. S. Moxsy, of Kingston, Jamaica), The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
- Murray, Sergeant Cecil W., (son of Mr. H. E. Murray, of

"Mara" and "Retraite," Berbice, British Guiana), The Queen's Royal Glasgow Yeomanry.

Musson, Captain S. P., (son of the late Hon. S. P. Musson, Island Treasurer of Jamaica, and grandson of the late Hon. John Orrett), Indian Army.

Neale, Major G. H., (son of Colonel Neale, brother-in-law of Mr. Edward Chambers, with whom he went to Demerara in 1903), 4th Battalion (the Duke of Cambridge's Own), Middlesex Regiment.

Neish, Midshipman Donald C. G., (son of Dr. W. Neish, of Spanish Town, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Iron Duke*.

Nosworthy, Lieut. F. P., (son of Mr. R. Nosworthy, of Kingston, Jamaica), Royal Engineers, 1st Indian Contingent.

Nosworthy, Midshipman A. H., R.N., (ditto), H.M.S. *Vixen*.

Nugent, L., (son of Mr. H. P. Nugent, of Jamaica), 2nd Canadian Contingent.

Orrett, Claude, (son of Mr. William H. Orrett, of Jamaica), London Scottish.

Osmond, Fleet Paymaster George W. F., R.N., (son of the late Captain G. Osmond, R.N., of Malvern, Jamaica).

Reece, 2nd Lieut. H. Stanley, (of Codrington College, Barbados), 11th Service Battalion, Gordon Highlanders.

Rickford, Russell, (son of Mr. Howell Rickford, Manager and Attorney, Pln. "Mara," Rio Berbice), Universities and Public Schools Corps.

Rudolf, Lieut. H. P., M.B., LL.B., (of Jamaica), Royal Army Medical Corps, Special Reserve.

Schult, Edgar (son of the late Mr. Robert Schult, of Benckendorff, Berger and Co., of London and Jamaica), 7th City of London Regiment.

Sharp, Lieut. C. G. K., (son of Mr. T. H. Sharp, of Spanish Town, Jamaica), Royal Army Medical Corps.

Siddall, Gunner Eric M., (son of Mr. T. A. Siddall), South Midland Warwickshire Royal Garrison Artillery.

Siddall, J. F., (eldest son of Mr. T. A. Siddall), British South African Police.

Sinclair, Dr. Neil, (son of Dr. F. A. Sinclair, of Negril, Jamaica), Royal Army Medical Corps.

Solomon, Gerald, (son of Mr. John Solomon, a retired Government Official of British Guiana), The Canadian Contingent.

Stewart, Commander J. D. D., R.N., (son of the late Mr. W. Stewart, of Shaw Park, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Magnificent*.

Street, Corporal N. W., (nephew of Mr. Albert T. Hammond, of Barbados), The Cheshire Yeomanry.

Street, Sergeant Noel, (ditto), 2nd Manchester Battalion.

Street, Reginald, (ditto), 2nd Manchester Battalion.

Swain, Gerald Arthur, (son of the late Mr. A. C. Swain, British Guiana Civil Service), 16th Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

Swain, Oswald Bertie, (ditto), 8th Scottish Rifles.

Thomas, Lieut. E., (son of Inspector H. Thomas, Black River, Jamaica), Royal Field Artillery.

Thomas, Lieut. B., (ditto), Royal Navy.

Turrill, 2nd Lieut. Vivian, (brother-in-law of Mr. G. H. Paireaudan, of Demerara).

Verley, Lieut. Reginald C., (of Jamaica), Royal Army Medical Corps.

Williams, B. W., (son of the Hon. J. R. Williams, of Kingston, Jamaica), 2nd Regiment King Edward's Horse.

Wynne, Lieut. Walter R. M., R.N., (son of the late Mr. W. Wynne, of Mandeville, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Blenheim*.

Killed in Action.

CAPTAIN H. R. BENTLEY, who has been killed in action at the Front was recently Staff Officer at St. James' Barracks, Port of Spain, Trinidad.

LIEUTENANT GASKELL, R.N., who went down with H.M.S. *Good Hope*, was the son-in-law of Mr. E. L. Atkinson, the Manager of the Colonial Bank in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

ASSISTANT PAYMASTER HUBERT Z. SIMPSON, R.N.R., who lost his life in H.M.S. *Hawke* when she was torpedoed on October 15th, was purser in the R.M.S. *Arcadian*, and enjoyed great popularity among all who travelled in her and also in the West Indies.

DR. FERNAND DE VERTEUIL, of Trinidad, who lost his life in H.M.S. *Good Hope* had formerly been in the Navy and rejoined on the outbreak of hostilities.

CAPTAIN A. C. WARD, D.S.O., of the Lancashire Fusiliers, who lost his life at the front in the early days of the war, was the son of the late Colonel the Hon. C. J. Ward, C.M.G., of Kingston, Jamaica.

Wounded.

Macdonald, Private D. R., (London Staff of Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Graham and Co., of London, Liverpool, Demerara, Trinidad and Jamaica), The London Scottish.

Moulton-Barrett, Captain E. F., (son of Colonel E. A. Moulton-Barrett, *see above*), 1st Royal West Kent Regiment.

Missing.

Ewing, 2nd Lieut. A. Crum, (son of Mr. Humphry Crum Ewing, Chairman of the West India Association of Glasgow), 3rd Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders was reported missing on December 22nd.

ALTERATIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

Boyle, Lieut. A. R., (son-in-law of Mr. F. J. Constable Curtis, owner of Georgia, Jamaica), Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Coke, Lieut. F. F., (son of Mr. F. F. Coke, of Mile Gully, Jamaica), Fort Garry Regiment, 1st Canadian Contingent.

Coke, N., (ditto), 2nd Canadian Contingent.

Curtis, Lieut. F. Maynard C., R.N., (son of Mr. F. J. Constable Curtis, owner of Georgia Estate, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Grafton*.

Curtis, Commander Berwich, (son-in-law of Mr. F. J. Constable Curtis, owner of Georgia Estate, Jamaica), H.M.S. *Kale*.

Rutherford, 2nd Lieut. T. W., (son of Mr. R. Rutherford, Deputy Chairman of the West India Committee), 11th Service Battalion A.P.W.O., Yorkshire Regiment (O. C. Colonel R. L. Aspinall, D.S.O.).

DERRICK ALLAN KIRKPATRICK PILE, who was killed in action near Ypres on November 27th, was the younger son of the late Mr. Theodore Pile, of Barbados and Trinidad, and of Mrs. Pile, of Wickham Road, Brockley.

[Copies of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, of December 1st and 15th, in which the first and second lists, containing 314 and 63 names respectively were published, are obtainable at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane. Price 1s. per copy, post free.]

THE MERITS OF CANE SUGAR.

Professor Carmody's striking announcement.

Professor Patrick Carmody, F.I.C., F.C.S., Director of Agriculture of Trinidad and Tobago, in a paper which he read before the Board of Agriculture on November 21st, made the following important statement regarding the respective merits of cane and beet sugars:—

"For many years the beet sugar producers have educated the public to believe that a pure white sugar, whatever its source may have been, meets all the requirements of the most fastidious consumers. The public have not been told that beet sugar is not fit for consumption unless the natural impurities are reduced by manufacturing processes to a very small percentage. Cane sugar containing even a large percentage of natural impurities is never unpalatable. The residual impurities in beet sugar, though small in amount, must be of the same nature as the original impurities, and no one yet knows what effect upon health may be produced by consuming the last traces of the residual impurities of beet sugar. It is known that beet sugar of 94 per cent. purity develops an odour as offensive as that of a decomposed egg and that the elimination of another 5 per cent. of the natural impurities is a commercial necessity. If this fact were more widely known, consumers would probably be led to realise the inferiority of beet sugar."

LOOKING BACK.

Under this heading extracts from the old records and minute books of the West India Committee are published. The earliest minute book is dated 1769; but there is evidence that the Committee was in existence before that year. In the earlier days there were two Committees, those of the West India Planters and the West India Merchants, which met jointly as the "Standing Committee of West India Planters and Merchants," a name which survived until 1904, when the West India Committee was incorporated by Royal Charter granted by King Edward VII.

IV.—How the West India Committee's Funds used to be raised.

At a meeting of the West India Merchants held at Beeston Long, Esq., (sic), London, 25th June, 1800.

Present, Beeston Long, Esqre., in the Chair.

Mr. Aislabie,	Mr. Bosanquet,
Mr. Timeron,	Mr. Blackman,
Mr. Long,	Mr. Higgin.

Resolved: That the following Gratuities be given to the Marine Society. Twenty Guineas for the Use of the Committee Rooms. Three Guineas to Mr. Nenby, their Secretary. Two Guineas to Mr. Walker, Messenger.

That in consequence of a Resolution of the West India Planters, it is expedient to raise upon the present year's Importation computing from 25th March, 1800, to 25th March, 1801, One Shilling for each Hogshead of Sugar, Puncheon of Rum, Bags of Cotton, and 1000 lbs. Weight of Coffee or Cocoa, and in proportion on all other Articles of West India Produce, and that the same be charged in the Account Sales for the general Purposes of Trade.

That in addition Twopence per Ton be raised on Shipping employed in the West India Trade, and that the above Resolutions be transmitted to the different West India Houses.

[The method of raising funds for the West India Committee outlined in the above minute was followed for many years. Perhaps some day it may be again resorted to when some big campaign has to be waged for the West Indies. Meanwhile the Hon. Treasurers are by this mail only asking the members of the Committee to forward the modest subscription of £1 1s. or \$5.00 for the coming year. Mr. Beeston Long, who was Chairman of the West India Committee from 1769 until August, 1819, was also Chairman of the London Dock Company. His offices where the meeting was held, were in Bishopsgate, which afterwards became Bishopsgate Street Within and Without, but has now reverted to its former name. The Marine Society, which is still in existence and extremely active at the present time, removed from the Royal Exchange to 54, Bishopsgate in 1774.]

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.**The East Coast Raid.**

For the first time since the French destroyed south coast ports in the fourteenth century this country has been raided. A squadron, consisting of some of the fastest ships in the German Navy bombarded the Hartlepoons, Whitby and Scarborough in the morning of December 16th. As the latter are undefended towns it can only be supposed that the Huns took a frenzied revenge for their defeat off the Falkland Islands. From the direction of the shells it is believed that spies supplied the enemy with intelligence, which was only a week old. There were about 400 casualties, consisting for the most part of civilians, men, women and children, many of whom are maimed. At Hartlepool the gas works were set on fire, and considerable damage was done to buildings in all three towns. True to their pagan record elsewhere, damage was done to the beautiful old abbey at Whitby. Unfortunately the German ships on the approach of a British patrolling squadron retired at full speed and escaped in the mist. The raid was not a naval operation, but an act of pure piracy, since the bombardment of undefended towns without notice is a violation of international law, which involves barbarous inhumanity. Germany cares as little for the Hague Convention forbidding the slaughter of civilians in coast places as she cares for other "scraps of paper." But if she was "out" to depress Englishmen by her "frightfulness" she will find that they are not so easily intimidated. Even in the stricken towns there was no panic, the people behaving with great dignity and restraint. So far from weakening the fighting determination of the country the effect will be exactly the reverse. The recruiting returns in Yorkshire, particularly, have gone up with a bound.

The Germans, to account for the bombardment, described the Hartlepoons and Scarborough as "fortified," though the latter is armed with nothing better than pop-guns. Not a word was said about Whitby.

On the Western Front.

The Allied Forces, which in General Joffre's phrase, have been "nibbling" at their long line, straightening it out, and occupying more advantageous positions are advancing slowly but steadily. At Steinbach they experienced a slight reverse, but south of the Aspach-Burnhaupt line the enemy's attempt at one of his favourite flanking movements was frustrated. These have not proved so successful elsewhere that they can safely be tried in a district near a neutral frontier, since in case of a reverse, the Germans might be interned. Gradually the enemy is falling back on the Rhine.

In France proper not the least significant piece of news is the gain on the right bank of the Meuse about Brabant due north of Verdun, and all along the line from the sea to St. Mihiel; it is evident that

the Germans have lost the offensive. Fresh assaults there may be, but they can do no more than bend back a little the line of the defenders. From what we know of these they will take care of that. The return of the French Government to Paris is a symbol none can mistake of the failure of Germany's plan to deal France a crushing blow by a swift advance on the capital.

Germany's Dangerous Position.

To Germany then the situation is serious. Her main objective is the defeat of the Allied Army in France, but because her scheme of holding Russia on the defensive meanwhile has miscarried, her strength is being wasted in Poland. Unless Belgium, which she has coveted so long, is to fall from her grasp, as well as her commanding position in Northern France, which, in certain contingencies, would help her to secure a favourable peace, she must, at all costs, recover the offensive that she, practically, lost in the Battle of the Marne. But to hold Russia at bay, she is finding that first line troops are required, and to concentrate them in great strength in the East means a weakening of her arms in the West, and of that, naturally, the Allies take prompt advantage. Twice she has tried to force the Russians back so as to contain them along the Prussian frontier and beyond the Vistula and the San, only to fail of her aim with enormous losses. So far, then, she has been able neither to maintain a successful defensive in relation to Russia, nor a successful offensive against the Allies. In such circumstances the strategy of the Grand Duke and General Joffre are bound to act and react on one another to her confusion. If she again reinforces her arms in Belgium and France from Poland what chance has she of breaking the Allied line when she has so signally failed to do it during the past four months? As one military critic puts it—Germany is besieged.

On the Eastern Front.

The news is so contradictory that it may be conjectured that neither side is able to score a decisive success. Evidently Warsaw is to Germany in Poland what Calais is in France, and she is prepared to make enormous sacrifices to gain it. Fresh forces are being hurled against Russia, the fighting being of the most desperate character. On the Prussian frontier the Russians are able to hold their own, but if it is true that the Germans have been able to secure a footing on the lower Buzura, they are threatening a vital line of communication and Warsaw itself. But, in any case, the Grand Duke is admittedly abandoning his main objective, which is Cracow, and drawing his armies together so as to hold an inner line. Another message reports obstinate fighting between the Vistula and the Pilitza, resulting in heavy losses to the enemy. But from the different accounts it is easy to gather that General Von Hindenburg is a formidable adversary. It was he who inflicted on the Russians their first defeat, and it was his skill that extricated the Austro-Germans from disaster in Galicia. It is said that he is

the only one of the German generals who is outside the Kaiser's influence.

The situation then is that on both fronts the Allies must be longing for Kitchener's Legions to materialise.

Egypt a British Protectorate.

Turkey's folly in counting on the downfall of England as a World Power, and the rise of Germany in her place as the result of the present war is being brought home to her with every week of the war. She has lost the suzerainty over Cyprus, together with the tribute thereof; the region at the head of the Persian Gulf; and now the suzerainty over Egypt, which has been proclaimed a British Protectorate. Thus ends a highly artificial and paradoxical situation, that has lasted for a generation and a half. Its change of status is welcomed in the country itself with profound gratitude. Not only will it be rid of a yoke, which in other days was grievously oppressive, but of the capitulations, which were a constant source of trouble. Germany, in particular, will no longer have her finger in Egyptian affairs, so as to embarrass the British Government whenever it suits her. Then Egypt paid £665,000 a year to the Turkish Sultan, but Lord Cromer says it is hypothecated to Ottoman bondholders, an arrangement which may be altered for the benefit of the Protectorate later on. As for the Khedive, who allowed himself to be drawn to Constantinople in German toils, he has been superseded in the Khedivate by his uncle with the title of Sultan.

The Dardanelles Exploit.

On December 12th, the Submarine B11 performed a daring feat, which earned her the admiration of the whole world. She entered the Dardanelles, and passing under five rows of mines, sank the Turkish battleship *Messudiyeh* with a torpedo. Though assailed by gunfire and torpedo-boats she was directed with equal skill on the return journey; her success being the more notable as she was not a new type of boat. At one stage of her adventure she was submerged for nine hours. Though the vessel she sank was an old one, the exploit was worth the while to show that the spirit of our glorious past is the naval spirit of to-day.

Servia's Dramatic Victory.

King Peter and his court have returned from Nish to Belgrade, and Servian territory is clear from the last Austrian invader. To Austria the defeat is staggering, as she not only hated, but despised her little neighbour. General Potiorek, once a popular idol, is summoned to Vienna, where he is to be tried by a special Court-martial, though most of the responsibility for the disaster rests on other shoulders. It now transpires that the Austrians lost in killed, wounded and missing a larger number of troops than there are in the whole Servian Army. The horrors of the retreat, where men were kept continuously on the march for a week, incessantly harassed by an implacable foe, will never be told.

In Hungary the effect is to accentuate the aversion of the Magyars from the Pan-Germanism of Vienna. Count Tisza in the Hungarian Parliament has threatened the Dual Monarchy with disruption unless Magyar troops are concentrated in Hungary.

•In the North Sea.

The submarine base in course of construction at Zeebrugge on the Belgian Coast, from which the Germans contemplate naval operations directed against England has been effectively bombarded by British warships. Since the command of the sea is in British hands everything necessary to transform the harbour into a potent naval centre has been carried overland from Germany. That her hopes should be so completely baffled by the skill and activity of British ships must cause bitter disappointment in Berlin, where it is admitted that the harbour works are smashed as well as machinery controlling the locks. By bombarding the Belgian coast in possession of the enemy, too, our warships have destroyed German batteries several miles inland, thus enabling the Allies to make the appreciable advances recorded in the past few days.

The War with Turkey.

In Asia Minor the swift initiative of Russia has marred the enemy's plans for an attack on Trans-Caucasia from Erzeroum. The fighting is "lively," especially in the Ilan region. But the mountain warfare of his part of the theatre of conflict being extremely difficult decisive results are not yet in sight.

South Africa.

General Botha is to be congratulated on the manner in which he has handled the situation created by the recent rebellion, which involved operations spread over a wide area. About 7,000 rebels have surrendered, and except for Maritz, who escaped over the border to join his German friends, all the leaders are accounted for. The rank and file are to be tried by a special tribunal, which is to be constituted by Parliament. The leaders by the military courts. After Christmas the Union Expeditionary Force, to which Rhodesia has sent a contingent, is to take the field against German South-West Africa.

(To be continued).

SINCE the beginning of the war Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., have been bringing home intending recruits for the Navy and Army from Costa Rica, Columbia and Jamaica at the reduced fare of £10 per head. They are certainly to be congratulated upon this practical example of their patriotism.

THE Royal Commission on Sugar Supplies have reduced the price of Mauritius crystals on the grounds, it is said, that this sugar is used as a material of manufacture, and that the recovery from the consumer of the increase in the cost of sugar is a much more complicated and difficult matter than it is when sugar is used for grocery purposes.

SOME USEFUL REPORTS.

Summing up the results of thirty-eight years of elementary education in Jamaica, Mr. George Hicks, Inspector of Schools, contributes the following remarks to the annual Report on the Education Department which is signed by Mr. J. R. Williams, the Director of Education: "There is a new educational atmosphere in Jamaica. More real interest in the education of 'the masses' is manifested by 'the classes.' It is not now difficult to find business men who will give their services freely and faithfully as members of educational boards. There is more respect in the community for the school teacher, and the school teachers, as a body, are more worthy of respect—though I do not forget that such men as T. B. Stephenson, B. E. Fullerton, C. E. Skyers, and others equally worthy were among the teachers in the '70's. They are now more solicitous to be teachers than schoolmasters, and a larger proportion, including women teachers in charge of schools, maintain a less muscular discipline, a discipline rather by the head and the heart than by the strong right hand. The teachers think and read more, are more manly, have more self-reliance. When in the '80's many Teachers' Associations were formed, invariably the President, and also the Vice-President, was a School Manager; now, almost without exception, all the officers are teachers, and they are capable. Parents more generally manifest a real, intelligent interest in their children's education. Not only have ministers of religion been faithful in presenting to their congregations the rights of children and the duties of parents in this matter, but the people have attended many special meetings to hear addresses upon this subject, (in one year they met me at 25 meetings) and for years there has hardly been the laying of a corner-stone of any new school room or its opening, without a large gathering of the people eager to hear addresses that would excite greater interest in the cause of elementary education. The children are more neatly clad (the child wearing but a single garment is now rarely seen in school), they are better supplied with books, slates, writing and drawing materials, etc.; their *patois* is less prominent; the good effect of physical drill is apparent."

What is Vomiting Sickness ?

As regards vomiting sickness, a malady which has been claimed to be identical with yellow fever, Dr. Harold Scott, the Government Pathologist, in his annual report concludes:—

1. That the weight of evidence is against the disease being due to a bacteriæmia.
2. That the rapidity of progress of symptoms with early fatal termination (or, in rarer instances, rapid and complete recovery) rather indicates the action of a poison.
3. That, in view of the early symptoms being gastric, and the cerebral succeeding soon after, this poison is produced in, or introduced into, and absorbed from, the stomach; (the gastric and duodenal congestion present tends to support this).

4. That, since feeding experiments have proved negative, and chemical tests (which in former years have been repeatedly tried by the island chemist) have revealed none of the usual poisons, and no signs of alkaloids, the poison (if such it be) is one which rapidly leaves the stomach or is rapidly decomposed, for example, it may be in the nature of a glucoside.

5. That it rapidly spreads over the whole body, as is evidenced by the hæmorrhages and other changes present in almost every organ and tissue.

6. That it produces its effects (apart from clinical symptoms arising from cerebral causes) in the main upon the liver, as shown by the extensive fatty changes set up in that organ.

7. That, seeing the enormous mortality (90 per cent. of the cases reported to me this year), the first indication for treatment which can be deduced from the above theory—for it is little more than a theory—and conjecture, though based on observed facts—until the poison be isolated and its antidote found, is to wash out the stomach at the very earliest opportunity.

Dr. Scott goes on to say "The only suggestion I can offer as to the source of this hypothetical poison is that, since one can never obtain any history to implicate any particular article of food, it is due to something which is apparently dangerous only at certain times of the year, some fruit, perhaps, or vegetable, or what, in my opinion, is more probable, some growth (fungus, yeast, mould, etc.) on or in this food, rendering it toxic. The disease rarely attacks adults, as it would if it were due to ordinary food poisoning; it almost never attacks the infant in arms, but mainly those at the toddling age (75 per cent. this year); amongst the poorer natives the children get the minimum of attention, and there is every opportunity for them to pick up unripe, or otherwise unsuitable food, from the ground and eat it, without their parents even being aware that they have done so."

The Report of the Poor Law Board states that the forecast in the last annual report that "industrial conditions, though serious, are not likely to be permanent" is confirmed by reference to the returns, as the total number of registered poor has been reduced during the latter part of the year and the expenditure, except in three parishes, has in proportion to population, fallen off.

The Decline of Pauperism.

All the parishes except St. James, Hanover, St. Elizabeth, and Clarendon have shown a decrease in the number of paupers. The greatest increase is seen in St. James, where Poor Law organisation and administration is, we regret to report, deficient. The deficiencies have been brought to the notice of the Parochial Board, who have stated that "the whole system of re-organisation is being considered by the Board."

The total number of registered paupers in St. James is now 719 or 16.6 per thousand of population, and the cost to the parish is £3,817 or 1s. 9d. per head of population. A careful revision of the pauper roll (which can only be done by a personal visit of the Inspector of Poor to each pauper at his place of residence) is necessary. The increase in St. James, during the year, to the roll, which was already excessively high, was 76, and were it not

for this item the general returns for the island would have shown a marked decrease in pauperism, compared with last year.

The charge per head of population for the whole island was 1s. 3d. as compared with 1s. 4d. in the previous year, and the number of paupers per thousand of population was 8.1 as compared with 8.5 for 1912-13.

THE ADMINISTRATOR OF DOMINICA.

The King has been pleased to give directions for the appointment of Arthur William Mahaffy, Esq., (Assistant to the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific), to be Administrator of the Presidency of Dominica.

Mr. Mahaffy, who is in his forty-fifth year, is a son of Dr. Mahaffy, Senior Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. Educated at Marlborough, Magdalen College, Oxford, and Trinity College, Dublin, he was gazetted to the Royal Munster Fusiliers. His Colonial career dates from 1896 when he was appointed Government Agent in the Gilbert Islands. From there he went to the Solomon Islands as Resident Commissioner. In 1904 he became Colonial Secretary of Fiji, and four years later assisted the High Commissioners for the Western Pacific and Solomon Islands.

OBITUARY.

HON. HERBERT E. COX.

We regret to state that the Hon. Herbert E. Cox died at his residence, the "Ramble," Jamaica, on December 10th.

Mr. Cox was for some years a member of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society. He was the pioneer of tea cultivation in the island, and a fair measure of success attended his efforts to popularise Jamaica tea, which is sold under the trade name of "Ramble." Mr. Cox was for many years Custos of St. Ann, a position from which he only retired recently owing to failing health.

HON. I. M. FARQUHARSON.

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of the Hon. J. M. Farquharson, which took place at Appleton, Jamaica, on November 30th.

Mr. Farquharson was the son of the late Hon. James Miller Farquharson. He started his business career with Messrs. Leyden and Co., of Savannah-la-Mar, and later entered into partnership with his brother Mr. C. M. Farquharson, of Black River. Then, turning his attention to agriculture, he leased Appleton, an estate famed for its rum. A worthy son, he succeeded his father as Custos of St. Elizabeth, and for many years he also held the position of Chairman of the Parochial Board. On the death of Mr. C. E. Isaacs, he was invited to represent the Parish on the Legislative Council, which he continued to do until his death.

Mr. C. WILGROSS ANDERSON, I.S.O., Forestry Officer of British Guiana, returns to the colony by the mail of January 13th (R.M.S.P. Company permitting) accompanied by his wife. During his stay in this country, Mr. Anderson, besides superintending the British Guiana Court at the Tropical Products Exhibition, which was awarded the West India Committee Cup, has been identifying a number of botanical specimens of forest trees at the herbarium at Kew.

SOME NATURE NOTES.

THE *Indian Trade Journal* publishes the results of experiments conducted in India on the Rangoon bean (*Phaseolus lunatus*). The white bean was found to contain 0.03 per cent. of prussic acid, which was high for that variety. The coloured beans yielded variable quantities of prussic acid. The ordinary variety gave only .005 per cent., while the red beans gave as much as .05 per cent.

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THE cultivation of rice has recently been experimented with in Mauritius. The varieties experimented with gave the following yields of paddy to the acre: Mudi Kiro (Ceylon) 2664 lbs.; Rangaibe (Bearded Madagascar) 2298 lbs.; Ludu (Ceylon) 1907 lbs.; Mahatsou (Madagascar) 1738 lbs.; Lua Thom (Ceylon) 1542 lbs.; Kalu (Ceylon) 1447 lbs. Trials were also made with the more promising of the heavy-yielding selected rice varieties of British Guiana, but the planting was done too late, and poor yields were obtained.

* * *

WRITING in the *Proceedings* of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad, Mr. R. S. Cunliffe draws attention to the unreliability of soil analysis alone as a guide to the manurial requirements of any soil, and illustrates the point by the fact that nearly all the red and black soils in the island of Cuba show a high percentage of phosphoric acid by analysis, and yet in manuring the addition of this agent is essential. In the same way, he points out, certain soils, notably in Hawaii, contain by analysis huge quantities of nitrogen, and yet require nitrogenous manures.

* * *

That this is the case, is not the fault of chemical analytical processes, but rather of the want of power we possess of applying tests to soils which correspond to the chemical and biological processes of plant life. Attempts are made to initiate the assimilative power of plant life by treating the soils with weak solutions of organic acids; the products thus obtained being subjected to ordinary chemical analysis. Although, perhaps, a step in the right direction, practical agricultural scientists realise that the results obtained are far from satisfactory, and that we are not more than, if that, on the threshold of the storeroom of the secret processes of nature in regard to agriculture.

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In his report on the operations of the Madras Agricultural Department for 1913-14, Mr. Chadwick the Director of Agriculture, says that as regards sugar cane the average yield was 5½ tons of jaggery at the Central Farm in Coimbatore, while the highest recorded figures in crop-cutting experiments on ryots' land was 4.93 tons. The Barbados seedling 147 was still doing the best of the varieties experimented with. As regards manuring the experience

at Coimbatore indicated that the addition of mineral fertilizers might be beneficial to cane, although at Samalkota nothing was found to be equal to castor-oil cake.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

Now that Dr. H. A. Tempany, the Government Analyst and Superintendent of Agriculture of the Leeward Islands, is back again in Antigua, we may hope to hear more on the subject of his researches in connection with soil bacteriology.

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MR. V. M. WEIL, B.Sc., Assistant Government Chemist of the Leeward Islands, has returned from the West Indies on the completion of his term of engagement under the Federal Government. It is said that he intends to offer himself for military service.

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A small shipment of St. Lucia lime juice has recently sold at the high price of £52 10s. per pipe. An important development of the lime juice industry in Dominica has been the installation of steam concentration plants. Citrate plants are already in operation on four properties.

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MR. W. N. SANDS, Agricultural Superintendent of St. Vincent, has returned to the island with Mrs. Sands and his son, after six months leave of absence. It may not be generally known that while in this country Mr. Sands received the offer of a post in one of our Dominions. We are glad he did not accept.

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MR. J. C. MOORE, till recently in St. Lucia, arrived in Grenada where he has succeeded Mr. G. G. Auchinleck as Agricultural Superintendent. Before he left St. Lucia Mr. Moore had the satisfaction of hearing that a small shipment of lime juice from the island had realised a record price.

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FROM the Virgin Islands we learn that the harvesting of the lime crop is being conducted satisfactorily. During August 300 barrels of limes were purchased at the Botanic Station. One estate has started the crushing of limes and the concentration of lime juice on its own account—a satisfactory indication of the progress of the industry. At Parraquita Bay estate 20 acres of land have been cleared for coco-nut cultivation.

THE *Barbados Advocate* of December 8th announces the intention of Mr. Swift MacNeill to urge in the House of Commons that two Royal Dukes who are now fighting with the enemy shall be "deprived of their British Peeresses and Titles." This savours of the East.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Wildridge, J.P., a director of the Demerara Railway Company since 1904, which took place recently at his residence Roundelwood, Crieff, Perthshire.

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The charge of committing an offence under the Official Secrets' Act, which was recently brought against Mr. Louis Wessels in Jamaica, has, as his many friends will be glad to learn, been withdrawn.

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Two directors (Major G. H. St. Hill and Lieut. J. Logan Mackie), and thirty-five employees of Messrs. Mackie and Co., Distillers, Ltd., of "White Horse" fame are with the Colours at the present time—a noble example to others.

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THE Committee which has been investigating the condition of the Belgian emigrés, of whom 100,000 are now in this country, has come to the conclusion that schemes for giving them employment by sugar beet cultivation are open to objection and cannot be recommended.

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Miss Mary Moseley, the gifted and popular editor of the *Nassau Guardian* has been the recipient of many congratulations upon the completion of the 70 years' existence of the *Nassau Guardian*. Founded in 1844 by Mr. E. C. Moseley, of London, it has remained in the possession and under the control of members of the same family ever since.

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THE news of the appointment of Governor Mr. C. B. Haddon-Smith, C.M.G., to the Governorship of the Windward Islands has, says the *Nassau Guardian*, been received with profound regret. During the two years in which he has been in the Colonies he has proved himself a most able and successful administrator, and both he and Mrs. Haddon-Smith have endeared themselves to everyone with whom they have come into contact. At the same time the Governor will receive hearty congratulations upon his promotion.

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LAST year the Rev. A. H. Anstey, Principal of Codrington College, Barbados, instituted a Department for training male teachers. It proved so successful that the formation of a Women's Hostel on similar lines is contemplated. For this purpose the services of Miss Robinson, the late Principal of the University Women's Hostel, of Durham, have been invoked. Miss Robinson will accordingly leave for Barbados on January 13th. It is hoped eventually to make the Barbados Women's Hostel a training centre for the West Indies.

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AN interesting exhibit has just been added to the Museum of the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society in Georgetown, British Guiana, in the shape

of an original Dutch Standard 100 lb. weight, which was found at Fort Island, the former seat of Government of the Colony of Essequibo. It bears the date 1791 and the initials of the Geöctroyed Westindische Compagnie, which was wound up in that year. Beneath this are ten strokes through which a line passes, each stroke representing 10 lbs. The base of the weight is iron whilst below the handle there are several inches of lead.

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We have to acknowledge with thanks the following additional contributions towards the Shackleton Sugar Fund: Messrs. Gordon, Grant and Co., £10 10s.; Messrs Kleinwort, Sons and Co., £5 5s.; Messrs. Samuel Dobree and Sons, £5 5s.; Messrs. John McNeil and Co., of the Colonial Iron Works, Glasgow, £3 3s.; Messrs W. S. Robertson and Co., Ltd., £3 3s.; Messrs. D. MacCalman and Co., of Glasgow, £2 2s.; Mr. C. W. Stephens, £1 1s.; Mr. C. Guy Wyatt, £1 1s. Provided that sufficient funds are forthcoming it is proposed to prepare enlarged photographs of the cases of cane sugar as they lay at the docks and facsimiles of Sir Ernest Shackleton's letters testifying to the value of cane sugar.

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THE Dublin Chamber of Commerce is complaining because Ireland can no longer receive direct shipments of sugar. They recently passed the following resolution on the subject:—

That owing to the action of the Government in taking over the control and supply of practically all sugar in the United Kingdom, and that all such sugar has so far been shipped direct to Great Britain for disposal by brokers appointed by the Government, this Chamber desires to bring to the notice of the Sugar Commission that this entails an extra charge of at least 10s. per ton in the form of freight, etc., from Great Britain to Ireland, and places a serious burden on manufacturers in this country. This Chamber considers the Government should give equal treatment to all parts of the United Kingdom by making direct shipments to Ireland, or else make a rebate in the Government price to cover cost of transit from Great Britain.

* * *

Mr. W. Hart-Bennett, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of the Bahamas acknowledging the receipt of copies of the West India Committee map of the West Indies and at the same time ordering a further supply, writes "It is a splendid map and I don't know how you can produce it at the price." This map—the size of which is 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet 10 inches—can be seen both mounted and in sheet at the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, E.C., at Messrs. George Philip and Son, Ltd., 32, Fleet Street, E.C., or at Messrs. Sifton, Praed and Co., Ltd (The Map House), 67, St. James' Street, S.W. The reduced price to members of the West India Committee is 7s. 6d. each (carriage paid in the United Kingdom 8s. 4d.; abroad, according to destination) for mounted and varnished copies on rollers, and 5s. for each copy in sheet form, post free 5s. 7d. inland, and 6s. 4d. to British Possessions. The map can also be supplied mounted, folded and bound for 8s. 6d. per copy, or 8s. 9d. post free.

THE LONDON LETTER.

THE Christmas season has afforded further opportunity for displaying our patriotism. In the selection of food and wine and presents there has been evinced a keenness, almost unique, to restrict the choice to articles either of British origin or emanating from the allied countries. The toy-maker, who for so long has had to face German competition, would seem at last to have "come into his own." France and Portugal are able to meet our demands for wine. Hock and Moselle are banned—probably for ever. The purchaser of perfumes is learning to do without *Eau de Cologne*. Happily, in spite of all financial stringency, money seems to be circulating pretty freely.

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IF evidence of this pleasant fact were needed it would be found in the response to Princess Mary's appeal. Months ago Her Royal Highness thought of Christmas cheer for the sailors of the Grand Fleet and for the soldiers of the Expeditionary Force. The funds subscribed for the despatch of pipes, tobacco, and cigarettes to greet our fighting men on Christmas morning have proved so large as to permit of a considerable enlargement of the original plan. The beneficiaries were not confined to the ranks actually in the firing line. British sailors serving anywhere abroad, and British soldiers on duty in the United Kingdom were also included. The wounded likewise came in for remembrance, together with the widows or mothers of the fallen, and prisoners of war on their return home.

* * *

NOR is it on Christmas Day alone that the gratitude of their fellow-countrymen towards their defenders takes practical expression in the form of "comforts." Our readers overseas would be astonished could they realise the extent of the pressure on the General Post Office. The packages despatched daily to the front number on an average 20,000. Even the high-water mark of 48,000 has been reached. In one period of six days during December the grand total was a quarter of a million! The mere despatch of such a vast consignment would represent no mean triumph for our postal officials. But their labours are increased—and their tempers tried—by the carelessness shown by so many kindhearted persons in the matters of safe package and adequate addressing of their gifts.

* * *

A gloomy Christmas had been prophesied in connection with the large hotels. But once again the prophets were put out of Court. At any rate there has been no suggestion of gloom as regards the children, and it is for the young folk that programmes have been specially prepared. Gala dinners, Christmas trees, and distribution of toys—by these means a good time has been ensured for that section of society happily free from the anxieties and responsibilities of war. What is true of the hotels applies

also to the theatres. Pantomime attractions are as numerous as ever. One is glad to note this fact not only from the standpoint of the patrons, but also of the producers. War is not a happy experience for theatres, and forethought by the public is essential or unemployment would increase. In connection with Drury Lane the *Sleeping Beauty* is being re-awakened for the third year in succession; an event said to be unique in the history of the theatre.

* * *

WEST Indians, in common with Imperialists everywhere, will welcome the news that the Corporation of London have placed a commission for a marble bust of Mr. Chamberlain to be placed in the Guildhall. The time is eminently suited for such a memorial. Mr. Chamberlain was spared the spectacle of this great struggle, but his labours will contribute largely to our final success. The response in men, and men and moral support given with such promptness and enthusiasm by our colonies large and small represents the measure of our debt to his statesmanship.

* * *

MENTION of the City of London reminds us of the spirited effort now being made by its leading bankers and merchants—under the presidency of Lord Balfour of Burleigh—to strengthen our home defence. The services of the City during the South African War were immortalised by the "C.I.V.'s." Now the nucleus of a National Guard has been formed, and the smart blue uniform of the members of the Corps will soon be as familiar in the streets as the Khaki dress of our other military units.

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THE bombardment of Whitby, which has proved so important an incentive to recruiting recalls the association with that ancient port of a family not unknown in West Indian annals. Here is situated Mulgrave Castle, the seat of the Marquis of Normanby. Our readers in Jamaica will remember that the first Marquis was Governor of the island in 1832-34. A distinguished statesman, Lord Normanby after leaving Jamaica attained honours such as fall to the lot of few Colonial Governors. He became in turn Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and an Ambassador. Other rewards included Knighthood of the Garter and a Grand Cross of the Bath.

* * *

CRICKETERS in the West Indies will share the general regret at the death of A. O. Jones, who has passed away at the early age of 41. Captain of the Notts County eleven since 1899, he possessed all the qualities which constitute the great cricketer. Described as probably the finest all-round fieldsmen that ever lived, he won laurels also as batsman and as bowler. It is recorded of him that between 1892 and 1913 he played 580 innings in county matches and scored 18,676 runs for an average of 32 runs. For several years he had suffered from lung trouble and last year caught a severe chill.

THE HOMEWARD MAILS.



The delay in arrival of the R.M.S.P. *Trent*, which left Barbados at 8 p.m. on December 9th, and did not reach Tilbury until 1.20 p.m. on December 23rd, owing to engine trouble, will remind readers of what they must expect if the proposed new time-table is not modified. As has already been pointed out in these columns three days is quite insufficient time to enable merchants to attend to their correspondence, and what will happen when, as on the present occasion, the mail is late, it is hardly necessary to state. The homeward mail brought many further gifts for our sick and wounded soldiers, including 27 packages of fruit from Dominica, 223 packages of fruit and one case of preserves from Trinidad, a case of guava jelly collected by Miss McHugh from the women of St. Lucia, and a box of preserves from Mr. W. G. Lang, of Grenada. A cheque for £400 was also received from Mr. F. A. C. Collymore of Barbados, being a contribution from the people of Barbados for the purchase of a motor ambulance. The following are extracts from the letters of our Honorary Correspondents.

ANTIGUA—The Buxton Grove Seminary to be closed.

MR. A. P. COWLEY, DECEMBER 5th.—The past fortnight has again been a disappointment from the planters' point of view, only very local showers having fallen. We get every indication that a good fall may be expected, but gradually the appearance of it disappears, and we are still left hoping that the weather will soon break up. A very pretty wedding was solemnised at All Saints on November 25th, when Miss Agatha McConney was married to Mr. E. H. Brand, Manager of Burke's Estates. The service was choral and the ceremony was performed by the Dean and Archdeacon. The reception was held at All Saints' Vicarage. The question of praedial larceny is occupying the attention of the community, and the initiative of Mr. J. D. Harper in bringing the matter before the Agricultural and Commercial Society has been very favourably commented upon. A strong committee has been appointed to suggest remedial measures to the Governor. Quite a large number of people are now in favour of flogging, but there are still a larger number who object to such a drastic remedy, but all are agreed that the present administration of the law is not strong enough to suppress the evil.

The Buxton Grove Theological Seminary, which is a Moravian Institution for training native students for the ministry is to be closed through lack of funds: this is a direct result of the war. A meeting of the Federal Council was held last week. During the absence on leave of Sir Frederic Maxwell, the Hon. W. S. Sidney, K.C., Attorney General, is Acting Chief Justice, and the Hon. M. Comacho is Acting Attorney General.

A very successful bazaar has been held this week by the Church organisation, "The Daughters of the Empire," at which some ladies had a stall of fancy work on sale for the Belgium Fund, which will benefit to the extent of £25. Miss Ruby Grant and other ladies are working very hard for the Belgium cause. The Prince of Wales' Relief Fund now stands at £560.

BARBADOS—The Sugar Industry Bank.

SIR FREDERICK CLARKE, K.C.M.G., DECEMBER 8th.—We have had plentiful rains during the past week which have been pretty well distributed over the island. The *Barbados Advocate* reports that the young crop is springing well; although the weather is too hot and the rains too heavy to be considered favourable. The Report of the Auditor on the working of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank for the year ending May 31st, 1914, discloses the following facts. During the year, the owners of 109 plantations borrowed from the Bank the sum of £137,747. The income derived from interest was £4,604 19s. 11½d., and the expenses amounted to £1,179 11s. 10½d. The net income for the year, therefore, was £3,425 8s. 1d. If to this there be added the accumulated profits at May 31st, 1914—that is £34,204 3s. 11½d., this sum, with the Imperial grant of £80,000, make together the total funds of the bank at May 31st, 1914, amount to £117,629 12s. 0½d. This amount is made up of the following sums: Loans against the crops of plantations for the following years, namely, 1903, 1905, 1907—1914, which aggregate £53,865 10s. 8½d. This sum is distributed and chargeable against 116 plantations. The Bank holds mortgages for the sum of £3,700 against two plantations. There is deposited at interest in the Colonial Bank £20,000, and in the Royal Bank of Canada £20,000. In the former there is deposited on open account the sum of £1,028 10s. 11½d., and in the latter the sum of £19,035 10s. 4½d. The record amount of loans for 1912-13 was exceeded in 1913-14 by £5,557.

BERMUDA—A Military Contingent accepted.

DR. W. CARDY BLUCK, DECEMBER 11th.—Since my last letter the most important local matters that have transpired in Bermuda have been the acceptance of a local contingent for service in the war, and the settling of the vexed transportation question which had almost reached a crisis. The contingent of local volunteers will number about 100, and the men have already gone into training to get themselves fit as possible. Further particulars are expected by next mail, the acceptance by the Government at home being by cable. With regard to transportation the newly-formed Bermuda-American S.S. Co. has stepped into the breach and bought the S.S. *Oceana*, well-known on this route and considerably improved since her last appearance. She will begin weekly trips on December 22nd, and the S.S. *Bermudian* of the Quebec S.S. Co. will be put on the route again on December 26th. With these ships running the passenger accommodation will be nearly 900 per week, sufficient for all the visitors we are likely to get. The monthly record has only exceeded 3,500 on three occasions during the last six years, and that number will be covered, as you see. Financial aid has already been given by the Legislature to the *Oceana* project, the maximum limit being £6,000 in six months. Yesterday we had the news that the German commerce raiders had been cleared up except the *Karlsruhe*, and that is very good news for us here, as many apprehensions will be set at rest. All hotels will be in full swing shortly, only the Hamilton being left to open its doors, which will be done on the 21st, in time for the Christmas crowd expected on the 24th.

BRITISH GUIANA—Assistance for a Balata Company.

MR. J. C. McCOWAN, DECEMBER 5th.—At a meeting of the Legislature on the 23rd November a gift of 500,000 lbs. of rice to the Imperial Government was confirmed. The Government guaranteed to the Royal Bank of Canada an advance of \$75,000 made to the Consolidated Rubber and Balata Estates, Ltd., to tide them over the present crisis. Money to be spent as follows:—

Bleeders, balances of wages, Superintendent's Commission, Boatbands' wages, salaries, etc.	\$ 55,000
Royalty on balata	11,000
Rent of licenses	2,500
Agency commission	3,000
Upkeep of rubber properties	1,200
Current accounts	2,000
	75,000

At a meeting of the Permanent Exhibition Committee held at the Court of Policy Hall on December 2nd, His Excellency the Governor presiding, the resignation of the Hon. C. F. Wieting was accepted, and Messrs. Richter and White were appointed members, whilst the appointment of Mr. Bancroft as Hon. Secretary and Vice Deputy Chairman was approved. A letter was read from the Permanent Exhibition Committee of Barbados arising out of certain criticisms of the exhibits at Toronto, and suggesting that in future the colonies might be divided into groups for the purpose of participation. Messrs. White and Richter were appointed to enquire into the suggestion of the Secretary of State that the present yearly contribution of \$720 for the Imperial Institute should be increased. The mail edition of the *Argosy* contains a further report on Mr. Buck's modified sea defence scheme. The Committee recommended that the scheme should remain in abeyance pending an attempt to reform the existing sea defence machinery and that the Auditor General should be appointed to audit the accounts of all sea defence districts before the Government embarked on so costly an experiment as the purchase of a Government dredger. Mr. Parratt added a memorandum, expressing the opinion that Mr. Buck's scheme was a sound engineering proposition, and that the whole colony should meet the cost of carrying it out. He added that a dredger would be useful for dredging and deepening the harbour bar when not defending the coast line and that the substitution of oil engines for steam plant should be considered. Mr. Parratt, however, agreed that the scheme must be held in abeyance for the present. Mr. S. H. Bayley is formulating a scheme for the erection of a citrate of lime factory at Onderneming. Mr. Bayley suggested a factory somewhat on the lines of the one erected by Messrs. Davson & Co. at Plantation Providence, which is giving excellent results. At the fortnightly meeting of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce on November 26th it was decided to protest to the Government against the proposal to import goods through the Crown Agents though the local merchants had agreed to supply such goods on the basis of first cost plus percentage to cover handling, commission, and other charges.

DOMINICA—The Lime Trees flower freely.

MR. E. A. AGAR, DECEMBER 4th.—Heavy rains have fallen during the past fortnight, which have helped to make up for the previous dry weather. In many places the lime trees are flowering fairly freely, a most unusual time for them to do so, but the long spell of dry weather has ripened the wood, and now the rains have come to induce flowers.

JAMAICA—Praise for Major Bryan, C.M.G.

MR. JOHN BARCLAY, DECEMBER 13th.—I am glad to say that all over the island we have had fine and continued rains, after the long drought in some districts. They have not been flood rains to do damage to the roads and cultivations, but typically good rains for field crops. There has not been quite enough in St. Ann yet to fill the ponds after the long drought there, but the rivers elsewhere are now flowing normally.

MR. J. H. PHILLIPPS, DECEMBER 7th.—We have had for the last few weeks very fine seasons and cultivations that had suffered, and from which we expected no output,

have recovered wonderfully, so that with fair market prices we ought to do very well in the ensuing year. No definite arrangements have been made by the Governor in regard to the £50,000 of sugar which the island desires to contribute to the Mother Country, but it is expected that this will be fixed in a very short time. Our new Colonial Secretary, Major Bryan, is showing a wonderful grasp of all things that come before him. The new Superintendent of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Mr. Harris, has taken up his duties, and so soon as conditions become normal I think he will further materially the interest of the Company.

NEVIS—Sound Advice from Dr. Tempany.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, DECEMBER 5th.—The weather for the past four weeks has been delightfully cool, and November before laying us gave what is described by many as an "old-time soaker," no less than 6 inches of general rain having fallen between the 25th and 27th. The ravines that had not had a proper wash out for many years were relieved of their accumulation, and went tumbling merrily through them to the sea. The result is that everything looks beautifully green and healthy. At a meeting of planters advice was given by Dr. Tempany of the Imperial Department of Agriculture to grow corn. Trade generally is as dull as is possible, and if there be a silver lining behind this dark cloud that looms so big in the horizon of West Indian affairs just now, there will be many I fear looking anxiously for it. The R.M.S. brought to our shores last night the Hon. J. Spencer Hollings and Miss Hollings. This is really good news to everybody in Nevis, as everyone prefers seeing him at home than to know he was in Europe in these troubled times.

ST. KITTS—Maize growing to be encouraged.

MR. E. J. SHELFORD, DECEMBER 4th.—There is very little of interest to mention locally. On the evening and night of the 27th ult. a severe thunderstorm gave us a good general island downpour, ranging from 4 to 7 inches in different localities. Some estates got a few washes, and some damage was done to the new work on the Factory line. Dr. H. A. Tempany has paid the island a visit, and on Saturday the 28th ult., at a meeting of the Agricultural and Commercial Society, he advocated more attention being paid to the development of minor industries, particularly the growing of maize to meet the local consumption. The time is favourable in one sense as Sea Island cotton has received a serious set back since the war. One of the most successful entertainments ever held here was given in the Memorial Schoolroom on November 26th by the pupils of the Convent School in aid of the Belgian Relief Fund. The substantial sum of £36 was realized. Many were disappointed in not obtaining seats. It is a matter for regret that the Government nowadays will not allow the use of our fine Court House for such gatherings, as there is no other building of the same capacity in the town.

ST. LUCIA—Two Losses to the Community.

HON. G. S. HUDSON, DECEMBER 5th.—The weather for the past fortnight may be described as "seasonable," which means, rather wet and warm. Cacao pickings are now heavy on all estates, and the crop is regarded on all sides as a good one; the fear of the bottom falling out of the cacao market begins to look quite doubtful, consequently merchants are paying now for native cacao one-third more than six weeks ago while one or two well-informed firms are beginning to think that even a drop from present prices is quite problematical. The West India Committee's request for information as to available areas for sugar cultivation will shortly be discussed by the Agricultural Society.

It would be more easy to answer your queries if we knew that the price of sugar would be sustained for a sufficient period to cover the cost of new machinery: but if we are merely to count on higher prices for only say two years, many thousands of acres which are admirably suited to high yields of sugar will not grow a single ton, because it would not pay to put in machinery merely for those two years, and then find ourselves bound to a non-lucrative cultivation for many years. If the West Indies are to supply Britain with cane sugar they must have some guarantee of protection, and as we now have other good eggs in our basket, we need not ask for this assurance on bended knee as heretofore. The West Indies have had much experience of good men ruined through sugar cultivation by economic conditions beyond their control, and they fear it as a burnt child dreads the fire. His Honour Mr. Douglas Young returned by Thursday mail to St. Lucia on a short visit as Acting Governor. Within the past fortnight two very sad deaths have occurred amongst us, and we all feel that personally and collectively our loss is a very grievous one. Mr. Frederick Floissac, the head of Macfarlane, Junr. and Co., died on 27th November, after a very short preliminary illness from septic laryngitis. Mr. Floissac for many years sat as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council, but refused reappointment on the present council. He, however, continued to interest himself in the Agricultural Society, of which he was Vice-President, and all schemes for the furtherance of St. Lucia's welfare always found in him a quiet but strong champion. He was probably the last representative of the old-time West Indian merchant, and he will be missed not only for his sterling qualities, but as one of those quiet philanthropists who acted the part of Providence to many needy families. In chronicling the death of Mr. C. Roger Kennaway, of Soufriere, from typhoid fever in the prime of life (35 years), I am unable to express the sadness and grief that is felt from the lowest labourer upward throughout the colony at the cutting short of such a promising life, and the very great sympathy evinced for his wife and parents in England. After sixteen years strenuous work he had just succeeded through a very uphill fight in putting his estates in a prosperous and even model condition, and he had acquired great influence and popularity with the people of his district, in which he had lately started our first agricultural bank. His funeral, which took place at Soufriere, was attended from every part of the island, the small English church there being dangerously crowded, and it was necessary to run a special steamer from Soufriere after the ceremony. Apart from the great loss felt by his many friends, St. Lucia agriculturally has lost heavily by this untimely illness, which would probably not have proved fatal had the infection not occurred at a time when he was already very much "run down" by a previous illness.

ST. VINCENT—The Administrator and the Defence Force

MR. W. N. SANDS, DECEMBER 5th.—November was a very wet month taken as a whole, and in certain districts our cotton has been badly hit again. There may be some extension of cane planting in view of favourable sugar situation, but we have few mills—and no good ones; so we cannot do very much. If we could only have a partial substitution of other crops for cotton and arrowroot for two or three years I believe we should stand to benefit in the long run. Our Administrator has been gazetted Lieut.-Colonel of the Local Defence Forces—but I must censor myself here. We have learnt with very deep regret that two of our late Governor's sons had been killed in action.

TOBAGO—The Claims of Colonial Cane Sugar.

MR. ROBERT S. REID, DECEMBER 4th.—I wish you every success in pushing the claims of Colonial Cane. It does

seem absurd to subsidise beet which may not succeed, while the home land is so well suited for the absolutely necessary wheat, oats, potatoes, etc. Although there were occasionally dry spells in November, the total rainfall (7 to 12 inches according to locality) was satisfactory, and some heavy showers have fallen in this month. The crop prospects are now more cheerful. Cacao pickings are increasing and the improvement in prices gladdens the hearts of planters. Coco-nuts are still "dirt cheap," but their turn will come before long, and meantime copra gives a fair return. It is curious to neglect to mention sugar in reporting about crops here, but until these islands get an assured market, no extension of planting is likely to take place. I am glad to see that Mr. C. G. Wyatt is devoting his leisure to promoting West Indian sugar interests on your side. Patriotic concerts are the order of the day. At Scarborough a concert in aid of the Belgian refugees was held last night. At St. Paul's School there was another in aid of the Red Cross Society. The decorations and programme were exceedingly patriotic, and Tommy Atkins in the trenches would have smiled to hear "It's a long way to Tipperary" so heartily sung by the barefooted blackboys and girls. Mr. Orde (Louis D'Or) gave an interesting address on the progress of the war, in which the natives take very keen concern.

TRINIDAD—A proposed Excise Duty on Petrol.

MR. EDGAR TRIPP, DECEMBER 8th.—At a meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th November, several important matters were discussed. The proposals for financial assistance to the crusade against tuberculosis were again thrown out, on the ground of want of money. This time there is some excuse, but it in no way defends previous action in this regard when the terrible nature of the scourge is remembered. Tuberculosis is the worst war against which Trinidad has ever fought, and its victims have been countless. To meet the expected deficit the Government proposed to place an excise tax on petrol spirit equal to the import duty. Against this the Chamber of Commerce had protested seeing that this was a new industry on which hundreds of thousands of pounds had been expended, largely to the benefit of the colony, but without, so far, one penny return to the investors, and it was urged that such action would result in attempts by foreign oil trusts to strangle the industry by unfair competition. The defence of the Government was that freight and other charges alone constituted a sufficient protection. This argument was supported by the statement that freight on oil amounted to 7½ c. per gallon. This brought up the new member, Mr. Arthur Wight, who vigorously protested, saying that it was an over-estimate by about two-thirds. The Receiver-General stood to his guns, and Mr. Wight was equally determined. Ultimately a special committee of Council was appointed to determine who was right. The Committee has sat and seems as far off as ever. It is proved that big freights have undoubtedly appeared with invoices of consignments, but it is maintained that these are merely the bluff of the guileless magnates known as the American Oil Kings. So the matter rests for the present. Three shillings a case was added to the whisky and other spirit duty, bringing it to 26s. This passed without a murmur, at least an audible one. What the Scotch members think is not, as you know, recorded in Hansard: and then came the suggestion to add 1s. to the land tax. Hornets nests are mild things in comparison to what the Government have raised by this proposal. The Agricultural Society, through one of its mildest mannered members, has denounced it as "iniquitous," the newspapers have gone as near as possible to exhausting even their vituperative vitality, the East Indian National Association is calling a public meeting and the man in the street is furious with

a unanimity that beats all local records. I fancy that next meeting of Council will see the withdrawal of the ill-starred measure. But after all money has to be raised, and it is not encouraging to find that two out of the three ways of doing so mentioned should have met with such unqualified opposition. One ill-conditioned member of the common or garden public has been vicious enough to suggest that our officials should surrender 10 per cent. of their salaries, as is being done in New Zealand. As the total paid to the Civil Service is £307,000, he estimates that a similar sum to that expected from the land tax could be thus much more easily raised. This idea has not met with enthusiastic support from the public officers, or, it should in fairness be said, by many others.

I had thought it was hardly possible for any one to say anything new or entertaining as to the cause of the war, but Mr. A. M. Low, of the Queen's Royal College, proved differently to a crowded and discriminating audience, including His Excellency the Governor, whom he addressed last week at the College on the subject. There was not a dull word in a long lecture, and he received general and well deserved congratulations.

The *Essequibo* arrived duly on the first. Invitations to dinner to celebrate the maiden voyage were issued by the Royal Mail Company to the Governor, the Acting President of the Chamber of Commerce (Mr. J. H. Smith), to the Committee and other members of the Chamber, and to those of the officials principally connected with shipping business. After inspecting and admiring, and no one could well have done otherwise, for everything seemed as perfect as it could be at sea, the Company, who were represented by Mr. E. C. Skinner and Captain Cheret, did their guests, as is their wont, remarkably well at dinner, and in the delightful Verandah Café afterwards. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was passed.

Colonel Dood, of the International Health Commission, delivered a long and most interesting address on Ankylostomiasis before the Agricultural Society on the 4th. The grave nature of the complaint and its far reaching effect upon the labour of the colony has never before been brought forcibly home, and a considerable impression was made. Two recently formed associations, the Horticultural Club and Poultry and Pet Stock Association, gave a joint exhibition at the Prince's Building on Friday, which proved most creditable and successful. The proceeds go to the War Funds.

In this connection I should record that as a result of the San Fernando Concert Mrs. Perez handed in to the Belgian Relief Fund \$500, and Miss Rapsey from her concert in Port of Spain \$700. Isn't all this splendid? Trinidad is not only killing the Kaiser "with its mouth," although his Majesty's ears would not be too entranced if he heard, as no doubt one hears now throughout the Empire, every little boy whistling or singing the Marseillaise or "It's a long long way to Tipperary."

Receipts during November fell short of expectations and slippers who had November contracts to cover had to pay high prices for the small lots of cacao marketed. During the earlier part of the month \$10.75 to \$11.00 per fanega was paid: to-day, as high as \$13.00 is freely offered for Fine Plantation. There is at present a good demand from London and New York for spot or nearby arrivals which makes our market active, but the consensus of opinion seems to be that lower prices will be seen with the advent of the new crop, which should be in full swing about February-March. Some very fair shipments have come forward from the neighbouring coast of Venezuela and these have changed hands promptly at prices ranging from \$12.75 to \$13.40 per fanega. Since December 1st prices have again

advanced, and at the time of writing, 8th inst., Ordinary is quoted \$14.50 and Estates \$14.80. Shipments of Trinidad cacao during month of November have been as follows:—

Destination.	Weight in lbs.
United Kingdom	548,021
B.W. Indies	110
United States of America	344,848
Total for November	892,979
Shipped previously	60,745,517
Total from 1st January	61,638,496
To same date, 1913	46,431,247
" " 1912	40,472,755
" " 1911	43,496,702
" " 1910	53,684,899
" " 1909	45,480,098
" " 1908	39,790,047
" " 1907	35,062,616

BIRTH.

The charge of 2s. 6d. is made for announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which must be authenticated) and of "Wants," Crossed cheques or P.O. Orders, should be made payable to the Manager, THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR, 15, Seething Lane, London, E.C.

Spooner.—On the 15th Dec., at 1, Brunswick Gardens, Campden Hill, Kensington, the wife of H. D'Esterre Spooner, of a son.

DEATHS.

Floissac.—In St. Lucia on November 27th, Mr. Frederic Floissac, of Messrs. Macfarlane Junior and Co., of that island, and formerly an unofficial member of the Legislative Council of St. Lucia, after a short illness due to septic laryngitis.

Kennaway.—At Soufrière, St. Lucia, from typhoid fever, Mr. C. Roger Kennaway, aged 35.

WANT.

Wanted.—Copy of "The Manufacture of Cane Sugar," by Jones and Scard. Advertiser will pay published price. H.O. c/o The West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The views expressed by correspondents under this heading are not necessarily those of the WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR and must not, therefore, be considered as such.

Was Pere Labat a Plagiarist?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

Sir,—West Indian writers have been so accustomed to copy from previous works, without acknowledgment, that one is compelled to treat their statements with suspicion, until the original source of information has been traced.

In the present instance *Père Labat* has given you an illustration of an Indigo Works as it appeared in 1722, but omits to mention the fact that in *Père Du Tertre's* "Histoire Générale des Antilles," published in 1667, Tome II., p. 107, is a very much finer engraving of the same subject, the plate being 14 inches wide by 8½ inches high, which he (*Labat*), in copying, has mutilated and cut down to fit his own history.

Du Tertre shows four stone cemented tanks, viz:— 1. *Le Bassin*, or water tank at the top. 2. *Deux Trempaires*, the tank being made into two by masonry. 3. *La Ralterie*, where a negro is seen rocking a wooden roller with arms, for stirring. 4. *Le Reposoir*, or settler.

Du Tertre further states, that in St. Christopher's, a certain caterpillar had been known to suddenly appear in one night and destroy the crop. In the year 1656, ginger was valued at 1d. per lb., tobacco and sugar at 2d., and

indigo at 18d., so that there must have been some very good reason for the planters discontinuing the cultivation of the latter plant.

V. L. OLIVER.

An Appeal for Crusoe's Isle.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WEST INDIA COMMITTEE CIRCULAR.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me a small space in the CIRCULAR as a member, to plead with those in sympathy with the Anglican Church on behalf of my parish in Tobago (the isle of Robinson Crusoe). My three churches and one mission room and the schools need repairs, and the choirs properly vesting. The natives have done much; but we need outside help as well if we are to keep the buildings from going too far to destruction. Even the salary of the priest is short, through the failure of crops. Offerings would be thankfully received by me at the address below till I return in February to my vicarage (Pembrose, Tobago).

Faithfully yours,

F. H. HAMMOND.

10, Chapel Street, Warwick.
21st Dec., 1914.

WEST INDIAN SECURITIES.

The United Fruit Company.

The nett income of this company for the year ended September 30th, 1914, was \$3,508,994, as compared with \$6,148,476 for the preceding year, the falling off being no doubt largely due to the fact that the period included two months under war conditions which must have interfered with the distribution of bananas in continental markets. But the company has also sugar interests, and it is to be noted that while net earnings from bananas and fruits have fallen from \$5,696,965 to \$2,192,527, the earnings of the sugar business have risen from \$452,411 to \$1,316,467. The company continues steadily to acquire new land, the total area under cultivation having risen from 169,054 acres in 1910 to 276,821 acres of which 155,196 are planted in bananas. Particulars of the lands owned and leased are given in the following table.

Location.	Improved.		Owned.	
	1914 Acres	1913 Acres	1914 Acres	1913 Acres
Republic of Colombia	28,304	32,826	56,338	49,177
Costa Rica	64,350	65,081	187,813	184,668
Cuba	64,953	64,576	62,517	62,894
Guatemala	31,496	28,233	109,693	97,956
Honduras	16,839	10,362	44,767	38,391
Jamaica	19,172	17,329	17,333	17,487
Nicaragua	—	—	193,000	193,000
Republic of Panama	38,913	38,906	72,387	70,290
Total owned	263,827	257,313	743,848	713,893
Location	Improved.		Unimproved.	
	1914 Acres	1913 Acres	1914 Acres	1913 Acres
Costa Rica	2,689	3,321	2,592	2,017
Guatemala	—	—	67,392	67,392
Honduras	216	216	16,892	16,892
Jamaica	10,089	10,887	10,915	10,723
Total leased	12,994	14,424	97,791	97,024
Total owned & leased	276,821	271,737	841,639	810,917

The annual sugar crops at both Banes and Preston,

in Cuba, were successfully harvested, the best previous record for a year's output having been exceeded at each of these properties. The sugar mill at Banes produced 147,713,320 pounds of sugar and 3,108,485 gallons of molasses, and the Nipe Bay Company's sugar mill at Preston produced 157,864,040 pounds of sugar and 3,811,238 gallons of molasses. The output for the previous year was 124,445,660 pounds of sugar and 2,563,936 gallons of molasses at Banes, and 136,880,980 pounds of sugar and 3,036,089 gallons of molasses at Preston. In connection with its business the Company owns a fleet of steamships. There are 43 owned, of a gross tonnage of 200,023 tons. In addition the Company has chartered from other companies 48 vessels aggregating 66,587 tons, so that the total number of ships operated is 91, aggregating 266,610 tons. Recent legislation by the United States Government has enabled the Company to place 24 of its ships under American registry. Also in operating the Company has found it necessary to own both railways and tramways. At September 30th last there were owned by the Company 800 miles of railways and 579 miles of tramways. The United Fruit Company also operates the Costa Rica Railway, which has 163 miles of road. Consequently, the total amount of railway owned or operated aggregates 963 miles of road.

The Oilfields Finance Corporation, Ltd.

Mr. W. Watson Rutherford, M.P., presiding over the annual meeting of this company on December 21st, said that during the year ended June 30, 1914, it had been difficult to make flotation of any undertaking in the petroleum industry, and practically impossible to make a realised profit of any importance. The company had valuable interests in petroleum undertakings in Mexico, Ecuador, United States, Venezuela, Trinidad, the Taman Peninsula, the Crimea, and Roumania. The company had a controlling interest in a Trinidad company (Barrackpore) which on June 30 represented about £30,000. On the territory in Trinidad now being worked, close to San Fernando, seven of eight wells had been sunk, the existence of the anticline had been located, and at least two of the wells were reported to be spouters. Considerable tankage accommodation had been constructed, and was just completed. The directors considered that this Trinidad proposition was very valuable, and had in it a reasonable promise of both success and profit.

The Trinidad Leaseholds, Ltd.

This company not having yet reached the revenue earning stage no profit and loss account is presented with the accounts for August 20, 1913, (the date of registration) to September 30, 1914, which have just been published. Work has been mainly concentrated on the Forest reserve properties, where active drilling has been in progress since April. Two wells have been drilled, which have produced oil of excellent quality and in very satisfactory quantities. Four further wells are in course of sinking, two of which have come in as producers since September 30th last. The outbreak of war has caused unavoidable delay in the development work, as manufacturers were unable to supply the tanks, machinery, etc., ordered. In consequence it has been necessary to restrict the output from the flowing wells to the lowest possible minimum compatible with safety. Notwithstanding this restriction the output from the first two wells drilled, up to the end of September, amounted to 38,800 barrels, of which some 30,000 barrels, or approxi-

mately 5,000 tons, remained in earthen reservoirs, after allowing for oil used on the field and loss by evaporation and soakage. The company has been granted an exploration licence over approximately 20,000 acres of Crown land, in addition to the area originally embodied in their lease, making the total area controlled about 71,000 acres. The company is at present in negotiation with the Trinidad Government for permission to lay a pipeline along their railway to Point a Pierre, where a suitable site for a shipping port and, if necessary, the erection of a refinery has been secured.

Angostura Bitters (Dr. J. G. B. Siegert and Sons), Ltd.

The accounts for the year ended September 30th last show a net trading profit of £17,343 4s. 3d. (as compared with £20,872 10s. 11d. for the preceding year). After applying to Advertising, Legal Expenses and Trade Marks Registration the sum of £3,411 6s. 8d. (as against £3,083 13s. 3d.), and after payment of London Expenses, there remains a net profit of £12,067 13s. (as against £13,621 5s. 9d.). Of this amount the Directors have placed the sum of £1,206 15s. 3d. to Reserve (as compared with £1,583 2s. 6d. to Reserve, and £1,500 to Special Reserve for contingencies). The amount available for distribution is therefore £10,860 17s. 9d. (as against £10,538 3s. 3d.), which, with the addition of the sum of £1,521 13s. 7d. brought forward from last year (as against £2,033 10s. 4d.) makes a total of £12,382 11s. 4d. (as against £12,571 13s. 7d.). An interim dividend on the Preference and Ordinary Shares to the 31st March last at the rate of 3 per cent. having already been distributed, the Board recommend the payment of a final dividend for six months to 30th September last on both Preference and Ordinary Shares at the rate of 3½ per cent. for the half-year (making a dividend for the year of 6½ per cent. per annum), leaving a balance of £1,332 11s. 4d. to be carried forward. In their report the Directors state that the business of the company has, so far, suffered less in England and the Colonies than might have been anticipated from the war, but, generally speaking, the state of war has seriously interfered with the Company's business during the last two months of the year under review. Sales to Austria and Germany have entirely ceased, and the consumption of Angostura Bitters in other parts of the Continent has been greatly reduced. The Board announce with great regret the death of their colleague, Sir Hubert E. H. Jerningham, K.C.M.G., and have appointed Mr. R. H. McCarthy, C.M.G., to fill the vacancy so caused.

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.—HOME ARRIVALS FROM THE WEST INDIES per R.M.S.P. Trent, (Captain R. Hayes), Tilbury, London, Dec 21st:—

Mr G. F. Branch	Mr W. F. Hoblyn	Miss M. Micoy
Mr Wm. Burslem	Mr. G. C. Harrison	Mr. A. C. Miles
Mr T. H. Burns	Mr. D. H. Ho-a Hing	Mr. R. J. Roberts
Mr. W. J. Betenshaw	Mr. R. V. Hazard	Mrs. Roberts and Infant
Miss C. Beeton	Mr. C. H. Harpley	Mr. O. C. Rayner
Mr. R. F. Donaldson	Mr. C. H. Hill	Mr. and Mrs. A. Mostyn
Hon. Mrs Featherston- haugh	Mr. G. J. Kilmister	Scott
Mr. G. W. Grant	Mr. A. R. Lange	Mr. C. Saunders
Miss H. J. de Gale	Misses Lyons (2)	Mrs. C. E. M. Swain
Mrs. A. M. Glane	Mr. A. Moran	Major R. B. Todd
Mr. T. A. Hogg	Dr. E. S. Marshall	Mr. M. de Verteuil
		Mr. J. R. Webster

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Trent, (Captain R. Hayes), Jan. 13th:—

Mr. & Mrs. G. D. Arthur	Mrs. & Misses Child (3)	Mr. E. D. Forte
Miss Arthur	Mrs. J. da Costa	His Lordship the Bishop
Mr. L. F. Nourse	Miss D. Gardiner	of Barbados
Mr. W. R. Dunlop	Miss E. Perkins	Mrs. Swaby
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Gordon	Mr. C. C. George	Mr. & Mrs. G. H. Baverstock
Mrs. C. K. Clarke	Mr. P. W. Jarvis	Miss Baverstock
Miss R. da Costa	Mr. P. A. Smith	Mr. & Mrs. T. Wales
Mrs. Alice Grey	Mrs. E. C. Wright	Dr. & Mrs. Darwent
Mr. and Mrs. C. Rees-Davies	Mr. A. B. Clarke	

ADVANCE BOOKINGS FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Magdalena, (Captain G. E. McKenzie), Jan 21st:—

Mr. F. G. Rose	Miss M. Boudard
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ADVANCE BOOKING FROM ENGLAND TO THE WEST INDIES, per R.M.S.P. Dunne, (Captain W. Barrett), Feb 2nd —

His Honour Judge J. K. D. Hill

VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

Mr. A. K. Agar	Mr. A. Cory Davies	Mr. J. A. Madewick
Mr. A. F. Anderson	Mr. F. E. Everington	Mr. C. H. McLean
Mr. G. H. Arthur	Mr. W. M. Fletcher	Mr. C. W. Prest
Mr. G. Auchinleck	Mr. M. A. French, J.P.	Mr. G. Railton
His Honour T. A. V. Best	Mr. G. Graf	Mr. W. C. Robertson
Mr. G. F. Branch	Mr. John T. Greg	His Honour Mr Justice
Mr. Geoffrey Brooke	Mr. E. A. H. Haggart	P. M. C. Sheriff
Mr. W. Burslem	Mr. A. S. Kernahan	Mr Wm Smith
Mr. A. Campbell	Mr. A. H. Kirby	and
Mr. D. C. C. Da Costa	Mr. J. F. Loader	Hon. J. Challoner Lyneb
Mr. R. Bryson, c/o Messrs. Blackwood, Bryson & Co., 20, Water Lane, Great Tower Street, E.C.		Mr. A. H. Wright
Mr. G. Carew, "Greylands," Ashburton, Devon.		
Private R. A. Delafons, No. 1 Company, 3rd Battalion, U. and P. S. Force, Epsom.		
Mr. W. R. Dunlop, c/o The Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W.		
Mr. W. Gordon Gordon, c/o Messrs. Coutts & Co., 440, Strand, W.C.		
Rev. F. H. Hammond, 10, Chapel Street, Warwick.		
Mr. N. Scott Johnson, 26, Hillside Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.		
Sir Frederic M. Maxwell, 39, Kensington Gardens Square, W.		
Major O. H. E. Marescaux, Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, S.W.		
Mr. Wm. McLaren, 1, Rock Park, Rock Ferry, Cheshire		
Mr. D. McPhail, 72, King Street, Wm. Helensburgh, Scotland.		
Mr. F. J. Morris, 4, Camden Gardens, N.W.		
Mr. L. F. Nourse, 32, Wilbury Gardens, Hove, Sussex.		
Mr. Julian G. Rusat, c/o Messrs. Previte & Co., 2, Crosby Square, E.C.		
Mr. Stanley Savill, c/o Messrs. Sandilands & Co., 12, Fenchurch Av., E.C.		

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE.

British Guiana.

	Jan 1 to Dec 31	1914	1913
Sugar ...	86,391	69,500 Tons.	
Molasses ...	831	716 Puns.	
Rum ...	2,762,263	2,670,945	Galls
Molascuit, &c. ...	2,078	6,460 Tons.	
Caena ...	41,937	51,790 lbs.	
Coffee ...	238,767	82,373	
Coco-nuts ...	1,769,421	664,765 No.	
Oranges ...			
Bananas ...			
Cotton ...			
Pimento ...			
Ginger ...			
Honey ...			
Dyewoods ...			
Gold ...	59,421	73,363 ozs.	
Diamonds ...	8,359	7,217 Carats.	
Rice ...	13,289,668	15,575,238 lbs.	
Balata ...	950,929	1,098,314	
Rubber ...	895	566	
Timber ...	192,956	416,578 cubic ft.	
Lumber ...	248,021	482,546 feet	
Lime (cinture of)	11,091	2,910 lbs.	

St. Vincent.

Jan. 1 to Oct. 30.

	1914	1913
Arrivt.	3,362,938	4,015,355 lbs
Cacao	187,014	177,268 ..
Cotton	530,666	476,693 ..
Seed	798,023	1,105,604 ..

Trinidad.

Jan. 1 to Dec. 8.

	1914	1913
Sugar ...	46,680	31,040 Tons.
Molasses ...	3,465	3,419 Puns.
Rum ...	1,428	922
Coco-nuts ...	14,100,755	14,285,608 No.
Asphalt ...	121,339	197,347 Tons.
Manjak ...	266	519
Bitters ...	15,215	19,326 Cases.
Coffee ...	16,240	1,680 lbs.
Crude Petrol ...	12,016,363	12,145,234 Galls.
Cacao ...	62,261,800	46,338,400 Puns.
Cotton ...		
Seed ...		
Copra ...	12,353	5,490 Bags.
Spice ...		
Kola ...		

Barbados.

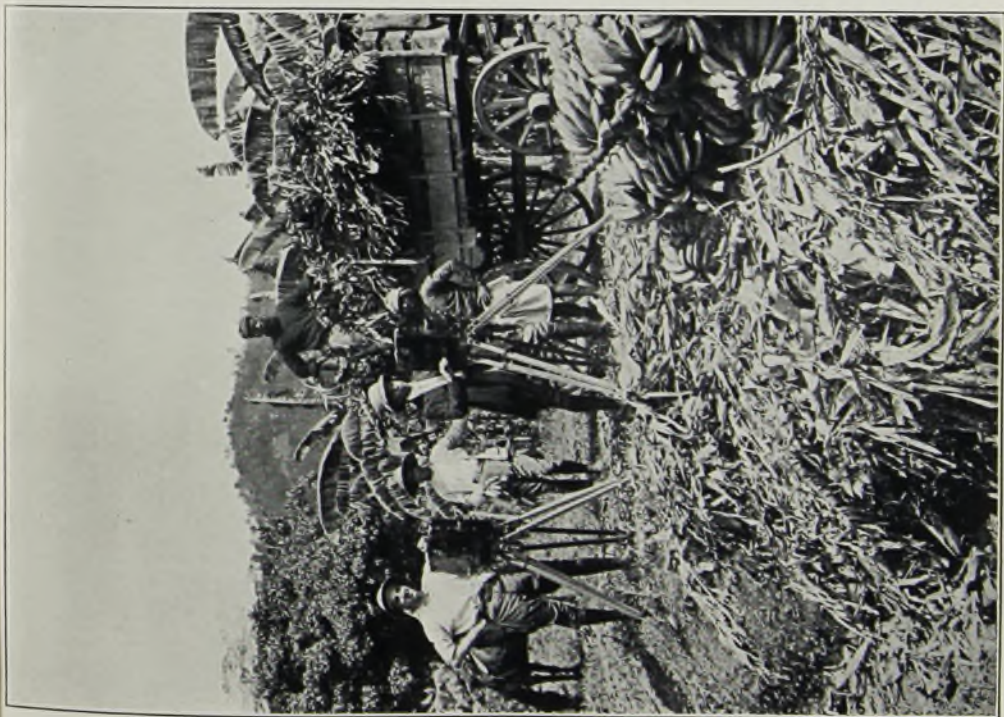
Jan. 1 to Nov. 13

	1914	1913
	33,113	11,134 Tons
	102,633	79,253 Puns.

Grenada.

Oct. 1 to Dec. 7.

	1913/14	1912/13
	950,420	695,420 lbs.
	19	30 Bags.
	300,380	277,320 lbs.
	1,290	2,430 ..



THE CINEMATOGRAF ON FELLOWSHIP ESTATE.



LOADING BANANAS BY THE WAYSIDE.

TWO PICTURES FROM JAMAICA.

Taken by the Kinematograph Co. (see page 106).

THE PRODUCE MARKETS' SUMMARY.



The Christmas holidays have curtailed the hours of business, and this, as well as the serious illness of our market correspondent, will account for the brevity of the following notes. We therefore ask the kind indulgence of our readers for any shortcomings in this page.

BANK RATE The Bank rate still remains at 5 per cent. as from August 8th. Consols are nominally quoted at 68½. A distinctly favourable impression was made by last week's return of Public Income and Expenditure. The ordinary income totalled £3,478,000 against £3,071,000 a year ago—a splendid showing, which makes it clear that the war has in no way crippled our financial resources. In addition, no less than £68,000,000 was received in connection with the War Loan, which, added to the previous payments, makes a total of about 77½ millions. As the sums payable on application and allotment were 17½ millions it would appear that approximately 60½ millions have been paid up under discount representing 68½ millions of stock.

SUGAR—In New York the market remained unchanged for some days at the old quotations—raws 3 89c., muscovado 2.44c.; refined granulated reduced by 25 points. On Dec. 16 raws considerably improved, and quotations advanced 6 points, and transactions include 400 tons of Surinams on the basis of 3.95c., while 5,000 bags of Cuban changed hands on the same basis. For 10,000 bags of Cuban for January shipment 3.89 c. was paid. Refined granulated has met a fair trade and prices were advanced 10 points. Sugars afterwards continued firm, with a good demand. The only transaction reported that day was a lot of 14,000 bags of Porto Ricos, which was sold on the basis of the unchanged spot quotation. There has been since a more active demand for refined granulated, and the Federal Sugar Refining Company advanced their quotations 10 points. Business in futures firm. Quotations compared with previous day were 4 points higher, 800 tons having been sold during the course of the session. This was followed the next day by an advance of 6 points on raws. The demand has been good, and 25,000 bags of Cuban and 2,000 bags of Poto Ricos have been bought on the advanced spot level. Futures have been quieter, transactions being reduced to about 400 tons. The market was fairly steady, and at the close quotations were two points lower to unchanged. After being steady, firmness supervened, with a fair demand and little offering. Quotations were: raw centrifugal 4.01 c., muscovado 3.56 c., refined granulated 4.85 c. to 4.95 c. Futures have ruled dull with again no business recorded. At the close quotations show an occasional decline of 3 points. Final prices—Feb., 2.85c. bid, 2.90c. asked; July, 3.16c. bid, 3.17c. asked; Sept., 3.25 c. bid, 3.27 c. asked. The spot market has been quiet and unchanged. Raw centrifugals 4.01c., muscovado 3.56c., refined granulated 4.85c. to 4.95c.

The London sugar market remains steady, business having been somewhat restricted in view of the holidays. Meanwhile there is no alteration in the Government prices, viz., 27s. 6d. for American granulated and 26s. 6d. white Javas. A feature to note is the concession by the Government to manufacturers and wholesale confectioners for melting only of Mauritius crystals, being sold for this purpose at 22s. 1½d. to 22s. 9d. according to quality, which has attracted a considerable amount of business.

Grocery West Indian.—Crystallised has been firm; there has not been much business passing privately. At auctions on 15th inst. a supply of 772 tons were offered of grocery descriptions, which met with a good demand, and sold at full rates to an advance of 3d., low brown quality, however, was neglected. On 18th inst., at auction 480 tons met with a good demand, and all sold, prices, although a little irre-

gular being on the whole unchanged. Business recorded, Surinams sold at 25s. 9d. to 27s. 6d., Demerara at 27s. 3d. to 28s. The rest bought in.

Syrups.—Antigua, Trinidad and Demerara all bought in. Muscovado—A small lot of St. Lucia sold at 13s. 6d.

West Indian Sugar Statistics since January 1st

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Tons
Imports ...	31,060	39,585	27,151	35,195	34,572	..
Deliveries ...	37,927	29,476	29,720	35,892	35,050	..
Stock (Dec. 19) ...	6,085	11,949	1,921	3,663	4,597	..

Quotations of medium qualities crystallised, Dec. 28th.

28s. 9d. 13s. 9d.—14s. 18s. 9d. 20s. 15s. 9d.

RUM—Stocks in London, December 19th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Puns
Jamaica	6,954	6,666	7,382	8,890	9,212	..
Demerara	5,423	6,399	5,695	4,612	6,579	..
Total, all kinds	18,549	20,459	21,359	22,053	24,923	..

There is a good market for all proof kinds. Demeraras have further advanced in prices. Difficulty is being encountered in obtaining samples from the docks, owing to scarcity of labour; transactions are therefore limited. There is a good enquiry for home trade Jamaica, about 100 puncheons fair to ordinary having been done recently at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per gallon.

CACAO—Stocks in London Dec. 19th:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	Bags.
Trinidad	5,666	9,496	4,039	3,946	6,829	..
Grenada...	4,191	4,705	2,011	8,631	7,928	..
Total, all kinds	58,872	70,351	67,746	94,867	83,506	..

Public auctions were held on the 15th and 22nd inst. At the former the tone although firm was rather irregular; at the latter prices were generally dearer, but the bidding was rather slow. The business done in British West India amounted to 2,021 bags sold out of a total of 3,959 offered. Trinidad fetched 76s., Grenada fetched 75s. to 76s., fine was dearer on the 15th as compared with the last week. Other West India sold at steady to unchanged prices, slow demand. Quotations after last sale were for Trinidad, middling red 75s., good middling 76s. to 77s., fine and superior 78s.; for Grenada, good fair 70s. to 71s.; middling to fine 72s. to 76s.

COFFEE—In the absence of public sales which are suspended from the 18th inst. to 5th January, our market has been very quiet and only very moderate transactions have taken place at about previous rates. Santos, nominal value January, 41s. 6d.; March, 39s. 6d.; May, 39s. 6d.

COTTON—During the fortnight ending December 24th no British West Indian cotton was imported into the United Kingdom, and business in Sea Islands has been generally neglected.

LIME PRODUCTS Lime Juice (Raw)—No enquiry. Essential Oil (distilled)—Business done down to 2s. 9d. per lb., but not much interest shown yet. Otto of Limes (hand pressed)—No business to report. Concentrated—Lower, with sales at £26.

NUTMEGS—100's/80's, 4½d. to 5½d.; 120's/100's, 4½d. to 4½d.; 140's/120's 4½d. to 4½d. unchanged. **MACE**—Good to fine 2s. to 2s. 11d., red to good, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 11d., broken 9d. to 1s. 4d.

COPRA—Fair merchantable West India £24, market slow.

ARROWROOT—No sales. Quotations 1½d. to 1½d.

RUBBER—Fine Plantation No. 1 Standard Crepe Spot, 2s.; smoked sheet, 2s. 3½d.; fine hard Para, 2s. 10d.; do. soft 2s. 6½d.; Castilloa sheet 1s. 9½d.; Castilloa scrap 1s. 3d.

BALATA—Sheet, 2s. 0½d. c.i.f. London; block 1s. 9½d. c.i.f. London.

PETROLEUM OIL—American 7½d.; Water White 8½d.

AIGERON E. ASPINALL.