



Danish West Indies

IF THE United States and Denmark strike a bargain and the three islands which comprise the Danish West Indies are transferred to the former, the sale will mark the culmination of a bit of bartering which began nearly fifty years ago, when the American government offered \$7,500,000 for the 138 square miles of territory in the Antilles, a sum exceeding by \$300,000 the price paid to Russia in the same year (1867) for the vast, rich territory of Alaska, comprising an area more than four thousand times as large. The sale was not consummated because the United States senate failed to ratify the treaty, says a bulletin of the National Geographic society. Fourteen years ago negotiations were renewed and a price of \$5,000,000 was agreed upon, but this time the Danish parliament refused to sanction the sale, although the islands had been governed at a loss to the mother country for many years, in fact ever since slavery was abolished in 1848, thereby putting an end to the profitable operation of the sugar plantations.

These three islands of the Virgin group—St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John, in the order of their size and population—were discovered by Columbus in 1493. Spanish, British, French, Dutch and Danish flags have floated over one or all of the islands at various times.

St. Croix, lying 65 miles southeast of Porto Rico, has an area of 84 square miles, and is the most prosperous of the group, with its two towns of Christianstad and Frederikstad. It was held at one time by the Knights of Malta, having been given to that famous order by Louis XIV of France.

St. Thomas has fine harbor. St. Thomas, which lies only 40 miles east of Porto Rico, was at one time the chief distributing center of West Indian trade, its importance being directly attributable to the fact that the mother country, Denmark, maintained its neutrality during the numerous Eu-

ropian wars of the eighteenth century. The temporary occupation of the island by the British during several periods of the Napoleonic wars added further to the importance of the chief port, Charlotte Amalie, where merchant vessels rode at anchor in the magnificent land-locked harbor while waiting for convoys to protect them on the voyage across the Atlantic.

This town of Charlotte Amalie, with a population of less than ten thousand, mainly negroes, is still an important coaling station for steamers in the West Indian trade. With a depth of from 27 to 36 feet of water, the roadstead can accommodate the largest merchant ships which sail these seas. The export and import trade has become negligible since the rapid decline of the sugar industry which the Danish government has tried in vain to revive by granting annual subsidies.

St. John, least important of the islands, lying four miles to the east of St. Thomas, has an area of twenty-one square miles. It is scarcely more than a ten-mile mountain ridge with but one distinguishing feature, Coral bay, the best harbor of refuge in the Antilles. Cruxbay, a village of 1,000 inhabitants on the northern shore, is the center of population. While Danish is the official language of the islands, English is quite generally spoken. The monotony of existence is not infrequently broken by earthquakes and hurricanes.

If Denmark decides to part with these islands there will remain to her only two colonial possessions—Greenland and Iceland, which have an aggregate area more than five times as large as the mother country, but with only one-twenty-seventh the population. The 138 square miles of Denmark's West Indian territory sustain nearly three times as many people as the 46,740 square miles of Greenland.

Creating More Holland.

Plans for reclaiming the Zuider Sea will shortly be laid before the second chamber of the Dutch parliament. The carrying into effect of the scheme would mean the reclamation of 815 square miles of the Zee and the conversion of the remaining 557 square miles into a freshwater lake. The cost is now estimated at about 234,000,000 florins (over \$100,000,000), exclusive of interest, and the time required at 33 years.

The land will be reclaimed by the construction of an embankment 18.3 miles long from Ewykulus across the Amstel channel to the southwest corner of the island of Wieringen and from the northeast corner of the island of Piasam in Friesland. Inside the space inclosed by the embankment it is proposed to form four polders, or reclaimed areas. It is believed that in the seventeenth year after the beginning of the embankment portions of these polders will be fit for habitation and cultivation. A total population of 250,000 is expected to find ample support in the new province.—London Times.

Old Town of Mozambique.

The Portuguese were the first Europeans to settle in East Africa, and Mozambique, their earliest stronghold provides striking testimony to the spirit of energy and enterprise which distinguished the early colonists, the London Chronicle says. Built between the years 1508-1511 of stone imported from Portugal, no other African town has altered so little in recent years. Houses built four centuries ago still abound in Mozambique, their doors and windows, heavily bolted and barred, testifying to their antiquity. Dominating the harbor is the castle of Sao Sebastiao, which, with its massive walls, high above the water line, forms the most impressive structure on the East African coast.

farmers not infrequently turn their grindstones and operate separators and other machines by power. And this is all because of the cheapness of hydroelectric energy. The state is said to have more than 200 separate electric pumping stations in operation, which together are reclaiming tens of thousands of acres.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

An 143-mile automobile mail and passenger line has been established in the Transbaikalian province of Siberia.

RESERVOIR BREAKS

Big Property Damage at Winfield Caused by the Rushing Water.

COLLEGE BUILDINGS INJURED

Flood Swept Over First Floors to Depth of Six Feet—No Deaths Reported.

A 200-foot section of Winfield's new city reservoir, recently completed, weakened by the heavy rains the other day, suddenly gave way and liberated more than 3,000,000 gallons of water, which rushed in a terrific flood down the west side of the reservoir hill, tearing up everything in its path until the great force of the torrent had been broken by spreading out over a considerable area. The greatest damage was done to the St. John's college buildings, which were struck by the rushing waters which flooded the basement of both buildings and swept over the first floors to the depth of six or eight feet.

Cottonwood trees a foot in diameter were broken down and huge masses of reinforced cement weighing more than a hundred tons were carried half way to College street. Many residences along Sixth, Seventh and Eighth avenues were damaged and lawns and gardens destroyed. Warning given a few moments before the break enabled everybody to get out of the path of the flood. The damage is estimated at \$50,000.

Saved By a Prayer.

At a meeting of Presbyterians in Comanche County, south of Coldwater, a hall stormer approached. The Rev. A. G. Alexander of the Coldwater Church, who was delivering a sermon, stopped it and announced a hymn. The darkness grew appalling, but the congregation sang the louder. Then came a rumbling sound and a look-out at the window informed them that a twister of no mean size was coming. Whether it would strike the church or not was not the question. Safety first was announced and the minister and the hearers knelt in prayer, after he had quieted some of the women, who had become panic-stricken. When the prayer had been finished the storm was gone. It missed the church, but it took the tops from the motor cars of a number of the congregation and leveled trees nearby. The church folks say the prayer saved their lives.

Voter Erred; New Election.—A small mistake on the part of one voter in marking his ballot at a special election in the Wonesou school district, voting bonds for a new school building, will now make it necessary to hold the entire election over again. The election returns showed that sixty-eight ballots had been cast, of which thirty-four were in favor of the bonds and a like number against, with the sixty-ninth ballot, which would have decided the tie, counted out by the judges because the voter, instead of marking his ballot in either of the little squares opposite the affirmative or negative answer for the bonds as the election rules called for had marked just to one side of the square opposite the affirmative of the bond question.

Finds Mail Bag in Creek.—A party of campers on McLain's creek, two miles east of Olathe, found a rifled mail pouch in the creek bed the other morning. The few post cards left in the sack were addressed to Ocheltree, on the Frisco, eight miles south of Olathe, and are postmarked May 10.

Year Threshing Crop.—John Schrag has been trying for a year to thresh his last year's wheat crop. With another harvest at hand he has not finished. Schrag sowed almost 1,000 acres of land to wheat last year in the big basin which had been a swamp until he drained it. He raised a good crop. Before he could get the grain threshed a heavy rain flooded the basin. Continued wet weather has prevented him taking machinery into his big field. Last week he made one more effort, but a three-inch rain made it impossible.

Hodges' Mother Dead.—Mrs. Lydia A. Hodges, 80 years old, is dead in Olathe. She was the mother of ex-Gov. George H. Hodges and Frank Hodges and came to Kansas on the Santa Fe Trail 48 years ago from Wisconsin, with her husband and family.

Open New Chanute Postoffice.—Business began recently in the \$75,000 postoffice building erected by the federal government in Chanute. It sits a block east of the Santa Fe station.

New Postoffice for Junction City.—A bill for \$60,000 for a postoffice and site at Junction City has been approved and placed with the general appropriation bill that comes up in the house at Washington June 19, according to word received recently.

Smelters Raise Wages.—The United States Smelting Company, the Prime Western Smelter Company and the La-Harpe Zinc Company have announced a voluntary advance in wages of from 20 to 30 cents a day, according to the class of service given.

HAD \$14,500 IN NARCOTICS

Dr. Katz of Wichita Dispensed Big Lot of Drugs Within Nine Months.

Figures obtained by the internal revenue officers at Wichita from records seized in a raid on the headquarters of Dr. C. L. Katz show a total of \$14,510 worth of morphine and gum opium. That amount, which the revenue officers consider a conservative estimate, represents narcotics handled by the doctor between September 6 and May 25. In the nine months, 1,442 bottles of morphine in 40-bottle lots, were received by Katz, according to the confiscated records. Valuing that at the rate which Katz asked for the one bottle sold in Kansas City to a revenue inspector in disguise, the whole was worth \$7,210. Twenty and three-fourth pounds of raw opium were ordered by Katz in the nine months.

The revenue exacted by the government on smoking opium is \$300 a pound and would have been \$6,300 if paid on smoking opium made from the raw opium. This valuation on the opium handled by Katz does not take into consideration its real price in the dispensing and is a very low estimate, the revenue officers believe.

Doctor Katz was arrested in Kansas City two weeks ago at the Union Station while keeping an appointment with Pauline Jones, his Kansas City agent, who was under arrest.

ARCHIE SWEET IS CONVICTED

Only One Ballot Was Necessary in Trial of School Teacher's Murderer at Syracuse.

Archie Sweet's own story convicted him and a jury in the district court at Syracuse brought in a verdict of guilty on the first degree murder charge recently after one ballot. The arguments closed at night and Judge Downer sent the jury to bed for a night's rest. They entered the jury room at 7:30 o'clock the next morning, and at 10 o'clock signified that they had reached a verdict. Judge Downer was summoned and the courtroom was half filled by the time Sweet was brought in from the jail. Sweet was as cool as any man in the courtroom during the five minutes' wait for Attorney Martin, the only attorney for the defense still in town. Nor did the prisoner's mien change when the clerk read the verdict, and the word "guilty" dropped from his lips. Martin asked that the jury be polled and each juror man rose as his name was called and affirmed the verdict.

Martin then gave notice of an appeal for a new trial. Sweet rose and followed Sheriff McCarter back to jail without a word.

Claim Agent Hurt.—R. F. Brigley, claim agent for the Santa Fe, residing at Arkansas City, was badly injured when two motor cars collided at a street intersection at Wichita. One car knocked him down and the other ran over him.

Juan E. Byers Dead.—Juan E. Byers, 73 years old, is dead in Ottawa. He was president of the board of education 20 years, was president of a brick and tile company and helped organize and operate the first independent telephone company there in 1897.

Tired of Dodging Police.—Tiring of dodging blue coats in three states, George Hobson, aged 19, who escaped from the state reformatory at Hutchinson on May 17, gave himself up to officials of the institution. He had just arrived from Kansas City.

Soldier Elevator Burns.—The Farmers' Union Elevator at Soldier burned the other morning with a loss of \$10,000. The elevator will be rebuilt at once.

Balle Waggener Won't Run.—State Senator B. P. Waggener has announced that owing to ill health he will not be a candidate for re-election this year. Mr. Waggener has served two terms in the senate.

Found Dead Under Motor Car.—John Myers, a carpenter, was found dead under his motor car about three miles north of Independence recently. The car had overturned at a bridge and plunged into a creek.

Beg for Dope in Wichita.—In eight hours recently twenty-one drug fiends, men and women, besieged the office of the federal revenue collector for relief from their sufferings, due to inability to get the drug. Since the arrest of Dr. C. L. Katz in Kansas City last week on a charge of handling opium the dope merchants in Wichita and neighboring towns have become frightened and have quit selling. Dope dealers in Wellington, Hutchinson and other nearby cities have refused to dispose of any of their stocks, and the dopesters are suffering.

High Rank for Postoffice.—The Manhattan postoffice is now ranked first class by the postal department at Washington. Official notice to that effect was received by the postmaster, John Winter. There is only one other first class postoffice in the Fifth district—that at Salina.

Militia Company for Junction City.—Word has been received from Topeka that the application of Junction City men for a militia company had been accepted. The work of organization will begin at once.

UNDER MANY FLAGS

ISLAND OF CEPHALONIA PLAYTHING OF THE POWERS.

Small Area of Land in Ionian Sea Has Been for Centuries a Shuttlecock in the Game of International Diplomacy.

The reported occupation of Cephalonia by French and British forces, for strategic purposes, marks another cycle in the strange history of this island in the Ionian sea, which has played the role of shuttlecock in international diplomacy for more than 2,000 years. Its unique story is told in the following bulletin issued by the National Geographic society:

With an area about three times as great as that of Martha's Vineyard on the Massachusetts coast, Cephalonia is the largest of the seven Ionian islands. The origin of its settlement is shrouded in the fascinating uncertainty of Homeric legend, but from the year of its surrender to the Romans, 180 B. C., its history has been marked by a succession of changes in ownership which would bewilder the most astute student of world politics.

After the Roman Emperor Hadrian made a gift of the island to Athens, Cephalonia, and the six other islands of the Ionian group, became "free and autonomous," but during the ascendancy of the Byzantine empire they were subject to its power.

The next change came in the eleventh century. When William the Conqueror was engaged in establishing himself firmly in the British Isles, another Norman, Robert Guiscard ("the resourceful"), after conquering southern Italy, sailed to the Ionian sea and captured several of the islands, preparatory to overthrowing the Greek empire. This remarkable adventurer died on the island of Cephalonia while engaged in quelling a revolt, at a time when he seemed to have laid the foundations for a Norman empire similar to that which William established in England.

Following Robert Guiscard's invasion, Cephalonia passed in turn under the suzerainty of the princess of Tarentum, the five counts of Tocco, the republic of Venice, the ravaging corsairs of Greece and Naples, the Turks, the Spanish-Venetian allies, Venice again, France, the Russo-Turkish allies, the French and the British. Great Britain finally relinquished its protectorate and ceded the islands to Greece after the latter had allowed the court of St. James to name a brother of the princess of Wales as king of the Hellenes in 1832.

The chief city of Cephalonia is Argostoli, which has an excellent harbor and which is especially noted for its curious sea mills, operated by a current of sea water flowing through a chasm in the rocky shore. Across the bay from Argostoli is the rival port of Luxouri.

Cyclopean and Hellenic walls are still standing on the sites of the ancient cities of Cranli, Pront and Somos, while a few miles beyond Argostoli there rises a relic of Venetian days, the strongly fortified castle of St. George.

The Cephalonians, who are mentally alert and who are more purely Greek than the inhabitants of any of the other islands of the Ionian group, have shown great ingenuity and industry in building terraces for the cultivation of the vine and olive. One of the chief products of the island is a peculiarly flavored currant which found a ready market in Holland, Belgium and Germany. In addition to their agricultural pursuits, the Cephalonians are interested in ship building, silk spinning, basket making and the manufacture of carpets. An odd lace, made of aloë fiber, is exported.

Elato, also known as Monte Negro (black mountain), which is more than 5,000 feet high, gets its name from the dark pine forests which clothe its slopes.

Bird Acts as Angler's Guide.

Every day is "fish day" with the kingfisher. He has renounced diet of meat and vegetable forever. He has several cousins in the tropics who enjoy a meal of insects now and then. "But what's the use," says this bird, "of wasting time on bugs when a good-sized minnow is so much more filling and satisfying?"

You'll never confuse him with another bird, because there is no other that resembles him. His gray color, with a white band across the breast, the crest on top of his head, make him look like a bushy-haired music teacher.

Then you'll never forget his cry—a coarse trill like a policeman's rattle—uttered just as he's making a dive for a fish or when he's disturbed. Mrs. Kingfisher digs a hole in the side of a river bank to lay her eggs in.

Fishermen say that wherever the kingfisher is there are fish, so he acts as a guide for anglers.

Cat Lived Nineteen Years.

Halloween, a cat belonging to Mrs. C. M. Sehorn, died at the extraordinary age of nineteen years.

The Sehorn owned the animal for fifteen years and knew it from a kitten, so there is no doubt concerning its age.

The cat became too feeble to walk. It was virtually toothless and clawless. But it knew every member of the family until its very last hours and seemed never content unless some of them were in its sight.—Sacramento (Cal.) Bee.

FARMER'S GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Demand for Canadian Cattle After the War.

The opportunities that Western Canada offers to the farmer have time and again been placed before the public through these columns. The cheap price at which the very best lands can be purchased, and the advantage that is to be had in securing one of the free homesteads of 160 acres has appealed to a great many, and they have embraced them. Many, in fact most of those who have done so are today giving testimony to the good fortune and the timely forethought that led them to go to Western Canada, and embark in an era of farming that has placed them away beyond the pinch of want and given them reason to look into the future with a hopefulness that they had not had the courage in the past to forecast.

Not only have they been able to secure good lands at low prices and on easy terms but if they desire they have been able to add to this 160 acres of land free, on conditions that are easy. A resident in the Lloydminster district in Saskatchewan who had been farming in the States for some time, took up a homestead in 1910, and commenced breaking with 4 oxen. Two years ago he bought an adjoining quarter section and now has over 100 acres under cultivation. He says, "As my circumstances improved, I sold the oxen and now have six head of horses, twelve head of cattle, and have always a bunch of hogs on hand."

"On an average I have had yields of 25 bushels of wheat, 65 bushels of oats, and 40 bushels of barley to the acre, and last season from a field of 2 1/2 acres, I threshed 1,040 bushels of wheat. I have made a success of mixed farming and would have no hesitation in advising all who contemplate making a new home to come to this district. I sell cream to the Government Creamery here, and find at all times a good market for live stock and other produce."

This is but a modest statement of what a modest man can do in Western Canada, and could be repeated of hundreds of others.

Scores of cases could be recited where much more has been accomplished, and it is believed that with moderate investment at the present time, the cattle industry of Western Canada will pay large interest.

The Minister of Agriculture of Saskatchewan, in a recent address, ventured the prediction that the Saskatchewan farmer who developed his land along the lines of general stock breeding would make much more money and find a far bigger return for his efforts in ten years' time than the man who devoted his energies purely and primarily to grain raising. This was the coming golden age of opportunity for the stockman and it was up to the Saskatchewan man to get in on the ground floor and prepare himself for the coming demand.

The close of the war would undoubtedly see a great demand for live stock in Europe and it was only reasonable to suppose that this demand would have to be filled almost wholly by American stockmen, both in Canada and the United States. Europe was slowly draining its rural districts not only of its beef and dairy animals but was also using the finer breeding animals and the end of the war would see a condition of affairs which would render necessary almost the repopulation of the domestic animal kingdom in that continent.

The opportunity of Western Canadian stockmen, therefore, lay in being prepared for this demand when it arose. In view of these facts which must be patent to every student of economic conditions as related to the stock industry, he hoped to see within the next three years the stock raising industry in Saskatchewan given an immense impetus forward, which would put it in the forefront of the producing provinces of the Dominion.—Advertisement.

Fore and Aft.

"What do you think of these weather forecasts?"

"I think they might be nearer right if they were aftercasts."

Wounds on man or beast should be healed by Hanford's Balsam. Adv.

Most Likely.

"I see that trust magnate has bought a farm out in the country."

"What do you suppose he is going to raise?"

"Prices, probably."

THIS IS THE AGE OF YOUTH.

You will look ten years younger if you darken your ugly, grizzly, gray hairs by using "La Croix" Hair Dressing.—Adv.

Paw's Theory.

Little Lemuel—Say, paw, why do they always portray justice with a bandage over her eyes?

Paw—Probably because the lawyers have talked the poor woman blind, son.

Sold upon merit—Hanford's Balsam. Adv.

The worst examples a small boy ever encounters are in his arithmetic. It's the thing you don't want the people are always willing to hand you.