

Profiles of Outstanding Virgin Islanders (1972)¹

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¹ Ingested from web version by the University of the Virgin Islands Libraries, originally:
<http://webpac.uvi.edu/impls/profiles1972/index.shtml>

- Cherri Creque
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- Ralph M. Paiewonsky
- Johannes Sobotker

Legislators

- Eric Carroll
- Valdemar Hill
- Ludvig Harrigan
- Oswald Harris
- Orville S. Kean
- Earle B. Ottley
- Lionel Roberts

Judges -- Attorneys

- James Bough
- Almeric Christian
- David H. Jackson
- Cyril Michael

Diplomats -- Statesmen

- J.P. Benjamin
- Edward W. Blyden
- Ullmont James
- Cyril E. King
- Terence Todman

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- Abraham Markoe

Entrepreneurs

- Sosthenes Behn
- William Leidesdorff
- Alfred H. Lockhart
- Adolph E. Sixto

Athletes

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- Elrod Hendricks
- Alvin McBean

The New Generation

- Orville Kean
- Gwen Moolenaar
- Eileen Petersen
- Auguste Rimpel



Mildred V. Anduze (Mommie)
Anduze)

1891-1972

Educator

"Lady with a smile"

ANDUZE, MILDRED V.

November 9, 1891 - April 10, 1972

While the Virgin Islands have produced great men whose physical or mental attributes have merited them recognition in our halls of fame, few women have been thus honored. Mildred Verona Nee Watlington Anduze whose achievements as a wife, mother, educator, altruist, was a Virgin Islander who has contributed to her islands in an area that touches human feelings deeper than many great names can claim.

Born on November 9, 1891, her parents were Arthur Leopold and Elizabeth D. Watlington Nee Corbiere. She was married to the late Carl Adelbert Anduze on September 1, 1908. Her entire life has been family centered. Raising a family of three boys did not discourage her from opening her doors to others and being "Mommie" to young and old alike.

After completion of her education and when her sons were young adults, she continued her education and consequently taught Home Economics in public and parochial schools. Her skills in the art of cooking will be perpetuated in her famous cook book, Virgin Islands Native Dishes, compiled by the Women's League of St. Thomas. A handsome woman with a beautiful smile, Mrs. Anduze was active in civic affairs including campaigning for women's suffrage in the Virgin Islands. She was also active in church affairs: As a member of the Episcopalian Church, she oftentimes served as a delegate to convocations and ladies Trienium of the National Episcopal Church. Her three sons, Carl Leopold, Roy Adelbert, and Aubrey Alfred, are occupied in outstanding positions locally and abroad.



Bertha Boschulte
1906
Educator, Senator

BOSCHULTE, BERTHA C.

March 30, 1906

Elementary school teacher, High School teacher, Acting Principal, Principal, Statistician, Senator, Bertha C. Boschulte was born on St. Thomas on March 30, 1906. A pupil of the James Monroe Elementary School, she later attended the Junior-Senior High School of Charlotte Amalie.

An educator by training and devotion, she began teaching in the elementary schools as early as 1924. One year later she matriculated at Hampton Institute, Virginia and in 1929 received a B.S. Degree with majors in English and Mathematics. Upon graduation Miss Boschulte returned home and taught at the Charlotte Amalie High School.

At the beginning of the 1938-39 school year, she was appointed Acting Principal of her Alma Mata and the following year she was officially named Principal of the school.

In 1945 Miss Boschulte completed requirements for the Master of Arts Degree in Organization and Administration of Secondary Schools at Columbia University (Teachers College) Education in the same field. While attending Columbia University the educator secured license as substitute teacher in Mathematics, but eventually taught all subjects to Junior High School adjustment class at P.S. 81 for one semester.

Listed among her major contributions in education were her efforts to plan and organize the St. Thomas Teachers Institute and the St. Thomas Evening School and served as instructor in both programs for several years. The Teachers Institute at that time was geared toward professional growth of its members and offered courses towards certification.

In 1949 after being offered the position of Statistician in the Department of Health, Miss Boschulte resigned as Principal of Charlotte Amalie High School, and changed plans to return to Columbia University to complete work on her Doctorate in Education.

She entered the School of Public Health of the University of Michigan under the training program of the Health Department in 1950 and was awarded the Degree of Master of Public Health in the field of Public Health Statistics in 1951. During the year she was admitted to membership in the Delta Chapter of Delta Omega.

Named Director of Statistical Services in 1952 and later Director of the Division of Vital Records and Statistical Services, she served from 1955-57 as Director of General Services in the Department of Health.

When the need for a Commissioner of Education for the Virgin Islands arose, Miss Boschulte was offered this prestigious position in recognition of her ability, training and dedication. She declined both this position and later the position of Acting Commissioner.

However, interested in the affairs of her government, the educator made a successful bid for a seat in the Legislature, and was elected to the Senate of the Virgin Islands in 1964 and served for one term.

The lady Senator was elected to the Virgin Islands Board of Education in 1970 and then elected Chairman of the board by the other members. As Chairman of the Board, she is automatically a member of several other boards and commissions including the Board of Trustees of the College of the Virgin Islands, the Law Enforcement Commission.

In 1969 she was appointed to the Commission on the Status of Women and has been very active in making and implementing its recommendations.

She has served on several local boards and commissions and has been a member of various national organizations including the National Education Association, the American Association of Secondary School Principals, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and has held offices in local organizations including the Women's Club of St. Thomas, the St. Thomas teachers Association, the Municipal Employees Association, the Citizens Committee for the United Nations Day, the St. Thomas Mental Health Association and others.

Never tiring, Miss Boschulte has served as Chairman of Citizen's Committee for United Nations Day 1948, 1949 and 1951, as member of the Labor Department's Special Industry Committee for the Virgin Islands in 1948, the Employees retirement Board 1947 to 1949, the St. Thomas Election Board 1954 to 1962, and other special governmental committees over the years. In 1965 she was named woman of the year by the Business and professional Womens Club of St. Thomas.



Leonie E. Christian
1900
Educator

CHRISTIAN, LEONIE ELIZABETH ELENA

June 5, 1900

Mrs. Elena Nee Davis Christian was born on June 5, 1900 on Christiansted, St. Croix. During her early childhood she was enrolled in the Danish School from which she won a scholarship. Unable to accept this scholarship, Mrs. Christian entered her teaching career as a "Monitor".

The transfer of the Danish West Indies to the United States brought many changes and advancements in the educational structure. During this period Mrs. Christian successfully passed several examinations and was granted both a Teachers License and a Principal's License.

Her years with the Department of Education included teaching of all grades and levels including Special Education. In 1941 she was appointed to teach at Christiansted High School and later a class of student teachers majoring in Pedagogy and Elementary Psychology.

Her record shows a continuous climb with the Department of Education which included Dean of Girls, High School, and Assistant Principal of Junior and Senior High School.

To be always efficient and knowledgeable in her field, Mrs. Christian studied and attended Seminar Sessions with Hampton Institute, New York University, Inter-American University and finally, in 1962, earned A.B. and M.A. Degrees at Hampton Institute, Virginia. In 1967, this educator retired after giving fifty one "hard but rewarding years" to education.

Her retirement has left her with enough time and energy to be actively engaged in religious and civic activities. Her affiliations include Chairman of Altar Guild of St. John's Anglican Church, choir member, a member of Daughter of the King, Chairman of Christian Social Relations, member of Business and Professional Women's Club, Governor's Commission on the Aged, American Red Cross Worker, Trustee of Friends of Denmark, member of Virgin Islands common youth, St. Croix Friends of Denmark Society and Chairman of Christiansted District of Caribe Girl Scouts.

Married in 1917 to Mr. Adam Emanuel Christian, she is the mother of three prominent citizens who have also gained recognition in their respective fields. Claude Arturo is chief clerk with the Veterans Administration in New York City, Almeric Leander, once an attorney, is now Judge of the District Court of the Virgin Islands, and Merle Emmelene is a Bacteriologist working as supervisor with water pollution in the Department of Water Resources Environmental Protection Administration, Mount Prospect Laboratory, Brooklyn, New York.

FLEMING, G. JAMES

February 15, 1904

Dr. G. James Fleming, professor of Political Science at Morgan State College, Baltimore, Maryland, was born on St. Croix February 15, 1904, to his parents Alexander and Ernestine nee Miller.

Since in 1920 education beyond the eight grade was difficult, young Fleming left the island at an early age to continue his studies. This was received in the public school system of New York. He was valedictorian of his graduating class of senior high school. Desirous to reach the apex in education he continued formal training.

In 1926 he received his B.A. from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va. Five years later the brilliant Fleming received his M.A. from the University of Wisconsin, and finally he received his P.H.D. in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania.

A member of the Board of Trustees of the College of the Virgin Islands since 1966, Dr. Fleming has been closely associated with the institution from its planning stage. Governor Ralph M. Paiewonsky as early as 1961 invited him to become a member of a commission to study the feasibility of such an institution. In spite of various commitments, Dr. Fleming retains close contacts with the Virgin Islands and has never lost his affection for his hometown, St. Croix.

Listed among his major achievements are:

Citation for Public service by Wisconsin Alumni (1949). Recipient of Hampton Institute Distinguished Service Award 1948. Served on Editorial staff of Journal and Guide, Norfolk Virginia.

The political scientist was also in charge of press relations for mayors committee on conditions in Harlem 1935. He was on staff of "The Negro In America"; Secretary of Race Relations Committee of American; Friends Service Commission; Editor of Who's Who in Colored America 1950.

Member of American Academy of Political Science.
Policy Committee of N.A.A.C.P. He has also held
membership in several fraternities which include:
Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Delta Chi, Delta Sigma Rho,
Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Gamma Nu, Kappa Alpha Psi.

Dr. Fleming who is a political columnist for the
"Baltimore Afro American" is also the author of The
Administration of Fair Employment. Together with his
wife Hazel they reside in Baltimore.



Lionel B. Frazier

1899

Educator

FRASER, LIONEL B.

June 6, 1899

Lionel B. Fraser, a native of Frederiksted, has done of what most Virgin Islanders can be justly proud. He went to the mainland to further his education, did so, and demonstrated what can be done by perseverance and hard study.

His early education began with the public school of Frederiksted and ended with Rhodes Preparatory School, New York, New York. In 1928 he received the Bachelor of Science Degree from Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, and in 1928 a Master of Education Degree from the Graduate School of Education, Harvard University. Post Graduate studies included one year and two summers at the School of Education of the University of Chicago.

Mr. Fraser has made education his life study and he prepared himself adequately for it. Throughout the years he endeavored to keep abreast of trends and issues in education. To this end he attended summer sessions or workshops held at the University of Wisconsin, University of Texas and at Hampton Institute.

His work experience includes prominent positions in institutions of higher learning. Listed among these positions are: Instructor in Education; Director of the Laboratory Schools and Dean of College at Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi. Mr. Fraser was also Dean of Instruction and Dean of Jackson State College, Jackson, Mississippi. While working at Jackson State College the native crucian also served as State Director of the Phelps-Stokes Fund Project for the Improvement of Instruction. He retired from Jackson College on July 31, 1967, and served as Consultant to several colleges which were working toward accreditation.

On his retirement from Jackson State College, the noted educator had the distinct privilege of being Director of Project MARK (Medical Action for Research and Knowledge). This project, which was sponsored by the Mississippi Medical and Surgical Association was funded for two years, 1966-1967, by the Office of Manpower, Policy Evaluation and Research, U.S.

Department of Labor. Its objectives were to select school dropouts between ages 18 and 24 and to recommend them for training in para medical occupations.

Since February 1970, the Professor has served as Director of a seven month project which aims to train certain clerical workers recruited from among the disadvantaged. This is a phase of the JOB 70 s Program of the National Alliance of Businessmen.

Outside the field of education Mr. Fraser has had "enriching experiences". He is a charter member of the Hinds County Educational Federal Credit Union which started business in 1941. He is also one of the incorporators of the Security Life Insurance Company whose home office is in Jackson, Mississippi. He has been secretary of this company for many years.

His club affiliations, both professional and otherwise include: Life Membership of the National Education Association; Member, Association for Higher Education; Member, John Dewey Society; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; National Business League; Committee Member of Management of YMCA; a lay reader for St. Mark's Episcopal Church and of the Diocese of Mississippi.

A quote from Mr. Fraser depicts his high esteem for his fellow Virgin Islanders. "Like Martin Luther King, Jr., I have a dream, and this dream is to tell briefly of the contributions to the Virgin Islands of three natives--Fred McFarlane, Dr. Hamilton Jackson and Casper Holstein. Fred McFarlane aroused my intellectual curiosity, Hamilton Jackson gave me the foundations of my political beliefs and deepened my concern for those who may be less fortunate than I am, and Casper Holstein, like Abu Ben Adhem, loved his fellow men."

It is his hope to return to the islands to engage in research on these Virgin Islanders.

Mr. Fraser has written articles in The Crisis and the Opportunity Journal of the National Medical Association. Mr. Fraser, who is married and has one son, resides in Tougaloo, Mississippi.

GABRIEL, REHENIA

Elementary School Teacher, Acting Art Supervisor, Social Studies teacher, Teacher, Adult Evening Program; Assistant to New York University Workshop in Virgin Islands, Dr. Rehenia Gabriel is one of the most outstanding educators in the Virgin Islands. Daughter of Ann Marie, nee Caiby, and Theodore Gabriel, she was born on Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

She attended the public schools of St. Thomas, enrolling at Jefferson and Lincoln Elementary Schools. After graduation from Charlotte Amalie High School with a College Preparatory Course diploma, she did advanced work at University of Puerto Rico with emphasis on Education. She transferred to and was graduated from Northern Illinois, June 1949 with a high scholastic honors, majoring in Social Studies and a minor in Psychology.

Continuing her formal education, Miss Gabriel matriculated at New York University and subsequently in 1953 earned her Master of Arts in Guidance and Pupil Personnel work. With an unending quest for higher learning, the native educator engaged in post graduate work at Teachers College, Columbia, University, in the area of Supervision and Curriculum Improvement.

In 1968 she received her Doctorate in Education from New York University with a major in Guidance and Personnel Administration. Graduating with high honors, this achievement captured for Dr. Gabriel the honor of being first woman in the Virgin Islands to obtain a Doctorate in Education.

Dr. Gabriel, who has devoted her energies to education, first work experience as a teacher began with Miss Dorothy Deisher's Private School. Moving thereafter into the Public Schools system she was appointed teacher, then Acting Art Supervisor, and later Teacher and Chairman of Social Studies Department at

Charlotte Amalie High School. In 1951 she served as Assistant to the New York University Workshop for teachers in the V.I. and also as Instructor in the Hampton-On-Island Program.

The islands being in need of trained educators recognized the abilities of Dr. Gabriel and used her training in various positions. In 1958-1963 she was Assistant Principal of C.A.H.S. and later in 1963 she was made Director of Pupil Personnel Service with the local Department of Education, a position she presently holds.

She is also Educational Testing Services Supervisor for the Graduate Record Examination.

Among special awards conferred on Dr. Gabriel was being the first native recipient of the Ford Foundation Fellowship 1953-54. The Fellowship afforded her the opportunity to concentrate on and to visit schools engaged in CORE program which was her major emphasis at that time.

Since her return to the islands the former supervisor has been involved in several speaking engagements which include PTA Groups, Radio Programs, Church Groups, Promotion Exercises, Peace Corps Groups. In 1967 she was principal speaker for the Department of Education during American Education Week and the following year was guest speaker at Business and Professional Womens Club Anniversary Dinner.

Dr. Gabriel's contributions to education has been strongly felt through her publications which include "A study of Secondary School Students at Charlotte Amalie High School", "Effects of Kindergarten Program on Reading Readiness". A study of Isletan Indians", several articles on Guidance for the Virgin Islands Guidance News, which is an operation and procedures manual for Guidance Programs in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Her professional and civic affiliations are wide and include such distinguished associations as Membership in Kappa Delta Pi, Phi Lambda Theta, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Improvement, American Personnel

and Guidance Association, National Education Association, National Association for Pupil Personnel Administrators, National Council for Social Studies, National Association for Secondary Principals, St. Thomas - St. John Youth Committee, Task Force on Juvenile Delinquency, Task Force on Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, Virgin Islands Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, Member, Board of Directors, St. Thomas - St. John Inter-Faith Commission (Sec.), Girl Scouts (Leader and Assistant Leader), Business and Professional Womens Club of St. Thomas.

As Director of Pupil Personnel, Dr. Gabriel's major concern is to develop an operational model for pupil services which will utilize a multidisciplinary team of professionals to meet the needs of elementary and secondary school children.

Under her administration as Director of Personnel major improvements within the division have been made. At the end of fiscal year 1963 the Bureau's staff included a director, a guidance Coordinator, six secondary school guidance counselors and three attendance counselors. The program has been expanded to include not only guidance and attendance but the total growth of children.

Dr. Gabriel who resides with her sister Gladys, Primary Supervisor for the local Department of Education, is an active member of the Memorial Moravian Church. Her brothers Ramon and Theodore reside on the mainland.

HARRISON, HUBERT HENRY

1883 - 1927

Hubert Harrison was one of the most brilliant and dynamic Negro intellectuals ever to emerge on the American scene. Profoundly educated, he knew far too much to ever be ashamed of his color or heritage. Instead he held his head high, knowing that only what a man accomplishes within the framework of his opportunity is the true measure of his humanity.

Born in the Virgin Islands, Harrison went to the United States at seventeen after having sailed around the world as a merchant seaman. Infused with a passion for learning, he attended night school in New York for several years and compiled an outstanding record as a brilliant student.

Financially unable to complete his formal education, Harrison nonetheless continued to study on his own and by his early twenties was deeply learned on a vast range of subjects. At age twenty four he was writing book reviews for the New York Times and over the succeeding years had countless articles published by other leading newspapers and prestigious national magazines such as The Nation and the New Republic.

Eventually, despite his lack of a formal degree, Harrison became a lecturer at both New York University and City College and a staff lecturer of the New York Board of Education.

For years, convinced that only a radical political solution could answer the black man's pressing needs, Harrison was an ardent Socialist and one of the principal writers and spokesmen for the American Branch of that movement. In time, however, he became disenchanted with the disparity between Socialistic theory and action, and in the end, became a Democrat.

It has often been suggested that, had he not died so tragically early, he very possibly might have gained a prominent position within the administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

At the time of his death, the New York News eulogized him as the most universal man created in our day.



J. Antonio Jarvis

1901 - 1963

Educator, Journalist, Historian

"Ahead of his times"

JARVIS, JOSE ANTONIO - November 22, 1901 - July 21, 1963

Jose Antonio Jarvis was born on November 22, 1901, the offspring of a Minister of the African Methodist Church, Joseph W. Jarvis and Mercedes Duvergee, A Roman Catholic St. Thomian. He was brought up by Miss Mary Hughustein, whom Jarvis referred to as his godmother, in a house on Gamble Gade in Savan. Young Antonio attended the Catholic School. His interest in Journalism started, rather early when he worked as a printer's devil to Herbert Taylor and then to Lightbourn's Mail Notes. He contributed to it when it became George Audain's St. Thomas Mail Notes and years after became its Assistant Editor. The noted educator started teaching in 1924, first at the St. Thomas Academy, later the same year at Abraham Lincoln School and took exams within the public Educational system and received an elementary certificate. He then taught at the High School for eight years, returning to Lincoln Elementary.

In 1927 he won an "Opportunity Award in Fine Arts" and in 1930 wrote the Virgin Islands Guide Book.

Mr. Jarvis first published the Daily News in 1930, a paper he owned and managed for many years. In 1932 after being transferred to Charlotte Amalie High School, he published his first book of poems, Fruits in Passing. Three years after he published his first large book Brief History of the Virgin Islands. In 1939 he first attended Columbia University in the summer and exhibited paintings at the New York World's Fair and the Golden Gate Exposition in 1939, where he won medals for his paintings.

In 1942 Jarvis was made principal of the Abraham Lincoln School, a post he held until May, 1963. During this period he published some of his finest works such as The King's Mandate, The Virgin Islands and Their People, Virgin Islands Picture Book.

One of the greatest moments of his life took place in January, 1946 where in the setting of the White House, President Harry S. Truman presented Jarvis with the Selective Service Medal. He had the distinct honor of being the only black man in the group. Jarvis loved his people and is tenderly remembered by many as a philanthropist more than a poet, historian or

educator. He was guardian of many young St. Thomians, including Terrence Todman and Franklin Jarvis.

In 1961 he was selected as the historian of the Virgin Islands to write a school text on Virgin Islands history. The Legislature on June 18, 1960, appropriated \$2,000 under Bill 416822 for a trip to Europe to consult the archives of Denmark and England for the purpose of researching source material to be used in his history text. Unfortunately, he died before completing this assignment. His notes are still unpublished and in possession of his son Franklin.

Antonio Jarvis died on July 21, 1963.

MARKOE, CLAUDE O.

September 30, 1900

Claude O. Markoe, a native of St. Croix, was born in Frederiksted, September 30, 1900. A product of the local schools, he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry from the University of Puerto Rico in 1922. Upon his return to the island he served as Principal of Frederiksted Junior High School, for nineteen years and later as Principal of Christiansted High School for twelve years. After twenty-one years of service in Education he retired.

The great-great-great-great grandson of Pierre Marcou, a French Huguenot escaping religious persecution at home, who landed in St. Croix when a storm delayed his departure to Martinique, Claude Markoe directs his Markoe Insurance Agency.

It is reported Marcou changed the spelling of his name to Markoe. His grandson Abrani is credited with designing the flag that flew at the head of the column that escorted George Washington from Philadelphia to Kings bridge as the new Commander in Chief of the Continental Army in 1775. To this flag, Congress added the Union Jack which was later dropped and the field of stars was added.

The Claude O. Markoe School was dedicated in 1958 as a tribute to the educator for years of unselfish devotion to his profession.

Listed among his social, civic and religious affiliations are the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Free Mason, General Finance Corporation of St. Croix, Boy Scouts, Vestry work at Episcopalian Church and Overseer of the College of the Virgin Islands.

Mr. Markoe resides with his family in Christiansted, St. Croix.



Alonzo G. Moron

1909-1971

Educator

MORON, ALONZO GRASEANO

April 12, 1909 - October 31, 1971

In selecting Virgin Islanders for honorary recognition, the name of Alonzo G. Moron should head the list. Born in St. Thomas, of islands parentage on April 12, 1909, young Moron, like his fellow Virgin Islanders received his early training from the local school system.

With a brilliant mind and a quest for learning at 14, he enrolled at Hampton Institute trade school and was graduated in 1927. Five years later (1932) the brilliant young Virgin Islander received his PHB in Sociology at the University of Pittsburg in 1933.

Following these degrees were several others including LLB Harvard University, 1947, under a Rosenward Fellow, LL Wilberforce, U, 1950 with honors. Returning to the islands, Dr. Moron was named first Commissioner of Public Welfare (now Social Welfare) in 1933-36.

From 1936-1940 he accepted and worked as Housing Manager, University Home Atlanta, Georgia, at the same time Dr. Moron was also Lecturer at the Atlanta University School of Social Work. In 1946-47 he was Consultant of Business Management at Hampton Institute and the following year became General Business Manager.

During 1948-49 he continued as General Business Manager, but was also acting President of Hampton. In 1949 he accepted the Presidency of Hampton Institute, a position he held for ten consecutive years. 1959 brought about a change in his locale and he returned home to accept the position of Special Assistant to Governor de Castro.

The brilliant educator was next invited to become Commissioner of Education of the Virgin Islands 1960-61. After contributing significantly to this department, he resigned to accept position as Special Assistant to Governor David Merwin.

Finally in 1961, Dr. Moron was Assistant to Regional Administration Housing and Home Finance Agency for Virgin Islands operations. In 1966 he accepted the position of Deputy Regional Administrator for Region VII Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Married to Leola Rowena nee Churchill on September 12, 1932, the couple resided in Santurce, Puerto Rico.

Dr. Moron's membership in various organizations include, National Association for Advancement Colored People, Alpha Phi Alpha, Sigma Pi Phi, Phi Beta Kappa, Honorary Society, NAHARO, KIWIVE.

Dr. Moron, outstanding native son, died on October 31, 1971, in Puerto Rico and was buried at Port Coeli Cemetery in Hato Tejas.

OLIVER, EMANUEL BENJAMIN

May 29, 1976 - January 31, 1948

E. Benjamin Oliver, considered one of the greatest disciplinarians in the local educational system was born in Monserrat, British West Indies.

He became a naturalized U.S. Citizen around 1920 and devoted his life to teaching.

He came to the Virgin Islands in 1897 at the age of 21 to teach in Reverend Paul's School, St. Croix, a private school. For the following 21 years, he taught both private and public schools.

On August 3, 1919 Maud and E. Benjamin Oliver were married and they made St. Thomas their home. He continued teaching, under Henry C. Blair, Director of Education in the U. S. Virgin Islands.

In July, 1924, he was classified as a special teacher, and in 1927, was appointed principal of the Abraham Lincoln School.

After fifteen years as principal and teacher of night school of the Teacher Class, Mr. Oliver retired from public service. However, he started the Goodwill School, a tutoring private school for grades 1-9 from 1942 to 1948.

He died on January 31, 1948. He was posthumously honored by the Municipal Council of St. Thomas and St. John on February 20, 1948, which issued a resolution in recognition of his dedicated services signed by Roy P. Gordon as Chairman and Earle B. Ottley as Secretary.

The Goodwill School was continued by his wife from 1948 until 1954 when she retired from active teaching.

Source: Notes compiled by Miss Enid Baa, St. Thomas Public Library, June 3, 1970.



Arthur Richards
1924
Educator

RICHARDS, ARTHUR A. September 8, 1924

Officially Provost and Dean of the College of the Virgin Islands, Dr. Arthur Richards has presided as Acting President of College of the Virgin Islands. His early education was obtained at Public Elementary and Secondary Schools of St. Croix and a B.S. degree earned at Howard University. With "Public Education on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands since the implementation of the 1954 Organic Act" as his Thesis Dr. Richards earned his Masters Degree from Hampton Institute, Virginia in 1961.

Participation in various institutes, seminars, and workshops, including an International Institute on Comparative Education, Italy and the Netherlands in 1962 preceded his obtaining an Ed. D. at New York University in 1965.

Dr. Richards work experience in the field of education ranges from classroom teacher to principal of both elementary and secondary schools, advancing to Deputy Commissioner of Education; Assistant Commissioner of Education, Charlotte Amalie; Commissioner of Education, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and Provost and Dean of College of Virgin Islands. His professional affiliations include membership in Phi Delta Kappa, Kappa Delta Pi, National Association of Secondary School Principals, American Association of School Administrations.

He has traveled to Austria, Belgium, England, France, Germany, Italy, Lichtenstein, Netherlands, Switzerland and most of the United States.

Dancing, fishing, gardening and swimming rank high among his favorite hobbies.

Dr. Richards is married to the former Myrna Todman and they are the parents of Anthony, Pamela, and Duane.



Jane E. Tuitt

1908

Educator

"Alma's favorite"

TUITT, JANE E

Miss Jane E. Tuitt was born on January 8, 1908 in Christiansted, St. Croix. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Tuitt of Estate Hanna's Rest, St. Croix.

At the early age of eight, Miss Tuitt traveled to the island of Antigua, which was then considered the center of culture for the West Indies, to attend the Thomas Oliver Robinson Memorial School. At this boarding school she passed the Cambridge Preliminary Examinations at the age of ten. After completing elementary school in Antigua she moved to St. Thomas in order to continue her high school studies. Graduating in 1923, she began her career as an educator and interrupted this only for periods of formal study.

During 1931, the early days of the Civil Administration, she went to Hampton Institute, where she earned her Bachelor's degree in 1935. Later she did graduate work at Teacher's College, Columbia University, where she earned a Master's degree in 1951.

Upon her return to the Virgin Islands in 1935, Miss Tuitt served for a brief period as principal of the Christiansted Public Grammar School. She returned to St. Thomas during that same year to teach Science at the Charlotte Amalie High School, where in 1944-45 she served as Acting Principal. Recognition of her intellectual ability and devotion to duty led to her constant promotion to more responsible positions in the Department of Education. These included: Supervisor of Elementary Schools, 1947-49; Assistant Superintendent, 1949-55; Director of Elementary Schools, 1955-56; Acting Commissioner, 1955-58; Assistant Commissioner, 1956-63; and the highest position in the Department, Commissioner of Education, 1963-66.

After leaving the Department of Education, Miss Tuitt was employed by the College of the Virgin Islands, where she served as Associate dean of the College, Chairman of the Teacher Education Division, and Professor of Education.

Miss Tuitt is a member of many educational organizations and committees. Her affiliations include:

National Education Association; American Association of School Administrators; American Vocational Association; American Association for Higher education; State Advisory Committee, Middle States Association Commission on Secondary Schools; State Advisory Committee ESEA Title III; Advisory Committee, Title I, Higher Education Act; Advisory Committee, Vocational Education.

During her 47 years of service she has accumulated a wealth of information relative to the growth and development of the educational system of the Virgin Islands, and has made considerable contributions.

In addition to devoting most of her life to education, she has found time to participate in community activities; serving as District Leader for the Girl Scouts, and member of the St. Thomas Girl Scout Council, working with the American Red Cross (at one time as Junior Red Cross Chairman) and being a member of the Women's League as well as of the Business and Professional Women's Club.

Miss Tuitt has received many honors from the community in recognition of her services. In 1959 the Virgin Islands Government named the newly constructed school in the Savan area the Jane E. Tuitt School.

The class of 1943 of Charlotte Amalie High School, in observance of their 20th anniversary, sponsored a testimonial dinner for Miss Tuitt and established the Jane E. Tuitt Scholarship Fund. At this dinner Governor Paiewonsky lauded her for her dedication and efficiency. A plaque for meritorious service was also awarded Miss Tuitt by the staff of Charlotte Amalie High School.

In 1968, in observance of their 100th anniversary, Hampton Institute, Miss Tuitt's Alma Mater, honored her as one of their outstanding alumni and awarded her the Hampton Centennial Medal.

Miss Tuitt resides in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. In 1971 she retired as Associate Dean of the College of the Virgin Islands, but is still an active participant in many clubs and community projects.

Following her retirement as Associate Dean, the College of the Virgin Islands saw it fit to establish the Jane E. Tuitt Scholarship, Students who have attained high scholastic average in high school and who have been accepted for admission are eligible for the scholarship. The scholarships are offered in teacher education, nursing, business, science, math, social science and the humanities.

ANDUZE, AUBREY ALFRED

September 24, 1917

Dr. Aubrey A. Anduze, formerly Governor's Administrative Assistant on the Island of St. Croix, was born in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, on September 24, 1917. He is the son of the late Carl A. Anduze, merchant and realtor, and his wife Mildred V. Anduze, Nee Watlington. He attended Dunbar High School in Washington, D.C. His undergraduate and graduate studies were completed at Howard University in Washington, D.C., where he received the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1944. At Howard University Dental College, he became a member of Chi Lambda Kappa, an Honorary Dental Society. He entered the U.S. Army as a private and was discharged a Captain. During his service he attended the Carlyle Barracks Field School, served in the European and Pacific Theaters of Operation, and was awarded three bronze battle stars.

In 1946 he became the Municipal Dentist for St. Croix and served in this capacity until 1956. In 1956 he entered private practice and was elected to the Virgin Islands Senate. He served as President of the Virgin Islands Senate for that term, and was reelected in 1958 and 1960. In 1962 he was awarded a Fellowship in the International College of Dentists. He was appointed as the Governor's Administrative Assistant for St. Croix in 1965.

He is a member of the Puerto Rico, American, and National Dental Associations; International College of Dentists; Rotary Club of St. Croix; Democratic Party of the Virgin Islands; Harmonic Lodge, St. Thomas; and the Caribbean Light Lodge, St. Croix.

Dr. Aubrey Anduze is an Episcopalian. He is married to Arminthia Elizabeth Anduze, Nee Lee. His six children are A. Adelbert, Alicia C., Alena A., Alfred L., Alda E., and Altheda C.



David C. Canegata

1887

Physician, Govt. Administrator, Author

CANEGATA, DAVID C.

October 20, 1887

Doctor David C. Canegata was born in Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands on October 20, 1887. He has lived a life distinguished by public service to his homeland and humanitarian dedication to the welfare of his fellowman. After receiving his elementary and secondary education in the British West Indies he attended Canada's McGill University where he was awarded the Doctor of Medicine and Master of Surgery degrees.

Returning to St. Croix to practice medicine he soon found ample opportunity for public service. He has been a member of the Virgin Islands Legislature, President of the School Board, Judge of the Municipal Court at Christiansted and Administrator (Chief Executive) for the Island of St. Croix.

He has been active in church, civic and sports organizations.

Dr. Canegata is the author of St. Croix at the 20th Century. As a man of reason and reflection, whose love of his island is as fierce as it is faithful, Dr. Canegata writes authoritatively and thought-provokingly from a unique vantage of having served all branches of government in St. Croix.

Source: "St. Croix at the 20th Century, D. C. Canegata
Carlton Press, Inc., 1968, New York, N.Y.

FORDE, EUGENIE TRANBERG July 24, 1900

Mrs. Eugenie nee Tranberg Forde, the Florence Nightingale of the Virgin Islands," has dedicated fifty-three years of service to the nursing profession. She was born on Christiansted, St. Croix.

Upon completion of her academic training, she traveled to St. Thomas. Because she was too young to be employed by the Government of the Danish West Indian Islands, the young lady was invited to be a pupil teacher at the Roman Catholic school. This position she held for two years. Achieving full maturity she applied for a position as a nurse at the local hospital, known then as the Kumuna Hospital. The staff sponsored a rigid and prolonged training for prospective nurses.

After being screened the young Crucian was admitted into the training program. By 1923 she completed her training in Nurse-Midwifery. She put this training into practice until 1948. She received post graduate studies at John Hopkins in Baltimore and at Freedmans Hospital in Washington D.C.

Following this training, in 1953, the midwife was appointed Supervisor of Nurses and Mid-wives, at Knud Hansen Memorial Hospital and is presently enjoying this position.

Until 1965 Mrs. Ford was treasurer of Virgin Islands State Association of nurses. She participates in various nursing, religious and civic organizations.

In 1966 this dedicated nurse was honored by the St. Thomas Chapter of Business and Professional Womens Club as Woman Of The Year for her outstanding performance in her field and for her dedication to service in the community.

In 1967 Mrs. Forde was again honored by the Virgin Islands Nursing Association on the occasion of her Golden Anniversary in the nursing profession. A Testimonial dinner was held in her honor. To date Mrs. Forde has delivered more than 4,000 babies of the St. Thomas community.

Now a widow, Mrs. Forde was the wife of Volmey Forde. Their children Lelas, Ulric, Alden and Ashre are all native born and are engaged in various fields.

Credit:

Lelas Forde Gift
Brochure-Testimonial Dinner
Public Library



Amadeo I. Francis Jr.
1931

FRANCIS, AMADEO

October 22, 1931

One young Virgin Islander who has selected to live away and has identified himself in a most outstanding manner is Amadeo Francis, Jr. The son of Ethanie nee Smith and Amadeo Francis, he was born on St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

After graduation from his local high school he received his B.A. majoring in History and political Science from Inter-American University, San German, Puerto Rico, in 1951. His M. Sc. with a major in Economics was earned at the University of London, (London School of Economics), in 1959. His employment history includes:

Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association: June 1/67 to date;

Executive Assistant to the Administrator (for Economic Affairs), Economic Development Administration, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico: November 1/67 to October 31/69;

Director of Economic Research, Economic Development Administration: May 1/61 to October 31/67;

Assistant Director, Office of Economic Research, Economic Development Administration: November 1/59 - April 30/60 and November 1/60 - April 30/61;

Chief, Progress Reporting Division, Bureau of Public Works Programming, Puerto Rico Planning Board: (Special Assignment), May 1/60 - October 31/60.

Previously engaged in Office of Economic Research as Chief of General Economics Division, 1958 - 1960; Economist, 1955 - 1958.

Additional Information:

Member of the following professional organizations: American Economic Association, American Statistical Association, Puerto Rico Economics and Statistical Association, Society for International Development.

Also member, Puerto Rican Chapter, American Red Cross; President of the Puerto Rico Amateur Athletics Federation; Member of the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee; Member of the Board of Directors, Alumni Association, Inter-American University of Puerto Rico.

During summer of 1959, attended seminar on economic development jointly sponsored by the Economic Development Institute of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the University College of the West Indies (at Kingston, Jamaica)

Mr. Francis has traveled extensively throughout Europe and in recent years throughout the Caribbean and within Central America on special consulting assignments. He has also visited Japan and Australia.

GRIGG, HERBERT

November 18, 1900 - April 3, 1969

Herbert Grigg was born in the city of Christiansted, on the island of St. Croix, in the year 1900.

As a young boy, Herbert lived on the island, but left some time during his boyhood to study on the Island of St. Lucia.

After returning to St. Croix, Mr. Grigg worked in the town of Frederiksted. From 1921 to 1928, he worked at the Frederiksted Hospital. In 1928, he was transferred to the Christiansted Hospital, which was located in the area called Peter's Farm.

As a worker in the Department of Health, Herbert Grigg held many jobs. He served as X-ray technician, Fiscal Officer, and Personal Officer. After working many years in the hospital, Mr. Grigg was finally named Administrator of the Kings Hill Home for the Aged. This job he kept until his retirement.

In 1960, the Kings Hill Home for the Aged became known as the Herbert Grigg Home for the Aged.

This Humanitarian gave 40 years of service to the Health Department, and the people of St. Croix before he retired.

After many years of illness, Herbert Grigg died at his home on April 3, 1969

(Information gathered from talks with widow of Herbert Grigg).

KNUD KNUD-HANSEN - 1874-1951

An Obstetrician, Surgeon and General Practitioner, Dr. Knud Knud-Hansen was born in Denmark. He received his early education in Copenhagen and upon completion he entered the University to pursue a medical career. Dr. Hansen in his autobiography, From Denmark to the Virgin Islands, describes these years as "long years of happy misery". To support himself through medical school he taught Zoology in a Miss West's Higher Girls School and doubled as a news critic for a newspaper syndicate.

After seven years of self supporting efforts Dr. Hansen received his medical degree and applied for an appointment in the Medical Corps. He was thereafter assigned to duties as a ship's doctor on "Ingborg", a square rigged three masted schooner. After five months under sail, upon returning to Copenhagen he received orders to go to the Danish West Indies. Sales talk of the islands were once more under discussion and the crew of the "Ingborg" was to stand by in case the people should revolt if the sale of the islands to the U.S.A. fell through. On September 6, 1902, they anchored in Christiansted, St. Croix.

His sailing days in the navy finally came to an end and once more Dr. Knud-Hansen returned to Copenhagen and soon became involved in post graduate studies.

In September 1908 the young doctor returned to St. Thomas to accept a position as municipal physician. Though not a born Virgin Islander he gave unselfish devotion to the people. For the rest of his life he suffered with them through crises such as fire, hurricanes, transfer of the islands to America, the change of the name of Charlotte Amalie to plain St. Thomas and through prohibition. During the malaria epidemic in St. John and St. Thomas in 1932, Dr. Knud-Hansen and his staff worked untiringly through days into nights treating patients and exterminating the malaria-giving mosquitoes. The devoted doctor also worked consistently towards training nurses and upgrading medical standards of the hospital and seeking adequate legislation towards improving the Health Department.

He traveled to Washington, D.C. to discuss Public Health Service Acts and to attend other meetings on Public Health.

After thirty-seven years of love, dedication, and service, he retired and began to write his autobiography, From Denmark to the Virgin Islands.

The only hospital in St. Thomas is fittingly named the Knud-Hansen Memorial Hospital for this servant of the people who considered their health his greatest concern.

Surviving are two sons, Jim who is an employee of the Department of Education who resides in St. Thomas, and John, who resides in Boston.

Dr. Knud-Hansen died in St. Thomas, the land he loved and made his home.

Source: From Denmark to the Virgin Islands, by Knud Knud-Hansen, 1947.

DA COSTA, JACOB MENDEZ

February 7, 1833 - September 11, 1900

A physician by choice, Jacob Mendez Da Costa was born on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. The Da Costa family was of Spanish and Portuguese extraction. When he was four years old, his family moved to Europe where he received his early education. He acquired a sound knowledge of the Classics, learned to speak French and German fluently and acquired a reading knowledge of four other languages.

Moving to Philadelphia in 1849, he entered Jefferson Medical College and in 1852, was graduated. He then returned to Paris in the same year for post graduate study. He traveled widely in Europe, seeking new paths in teaching. His medical writings were not voluminous but all were of value and some of outstanding merit. Of his publications, first place belongs to the work on Medical Diagnosis. This work may be said to have opened a new era and its influence was widespread on teaching and clinical methods. It went through nine editions and was translated into several other languages.

Many honors came to him later in academic and in medical societies. He was twice president of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia (1884-86 and 1895-98). He was an original member of Association of American Physicians and a member of many other honorary societies. Admiration for his character seems to have been as great as for his intellectual and professional gifts. He may be regarded as having lived an ideal life for a physician, devoted to the care of the sick, the teaching of students, and the study of diseases. Throughout his life the welfare of members of his own profession was always his concern and he has been called the "physician's physician".

Source: American Biography, Vol. 5, pg. 24 - 25.



Bernard Paiewonsky
1933
Aero-Engineer

PAIEWONSKY, BERNARD DR.

March 4, 1933

The Virgin Islands have contributed to the field of natural science through a limited number of native sons. One of these exceptions is Dr. Bernard Paiewonsky who at the early age of twenty eight earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Aero Engineering.

The son of Ralph Paiewonsky and Ethel Paiewonsky, Nee Heller, he is a graduate of Stuyvesant High School, New York City, (January 1950). In 1953 he earned a BS in Mathematics at MIT. One year later he was awarded an MA in Mathematics. Still seeking further knowledge, in 1956 he earned an MSE in Aeronautical Engineering at Princeton University. The next two years 1955-57 during which he served as Lieutenant, USAF, preceded his tenure as a Lengendre Fellow at Princeton University (1957). It was also at Princeton University in 1961 the Doctor of Philosophy (PHD) in Aero Engineering was conferred on him.

Dr. Paiewonsky who has been consultant for Aeronautical Research Associated for Princeton has been since 1964 to present, consultant at the Institute for Defense Analyses in Arlington, Virginia.

Outstanding Achievements include: Virgin Islands Award in 1959; Associate editor, Journal of American Rocket Society (1959-61), Associate editor, Journal Institute of Aeronautics and Chairman Astronautics 1961-1961, AIAA Publications Committee (1969 to present), Vice Chairman Technical Section of Organization Scientific Technique du Vol a Voile, 1970, and Chairman of Technical Board, Soaring Society of America (SSA).

Married since August 1953, his family is comprised of his wife Sabina Nee Reisfeld and two daughters Adrienne Helen (1956) and Betty (1959).



Sylvia Ross
1934
Health Minister

ROSS, TALBOT SYLVIA

June 22, 1934

Dr. Sylvia Nee Ross Talbot, who was born in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, U.S.A, is the daughter of Mrs. Rachel Ross Carter and the late Mr. Iver Ross of Frederiksted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

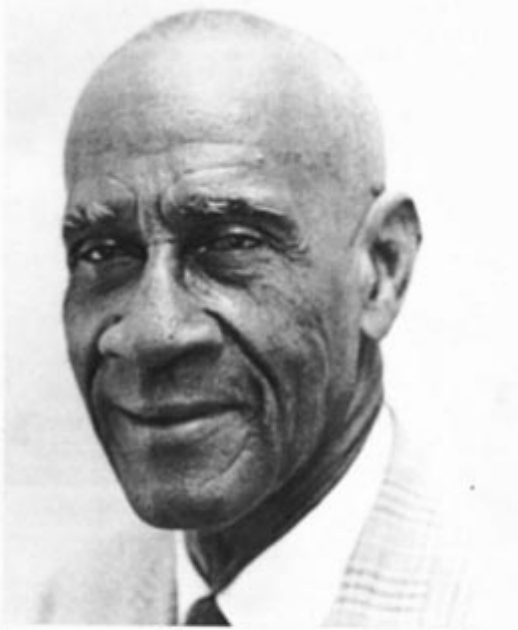
Dr. Talbot attended the Public School in St. Croix and was graduated from the Christiansted High School in June, 1950.

After graduation she worked in the Department of Social Welfare, Virgin Islands Government, for a few years and then entered the Inter-American University in Puerto Rico where she received her M.S. Degree in Public Health. Her doctorate in Education was obtained from Columbia University in 1969.

Dr. Talbot served as Director of Health in Sacramento, California; District Health Educator in Guyana; Chief Education Officer in Guyana; Head of the Department of Teachers Training College in Guyana; Executive Member of the International Committee for World Day of Prayer, formed in 1968; Member of Pan American Health Organization of which Guyana is a Regional District, and president of the Directing Council of Pan American Health Organization achieving the distinction of being the first woman ever to be voted this honor. She is also involved with the Church Womens United Committee of International Relations.

The Crowning achievement in Dr. Talbot's career was being named Minister of Health of Guyana, and she is also a member of the Cabinet and Member of Parliament.

Dr. Talbot became the wife of the Reverend Fred Talbot of Guyana in 1958.



Alton A. Adams Sr.

1889

Musician (composer), Journalist

"Altrivist"

ADAMS, ALTON AUGUSTUS - November 4, 1889

Alton A. Adams, musician, journalist, organizer, proprietor was born on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, November 4, 1889. He received his education from the schools of the day namely: Moravian School, Mrs. Viallets School, and was fortunate to be the student of pioneers of the local system as Miss Myers. As was the custom of the period Mr. Adams later continued studies by correspondence courses. He applied to and completed courses with Home Correspondence and International Correspondence School under the direction of Ad lf Sixto, a noted local scholar.

An ardent music lover from his youth, Mr. Adams, got his first break under the Naval Administration. Sensing the ability of young Adams, Mr. James Oliver, the first naval governor, made it possible for Adams to study music. He was later made chief musician of the U.S. Navy and a naval censor 10th Naval District, San Juan. When he returned to the islands, Mr. Adams was an accepted representative of the Jacobs music program and an accomplished band master.

Fresh and stimulated he was now inspired to pass this knowledge on to his fellow Virgin Islanders with the ardent hope of developing a love for and an appreciation of music especially among the youth. He had a strong desire to give service and he proceeded to work with young open minds. He therefore approached a few private Danish families hoping that they would financially assist in organizing a music program within the public school system. When they refused, Adams appealed to the American Red Cross from whom he got immediate cooperation. As one of the first local members of the American Red Cross himself, he persuaded this charitable organization into the purchasing of music and texts from the American Book Company. It was at this point that the first juvenile band was organized on all three islands. With emphasis on orchestra music, Mr. Adams trained the members from which emerged such notable local music teachers as Ossie Lockhart Nichol森, Adele Lanclos Galiber, Blanche Joseph Sasso, Judge Cyril Micheal and Carmille Markoe. Still pressing further for financial support bandmaster Adams won the

favor of one Mrs. White, a wealthy resident, who was deeply interested in children, to finance all expenses of enrichment programs given within the public schools.

As a journalist, Mr. Adams edited the St. Thomas Times for two years and later became editor of the St. Thomas Bulletin, 1941-42. He also carried a column in the Pittsburg Courier as a book reviewer. Of course his journalistic career dates back to many years prior to the St. Thomas Times and Pittsburg Courier. A very close friend of D. Hamilton Jackson, he was a columnist in The Herald, first newspaper granting freedom of press in the Virgin Islands. He was also a departmental editor of the Jacobs Music monthly publications in which he wrote mainly about bands. However, he also wrote on compositions, theory and music appreciation. Even though he is retired officially, the native son is a member of the Virgin Islands Press Association and was its president 1956-1958.

Another area of interest in Mr. Adams's life centers around the Virgin Islands Hotel Association. Starting as a member of this organization he was later elected its president in 1952-56. As a proprietor Mr. Adams owns a guest house situated in one of the islands historic buildings about which many fables are written.

As a composer Mr. Adams's best known or most outstanding contribution to his islands and to the world of music is his composition, "Virgin Islands March". In 1927 this march was brought to the attention of Edwin Frank Goldman, the well known naval band director and in July of the same year Mr. Adams was invited to New York to direct the Goldman's band in a rendition of The Virgin Islands March. Remarkably, forty years later, the local bandmaster was thrilled to receive another invitation from Mr. Goldman to conduct the enlarged Goldman band, this time in the Virgin Islands. Another composition of Mr. Adams is the march "Governors Own" which was dedicated to Governor Oman. In 1963 the Virgin Islands Government officially adopted the march as the Territorial Song.

As early as 1954 Mr. Adams in conjunction with the Hotel Association spearheaded an effort to remind Virgin Islanders, and to inform tourists, of the rich cultural background of these islands through a weekly radio program. Emceeding this program, Mr. Adams, who was quite knowledgeable of his heritage stressed the lives of natives who have contributed to the artistic fields of music, literature, painting.

He strove through these addresses to develop interest on events of positive values that formed a pattern of living. He directed his addresses particularly to the youth whom he believed were unaware of their cultural background.

With a deep rooted conviction to contribute to the aesthetic life of his fellow men, the composer has for several years emceed another weekly radio program "entitled" Concert Hall" which highlights the famous composers in the music world. The musician has now turned his attention to the preserving of local data by writing an historical chronical. Believing in teaching as the best means of dissemination of the local culture, Mr. Adams hopes to record many historical events which he feels have been overlooked or not been given enough attention.

Together with his wife Ella (nee Joseph), the couple produced eight children, Gwendolyn, Merle (D) Hazel (D) Enid, Olive, Althia, Alton Jr. and Eleanor (D).



Enid M. Baa

1911

Director Libraries & Museums

"Natural grace and charm"

BAA, ENID MARIA - September 28, 1911

One of Virgin Islands' most scholarly citizens, Enid Maria Baa, was born on St. Thomas to Orlando Baa and his wife, Sarah nee Bufford.

A librarian by training and profession, Miss Baa is included in the following biographical reference sources: DICTIONARY OF LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN BIOGRAPHY, CARIBBEAN PERSONALITIES, WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA, WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN WOMEN, THE WORLD WHO'S WHO OF WOMEN, INTERNATIONAL WHO'S WHO IN COMMUNITY SERVICE, WHO'S WHO IN THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST, WHO'S WHO IN LIBRARIANSHIP, and featured in THE TWO THOUSAND WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT, 1st edition, 1969.

Her formal training at Hampton Institute and later at Columbia University fortified her into receiving highest recognition in her field not only in the Caribbean but in continental United States as well as in the international library world.

Miss Baa's interest in Library Science was developed at an early age. Being one of the four first high school graduates in the island, she participated in the establishment of the first high school library, and took particular interest in this activity after class hours and during summer and Christmas holidays. To join the library club was a thrilling experience for Miss Baa as she not only enjoyed reading the books but also working with them. She demonstrated such keen interest in her studies on the whole that after graduation from High School in 1931 she was selected for the first Interior Department Scholarship and matriculated at Howard University in Washington, D.C. But she was destined to spend only a school year there because she was chosen by Governor Pearson and the Carnegie Foundation for another scholarship to the Graduate Library School at Hampton Institute. This Graduate School was discontinued at Hampton in 1936 but relocated at Atlanta University, Georgia where it is still functioning. Despite the fact that she was only in her second year as a university undergraduate, she completed this graduate course among the top third in the class of 1933 and returned to the

Virgin Islands to be appointed by Governor Pearson as Supervising Librarian for the Virgin Islands. She was the head of the then Department of Public Libraries and the first woman to hold a cabinet level office in the Virgin Islands government.

From 1933 to 1943 Miss Baa worked with greatest of interest and zeal to improve the library system. The libraries of all three islands grew in size and the services they offered were widely accepted.

In January 1943, Miss Baa was selected as exchange librarian between the University of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands during which time she served for five months at the University of Puerto Rico.

In the fall of 1943, only ten years after her appointment in 1933, she returned to the U.S. and was matriculated at Columbia University to complete her undergraduate college work which was interrupted when she accepted the Carnegie Corporation scholarship to enter the graduate library school as a special student. Because of her professional librarian status she was employed as such at Columbia University Library as a preliminary cataloger, a position she held from 1944-48 while studying in the field of English literature and the humanities for which she received the B.S. degree in 1949, and from the Graduate School of Library Science was simultaneously conferred on her. She held various positions while in the U.S. following her Columbia University post: Fellow Librarian at Queen's College, Flushing, New York, 1948; Head of Serial Cataloging Section at the United Nations Library, Lake Success, New York, 1949-50, where she worked in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French languages; Reference Librarian and Cataloger of the Woodrow Wilson League of Nations Documents presented in July 1950 to the United Nations; Specialist in Cataloging of Spanish or Portuguese materials at the New York Public Library, Reference Division, at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street in 1950-51.

A later but significant position offered to Miss Baa by Governor Morris de Castro was Library Consultant to the Governor of the Virgin Islands, August to December 1950 and again from 1951 to 1954. With the reorganization of the V.I. Government under the Revised Organic Act,

she was appointed Director of Libraries and Museums under Governor Archibald Alexander, 1954, a position which she still holds.

In 1955 Miss Baa was awarded the John Hay Whitney Foundation Fellowship on the basis of her contribution to the preservation of the Sephardic Jewish Records of the Virgin Islands and the reorganization and indexing of these records in a card file. Her proposal was to continue graduate studies in this field. Unfortunately, she was unable to avail herself of its benefits and relinquished the Fellowship. This Index is an invaluable reference source to genealogists. It is here that one finds the family records of Virgin Islands outstanding Sephardim, such as Judah Philip Benjamin, Camille Pissarro, Da Costas, Monsantos, de Castros, de Solas, Yulees and other greats, who lived in these islands from 1980 to 1954.

She continues to work in this field and has published a paper entitled "Preservation of Sephardic Records" in AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS, v. 44, No. 2, December 1954.

This work organized the births, deaths, and marriages of this ethnic group who migrated to the Virgin Islands from Spain and Portugal via France, Netherlands, Denmark and Great Britain in the 17th century.

In 1960 Miss Baa represented the Virgin Islands Government at the 3rd UNESCO conference on Latin American and Caribbean Bibliography held at Mexico City.

In January, 1961, during the administration of Governor John David Merwin, Miss Baa was seconded by the Virgin Islands Government as Librarian in Charge of Caribbean Organization Library at San Juan, Puerto Rico. In this position she was also editor of the CURRENT CARIBBEAN BIBLIOGRAPHY. Also in this capacity she served as Library Specialist for the Caribbean. Her secondment was graciously continued during the administration of Governor Ralph M. Paiewonsky who was considerate of all efforts to further closer Caribbean cooperation and development.

At the termination of this Caribbean Organization in June 1965, she resumed her substantive post in the Virgin Islands as Director of Libraries and Museums and again represented the Virgin Islands Government at the First Conference on Caribbean Archives held in Mona, Jamaica in September 1965, and in October at the First Conference on Conservation in Eastern Caribbean held at Cancel Bay, St. John.

She has traveled through most of the Caribbean countries, in Europe and the United States. Today, as Director of Libraries, Museums and Archives of the Virgin Islands, Miss Baa is credited with the initiation and preservation of one of the rarest collections of Virgin Islands materials housed in the Public Libraries.

This collection, known as the Von Scholten Collection was so designated by her in 1959 as a tribute to the courageous Emancipator of Danish West Indian slaves in 1848. The collection developed from a legacy of about thirty books in 1933 to its present stage of hundreds of rare books, newspapers, periodicals, & government publications in several languages, records, family photographs, Bibles, manuscripts, coins, etc. This room is probably the only memorial to the Danish Governor who was so deeply committed to the welfare of the slaves for whom he introduced free and compulsory education in 1839 and various other social & economic legislation. The collection is constantly growing and is very much used by students from all schools and colleges as well as scholars in the field of Caribbean studies.

She is a member of the American Library Association and was on that Association's governing body called the ALA Council from 1965 to 1967 and is still on the Committee for American Association of State Librarians. She was the first representative at ALA for the Puerto Rican Library Association of which she was a member while living in Puerto Rico. Miss Baa has been an affiliate of other professional associations, such as The Library Association (British), and the Association of Special Libraries, Institutions and Bibliographers (ASLIB). She is also active in Council on the Arts, Friends of Denmark, Caribbean Historical Association, of which she is the Treasurer, Virgin Islands Conservation Society, American Jewish Historical Society, International Platform Association, and was elected in 1970 to Centro Studi e Scambi

Internazionali of Rome, Italy for her contribution in Caribbean bibliography.

Honors and Prizes awarded the librarian have been John Hay Whitney Foundation Fellowship for research in 1955; citation from WHO'S WHO OF AMERICAN WOMEN in recognition of outstanding accomplishment, singular achievement & success, 1967; WHO'S WHO International Gold Citation for international contribution to research in Caribbean Affairs, 1968; DICTIONARY OF LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN BIOGRAPHY'S Certificate of Merit for distinguished services in Caribbean history, bibliography and librarianship, 1970; Diploma from THE TWO THOUSAND WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT for Distinguished Achievement, 1970; Diploma of Honor from Centro Studi e Scambi Internazionali "for dedication of time to the development of literature, science, and the arts", 1970.

Also as a speaker, Miss Baa has identified herself as a woman of achievement. She has participated at various national and international conferences in which she is usually representing the Virgin Islands. She was a member of the first Board of Directors of the Association of Caribbean Universities and Research Institutions and Libraries, better known as ACURIL, 1969/70.

Her publications include the following:

PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS: a twenty year review, 1920-1941. St. Thomas, August 1941. (Restricted distribution)

"Preservation of the Sephardic Records of the island of St. Thomas", in AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION, vol. 44, no. 2, December 1954.

LIBRARIES OF THE CARIBBEAN AREA. Submitted to the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, 1949.

INTERLIBRARY COOPERATION & ITS RELATION TO PROBLEMS OF ACQUISITION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS FROM CARIBBEAN ISLANDS. Submitted to the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, 1960.

REPORTS ON SECOND ASSEMBLY OF STATE LIBRARIANS (Wash., D.C., Nov. 16-18, 1960); THIRD LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR ON BIBLIOGRAPHY (Mexico City, Nov. 21-Dec. 4, 1960); SECOND JORNADA (ASSEMBLY) OF MEXICAN LIBRARIANS (Mexico City, Dec. 5-8, 1960). Submitted to the Commissioner of Education, 1961.

LIBRARY AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN. Submitted to the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, 1963.

LIBRARY AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN. Submitted to the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, 1963.

LIBRARY AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Co-Author with Ligia Hoetink. Submitted to the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials, 1964.

"Religion: Its Introduction & Development in Danish West Indies". In FIFTY YEARS [commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the transfer of the Virgin Islands from Denmark to the United States]. Published by St. Thomas Friends of Denmark Society, 1967.

"Danish-American Virgin Islands Culture". Published in ST. THOMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE YEARBOOK, 1968.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS AND SELECTED THESES ON CARIBBEAN TOPICS, accepted by Universities in Canada, United States, and Europe, 1778-1968. Published by the Public Library, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. IBM Key-Word-In-Context (KWIC) edition, 1969. [This edition was prepared from computer print-out and its varied indexes demonstrate the flexibility and efficiency achieved by programming in bibliographic applications].

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS ... conventional edition published by the Institute of Caribbean Studies, University of Puerto Rico, 1970. (Caribbean Bibliographic Series no. 1)

Editor of PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE ON SHARING CARIBBEAN RESOURCES FOR STUDY AND RESEARCH, inaugurating the Ralph M. Paiewonsky Library at the College of the Virgin Islands, March 1969.

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Hugo O. Bornn

1902 - 1966

Concert Organist, Music Educator & Arranger

BORNN, HUGO OWEN

March 3, 1902 - December 21, 1968

Dr. Hugo Bornn, musician, professor, aesthete, was born on St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, March 3, 1902. The second son of David and Edith Bornn both natives of the island, he attended the convent of the Sacred Heart, St. Thomas, for his early musical training. In 1924 he enrolled at the Julliard Institute of Musical Art, was graduated in 1928 from the Julliard regular course and in 1931 from the Professional Course majoring in piano and composition. For a few years, thereafter, he did teaching and concert piano work while still in the metropolis and was arranger and teacher of advanced piano in the Central Manhattan Music Center.

Beseiged with a yen for the artist life on distant shores, the musician went to Europe to study at L'Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris. At this famed Paris conservatory, Mr. Bornn studied piano with Alfred Cortot and composition with Nadia Boulanger. He also performed as piano soloist with the Lamoureux Orchestra.

Returning to the United States at the outbreak of World War II, Hugo Bornn continued to teach and to study. He specialized in organ study with Norman C. Jephcott, renowned Organist of the Cathedral of St. John The Divine. He later received his Bachelor of Science degree from Teachers College, Columbia University. When he received his degree of Master of Sacred Music from the Union Theological Seminary he specialized in organ and sacred music. At this time he also became organist and choir director for several churches in the New York area including St. Andrews Episcopal Church. The organist became so well known that he was invited to give numerous recitals and directed choral presentations for many special events in the city. Eventually he was awarded the coveted honor of an Associate of the American Guild of Organists. In 1964 he received the Degree of Doctor of Music from Teachers College, Columbia University.

Back in 1956, the native son was invited to serve as Professor of Music at Hampton Institute. While in this position he worked with fellow teachers in developing new techniques in the teaching of music.

Serving as guest organist for St. Syrean's Episcopal Church in Virginia was also a welcomed experience for the organist in helping to make full use of his musical talents.

Because of his colorful heritage, his love for native folk music never left him. He collected many of the folk songs of the islands, made simple arrangements of them and incorporated them into his doctoral dissertation entitled Resources for a Program of Music Study for the Elementary Classroom Teachers of the Virgin Islands. He cherished the thought that with use of this program in the public schools, the music indigenous of the islands that was fast disappearing would become known to future generations and be preserved for posterity. At the time of his death he was engaged in developing arrangements for these native songs for choral and instrumental use. Two have been published by a New York firm.

Dr. Bornn's last appearance in the Virgin Islands was during the summer of 1966. He served then as guest professor of music at the College of the Virgin Islands. Working with the young (Upward Bound Students) he taught choral arrangements of many Virgin Islands folk songs.

On December 20, 1966 Dr. Bornn passed away at the age of sixty-four.



Cherri Creque
1950
Miss Virgin Islands

CREQUE, CHERRI RAPHAELIA

October 11, 1950

The Virgin Islands were given an extra touch of beauty on October 11, when Cherri Creque was born to her parents, James and Lavidia (Nee Blyden) Creque.

The pretty lass started school at the early age of three. During her sophomore year at Sts. Peter and Paul High School, Cherri became a member of the National Honor Society.

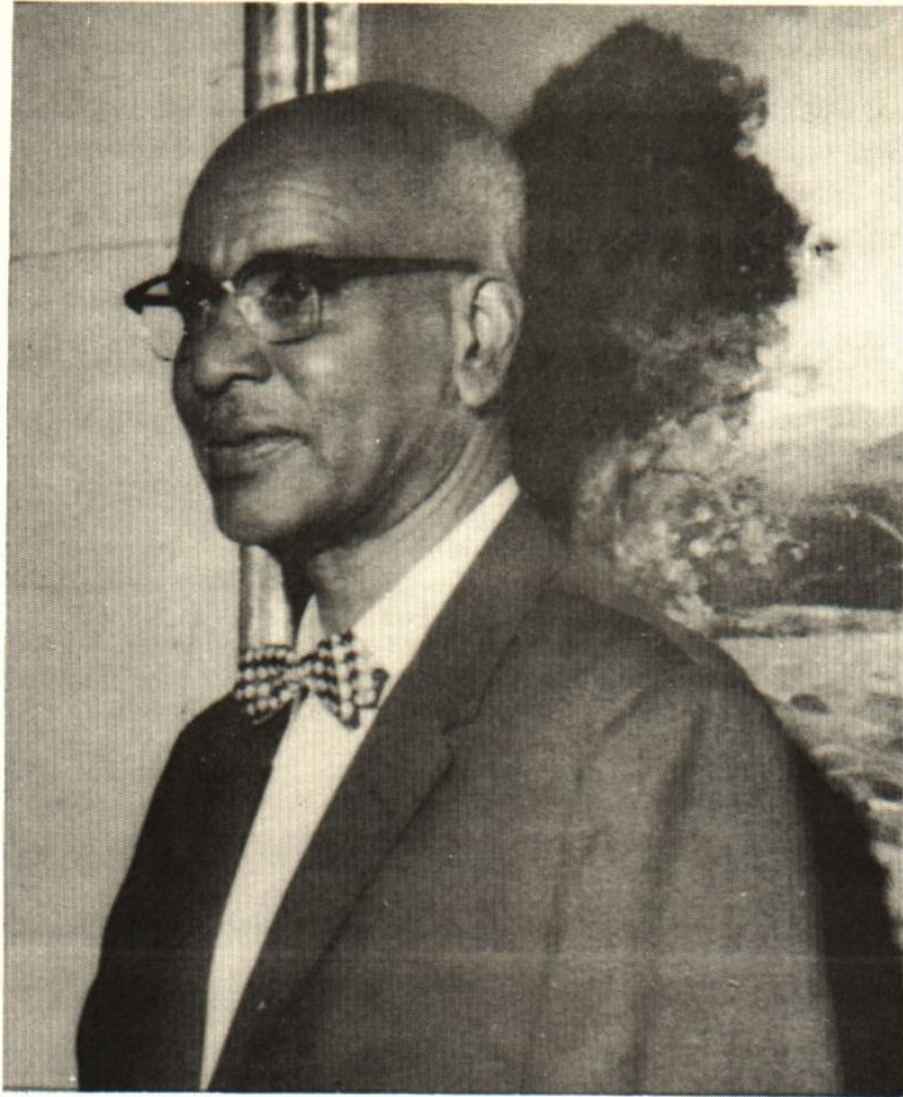
After graduation from high school in 1967, she matriculated at Mercyhurst College in Erie Pennsylvania for one year, but transferred the following year to the College of the Virgin Islands.

Her career as a beauty queen was started in 1971 in the Miss Virgin Islands contest. She accepted an invitation and was selected first runner-up. By a chance of luck she was later named "Miss Virgin Islands", and went on to represent the Virgin Islands in the Miss Universe Contest. As a contestant, Miss Creque won for the Virgin Islands the publicity that very few agencies or personalities have ever achieved.

Placing among the top ten in the swim-suit competition she went on to be named among the twelve semi-finalists, thus capturing for herself the prestige of being one of the world's twelve most beautiful women and the first Virgin Islander to achieve this status.

In October of 1972 the beauty queen again was invited to compete in the Miss Caribe' Contest which is the extravaganza of participating beauties from the Caribbean area, held in Caracas, Venezuela. With a difference of one point between her and the winner, the young Virgin Islander was selected first runner-up in this event.

During her reign as Miss Virgin Islands she has represented the islands on promotional tours and appearances at home and abroad. As a result of these travels, Miss Virgin Islands became interested in the travel business and is now pursuing a career as a travel agent.



Cyril Creque

1899-1959

Organist, Poet

CREQUE, CYRIL F. W. May 30, 1899 - November 26, 1959

Cyril Creque was born on St. Thomas on May 30, 1899, the son of Henry O. Creque, a prominent merchant. Cyril's potential was early recognized and he received the best education the islands offered at that time. He attended the Moravian Town School and later the Boy's High School. Creque continued his education by correspondence and earned diplomas in Psychology and Harmony. On June 8, 1938, he was granted a diploma from the University Extension Conservatory of Chicago, Illinois.

His occupation was in the Health Field and he served the islands, starting as a Health Department Clerk in 1919, advancing to the post of Administrative Officer before he retired in 1950. However, Creque is best known for his contribution to the cultural life of the islands. He was a gifted musician and poet and achieved listing in Who's Who in American Poetry. He was organist for both Lutheran and Moravian Churches.

His two volumes of poetry Trade Winds, published in 1934, and Panorama, published in 1947, reveal his mastery of the poetic form, his intense love of nature and the Virgin Islands, and his deep psychological insight.

His major musical compositions were: "From Mark of the Yoke" dedicated to the centennial of the abolition of slavery in the Virgin Islands, and "The Upward Way" a patriotic song of the Virgin Islands published in 1959 shortly before his death. Two additional compositions are "Centennial Song" and "The Virgins".

Though, as Creque himself wrote, his music and poetry were hobbies, simply because they were not in sufficient demand in the islands at that time to follow as a vocation, he succeeded not only in maintaining the cultural heritage of the islands but making significant contributions to this heritage through his "hobbies".

His marriage to Leonie (nee) Sewer produced eight other outstanding Virgin Islanders. These children include Mrs. Joyce Mathews, Supervisor of Music, Puerto Rico, Cyril O. Creque, Proprietor of Orange Julius and manager of his own insurance agency, Mrs. Clione Heftel,

manager of the Estate Thomas Branch of Chase Manhattan Bank; Marvin, an employee at the Post Office; Milton, a retired soldier residing in California; Mrs. Jewel Garrett, R.N. New York City; Kenneth, who resides in New York City and Neal, an accomplished musician specializing in piano.

Source: Mrs. Cleone Creque Heftel



Albert Daniel
1897
Painter, Sculptor

DANIEL, ALBERT EDWARD

Albert E. Daniel, a native of St. Thomas and son of Lucy Ann and Charles Daniel, of this city, was born on May 16, 1897. Mr. Daniel was born and has lived all of his life on the Island of St. Thomas. He has had no formal training in the field of Art and is self-taught with an original approach to his subject matter.

It is significantly coincidental that Mr. Daniel should have spent his early years living in the same house, No 14 Dronningens Gade, in which now houses the Public Library. It was in the wing now known as the "Little Gallery" that Albert Daniel did his first painting. One of these, entitled "Lady", was exhibited at the World's Fair in the International Business Machines Gallery.

Mr. Daniel attended the College of the Sante Union de Sacre Coeur, a Catholic School which once existed in St. Thomas on the site presently occupied by the Department of Education. At the age of 14 he was forced to leave school because of financial difficulties. This was hard to bear at the time but he was forced to face the stern realities of life and give up the things of his youth and his formal education. He went to work at the West India and Panama Telegraph Co., which is now the West Indies Cable and Wireless.

All during his school days there was the deep yearning in Albert Daniel to paint. Unable to afford training in art, which had now become an obsession with him, he began copying the work of great artists. At the same time he had a burning desire to achieve originality. Today, he has achieved that goal on a rather large scale.

He was still a very young man, about 21 years of age when his parents passed away - their deaths following each other very closely.

Soon it happened that Mr. Daniel was able to devote more and more time to his art and was able to cultivate the style for which he is known.

As a painter and as a sculptor, his style, as well as much of his subject matter, has evoked much criticism from people. He chooses the subjects for his character studies from the lowly people of the islands - stevedores, peasants, charcoal burners.

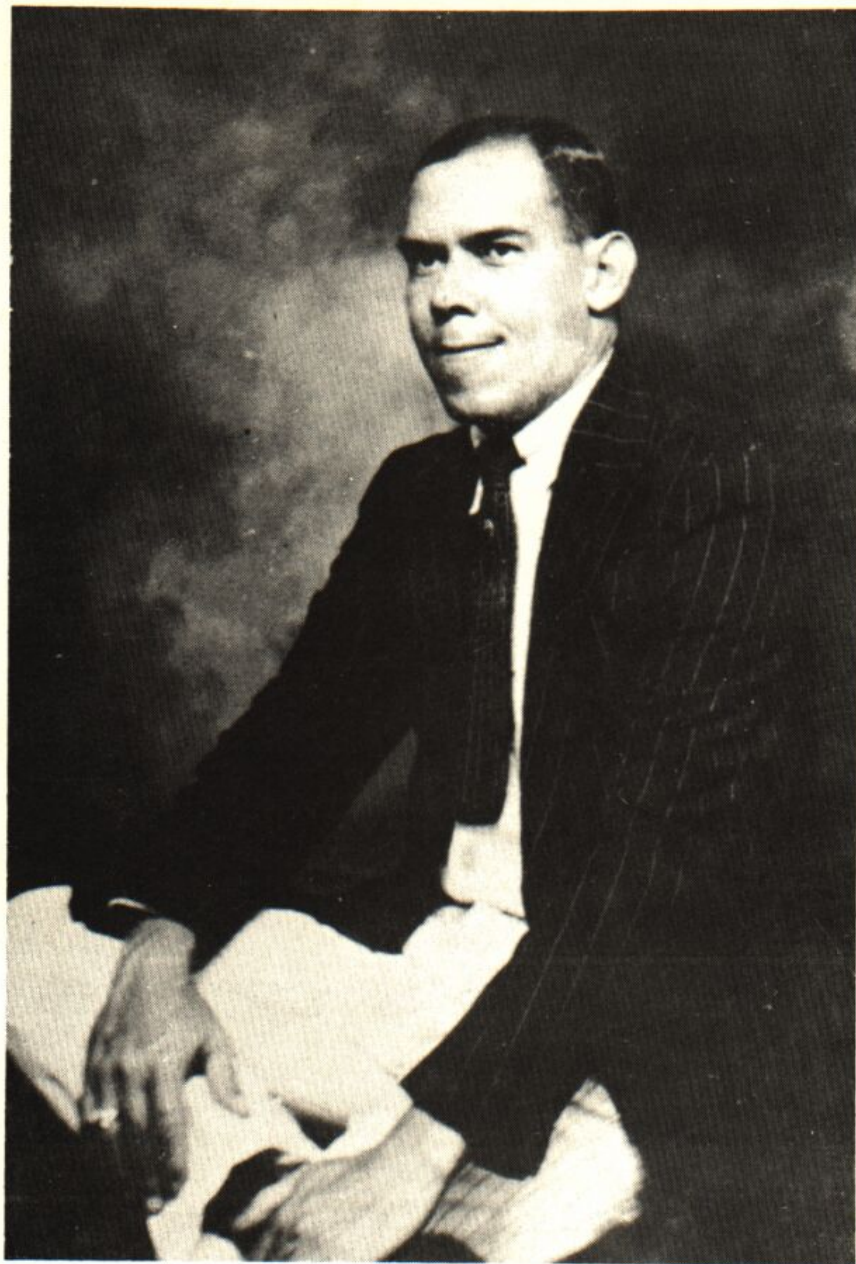
He paints as things appear to him - in natural setting. This appeals to some and angers others. Daniel himself puts it wryly: "They move some of my people to anger". His paintings are not intended to depict beauty in what some people would like to call lowly, rough things of life" he emphasizes.

Daniel's sculptures are the most controversial of his subjects but they are all meant to tell a story, to portray a certain type of life. His pieces are owned by many collectors on the mainland.

His delightful seascapes and docks scenes are vibrant with life. Each one represents a different mood; they should be viewed as a group for one to really appreciate the artist's ability.

He has exhibited in several galleries outside of the Virgin Islands - San Francisco Exposition, Minnesota State Fair, Walker Art Galleries, Federal Arts Building, Atlanta University Exhibitions, Haitien Centenary Exhibition, Puerto Rico Caribbean Tours and Festivals. In July of 1969 several of his paintings were exhibited in Atti Henle's Studio in Christiansted, St. Croix, which is the headquarters of the Cruzan Art Club. Roy Mack J. Gilbert, Associate Professor, Art University of Aleutians, Sitka, Alaska had this to say about the show: "Mr. Daniel is considered the Virgin Islands foremost native artist, and it was most interesting to see the slow flowering of a talented man which if allowed to continue should make him one of the foremost painters of our era".

Mr. Daniel lives on the top of one of St. Thomas's many hills which overlook the colorful town. He lives there with his wife, the former Agnes Bouwer. Both are devoted Catholics who are engaged in church work. He is also a great lover of music. Some of his favorite musicians are: Arthur Rubinstein, Walter Giesecking, Mischa Elman, and Jascho Heifetz.



Patrick Joseph Gimenez

1893-1953

Poet, Lecturer

GIMENEZ, PATRICK JOSEPH

March 17, 1893 - August 16, 1953

Joseph Patrick Gimenez was born on St. Thomas March 17, 1893. His early formal schooling was obtained at the local grammar school and the Convent of La Sainte Union do Sacre Coeur at St. Thomas.

In the year 1914 Gimenez began writing poetry. He wrote his first poems in Spanish and published many of them in the Dominican papers.

Known as the "Virgin Islands Mystic Poet" Mr. Gimenez's poems have a psychological and philosophical background. He also wrote about nature and the mystic side of life. His poetry reflects his interest in metaphysics and in the universal laws and nature of being. His most popular books include Virgin Islands Folklore and Other Poems, Caribbean Echoes, Deep Waters, Voice of the Virgin Islands.

Writing in English, Spanish and West Indian dialect, he made valuable contributions to Virgin Islands literature by putting into verse many folktales that would otherwise be lost. Some of his popular songs are "Dolores", "From Old Rio", "Give me Wine", "Women and Gasoline", "Grenada", "That Man of Mine". He has left several books in manuscripts still unpublished. Mr. Gimenez, known also as Jose Patricio was a great public speaker who could arouse crowds with a rather articulate fiery speech, a successful merchant, a former correspondent for the Puerto Rico Herald.

Shortly before his death he was made honorary member of the International Mark Twain Society, a literary society of which Somerset Maugham, Carl Sandburg and Albert Einstein were members.

His widow Mrs. Barbara, nee Arbones, Gimenez resides in St. Thomas with their married daughter Mrs. Aida Miller, proprietor of Miller Manor, a chain of guest houses.

"LEE, CANADA"

May 3, 1907 - 1955

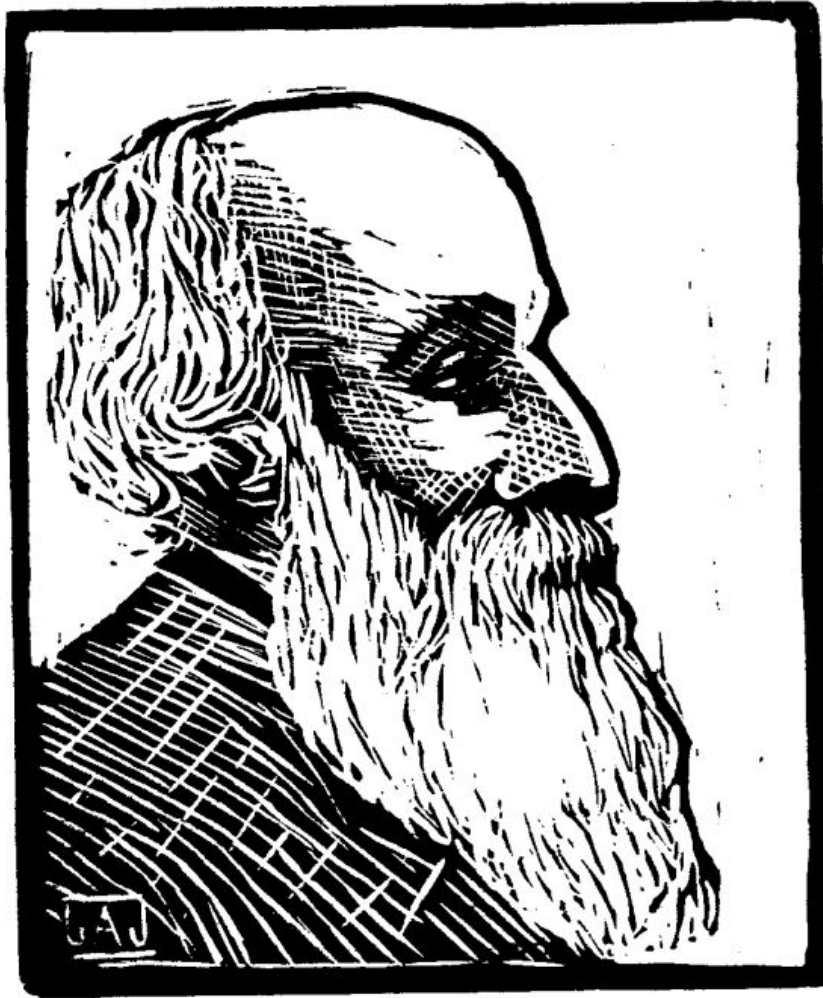
Canada Lee's death at forty-five was said to deprive the stage of one of its most talented actors. Mr. Lee studied to become a musician, but thought that being a jockey would be more interesting to a young man of spirit. When he grew too heavy for horse racing, he turned to prize-fighting where he made a name for himself, a name ("Canada Lee") which was easier to pronounce than the one with which he was born (Leonard Lionel Cornelliuss Canegata). He began a theatrical career almost accidentally, but quickly demonstrated that he possessed the talents and abilities of a born actor.

The variety of Canada Lee's early ambitions was well reflected in his versatility on the stage.

Shakespeareans knew and admired him as "Caliban" in a fine production of The Tempest while devotees of the proletarian drama of the depression era remembered him as "Black-snake" in Stevedore. "Bigger Thomas" in Native Son was a part he made all his own and later when he turned to movies he scored impressive successes. He began his professional stage career with a role in the production Meek Morse. He later won first critical praise for his role in Orson Well's production of Macbeth. Mr. Lee also starred with great success in Mamba's Daughter - 1939, "Danne" in Anna Lucasta. He was the star and producer of On Whitman Avenue.

His biggest role was in Alan Patron's Cry the Beloved Country which was produced in Africa by London Films.

He also starred with Tallulah Bankhead in Alfred Hitchcock's prize winning film Life Boat. Eager to help others, Canada Lee conducted classes in dramatic techniques for promising young actors.



Camille Pissarro

1830-1903

Painter (Impressionist)

PISSARRO, CAMILLE

1830 - 1903

Camille Pissarro, son of Abraham and Rachel Pétit Pissarro was born at St. Thomas on July 10, 1830. Young Camille loved to draw what he saw the way he saw it -- bright and hazy colors softened by the St. Thomas sunshine. At twelve years old, he was sent to school in Paris but returned to help his father's store after graduation. All his spare time between chores was spent drawing. In 1852, determined to become an artist, Camille ran away with Fritz Melbye, a Danish painter. Together they went to Caracas, Venezuela, where the young Pissarro was even more impressed by the tropical colors. As years passed, his art took him back to Paris where he became friends with other artists who painted their impressions of what they saw.

Pissarro's soft, sunny landscapes and rural scenes not only exhibited his rare talent, but also expressed his genuine understanding of nature, sylvan lyricism, and profound interest in others. He is remembered today as the leader or dean, of the Impressionist Painters, men like Corot, Matisse.

While Pissarro chose to raise his family and paint in Paris, France, and international arts centers, he never forgot his boyhood home on St. Thomas. Until his death in 1903, he still maintained his Danish Citizenship. But most important of all, he left behind a wealth of beautiful paintings filled with the soft, hazy sunlight of a St. Thomas morning and the gay colors of the island life that had so impressed him as a child.

Today the house in which he was born is entitled the Pissarro Building, and is dedicated as a historical building. Formerly owned by his parents, the upstairs was their residence while the first floor housed a store of imported ceramics.



Morris F. De Castro
1902-1966
Governor

DE CASTRO, MORRIS F.

February 5, 1902 - December 9, 1966

To be born in Panama rather than the Virgin Islands was a mere accident for Morris Findanque de Castro, of Virgin Islands parents, Mr. and Mrs. David de Castro. Morris was born in Panama City on February 5, 1902. At the loss of his mother Adah, while he was a mere boy of four years old, Morris lived with his aunt Rachael M. de Castro and received his education from the private schools in St. Thomas. A thoroughly self-educated man Mr. de Castro rose through the rank and files of the Government of the Virgin Islands. Beginning as a clerk in Sanitation Service (1918 - 1920) he later became a Stenographer in the Naval Station (1920).

Following 1920, Mr. de Castro became Chief Clerk in the office of the Government Secretary between the years of 1921 - 1931. After these ten years he assumed the position of Assistant Commissioner of Finance and shortly after was named Commissioner.

He occupied this position for another decade until in 1945 when President Truman appointed him Government Secretary. During these times he served in the capacity of Acting Governor on numerous occasions.

In 1950, Morris de Castro, at 48 years of age, reached the peak of his achievements, when on March 24, 1950 he was appointed Governor of the Virgin Islands by President Truman. He succeeded William H. Hastie who was appointed a federal judge.

With a little over \$3,000,000 as his budget, the new governor, who was strongly opposed to gambling in any form, concentrated on Housing, Roads-improvement, Health conditions and Education.

During his administration, four clinics were initiated: Morris de Castro Clinic, Pearson Gardens Clinic, Ingerborg Nesbitt Clinic and Knud-Knud-Hansen. Grounds were also broken for the Charlotte Amalie High School.

The Government House at Christiansted St. Croix was refurnished with replacements of the original Danish furniture. Governor de Castro sensing the need for the replacement of this furniture petitioned the Danish Government to do so and Ambassador Kaufman was despatched from Denmark to formally present these to Governor De Castro.

Patterned off President Roosevelt's radio reporting to the nation, the former chief executive will be long remembered for his Wednesday radio program "Fireside Chats". Before the advent of television broadcasts in the Virgin Islands, the Governor reported to the people by radio with his weekly programs.

After thirty-six years of Government Services Mr. De Castro retired into private life, but was called upon to accept positions of cashier, comptroller, and finally president of the West Indies Bank and Trust which is now Chase Manhattan Bank.

In 1959 Mr. De Castro retired from the Bank to accept the position of Director of the Budget and was reappointed to this position.

When Morris de Castro died on December 9, 1966, the Morris F. de Castro Chair in Government was established by the Government of the Virgin Islands to honor his memory. It provides an opportunity for the College of the Virgin Islands to attract outstanding scholars in Political Science as visiting faculty members. It also represents the first endowed chair in the history of the College.

Mr. De Castro is survived by his widow Mrs. Gladys, nee Robles, De Castro of San Jose, Costa Rico and son Raymond, an electrician. Both reside in St. Thomas and display with pride the many citations and awards presented to Mr. De Castro throughout his life time. Some of these include: Pan American Citation (September 21, 1965) for having made significant contributions to International Understanding, Resolution No. 174 by the Fourth Legislature (April, 1961) expressing appreciation and confidence in his reappointment as Director of the Budget and Liaison Officer to the Legislature.

Other honors include the following tributes:
On March 1954, the Municipal Council of St. Thomas and St. John presented to Mr. De Castro a Resolution and an Ira Smith's painting (the Synagogue) from the people of the Virgin Islands in recognition for his distinguished career as a public servant.

In 1954 (March 23rd) a Testimonial was given for recognition of his thirty-six years of government Service which were characterized by honesty, zeal and integrity.

In 1954 the Department of Interior headed by Secretary Chapman presented a citation for Distinguished Service. Medals include:

Silver Medal - April 9, 1954

Gold Medal - December 16, 1952

It is believed by some, that Mr. De Castro is the only Virgin Islander to receive this gold medal for Meritorious Service. The Community Chest Citation in 1956 was offered by his interest and uniting effort in the support of this worthy cause.

In March 1971, during appropriate ceremonies, the Tutu Elementary School paid tribute to Mrs. De Castro as the surviving widow of an outstanding citizen. In exchange Mrs. De Castro still anxious to continue the interest in the islands as her late husband, presented to the school a framed photograph of the late governor. The picture hangs on the wall of the school.

DE MALLEVILLE, THOMAS

September 16, 1742 - October 22, 1798

First Native Governor of the Virgin Islands

This distinguished gentleman who had been brought up in the Court of King Frederick IV, was born on St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, on September 16, 1742.

He was the first native Governor of the Virgin Islands whose mother was also a native and whose grandparents came to St. Thomas from France about 1685 among the early Huguenots and lived on Frenchman Hill. De Malleville was every inch an outstanding and conscientious executive who had the interest of his people upper most in his intent. He was a devoted servant of his people, a religious man and a scholar.

His translation of the New Testament into Dutch Creole tongue is considered his greatest achievement. Known as the Nieuw Testament Na Creol Loal, the edition of 1802, was published at Barby, a town in Prussian Saxony, and was considered the best version to lend itself to the Danish text.

As Governor of the then Danish West Indies, De Malleville was concerned with freedom of the slaves. Because of his humanitarian inclinations in this respect, the governor experienced inner conflicts. He became deeply involved in the education of the slaves as it was conducted by the Moravians and the Lutherans. He considered their education as a preparatory stage to their freedom. His work in the translations of the scriptures and the psalms into Dutch Creole, the language of the slaves, is undeniable evidence of this profound interest.

His twenty-five years as governor of the Virgin Islands, (1773-1796) covered difficult periods as prohibition of the slave trade, the planters struggle for financing their plantations, the Ter Borch (Dutch) loans to planters, the sugar crops, as well as the problems of exporting the products in Dutch or Danish bottoms. After eleven days of illness De Malleville died in St. Thomas and was buried "without Pomp" in the old Moravian Cemetary located at Friedensthal, Christiansted, St. Croix.

After eleven days of illness, De Malleville died in St. Thomas and was buried "without Pomp" in the old Moravian Cemetary located at Friedensthal, Christiansted, St. Croix.



Melvin H. Evans

1917

First Elected Governor, Physician

EVANS, MELVIN HERBERT

August 7, 1917

Governor Melvin Herbert Evans was born in Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands of the U.S.A., on August 7, 1917, the son of Charles and Maude (Rogiers) Evans. He attended the Christiansted Public Grammar and Junior High Schools and completed his secondary education at the Charlotte Amalie High School in St. Thomas where he was Valedictorian of his class.

In 1936 he attended Howard University where he was graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1940. He received his medical degree with honors from the Howard University Medical School in 1944.

Following his medical internship in New York City, he became Physician in Charge of the Frederiksted Municipal Hospital, a position which he held until 1948 when he became Senior Assistant Surgeon in the United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C. In 1950, Doctor Evans resumed his position of Physician in Charge of the Frederiksted Municipal Hospital until 1951 when he became Assistant Commissioner of Health for the Virgin Islands and Chief Municipal Physician for St. Croix.

In 1956, Doctor Evans became a Fellow in Cardiology at the John Hopkins University. He returned to St. Croix in 1957 and became Commissioner of Health for the Virgin Islands in 1958, a position he held until 1967 when he entered private practice. In 1966, he took a leave of absence for a year to secure his Masters Degree in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley, California.

Doctor Evans is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the College of the Virgin Islands and a member of the Board of Directors of the Good Hope School. He is also a charter member of the Rotary Club and has served as Chairman of the Board of Medical Examiners, President of the Virgin Islands Medical Association and Chairman of the Governor's Commission on Human Services.

He is active in many professional organizations including the American Medical Association, The American Public Health Association, The American Association of Public Health Physicians, of which he is a charter member, and the National Medical Association and the Pan American Medical Association.

Doctor Evans attends the Wesleyan Church of St. Croix and is a member of the Masonic Order. He is married to the former Mary Phyllis Anderson and they have four sons.

As the last appointed Governor, (appointed by President Nixon) The Honorable Melvin Evans was inaugurated as the 10th Civilian Governor of the U. S. Virgin Islands, on July 1, 1969, by the Honorable William H. Hastie, Chief Judge of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

The elected Governor Bill became a reality in August, 1968 when it was finally passed by the Senate and the race for the first elected governor for the Virgin Islands began shortly after. Governor Evans, with David E. Maas as his running mate for Lieutenant Governor, entered the race as the torch bearer for the Republican party. Because the bill specifically states that the winning candidate must receive 50 per cent plus 1 of all votes cast a run-off election between Mr. Cyril E. King and Governor Evans was necessary.

As a result of this election on November 17, 1970, Governor Evans emerged the victor with a count of 8,259 votes and captured the honor of being the First Elected Governor of the Virgin Islands. His new term of office began on January 4, 1971.



John D. Merwin
1921
Governor

MERWIN, JOHN DAVID

John David Merwin was born in St. Croix on September 26, 1921, the son of Miles Merwin and Marguerite L. Merwin (nee Fleming). He spent his early childhood in St. Croix but attended the Antigua Grammar School from which he was graduated in 1937. Following this graduation he attended the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. Two years later he returned to the United States just before World War II and attended the University of Puerto Rico from 1939-1940.

He graduated from Yale University in 1943 with a Bachelor of Science Degree. Commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Artillery in April of 1943, he entered World War II with the Seventh United States Army as a Captain of the Artillery.

After World War II, Mr. Merwin attended Law School in Washington, D.C. and was admitted to practice in the State of Connecticut. Returning to the Virgin Islands he established a law practice on St. Croix in 1949. This was later interrupted by his second call to military service in the Korean War. Assigned to the far East he served his country for seventeen months. Returning home he entered politics and made a bid for a seat in the local senate. In 1954 he was elected Senator-At-Large for the Virgin Islands.

After serving almost four years in the Senate, Mr. Merwin was appointed Government Secretary on December 23, 1957. Following closely upon the heel of this appointment came his appointment by President D. Eisenhower as Governor of the Virgin Islands (1958).

As Governor he served for four years and was succeeded by Ralph M. Paiwowsky in 1961. Both his administration as Government Secretary and Governor of the Virgin Islands were outstanding performances.

Upon retirement from government services he became consultant to the Chase Manhattan Bank. Since 1967 the former governor has been senior partner in the Law Office of Merwin and Spencer.

A Mason and an Episcopalean, Mr. Merwin, together with his wife Daja and their children reside at Sprat Hall, Frederiksted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.



Ralph M. Paiewonsky
1907
Governor
"A man of good will"

PAIEWONSKY, RALPH - November 9, 1907

Ralph M. Paiewonsky, a native of St. Thomas, was born in Charlotte Amalie, November 9, 1907. Born of Sephardic Jewish parents, young Ralph attended Catholic Schools of St. Thomas for his early education but received his secondary education at Alexander Hamilton High School (1927).

Majoring in Science (Chemistry) in 1930, Mr. Paiewonsky received his Bachelor of Science Degree from New York University. Upon his return to the islands he entered the family business accepting as his principal duties, management of the St. Thomas Apothecary Hall. Utilizing his training in chemistry Mr. Paiewonsky soon, thereafter, became engaged in extensive research with sea water fermentation from which the rum distillation process developed.

Assuming greater responsibilities in the family business, young Paiewonsky was later appointed manager of A.H. Riise Distilling Company; elected president of Apollo Theater Inc., and Center Theater Inc., elected president of A.H. Riise, Inc., A.H. Riise Liquor Store and A.H. Riise Gift Shop.

Together with other Virgin Islands residents, Mr. Paiewonsky organized the West Indies Bank and Trust Co., which opened for business on December 1, 1954 and expanded into four branches in all three Virgin Islands. This bank was eventually acquired by Chase Manhattan Bank (1959).

Mr. Paiewonsky is credited with the organizing of several small businesses prior to his political involvement. These include, West Indies Insurance Co., and West Indies Investment Corp.

In 1936, Mr. Paiewonsky made his first bid for a seat in the local Municipal Council of St. Thomas and St. John. Victorious in his campaign, he served five terms as a member of this august body (1936-1946).

During the years 1940 and 1960 he attended the Democratic National Convention acting in the capacity of a delegate from the Virgin Islands. Within his twenty years of National Convention experience he also served as National Democratic Committeeman from the Virgin Islands.

Between 1959 to 1969, the statesman served on major committees affecting the Government of the islands. These include: Tax Committee for Chamber of Commerce; Member of V.I. Organic Act Advisory Committee; Member, Citizens Advisory Committee for Home Rule; Advisor to Legislature to Caribbean Commission; Governor's Advisory Committee on Tourism and Trade; President of Virgin Islands Board of Trade.

His greatest contributions to his people and to his home were between the years 1961-1969, the years as Chief Executive. On April 5, 1961 Ralph M. Paiewonsky was sworn into office as the 16th Civilian Governor of the United States Virgin Islands.

One of the major achievements of the Paiewonsky's administration was in the field of housing. In 1962 a Department of Housing and Community Renewal was created and a long range program of land acquisition and home construction was begun. Between 1961 and 1966 approximately 8,000 Virgin Islanders were relocated in new homes.

Another area of concentration of the Paiewonsky Administration was in education. Gains were made in classroom construction and the upgrading of the principal high schools in their accreditation by the Middle States Association for Secondary Schools.

Entering into contract with the New York University, plans were made for a three year program for the upgrading of the educational system. Excellence in Education became the motivating force.

Considering education one of his chief concerns, Mr. Paiewonsky concentrated on the establishment of the College of the Virgin Islands. A four year liberal arts college, the College of the Virgin Islands, was established to meet the needs of higher education in the Virgin Islands and the Caribbean.

In January, 1969 the Ralph M. Paiewonsky Library was established as a tribute to the former chief executive for his interest in the establishment of a seat for higher learning.

A listing of several achievements of the Paiewonsky Administration are listed in areas such as Commerce, Industrial Growth, Public Health and others.

Listed among his club affiliations are St. Thomas Democratic Club; Democratic Capital Club (Charter Member) Washington, D.C.; Order of the Shriners 750 Club; Sasso Cardoze Lodge No. 2488 of B'nai B'rith.

Honors conferred on Governor Paiewonsky include:

- 1962 Received New York University Alumnus of the year award.
- 1966 Received N.Y.U. Presidential Citation
- 1966 Association for Middle Income Housing Inc. (N.Y.) annual award for outstanding performance in public housing.
- 1967 Received honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Tufts University, Massachusetts
- 1967 Received honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Fairleigh Dickinson University, New Jersey.

In 1968 the victorious Republican Party on the mainland, brought to an end a long reign of the Democratic Party, subsequently Paiewonsky was relieved of his position as Governor of the Virgin Islands. Nevertheless, the former chief executive, who resides in St. Thomas, is still very active and is Chairman of Port Authority, Chairman of Board of Trustees of College of Virgin Islands and President of Board of Directors of A.H. Riise's.

He travels much and enjoys meeting people. The former chief executive is the father of two - Dr. Bernard Paiewonsky, a physicist who lives in Bethesda, Maryland, while his daughter, Joyce Paiewonsky Needleman resides in Rockeville, Maryland.

SØBØTKER, JOHANNES

August 8, 1777 - March 23, 1854

Born August 9, 1777 on St. Croix, Johannes Søbøtker was the son of a rich plantation owner and the grandson of the Government Secretary Johannes Søbøtker. In 1796 he was married to Johanne Margrethe, Nee Larsen.

Søbøtker had a lively shipping trade in the West Indies. In 1796 he released his trade license but kept several ships in the West Indies. At that time he bought the frigate "Laurentius". His shipping company was called Søbøtker & Co. Resulting from the Chambers encouragement to the merchants in Copenhagen to supply St. Croix with provisions, Søbøtker & Co., let a ship sail direct from Hamburg to St. Croix and requested on August 21, 1797 that only 3% be paid in customs.

After the war against England he rigged out among others the "Charlotte Frederikke", "Den lille Catherine", "Laurentius" and "Akilles". At his father's death Søbøtker inherited the two best plantations on St. Croix and also owned in 1848 "Hogensborg" and "Constitution Hill". When the then Governor - General Scholten went home July 11, 1892, Søbøtker was appointed Knight of Dennebrog. Acted again 1821-32 & 1834-35 as Governor General but on May 6, 1832 he was appointed as Vice Governor General.

He was appointed as Governor for St. Thomas and St. John. January 4, 1835 and took office November 1836. He retired from this office December 8, 1848. Søbøtker lived an extravagant life. The Government in Copenhagen knew that he lived beyond his means.

Because of failing health Søbøtker engaged in a series of trips. Therefore, after settling his affairs in the West Indies he returned to Copenhagen.

After serious health problems he died on March 23, 1854 at Frederickborg.

CARROLL, ERIC H.

Mr. Eric H. Carroll was born in the town of Christiansted, St. Croix. As a boy, he had a keen interest in public discussions on matters affecting the welfare of the people. Among these were the activities and accomplishments of a truly great leader, the late David Hamilton Jackson.

Mr. Carroll observed closely the happenings in the island and the need for more leadership and representation particularly for the almost forgotten man. He found time to listen to deliberations and decisions of the lawmakers of the island.

He contributed to the recreational need by organizing athletic clubs and associations for the proper functioning of such projects. Empathizing with the youth, he organized and directed two troops of Boy Scouts of America, and served as Scoutmaster. Today he looks back with pride and satisfaction at the young men, outstanding in the several fields of endeavour in whose lives he played a part in character and citizenship building.

Continuing his interest in public affairs Mr. Carroll gave free and voluntary service to the masses of people, and kept them informed of the happenings and conditions from public-rostrums over the islands and within the halls of the organizations.

He was also employed by the Government of the Virgin Islands when he worked in the Public Works Department.

Primarily, due to his keen interest in the political affairs of the island and the interest he manifested in the laboring and least considered, he was requested to run for election to the Municipal Council of St. Croix; and having declined, was then drafted to seek a seat and represent his people in the Legislative body. He finally accepted this challenge and was victorious in his campaign. Mr. Carroll served for a total of twelve years in the Municipal Council and the Virgin Islands Senate.

Mr. Carroll worked with other leaders in building what is known today as the Virgin Islands Labor Union.

In private life, he is a consultant to the Legislature in St. Croix.

Source: Teacher Institute, St. Croix.



Valdemar Hill Sr.
1914
Legislator, Author.

HILL, VALDEMAR A., SR.

May 1, 1914

Valdemar A. Hill, Sr., was born in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, on May 1, 1914. His educational background includes: Charlotte Amalie High School; a summer session in General Economics at Columbia University in 1944; received an A.B. degree in Political Science from McKinley-Roosevelt College, Chicago, in 1947; and obtained an LLB degree from La Salle Extension University, Chicago in 1952.

Mr. Hill entered the local government service as an employee in the Department of Health in 1932. In 1937 he was one of the organizers of the first political party in the Virgin Islands, THE PROGRESSIVE GUIDE. This organization was founded in order to make the masses of people aware of their new responsibilities under the 1936 Organic Act, which granted universal suffrage to the citizens of the Virgin Islands.

He served as the leader of the Progressive Guide from 1939 to 1945. During that time he was elected on the party's ticket to the Municipal Council of St. Thomas - St. John in 1940, thereafter was re-elected in 1942 and 1944. Mr. Hill sponsored legislation for the first minimum wage law, which is known as "Hill's Wage and Hour Law". In order to get the Governor to approve this significant piece of social legislation, Mr. Hill led a March to Government House on behalf of the people, in 1941. He also sponsored legislation for evening school for adults, rent control, improving housing, sanitation, hospitalization, poor relief, and the first Anti-Discrimination Act (1945).

During his term in the legislative body he served on all of the important committees, and was elected Chairman of the body in 1944, and Chairman of the Finance Committee from 1941 to 1943. He also served as Secretary of the Legislative Assembly of the Virgin Islands. In addition, Mr. Hill served as a member of the St. Thomas - St. John School Board for many years, and was Chairman of the Board in 1944. He also served as Chairman of the St. Thomas Library Commission for about 15 years.

When he resigned from the Legislative body at the end of 1945, the Legislative Assembly of the Virgin Islands adopted a Resolution, dated December 3, 1945, which stated in part:

"For his brilliant career and achievements in his local legislative body, the Municipal Council of St. Thomas and St. John; in the Virgin Islands Legislature, the Legislative Assembly of the Virgin Islands; in bodies representing the Virgin Islands in the outside world; and for the intrinsic benefits these have meant and still mean to the people of the Virgin Islands, the Legislative Assembly is resolved that some testimonial of the sentiments of the people of the Virgin Islands should be recorded and presented to Mr. Hill through their legislative body."

Mr. Hill served for 20 years (1944-1964) as a Virgin Islands representative to Caribbean Conferences on regional economic and social development. In 1941 he was named "Man of the Year" by the Alumni Association of the Charlotte Amalie High School.

He served as Tax Assessor and Water Commissioner for the Municipality of St. Thomas - St. John from 1946 to 1948. He was then appointed as Administrative Assistant to Governor William H. Hastie, (1948-1949), and served in the same capacity to Governor Morris F. DeCastro (1950-1954). He then became Legislative Consultant to the Legislature of the Virgin Islands, 1955-1957, and Special Consultant to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature reviewing the V.I. Code 1959-1961. In 1961 he was appointed as Special Assistant to Governor Ralph M. Paiewonsky and became the first Commissioner of Housing and Community Renewal in 1962, which post he resigned in 1964. He is now a Business Consultant.

Mr. Hill has been a liberal political leader for many years advocating social and economic reforms for the benefit of the masses of people in the Virgin Islands. In his book, Angry Men - Laughing Men, published in 1947, Wenzell Brown included Mr. Hill among the Caribbean Leaders. He stated:

"Finest ingredients in the swirling cauldron are the idealistic men of the Caribbean. Some of these are political and trade union leaders like Albert Gomes of Trinidad, Grantly Adams and Hugh Springer of Barbados, Remulo Bentancourt of

Venezuela, Valdemar Hill of the Virgin Islands, Luis Munoz of Puerto Rico, and scores of others. . . These are the hope of the Islands and the lands which border the Caribbean to the South".

During his political career, Mr. Hill was a leader in organizing many liberal political movements in the Islands, including the Liberal Party in 1948; the Unity Party in 1952; he was instrumental in the merger of the Unity Party and Democratic Party in 1963 and assisted in drafting the first Election Code for the Virgin Islands in 1963.

In 1967, in commemoration of the semicentennial of the Transfer of the Virgin Islands from Denmark to the United States of America, Mr. Hill published a book, A Golden Jubilee covering the historical events, economic and social progress in the Islands. At present he is completing another book which is entitled Black Destiny in the Virgins. He is a member of the Cathedral Church of All Saints, where he has served as Senior Warden, and is now Vestryman. He belongs to the American Political Association, the International Platform Association, and the St. Thomas Lions Club.

In 1970 Mr. Hill was a candidate for gubernatorial race for first elected governor. Even though unsuccessful in the bid, he, however, fulfilled a life dream by entering the race.

His latest work, Rise to Recognition (1971) is an informal history of the social, political and economic progress of black islanders.

At present Mr. Hill is serving as Legislative Consultant to the Legislature of the Virgin Islands and also as St. Thomas District Chairman of the Democratic Party.

His marriage to Florence nee Molyneaux, produced eight children all of whom are currently employed in outstanding positions.



Ludvig E. Harrigan

1894-1951

Legislator

HARRIGAN, LUDVIG E. - January 12, 1894 - May 10, 1951

Legislator, Orator and Labor Union Executive

Ludvig E. Harrigan, Sr. was born in Christiansted, St. Croix, Danish Virgin Islands on January 12, 1894 and died on May 10, 1951. He was married to Mildred C. Faris of Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas in 1932. There are two children, Mrs. Ruth Harrigan Beagles of St. Croix and Ludvig E. Harrigan, Jr. of New York and St. Croix.

As a boy he attended Public Elementary School on St. Croix until 1906, but was graduated from Grant High School in Guantanamo, Cuba in 1911. He later became Sergeant in the U.S. Army, 1917-1918.

While residing in New York City, he was Vice President of the Virgin Islands Congressional Council between 1922-1932. In 1934-35, he was editor of THE FEDERATION, a monthly publication featuring news of Virgin Islanders in New York City. In 1935 he was a member of the La Guardia Interracial Committee.

Feeling the great need for helping his Crucian brothers, he returned to his birthplace, St. Croix, with his family in December 1937. He opened his own business, his trade being that of a "Cabinet Maker", in the present location of the Dolphin Restaurant and Copenhagen, Ltd. His beautiful mahogany furniture is still being used in homes on the island. One of the altars in the Holy Cross Catholic Church in Christiansted Stands as an exhibition of his craftsmanship.

During the war years, under the Roosevelt Administration, Ludvig Harrigan was Information Specialist for the Office of Price Administration (OPA). He educated the village residents on the effects of the war on U.S. territories and the purpose of the ration coupons.

From 1946 until his death in 1951 he was president of the St. Croix Labor Union. He urged workers to give a full day's work for a full day's pay.

In the 1940's there were two legislative bodies called Municipal Councils. One was elected by and legislated for the island of St. Croix, the other for St. Thomas and St. John. Once a year both councils met in the capital, Charlotte Amalie. The joint bodies were known as the Legislative Assembly. Ludvig Harrigan was elected Candidate-At-Large to the St. Croix Municipal Council and served two full terms (1947-1950) and died in office during the fifth month of his third term. He was chairman of the Municipal Council in 1947 and 1949 and Chairman of the Legislative Assembly in 1947. He introduced bills geared to uplifting the standards of the laboring class. He was member of the Selective Service Board, World War II, and the American Legion as Post Adjutant. He was Captain of the Home Guard in the 1940's. Their colorful drill formations were witnessed by audiences at important public events.

Politically minded Ludvig Harrigan was a Democrat. He was also a member of the Lord God of Sabaoth Lutheran Church and served on the church council of that congregation.

HARRIS, OSWALD EMANUEL

December 25, 1907- 1955

The son of Samuel and Lilliar (Fredericks), Harris. Emanuel Harris was born on St. Thomas Virgin Islands, on December 25, 1907. Throughout his adult life he was deeply involved in politics and as a young adult he was one of the founders of the local political party, the Progressive Guide. He was later named Treasurer and Supervisor of the Guide.

Mr. Harris then made a successful bid for a seat in the Municipal Council in 1942. He served eight years as a member of this law making body. From 1947-1949 he was elected chairman of the Council. Of tall stature, over six feet, Mr. Harris considered himself a champion of the people and also served on many boards and committees. Among these were chairman of Scholarship Board, Insular Democratic Committee. Between the years 1944-1948 he was delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

A member of the Odd Fellows Lodge he obtained high ranks within the organization, but also retained religious affiliation within the Moravian Church. Married to Reseda Parrot of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, the couple had two daughters, Iola and Alda.

When Mr. Harris died, the local Senate named one of the largest housing projects in his honor. Known as the Oswald Harris Court the project provides special tenements for the elderly.

KEAN, ORVILLE SIDNEY, 1871-1936

Orville Sidney Kean was the only son of the union of Ernest Osmond Kean and Eliza Johanna Kean, born Knevels, he was born on June 2, 1871, in St. Thomas, at that time the Danish West Indies, was baptized in the Evangelical Lutheran Church where he had the privilege of holding the position of warden for many years.

He attended the Roman Catholic Parochial School, called St. Thomas College, until he was 16 years old where he was awarded prizes many times for his high marks in the different subjects. Leaving school he entered as junior clerk in the office of Charles Augustus Brewer, who was a commission merchant and agent for the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company. In the next year 1888, he left and entered the wholesale firm of Oscar French and Company, remaining there until 1891, when he entered the Hardware Firm of Jos Levi and Sons. On being offered a position to be bookkeeper at the Wholesale Provision Firm of A. Lugo and Company, he accepted and worked thereat until 1908, when he bought the Hardware stock-in-trade of the firm of MacDougal and Company, but sold it.

He became a member of The St. Thomas Savings Bank some time in 1906, and later was elected Trustee of that Banking Institution. The Bank was finally liquidated. He also entered politics and was elected to the Colonial Council of St. Thomas and St. John in April 1912, serving for four years.

In 1912, Mr. Kean accepted a position as manager of the firm of L. Preetzmann Aggerholm, working with this firm for quite a number of years, finally leaving to accept the position as secretary to Colonial Council of St. Thomas and St. John, where he worked until he died. During the time he worked as secretary to the Council, he held positions as auditor for the West Indian Co., Ltd., which is still in business in the islands and The National Bank of Danish West Indies, which was bought out by the Virgin Islands National Bank.

Responding to a request of Archdeacon Johan Petersen, of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, who was Chairman of The St. Thomas Temperance Society, Mr. Kean gave a lecture on the subject of Temperance, and amongst the audience was the Venerable Archdeacon Edward Hutson of the Anglican Faith, who was so enthused that he requested the Temperance Society for permission to print it, the cost he assumed and had it distributed for people to read who had not heard the lecture.

Further, the late pastor Jens Larsen wrote an historic book entitled "VIRGIN ISLANDS STORY" published by Muhlenberg Press, Copyright 1950, in which is recorded at page 229, that "Orville S. Kean was highly esteemed for his intelligence, culture, spiritual and temperate habits, and that over ten years pastors sought his advice on matters in complete confidence".

His contributions to Masonry - Orville Sidney Kean was initiated and saw the light of masonry on 2nd October, 1919, and was raised as a master mason on 2nd February, 1920, and on the 9th June 1920 was exalted to membership as a companion in Zetland Chapter No. 356 E.C., and later he presided as First Principal Z in the aforesaid Chapter; thereafter The Grand Lodge of England bestowed on him OVERSEAS RANK GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND, in recognition of his excellent work as Worshipful Master in Craft Masonry and his continued industry and zeal in masonry in general.

He raised a large family and all members were adults at his death which occurred on September 30, 1936.



Earle B. Ottley

1922

Legislator, Journalist, Civic Leader

OTTLEY, EARL B.

March 21, 1922

The last of seven children born to Eulalia Queeman and Henry Ottley, Earl B. Ottley, champion of his people was born on March 21, 1922. A product of the local public school system, he completed his high school training in 1939.

At an early age he displayed interest in journalism and while a student at Charlotte Amalie High School, he assumed editorship of the school newspaper, "The Reflector". After graduation, he pursued this field some more when he was later employed as a reporter for one of the local newspapers, the "Saint Thomas Mail Notes". "The Daily News" a budding news media at that time seemed to have attracted young Ottley, and he soon joined this staff as an assistant editor. Seasoned with some work experience, he entered Columbia University, New York City, enrolling in Journalism and Political Sciences.

He interrupted his studies upon the invitation of his brother to join forces, and establish a newspaper. Accepting the challenge, he returned home and together the brothers founded the Photo News in 1945. After five years of partnership the young publisher initiated his own press media, the "Home Journal" a paper still in circulation. Very early in his life Earl Ottley became interested in politics. Possibly this interest was generated by Government courses pursued in earlier years or by the dynamics of the Progressive Guide, a new but powerful political party.

In 1947 Ottley entered the Senatorial race by running as an independent candidate for the St. Thomas - St. John Municipal Council. He was successful. Since then he has been an undefeated Senator in the Legislative Halls of the U. S. Virgin Islands.

Another area of his contribution to his people lies in the Labor Union movement. Concerned about the frustration posed on his people in an effort to organize themselves in manner beneficial to social and financial gains, the young colon proposed legislation that was in accordance with the stipulations required by the National Labor Relations Board. The movement grew in strength and number and is now a viable union.

His biographical statement prepared for observance of twenty-five years of political life lists the following outstanding achievements: Thirteen-term Elected Representative of the People of the Virgin Islands; Parliamentarian and Former President of the Virgin Islands Senate; Chairman, Senate Committee on Home Rule and Interstate Cooperation; Co-Chairman, Senate Committee on Rules; Vice-Chairman, Senate Committee on Housing, Planning and Consumer Affairs; Member Senate Finance Committee; Member Senate Committee on Recreation; Senate Majority Leader; Chairman Second Virgin Islands Constitutional Convention; Newspaper Publisher and Editor; Mentor of the Virgin Islands Labor Union Movement; Longtime President of the Virgin Islands Labor Union, AFL-CIO.

Married to Alma nee Bonelli, the couple has shared many blessings including their silver wedding anniversary and six children; Diane, Judith, Patrice, Larry, Linda and Juliet.



*Legislator,
Musician,
Athlete*

Lionel V. Roberts
1876-1946

ROBERTS, LIONEL

January 13, 1876 - February 11, 1946

Lionel V. Roberts, a distinguished Legislator, Journalist, Sportsman and Musician was born on St. Thomas, January 13, 1876. He earned his place in our history as a public spirited citizen and political leader during the period of his service in the Legislature. Known as the "Father of the Organic Act" he took a large share in opening the way for a greater measure of liberty and selfgovernment than had been previously enjoyed by the people of the Virgin Islands.

During this phase of the islands' political growth, representation for the islands in the halls of Congress was unheard of. Only recently in 1968, the position of Virgin Islands Representative was created. On January 18, 1972 the House of representatives approved and on March 28, 1972 the Senate signed into law, the Non-Voting Delegate Bill, granting the islands a step towards a voice in Congress. Prior to these achievements, however Mr. Roberts and several other civic-minded citizens traveled on several occasions to Washington D.C. to express the needs of and to seek help for the people of the Virgin Islands. The most important of his visits to Washington was concerned with the preparation of and the passage of the Organic Act.

Another area the former legislator used to express his views was in journalism. He initiated a unique column entitled "Hait Boobie". Written in dialect the column was a satire on local and national issues. Interestingly enough "Unda de Market" is a contemporary attempt at the satire found in "Hait Boobie".

Music was very dear to him, he was a composer and a band master. His love for music was passed on to his children who today as adults have contributed to the islands in this field. Mrs. Leona Benjamin is choir director of the Moravian Church, Organist, solist and has been involved in other choral work. Miss Lucille Roberts utilizes her musical ability to perpetuate the dances such as Quadrilles, Lancers, Muzurkas and many others known only to a talented few. As a principal and a civic-minded citizen, she devotes time for such instruction to young and the old.

Lionel has been a member of long standing in the Community Band and plays the Trombone with the ease and the skill of a natural musician.

In athletics Mr. Roberts was a championed cricketer. He won for himself an enviable record and many trophies. As a fitting tribute to his contributions in this field, the largest ball park on St. Thomas is fittingly named in his honor.

After sixteen years of public service, he retired and died several years later, at his home on February 11, 1946. Surviving were his wife, Anita nee Wallace (deceased May 16, 1969) children, Lucille, Lionel, Luben, Leona, Leander (d 1967).



James A. Bough
1905
Attorney

BOUGH, JAMES AUGUSTUS

April 10, 1905

Born on Christiansted St. Croix on April 10, 1905, James A. Bough is the first of four children of Auguste Bough and his wife Adasah (nee Sumerville). The other children are Ena, Kai of the local Department of Education, and Osca who works for the Government under Title III.

A product of Christiansted public schools, Mr. Bough later attended Polytechnic Institute (now Inter-American University), San German, Puerto Rico. Graduating valedictorian of his class the young Crucian enrolled at King's College of Columbia University.

In 1931 he was elected to PHI BETA KAPPA, an honorary scholastic society, Columbia College Chapter. One year after, (1932) he was awarded his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Columbia College and two years later a Doctor of Law Degree, (equivalent to Doctor of Juris Prudence) was conferred on him from Columbia University. Noteworthy is the fact that Columbia University receives credit for initiating the change of conferring Doctor of Jurisprudence rather than Doctor of Law on graduates in the field of law.

A bi-linguist who speaks and writes Spanish as fluent as his native language, English, Mr. Bough had the distinct privilege of being first native United States Attorney for the District Court of the Virgin Islands.

But in 1946 he traveled to New York and enjoyed the prestigious position as a United Nations Official, Chief of the Caribbean Area, in charge of Social Economic and Educational conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the area. He filled this position until 1954 when he returned to the Virgin Islands and opened his private law firm. From 1966 to the present, Attorney Bough has been Assistant Attorney General, Department of Law, Government of the Virgin Islands.

A listing of non-official positions he has held include: Member of Board of Directors of Virgin Islands National Bank, three times president of St. Thomas Chamber of Commerce, several times member of the Home Rule Committee of the Virgin Islands Legislature (re amendments to Virgin Islands Organic Act), first elected member at Large of the Virgin Islands Constitutional Convention to revise the Organic Act Panelist on College of the Virgin Islands, Symposium on Constitutional Evolution of the Virgin Islands. Professor of Government, College of the Virgin Islands.

On July 1, 1971 Attorney Bough was appointed by Governor Evans to the position of Legal Counsel to the Governor. In this capacity he advises the Governor on all legal aspects.

His literary contributions include, "The United Nations and Self Governing Territories" published in the Howard University Journal, "The Constitution and Government of the Virgin Islands, College of the Virgin Islands publication Political Science Series. Chapter XI of The United Charter "Non-Self Governing Peoples" published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.



Almeric L. Christian
1919
Chief District Court Judge

CHRISTIAN, ALMERIC LEANDER

November 23, 1919

Born on November 23, 1919 in Christiansted, St. Croix, Judge Almeric Christian is the son of Adam E. (deceased) and Elena Christian. His early education included Christiansted Grammar and Christiansted High Schools. In 1937 he matriculated at the University of Puerto Rico but left the following year to enter Columbia College, New York, where he obtained an A.B. Pursuing the field of law, he entered Columbia Law School in 1941 and in June, 1947, was granted his L.L.B. which is equivalent to Doctor of Juris Prudence since 1969.

He was inducted into the U.S. Army in 1942, where he was enrolled in Specialist School at Camp Davis, North Carolina. He then attended Officer Candidate School at Camp Davis and was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant. After serving in ETO and RTO Normandy Campaign, he was honorably discharged in 1946.

Attorney Christian's rise to Judge of District Court of the Virgin Islands was preceded by a series of outstanding achievements which include:

Certified for admission to Bar of State of New York

Admitted to Virgin Islands Bar, October 1947

Admitted Bar, Third Circuit Court, January 1950

Admitted Bar, U.S. Supreme Court 1955

Attorney of Record once in Supreme Court

Successfully opposing application in private practice until February 1962.

Took Oath of Office as United States Attorney for the Virgin Islands 3/22/62 after appointment by the late President John F. Kennedy.

Re-appointed in 1966 by President Lyndon Johnson

Sworn Judge of District Court of Virgin Islands
September 9, 1969.

Member, American Judicial Society

Member, Federal Bar Association

Former President, Virgin Islands Bar Association

Elected 2/3/68, same date presented an award by Virgin
Islands Bar

Association at Annual Dinner as "Outstanding Citizen, Law
and United States Attorney.

Re-elected President, Virgin Islands Bar Association 2/1/69

His affiliation with Government Boards and Commissions
include:

Commission appointed by President Eisenhower.

Judge Christian and his wife Shirley nee Frørup of St. Croix
are the parents of Adam Gregory and Rebecca Therese. An older
daughter, Donna Marie, received her M.D. from George Washington
University.



David Hamilton Jackson

1884 - 1946

Judge, Editor, Labor Leader

"Black Moses"

JACKSON, HAMILTON D.

September 28, 1884 - May 30, 1946

David Hamilton Jackson was born on Estate East Hill, Christiansted, St. Croix, on September 28, 1884. He was educated in the East Hill School of which his father was principal.

Very early in life Jackson began to take a keen interest in the affairs of his island, taking a stand on the issues of the day, and defending his position with courage and conviction. Because of his abilities he was selected to go to Denmark as a representative of the people, to put their pleas before King Christian X and the Danish Parliament. He fought his case with such skill and vigor that he succeeded in convincing the King and Parliament to abolish governmental control of the press. He returned home with the right to a free press and published The Herald, a newspaper, shortly thereafter. Liberty day is now celebrated in the Virgin Islands on November 1, in observance of freedom of the press.

This newspaper was the voice of the people. Jackson used it not only to inform, but to educate the laboring class. He encouraged his people to develop self-confidence and pride in themselves as human beings, equal to any man, regardless of color or social position. He also taught them to take pride in their race and to strive toward personal development as a means of dissipating the damaging effects of servitude inflicted by slavery and semi-slavery.

In 1915, Jackson, together with Ralph Bough, organized a labor union on St. Croix. At that time, men, women, and children labored in the cane fields from dawn to dusk for wages of 10 and 20 cents a day. The labor union agitated for higher wages and better working conditions, which they won after a general strike.

Jackson's crusade for human rights extended beyond the labor movement in later years. He studied law at Howard University in the United States around 1910, and he returned to St. Croix and engaged in private practice.

He served in the Colonial Council from 1923-26 and in the Municipal Council from 1941-46. The major difference between these two legislative bodies centered around governing powers. The Colonial Council existed during Danish occupation and was so named because of Danish Royalty involvement in the colonies, whereas the Municipal Council existed during American occupation when the territories were divided into municipalities of St. Thomas and St. John, and the Municipality of St. Croix.

In recognition of his contributions to education on the island, he was appointed to the St. Croix School Board where he served as its first chairman, and was reelected to that office for a term of fifteen years. In 1931 he was appointed Judge of the police court of Christiansted until his resignation in 1941. Judge D. Hamilton Jackson was truly one of the most distinguished citizens of St. Croix, Virgin Islands. He served his people with distinction as an educator, editor, labor leader, lawyer, judge, and politician, until his death on May 30, 1946.

MICHAEL, CYRIL

January 22, 1898

The presiding judge of the Municipal Court of the United States Virgin Islands, Judge Cyril Michael was born on St. Thomas on January 22, 1898. The son of Andreas and Wilhelmina Michael, his early education was primarily of the Catholic Parochial School. A lover of the organ he studied music privately through an extension course from the University of Chicago.

His career in legal field was preceeded by his position as Secretary to the Government and several District Attorneys, oftentimes acting as Court Reporter. During years 1937-51, he had the opportunity to serve as Acting Judge of the Police Court, and since 1957 Mr. Michael was named Judge of the Municipal Court of St. Thomas and St. John.

Judge Michael, who has seen the Judicial branch of the Government of the Virgin Islands expand to include six municipal judges, two district court judges, and association with the Third Circuit Court of Philadelphia has the respect of practicing attorneys and fellow judges.

He is a member of the Virgin Islands Bar Executive Committee and is also affiliated with the Virgin Islands Bar Association, American Bar Association, The National Bar Association. A member of the Fleet Reserve Association Branch 40, he was awarded the Beaver Award.

His philosophy of life selected from the quotation, "Do your best always and leave the rest to God", is evidenced by the way he tries to bring out the good in the people who come before him. Chastizing when necessary, but counseling more often he reasons with OFFENDERS in an effort to educate rather than punish.

He is married to Elizabeth nee Davis, and their four children include Edna, Dale (MBS) Chemical Engineer, LL.B., MBA (Columbia); Elba B.A. languages, Betsy Mae, B.S., teacher, St. Thomas.

BENJAMIN, JUDAH PHILLIP

August 6, 1811 - May 7, 1884

A lawyer and statesman, Judah Phillip Benjamin was born on 8B and C Company Street, Christiansted, St. Croix. His parents were Phillip Benjamin and Rebecca Nee de Mendez of Spanish Jewish heritage. When Rebecca was 18 years old she was married to Phillip Benjamin (1807), a little dark skinned man in his mid twenties, born on the British Island of Nevis. Just how Phillip met Rebecca is not quite clear, but there is a vague tradition that after their marriage they ran a small shop in one of the streets leading into Cheapside near Bow Church where they sold fruits. Starting married life at a time when life was precarious for Jews and at the time of Berlin and Milan decrees which were issued in an effort to crush British Trade, the couple decided to move. They settled in Christiansted, St. Croix.

In the Virgin Islands they met a clan of Jewish relatives which included the Sassos, de Castros, Benlissas, and the Halms. These were all from Holland whence they had fled from the Inquisition. Life on St. Croix turned out to be rather hard and once again Rebecca and Phillip with their young son, moved, this time to Wilmington, North Carolina.

Through the generosity of Uncle Jacob, young Judah was able to attend Fayetteville Academy. When he was fourteen years old, Judah completed his preparatory education and was sent to Yale. At 21 he entered the legal profession at New Orleans.

His reputation in this field became nationally famous through his participation in the celebrated case of the Brig Creole, a case dealing with international law. So rapid was his rise at the bar that he soon became wealthy and purchased a sugar plantation on St. Croix and for a time became so involved that he considered himself more of a planter than a lawyer.

His professional success is also attributed to his book, codification of a branch of the law of Louisiana. This culminated in his being sent to Washington as a Senator for that state in 1852.

During the stormy events of the late fifties Benjamin took a leading part. When the southern states seceded from the union, Benjamin naturally took stand by the State of Louisiana and advocated secession. He became Jefferson Davis' Attorney General, Minister of War, and Secretary of State. Upon the surrender of General Lee all of Benjamin's property was confiscated and his life was in danger. He escaped from the Florida Coast in an open boat, sailed from there in a ship laden with sponges from Nassau. This boat was wrecked on its way and Benjamin was picked up by a British Warship and taken to St. Thomas. There he started for England on a steamer which caught fire and he had to return. On January 13, 1866, Benjamin was admitted to the Lincoln Inn and by special dispensation at the age of 55, was called to the bar in the same year.

Among the more important cases involving legal principles in which he was involved as Counsel were Ashbury Railroad Carriage and Iran Company viz Reche; Debenham Mellon Lord Advocate viz Lord Lovat. Perhaps his greatest triumph was achieved in the Queen viz Keyn - The Franconian Case. As a lawyer, his preeminence was displayed in specialized fields. It is claimed that he was not successful before a jury or in the handling of witnesses yet a large proportion of his early cases were of this character. His chief source of strength apart from his profound acquaintance with the law was his capacity for logical analyses and his way of expressing. He was particularly effective before the Judicial Committee and the House of Lords where the gravity of the issues and the exceptional intellectual strength of the tribunal appeared to call forth all that was in him of mental endowment and argumentative power.

In August, 1868, Benjamin published his famous book Contract of Sale. This book has superseded all other of its kind and is nation wide in all law schools. His reputation and practice thereafter increased rapidly. He received a patent precedence dated July 2, 1872, and afterwards became Queens Counsel. In 1875, he was reelected a bencher of Lincoln Inn. Later Benjamin confined his work principally to the House of Lords, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council and Court of Appeal where he enjoyed a large practice.

In February of 1883, he retired from practice because of failing health. On June 30, 1883 a farewell banquet was given in his honor at the Inner Temple Hall. Judah Phillip Benjamin never returned to St. Croix, but he cherished the knowledge of his birthplace and the memories of the years he resided in the islands. He died in Paris, May 7, 1884.



Edward Wilmot Blyden

1832 - 1912

Diplomat, Educator, Author

BLYDEN, EDWARD WILMOT

August 3, 1832 - February 7, 1912

Destined to become one of the greatest Negro Champion of his race in the nineteenth century, Edward was born the third of seven children, on August 3, 1832 on the then Danish West Indian island of St. Thomas. "Of ebony hue" he later claimed to be of "pure negro" parentage from the Ibo tribe in eastern Nigeria. He was of relatively privileged birth. Both his parents were free and literate. His mother, Judith was a school teacher, his father Romeo was a tailor. The family lived in a predominantly Jewish English speaking neighborhood of the capital Charlotte Amalie and Edward romped with Jewish boys on Synagogue Hill (and later proudly pointed out that Judah P. Benjamin 1811-1884, the eminent American statesman and jurist was born in the same neighborhood). The Blydens were registered members of the integrated Dutch Reform Church and young Edward was baptized on September 16, 1832, there with eight sponsors: A. D. Gomez, W. Essaunasson, Andrew Benners, John Welthagen, Maria De Windt, Mrs. Essaunasson, Charlotte Wilhelmsen. Young Edward went to the local primary school but was also privately tutored by his mother.

In 1842 the family left for Porto Bello, Venezuela, where young Edward who eventually became a linguist of the highest order first discovered his facility for learning foreign languages. After two years by which time he was fluent in Spanish, the family returned home. The sensitive and intelligent Negro youth noticed that members of his race in St. Thomas and Venezuela were in slavery and did most of the menial work. On his return home he attended school only in the morning and in the afternoon served a five year apprenticeship as a tailor.

In 1845 a new and important influence came into Edward's life when the Reverend John P. Knox, a white American went to St. Thomas for reasons of health and pastorship of the Dutch Reformed Church. Knox was impressed with the studious and pious boy of pious parents and became his mentor, encouraging his considerable natural aptitude for oratory and literature. Mainly

When they returned to Liberia they reported that American Negroes were anxious to emigrate. The Liberian government decided to act and appointed Blyden, Grummel and J.D. Johnson, commissioners, to encourage American Negroes to return to their fatherland. But in Washington he suffered humiliation when he was debarred from entering the House of Representatives because he was a Negro. For five weeks a bitter and angry Blyden, toured principal cities of the North extending Liberia's invitation to American Negroes.

During the years 1862-1871, Blyden was appointed Professor of Classics at Liberia College, while during 1864-66 he was elevated to Liberian Secretary of State. Blyden made eight visits to the United States, where he toured the deep south and other areas which offered a concentration of Negroes inviting them to visit Liberia.

In 1880 Blyden was offered the Presidency of Liberia College as well as position of Minister of the Interior and Secretary of Education. He accepted both. The offer of the Presidency was like a dream come true. His formal inauguration took place February 5, 1881 and his address was brilliant and purposeful.

His administration came to an end in 1884. Shortly after his resignation as President of Liberia College, the Republican Party of Liberia nominated him as candidate for the Presidency of Liberia. He accepted the nomination and made plans for the improvement of Liberia which included attracting foreign investment, while keeping it under judicious control, the inauguration of a comprehensive program of education, alliance with island peoples and the extension of the President's term to four years. His opponent was Hilary R. W. Johnson, a haughty hot tempered but able and politically astute man. Johnson won the election easily since Blyden pledged allegiance to no one section of the community and thought of himself as a providential agent.

A few other important dates and events of his life worth mentioning are:

1887 he published his Publication of Magnum Opus, Christianity Islam and the Negro Race

because of his close association with Mr. Knox young Blyden decided to become a clergyman. His parents were pleased with his decision and encouraged it.

In May 1850, Edward accompanied Mrs. Knox to the United States and attempted to enroll in Rutgers Theological College, Knox's alma mater, but he was refused admission because he was a Negro. Efforts to get him admitted to two other theological colleges also failed.

Because of increasing discrimination against free Negroes, young Blyden refused to remain in the United States. The idea of building a great nation in Africa as told to him by his friends appealed to him and he willingly accepted an offer from the New American Colonization Society to pay his passage to Liberia. On January 26, 1851 after a stormy Atlantic crossing he arrived safely in Monrovia, the capital of Liberia.

In 1851 he entered Alexander High School where he made rapid progress. In 1853 he became a lay preacher and in 1854 a tutor at his High School, and also served as Principal during Reverend D. A. Wilson's (Principal) absences.

Soon after settling in Liberia he became a correspondent of the Liberia Herald, an organ of the Government and the only newspaper in Liberia, and was appointed as its editor for a year 1855-56.

In 1857 Blyden made his first attempt to redeem the Negro race. He examined and rebutted with cogency the theories which purported to prove Negro inferiority. He went to the extent of carefully examining the original Hebrew of Verses 25, 26, 27 of chapter nine of the Book of Genesis which was commonly cited to prove that Negroes - the offspring of Ham, were under a divine curse and that their enslavement was preordained and offered elaborate proof that there were no evidence to support the assertion. Blyden firmly believed that the Negro was at least potentially the equal of other races.

In March 1861, Blyden and Alexander Grummel, a Negro graduate of Queens College, Cambridge were commissioned by the Liberian Government to interest British and American philanthropists in Liberian education.

1896-1897 he was Agent of Native Affairs in Lagos
1900-1901 he was Professor at Liberian College and
1901-1906 he was Director of Mahammedan Education in
Sierra Leone.

In his later years Blyden alienated himself from the majority of educated West Africans. During these years he was needy and in poor health.

In 1909 Blyden suffered the added misfortune of having to undergo an operation of anuerysm in the knee at the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool where he was confined for fifteen weeks. After the operation he found himself more penurious than ever. He died on February 7, 1912.

From the 1870's Blyden had striven to create the consciousness among West Africans of belonging to one community. He had sought to do so by emphasizing the need for Africans to unite in order to improve the lot of Negro race by fostering ethnocentrism and by bringing about communication and cooperation between Christians and Muslims. Blyden's ideas have contributed greatly to the historical roots of African Nationalism, Pan-Africanism and Negritude and have been a source of inspiration and pride to modern exponents of these ideas. Although controvesial in thought and approaches, Blyden was one of "the first Negroes to win full recognition in the English-speaking Scholastic and literary world".



Ullmont James

Diplomat, Organist

JAMES, ULIMONT L.

March 4, 1914

Born in New York City, but of Virgin Islands parents, Aloysius and Mary Eliza James, Ullmont L. James attended Christiansted Public Grammar School and the Christiansted Junior High School for his early education, and was among the first graduating class of the Christiansted Senior High School.

His Post Secondary Education has included:
Howard University-Washington D.C.

- (a) B.S. (Magna Cum Laude) Mathematics
M.S. Mathematics
(further graduate studies)
- (b) The Catholic University of Chicago-
Public Administration
- (c) The University of Pittsburgh-
Public Administration

His services with the Virgin Islands Government included the following positions:

Elementary School Teacher, St. Croix - 4 years
La Princesse Rural
Christiansted Grammar

High School Teacher - St. Thomas
Charlotte Amalie High - 3 years

Assistant Superintendent of Education St. Thomas/
St. John.

Director, Division of Personnel
Virgin Islands Government 11 years
Assistant Government Secretary 3 years.

Because of outstanding performance in Public Administration, Mr. James was appointed by Governor William Hastie to organize and develop the Virgin Islands Personnel System which was accomplished with the assistance of Public Administration Service, Chicago.

Continuing upward, Mr. James was appointed by Governor John D. Merwin as the first Assistant Government Secretary within the Virgin Islands Government Service and was reappointed to the same position by Governor Ralph Paiewonsky. He resigned this position shortly after to accept an assignment with the International Cooperation Administration, the predecessor agency of the Agency for International Development (Department of State). (AID)

During the decade of the '60's Mr. James was assigned by USAID to services in Guinea, Madagascar, Somali and Morocco. In Morocco as Deputy Director of the Mission his task was to assist the local government in its economic development with concentration given to projects primarily in the agricultural area.

An accomplished pianist and organist, Mr. James has been organist for the Roman Catholic Church of Charlotte Amalie, and choir director for several years.

In New York, Guinea and wherever the opportunity arises, Mr. James serves as guest organist as a contribution or out of his deep love for music.

Mr. James and his wife, Theresa of Virginia, have two sons, Ullmont, Jr. and Russel.



Cyril E. King
1921
Statesman

KING, CYRIL E.

April 7, 1921

The son of Martin King and Melvina King (both deceased) and now one of the most popular Virgin Islanders, Cyril Emanuel King was born on Frederiksted, St. Croix, on April 7, 1921. As a child, he received his early education at St. Ann's and St. Mary's. After completion of high school, he enrolled at American University in Washington, D.C. from where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in the field of Public Administration.

Responding to his military call, he joined the U.S. Army where he subsequently attained the rank of Sergeant. During this time he also attended the Army Leadership School Camp Plauschen in New Orleans, Louisiana. Upon completion of this training, he was recommended by his instructors as a candidate for Officers Training School, but was at the same time assigned over-seas.

For twelve years he was a member of the staff of U.S. Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota serving as assistant to the Senator. He represented the Senator at the Disarmament conference held by the Post World War Council and Committee for World Development and World Disarmament, 1958.

In 1955 Mr. King was authorized by the Legislature of the U.S. Virgin Islands to conduct study sessions involving 1300 government employees. These sessions became the basis for the grading of various jobs within the classified system.

Once again the Legislature (1957) through the Organic Act Committee, appointed Mr. King to serve as its deputy in Washington, D. C.

A former Secretary to Director of Social Welfare, he has also served as Adjuster to Chairman of Compensation Commission. And on St. Croix he held the position of all Civilian Personnel Officer at the U.S. Army base in St. Croix. It is his strong conviction that the youth should be given a sense of direction in order to achieve fulfillment of goals. Because of this belief he helped to organize Youth Council on St. Croix and was voted an officer of the council. Very active in veterans

affairs, he organized and became a leader in the St. Thomas and St. Croix American Veterans Committee.

From 1961-1969 he held the distinguished position of Government Secretary under the administration of Governor Ralph Paiewonsky. After Paiewonsky's retirement Mr. King served as Acting Governor for a period of four and a half months.

In 1970 the Virgin Islands made history by electing for the first time their own governor. The race was an exciting one, with three political parties opposing each other. Mr. King was a candidate in this historical campaign running under the political banner of the Independent Citizens Movement Party. He waged an effective campaign and received 36 per cent of the votes cast which was a total of 5,415.

A run-off election was necessary because the Elected Governor Act of 1968 specifies that a candidate for governor must receive majority of votes cast. This time the contest was between Cyril E. King and Melvin Evans (Republican). Mr. King, receiving 7,452 votes, lost the election by a marginal count of 807.

At present he is a business consultant but is still very active in politics. His affiliations include American Veterans Committee, National Association of Secretaries of State, International Association of Assessing Officers. Reading and traveling are his favorite pastimes. A Catholic by religion he is married to Agnes nee Schuster of St. Croix. Their only daughter Lillia, a graduate of Sts. Peter & Paul High School and College of St. Elizabeth, New Jersey is an accomplished organist.



Terrence A. Todman

1926

Ambassador

TODMAN, ALFONSE TERRENCE - March 13, 1926

The son of Mrs. Racheal Callwood and Alfonso Todman, Terrence Todman was born in St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands on March 13, 1926. He attended the local public school system and graduated from Charlotte Amalie High School in 1944. After graduating he attended Inter-American University, Puerto Rico but interrupted his studies to answer his military call and lived overseas for over a decade.

While living overseas Todman came face to face with one of man's oldest problems - the failure to see and accept, not only people but nations in their true perspective. He felt an inner urge that he must try to have others see his nation as it really is and vice versa.

Incessed with this goal he returned home to complete his undergraduate studies. Obtaining his B.S. in Political Science he went on to Syracuse University and earned his Masters Degree. He rounded off his formal academic training with graduate work in Political Science at American University. He later sat and passed the Foreign Service Exam.

Qualified in all areas he was now ready to serve his country. For the second time his dreams seemed a reality. His earliest overseas assignment was in India (1957-1959) as a political officer in the United States Embassy in Delhi. He was later transferred to Lebanon for the next eighteen months. Another assignment in Tunisia followed (1960-1964). After Tunisia came his Togo assignment. Still moving up he was appointed Chief of Missions at the United States Embassy in Togo. He later spent one year in Washington D.C. in charge of the countries Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. During all this time his chief job was to tell people of America and her ideals.

The young statesman who speaks French, Spanish and Arabic was appointed as Ambassador to Chad in 1969, a position he presently enjoys. In 1970 Ambassador Todman was invited by the College of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, Virgin Island to be the guest speaker at their Commencement Exercises.

Many local organizations seized the opportunity to honor this native son for his contributions to his country and to his home town.

His wife Doris Nee Weston, of New York City and the Virgin Islands is the daughter of Terrencia Nee Daniel and John Weston. Their four children are Terrence Jr., Patricia, Kathryn and Micheal.



Moses Gottlieb (Buddhoe)

circa 1800's

Liberator and Leader

GOTTLIEB, MOSES (BUDHOE)

Little is actually known about Budhoe. His real name was Moses Gottlieb, and he is said to have come from the British Islands, possibly from Barbados. He worked at Estate La Grange in St. Croix. Unlike most slaves he was taught to read and write and he also was a skilled sugar boiler. Because of his literary abilities and his skill on the plantation he was constantly borrowed by other estate owners. Budhoe also displayed outstanding leadership qualities which made deep impressions on both planters and slaves.

In the year 1847 King Christian VIII of Denmark proclaimed a gradual emancipation program for the slaves of the Danish West Indies. From the 28th of July of that year it was ordered that all babies born to slaves would be free, and that at the end of twelve years slavery should entirely cease.

The slaves, who had expected immediate freedom, were extremely discontented with these orders. In St. Croix during the year 1848, they secretly planned an insurrection.

Budhoe, or General Bordeaux, as he was sometimes called, had been the secret organizer and avowed leader of the uprising.

On the evening of Sunday, July 2, 1848, the slaves began rioting, and the ringing of bells and the blowing of horns aroused the island of St. Croix. The slaves left their estate and marched on Frederiksted, led by Budhoe.

By eight o'clock on the morning of the 3rd, about 2,000 slaves marched into town. They went directly to the fort and demanded their freedom. During the day they were joined by about 3,000 more slaves. They threatened that, if their freedom was not proclaimed by 4 p.m., they would burn the town. About this time Governor-General Peter Von Scholten, who was reported off island arrived to confront a still orderly but determined crowd. The situation was tense and dangerous; once the destruction and rioting began, nothing might stop it. The Governor went among the crowd and read the famous freedom proclamation known in local history as the Emancipation Proclamation of 1848.

As it took some time for this news to spread through the island, the rioting continued; one band of rioters called the "Fleet" roamed the country side burning and plundering in the center of the island. They were led by a young black named King. Budhoe accompanied Major Jacob Gyllich the Danish Fire Chief, to various parts of the island, and through his influence began to restore order. For days the two men ranged the island telling the slaves of their freedom. At one point in the turmoil, Budhoe saved the Major's life. When the revolt was over it was found that much damage had been done to the estates, but that not a single white person had lost his life. It is said that Budhoe had ordered his fellow-slaves not to kill. By August 6, the militia had been reinforced by troops from St. Thomas and Puerto Rico and peace was restored.

Major Gyllich took Budhoe to his home for safe-keeping against retaliation from officials or planters. He was arrested, however, and interrogated for many days. This was because Budhoe was believed to have been a friend of Governor Von Scholten, and many people believed that the Governor knew of the uprising and was in sympathy with the slaves. Budhoe steadfastly denied that the Governor had any knowledge of the insurrection.

Though the leader of the rioters, Budhoe had done the island good service by using his influence to save the lives of many of the planters. But despite this, the new Governor, Peter Hansen, ordered him to be deported. He was put aboard the ship "Ornen", in the harbor. Dressed as a gentleman, Budhoe went on board, well provided with clothes and other necessaries, only to have them taken off as soon as the vessel was out of port, and he was put to work among the crew. On the 8th of January 1849 he was landed at Port of Spain, Trinidad, where the Captain told him that if he ever went back to the Danish West Indies he would forfeit his life. He is said to have then gone to the United States.

Today he is recognized as the liberator of his people.

Source: Romantic History of St. Croix.

MARKOE, ABRAHAM

July 2, 1727 - August 28, 1806

Abraham Markoe, Capitalist, Patriot was born in Santa Cruz, (St. Croix) the then Danish West Indies. His grandfather, Pierre Marcou, a Huguenot, had accompanied Count Cr equi from France to the Danish West Indies before the revocation of the edict of Nantes. There he acquired one of the largest sugar plantations on the island of Santa Cruz and became colonial governor of the settlement. His son Pierre, who seems to have been the first to change the family name to Markoe, married Elizabeth Farrell, and Abraham Markoe was their son.

He inherited the rich plantations, traded with Europe and the American colonies and in 1751 married a widow, Elizabeth (Kenny) Rogers who bore him two sons, Peter (p.v.) and Abraham. About the year 1770, his wife having died a few years before, he went to Philadelphia where he established a residence. On December 16, 1773 he was married in Christ Church to Elizabeth Baynton, daughter of John Baynton, a Philadelphia merchant. Seven children were born to this union. Abraham Markoe became a prominent figure in the business and social life of Philadelphia.

From the first rumblings of the American Revolution he took the side of the Patriots and was the founder of the first volunteer military in what is now the United States. This was the Philadelphia Light Horse, now known as the First Troop, Philadelphia City Calvary which was organized November 17, 1774. It was composed of gentlemen of fortune who provided all their own equipment and paid for their own maintenance. The first active duty of the Troop of which Markoe was the first captain, was to escort General Washington as far as New York, when on June 21, 1775 he started for Cambridge to take command of the Continental Army. The standard of the Philadelphia Light Horse was presented to him by Markoe and although there exists a bill from John Folwell for "drawing and designing the colors"

dated September 16, 1775, Markoe is generally credited with having suggested the design. In the upper left-hand corner of the flag in what is known as the canton are thirteen stripes of alternating blue and silver, supposed to be the "earliest instance of the thirteen stripes being used upon an American Banner". Markoe resigned his command early in the year 1776 because the Government of Denmark of which he was still a subject, had issued an edict of neutrality and disobedience on his part would have imperilled his family and rendered his estates in Santa Cruz to confiscation. He never lost interest in the affairs of the colonies.

In 1782-83 he acquired by patents, from the state of Pennsylvania, a block of ground now bounded by Ninth, Tenth, Market and Chestnut Streets in Philadelphia. Upon this ground he erected a mansion which was one of the wonders of the city being the first house to use marble lintels over its windows. He died in Philadelphia and was buried in Christ Church Graveyard.

BEHN, SOSTHENES

January 30, 1882 - June 6, 1957

One of the world's most colorful and gifted international executives, Sosthenes Behn was born on St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, January 30, 1882. When he retired as President of IT and T in 1948 he had ruled over a vast communication and electronic empire for thirty-four years.

Behn, whose given name was of Greek derivation meaning "Life strength", had a Danish father and a French mother, but acquired U.S. Citizenship through naturalization and also as a native of the Danish West Indies through the purchase of the islands by the United States.

A globe minded business man, Behn created the world web of \$760 million International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation. Behn stretched his communication empire from Antwerp to Osaka, steered it through thirty-four years of war, revolution, boom and bust and boom again. Always some how able to scratch cash from disaster. He had a secret, a skill at diplomacy that few foreign ministers could match; a grip on his company that only an astute tycoon could keep.

A hawklike man with an ascetic face Behn worked in an eyrie high in the tower of the company's Manhattan headquarters, an oak paneled chamber. Often he would gather aides to listen on earphones as he telephoned subsidiaries on every continent suavely speaking in all major languages, a trader who could charm dictators and bargain for deals in every monetary exchange.

This native Virgin Islander tycoon first started his business career in 1898 when in nearby Puerto Rico, he and his brother, Herman, operated a small sugar bookerage house. Then in 1914 launched his real career by buying a small telephone company.

When Sosthenes returned from World War I as a Lieutenant Colonel (with a Distinguished Service Medal)

the brothers Behn issued 50,000 shares of common stock at \$68.50 a share, and founded IT and T. (International Telephone and Telegraph).

Daring to risk their luck almost entirely abroad, the Behns first startled financiers in 1924 by winning a concession to manage and modernize Spain's sputtering national telephone system, went on to set up 33 international manufacturing and research facilities. They were big enough by 1928 to acquire the Mackay Companies including Postal Telegraph and Cable Corporation (eventually merged with Western Union) until 1930. Sosthenes tirelessly negotiating made IT and T grow throughout the world, spread the company into Argentina, Australia, Belgium, England, France, Italy, Japan, Norway Rumania.

The 1929 crash left the Behns with a \$122 million debt. Like a cat of nine-lives, IT and T was saved when the U.S. went off the gold standard, raising the value of foreign money. Sosthenes worked his way out of the hole (minus Hermand who died in 1933) by inducing foreign subsidiaries to float local bond issues, boosting the parent company's U.S. credit. But no sooner was he solvent again than European upheavals put him right back in trouble.

In civil-war-torn Madrid, IT & T's 13-story telefonica headquarters was shelled, Loyalist threatened to blow it up as a suspected spy center. Ramrod-stiff, Colonel Behn himself, arrived to save IT & T's besieged fortress. He eventually sold the whole Spanish company to France for \$88 million. In Western Europe, Nazi expropriations cut the 40% income that IT & T got from the subsidiary International Standard Electric, to zero. But in Rumania, Behn arrived in the nick of time, sold out for \$13.8 million shortly before the country went over to the Nazis. In Argentina in 1946, he showed the same brilliant talent for beating a profitable retreat. Facing confiscation, he somehow maneuvered Dictator Peron into buying IT & T there for \$93 million.

But Behn's foreign success feared less well at home after World War II. He guided IT & T into domestic manufacturing, and lost money. Sharply challenging his iron rule in 1947, a stockholders group gradually forced Behn upstairs to Board Chairman. In 1956 at 74, Behn finally returned with IT & T back at peak earning power (1956 sales: \$501 million).

At 75, Behn died on June 1957 in Manhattan.

LEIDESDORFF, WILLIAM A.

1810 - 1848

In the heart of San Francisco's financial district there lies a short thoroughfare called Leidesdorff Street. Few San Franciscans realize, however, that the man in whose honor the street is named was one of early California's most illustrious citizens--an enterprising millionaire-businessman, an acute politician and diplomat, an early San Francisco official and a Negro.

William Alexander Leidesdorff was born in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, from whence he emigrated to the United States as a free Black. Possessing a modest inheritance, he determined to strike out for California, for in that Virgin territory, he felt confident he could parlay his inheritance into a sizable fortune.

Arriving in San Francisco in 1841, Leidesdorff set about immediately to make his mark. In quick succession he built the city's first hotel, secured two large and valuable lots at the corner of Clay and Kearny Streets where he established a thriving general store, acquired 35,000 acres of prime ranch land on the banks of the American River, and finally obtained a large property at the intersection of what is now California and Leidesdorff Streets. There he erected a huge warehouse which he leased to the U. S. Government.

All of these investments proved to be shrewd and profitable ones, and soon Leidesdorff was recognized as one of San Francisco's leading and wealthiest citizens. Soon he was appointed American Consul in California and Sub-Consul for Yerba Buena. He also served as a member of both San Francisco's first town council and first school board, and later was appointed City Treasurer.

Always the farsighted entrepreneur, Leidesdorff established the first commercial steamship operation on San Francisco Bay, and organized and financed the first professional horse race in the state's history. When he suddenly died at the age of thirty-eight, a year before the great gold rush began, he left an estate valued in excess of one-and-a-half million dollars, roughly the equivalent, in today's money, of six times that amount.

LOCKHART, ALFRED HARRIS I

October 22, 1862 - April 27, 1931

During the eighteenth century the economy of St. Croix sky-rocketed because of the lifting of an embargo by Frederik V. This act permitted St. Croix to trade freely with other nations thus attracting European businessmen. Among these adventurers to the island were Scots and Irish, who were employed mostly as managers of estates owned by wealthy retired Europeans. The Scotch influence is observed most prominently in the speech patterns of native born Crucians.

One name which related to Scotch Irish descent is Lockhart. Personal interviews reveal that there were many Lockhart brothers who settled on St. Croix and inter-married into such families as Cartier or Van Krenigen. Alfred Harris I, Progenitor of present line of Lockharts was born on Fredericksted, St. Croix, October 22, 1862. As a boy he traveled to St. Thomas which he chose to adopt as his domicile.

In 1884 he initiated business as a shopkeeper in a building at the Market Square. Quite successful, he ventured deeper into this business as a wholesale merchant. Out of the wholesale store grew a chain of other businesses which included Lockharts Dry Goods Store, Lockharts Butchery, Lockharts Aerated Water Works and Lockhart's Lumber & Trading Co. Now a wealthy merchant and real estate owner, he became active in civic affairs.

Mr. Lockhart for years, was a member of the Harbor Board and one of the Directors of the West Indian Company Ltd. He owned large tracts of land in St. Thomas and neighboring islands of Tortola and St. John.

The heirs of Mr. Lockhart have continued some of the businesses started by their worthy or intrepid ancestor. Still prominent is Lockhart Grand Gift and Liquor Store, Lockhart Lumber & Trading, and Lockhart's Bakery all which were initiated and managed by a son Herbert Ernest.

The family's interest in civic and religious affairs is evidenced by the donation of various parcels of land for church and state services.

One of the largest elementary school in St. Thomas stands on a generous tract of land donated by this family. Fittingly named Lockhart Elementary School, the land was donated by the widow, Inge, in memory of her husband Herbert Ernest Lockhart.

Many young aspirants within the community achieved their life goals through the kind heartedness of this family.

In July 1970, marked the dedication of St. Andrews church which rests on another property donated by Mrs. Karen Inge Lockhart (deceased February 1960) in memory of her husband. In recognition of this beneficence, old St. Andrews Church became Lockhart Memorial Parish Hall.

Grandchildren of Alfred Harris I who perpetuated the Lockhart business are Enid Karen Petersen (d), Beryl Astrid Hastie, Gertrude Alethea Dudley, Herbert Ernest II.



Adolph Sixto
1858-1930
Lecturer
"Vision and wit"

SIXTO, ADOLPH

February 17, 1858 - July 5, 1930

"A man with a dream" is probably the best epithet that describes the character of Adolph Sixto. Born in Puerto Rico of Virgin Islands parents, "Ding" as he was affectionately called was an idealist, skilled in literature, endowed with keen memory and a love for poetry. As a mere lad, he often times entertained mature audiences with his recitation of long passages of poetry, his favorite being Milton's "Paradise lost" besides several works of Byron and Shakespeare.

Considered a scholar of his day, Sixto was the sole representative of the International Correspondence School (a means of furthering one's education during the absence of secondary schools). It was in this capacity that he worked closely with the youth. He encouraged them in socratic fashion and made them aware of their role as future Virgin Islanders. He preached hope and self help as guidelines to the young. Without a formal education but fluent in Russian, French, Italian, German, and an expert in Papiamento, Sixto amazed his fellow Virgin Islanders with his use of languages. Possessing an extreme sense of humor and wit he coined the much widely used phrase "Low root".

Sixto was also a recognized lecturer and was frequently invited throughout the West Indies as a guest speaker. His talks were often flavored with wit and humor much to the delight of his audiences.

Eager to see St. Thomas develop as a seat of culture in the West Indies, Sixto is credited with the establishment of the first Repertory Theater in the island. As director and often times participating, he presented scores of outstanding plays to appreciative audiences. He is credited also with being the first to bring to the islands a pianola on which he entertained his friends.

In his book, Time and I or Looking Forward (c 1902), Sixto envisioned the Virgin Islands achieving an everlasting resting place among the advanced industrial and intellectual islands of the West Indies. The book, an historical account

varies somewhat from other histories in the fact that "it deals with internal affairs and native characteristics". Written in a style reminiscent of "The Book of Revelations", Sixto envisioned social, economical and political changes of the islands within a century. Added to his publications is the reprinting of Knox's Original History of the Danish West Indies, 1852. Reprinted in 1922, shortly after the Transfer, the text was dedicated to the new Virgin Islander. Still unpublished is another work entitled, The Proambulations of a Crank.

The early years following the transfer of the Danish West Indian Islands to the United States were marked by social and economical depressions. Sixto, sensitive to these conditions, felt that efforts should be directed toward improvement and pleaded with the colonial council to permit him to appear before the State Department. In 1922, a trio consisting of Conrad Corneiro, George Moorehead, members of the legislature, and Adolph Sixto, Delegate at-large, left for Washington to plead in behalf of the then unknown Virgin Islands.

A merchant by occupation, Mr. Sixto managed several businesses. Because of his wide travel experience his stores were famous for foreign articles and antique items. At the time of his death he managed a government controlled store in which he displayed with pride examples of fine native craftsmanship, as mahogany chairs, cabinets, and beds.

Sixto's influence on his fellowmen and recognition of his contributions to the development of St. Thomas was very obvious when at his death in 1930, several local poets eulogized him in verse. Jose Patricio Gimenez and Cyril Creque typify this recognition.

"Ruin Rostrum"

for Adolph Sixto by Cyril Creque
from Trade Winds, 1934

He had a glittering tongue
that positively flushed afar
Brave, estatic words
From an exalted parapet
Men heard him, clapt delighted palms and cheered

A sullen figure faced him suddenly,
Gagged him, bound him, smote him
Dragged him to a grave
Where like so many living mouths
He lies
Eternally tongue - chained, within his ruined
rostrum

Several of his children reside in the continental United States. Included among his children are Cecil (educated in Denmark), Lyra, Ezola, Ena, Volmi (d), Ione, while Mrs. Enez Harvey owner of Band Box Dry Cleaners, first of its kind on St. Thomas, resides with her family at Estate Bakeroe, St. Thomas.

CLARKE, HORACE

June 2, 1940

Horace Clarke was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Clarke in Frederiksted, St. Croix, June 2, 1940. He grew up in Frederiksted where he attended Frederiksted Public Grammar School, Frederiksted Junior High School and Christiansted High School.

Horace demonstrated his outstanding athletic ability early in life testing his fleetness against other youngsters competing in softball, volleyball, basketball, swimming and wrestling. He competed in inter-island competition in practically all sports. Clarke's ability to "switch-hit" has made him a great asset to the New York Yankees.

Clarke first played organized amateur baseball as a member of the Frederiksted Baseball League and was also a member of the Frederiksted Braves, founded by Mr. Darnley Petersen. He first played rightfield, then switched to infield with the Braves. Horace is widely known throughout the Virgin Islands as "Harry", while to his Yankee team-mates, he is known as "Hoss".

After distinguishing himself in local baseball and catching eyes of local talent-seekers, the late, great sportsman, Luis Gomez, tried to get Clarke in the Pittsburgh Pirates organization. Mr. Hezekah Smith is credited with eventually getting Horace to sign with the New York Yankees. The Yankee scout signed Clarke and he was sent to Kearney, where he played in 54 games and hit .225 with two home runs.

After graduation it was off to professional baseball for the young Crucian. It took hard work and dedication, but Horace diligently worked his way through the Yankees minor league strong, and performed outstandingly, moving from the San Juan Senadores to the Ponce-Leones.

During his minor league career, the New York Yankees had been pennant winner, World Champs, and pennant contenders yearly. Where would the rising young Crucian fit into the Yankee's plan? "The future belongs to those who prepare for it". Horace was prepared for his rolé, if and when, he was

called to play at the "House which Ruth Built" (Yankee Stadium). So when the opportunity presented itself, he was ready, willing, and able for the task as a regular with the New York Yankees. The native rookie got the call in 1958 and in 1965, was promoted to the New York Yankees from its farm system. Horace is now a regular infielder with the former world champs.

During the 1969 baseball season, he played in more than one hundred and fifty games for the Yankees at second base. The aggressive Crucian occupied the lead-off position for the New Yorkers all season going to bat more than six hundred and forty one times, lashing out one hundred and eighty eight base-hits. Clarke's fleet footedness and smart base running aided him in stealing thirty bases--the best on the Yankee's squad. He whizzed across the plate to score over eighty runs for his team. Horace batted four homers, twenty-eight doubles and eight triples. He knocked in almost fifty runs.

This outstanding record ranks him among the greatest in baseball history and dearer to his fellow crucians.



Elrod Hendricks
1940
Athlete (three World Series)

ELROD HENDRICKS

December 22, 1940

A colorful dynamic athlete, Elrod Hendricks is the son of Berecia Callendar and Arthur Hendricks. (deceased) Born on December 22, 1940 Elrod was always fascinated by the performance of outstanding athletes, and set his life goal as becoming a superior figure in this field.

To achieve this objective, he chose to forfeit a high school diploma and when he was approached by a scout from the Braves Farm Team, he gladly accepted. So in 1960 he joined this team and began special training. When he was released, he traveled to Mexico and did very well there, thus earning for himself, the affectionate name of "The Mexican Babe Ruth". After Mexico he traveled to Puerto Rico and for several years played there during the winter season.

With skillful displays on the field it was not long before he entered Major League Baseball. In 1969 he joined the Orioles, and was assigned the Strategic position of Catcher.

He eventually chalked up for himself an outstanding record by using all his capabilities at the right moment.

Elrod has the distinction of being first St. Thomian to participate in three World Series games, namely 1969, 1970, 1971. (Prior to him Joe Christopher of St. Croix participated in one series with the Pittsburgh Pirates).

In the fall of 1969, a committee of sportsminded citizens on St. Thomas, planned an extravaganza which was called "Elrod Hendricks Day". A marathon was held to arouse further awareness and interest of the community to the achievements of this dynamic athlete. The response was over-whelming; the citizenry turned out in mass to express esteem for his contribution to the world of sports. He was presented with a car and other tokens of appreciation.

Elrod who resides in Baltimore, Maryland is presently the father of two sons and two daughters whose names are Abigail, Elrod Jr., Elroy and Berecia



Alvin Mc Bean
1938
Athlete (Major League)

MCBEAN, ALVIN

Alvin O'Neal McBean, known as Double-O in the Dodger dugout, is the Virgin Islands outstanding contribution to current major league baseball. He was born in St. Thomas Virgin Islands, May 15, 1938, to his parents Mrs. Inger and Mr. Roy McBean.

Al has been in the majors since 1961 when he moved up from the Pittsburgh Pirates Farm System to become one of the finest relief stars in Pittsburgh history.

In 1964, McBean was named as the "Fireman of the year" by baseball's bible, the Sporting News. In that campaign, McBean's relief success brought him an 8 and 3 record, eighteen saves and the lowest earned run average of his career--1.90. He appeared in fifty-eight games and is largely responsible for the Pirates finishing in a tie for second place in the National League.

McBean pitched for the Pirates from 1961 through 1968, winning sixty-five games and losing only 43. This mark, well over the .500 standard, is one of the best percentage records among current major league pitchers.

Al has been used both as a starter and a reliever. Over the years of his career in the National League, McBean has won more games than he lost with every team in the National League except the St. Louis Cardinals, the two 1969 expansion clubs, the Padres and Expos, and his old club, the Pirates. His pet victim has been the Chicago Cubs, against which team he has a 12 and 4 edge.

The native Virgin Islander became a full scale reliever in 1964. In fifty-eight games played for Pittsburgh, he won 8, lost three.

During off season, Mr. McBean is busy in recreation work on St. Thomas and is involved in working with the youth of the island.

ORVILLE KEAN

October 13, 1938

Orville Edward Kean was born on October 13, 1938 in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, the first son of Charles and Edith nee Joseph Kean, also natives of St. Thomas. His early education, both primary and secondary, was obtained in the Virgin Islands Public School System. As a high school student at the Charlotte Amalie High School, Orville distinguished himself and graduated as valedictorian of the Class of 1955.

In September, 1955, Orville left St. Thomas to pursue undergraduate studies at Lincoln University. He remained there until June, 1959 when he graduated as salutatorian of his class with an A.B. degree in Mathematics. Shortly after graduation from Lincoln, Mr. Kean returned to St. Thomas to become a social worker in the Department of Social Welfare. After a year with the Department of Welfare, the opportunity to further pursue his education once again presented itself, and Mr. Kean returned to the States, this time to Michigan, to study at the University of Michigan. In June, 1961, he received his M.S. degree in Mathematics from that institution.

June, 1962 saw the return of Mr. Kean to St. Thomas, where he remained for the next six years. In August of that year, he married Juliette Corneiro. Shortly after his marriage, in September, Mr. Kean began teaching Mathematics at Charlotte Amalie High School. He left teaching in 1965 to become Director of Research and Statistics in the Department of Social Welfare. He finally returned to teaching, this time as an assistant professor of Mathematics at the College of the Virgin Islands, in January, 1966.

With the financial assistance of the College of the Virgin Islands, Mr. Kean was able to return to graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania in 1968. From September, 1968 to June, 1971, he studied in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania and received his Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1971. His doctoral thesis, entitled "Abstract Horn Theories" was well received in a lecture delivered by him at the University of Chicago before graduation. During the time he attended the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Kean was the recipient of a Ford Foundation Advanced Study Fellowship for College Faculty Members.

Presently, Dr. Kean is Associate Professor of Mathematics at the College of the Virgin Islands. His most recent mathematical interests lie in the field of categorical model theory.

GWEN MARIE MOOLENAAR, December 20, 1941

On January 1972, the degree Doctor of Philosophy was conferred on Gwen Marie Moolenaar by Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

A daughter of Lucien, and Ruth nee Richards, she received most of her elementary and secondary education at St. Pater & Paul Catholic School, and was graduated with high honors in 1958. She entered College of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, New Jersey, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree (1962) in Biology.

In the fall of the same year Miss Moolenaar accepted a Fellowship at Long Island University Brooklyn New York and continued graduate studies at this institution. Upon graduation with an Master of Arts degree in Microbiology, she accepted a teaching job at Marymont College in New York for two years. This position brought her a new experience as she found herself the youngest member of the faculty.

In the summer of 1967 Miss Moolenaar made an extensive tour of Europe, and then returned to her native St. Thomas to fulfill one of her strongest goals to become involved with young Virgin Islanders and to offer assistance or activities which may broaden their views. She therefore accepted a position at Charlotte Amalie High School in the science department and taught biology.

Getting deeper involved with the youth, she initiated and produced a televised quiz show for students of the four high schools (Charlotte Amalie, All Saints, Sts. Peter & Paul, Antilles). Sponsored by Vitelco, the show was called VIQ and participants were quizzed on Caribbean and world geography, along with current events on local and national levels.

Rounding off her summer this way she returned to the mainland and matriculated at Indiana University Bloomington in her doctoral program, and also accepted a fellowship and taught in the science department.

In 1967 the St. Thomas chapter of Business and Professional Womens Club selected her as Young Career Woman of the year, and sponsored her as their representative to participate in the Federation convention where she competed with forty-two other young career women representing Business and Professional Womens Clubs throughout the United States. Judging in the contest was based on education, career, experience and the formal presentation of a prepared speech. With the topic as, "The New Woman of Today, Miss Moolenaar emerged as the winner and the top career woman, which placed the local club in a prestigious position in the Federation.

She was also awarded the Helen Eisenhower Bronze Medal which is awarded annually, "to one whose life like that of Helen Eisenhower, places honor duty achievement above self". Earlier achievements include being named Historian for Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Beta Beta Beta, a Biology Honor Society and its pin of distinction. The first carnival princess and first runner up in the Miss Virgin Island contest (1962) were other activities that spotlighted her life.

Presently involved in research in the Division of Anatomy, Medical College, Cornell University, New York Dr. Moolenaar hopes to make a worthwhile contribution to the world of science.

In addition to her parents who reside in Charlotte Amalie, other members of her family include; Dr. Lucien Moolenaar DDS of St. Thomas and her sister Attorney Gwynneth Moolenaar of New York City.

EILEEN R. PETERSEN

In her soft feminine voice, Judge Eileen Petersen repeated her oath of office as administered to her by Chief Presiding Judge Almeric Christian, "I do solemnly swear that I will support, obey and defend the constitution and Laws of the United States applicable to the Virgin Islands and the laws of the Virgin Islands.

The native crucian, daughter of Hugo and his wife Anna Leevy (d) is a graduate of the St. Croix school system. Upon graduation she entered Hampton Institute in Virginia, from where she graduated with a degree in speech therapy. Without interrupting studies, she went on for her masters degree in education. Having achieved this degree at an early age, Miss Petersen returned to her native St. Croix and taught English at Christiansted High School and parttime at Catholic University Extension Program.

With a strong desire to enter the field of law, Miss Petersen next accepted a position with Ten EYCK Law firm as a legal secretary. Through this experience she gained an insight into what the field of law had to offer. She became so interested that she accepted the position on a full time basis. After a while she was convinced that Law was her field, and she applied to, and was accepted at Howard Law School Washington, D.C. She passed the Washington Bar Exam in 1966 and returned to take the Virgin Islands Bar Exam and also accepted the position of Assistant Attorney General.

Three years after the young attorney returned to study for her masters degree in labor law.

On November 5, 1971 she reached the peak of her law career - she was sworn as Judge of the Municipal Court of the Virgin Islands capturing for herself the distinction of being the first member of the distaff side to hold such a position. The judge is a hard working knowledgeable woman and brings credit to her position.

Yet despite a busy schedule Judge Petersen joins her female counterpart in such organizations as: League of Women Voters, Business and Professional Womens Club, Girl Scout Leader.

Her professional affiliations include Virgin Islands National Bar Association, Washington D.C. Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, American Bar Association, National Association of Women Lawyers, North American Judges Association, American Judicature Society.

In 1970 the judge was honored by her Alma Mater when Howard University nominated her as an Outstanding Young Woman of America.

She has appeared as guest speaker for several civic, social and political organizations.

She resides in Charlotte Amalie St. Thomas.

RIMPEL, AUGUSTE - August 25, 1939

The date was June 1964; the place was Carnegie Institute, now Mellon University; the occasion was the conferring of a Doctor of Philosophy (PHD) on a young man 24 years of age; the recipient was Auguste Rimpel, son of Auguste and Leah nee Harris Rimple of Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas Virgin Islands. But this impressive achievement was preceded by several outstanding performances, which began with his graduation from Charlotte Amalie High School at the age of thirteen. At seventeen when adolescents are entering High School he was graduating magna cum laude from Interamerican University, Puerto Rico and at the same time capturing several outstanding awards such as the Mathematics Award.

He then earned a Master of Arts degree in Chemical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1960. Early work experience included affiliation with the Cyanamid Company of New Jersey which produces chemical products. Following this experience he obtained a Fellowship for one year at Columbia University, where he did post graduate work in Business Administration.

An Industrial Engineer Professor by training, Dr. Rimpel for the past seven years up to present has been a staff member as a consultant for the reputable firm of Arthur D. Little Cooperation of Cambridge Massachusetts, a technical firm which organizes businesses and assists countries in developing their resources. As a representative of this firm he travels extensively. He has lived seven years in Africa working in Nigeria and Algeria. He has also worked in South America with concentration on Bolivia, Brazil and Peru.

His work also takes him to the Caribbean area where he has been consultant to St. Martin, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. In the United States he has assisted businesses in establishing new enterprises: one such example is a large salt firm.

The College of the Virgin Islands has recently invited Dr. Rimpel to head the Division of Caribbean Research Institute (CRI). This division is established to encourage research and related activities pertaining to the Caribbean area, and to provide a central research agency in the Virgin Islands focussing on both the natural and social sciences as well as the humanities.

Both Dr. Rimpel and his wife Maria of Germany live in Lexington, Massachusetts. They are the parents of two children, Nicole and Christopher.