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DANISH WEST INDIES OPPOSE BEING SOLD
By FRANZ VON JESSEN, Commissioner of Internal Afrairs at

Narly all the inhabitants of the danish west INDIES ARE OPPOSED TO THE SALE OF THE IS ANDS TO THE UNITED STAFES.
The colored population, as well as a great majority of the whites who are not sugar planters, oppose the sale. The colored people fear the sale because they believe it will endanger their personal rights. They believe that if the United
States should get control of the islands their condition would be reduced to that of the negroes in the southern states. They now enjoy personal freedom and have equal representation in the colonial council.
In the island of St. Croix the sentiment in favor of the sale of che islands is confined to the sugar planters, who comprise only 5 per cent of the population. They believe they would get United tates prices for their product. In St. Thomas the coal supply gives he great income. The inhabitants fear that if the island were sold another country they would lose their coal interests.
When I return to Copenhagen, I will advocate a plebiscite, so that the people of the islands may vote on the question, which really their own. THE ISLANDS WILL NOT BE SOLD TO GERMANY. IF SOLD AT ALL, THEY WILL GO TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT THAT, IN MY OPINION, is far from probable.

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