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JUNE 1ST., at 4 o'clock p. m.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

Continued from Saturday's Avis

The Chairman remarked: I have re-
ceived a bill from Government today
asking that same be placed on the Order
of the Day which I will read to you.
The Chairman read the bill which is as
follows:

Colonial Council Bill No. 33.

2nd Session 1919-20.

RESOLUTION.

*Be it resolved by the Colonial Council
in session assembled:*

That the invested amounts of Frcs.
11,127.10 of the Teachers Supporting
Fund be paid out in accordance with
their claims as submitted by Govern-
ment's letter of May 21, 1920.

Introduced by Government.

FRED. COLBY.

For the Governor.

The Chairman also read to the Council
a letter received from Government under
date of May 21, a. c., bearing on this
matter.

4th Appointed Member [Blackwood]
remarked: Mr. Chairman. This matter
had been forwarded by the Municipal
Committee to the Council with the re-
commendation that the Council approve
the paying of the amounts.

The Chairman put to the vote and it
was unanimously carried that the Reso-
lution be furthered today.

It was also put to the vote and carried
that it be passed at one discussion.

2nd Appointed Member (Noll) remark-
ed: Mr. Chairman. Sometime in the
past it has been the custom to take a
certain amount from the Teachers' sala-
ries monthly and invest it in a fund, but
the custom has been changed and the
repaying of the amounts to the Teachers
has been under consideration for over
one year. In St. Thomas this has been

accomplished, but we find in St. Croix it
is necessary that some action be taken
by the Council before the amounts can be
repaid; and therefore the matter is placed
before the Council for action.

1st Member for Christiansted Country
District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr.
Chairman. According to the School
Ordinance five percent have been de-
ducted from the Teachers' salaries
monthly and put into a fund called the
Teachers' Supporting Fund, and if a
Teacher was discharged, the amount was
paid back to him, or if he died it was
paid over to his heirs; since the change
the teachers have received a letter from
this Government stating that they have
been discharged from the service of the
Danish Government and have become
employees of the American Government;
and that the amounts collected from their
salaries in the past would be paid back
to them after six months; that period
has elapsed and the amounts are not
paid back to them, they have received
another letter, perhaps two, promising
to repay the amounts, but up to the pres-
ent time it has not been repaid. I do
not think this Council will, in any way,
refuse to have the money paid back to
the Teachers.

2nd Appointed Member (Noll) remark-
ed: Mr. Chairman. I believe some of
the Teachers have their amounts mort-
gaged and are paying interest and are
awaiting for the amounts to make set-
tlement.

1st Member for Christiansted Town
(Abramson) proposed that the amounts
be paid back to the teachers as soon as
possible.

1st Member for Christiansted Country
District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr.
Chairman. I see that after the Teachers
are paid there will be a balance of Frcs.
8,748.75 which will accrue to the Colo-
nial Treasury; if that amount is interest
on the amounts invested from the fund
it belongs to the Teachers and should be
paid to them. I think the Book-keeper's
Office would be able to give some infor-
mation on this matter.

The Chairman remarked: The para-
mount interest is to have this matter set-
tled so that Government can call in the
amounts invested and pay the Teachers.
If the Hon. Member desires to have the
matter postponed he may make a motion
to that effect.

2nd Appointed Member (Noll) pro-
posed that the matter go to a committee
of three members for consideration.

The member's proposal was put to the
vote and unanimously carried.

The Chairman remarked: The Com-
mittee will be appointed after recess.

The Chairman then gave a recess of
20 minutes.

After recess the Council reassembled
and the Chairman asked members to pre-
pare their voting tickets for a committee
of three members to consider and report
on the Resolution.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood)
remarked: Mr. Chairman. Before the
voting takes place I wish to make a few
remarks. This matter which is now be-
fore the Council brings to my mind some-
thing I have been thinking about for
quite a while. We had not sufficient
time to go over this matter and consider
it carefully. In my opinion there is a
wide gap between the Legislative and
the Executive bodies and this letter brid-
ges the gap. The Member then read
from Paragraphs 4 and 7 of the By-Laws
for the Municipal Committee where it is
stated "The Municipal Committee shall
be allowed reasonable time to give its
opinion on matters proposed, and con-
tinuing said -- Since I have been in the
Municipal Committee this has never been
done. We are not allowed sufficient time
to look into matters placed before the
Municipal Committee. If we are to as-
sist in looking after the affairs of the
Municipality we should be given time to
consider and report intelligently on
matters placed before us. The Mem-
ber also read from Paragraph 9 of
the said By-Laws where it is stated
"The Municipal Committee shall every
quarter be furnished a statement of
public revenues collected during the
quarter etc." and said, — This also has
not been done — (2nd Appointed Mem-
ber Noll: Mr. Chairman I call a point
of order. I do not see where the
Member's remarks are pertinent or
relevant). The Chairman rang the bell
for order and said, — The Honorable 4th
Appointed Member has the word. — Mem-
ber Blackwood) continuing — Over and
over questions have come up in this Coun-
cil and I couldn't make an intelligent an-
swer owing to the fact that the Muni-
cipal Committee was not given sufficient
time for consideration. I have no ob-
jection to fill a position if I can do it
right, but I do not want to be asked to
make bullets and have some one else
shoot them. I believe if the Municipal
Committee is given ample time and we
work together with Government much
could be accomplished.

2nd Appointed Member (Noll) remark-
ed: Mr. Chairman. As I understand it
the Chairman of the Municipal Commit-
tee has stated that the letter regarding
the Teachers Supporting Fund was sent
up to the Council by the Municipal Com-
mittee with the recommendations. I
would like to ask why the Municipal
Committee sent up this matter if it had
no time to consider it? I cannot see the
necessity for the remarks made by the
Honorable Member.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood)
in reply to the last speaker said, The
matter was sent up for elucidations by
the Council. We were asked to give de-
cision on it as quickly as possible and we
tried to accommodate Government.

2nd Appointed Member [Noll] remark-
ed: Mr. Chairman I am grieved to
hear the Chairman of the Municipal Com-