

St. Croix Avis

75TH YEAR.

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The Resolution concerning change of currency adopted at the meeting of the Colonial Council of St. Croix held on the 17th inst. and published in yesterday's Avis, should read as follows:

RESOLUTION

concerning the change of Currency in the Virgin Islands of the United States.

WHEREAS, the Colonial Council for St. Croix, representing the entire community, and having the true welfare of the people at heart, is ever desirous of promoting their material interest; and,

WHEREAS, in all crises the people look to their representatives to take such action as will ameliorate the existing hardships resultant from such crises; and,

WHEREAS, the people of the Virgin Islands are now confronted with the very grave and serious economic situation, brought about by the rate of exchange on New York being suddenly and unprecedentedly raised on the 15th October, 1919, from 5 per cent to 28½ per cent, thus increasing the cost of the necessities of life, which was already high, and thereby making the burden of life heavier for all, more so the poorer classes; and,

WHEREAS, our rate of exchange is controlled by the money market of Copenhagen, and is dependent on that market for its fluctuations, which anomaly is due to the fact that the currency circulating in these Virgin Islands is not that of the United States—but the Danish West Indian Currency—and as these fluctuations will constantly occur as long as there is in circulation, as legal tender, a currency that is foreign to that of the United States; with the constant fear there can be abnormal raises in the

rates of exchange with the accompanying hardships to the poor and working classes, and disturbances to our commerce in general; and,

WHEREAS, these islands being now under the jurisdiction of the United States, and as all Virgin Islanders desire that all things in these islands should conform to American principles; and,

WHEREAS, as citizens of this great country they have the right in all matters, especially of finance and commerce, to enjoy all the advantages arising from the changed sovereignty, and not be left, as in this particular circumstance, in the position of a foreign country; and,

WHEREAS, it is vital to our economic life that a change be effected from the present Danish West Indian Currency to the legal tender of the United States—the United States dollar; and,

WHEREAS, this Colonial Council believes that the time has come and that the circumstances warrant that representation be made to the proper authorities at Washington, D. C.; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Colonial Council for St. Croix, by virtue of its legislative power, in extraordinary meeting, do hereby adopt this Resolution praying the Governor of the Virgin Islands of the United States, to request the President to cause such steps to be taken in this matter, that a change may soon be effected whereby the present Danish West Indian Currency will be retired, and the United States Currency be introduced as the legal tender for the islands: That as the Notes of the National Bank of the Danish West Indies are redeemable in Gold Coin, this Council further prays that the change be effected on a Gold basis, at the Mint par of Exchange, so as to cause the least possible disturbance to our economic affairs, and so that the people in general should suffer no loss in the readjustment of their values; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That nothing in this Resolution be construed as inimical to the interests of the National Bank of the Danish West Indies, whose concession is safeguarded by the Convention between the High Contracting Parties, Denmark and the United States, and whose rights and privileges under the above mentioned Convention remain unimpaired. And that the Colonial Council hereby expresses on behalf of the people, its high appreciation for the many and great facilities accorded by the National Bank to the commerce and to the people in general.

St. Croix Colonial Council, November 17, 1919.

TELEGRAMS

ST. CROIX STATION.

Barbados, Nov. 20th.—After a twenty one days' voyage from New Foundland the two-masted schooner "Gladys Mosher" arrived here yesterday morning with the captain and crew of the "John R. Bradley", British schooner which was sunk at sea while on her way from Sydney to New Foundland.

Washington, Nov. 19th.—Prospects of a coal famine drew near tonight with negotiations between operators and miners apparently at a standstill. A sub-committee of the join wage scale committees was in session for three hours, but it was announced after the meeting that only the general situation was discussed and that the operators did not submit counter-proposals to the miners demands. The conference will continue to-morrow.

Strassbourg, Nov. 19th.—Five thousand Alsations were arrested and interned by German authorities during the war and announcement is made that the German Govt. has pledged itself to pay France an indemnity of 25,000,000 francs in reparation.

Metz, Nov. 19th.—Marshal Poch, Marshal Petain and General Mangin arrived here this morning to participate in the celebration of the first anniversary of the entrance of French troops into Metz. The town is profusely decorated.

Washington, Nov. 18th.—The final disposition of the Imperator and the other German Liners delivered to the United States after the armistice, awaits the decision of the President it was said today at the State Dept.

London, Nov. 20th.—Officials here decline to comment on the prospects of a renewal of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, which expires in 1921. It is pointed out that in the ordinary course, the treaty would have been submitted to the League of Nations, but that in view of the present position of the League, it is impossible to predict the course of future diplomacy.

New York, Nov. 20th.—A hope that an agreement for the ratification of the Peace Treaty will finally be reached among the warring Senate factions, is expressed by most of the newspapers here today in commenting editorially upon the abrupt adjournment of the United States Senate.

Dorpat, Nov. 19th.—The conference of the Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and the Bolshevik representatives, has reached an agreement in the exchange of prisoners.