

take care of himself, and with that in view I propose this amendment to the Resolution. The speaker handed in his amendment which is as follows:

AMENDMENT

to Colonial Council Bill No. 23.

Fourth Council, First Session 1923-24.

Change from 5th line to read:

That the Governor be and he is hereby authorized to create a fund in the Colonial Treasury of St. Croix to be designated the "Public Works Fund for New Construction" to which he shall transfer such funds as may remain unexpended upon the date of approval of this Resolution for all new construction as appropriated by the Colonial Council in accordance with the budget of 1923-24 under Item 51 of budget for the Public Works Department and additional Money Bills passed during the 1923-24 Session of the Colonial Council: Provided that said expenditures shall thereafter be charged to this fund, and when the projects are completed any funds remaining unexpended shall be covered into the Colonial Treasury of St. Croix and the fund abolished.

F. ANDERSEN

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*): Mr. Chairman. Has any one looked into the legality of such a transaction?

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*) in reply to the last speaker said, —Mr. Chairman Any member can introduce a Resolution in the Colonial Council without asking any one to look into the legality of it.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*): Can a fund be created by resolution or by an ordinance.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*): I know of no law requiring that a fund be created by an ordinance.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (*Jackson*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The creating of a fund requires a special ordinance, but this resolution can take care of this fund. I would like to state that any portion of the Federal appropriation that has gone to make up our deficit for the fiscal year is a part of our budget and should be expended as voted for. I don't think it should go back to the Federal Government because the purpose for which it has been appropriated has not been accomplished. This Resolution takes care of it and covers it.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The Honorable Gentleman is wrong. I know it has been the practice that funds appropriated and not used at the end of the fiscal year reverts to the Colonial Treasury. That's how we have our Reserve Fund and it did not take an ordinance to create it. I think the Resolution is in order, but if the Honorable Member

thinks it is not the word resolution can be changed for the word ordinance.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (*Jackson*) inquired what the reason is for creating the Fund.

(To be continued.)

Graduation Oration

(F. J. H. S.)

"OUR DEBT"

By AXEL E. SCHADE

(Concluded from yesterday's Avis.)

People who think that opportunity is to be found only in another country are as foolish as the man who searched all over the world for diamonds. This man at last returned home, tired, thin, his spirit broken, for though he had looked and looked he had found no diamond. One evening as he sat, a worn-out old man, on his doorstep, his tired eyes were caught by a strange gleam from a piece of dull misshapen rock. He looked at it stupidly for a few minutes, picked it up finally, and examined it, and he found that the diamonds that he had searched the world over for, were at his very doorstep—acres and acres of diamonds.

There are acres and acres of diamonds in St. Croix! Oh there are not acres and acres of those common stones seen in engagement rings, but there are acres and acres of Diamond opportunities.

What can we do in agriculture? "Nothing" says someone, we haven't enough rain? Perhaps not, for such a crop as sugar cane, but no decree from heaven has ordered us to raise cane for all eternity. Can other things be raised? Ask the experimental station ask the school children at Diamond School.

"We are afraid to raise vegetables, in fact anything but sugar cane; we are afraid we should find no market."

Thus some men speak. Well, certainly some of us have intelligence enough and energy enough to create a market. The very appearance of a problem like that exists for us to solve it.

It is to solve problems like that that the government is training children today. Trained minds are wanted; people are wanted who can think scientifically and who are acquainted with the island conditions. An old saying is "Knowledge is Power." The United States and St. Croix realize that the trained minds can work with the government and help; whereas the untrained minds instead of a help is often a hinderance to the government. And this is one of the reason's why so much money is being spent on education.

But acres of diamonds are not only to be found in agriculture. They are to be found in the various trades such as plumbing, carpentry tailoring, shoemaking, machinists work. We all know how few the plumbers are on this island Other trades are likewise short of men.

Going into office work we find men

and women wanted who can write a good hand who have a head for figuring, who can type write, who can manage other people. As for girls particularly, the hospitals are eager to take girls into training who can think quickly and obey well. From one end of this island to the other there are opportunities waiting only for someone keensighted enough to pick them up.

Once St. Croix was called the Garden of the West Indies. Oh classmates and Crucians, let us make her worthy of that name again. Let us who are graduating tonight solemnly resolve that we show ourselves worthy of the education given us. If we wish we can make St. Croix flower once more. And we do wish. We are the children of St. Croix and we will bring honor to our country.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Paris, June 27th.—United Press. "Mr. MacDonald and I have agreed that if Germany is loyal, she will not be disturbed but that if she is not loyal, she will not be spared. "That was M. Herriot's declaration in the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, when he outlined the result of his recent conversations in London and Brussels. M. Herriot also gave the results of his talks in a speech before the Senate. "Mr. MacDonald has informed me that in case Germany defaults England solemnly promises to remain beside the Allies," he told the Senators. He stated that in Brussels he had found Premier Theunis and Foreign Minister Hymans, of Belgium, in full accord with the French viewpoint. "I have not had the slightest difficulty on any point," he said I have raised the question of inter-Ally debts with Mr. MacDonald. He admitted that the question must be taken up without delay. I insisted, and shall insist, that France is in an unfavourable position unless she attains an equitable solution on this point."

Berlin June 27th—United Press. It is learned that the Allies intend to invite Germany to participate in London at the conference on Reparations and the Experts Report on July 16th. It is expected that Foreign Ministers Stresemann and possibly Chancellor Marx will attend.

Dublin, June 27th.—Statements made today indicated the early release of the remaining political prisoners, of the Free State Government. President Cosgrave said that the Governor General would be advised to remit the unexpired terms of sentenced prisoners except those guilty of ordinary crimes. Replying to Deputy McGrath, President Cosgrave said that he could not answer at present whether it would be proposed to release Austin Stack and other Republican leaders before the adjournment of the Dail next month.