

dinance as before the Council now was drawn up and Government gave their sanction to place it before the Colonial Council. I think we are badly in need of a better highway between the two towns, and personally, I favor one that will be cheap to maintain. We anticipate considerable help with the Government and Navy Department in the supply of and transportation of machinery, and materials, so that the cost of the improvement does not run up too high. The Government has expressed the willingness to appropriate \$50,000 out of this year's revenues for a start and raise a loan of about \$100,000, to be redeemed out of the future year's revenues, and the community is expected to advance money from the Immigration Fund, if more than \$150,000 should be required, such money from the Immigration Fund, however to be later on reimbursed to the Immigration Fund from taxes proposed to be levied on automobiles, trucks, trailers and animal drawn vehicles as set forth in the ordinance. Whether more than \$150,000, will be required depends upon the cost of materials and machinery and transportation of same. Many preliminary investigations have been made and the Public Works Officer has prepared plans and specifications for the rebuilding of the center line road with concrete, but as there may be several changes to be made and other details to consider I believe it will be necessary and advisable to appoint a committee to consider and report upon this ordinance. I am strongly of the belief that a first class highway between the two towns will be of material benefit to the whole community and assist us in saving in our transportation questions. I feel justified in asking the Council to look favorably on the bill.

I would like to hear the opinion of the members present in the Council today before I would definitely propose to refer the bill to a committee.

There is a difference of opinion between some of us as to whether we should have a concrete or a macadamized road; personally I consider a concrete road, although more expensive to build, the cheapest in the long run on account of the low cost of maintenance, which I understand the Public Works Officer has estimated will be around one thousand dollars per mile per year. The first cost of a concrete road will naturally depend very much upon the cost of cement and while cement last summer cost as much as seven to eight dollars a barrel in New York, it can now be bought in large quantities. I believe at \$2.50 per barrel delivered at Atlantic Ports, however one big item is the freight on the cement, and if the Government succeeds in getting the cement transported here on naval vessels, a saving of \$2.00 per barrel in the cost of cement landed here can be reckoned on. The number of barrels estimated required for this road work is

twenty to twenty-five thousand and two dollars saved in freight will mean from forty to fifty thousand dollars saved, but all these things no doubt the Public Works Officer will carefully look into. I can only say now that I would like to hear what the other members have to say on the proposition.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*M. M. Skeoch*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The last Honorable Speaker asks that the bill go to a committee. Is there much more to hear on it before it goes? We all would like to have good roads. If the bill is going to a committee, there is not much to be said about it now.

The Chairman would like to know if 1st Member for Frederiksted Country District, at this stage of the discussion, would like to have the bill go to a committee?

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*) in reply to the Chairman said:—Before I make a definite proposal I would like to hear the views of this Council.

1st Member for Christsted Country District (*takemann*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The meaning of 1st Discussion is, that members should have an opportunity to express their opinion on a matter, so that the committee would have something to work on, but to send the bill to a committee without having anything to work on is very unusual, I am not an expert and am not able to say whether concrete or macadamized road is the best, therefore I cannot give any opinion. The majority of the members in this Council are members who have to do with the making and repairing of roads and should be able to give an idea of what it would cost to rebuild the road. Every member in this community would like to have good roads. As regard increase in tax for automobile, for my part, I would be glad to pay so as to have good roads, as we would save wear and tear. I would like to hear some of the members who have experience on this matter give their opinion.

(To be continued.)

LOCAL.

The Eastertide has passed without special event. The old liveliness of Easter Saturday night which was noted in former years for all manner of pranks, such as the moving of gates, tubs, water barrels, etc., and the like, would appear to have passed away for good, and after all nobody misses these heroic celebrations. Sunday was, as customary, devoted to religious observances, all the churches, so far as known, having some special service. A very interesting service was held in the Lutheran Church on Easter night, the children of the Sunday School, mostly tots, being the chief contributors to the successful rendition

of the programme which consisted of recitations by the little ones, sacred songs, and address. The Moravian Church may also be reported as having achieved satisfactory results in the musical service to which reference was made in Saturday's issue. The Lutheran Church gave a picnic yesterday for the members of the Sunday School, quite a long procession marching through the town at noon headed by the Native Brass Band. Favorable weather favored all outdoor pastime which included masquerading yesterday afternoon.

The Native Brass Band was heard for the first time in public yesterday playing on the new instruments and it should not be omitted to remark that the effect was splendid. It is indeed gratifying to note the excellent results the new instruments give, and now that light is again available in the bandstand it is hoped that Mr. Jackson and his men will soon favor the public with a popular concert.

The Virginia brought a large mail on Saturday last. Mr. Alexander inaugurated the new truck with 50 bags in one load.

The Creole sailed for St. Thomas this a. m.

The theatre opened a new serial last night. The attendance was fairly good and the film promises to be an interesting one.

The S.S. Guiana which was due to arrive in Frederiksted yesterday morning has been delayed owing to fire having broken out in No. 2 hatch just after taking to sea from St. Kitts to which island she returned. The information to hand is scanty, but it is not expected that she can be here before Wednesday morning. See notice elsewhere concerning closing of mail.

The Navy Band entertained the public on Sunday evening with a popular concert. Unfortunately, owing to the windy weather and the bleakness of the night, very few people took advantage of the entertainment offered.

Correspondence

The Moravian Cantata of Easter Sunday night did not fail of the expectations cherished by its promoters, despite the efforts made to deter participation by Anglicans who nevertheless exercised their personal liberty as free citizens and lent their aid to the cause of the Great Master who is no respecter of persons, sects nor creeds.

H.