

AN ORDINANCE

CONCERNING THE EXEMPTION FROM TAXES OF PROPERTIES USED FOR RELIGIOUS, CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.

1.

All properties used exclusively for religious, charitable or educational purposes are exempt from payment of taxes.

2.

The taxes for the years 1916 to 1919, both included, assessed or collected on such properties as in section 1 mentioned are remitted and, if collected, shall be refunded the respective owners from the funds of the St. Croix Colonial Treasury.

Thus duly passed at an extraordinary meeting of the Colonial Council held, Monday, May 3, 1920.

Christiansted, May 7, 1920.

D. C. CANEGATA, ROBT. L. MERWIN,
Secretary. Chairman.

The above Ordinance is hereby sanctioned and approved.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States at St. Thomas the 17th day of May 1920.

J. W. OMAN,
Governor.

NOTICE.

PARTIES having claims against the Joint Estate of the late MRS. ROSAMOND DIDRICHSEN, born Geipel, and previously deceased husband PETER DIDRICHSEN, are hereby notified to file their claims with the undersigned Dealing Court within 3 months.

The Heirs to the said joint-estate are hereby notified to report themselves to the undersigned Court within a year and six months.

Christiansted's Dealing Court, St. Croix, May 19th, 1920.

JOHN L. CURRY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

Continued from yesterday's Avis

Item 4.

Production of copy of the minutes of the Municipal Committee for March quarter.

The Chairman remarked: This matter will be laid on the Council's table for inspection of members today and hereafter it will be in the Council Office from

ADDITIONAL MONEY BILL

TO THE BUDGET FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF ST. CROIX FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1919-1920.

To the Budget for the Municipality of St. Croix—Item 1—the Colonial Council and Municipal Committee is hereby granted for maintenance the sum of francs five thousand.

Thus duly passed at the 6th Ordinary Meeting of the Colonial Council held Monday April 26, 1920.

D. C. CANEGATA, ROBT. L. MERWIN,
Secretary. Chairman.

The above Additional Money Bill is hereby sanctioned and approved.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States at St. Thomas the 17th day of May 1920.

J. W. OMAN,
Governor.

9 a. m. to 12 and from 2 to 5 p. m. daily for one week.

The Chairman then gave a recess of 15 minutes.

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Pentheny) entered the meeting during the recess.

After recess the Council reassembled and the Chairman took up Item 5.

Item 5.

Colonial Council Bill No. 29.

3rd Discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 29, Draft of a Ordinance, introduced by Government establishing and declaring the organization of the Judiciary and Educational Departments of the Virgin Islands of the U. S. etc.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District [Andersen] remarked: Mr. Chairman. In regard to this matter which is now before us providing for the organization of the Judiciary and Educational Departments of the Virgin Islands of the United States I wish to state to the members of this Council that a Committee of nine members was appointed to consider the Code of laws and to report to the Council, but that Committee had nothing to do with the organization bill. We all consider it necessary, and we all will vote in favor of the laws. Now we have reached as far as 3rd Discussion on this matter and no amendments can be brought in except by Government. At the first meeting when the laws were discussed the organization bill was also discussed, when it came to 2nd Discussion there were several things we thought should be amended, but nothing was done and at the end of that meeting the Council was called in a caucus meeting and the recommendations of the Congressional Commission were placed before us; we all know what the

Commission has recommended in Par. 13 they recommend one judge for each island; this is the very thing that all of us desire and it is the very thing we expressed during the meeting of the Code Commission; I therefore think that we should have two judges for the Virgin Islands, one for St. Thomas and one for St. Croix. It has been argued that to have two judges would incur additional expenses, but we can save that expense in another way; we do not need two police judges, we can have one police judge take care of all the police cases and one judge for the District Court. It may be said that the poor people will not have a place to appeal their cases, but the Congressional Commission have in mind to recommend the creation of a Court of appeal, and in that way we may save the expenses of the two judges. It may be said also that a police judge is necessary in both towns, I cannot see where it is necessary to have two police judges. 1st Member for Christiansted Country District is a lawyer and he has said that he cannot see why one man cannot take care of both courts. I do not know of any place with such a small population having two judges. In New York we have a judge for each one thousand people and so it is in Denmark.

In talking about our means we all have been lulling ourselves to sleep; we have got appropriations from Congress, but we are not sure of getting it in the future. Congress is now working on a system of taxation for these islands trying to make them self supporting; I was told that the taxes that is being arranged for these islands will be fifteen dollars an acre for productive land.

This organization will be alright so long as we are having good crops and sugar price is high; it is unnecessarily expensive; it is not Americanism, I think it is too top heavy for our budget. Gentlemen consider these things and don't vote for the organization as it stands unless you are prepared to meet the expenses by paying more taxes. I recommend to the members of this Council to reject the organization as it is now offered.

2nd Appointed Member (N II) remarked: Mr. Chairman. When I came here today I did not come with the idea of entering into any extensive remarks and I am not going to make very many either; I do not think it necessary, I think sufficient has been said, I think all we are saying now has been said before.

I want to first state that this organization is Americanism. To talk of police judges in the United States, let me say that every town has police judges, in the state of Nebraska where I was born has a police judge for each township of six square miles.

Now I want to state this as an American lawyer that this organization is