

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

2nd Member for Christiansted Town [Canegata]: Mr. Chairman. Are the expenses of maintenance of the Customs Department paid by the Federal Treasury or by the Municipality?

Government Secretary [Zane] in reply said.—Mr. Chairman. The Federal Treasury pays absolutely nothing in connection with the customs service in either Municipality. My recollection is that the expenses of maintenance of the customs activities in this Municipality are defrayed from the receipts of this Municipality and similarly in St. Thomas the expenses are defrayed from the receipts of the Municipality of St. Thomas. Also, I understand that there have been instances where collections over here have not covered expenses and in that case St. Thomas has stood the difference.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town [Canegata]: Mr. Chairman. Then as I understand it the Customs Department is neither Federal nor Municipal.

Government Secretary [Zane]: Mr. Chairman. I think that is more or less true. The Collector of Customs is appointed by the authorities in Washington and he makes his returns to Washington under the New York Office. It does seem to be a rather peculiar arrangement and I think it came about due to the fact that after the islands were turned over to the United States they sent an Inspector from Porto Rico who recommended the present procedure. In the final analysis it seems to me that while the Collector is appointed from headquarters in Washington and his returns are made through New York Office, the Federal Office has nothing to do with it.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town [Canegata]: Mr. Chairman. We should try and get the Government to get that system changed. Our funds are turned into the Custom House and we have no control over it at all. As a matter of principle if the funds belong to the Municipality of St. Croix the Municipality should have control.

Government Secretary [Zane]: Mr. Chairman. I might suggest then that it would be proper that the Chairman of the Municipal Committee address a letter to Government recommending that the matter be gone into.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town [Canegata]: Mr. Chairman. I am perfectly willing to do that, but if the Council go on record as requesting that such a letter be forwarded it would strengthen Government's hand.

What I want to draw attention to under Indirect Taxes is Passport Fees. This mat-

ter came up in the Municipal Committee sometime ago. In the case of the school children attending school abroad they have to pay ten dollars for a passport here and ten dollars for vising it abroad. I addressed a letter to Government regarding this matter perhaps it is still under consideration.

Government Secretary [Zane]: Mr. Chairman. The last speaker mentioned that matter to me sometime ago and I understand he was to have addressed a letter to Government along that line, but it has not been received.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town [Jackson] remarked: Mr. Chairman. Fees for law courts and police office. What are considered fees from Police Office? I should like to know what those fees are.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town [Canegata]: Mr. Chairman. We needn't split hairs. My Honorable Friend knows that no change has been made in the different headings on the budget since the Danish Administration.

The Chairman in reply to 1st Member for Frederiksted Town [Jackson] said.—Government is not prepared to go into that detail today. I understand that fines, confiscations, etc., are included in those fees. The Despatching Secretary says he can have the books up here so that the member may have the information.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town [Jackson]: Mr. Chairman. I agree to have the books up here.

Government Secretary [Zane] remarked: Mr. Chairman. I might suggest that we will get up a list of items which enter into the item of "Fees at the Law Courts and Police Offices" for the information of the 1st Member for Frederiksted Town which I think we can do in a few moments and in the meantime we can proceed with the budget.

A recess of 10 minutes was given.

At the resumption the Chairman remarked: Government is prepared to answer the question propounded by the Honorable 1st Member for Frederiksted Town.

Despatching Secretary [Barrett]: Mr. Chairman. As regards "Fees at the Law Courts and Police Offices" I have before me the vouchers showing the revenues collected under this heading up to and including May 31, 1924, and which are as follows:

Court Fees	Marriage Licenses
Notary Public Fees	Auction fees
Serving summons	Costs and fees collected
in Police Court	in office of Clerk of District Court.
Gun Licenses	4% Tax
Writ of execution	Birth Certificate fees
Porter Licenses	Filing of bond
	Dispossessing Fees.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town [Jackson] remarked: Mr. Chairman. I

want to thank the Despatching Secretary for the elucidations given on this item. I want to make a remark just here. It seems to me that the Police Department is too close to the Police Courts and should be separated. I suggest that those two departments be separated next year. It seems to me that under these revenues we ought to have the fees from the District Court. I don't think I have heard any such item read by the Despatching Secretary. We should have fees from the District Court included—

The Chairman: Fees for the District Court are included in those read by the Despatching Secretary.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) continuing.—I suggest that in future all fees collected by the Police be put under a separate heading. The Police Department is too closely connected with the Courts.

No further remarks on Indirect Taxes.

(To be continued.)

LOCAL

It is advised that the blanks, etc., for distribution to the World War veterans have been received at the local post office.

OFFICIAL NOTES.

Calvin Coolidge, Jr., son of President and Mrs. Coolidge died at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D. C. on July 7th from blood poisoning caused by a slight cut in the foot received while playing tennis on the White House courts. The funeral took place on the afternoon of July 9th. As an expression of sympathy of the people of the Virgin Islands the Governor sent the following radio-gram today:

"For President and Mrs. Coolidge the people of the Virgin Islands extend their most heartfelt sympathy for your bereavement. Philip Williams, Governor."

RADIO WEATHER SERVICE AT SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO SEASON OF 1924.

The Radio Corporation of Porto Rico, has discontinued its radiophone broadcast service, and in consequence, the broadcast of weather information which was given last season at 9 p. m. by W.K.A.Q., San Juan, cannot be resumed. However, in case that storm conditions prevail in any portion of the eastern Caribbean region and warnings are issued by the Weather Bureau, they will broadcast the warnings from station W.K.A.Q. in San Juan at 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. or such other hours as the San Juan office of the Weather Bureau may indicate. At any time of unsettled weather conditions, persons with receiving sets who are interested in re-