

no use standing here and electing commissions and when that is done no further step is taken. That wouldn't work.

The Chairman remarked: The Chair has to state that its understanding is that it has been the practice for the past ten years that the Municipal Committee appoint delegates to the various commissions, as Members of the Municipal Committee are members of the various commissions. While I am not able to quote the law offhand, I know that each year the Colonial Council elects the Municipal Committee and the Municipal Committee elects delegates to various commissions; that was a way done after the annual election; on minor matters the delegates act and on major matters the Members of the Municipal Committee are called together. That is my understanding of the matter; so I cannot see where the Chairman of the Colonial Council can go ahead and appoint the various commissions today.

1st member for Christiansted Country District (*Stakemann*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. If the Members of the Municipal Committee are members in pleno they cannot elect the commissions, the Colonial Council is to appoint them.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. There is an ordinance regulating the appointment of the commissions.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Town (*M. M. Skeoch*) left the meeting.

4th Appointed Member (*Blackwood*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The different commissions are called communal commissions. The Speaker read Par. 4 of the By-Law for the Municipal Committee and continuing said,—"The Municipal Committee always appoints one or more of its members to sit on the various commissions in order to keep posted on certain classes of business as prescribed in Par. 12 of its By-Laws."

Governor Oliver when the act abolishing the powers vested in the various commissions was introduced said that at a time of war was in existence and it was necessary to vest these rights in the Government so that the responsibility of expending amounts appropriated by Congress could be placed on his Aids. I don't see why the Government should object to having the commissions back to look into the affairs of this Municipality. I certainly agree with Member *Stakemann* that the commissions are desirable; it would be a great help to Government and the legislative body to have these commissions back. I quite agree with the Government Secretary that no one should be put above the head of a department, that is quite correct; but if these commissions are appointed, and they have their duties to perform, they would realize their duty and try to give satisfaction.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (*Stakemann*) would like to ask the Government Secretary if there are

not commissions in St. Thomas? Further the Member said,—He understands that the Police Commission is in existence in St. Thomas and is working well.

To be continued.

LOCAL.

The Navy tug *Tadoussac* left this port for St. Thomas at 2 p. m. yesterday carrying mail for St. Thomas, and also for New York for transshipment to the *Pocahontas* at St. St. Thomas.

Last night's show at the theatre was as usual, good. The pictures were of the same exciting, thrilling kind the current serial has proved so full of.

Frederiksted, 28th Feb. 1921.

The American motor schnr. *Mystery* arrived here on Saturday night from Porto Rico.

The American schnr. *Pocahontas* arrived here on Saturday night with general cargo and the following passengers from Porto Rico:—R. Grant, Jacob and Charlotte Urgent. Both ships left again for Porto Rico.

The s. s. "*Parima*" arrived here at 5 p. m. on Saturday with 2,000 packages for Frederiksted and 1,100 for Christiansted and the following passengers:

Mrs. Rose Brodwith and three children, Miss Anna Heyliger, Mr. Charles Johannes, Mr. O. Granady, Mr. H. Berg, Mr. H. Chested, Mr. Alvin McFevney, Mr. Judge Stewart, Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Fox, Mr. J. J. Jenson, Mr. Ernest Hansen, Miss S. Thomas, Mr. Cyril Carty, Miss Vera Jensen, Mr. & Mrs. P. S. Menges, Mrs. C. Lewis, and 2 children, Laurean Schested, Miss L. Ham.

She left for St. Kitts at 4.30 p. m.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Washington, Feby. 24th.—A complete agreement on the Fordney Emergency Tariff Bill was reached today by Senate and House conferees. Their report will go before the House for immediate action, probably tomorrow. On the controverted sugar schedule a compromise was reached on a duty of two cents per pound, except in the case of Cuban sugar, which the rate will be 1.6 cents per pound. Hides and leather products were removed from the list of commodities protected by the bill.

Rome, Feby. 24th.—The Pope today received a report from Andre O'if, Archbishop of Loreto, showing the loss of irreplaceable religious treasure in a fire at the Chiesa Della Casa Santa, in Loreto. The loss through the burning of the church, which sheltered the world famous shrine, according to Catholic tradition, the early home of Christ in Nazareth, is estimated at more than 12,000,000 gold lire. The shrine which was

decorated with arabesques in gilded brass and the priceless statue of the Virgin Mary, was reduced to ashes. No trace of the precious cedar wood of which the statue was made, was left.

London, Feb. 24th.—The Near East is again in the melting pot. The Sevres Treaty signed at Versailles, but not yet ratified by the Powers is to be redrafted in favour of the Turks, former enemies, against the wishes of the Greeks, former Allies, to what extent however, will not be known until the inter-Allied commission has visited the spot, and decided between the claims of the Greeks and Turks regarding the ratio of populations in Thrace and Smyrna. This decision was reached this afternoon, when the Supreme Council, decided to invite the Greeks and Turks to separate conferences tomorrow, when they will be asked if they are prepared to accept such an invitation, subject to the acceptance of the remaining terms of the treaty. The Turks have already announced their approval regarding Smyrna and Thrace, but they are likely to fight against the rest of the treaty, being enforced, while the Greeks are expected to oppose the whole scheme. After the Turks at the morning session had presented concrete proposals for the revision of the treaty, the Greeks were given an opportunity in the afternoon to refute the Turks claims and spent two hours at the task. The Greek Premier M. Kalligeropoulos made a strong plea for the enforcement of the treaty in its entirety quoting at length M. Venezelos, the former Premier, who has already left for Paris, greatly discouraged at the Greek prospects. When the decision of the Supreme Council was read to them, the Greeks expressed disappointment, but were not prepared to state whether they would accept. The Turks were jubilant, as delay was what they wanted. After tomorrow's conferences, which M. Briand said, tonight would probably settle the Near East question for the present, the Supreme Council will take up the reparations.

Paris, Feb. 25th.—In acting on the disarmament question, the Council of the League of Nations today decided to ask the Govt's. of the various members of the League what their attitude was toward compliance with the Geneva recommendations for limitation of military expenditures, and it was decided to nominate a temporary commission to consider a reduction in armaments. This body will be composed of prominent public men, together with technical experts and representatives of labour and industries, and some members of military and economic commissions. M. Viviani a former Premier of France, has been asked to accept chairman of the commission.

San Juan, P. R. Feb. 25th.—The sixth case of plague was reported yesterday. No further deaths have occurred.