

to establish an alms house in the very near future.

2nd Appointed Member [Noll] remarked: Mr. Chairman. This yard at Richmond is part of the Penitentiary and any one can see that it was originally designed for exercise purposes; and another wing was designed as segregation ward for women prisoners, and the other as a mess hall; there is no doubt that the use for which it was put as a sorefoot ward was purely charitable. I always object to having the sorefoot ward alongside the prisoners ward; a further reason, and one that always strongly appeals to me, is, that flies and mosquitoes are liable to inoculate the prisoners. There is a case where a man went to prison a strong and healthy man and came out with Elephantiasis. This is unfair to the man and against our Constitution.

I, personally, believe that these people should be taken care of; and as far as I know all have been provided with pension; the highest pension paid today is \$5.00 and ranging down to \$1.50; I personally think that the paupers cannot maintain themselves on the pensions they are receiving, but it is not the fault of the Commission, I believe, rather than open the sorefoot ward alongside the prison it would be better for the Council to vote for an institution so that they can be taken care of.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canejatta) remarked. Mr. Chairman. I want to say that what I have heard from the last speaker is not quite correct, because I remember when Dr. Strickmann was Landphysicus and Governor Helwig-Larsen was Governor a bill was passed in 1915 or 1916 in this Council by which the former Lunatic Asylum at Richmond was converted into a hospital for those who were weak but not really ill.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr. Chairman after entering into the merits of this matter I only wish to say that I am now sixty five years of age and during that time I do not remember any time the sorefoot hospital has been any other place than where it was up to the time when it was closed a month or two ago.

It seems to me that it would have been an easy matter to prevent the inoculation of disease by flies and mosquitoes by screening the prison; everybody is screening today. I will now come back to what I have said before and will always say as long as I am a member of this Council—We want to have our Commissions back. Each officer in his department does what he likes and no one to ask about it; neither the Council nor the public knows anything that is going on, and the public gets the wrong impression. The impression in the community at present is, that the sickhouse was closed for want of means, and think it a shame to close the sickhouse

and turn the inmates out on the streets.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The question of these poor unfortunate people, as well as the pensioners on the different estates, have been before this Council for many years, more or less, way back in Governor Arendrup's time; the question of using the estate "Grange" for the poor farm was under discussion here, and it was then suggested to place it under the care of a manager and matron, and to stock it with a few cows, pigs and poultry where these people who are unable to maintain themselves, but yet are able to do some work, could be placed and work out a part of their own salvation by caring for the stock, raising vegetables and garden truck, and being properly looked after would relieve the Community and the individual estates of a part of the burden at least.

The excuse for not putting this plan into effect has always been a lack of funds, which I presume holds good at the present. The sick house and jail being so close together makes the argument advanced by the Honorable 2nd Appointed Member, as regards diseases being transmitted by flies and mosquitoes one of considerable importance and worthy of consideration.

1st Member for Christiansted Town (Abramson) concurred in the remarks made by Member Stakemann, and furthermore said that it is true that the patients discharged from the Richmond Sickhouse are seen around the streets begging bread and are not able to work; that it is absolutely necessary that some means should be devised whereby these people can be cared for as they are not many and would not be a great burden on the Government. The member strongly advocated that the Government together with the Council do their best for the relief of these poor and indigent persons.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District [Stakemann] remarked: Mr. Chairman. The Honorable 2nd Appointed Member [Noll] has just said that it is dangerous to have the prisoners alongside these patients suffering with Elephantiasis and other diseases as they will contaminate the prisoners. May I ask what about us who are living in town and have not the honor of being prisoners; do the sorefoot patients not come and sit by our houses, and are there perhaps no flies and mosquitoes in town, or is it of no account if we be infected?

2nd Appointed Member [Noll] in reply to the last speaker said, We who are on the outside are free moral agents and those at the Richmond Jail are in bondage and cannot go out.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District [Stakemann] remarked: Mr. Chairman. If the poor people have not sufficient pension to support them let the Government find place to put them. Let the Government curtail some of the

other departments that are having too much money and provide for those people. This is an urgent matter.

The Chairman remarked: The question is now before the Government for consideration.

There being no further business before the House the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 3.15 p. m.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Playmouth, March 5th.—After landing her passengers for England yesterday, the Cunard Liner, "Saxonia", left for Hamburg, inaugurating the Cunard Line's service to Germany.

Copenhagen, March 5th.—Both Chambers have unanimously adopted the proposal to join in the League of Nations.

Paris, March 5th.—The Government will make determined opposition to any reservation of the Treaty of Versailles that would modify France's claims on Germany, it was learned yesterday. The attitude of the Government, according to official points of view, is in perfect accord with the sentiment of the new Chamber of Deputies, and it is held that any further concession by the French Government to Germany would not be tolerated by Parliament and if made, the Government would be overthrown. The French official view of the economic situation, it was stated in authoritative circles yesterday, is quite the same as that set forth in London, that is, that all Europe must be put on a prosperous basis. France, however, it is pointed out, is not in a position to make concession that would affect her own economic interests to any one and least of all to Germany.

New York, March 5th.—Germany is on the way to a great economic "come back" according to Colonel Hensley, of the United States, who has just returned from a five months' aeronautical observation in that country. He says that Germany and Belgium are the only two countries that have gone to work since the war.

The Hague, March 5th.—The Dutch Government today for the second time refused to deliver the former German Emperor to the Allies for trial, in a Note addressed to Mr. Lloyd George, in which the Government promised to take all the necessary measures to minimize the ex-Kaiser's liberty and prevent him from endangering the world's peace. This second communication from the Dutch Government, which was delivered in London this morning, states that these precautions, will be taken on the spot.

Saint Thomas, March 9th. Traffic for Barbados can be accepted to be forwarded by wireless from St. Lucia at the rate of one shilling per word in addition to the rate to Barbados except on British Government messages which are free over the wireless. Traffic so forwarded must be specially routed via St. Lucia wireless.