

Publication.

IT is hereby brought to public notice that a balance of interest amounting to Francs 331.30 will be on hand for distribution on the 26th day of May, 1924, from their Majesties King Christian the Ninth and Queen Louise's Golden Wedding Memorial Fund for the benefit of worthy indigent persons in St. Croix.

Applications, containing the requisite information and duly certified, must be forwarded to the undersigned within the 17th day of May, 1924.

Despatching Secretary's Office,
St. Croix, Virgin Islands, 26 April, 1924.

R. E. BARRETT,
Despatching Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from Saturday's Avis.)

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Alexander) remarked: Mr. Chairman. This matter is not quite clear to me. About two years ago you, Mr. Chairman introduced a bill in this Council designed to exempt insurance companies from paying registration fees. What I want to ask the Government Secretary is, whether this Ordinance is introduced for the purpose of exempting these companies from filing articles of corporation?

Government Secretary (Zane): Mr. Chairman. I regret to say that most of this matter was handled by the Legal Aide and I am not familiar with it.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen): Mr. Chairman. For the sake of the laymen of the Council I propose that the bill go to a committee of 5 members.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Jessen) seconded the member's motion.

The Chairman put the motion to the vote with the result that 10 members voted for; none against.

The Chairman remarked: The Committee will be appointed after a recess.

Item 4.

Colonial Council Bill No. 24.

Fourth Council, First Session.

Introduction of and 1st discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 24, draft of an ordinance introduced by 2nd

Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) providing a schedule of fees for slaughter houses in St. Croix.

The Bill reads as follows:

Colonial Council Bill No. 24.

Fourth Council, First Session 1923-1924

DRAFT OF AN ORDINANCE
providing a schedule of fees for use of slaughter houses in St. Croix.

Be it enacted by the Colonial Council in session assembled: That

1. The fee now charged for use of the slaughter houses shall be such as are herein provided and payable in advance before the time of inspection of the animal:

For slaughtering
of cattle Frs. 1.25 per head
For slaughtering
of sheep and
goats " 0.50 " "
For slaughtering
of hogs " 0.50 " "

2. All fees accruing hereunder shall be payable at the Sanitation Office and be by them paid into the Municipal Treasury each month.

3. This Ordinance shall take effect as soon as it shall have received Executive sanction.

D. C. CANEGATA,

2nd Member for Christiansted Town & Suburbs

Christiansted, April 10, 1924.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata): Mr. Chairman. Before introducing the ordinance I ask permission to make one or two corrections in the draft. The Ordinance was drawn up in a hurry and the enacting clause was left out. I ask permission to have it inserted.

Permission was granted and the corrections were made.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) in introducing the Ordinance said.—Mr. Chairman. The outcome of this Ordinance is already known as I made reference to it at the last meeting of the Council. I hoped then that the matter would have been acted upon by the Executive Department but as they did not see fit to take it up I drew up this draft. I want to thank the Members of the Municipal Committee who have kindly consented to it although it has not been formally presented to them. This draft provides for the payment of a fee for every head of animal butchered instead of a yearly fee. If you take the figures quoted here and the amount paid per annum you will see that there is not much difference.

2nd Member for Christiansted Country District (Berg) remarked: Mr. Chair-

man. I am in sympathy with the idea of everybody paying some contribution to the Government for service or facilities they may receive, but is this a uniform system? Do vendors in the fish and other public markets built and kept clean by Government pay a fee?

The Chairman: No.

Member Berg continuing.—Well they should contribute something toward the upkeep of the Government. We do not know how soon the taxpayers in the United States will refuse to send money down here to run this Government. I think this measure should be made applicable to other persons using Government utilities.

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Alexander) remarked: While I am in sympathy with the remarks of the Honorable 2nd Member for Christiansted Town I cannot agree with him that any fee should be charged for the use of the abattoir either in Christiansted or Frederiksted. If we tell a man who is engaged in butchering that he must take his animal to the abattoir and he complies how can we turn round and charge him a fee for doing so? If you charge a fee for selling fruits and vegetables in the market, then I will agree to charge for slaughtering at the abattoir. If you tell a butcher he must kill his animal at a certain place he should be given the free use of the place where he is directed to go. I am entitled to my opinion and will not be biased by any one.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The Honorable 3rd Member for Christiansted Town got very impatient. In my opinion this Council has always been composed of men of different ideas. We cannot expect every one to have the same opinion. We must differ at times. What I want to point out is that a slaughter house and the selling of fish in the market are not the same. The meat vendor has a perfect right to the market. The public market is free. The cases are not at all analogous.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The fee charged for slaughtering animals in the slaughter house is \$25.00. There is some sense in what the Honorable 3rd Member for Christiansted Town has said as regards free use of the slaughter house, but at the same time the cost of living has gone up and the cost of labor should go up correspondingly. I wish to see the Council impose a fee which it considers fair if it does not see its way to allow the slaughtering of small animals free outside of the slaughter house, or reduce these fees.

I understand that a man who kills a goat makes a profit of sixty cents. I have a case in mind of a lad who kills two goats a week, and that's all his income, \$93.00 a year, and to take \$25.00 out of that I think it is cruel.

3rd Member for Christiansted Town