

CHRISTIANSTED THEATRE

8.00. MONDAY EVENING 8.00.

"The Yellow Menace".

Episode No. 13 & 14:

"The Spy And The Submarine".

Episode No. 15:

"The Ray of Death".

THURSDAY EVENING

The two last Reels of The Yellow Menace and four Reels of The Midnight Man.

ADMISSION:

Reserved Seats.....30 and 40c.
General Entrance.....20c.
Children 20 and 10c.

Another Drop In The Prices of Sugar

Brown Crystalized Sugar 2 lbs. 17c.

Clear Muscavado " 7c. pr. lb.

AT THE

Company Street Emporium

Christiansted, 25th February 1921.

M. A. PRETTO.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) introducing the Ordinance said,—Mr. Chairmann. In introducing this bill I know that I am going to meet with difficulty, but I am quite prepared for it. I consider it my duty to my constituents to bring this bill before the Council. I do not believe there will be much opposition by the Members of the Council as they are well aware that the people of this island are meeting with great difficulties on account of having no one to make complaints to regarding measures as carried out by the different departments.

Personally I am not directly interested, and whether the bill is adopted or not is no concern to me, but as I said before I feel it my duty to bring it up. If we

as members of this Council do not bring before this Council the grievances of the people of this municipality, the Government cannot do anything.

When you look on a man like John Quincy Adams; how he was put to scorn and his life was threatened and yet he put his measures through we can say that such is the duty of the constituents of the people of the member in this Council.

As Honorable Members are aware, when the United States took over these islands there were Commissions to each department, if any official or a public officer did anything wrong, the people would go to the Commission and the matter would be investigated and report made on it. Today we have none, we are under one head, and that head is like the Czar of Russia. This Council has in several cases tried to do its best for the poor people.

Regarding the Sanitary Department, this Council has voted a certain amount for the people who are not able to make repairs and changes to their property; I know of a poor hungry woman, she is actually starving, who owns a two room house who was called upon to pay eighty-five dollars for a closet. Where is she to get the money from? True, she might have given a mortgage on her house, but this would be unjust. There are complaints and complaints daily from the public; the people do not come forward in an official manner with their complaints because they do not know where to go to, and for that reason there should be commissions to which they could apply. I am not arguing the financial side of the question, because the United States is very generous in sending us money, and plenty of it, and it is right that Government should have a free hand where the expending of money

appropriated for these islands is concerned, but I do not believe there is a place of this size on earth where so much money is spent and there is no auditor. Year after year money is spent and not audited. I believe the amounts budgetted are used for public purposes, but not for those for which they are budgetted. Rumours are running around regarding certain department; these rumours should be investigated and if found to be incorrect those who make the rumours should be punished; if there were commissions these rumours would be investigated and it would be determined whether they are true or not; from this point of view it is necessary to have the commissions again.

There is one more question; I am sorry to touch upon it, but I hope it will be taken in the light in which I view it—The Sanitary Department is suing the public in the Police Court; that's wrong. According to the Act of Congress the law must be administered by civilians and not by Navy officers of the Departments. We are glad to have the naval men in position, but they should not come in contact with the people for enforcing measures. We had naval men in this island whom the community praised for their ability and kindness shown to them; we can mention Dr. Brockmann, Dr. Olephant and Dr. Mc Clonahan and many others, but we have some who want to act arbitrarily. The budgetted amounts for that department are enormous and yet the poor people are called upon to pay such large amounts for their closets, and if they are not able to pay they are fined in the Police Court. The Sanitary Regulations under which they act are so obsolete and have never been used until now when the board is abolished, while not even the amendments necessary in connection hereof have been enacted. Instead of having a board of health we are having one man to rule, without means of appeal. Remember the law says that the Police Master shall be the head of the board, because it was conceded that the Police Master would be a man of legal training. I wish to show how persistent they are in the Department of Health.—This is a case in which I was executor in an estate, a certain property was devised to a party in the United States, I informed him of the fact and he requested me to close the house and leave it so until he could come here; I did this and had nothing further to do with the place; I never was asked by him to be his agent nor was I ever such; the Tax Commission sent me one of their usual printed forms asking information respecting the property, I wrote on it uninhabited and signed it. By this I was determined to be an agent; the Sanitary Department had sent me an order to have the yard cleaned, I told them I was not agent for the property, but to facilitate them I forwarded the order to the owner who sent