

transfer period they are now wholly inadequate and a hindrance to the progress of these islands. He advocated one legislative body for these islands. Perhaps the Secretary of the Navy had gone so far as to suggest the number of representatives each island should have. If he advocated five members for St. Croix and seven for St. Thomas and St. John I would not be surprised a bit as this island is always placed at a disadvantage. I would like to know what objection this Council would have to a government by laws instead of a government by men. Have we or have we not an organic structure? The Honorable Chairman of the Municipal Committee of St. Thomas and St. John speaks of ruling ourselves, I don't know whether he means we should be a little republic or whether we should have a government with limited autonomy. I contend that we as a community are eligible for citizenship. I defy the President, the Congress or the people of the United States to show that our intellectual moral or political standard is below that of the people of Porto Rico. We were a people at the time of the transfer and not a nonentity. A year ago this Council unanimously voted—and I request of the Chairman that this document to produced—a memorial to go to Secretary of the Navy Denby. This memorial was passed by 16 members all voted, and that was before the communists Berg and Jackson...

3rd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*M. M. Skeoch*): When you are called that don't object.

The speaker 2nd Member for Christiansted Country District continuing,—I am using the words of Washington Williams, and I ask that the Clerk of the Council supply the inverted commas. That I will not vote for the bill now before the Senate is obvious. It is all right for the 8th Elected Member for St. Thomas to say that the proposal to have 5 members for St. Croix Council and 7 members for St. Thomas is a typographical error. I would prefer to see this typographical error corrected before I vote on the bill. I want to say that the Chairman of the Municipal Committee of St. Thomas speaks of Republicans securing vote by this measure. I think this remark is unnecessary and would lead to unlimited debate here. If this bill is introduced for the sake of getting votes for Republican party then there are two reasons for voting for it. If the 6th Elected Member for St. Thomas and Washington Williams are going to make national policy an issue down here then let us fight it out as true Republicans.

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (*Alexander*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I have listened attentively to the introductory remarks of the Honorable Chairman of the Municipal Committee of St. Croix and I agree with every word he has said. It is true that the people here

confound civil government with self government. I will vote neither yes nor no on this resolution for this reason, a year ago a memorial was adopted by this Council to go to Secretary of the Navy Denby. If this Council do not delete the last part of this resolution they would be blowing hot and cold gas at the same time. If the Councils want to do anything they may draft and place something before the Senate. We have everything to be thankful for since Governor William's Administration. I suggest that we sit and draft amendments to the Senate bill as there are many things in it that are against the interest of St. Croix.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (*Jackson*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I don't want to take up more of the valuable time of this honorable body. I have practically said the few words I had to say. I may have something more to say but before saying it I wish to offer an amendment to the present resolution. I know before hand it is not going to be adopted but I feel it is my duty to introduce it. The Honorable Member on my extreme left 2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*) has expressed himself on Senate Bill and he is the only one who has pointed out defects in it. One of his objections to the bill is that it is not possible to have a uniform system of taxation for the two islands. He had in mind that the islands are two separate islands instead of a political entity, for instance, Porto Rico, Vieques and Culebra which form the political group known as Porto Rico. If we look at the Virgin Islands as comprising St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John the Honorable Member is right, but if as a political entity he is wrong.

To be continued.

LOCAL

The U. S. *Grebe* returned to St. Thomas yesterday. She carried a mail.

S. S. *Guiana* for New York is due at Frederiksted on Sunday morning at 7 o'clock.

Owing to the coming of the s. s. *Guiana* as late as Sunday morning, the mail for the States previously intended for dispatch by her was forwarded last night by the Columbian s. s. *Paria*.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, April 7th.—Irish Free State authorities are hot on the trail of the men who on March 21st fired a machine gun into a party of unarmed British soldiers at Queenstown, killing a number of them, it was learned today. Two of the men who participated in the attack have been identified and arrests may be expected shortly.

Montreal, April 7th.—Chas. Duquette almost unknown to the great mass of the electorate of Montreal up to two weeks ago, met Mayor Martin in a sensational contest for the chief magistracy of this city today and defeated him by approximately 3,000 votes. The latter's career which has been a dominating one in Montreal municipal affairs for 25 years for ten of which, since 1914, he has been Mayor, thus ended tonight.

Ottawa, April 7th.—When Mr. Robb, acting Minister of Finance, brings down the budget on Thursday it is expected that he will announce some reductions in taxation, that a balance between expenditure and revenue was reached in the financial year which closed a week ago and that for the first time since the war there was no increase in the net debt. Full figures of expenditure and revenue for the year are not yet available, but in the customs and excise revenue alone there was an increase over the previous year of \$20,000,000. That there will be reductions in the taxation has already been indicated by the Government.

Boston, April 8th.—Swollen by hours of rain and melting snow, rivers throughout New England had overflowed their banks today, taking a toll of one death, bringing injury to a score of persons and causing a property loss estimated to be in excess of \$2,000,000. The Connecticut, Merrimack, Nash and other rivers continued to rise through the night. In the Springfield Westfield river valley yesterday conditions were reported to be the worst since 1878. With large districts inundated the Connecticut floods waters were expected to reach their peak today or tomorrow.

Bekendtgørelse.

DEN ordinære Generalforsamling i den dansk-vestindiske Nationalbank afholdes Fredag den 13. Juni 1924 Kl. 11 Formiddag i Ministerialbygningen, Slotsholmsgade Nr. 6 her i Staden.

Forhandlingsgenstandene er:

- 1) Forelæggelse af Bankraadets Beretning om Bankens Virksomhed i Aaret 1923.
- 3) Forelæggelse af det reviderede Regnskab for nysnævnte Aar med Forslag til Anvendelse af Aarsoverskuddet.
- 3) Indstilling om Decharge for det aflagte Regnskab.
- 4) Valg af et Medlem til Bankraadet.
- 5) Valg af en Revisor.

København, den 18 Marts 1924.
FR. NORDLIEN. J. WINTHER.