

introduced by 1st Member for Christiansted Country District [Stakemann], respecting the appointment of employees of the Municipality of St. Croix.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr. Chairman: I have the honor to recommend the Draft of Ordinance to the Council.

No one requesting the word the Chairman put to the vote and it was carried that 2nd Discussion be closed.

Item 2.

Colonial Council Bill No. 26.

Continuation of 1st Discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 26, Draft of an Ordinance, introduced by 1st Member for Christiansted Country District [Stakemann], concerning the remission and refunding of certain taxes assessed or collected on properties used for religious purposes.

The Chairman remarked. The Hon. Member has introduced an amendment today which I will ask the Secretary of the Council to read to you (The Secretary read the amendment) which is as follows:

AMENDMENT

*To Draft Of Ordinance Concerning The Remission And Refunding Of Certain Taxes Assessed Or Collected On Properties Used For Religious Purposes (Proposed By 1st Member For Christiansted Country District):*

I propose to amend the above draft to read as follows:

DRAFT OF ORDINANCE

*Concerning The Exemption From Taxes Of Properties Used For Religious, Charitable And Educational Purposes.*

1.

All properties used exclusively for religious, charitable or educational purposes are exempt from payment of taxes.

2.

The taxes for the year 1916 to 1919, both included, assessed or collected on such properties as in section 1 mentioned remitted and, if collected, shall be refunded the respective owners from the funds of the St. Croix Colonial Treasury.

A. E. STAKEMANN

1st Member for Christiansted Country District.

1st Member of Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr. Chairman: I beg to introduce this amendment in which Hon. Members will see the proposals which I have specified. I beg to recommend the amended draft instead of the original.

The Chairman: Do I understand that your amendment is to take the place of the original draft?

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) answered yes.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I consider

the amendment which has just been read is in accord with our discussion here at the last meeting and I recommend it to the Council for consideration and final passage.

The Chairman put to the vote whether the amendment should be furthered instead of the original Draft of Ordinance.

11 members voted for; none against.

The Chairman closed 1st Discussion on the Ordinance and remarked that the bill goes over to the next meeting of the Council on 2nd Discussion.

Item 3.

Colonial Council Bill No. 28.

Additional Money Bill to the Budget for the Municipality of St. Croix, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, introduced by 4th Appointed Member (Blackwood), granting Frcs. 5000 to the Colonial Council and Municipal Committee for maintenance.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) introduced the Money Bill and said, Mr. Chairman. The object of this Draft of Additional Money Bill is to cover expenses incurred for paper and other necessities for printing the new Code of Laws and to cover traveling expenses incurred by members appointed by the Colonial Council to report on these laws. I recommend the Money Bill to the favorable consideration of the Council and hope that members will pass it today if possible. The amount called for in the Money Bill is Frcs. 5000.

The Chairman remarked: In regard to this Money Bill, I have to state that in analyzing my request to Government for this sum of money, I gave it up as follows: (The Chairman then read a letter which he had forwarded to Government bearing on this matter.

3rd Member for Frederiksted Country District (Nordby) entered the meeting.

The Chairman put to the vote and it was unanimously carried that the Money Bill be furthered.

No one requesting the word the Chairman closed 1st. Discussion.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) proposed that 2nd Discussion come on today.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (M. M. Skeoch) seconded the member's proposal.

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

2nd Discussion opened.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) remarked: Mr. Chairman. Hon. Members have heard the explanation given as regards this Money Bill, and therefore have seen the necessity of passing the bill today.

No one requesting word 2nd Discussion closed, the Secretary read the Money Bill and the Chairman put same to the vote.

14 members voted for; none against.

The Chairman remarked: The Money Bill is adopted and goes to Government.

Item 4.

Colonial Council Bill No. 29.

Introduction of and 1st Discussion on Draft of an Ordinance, introduced by Government, establishing and declaring the organization of the Judiciary and Educational Departments of the Virgin Islands of the United States, etc.

The Despatching Secretary moved that this matter be postponed until the afternoon session owing to the absence of the Governor.

The proposal was adopted.

The Chairman remarked: I Have received from the Despatching Secretary a letter which has been forwarded to Government in regard to the increase of the telephone rate. The Government has seen fit to lay this matter before the Council (The Chairman read the letter) and continuing said, since then the rate of exchange has dropped, therefore if the Council takes action on this matter it should be based on current rate of exchange instead of the stipulated rate of exchange. If any member wish to make any remark the matter is before the House.

[To be continued].

OFFICIAL NEWS.

April 28, 1920.

The Secretary of the Navy in a message to the Naval Service called attention to the fact that Sunday, May 9th will be observed as Mothers' Day by some distinct act of kindness to the remembrance of mothers. He adds it will be appropriate particularly for every one in the Navy whose mother is still living to be with her on that day or write a letter, and concludes with the statement "we should all take advantage of this opportunity to pay a tribute to the mothers of America whose sons are engaged in the honorable service of their country."

Governor Oman has accepted Mr. Valdemar A. Miller's resignation as a member of the Food Commission of St. Thomas, tendered in view of his forthcoming departure from St. Thomas for South America and European ports.

First Lieutenant Leo S. F. Horan, U. S. Marine Corps, has been temporarily appointed assistant to the Police Master, St. Thomas and also as a notary public.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Lieutenant (j g) Harold K. Smoot, U. S. Navy of the St. Thomas tennis club defeated Major William M. Small U. S. Marine Corps of the St. Croix tennis club in the championship yesterday. The scores were 6-2, 5-7, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2.

The championship doubles will be played this afternoon between Major Small and Mr. Harry Armstrong of St. Croix and Lieutenant Charles Lane, (M. C.) U. S. Navy and Ensign Newell, U. S. N. of St. Thomas.