

Publication.

IT is hereby made known that the Horse, Carriage and Boat Tax will be payable, for the second half year 1924, at the Police Offices in Christiansted and Frederiksted from July 20, 1924 to August 10, 1924, both days included.

Parties remaining in arrears for this tax after August 10, 1924, will be subject to a fine of Frcs. 1.00 if the tax be under Frcs. 25.00 and Frcs. 2.00 if the tax be Frcs. 25.00 or over, besides the ordinary levy expenses.

The tax-lists will be distributed by the Police and are to be correctly filled out in conformity with Ordinance of February 22, 1853 and returned to the respective Police Offices within 48 hours in the towns and 4 days in the country districts.

Government of the Virgin Islands of the U. S., St. Croix, June 24, 1924.

R. E. BARRETT,
Despatching Secretary.

Publication.

IT is hereby made known, that the Tax on Auto Vehicles and Auto Truck Trailers according to Section 31 of the Ordinance concerning Public Roads in St. Croix, approved July 14, 1923, will be payable, for the second half year 1924 at the Police Offices in Christiansted and Frederiksted from July 20, 1924 to August 10, 1924, both days included.

Parties remaining in arrears for this tax after August 10, 1924, will be subject to the same penalties as in the case of the Horse, Carriage and Boat Tax.

Tax-lists will be distributed by the Police Department and are required to be correctly filled out and returned to the respective Police Offices two days after receipt in the towns and 4 days after receipt in the country districts.

Government of the Virgin Islands of the U. S., St. Croix, June 24 1924.

R. E. BARRETT,
Despatching Secretary.

Notice.

The Schnr. "Vigilant" will leave for Fajardo, Porto Rico, on Saturday afternoon, accepting passengers at \$5 00 each.
CORNELIUS PENTHENY.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

Item 2.

Colonial Council Bill No. 29.
Introduction of and 1st discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 29, Ordinance authorizing the Governor of the Virgin Islands to transfer, on July 1, 1924, the sum of Francs 112,500 from the Reserve Fund of St. Croix to be utilized for general governmental expenditure.

The bill reads as follows:

Colonial Council Bill No. 29.
Fourth Council, First Session, 1923-1924.
DRAFT OF AN ORDINANCE.

Be it enacted by the Colonial Council of the Municipality of Saint Croix in session assembled:

That the Governor of the Virgin Islands be and he is hereby authorized to transfer, on July 1, 1924, the sum of Francs 112,500 from the Reserve Fund of the Municipality of St. Croix to the Colonial Treasury thereof, said sum to form a part of and be utilized for general governmental expenditure during the fiscal year 1925.

Proposed by Government.

Christiansted, 17th June, 1924.

Government Secretary (Zane) in introducing the ordinance said, Mr. Chairman: At the time the ordinance under discussion was requested introduced it appeared that the deficit between the estimated revenues and estimated expenditures would require in some way financing an additional \$22,500 in order to balance them. This was before the municipal Committee had undertaken its work in connection with the budget estimates. Since that time Government has received the recommendations of the Municipal Committee and it is found that certain reductions have been made in the expenditures and the result of this is that as the estimated deficit now stands, instead

of there being required \$22,500 to be found elsewhere, there is required only \$14,000 in round figures. At the proper time then, Government would like to introduce an amendment to decrease the amount recommended to be transferred from the Reserve Fund from \$22,500 to \$14,000. Also, provided that this action be taken only if necessary to meet the deficit; meaning, of course, that it is to be taken only in the absence of any other means of financing this difference of \$14,000.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen): Mr. Chairman. May I ask if at the time the Government received the recommendations of the Municipal Committee it was advised that it was the unanimous opinion of the Committee that it was against their wishes to use the Reserve Fund to meet the deficit on the budget?

Government Secretary (Zane) in reply to the last speaker said.—In a letter received from the Chairman of the Municipal Committee in connection with the work on the budget it was stated that the Municipal Committee was unanimously opposed to utilizing any portion of the Reserve Fund for that purpose.

4th. Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen): Mr. Chairman. If I recollect correctly last year Government expressed a desire to work in harmony with the Municipal Committee. By the introduction of this ordinance doesn't Government show that it is opposing the Municipal Committee instead of working in harmony with it? I would like to know whether Government has changed its desire to work in harmony with the Municipal Committee?

Government Secretary (Zane) replying to the last speaker said: Most certainly Government has not changed its policy and its sincere desire to work in harmony with the Municipal Committee. The budget estimates as submitted were less than those contained in the expenditures of last year. A ten percent cut in general was directed made by the Governor in the expenditures to be estimated by the several heads of departments of the several governmental activities; and even with this, in view largely of the falling off of revenue, it was still not seen how the budget could be made to balance as between receipts and expenditures without a contribution, if it was necessary, of \$22,500 from the Reserve Fund. At that time it was not known for certainty that the Federal appropriation had been cut. It is now so known, and the result is that, at the present moment, Government cannot see where to finance \$14,000, the difference between the estimated revenues and the estimated expenditures. In a nut shell then, it simply means that as the budget estimates are before the Colonial Council they lack \$14,000 of balancing when the amount which may be allocated from Federal appropriation is placed against the actual revenues. The