

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (*Stakemann*) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. I agree with the last speaker, every man has the right to do as he pleases, and should be restricted only when he becomes harmful to his neighbors. If the Council would go into committee and guarantee that some restrictions will be put on the sale of liquor I will vote for the bill; this must be done by the Council, not by the Municipal Committee. The Council cannot delegate its power to the Municipal Committee. All legislative matters are to be passed upon by the Council and sanctioned by the Governor before it becomes law, therefore the Council has no right to say to the five members of the Municipal Committee "we appoint you to make laws"; the Council cannot do it; it won't be legal. If the bill is passed in its present form and the question comes up in court, it would be found not legal.

There is talk about the eighteenth amendment of the United States Constitution, this question I am not going to bring up; it is left to the Government to find out whether the bill is allowable or not. If it is found that the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States on this question affects St. Croix, I am sure that the Governor will not sign the bill.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*): Mr. Vice Chairman. I would like to ask one question 1st Member for Christiansted Country District (*Stakeman*) says in this case the Council cannot delegate its power to the Municipal Committee; the Sanitary Department makes regulations and they never pass through the Council. Is that legal?

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (*Stakemann*) answered the last speaker and said, We have legislative, executive and administrative departments, and each is supreme. The regulations governing the Sanitary Department are issued by the Executive Department.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. I am not a lawyer, but it seems to me rather funny that the Honorable 1st Member for Christiansted Country District should bring up that objection. I understand that this bill has passed in St. Thomas, they have bright brains over there, and it must be expected that they have had knowledge whether the bill is legal or not.

As regards the amendment which I

have proposed I wish Honorable Members will vote for it; I have two reasons for introducing it; one is, because the bill as it stands, places the Apothecary in a very queer position, and the other is, because it places the inhabitants in a perplexing position. I feel that putting control in the hands of the Municipal Committee is not sufficient, and therefore, I have added the words "and substitutes" to make it a committee of ten members in all. I hope members will vote for the amendment.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) would like to know if the bill which is now before the House has passed in St. Thomas?

The Vice-Chairman answered: I have heard so, but I have had no official knowledge. Government has just informed me that it has passed.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) would like to know if the bill as passed in St. Thomas is exactly as it is before the House.

2nd Appointed Member (*Noll*) answered: The bill has passed in St. Thomas the same as before you in the typewritten sheet.

The Vice-Chairman remarked: The bill passed in St. Thomas has a few slight differences. (The speaker read the bill as passed in St. Thomas) and said.—The control etc. is exactly as proposed and before this House.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) remarked: Honorable Members have heard that the bill has passed in St. Thomas. I feel that the bill is not illegal if it has already passed in St. Thomas.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Fleming*) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. I think we would be much better off than St. Thomas if we pass the bill with the amendments proposed.

5th Appointed Member (*Lunney*) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. The Members of the Municipal Committee and Substitutes make in all ten members of the Council, and I cannot see why objection should be taken as far as giving them control of the regulations.

It was put to the vote and carried that 2nd Discussion be closed.

2nd Discussion closed.

The first paragraph of the Amendment was read and put to the vote.

9 members voted for; none against.

The second paragraph was also read and put to the vote.

10 members voted for; none against.

1st member for Christiansted Town District (*Abramson*) proposed that 3rd Discussion come on today.

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

The Vice-Chairman put the proposal to the vote.

11 members voted for; none against.

Government having given consent 3rd Discussion opened.

The Vice-Chairman then gave a recess of fifteen minutes.

After recess the Council reassembled and the Vice-Chairman remarked: We will now proceed to business by taking up 3rd Discussion on Council Bill No. 42.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*M. M. Skeoch*) proposed that 3rd Discussion be closed.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) seconded the Member's proposal.

3rd Discussion closed. The Secretary (*Canegata*) read the bill and the Vice-Chairman put same to the vote.

10 members voted for; none against.

The Vice-Chairman remarked: The bill is passed and goes to Government.

The Council then took up 3rd Discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 43.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*M. M. Skeoch*) proposed that 3rd Discussion be closed.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) seconded the Member's proposal.

3rd Discussion closed. The Secretary (*Canegata*) read the bill in its amended form and the Chairman put same to the vote.

10 members voted for; none against.

The Vice-Chairman remarked: The bill as amended and read is passed and goes to Government.

1st Member for Christiansted Town District (*Abramson*) thanked Honorable Members for their kind support on the bill.

There being no further business before the House the Vice-Chairman declared the meeting closed at 3.05 p. m.

LOCAL.

The St. John's Church soiree opens at 2 p. m. As a rule these entertainments have proved an agreeable break to the usual form of public diversion, and in all probability this of today will be well patronized. Toothsome refreshments as well as cooked meals will be on sale; the menu will surely consist of nice things which can be sent for by those who do not wish to partake of them in the school room.

Several of our subscribers have requested us to ask those in charge of tonight's entertainment at St. John's School-house to include in their program the old familiar song "What are the wild waves saying". We daresay this selection would appeal to a good many others.

OFFICIAL NEWS.

July 26, 1920.

Governor Oman has authorized the Marine Detachment at Frederiksted to be transferred temporarily to the Marine Barracks at Christiansted, St. Croix.

The U. S. S. GULFPORT is due at St. Thomas on Wednesday.