

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene A. Schuster and family beg to thank friends and acquaintances for sympathy shown during the illness and death of our beloved son and brother Albert.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis)

2nd Appointed Member (Noll) remarked: Mr. Chairman. What few remarks I have to make at this time I consider in view of the many months spent on these ordinances that any extensive remarks on behalf of Government or the Council is unnecessary. At this time, arguments, in my opinion, should be based more to the purpose rather than against it. Captain White's statement that the organization of these laws as presented to you is in force in some of the State is slightly incorrect. I do not know of any State these laws are not in force except in the Virgin Islands; and that is why it has been stated that the Government desires no changes; however, if changes can be offered which are better no doubt Government would be willing to take chances, but so far as I know, the English speaking people, or the Anglo Saxons, have not been able to work out a better code than this. I have been in these islands three years, I have been a member of the Courts of these islands three years, and throughout that time I have heard many objections to the administration of the present laws and that is a result of too much being vested in the Judge, power vested in the Judge he can be democratic or autocratic.

It has been asked here by when will they have trial by jury is provided in born, I was reared, to my coming here, with a crime was no and I do not believe to decide whether a man should claim that before a man liberty more than one man on his case; an even if a composed of twelve of the extenuating circumstances taken into consideration.

Members of the Council, heard it said that there should be of Mandamus, a Writ of Writ of Habeas Corpus laws are should have done correct the

it, object to a specific part of the law and give your reasons, and when that is done the objections will be argued; I do not believe that there is a single objection raised in Anglo Saxon Law that does not need much argument. From now on I stand ready and willing to argue all objections raised. (Loud applause from the Lobby.) The Chairman rang the bell for order.

4th. Appointed Member (Blackwood) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I have been on the Committee appointed to consider and report on these laws, gone through them, and as far as I know the great question before the people and the Council today is whether this is a better law than the one which we have been working under; whether it is or not I am not qualified to say, but one thing in my mind is, we have changed our sovereignty and should expect to change our laws. We are under the American Flag now and should expect to have American laws; whether these laws will be better or worse remains to be seen. If there were no law breakers there would be no law makers, and so long as we follow the right path we should not care what kind of law we have. I cannot say anything as to whether these laws are better or worse, but it must be expected that we have to change the laws; therefore I recommend the change and leave the rest to the legislative lights. These code of laws, as the last speaker has said, have stood the test and I see no reason why it should not be adopted here.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I am a little confused as to whether Bill No. 29 and 30 are before the Council at the same time?

The Chairman answered: Bill No. 29 is before you now.

2nd Appointed Member (Noll) remarked: Mr. Chairman. The ordinances are so closely associated it seems to me that discussion on both can be taken at the same time. These two ordinances have been prepared as a whole and the idea of being introduced as separate ordinances was because it was thought better procedure in the Council. The one before you is the machinery by which we expect to enforce the code, but the machinery is something which we have felt necessary to ask each Council of the Virgin Islands to identically adopt. There may be changes made by each Council, and if changes are made by this Council, we will it necessary to ask St. Croix to make the same change. It would be much easier to make its amendments they would agree; that procedure to work out each community. So far as considered Mr. Chairman can be done by discussing either

Chairman remarked: The best way would be to follow the Order of the day and take the vote separately on two items.

2nd Appointed Member (Noll) remarked: My meaning is, that any remark made on one should apply to the other but the vote can be taken separately.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (M. M. Skeoch) would like to know whether items 4 and 5 are under one or separate discussion?

The Chairman replied: Item No. 4 is under discussion.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (M. M. Skeoch) remarked: Mr. Chairman. It seems to me that it would be more to the point if the members of this Council who have been elected to report on these laws would give us some information, the Chairman as spokesman and Secretary of the Committee has given us some elucidations, but the others are silent; I think those who have been members of the Committee should express their views and let us know their objections, if any, I have not had time to go through the laws myself, and therefore would be glad to hear from any of them.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) remarked: Mr. Chairman. This is the very reason why I ask if the two bills are under one and the same discussion, because if the two bills are to be discussed together I cannot see that the Committee or any member of the Council can have much to say on the organization bill, because the members of the Committee had nothing to do with the organization bill, and it was stated that we are not allowed to make any changes. When it comes to the code of laws I will be glad to say something, but when it comes to the organization bill I don't know that we have very much to say.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I agree with the last speaker. The organization bill was read to us and we had objected to that, and we declare, at least, I declare that I could not give any opinion on a draft that was read to us in a meeting where we had no chances to go through it. I think it would be better to have the matter printed and sent to us so as to enable us to give our opinion and make remarks on it. We received no written copies, we had no chance to acquaint ourselves with it, but at the last meeting of the Committee it was read to us, I believe that it is about one week ago that this meeting took place and we have not had a chance to go into the bill. It would be a waste of time to go into the merits of the bill, especially so as the Government has the right to put it in force just as it was read to us. I think it would be a waste of time to lay it before this Council inasmuch as we are told not to make any changes because they will not be accepted; I admit that the Government, according to the Organic Act, can make it law, but I cannot agree to ask the Council to sanction it. There are certain points in the bill, I don't know, it may be so inherent in the United States law that no