

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

Continued from yesterday's Avis.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Curry*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. It must be borne in mind by members that Government is not supposed to pay jurymen in all cases; only in criminal actions. In civil cases jurymen fees are charged against the party who loses the suit. If jurymen were paid by the hour it would be a great injury to the individual. The Court may be graciously pleased to continue its session or it may be graciously pleased to adjourn, so it won't be fair. Many cases may arise in which the plaintiff or defendant may have to pay the jurymen, and if such a proposal were adopted it would hamper a poor man from filing his suit in court.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I was not thinking of the interest of the individual, I was thinking of the interest of the community. I remember a case in which seventy-five persons were called in as jurymen and discharged, at the same time incurring great expenses on the community.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Curry*): It might be a good idea to pay jurymen on criminal cases by the hour, but for witnesses and jurymen in civil cases I don't think it would be fair.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*): That suggestion would cover it.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Curry*): I will not bring in an amendment. I am satisfied with the law, if the Honorable Member desires to bring in an amendment he may do so.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*): Mr. Chairman I would like to make a suggestion. There are objections by some Council members who feel that they should not be burdened with jury duty as they are already burdened with other public duties. I suggest that members of the Council be exempted from jury duty.

3rd Member for Frederiksted Country District (*M. M. Skeoch*) expressed himself as being in favor of the suggestion made by the last speaker.

This matter was, according to motion made by 2nd Member for Christiansted Town, postponed until after recess.

Item 3.

Colonial Council Bill No. 14.

Continuation of 2nd Discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 14, Third Council, First Session, draft of an Ordinance

introduced by 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Fleming*) providing for the repairing and rolling of the centerline road.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Fleming*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. This bill has come up so often before the Council that I believe all members understand its purpose very well. At the last meeting the bill was postponed until the return of certain members of the Council who were absent from the island, now they have returned and some have gone again. We have a road roller which is giving excellent service. I ask that members consider the matter and come to a final decision on it today so as to enable Government to raise tax to operate the machine. I notice that the assignment is made in proportion to the matriculated acreage. Some land owners may say that they have no cultivation, that their land is in bush.

The *Chairman* remarked: Do I understand that the Honorable member is making a motion to strike out the words which he referred to in his remarks.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Fleming*): Yes.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I want to make a few remarks in regard to Paragraph 31. Regarding fees for automobiles, I will admit that I hadn't time to work out the proposition in detail, but it seems to me while I am very anxious to see the road work go ahead I think the condition in Section 31 is rather too severe. I thought of a plan which I think would be far more economical and less burdensome—Instead of that section levy a tax of two cents per gallon on gasoline, —in other words the man who uses his car most will pay more and the one uses his car less will pay less. I have a statement of the gasoline imported into this port for the half year from January 1st to June 30, 1922, it amounts to 21,200 gallons. I have talked the matter over with 1st Member for Frederiksted Country District and he is in accord with it. I believe this community would be more satisfied with such a tax rather than pay twenty-dollars tax on an automobile.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Andersen*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. In reference to the proposal of the Honorable 2nd Member for Christiansted Town I am afraid we would have to go to such a high figures that I believe it is better to accept the tax proposed in the ordinance.

To be continued.

LOCAL.

St. John's church held its Sunday school Christmas tree last night at which there was a large attendance of children and adults.

The show at the theatre was again a tremendous success and the big gathering that witnessed the continuation of the Adventures of Tarzan went away as before highly satisfied.

Big H Or Little h—Which?

"WATCH YOURSELF GO BY" IN 1923 AND DETERMINE.

(A LAY SERMON).

By R. H. Amphlett Leader.

"No Success in life is anything but an absolute failure unless its purpose is to increase the sum total of human good and happiness."

PROF. FRANCIS E. WILLARD.

Broadly considered the human race can be divided into two classes—Helpers and hinderers. Big H here stands for Helper and little h for hinderer, and no one can be both at the same time; now which one are YOU?

Being a helper or a hinderer has nothing to do with your vocation. Do you work honestly or do you not? Do you think or do you not? Are you giving value for value through life or are you giving substitute for value? Are you giving others just what you exact from them for yourself or are you not? If you are doing the former you are a helper, if not you are a hinderer no matter whether you till the soil, occupy a clerkship, teach school, are master of a trade or profession, fill the pulpit, sit on the bench, make or interpret laws. Under this consideration there is no middle class. Big H or little h—WHICH?

A helper is a success and a hinderer is a failure. The poor man can be a helper and the rich man a hinderer and, conversely, the rich man can be a helper and the poor man a hinderer. In the final analysis success is not measured by the wealth one has amassed or inherited. Wealth—excellent thing as a means—is not worth; and it is worth that determines usefulness. Wealth is your belongings; worth is YOU. Once a very rich man was about to commit an offense which would have enlarged his coffers but injured thousands of poor people of the community in which he lived. The offense was not punishable at common law; it was not a crime under the statutes; it was not actionable; but it was condemnable and damnable in the court of conscience. John Bright sought to show the would-be offender that his contemplated action was wrong. "Do you know, sir," thundered the devotee of Mammon in reply to an unanswerable argument of Bright, "that I am worth a million pounds sterling?" "Yes," answered John calmly, "I do. And I also know that that is all you are worth," yes, you are either a greater helper because of your wealth or you are a bigger