

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from Saturday's Avis.)

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) Mr. Chairman. I wonder whether it was unfair for the Honorable 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District to have brought in an amendment to my Resolution at the last meeting.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) Mr. Chairman. I propose that we have a recess so that I may have time to prepare several amendments.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) remarked: Mr. Chairman. Reading a Resolution is not studying it. I am not going to vote for anything that I have not had a chance to study. I am not going to vote for the Resolution because it is introduced by the popular 2nd Member for Christiansted Town. I want to have a chance to study the Resolution; at least five minutes to prepare amendments.

A recess of 10 minutes was given.

At the resumption 1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) handed in an amendment to the Resolution which reads as follows:

AMENDMENT

to An Amendment to Colonial Council Bill No. 28.
Fourth Council, First Session, 1923-24

line 18 to read:

expended upon the repairs of the boat-wharf in Frederiksted.

June 23, 1924.

D. HAMILTON JACKSON,
1st Mem. Fred. Town.

The Chairman read the amendment handed in by 1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) and said:—As far as I know there is no appropriation for the small wharf in Frederiksted. There was a proposal by Government but that proposal was withdrawn. I don't know of any appropriation for the small wharf in Frederiksted.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I have been informed that the repairs to the wharf that is now being carried on will be completed before the 30 of this month, but the foundation work will not be finished by that time. This amount is to take care of the latter work.

Government Secretary (Zane) remarked: Mr. Chairman. May I point out that this amendment would have the effect of appropriating money for a new project. The intention of the Resolution as it now reads is to continue using mon-

ey appropriated for the purpose for which it was appropriated. In view of that I don't think the Governor will approve.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I am in sympathy with anything that would tend to benefit the island. I will support this Resolution if it is changed slightly so as to take care of all work remaining unfinished after June 30. In view of the fact that the other members nor myself have not been furnished with copies of the Resolution now before the House I move that the matter go over to the next meeting and that the Chairman place it on the order of the day as item one.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I have here a copy of the Budget for last year where all the new works are specified. There is a proviso under Public Cistern which reads: "To be expended on the recommendation of the Municipal Committee."

Government Secretary (Zane): Mr. Chairman. For the information of the Honorable 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District I desire to state that there will be no money left over after June 30 for repairing the wharf in Frederiksted.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen): Mr. Chairman. That may be true, but the creation of such a fund will help us out of all these uncertainties.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: Mr. Chairman. Suppose we did create one general fund for all new construction we would then be making the Council a figure head and all authority would fall in the hands of the Public Works Officer. If you create a fund as you would have it what could prevent the Public Works Officer from spending part of it on the wharf and the balance on something else?

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) seconded the motion made by 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District that the Resolution go over until the next meeting of the Council.

The Chairman remarked: It seems very unfortunate that this matter should be postponed as the time is so short. However, I intend calling an extraordinary meeting of the Council soon. The Rules of Business says that 2nd discussion must not take place earlier than 6 times 24 hours. However if the Council give its consent with $\frac{2}{3}$ vote there can be a deviation from the Rules.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata): Mr. Chairman. I object. The question before the House is a Resolution and until action is taken upon it I object to anything else being brought up.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (Ramsay) remarked: Mr. Chairman. It seems quite unnecessary to be quibbling over Frs. 25,000. The cistern

has been started and every thinking man in this Council will agree that it must be finished. The Government Secretary says that Government will approve the Resolution, if passed, with that in view I move that the vote be taken upon it today.

The motion made by 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District to the effect that discussion on the Resolution be postponed until the next meeting was put to the vote with the result that 3 members voted for; 7 against.

A recess of 5 minutes was given.

At the resumption 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) handed an amendment which reads as follows:

AMENDMENT

to Colonial Council Bill No. 28.

Fourth Council, First Session 1923-24.

Change from 5th line to read:

That the Governor be and he is hereby authorized to create a fund in the Colonial Treasury of St. Croix to be designated the "Public Works Fund for New Construction" to which he shall transfer such funds as may remain unexpended upon the date of approval of this Resolution for all new construction as appropriated by the Colonial Council in accordance with the budget of 1923-24 under item 51 of budget for the Public Works Department and additional Money Bills passed during the 1923-24 Session of the Colonial Council: Provided that said expenditures shall thereafter be charged to this fund, and when the projects are completed any funds remaining unexpended shall be covered into the Colonial Treasury of St. Croix and the fund abolished.

F. ANDERSEN

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) remarked: Mr. Chairman. Sometime before the Public Works Officer left the island I talked with him regarding new work for 1923-1924 and was told by him that there is quite some work appropriated for that will not be completed at the end of the fiscal year as he had no time to attend to them. I think in all fairness to the people of this island this unfinished work should be taken care of, particularly as there is a chance of securing the necessary amount from Federal appropriations.

To be concluded.

LOCAL

Some very heavy showers of rain fell yesterday accompanied by a thunderstorm and lightening. The rainfall measuring in Christiansted 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ lines, Kingshill 19 and Frederiksted 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lines.