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after the book written by

James W. Gerard

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NOTICE.

DURING my absence from the Island Lawyer A. E. STAKEMANN and Mr. JOHN ALBERT FLEMING of Estate La Reine hold my power of Attorney.

St. Croix 12 July 1923.

GEORGE F. LATIMER.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

1st Appointed Member (Coulter) Mr. Vice-Chairman you called upon me to give an explanation—

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Alexander): Mr. Vice-Chairman. With reference to the Honorable 1st Appointed Member's explanation about cook and Assistant Matron, may I inquire whether the cooking at Richmond is done by the prisoners?

The Vice-Chairman: I do not quite understand the question.

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Alexander): I will repeat the question. May I inquire whether the cooking at the Richmond Prison is done by the prisoners?

The Vice-Chairman: I thought your question had reference to Frederiksted Prison.

1st Appointed Member (Coulter) remarked: Mr. Vice Chairman. Under Item 1, Salaries of the Police and Prison Departments there is budgetted one Cook and Assistant Matron. The two is one and the same person, and at Richmond

the cooking is done by two prisoners under the direction of the matron.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata): Mr. Vice-Chairman. May I offer a suggestion? Couldn't we vote the totals under the various departments instead of taking them item by item? By doing so we would make more progress.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Berg) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. I think the same condition would prevail if the procedure suggested by the Honorable 2nd Member for Christiansted Town were adopted. I see no reason why the budget should be railroaded through. It comes up once a year and is a matter of importance.

3rd Member for Frederiksted Country District (M. M. Skeoch) concurred in the opinion expressed by the Honorable 2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata).

The Vice-Chairman: The budgetted amounts for the Police and Prison Departments are the same as last year.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. Under Item 10 Maintenance we see purveyance, including clothing for 60 prisoners, etc. I consider that absolutely necessary, because the prisoners are half naked and their trousers are patched here and there. I think this amount should be increased. We see under the same item, (and I cannot understand) an amount of Frs. 3,400 for operation and repairs. Police Car. I don't understand whether that means salary for the Chauffeur that operates the car. If that is the case I know that a patrolman for Frederiksted District drives the car. However it must strike the Honorable Chairman and Members of the Council that the figures put down here are very high. Another item: Amunition Frs. 350 I would like to know how much amunition was used by the police last year and how much was left over. Form-

erly we had a very efficient force here and at that time we had the rum shops opened and eleven policemen preserved order without difficulty. Why is it necessary now to have an amount on the budget under the Police Department for amunition? That looks as if the people of this island are not civilized. The Metropolitan Police of London do not carry firearms and amunition. The Honorable Vice-Chairman of this Council has spent some time in London and can substantiate this statement.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (Curry) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. When I was ex-officio Director of Police I inaugurated target practice and found that not more than two men could fire a revolver. We taught them how to shoot. Some time after there were police at King's Hill, and about twenty persons were gambling. The police walked upon them and said to one man: You stand here while I point my gun at the others! The men were aware that the police knew how to shoot and therefore offered no resistance, and as a result arrested several of them.

2nd Member for Christiansted Country District (Berg): It would be interesting to me to know if that could be repeated today.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (Curry): You go out there and gamble and you will see.

2nd Member for Christiansted Country District (Berg): That is the only manner in which I would be convinced.

1st Appointed Member (Coulter). Mr. Vice Chairman. I am so very well acquainted with the Director of Police that I feel I would venture—

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. I would suggest that the Honorable 1st Appointed Member would for his own sake and for the sake of the dignity of this Council, leave the defence of his department to the Council.

Government Secretary [Gaffney] remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. Objection is raised by the Council to the Honorable 1st Appointed Member speaking for his department. Then Government will, in accordance with the Colonial Law, ask that he be excluded and he will be called in by Government to speak for his department.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: I move that the 1st Appointed Member, he being Director of Police, retire in accordance with the Rules of Business § 18, and be called in if necessary to give elucidations.

1st Appointed Member (Coulter) retired from his seat.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town [Jackson]: Mr. Vice-Chairman—

Government Secretary (Gaffney): Mr. Vice-Chairman. Government's representative has preference over a member to speak.

The Vice-Chairman: If any further