

hope in Washington, that we shall perform this necessary duty right here and in the near future; and not by our continued inaction force the Congress to make local tax laws for us. American principles urge upon us the duty of arranging for our own local taxes, and placing them on an equitable, just and right basis and one that will meet the legitimate expenses of government.

4. I have not as yet had the opportunity of studying the question of the water supply in St. Croix and so shall have to defer until a later meeting any observations that I may have to make on this subject; but I am under the impression that this is a problem that must soon be faced and solved.

5. From the testimony before and the proceedings of the Congressional Commission which I read very carefully before coming to the Islands and from information which has come to me since, I learn that the great question of capital and labor finds a strong echo in this Island. Because of the importance of this subject in the community, I believe that the people are entitled to know just how the Governor stands in relation to the whole matter. I shall endeavor to make my position so clear that even the children in the schools cannot possibly misunderstand my meaning. Capital and labor are inseparable in human relations; neither can function broadly in world affairs without the other. I believe in capital, and, as Governor, I am a friend of capital, for no business or industry can be carried on without it. Capital is fully entitled to a just and sometimes under extraordinary conditions to even a generous, but never to an excessive, interest. In other words the returns should never become so fat as to subject the consumer to extortion and profiteering on the one hand or to reduce labor to anything approaching penury on the other hand. At the same time if returns fall much below a just figure, upkeep will suffer, material will deteriorate, capital will become discouraged and the whole community will suffer in some degree. It is the duty of capital to pay labor a fair living wage, one that not only brings to the worker the necessities of life but also some of the happiness and ethical uplift that comes from a healthy surplus, either placed in saving or intelligently expended toward better health and education. I believe in labor, and, as Governor, I am the friend of labor. A Great Master has told us that the laborer is worthy of his hire, and the same Wise One has taught us that he who serves is entitled to a high place in the estimation of all right thinkers, but when I have said that labor should have a fitting reward, I have not said all that I think. A good wage demands an honest return in labor, not twenty-five percent efficiency, where it takes four men to do the work of one real man, but one hundred percent, efficiency. We all know, however, that it is given to but few men in all the world to deliver one hundred percent, of efficiency and we should be merciful in that knowledge,

but the man who, of his own free will and accord, falls below seventy per cent, in his efficiency is generally lacking in some of the qualities of good citizenship, while the man who works only two or three days in the week, where he could work six days, and then lies off as long as his money lasts is a positive menace to the community in which he lives. I draw no fine distinctions in labor. The man who works diligently at a mental occupation is as much a laborer as he who tills the soil or plies a trade. All are equally honorable. None shall be slighted. No legitimate activity of mankind can be inhibited without the loss being felt in some measure by the whole community. The foot or hand cannot be amputated or disabled without the brain becomes aware of the defect, and if the brain is removed or even injured, the feet and hands are done for. The solution of the problem of capital and labor is **UNSELFISH COOPERATION**. There is no other solution. There can be none other.

6. From testimony before the Congressional Commission and from articles in the local press, I note that the impression still seems to rest in the minds of some of the people that the Government of these Islands is a naval government. I wish to, once and for all time, disabuse the minds of these good people of any such fallacy. Your Government is not a naval or military government in any sense of the word. Your law making body is a civil legislative body and your Governor is a civil governor, appointed as such by the President with the advice and consent of the senate. What happens to be the lifelong profession of your Governor has nothing to do with his functions as Governor. You gentlemen of the Council fully understand this fact, but it is apparent that some of your constituents do not yet comprehend it and I will ask you to promptly correct all false impressions on the subject.

7. It having come to my attention, soon after my inauguration, that dissatisfaction exists with the present income law and that certain provision in the United States Income Tax Law were desired, I requested Congress to extend to these Islands the National Income Tax Laws, so that the people here might be in the same status as other Americans elsewhere. It was a matter of surprise to me to find that residents of these Islands, owing allegiance to foreign countries, have been and are still eligible to hold public office. I have brought this matter to the attention of Congress also as one wholly and entirely at variance with American principles.

8. From time to time I shall have messages for the Colonial Council which I shall either bring or send to you as may be most expedient.

SUMNER E. W. KITTELLE.
Governor.

EDITORIAL.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of a copy of a program for a literary

contest in the Frederiksted Junior High School to be held this evening. The attention of readers is invited to this contest which to our mind represents one of the most rational methods of encouraging school work among pupils. There is nothing that animates the growing boy or girl to push ahead in his or her studies as the knowledge that he or she is being compared with some other boy or girl. These contests are not merely scholastic tests giving a theoretic result, but they form the actual groundwork for the cultivation of ambition which every teacher or parent knows is absolutely essential in the child that is to reflect credit on his tuition and home training. The present contest is confined to the students of the Frederiksted Junior High School and is in a measure exemplary of this ambition. The general admission charge is 40 cents for adults and 20 cents for children. Tickets will be sold at the gate of the West End Movies where the contest will be held. His Honor Judge Mc Kean has consented to act as Chairman for the Debate, and Lawyers Noli and Curry and Dr. Canegata have been selected to act as Judges. It is to be hoped that public interest will be aroused in this matter and encouragement shown the promoters of the scheme. It is regretted that time and space will not permit the insertion of the program which includes subjects bearing very lucid evidence to the broad curriculum of the school but we hope to publish the results of the contest.

The marriage of Mr. R. E. Higgins, one of the leading merchants of this island, to Miss Bertha Henry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roland E. Henry, and sister of the present incumbent of the Moravian Mission at "Fredensborg", Frederiksted, was solemnized in that church yesterday afternoon in the presence of a large gathering of friends, Rev. Henry officiating. The bride was given away by her brother Mr. Roland Henry Jr. and Mr. Aug. Bissrup was best man. After the ceremony in the church the company was entertained at the Moravian Parsonage where some pleasant hours were spent in animated social fashion, with toasting by the gentlemen and the bridegroom. The happy couple were the recipients of many nice gifts, and numerous congratulatory messages, including cablegrams, to which we here add our own best wishes for a peaceful and happy union.

LOCAL.

The S. S. "Guiana" is expected to leave New York today.

The S. S. "Parima" is expected to leave New York on Wednesday, 29th. inst.

Creole is not yet in. The Postmaster advises having received notice of sailing at 8 o'clock last night with St. Thomas and Porto Rico mails only. Very light wind all night and to the time of inserting this note.