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THOS. J. ASH.

Christiansted April 24, 1924.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Alexander) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. I have listened to the proponent of the bill as well as the Honorable 1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson). My opinion as regards legal holidays for St. Croix is that they should be dealt with according to custom. We have been in the custom of celebrating the first day of January. (The speaker then proceeded to review the list of holidays) and said this Ordinance gives the Governor authority to proclaim other holidays. In my opinion, (I may be wrong) but I think that when it comes to American holiday it should be left entirely with the Governor as to whether he wants to issue a proclamation to put them in effect. I agree with the Honorable 1st Member for Christiansted Town (Abramson) that Transfer Day should be included in our list of holidays. As regards 4th July that is a different thing. That date marks an historical event and is celebrated all over the United States. As regards Labor Day, American Labor Day has no significance for us. We have always been accustomed to celebrate November 1, the day of the organization of labor in St. Croix; Thanksgiving Day, this bill gives the Governor the right to proclaim that day as a holiday, and therefore I see no necessity to include it in the list of holidays. Reviewing the list of holidays observed in the various States and outlying possessions of the Union I find that Alaska has 11 holidays, Arizona 13, Arkansas 14, Alabama 14, Nevada 14. I can name you several other States which have more holidays than we. In St. Thomas the number of holidays there exceeds ours. It does not appear uniform to have one set of holidays for St. Thomas and one set for St. Croix. I would favour an amendment making Transfer Day a legal holiday.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Town (Merwin) proposed that 1st discussion be closed.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: Mr. Vice-Chairman. I have here the minutes of the Colo-

nia Council for the meeting held June 11, 1917, the days proposed as holidays in a bill introduced at that meeting are quite different to those in the bill passed here on April 19, 1919. I suggest that the best thing to do is to send this matter to a committee where it can be more conveniently discussed and arranged.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Town (Merwin) remarked: Mr. Chairman. 1st discussion can be closed and the committee appointed at 2nd discussion.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) proposed a committee of the whole Council to receive and report on the bill.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (Curry) offered an amendment to the proposal to the effect that the House resolve itself into a committee immediately.

2nd Member for Frederiksted Town (Merwin): I rise to ask that my motion that 1st discussion be closed and that a vote be taken as to whether the bill should be furthered, be put to the vote.

It was put to the vote and unanimously carried that the bill be furthered.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) moved that a committee of five members be elected to receive and report on the Ordinance.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) moved that a committee of 9 members be elected to receive and report on the Ordinance.

The motion made by 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District was put to the vote and lost.

The motion made by 2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) was put to the vote with the result that 6 members voted for; none against.

The Vice Chairman remarked: The committee will be appointed after recess.

A recess of 20 minutes was given.

At the resumption the Chairman took the Chair and asked members to prepare their voting tickets for the election of 5 members to receive and report on Colonial Council Bill No. 19.

12 voting tickets were handed in, one was blank.

Elected were: 2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) with 10 votes, 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) with 10 votes, 1st Member for Christiansted Town (Abramson) with 9 votes, 2nd Member for Frederiksted Town (Merwin) with 8 votes and 3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Alexander) with 6 votes.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) received 5 votes, 1st Appointed Member (Coulter), 4th Appointed Member (Blackwood), 1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Jessen) and 2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (Curry) received 4 votes respectively.

Item 2.

Colonial Council Bill No. 8.

Fourth Council, First Session.

Continuation of 1st discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 8, draft of an Ordinance introduced by 1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) creating a special commission for the purpose of revising the Code of General and Special Laws for the Municipality of St. Croix, with Committee Report.

The Report reads as follows:

COMMITTEE REPORT

on Colonial Council Bill No. 8.

Fourth Council, First Session 1923-1924.

The Committee appointed by the Colonial Council at its meeting of October 15, 1923, to report on Ordinance creating a special Commission to revise the Code of General and Special Laws for the Municipality of St. Croix met in the Colonial Council Office on Friday, March 28, 1924. Member Jackson was elected Chairman.

Your Committee recommends that instead of furthering the present Ordinance that the Colonial Council appoint a committee of five (5) members to point out and draft amendments to the sections in the Code entitled "An Ordinance Providing A Compiled Code of General And Special Laws For St. Croix and Altering, Amending, Repealing And Continuing Existing Laws" which experience has shown need revision.

D. HAMILTON JACKSON,
Chairman & Speaker.

F. ANDERSEN. D. C. CANEGATA,
J. ALEXANDER. HOLGER JESSEN.

Christiansted, St. Croix, March 28, 1924.

The Chairman remarked: Honorable Members I have to state that this bill has been before the Council since August last year. On August 24 of the same year His Excellency, Governor Hough, addressed a letter to the Chairman of the Council. (The Chairman read the letter) then remarked: I have read this letter only to show that this is not a new matter. The bill was reintroduced in the Council on October 15, 1923, and at that time the Government Secretary said that as the Governor had already expressed his views as being opposed to the original bill, Government had no recourse except that it does not see its way towards forwarding the present draft. The bill was, however, sent to a committee on October 15, the committee met and has sent in its report which has been printed and circulated. It speaks for itself.

To be continued.