

are now on the verge of bankruptcy and we will not be able to continue with even our present scale of taxation much longer if there is not a decided change to the letter in the possibilities.

Government Secretary (*Gaffney*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. One more point I would like to place before the Council, and that should always be borne in mind. The proceeds of any tax goes into Treasury, the United States does not ask for one cent. It has never been our policy to ask any possession for any money from the revenue collected.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Fleming*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. As this is a matter of vital importance to the community I ask that it be not left in the hands of a few members; I ask that it be referred to a committee of the whole house.

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (*Alexander*) remarked. Mr. Chairman. With regard to remarks made by the Honorable 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District. I proposed that the matter go into a committee and have members of the community summoned to appear before that committee and give an opinion. The same is done in Congress whenever there is an important matter before it; it is not a question of sending the matter to four or five members. That is my idea of the matter. The Honorable Member misunderstood me.

The Chairman put to the vote the motion made by 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District that the Ordinance be referred to a committee of the whole house.

12 members voted for; none against.

The Chairman remarked: As this is an important Government business, I wish to have decision on it as quickly as possible, I will ask Members to meet after the Council meeting to organize and to select a Chairman and Secretary and to fix the dates on which meetings are to be held, so as to be able to report on the Bill as quickly as possible.

The Chairman then remarked: The next item on the Order of the Day is election of Members of the Road Commission. This will be taken up after recess. I wish to state for the information of Members that there has been no election as far as I can remember or learn since the American occupation.

I will therefore read the names of the members acting at present, so that any member may take objection to any of them if they desire should there be a difference of opinion as to all tenure of office having expired. The members are: Messrs.

G. B. Fleming A. V. Nelthropp
F. Andersen J. Schuster
A. Queale C. Hagemann
W. H. Fleming S. Jorgensen (deceased)
The Council elected 4 and the Governor will make

the appointments. I have had typewritten copies of the Par. of the Ordinance regarding the election of Members of the Commission and I will now circulate it among members.

Accordingly the typewritten Par. of the Ordinance was circulated among Members.

The Chairman then gave a recess of 20 minutes.

(To be continued)

LOCAL.

Raport boat "Pulwico" arrived at this port yesterday noon and sailed for St. Kitts early today having worked to a finish last night. It is advised that owing to earlier departure the mails for the Islands were closed and delivered to the steamer last night.

Copious rain showers fell here last night.

The "Creole" has not yet returned from St. Thomas.

Belated but nevertheless correct is the advice received that the dwelling house at Estate "Campo Rico" owned by Miss M. Latimer, was totally destroyed by fire on Friday last week, December 30th., cause of fire undetermined. It is understood that many unreplacable articles were lost and considerable value as a whole, nothing being covered by insurance.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, Dec. 28th.—Official reports received from Cairo today stated that the situation in lower Egypt was approaching normal, that all officials had returned to their offices and that only the schools remained closed. There were small disturbances in Alexandria yesterday, but Cairo, the Canal Zone, and the Hinterland were quiet, indicating, according to official circles here, that the worst of the disturbances have ended.

Washington, Dec. 28th.—The important farm crops of the United States were valued at \$5,675,877,000 this year based on prices paid to farmers on December 1st. The department of agriculture announced today its final estimates. The same crops, which comprise about ninety per cent of the value of all farm crops, were valued last year at \$9,075,388,000.

Washington, Dec. 28th.—The submarine controversy has revealed so wide a difference of opinion among the powers that the arms delegates are seriously discussing a plan to leave the whole question of auxiliary warships' tonnage to a later international conference.

Washington, Dec. 27th.—Rear Admiral Charles Henry Davis, retired brother-in-law of Senator Lodge of Massachusetts,

died at his home here today. He was a native of Boston and was 76 years of age.

London, Dec. 28th.—Following a conference between the South Africa Government and South African Industrial Federation and the traders union, it has been decided to recommend a strike at the Witbank and Vereriginn coal mines on January 1st.

Ahmadabad, British India, Dec. 28th.—An attempt to force the adoption, by the Indian Nationalist Congress today of a motion providing that complete independence from the British Empire should be attained by a possible and proper means, instead of by "legitimate and peaceful means", was frustrated by Mahatma Gandhi, the Nationalist leader, who warned the Congress against alienating the sympathies of the Moderates. A special committee rejected the proposal by an overwhelming majority and adopted Gandhis resolution in favour of maintaining the existing creed of non-violence. When an attempt was made to move the extremist amendment in the full Congress the President ruled it out of order. The Congress opened today under the Presidency of Hakim Ajmal Khanra, in the place of Dr. Das, the President of the Congress, who was arrested recently in Bengalih, twelve thousand persons attended. Ajmal in his speech said he welcomed the Government's policy of repression, which had strengthened the determination of the Indian people to continue their struggle more vigorously. Messages were received from Das and his wife, both of whom are in prison, exhorting all the Indians to act now or never by joining the Khalifat volunteers and suspending their other normal activities.

Dublin, Dec. 28th.—The Cavan Urban Council has adopted a resolution setting forth its high appreciation of the terms of the treaty, and while recognizing the great services rendered by the members of the Dail Eirreann opposing the treaty declares, "we unanimously request them for the sake of our dear country to bury their differences and to stand with Griffith and McKeown for ratification." A meeting of the Tyrone county council has been called for the purpose of considering a resolution in favour of ratification while Nationalists and Sinn Feiners of Omagh last night passed a resolution demanding that the Dail Eirreann arrange that the representatives of the counties of Tyrone and Fermanagh be allowed to voice their views.

London, Dec. 29th.—It was officially stated today that the importation of disorderly elements into Calcutta on Dec. 23rd to enforce the "Hartal" by terrorizing shop-keepers, resulted in 650 arrests for obstruction and on other charges of disorderly conduct. Arrests in Calcutta for similar reasons during the past six weeks have totalled 13,500, according to the statement.