

## Special Notice.

TO give parties a chance who may be desirous of attending the procession at Est. Barren Spot on SUNDAY, 27th INST., the undersigned will receive engagement for seats by his one ton truck Brooklyn.

Round trip 40 cents per head.

Call and make arrangements at an early date.

It is desired to leave at an early time on said day in order to avoid being out at night.

New car ride at a different price.

W. S. ABRAMSON.

Christiansted, 21st July 1924.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (*Anderson*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. In regard to having all night electric lights in Frederiksted, last year when the matter was under discussion the Honorable 4th Member for Christiansted Country District spoke on it and I am glad that the Honorable Member is here today and might give us some information. What he said then is as follows: "It is between twelve o'clock midnight and dawn most of the robberies are committed in Frederiksted." May I ask the Honorable Member if the morals of the people of Frederiksted have improved?

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) replying to the last speaker said, — Mr. Chairman. I take pleasure in answering the Honorable 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District by saying that conditions have greatly improved in Frederiksted, so much so that we scarcely need a policeman in that town. The morals of the people in that town are very much improved and I hope that there shall be no repetition of what has been happening before in the near future. Give us more lights!

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (*Jackson*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I am glad that the Honorable 4th Member for Christiansted Country District has supported me that crimes have reduced to the extent that there is hardly any need for a policeman in Frederiksted. I want that to go on record. I am in the Courts every day and cannot see the necessity of a large police force such as we have at present.

4th Member for Christiansted Country District (*Ramsay*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. In answering the Honorable 4th Member for Frederiksted Country Dis-

trict I made a wrong statement. I should have said with lights and sufficient policemen everything is going on very well.

2nd Member for Christiansted Country District (*Berg*): Mr. Chairman. How is the current consumed on the street controlled?

The Chairman: By meters.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (*Jackson*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I have always been against all night service. I do however believe that there ought to be a greater number of lights in the town and in the principal streets lights of a greater power. I would very much like to see more lights in the Town but not to burn all night. In large cities with better economic resources the greater number of lights are put out at midnight. I don't see why we should have lights here all night.

No further remarks. Public Works Department tacitly adopted.

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (*Jessen*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. Equipment and Maintenance as budgetted under this department is alright, but when it comes to salaries I am sorry to say that I cannot vote for an appropriation made up in such a manner as this is before us. If we take the budget for the past four years you would find that the other departments submit their estimates year after year in such a manner that a member may be able to compare and put things together, but the Department of Education submits its estimates in a different form each year thereby making it impossible for a member to arrive at a reasonable conclusion; this year the estimates for that department are submitted in a manner which I consider brief. The number of teachers differs from year to year; in 1921 we had sixty teachers and six special teachers budgetted; in 1922 forty two teachers and five special teachers, in 1923 fifty teachers and 14 special teachers and this year we see on the budget forty-eight teachers and thirty special teachers. Under salaries we see the words "Salaries in accordance with Code," that may be all right but the Code provides for minimum and maximum salaries. I would like to know how many of the teachers whose salaries are fixed by the Code are drawing minimum salaries and how many are drawing maximum salaries. The Code says that the salaries of special teachers shall be fixed by the Director; this is so far all right, but does it mean that this legislative body should not know how these salaries are divided; and how many special teachers are employed? I am of the opinion that the tendency is to get away from teachers whose salaries are fixed according to the Code and to employ teachers whose salaries are fixed by the Director. Why are there so many special teachers this year and the previous year as compared with 1921 and 1922? The Department of Education is

the only department that makes use of the words "not to exceed." Such an arrangement is unimportant when the amount in question is small, but in this case we are dealing with an amount of Fes. 161,000, and when such large amounts are involved it would seem to me better business if the appropriation had been fixed as in the case of the other departments. If Fes. 140,000 is sufficient to carry the department through, why then give it a lawful right to spend Fes. 20,000 more than is necessary? I am sorry that no provision is made for industrial schools, there is a greater need for such an institution than there is for musical education and others of that kind.

Government Secretary (*Zane*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. With regard to the remarks of the Honorable 1st Member for Christiansted Country District. I might say that the main objection he has raised the Government has also seen and sympathizes with him. The main difficulty in the way of setting specific salaries for teachers, I understand, is that the teachers are more or less in a continuous state of flux, which is the main reason for the stipulation in the code providing for minimum and maximum salaries according to grades. I might add that one of the features which it is hoped will be gained through the new method is, that the Governor will be able to pass upon all increases in salaries of teachers. While the appointment of teachers rests with the Director of Education under the code, yet it is required that the Governor approve all appointments. As to why it is not feasible to specify the number of teachers in each grade, the Director of Education informs us that it frequently happens that he has to use a teacher in a lower grade who had qualified for a higher one and vice versa. In other words, the situation with respect to teachers as compared with employees in other departments is different, this, coupled with the requirement that all appointments must be approved by the Governor, seems to be the only feasible way of handling it.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (*Jessen*): Mr. Chairman. Allow me to thank the Honorable Government Secretary for the information; and allow me to state that I did not criticise this item because I am opposed to education. Far from that. I did so for the sake of regularity, and because gold may also be bought too dear.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I just want to say that I agree with the Honorable 1st Member for Christiansted Country District. This is the most complicated estimate on the budget. If the time wasn't so short the whole thing could have been rearranged. As the estimates stand one would believe that 72 teachers are employed while