

oil be convinced that these properties should be exempted from taxes a law could be made whereby they could be exempted. I would be willing to postpone the matter if Government is willing to take it under consideration but as already stated, I consider the matter provided for by existing laws and ordinances.

It seems from the letter which I have just read that Government is laying stress on the words of the Ordinance of 31st. December, 1907 in Section 3, in which is stated "properties belonging to the State and buildings used for church purposes", seeing in these words a difference between buildings and properties; now the law never intended to differentiate according to Colonial Law, namely: When there is a difference in the Danish and English text, the Danish text of the law is to be recognized, same only having been laid before the King for sanction. Now in the Danish text there is no difference, it reads in translation "properties belonging to the state or such as are used for church purposes". Herewith the argument which the Government might build on in the English text falls to the ground.

(2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (M. M. Skæoch) entered the meeting.

Member Stakemann continuing.—In regard to the property No. 69, Queen Street, this belongs to the U. S. Government; the Treaty having transferred all the properties belonging to the Danish State to the U. S. Government, and this being one of these consequently becomes the property of the United States, the Treaty only reserves to the Lutheran Congregation the use of same. Apart from it being States property it is used for housing destitutes (the member read Section 4 of the Ordinance of 1st October, 1902) and continuing said, this is plain; firstly the building belongs to the Government; and secondly, it is occupied by indigent persons who receive support from poor funds; it is a charitable institution and therefore there is no income derived from the property; and by virtue of law of 1st October, 1902, the property is therefore exempted from taxes.

The next is, the question of the tax on property No. 68, Queen Cross Street, this is a consecrated building and is being used exclusively for church purposes, consequently it comes under the law which exempts building for church purposes from paying taxes and no more comment is needed.

I believe I have made myself clear, but further as a further advance of my opinion, I beg to call attention to a letter from Government under date of October 3, 1916, in which the Danish Government authorises the cancelling of the tax for 1915 on property No. 69, and letter of November 3, 1917 from the American Government in which this Government cancels the tax for 1916.

I propose that the assessments on these properties, which are not yet paid, be cancelled, and the taxes which by an error have been paid be refunded; and if the Government be willing it might take the matter under renewed consideration and if it finds that the law, as understood by me is correct, I should then be willing to withdraw this draft of Ordinance as superfluous.

The Chairman would like to know the date under which the letter to Mr. Petersen was written and by whom?

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) answered October 9, 1919, and signed by Despatching Secretary (R. O'Hagan).

4th. Appointed Member [Blackwood] remarked: Mr. Chairman. As this matter pertains to the financial affairs of the Municipality it was discussed by the Municipal Committee and recommended to the Council with the understanding that all properties used for church purposes and belonging to other denominations should be exempted from taxes.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District [Stakemann] remarked: Other churches have applied for the same relief.

No one desiring the word further the Chairman said that if there were no objections first discussion would remain open until the next meeting.

The Chairman then gave a recess of 20 minutes.

[To be Continued.]

We have been asked to mention that during this week the Industrial Brass Band will render two concerts on the wharf on the 12th., and 14th. inst.

The theatre was very well attended last night and the parts exhibited of the serial proved very exciting and created an eagerness to follow it up.

TELEGRAMS

ST. CROIX STATION.

Berlin, March 3rd.—A proclamation issued today calls upon all Germans who believe their names to be on the list of men whose extradition is demanded by the Allies to make known their place of residence to the Attorney-General.

Paris, March 3rd.—Turkey's army will be limited to the number of troops necessary to maintain order in Asia Minor, according to the "Journal", which says that Turkey will be compelled to keep her armed forces on the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus.

Washington, March 3rd.—The retention of sufficient war-time posts and war-time plants to permit of the expansion of the army and the resumption of the production of war material at full capacity will be recommended by General Pershing, he indicated today on his return to Washington after a three months' tour of camps, cantonments and supply

depots over the country. There is a strong sentiment throughout the United States in favour of universal service of some sort, the General said, based on recognition of the benefit to the men themselves and also because "we might not have the Allies to hold the line for us in the next war."

London, March 3rd.—A wireless despatch received here from Berlin announces that the Norwegian Premier has stated that Norway is prepared to supply Germany with fish and fats on credit since "Norway is convinced that the German people will comply with their obligations." The despatch adds that the Leipzig fair opened with eleven thousand firms exhibiting and that ninety thousand visitors have arrived including fourteen thousand foreigners.

Marseille, March 3rd.—The steamer Austria sailed from this port last night for the near East with fifteen hundred French troops who will disembark at Constantinople.

Paris, March 3rd.—The League of Nations will hold its next session in Paris on March twelfth and the organization of a commission which is to investigate the condition in Russia will be taken up.

Milan, March 3rd.—The general strike which was declared here on Monday as a result of the clash between the troops and a demonstration on Sunday, in which two civilians were killed, ended yesterday.

London, March 3rd.—Active preparations are being made to open Petrograd to navigation and merchant ships are being fitted out to resume relations with Western Europe.

Copenhagen, March 1st.—It is officially announced that the Esthonian Government has permitted General Yudenitch, former Commander of the Russian North-West Army and some of his officers to proceed to Paris by way of Libau. The Berlingske Tidende's Reval correspondent says that General Yudenitch and his Generals left Esthonia in a motor-car carrying the British flag, and states that he is taking his private fortune, which is estimated at ten million pounds in Esthonia marks. Of General Yudenitch's army there remains in Esthonia twelve thousand who are suffering from spotted typhus and there are also in Esthonia one thousand hunger stricken fugitives.

London, March 2nd.—The appointment of Sir Auckland Geddes as British Ambassador to the United States has been officially announced. He will leave London for the United States in about a month.

Geneva, March 2nd.—More than one million children are now being cared for by Governmental aid, according to reports submitted by the "Save the Children" Congress. There were nineteen hundred and thirty deaths, mostly children, and only eighty births in Vienna from Feb. 8th. to thirteenth.