

As explained heretofore, the ports of the Virgin Islands are ports of call and not ports of entry and therefore closely approximate the Panama Canal in this respect. The Treasury regulations of June 10, 1923, based upon the Supreme Court decision regarding the carrying of liquor under seal into United States ports, has had the effect of keeping vessels away from the ports of the Virgin Islands to the benefit of competing foreign ports in the West Indies. The proposed treaty now under negotiation between Great Britain and the United States, whereby the United States would acquire the right of search beyond the three mile limit, in exchange for the privilege conceded British ships of entering United States ports with liquor under seal, appears to indicate that similar treaties will be negotiated with other maritime countries. It is therefore very important that steps be taken to assure that ports of the Virgin Islands are placed in the same status as the ports of Continental United States under any treaties of a nature similar to the one pending with Great Britain.

Christiansted, St. Croix, February 4, 1924.

It was put to the vote and carried that each member be allowed not more than five minutes to talk of the resolution.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*): proposed as the resolution is one of great importance that it be dealt with as the Council would an ordinance, that is, have three discussions upon it.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (*Jackson*): said he did not see that discussion was necessary on the resolution since the Governor says that no amendment is desired. I don't see, said he, why we should waste time to discuss a matter if we cannot amend it.

The Chairman (*Merwin*) said he never heard of a resolution going through more than two discussions.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (*Canegata*): said there is a precedent on this question--The resolution transferring the Quay to the Federal Government was subjected to three discussions.

The Chairman (*Merwin*): I am subject to the desire of the majority of the Council, and therefore will take the vote as to whether the resolution should be subject to one, two or three discussions.

It was put to the vote and carried that the Resolution be furthered and passed at one discussion.

The 6th Elected Member for St. Thomas (*Corneiro*) in introducing the Resolution on behalf of the Colonial Council of St. Thomas and St. John said, -- Mr. Chairman, and Confreres of the Colonial Council of St. Croix and Honorable Commissioners: I will not attempt to detain the meeting because time is a most important factor; nevertheless I crave your forbearance for a while. As the year 1924 came into existence we all felt

that it was to be a year full of promise, and three important events have taken place that seem to strengthen this belief; the first is the coming of the United States Fleet to these waters; the second, the sending of a Federal Commission to investigate conditions on these islands; and the third, the historical meeting of both Councils under one roof. Each member, I am sure will do his best for these islands. I always believed that there should be a common interest between these two Municipalities, for it is only by cooperation we can obtain the desired results. I do not believe that the interests of the two islands are so different that we cannot cooperate. As I said before I consider our meeting here today historical, especially so as we have in our midst the Honorable Federal Commissioners. Now that the Olive Branch is held out I hope this is the beginning of the cooperation desired for the future.

This resolution which hardly requires any forcible explanation on my part since so much has been said about it in the Governor's letter the Chairman of the Municipal Committee of each Municipality is a condensation of the hearings we had in St. Thomas over which I had the honor to preside as Chairman; it is now before you sifted, analyzed and condensed, and I feel that credit should be given to the Chairman of the Municipal Committee of St. Croix and the Government Secretary for what has been accomplished. The Speaker read the preamble of the Resolution and continuing said, Gentlemen, there are others to come after me and who will give further elucidations on these recommendations, therefore I will only make a few remarks on recommendation No. 4, which deals with Manual Training in the Public Schools, and after that I will say no more. On that point we are all agreed that the youths of the Virgin Islands, with the limited means at their disposal are making fair advancement along this line. When we go to the Public Schools we have to look with astonishment at the good work that is being done there. I believe such work should be extended so that the artisans of the Virgin Islands should be as good as any other in the West Indies, and that in a few years hence we may be able to say with pride that our artisans are second to none around these waters. Most of you are familiar with the Resolution now before the House. I desire to thank you for the assistance given the Municipal Committee in clearing up all points regarding it, and I ask you to consider it no more as the property of the Municipal Committee, but as the property of both Councils in common, and then let us join together in laying it before the Congress of the United States as a definite program upon which the future of this island can be built.

To be continued.

LOCAL

5 lines of rain was measured at the Fort this morning.

The sloop Mizpah from St. Thomas arrived here last night.

The s. s. Catherine docked at Frederiksted yesterday about 2 p. m. with the usual mails and a large number of tourists who motored to Christiansted to pay it a visit. She returns to San Juan at 2 p. m. today via St. Thomas and Culebra.

The s. s. "Bridgetown" left New York last Saturday, having 91 tons of cargo for Christiansted and 16 tons for Frederiksted.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

London, Feb. 12th--Sugar in stock on the 9th inst was 40,000 tons. Last year 140,000 tons.

Cannes, Feb. 13th.--Suzanne Lenglen, French tennis star, is continuing her sensational early season play. In the Carlton Tournament, paired with M. Aeschlman, she disposed of Miss Richardson and Mr. Foster 6-0, 6-0, and Miss Kavanagh and Mr. Sherring by the same score.

Luxor, Feb. 13th--Owing to what is characterized as the "discourtesy" of the Egyptian Public Works Department of excavation, workers closed Tutankhamen's tomb today and abandoned operations. It is understood the crisis was precipitated by the refusal of the Egyptian Government to permit the wives of the excavators to visit the tomb this morning.

Washington, Feb. 13th.--Diplomatic relations between the United States and the Government of Honduras have been severed by the State Department. The step was taken because of the failure of three political factions in Honduras to reach an agreement under which a constitutional government can be restored by peaceful means.

Coblentz, Feb. 13th.--The inter-Allied commission has sent two companies of infantry to restore order in Pirmasens. A state of siege has been declared in the city and vicinity. Advices here said German Nationalists attacked the Separatists, later setting fire to the City Hall and that 14 persons were killed, including 8 Separatists.

Moscow, Feb. 13th.--Norway has given the Russian Soviet Government recognition de jure, the Foreign Office was informed today in a telegram received from Madame Alexandra Kolantay, Soviet representative in Norway.

Paris, Feb. 13th.--There is not the slightest chance to renew the Anglo-French Entente Cordiale on the former basis, in the opinion of "Pertinax" the famous French political writer.