

ORDINANCE

TO PROVIDE FOR LOANS FROM THE IMMIGRATION FUND TO ASSIST IN BRINGING THE ISLAND OF SAINT CROIX UNDER A NORMAL STATE OF CULTIVATION OF SUGAR CANE ETC.

All persons desirous of obtaining loans in accordance with the above-mentioned ordinance can obtain the requisite blank forms on application to the Colonial Council Office in Christiansted and at the Police Office in Frederiksted.

D. C. CANEGATA,
Chairman, Municipal Committee.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I was present at the meeting of the Municipal Committee when the wharf was inspected after it was nicely repaired. The wharf, as it is at present, can hold out until it is destroyed again. We did not know at that time that we were to have a visit from the United States Fleet. We know it now, but it does not make any difference. With regard to the building of a concrete landing to the wharf in question that will take many, many months to be erected, and therefore the repairs can wait until the financial condition of the island has improved. The Municipal Committee called attention to the fact that the main wharf in Frederiksted is in such a bad condition that it is high time that the repairs for which money was appropriated in last year's budget be taken up without further delay.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I think that so far the Honorable 4th Member for Frederiksted Country District has answered the main objection of the Municipal Committee to the repairing of the wharf in Frederiksted at present. Francis \$,000 has already been appropriated for repairing the large wharf, if the work on this wharf is not yet started we feel that the small wharf could wait as I don't think the Treasury can afford it at present. If the Federal Government can see its way to give the amount necessary to effect the repairs to the small wharf we would be only too glad to receive it.

Government Secretary (Zane): The money will not come from Federal appropriation, I can assure you.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) remarked: Mr. Chairman. While we would be glad to see a good landing place in Frederiksted still I believe that the large wharf is in need of repairs. It has no support at all and may collapse in a very short time. When we have more funds a bill can be introduced to take care of the small wharf.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (Fleming) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I was living in Frederiksted when the addition was made to the wharf. Piles were put in and under the wharf was filled up with sand. Since then the sea has taken the sand away, but concrete is under the piles and so the wharf is not likely to collapse. As Frederiksted is the landing port and this wharf is of such use to the community I advocate that the wharf be repaired. It would be a shame for the Fleet to go there and land the men on such a wharf. I recommend the bill to the favorable consideration of the Council.

3rd Member for Christiansted Country District (Robt. W. Skeosh) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I am not an engineer, but if the idea is to repair the wharf before the Fleet comes in I would propose that the wharf be removed entirely.

1st discussion closed.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (Fleming) proposed that 2nd discussion come on today.

The motion was duly seconded and put to the vote.

7 members voted for; 4 against.

The Chairman remarked: The motion is lost. The bill will come up at the next meeting on 2nd discussion.

Item 4.

Interpellation to Government by 1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Jessen).

1. Is the Government aware that the buildings of the "Public Village" at Kingshill are in great need of repairs?
2. When will the Government consent to grant the amount for defraying repairing expenses as requested by the commission administering said public village?
3. How does the Government interpret Sections 3 and 5 of Ordinance of 18th January 1913 with reference to the privilege of the Commission to dispose over the funds belonging to said public village?

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Jessen) said:—Mr. Chairman. I am asking these questions not on behalf of the Village Commission but on my own behalf. In consequence of the gale of 1916 there is no water obtainable in the village. An estimate for repairs in the village was made by the Public Works Officer but up to now nothing has been done. I would like to see the work started.

Government Secretary (Zane): May I ask whether the Commission which has just been referred to is one of the Commissions whose executive functions have been transferred to the Governor by the Ordinance of 1918?

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Jessen): I do not know.

4th Member for Frederiksted Country District (Andersen): I do not think this Commission was included.

Government Secretary (Zane): As I understand it the Ordinance of 1918 does not mention any commission by name, but says any commission.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata): It says the several Communal Commissions.

Government Secretary (Zane): I understand that the intent of the Ordinance was to abolish the executive functions of the commissions and lodge them with the Governor and leave them to act in advisory capacity.

Despatching Secretary (Barrett) made reply to the Member's interpellation as follows:

1. The only information available is a reply to a voluntary request on the part of Government, dated 30 June 1922 to the Chairman of the Public Village Fund, for certain information. This was apparently for information sake only. It is the duty of the Commission to bring to the notice of Government the condition of the "Public Village" at King's Hill and pending the receipt of a report from said Commission, Government has no further information to offer.
2. Government will be pleased to take up this matter with the Commission as soon as official request is made to Government by the Chairman of the Commission.

With reference to Section 5 of said Ordinance, Government is not in receipt of the yearly report referred to and is therefore unable to lay this matter before the Colonial Council.

It would appear to Government that the Commission as a whole has not complied with the regulations laid down in the Ordinance dated 18 January, 1923.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) inquired whether the Commission has sent in its annual statement of the Public Village Funds to the Municipal Committee as required by the Ordinance to be forwarded to the Colonial Council.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Jessen) in reply to the last speaker said, No, that has not been done.

(To be concluded.)

LOCAL

The Navy Band entertained the public