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PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) remarked: Mr. Chairman. According to letters received by the Municipal Committee the other day in which changes were proposed. The Municipal Committee recommended that there be two flat rates; the country rate to be four dollars, and the town rates three dollars, and one dollar and fifty cents. It is now three years since I made application for a telephone, and at one time was told that materials were ordered from Porto Rico, and as soon as that was received the phone would be installed, and another time I was told that I would have to pay the expenses for running line and poles to my house. It is very necessary for one to have a telephone as it is very useful in cases of sickness. I will vote for this money bill with the understanding that it runs two flat rates and whatever deficits there may be can be paid out of public funds.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I do not understand what the Member says about running lines and poles himself. I was a member of the

Committee on the telephone question, and the ordinance passed governing the installations of telephones reads in part: "All expenses for poles and lines are to be paid by the department." Therefore, nothing can be done without the consent and approval of the Municipal Committee; if that regulation is changed we must be told by what authority it is done.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) in answer to the last speaker said, -I said that proposals were made that applicants living outside the limits of the town would have to pay the expenses of running lines and poles to their houses, but the Municipal Committee only recommend an increase in the country rate and all other conditions to remain the same. As far as I have figured it would cost me about three hundred dollars if I had to pay the cost of running lines and poles to "Annally", and that would certainly prevent me from speaking with my neighbors. Myself and two of my neighbors have applied for telephones, but under the old conditions. Since this Money Bill has been under discussion other proposals have been made. It strikes me that the increase recommended on the country telephones should be able to take care of the horses, implements, etc., used in running the lines. If additional expenses are charged it would be too hard on the tax payers.

No one requesting the word further the Acting Secretary read the Money Bill and the Chairman put same to the vote. It was unanimously adopted.

Item 2

Colonial Council Bill No. 51.

1st Discussion on Resolution introduced by 4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) authorizing the payment of the unexpended balance of the pension granted former Sicknurse Ritzberg to his widow.

The Bill reads as follows:

Colonial Council Bill No. 51
2nd Council, 2nd Session 1920-1921.

RESOLUTION.

Be it resolved by the Colonial Council for St. Croix in session assembled:

That the unexpended portion of the pension granted former Sicknurse Ritzberg at Richmond for the fiscal year 1920-21, of Frcs. 265, Item XIII, Sub Item 10, on the Budget for the Municipality of St. Croix, be paid to his widow Elizabeth Ritzberg.

A. J. BLACKWOOD,
4th Appointed Member.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) read the letter of the applicant and the Resolution and said, -This was forwarded to the Municipal Committee and was favorably recommended to the Council.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District (Stakemann) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I beg to say that I am personally acquainted with the petitioner, and know her to be what she states in her petition. She is attacked by rheumatism, the loss of her husband is a great blow to her, and she is not in good health. I ask that the bill receive the favorable consideration of the Council.

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

No one requesting the word further, the discussion closed. The Acting Secretary read the Resolution and the Chairman put same to the vote.

It was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman then gave a recess of 20 minutes.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) entered the meeting during the recess.

After recess the Council reassembled; the Secretary (Canegata) took his seat as Secretary and the Chairman placed before the Council the last item on the Order of the Day.

Item 3.

Colonial Council Bill No. 52.

Introduction of, and 1st Discussion on Colonial Council Bill No. 52, Draft of Additional Money Bill to the Budget for the Municipality of St. Croix, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, Aid to poor of Christiansted and Frederiksted introduced by Government.

The Bill reads as follows:

Colonial Council No. 52.

2nd Council, 2nd Session, 1920-1921.

ADDITIONAL MONEY BILL

Introduced By Government.)

The Budget for the Municipality of St. Croix for the fiscal year ending June 1921 is hereby increased as follows:

Item VII. THE POOR DEPARTMENT.

Sub-Item I. In aid of poor, Christiansted, is increased from Frcs. 17,500 to Frcs. 31,500.

Sub-Item III. In aid of poor, Frederiksted, is increased from Frcs. 15,000 to Frcs. 23,000.

Government Secretary (Timmons) remarked: Mr. Chairman. This Money Bill was introduced by Government at the request of the Chairman of the Poor Commission and upon the recommendation of the Municipal Committee. Government would, therefore, appreciate remarks by the Chairman of the Municipal Committee.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) remarked: Mr. Chairman. We had this matter before us in the Municipal Com-