

LOCAL.

The Chairman: I said it has not been abolished.

Member *Stakemann* maintained that the Chairman said that the Commission has been abolished, and continuing said, —I have heard that the Asylum is in beautiful condition, the people placed there are treated with great care and kindness. I am happy to hear such good reports of the institution, and do not believe any fault can be found with the management which the Grand Sire will be pleased to learn; but at the same time he entertains great interest for the institution and will appreciate receiving reports as to the running of same.

The Chairman in replying to the last Speaker said, —My statement was that it is existent; however, if I was misunderstood that's what I said. I look upon that Commission as dormant. Last year some criticism was made and the Government wrote a letter asking the various commissions to take interests in matters concerning this Municipality. Those Commissions have not taken interest neither have they offered any criticisms. I don't think it is the fault of Government, the Commissions were offered every opportunity to take part in matters concerning this Municipality.

During Governor Oliver's administration certain administrative and executive functions vested in certain commissions were transferred to Government, this was because the Governor was accountable for the disbursement of funds appropriated by Congress, but that did not prevent the commissions from inquiring and asking questions. I thought that was thoroughly understood.

Regarding the Leper Commission, that's not dead, but dormant. The Honorable Member has applied for Membership, I am perfectly sure that Government will consent.

1st Member for Christiansted Country District [*Stakemann*] remarked: Mr. Chairmann. I do not know that the Council has appointed any member for the Commission on the Leper Asylum; I understand that the Municipal Committee has taken upon itself and appoint the Commission for the Leper Asylum. If even the Council had appointed a Commission, they will not work. I hope some of these days there will be a meeting of the commission for the Leper Asylum so that I may be able to get some information concerning the Asylum to send to the Odd Fellows in Denmark.

The Chairman remarked: I am not certain that a Member of the Commission was appointed for the Leper Asylum last year, because the Commission was sleeping, but a commission has been appointed this year, and I am quite certain as this question is raised the members will work and will have the hearty cooperation of Government.

There being no further business before the House the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 3.05 p. m.

Owing to the non-arrival of the mail bringing the film from St. Thomas the show advertised to take place in the theatre this evening has been postponed to Saturday evening.

The formalities connected with the opening of the library will come off in a meeting at Government House this evening. Everybody is invited.

The Vigilant sails this morning for St. Thomas in the mail service to replace the *Creole* which lost her sails and could not return from St. Thomas.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Washington, Dec. 23rd.—The United States Department today intervened in what threatened to be a controversy between the British Embassy and the Senate Committee investigating cable communications over the question of whether there is a British censorship of cable messages to the United States originating in the British Isles. The Department's action was regarded as a rebuke to the Embassy for sending direct to Senator Kellogg, chairman of the committee, a letter denying the testimony of Mr. Newcomb Carleton, president of the Western Union, that cable messages coming to the United States from Great Britain were subject to delay and censorship of the British naval intelligence authorities. The Embassy's action is understood to be regarded by the Department as a breach of diplomatic courtesy. The Department will take the subject matter of the correspondence up directly with the Embassy, but whether it will ask for an explanation of the action of the Embassy in writing directly to the Senator has not been indicated.

London, Dec. 23rd.—Dr. Cope commander of the British Imperial Antarctic Expeditions, has sent the following message from Port Stanley, capital of the Falkland Islands. "Sailing from here December 20 with full equipment and dogs. Hope to land at Grahamland December 25. All the party well. Expect to hear from us in eighteen months. Goodbye". Commander Cope with four companions, purposes spending eighteen months in surveying and charting the Western shores of Weddell Sea and in carrying out scientific work in the Antarctic. The party will live during the entire period in tents and huts and will depend for fresh meat on seals and penguins.

London, Dec. 23rd.—Sinn Fein documents showing complicity in a German plot of 1919 will be made public within a few days, Mr. Lloyd George informed the House of Commons today. The incriminating literature was captured in the recent raids on Sinn Fein leaders.

he said. Reports have been received here, of direct threats being made against citizens of County Kerry in reprisal for the disappearance of British officers.

Athens, Dec. 23rd.—Frenier Khalis, it is understood, has tendered his resignation as a result of the refusal of Admiral Kelly, head of the Naval Mission here to accept the Grand Order of the Royal order of the Savicur.

FIVE WOBL WILL CNETTCCRAIB.

Among the effects of Lieut. Frank Kirkley, a young British soldier who fell on the field of battle in Italy, in 1917 was a photograph of a young woman. On the back of the cardboard on which the picture was mounted were the words: "I leave all to her."

This was accepted as a valid will, although it was the shortest one, probably, that was ever written. After members of Lieut. Kirkley's family had made affidavit identifying Miss Annie Kyrke as the subject of the photograph probate of the will was granted to her and the soldier's estate, valued at about \$1600, passed to her.—*The Pathfinder*.

DEAD MAN'S VOTE GOOD.

Even dead men can now vote, if they work it right. Alabama is one of the states that have laws authorizing people to vote by mail. A man in Blount county was sick in a hospital just before this election. He sent in his vote by mail and it was counted on election day. Then it came out that he had already died. The authorities held however that inasmuch as the vote had been cast according to law it was proper to count it.—*Ibid*.

LIGHT WAY FROM PARIS TO LONDON

To make air navigation between Paris and London safer at night a plan is being concerted by the two governments for placing lights across the English channel at intervals of five miles. In addition there will be nine lights between Calais and Paris and six on the English side of the channel. Each will be of 50,000 candle power, capable of piercing the darkest night to the height of a mile and a half. —*Ibid*.

MANY AMERICANS IN PARIS

In a late count it appeared that 22,000 Americans are now residents of Paris. This number does not include tourists nor men travelling for business. That many have taken out identification card according to police regulations. Only three other foreign colonies are larger in size. These are, in order, Italian, Swiss and British.