

**TO ALL WHO BELIEVE
IN THE VALUE OF VEGETABLES
THE WONDER FOOD
Marmite**

The Vitality Food with the lovely flavour.

Possesses a flavour equal to the finest beef-tea, but "Marmite" is pure vegetable free from all animal matter.

"Marmite" is to vegetable what meat extract is to meat; it presents in a concentrated form all the nourishment of vegetables. It resembles meat extract in form and appearance, and is being recommended by doctors owing to its

LARGE VITAMIN CONTENT.

A teaspoonful of "Marmite" in a teacupful of hot water makes a delicious and sustaining broth. It has remarkable recuperative properties and is therefore recommended for the weakly and delicate.

1 oz. pot Cts. 45 nett. 2 oz. pot Cts. 75 nett.
4 oz. pot Rs. 1-30 nett.

MILLER & Co., LIMITED.

**Journal of the
Dutch Burgher
Union of Ceylon.**



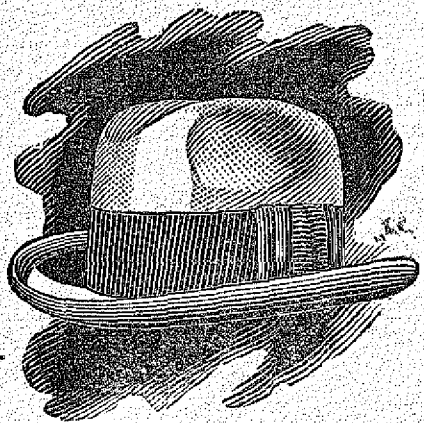
"Eendracht maakt Macht"

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
1. Holland—South Africa: A Review	117
2. Dutch Predikants of Ceylon	124
3. Annual General Meeting	127
4. Women in Literature	149
5. Notice	157
6. Notes and Queries	158
7. Notes of Events	160
8. Editorial Notes	163
9. Supplement: A Journey on foot through Ceylon	

Contributions are invited from members on subjects calculated to be of interest to the Union. MSS. must be written on one side of the paper only and must reach the Editor at least a fortnight before the date of publication of the Journal.

Published quarterly. Subscription Rs. 5/- per annum, post free. Single copies, if available, Re. 1-50 to be had at the D.B.U. Hall.



Stetson Hats.

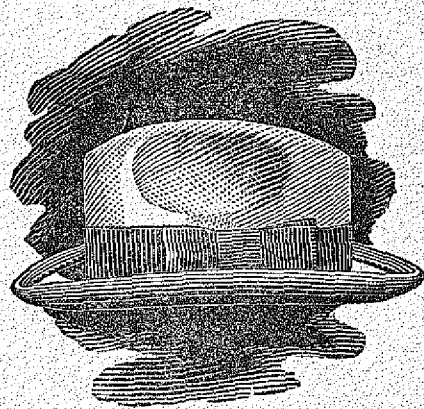
There are moments when a man becomes acutely conscious of his hat. Then it is that he appreciates to the fullest extent the quiet distinction of a STETSON.

You cannot fail to notice a Stetson on its wearer, it has that absolute exclusiveness, so much admired by men of taste.

A large range of latest models and shapes awaits you

Price Rs. 38-25.

AT
CARGILLS
COLOMBO.



Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

VOL. XV

APRIL 1926.

No. 4.

HOLLAND—SOUTH AFRICA.

(A REVIEW.)

In the second number of Volume XIV of this Journal we had the pleasure of reviewing "Holland-America," the well-known work of Mr. J. E. L. de Balbian Verster, Fellow of the Historical Society of Holland. "Holland-South Africa," a companion volume by the same illustrious writer, has just reached our hands.

To us in Ceylon this latter work is of very special interest. The Dutch settlements both in South Africa and in Ceylon occupied the same period of time. The middle of the 17th century saw the beginnings of colonisation of both and together they passed into the hands of the English in the closing years of the 18th century. In those days all communications between Holland and her Eastern Colonies took the Cape route and it is very interesting to discover in the fascinating story of Holland-South Africa many names already familiar to us in the Dutch occupation of Ceylon.

The Portuguese were the first Europeans who braved the dangers of the unknown seas. In 1486 Bartholomeu Diaz, buffeted by wind and wave, sailed round a high range of hills in South Africa. Mindful of his travail he named the place Cabo Tormentoso or Cape of Storms. But his King with truer vision rebaptised it The Cape of Good Hope. And so indeed it proved for the way to India was now open.

But an unfortunate incident that occurred soon after made any peaceful penetration of South Africa by the Portuguese impossible of accomplishment.

In 1510 Francisco d'Almeida, the first Viceroy of Portuguese India, who was on the voyage home, put into Aguado de Saldanha, afterwards named Table Bay. During some barter with Hottentots a quarrel arose which quickly reached serious dimensions, and the Viceroy and 65 of his Officers and men were clubbed or speared to death.

To quote now from "Holland-South Africa": "Almost a century elapsed before the south coast of Africa, was visited by other navigators. The French were the first who followed the Portuguese to the Indies, and then came the first fleet of the English India Company, but neither did much to undermine the power of the Portuguese. The task was reserved to a people which, in the midst of their struggle for freedom and independence, were driven to sail upon the high seas, viz., the Netherlanders."

Several Dutchmen had been attracted to the service of the Portuguese as sailors and had sailed under their colour to India. One of these Jan Huyghen van Linschoten published in 1592 his famous book with maps and plates, and when in April 1595 Dutch ships began to sail to India "Jan Huyghen's book" proved an invaluable work of reference.

The following extract, descriptive of the Hottentots is taken from one of the ship's journals:

"They are small of stature, ugly of face, their heads were as if they had been scorched by the sun and they consequently looked like thieves who had dried up from long hanging. Instead of clothing, they hang round the neck the skin of a wild beast which is so dirty that it smells and stinks and on which the fur is still standing and is worn outside, and which hangs on their bodies like a mantle. As to their speech it was just as if one heard a troop of angry turkey-cocks, and such is their language that you can hear little else than clucking and whistling."

In 1602 the Dutch formed their United Chartered East-India Company. At first the Company's ships called seldom at the Cape and then only to take in fresh water. In 1616, however, the Director of the Company ordered that all ships should call at Table Bay on the outward journey to take in fresh provisions and to buy cattle from the natives. To continue the narrative from "Holland-South Africa":

"The custom arose to carve the names of the ships and the dates of their arrival and departure on the rocks and to bury despatches in places indicated for those who arrived later. A few of these stones are still preserved at Cape Town as a permanent record of this primitive form of postal service."

Apart from these visiting vessels nothing was done to explore the country or to found a settlement until the middle of the 17th century. Great events often spring from small causes and the colonisation of South Africa by the Dutch was the result of an accident.

In 1646 the homeward bound fleet left Batavia to call at the Cape *en route*. When rounding the Cape one of the vessels "The New Haarlem" ran aground. While some of the crew found passage in other ships, the assistant merchant, Leendert Jansz, remained behind with 60 men, to save as much of the cargo as they could.

The facts connected with this primitive settlement are most interesting. It was situated near fresh running water, very near the centre of what is now Cape Town, and was protected by an earthen wall. The author continues the story of this band of pioneers:

"They were on friendly terms with the Hottentots, though it was necessary to impress upon these that they were not to come in the vicinity of the settlement. The trade in cattle was comparatively easy and Jansz was even able to supply a Dutch ship with meat. Game and fish were available in abundance and as the settlers had been able to save seeds and agricultural implements from "The New Haarlem" small gardens were laid out in which all kinds of vegetables thrived luxuriantly. The greatest difficulty, however, was the insubordination of the crew."

After Jansz and his men had lived for a whole year in the Table Valley they found passages in a fleet which was sailing homeward under the distinguished command of Cornelis Wollebrant Geleynsz de Jonge, Counsellor Extraordinary of India.

On his return Jansz and one of his comrades represented to the Amsterdam Chambers the desirability of making a permanent settlement at the Cape for provisioning ships both on the outward and the homeward voyages. They also expressed their surprise that the "general enemy," the Portuguese and the Spaniards, had not fore-

stalled them since The Cape was the most convenient place in the whole world for such a settlement.

The proposal received careful consideration and finally a permanent settlement was sanctioned.

Jan van Riebeeck, who had served previously in Batavia, Japan and China, went out in command, and fortunate indeed it was that the choice had fallen on so excellent a man. Of trouble the early colonists had so full a share that they might easily have overcome a man of weaker will. Let our historian continue his narrative:

"Many were the disappointments and misfortunes. Diseases broke out among the men, the experiments with seeds and plants failed, while the ill-fed troop of men were always unwilling, insurgent and moreover incapable. Several of them recklessly went into the wilderness and came back in most pitiable condition. Robbery and mutiny frequently occurred, so that it was urgently necessary to appoint a master-at-arms, who could also act as executioner. Van Riebeeck himself was in danger of being killed by a savage fellow. Dangers threatened from all sides: from wild animals, among which were lions, panthers, hyenas, jackals, snakes, sea-cows and even "renosters"; from the natives from the unexplored interior, and moreover from foreign enemies, not only the Portuguese and Spaniards, but also, in the first war with England, the British. The greatest danger however was no less than death from starvation, which at any rate was averted when the settlers were able to buy large herds of cattle from the Kaapmans, a tribe of the Hottentots of sturdier build than the miserable shore savages. The relations were not always as amicable as they might have been but it must be said to van Riebeeck's honour that, however great was his need, he strictly maintained the rule never to seize sheep or cattle illicitly. If the settlers had been on bad terms with the Hottentots and the homeward bound fleet happened to sail past the Cape without putting into the Bay, the entire settlement would have become a prey to famine."

In the naval war between England and Holland which arose on the result of the increasing competition for maritime supremacy and commerce between these two nations the great British sailors Robert Blake and George Monck have made as enduring a name as

their illustrious adversaries Tromp and de Ruyter. The war was sharp and short. It began in 1652 and ended in 1653. But the glad news, that peace had been declared did not reach the Cape till 1654, and the bearer of the important communication, Gerard Hulft of Amsterdam, has left for us in Ceylon the inheritance of his great name in Hulftsdorp, our central seat of justice. Gerard Hulft was then on his way to Batavia as First Counsellor of India and Director-General.

The plan of provisioning ships at the Cape was not however popular with the ships' masters, as they feared that detention *en route* would imperil their chances of earning the premium awarded for a speedy voyage. The cost of maintaining the stations was also high.

It was therefore decided in 1657 that a few Burghers should be given plots of land outside the Fort for cultivation and thus the foundations for the Colony were laid. One of the first enterprises of the new Colonists was the cultivation of the vine which was introduced in 1658.

The importance of the Cape as a strategic centre was now being realised. A French fleet of twelve ships put into Table Bay for refitting in 1668 and was hospitably received by the Dutch. But the French used the opportunity to make a settlement for themselves in the neighbourhood of Saldanha Bay by putting up their coat of arms there as a sign of possession. Orders were thereupon issued by the Dutch authorities that foreign ships were never again to be victualled from the Company's stores. This led to friction with France whose great dreams of an Eastern Empire were not destined to be realised. The French fleet under de la Haye was defeated in 1674 off the Coast of Coromandel by Ryelkiof van Goens, whose name is familiar to us as Governor of Ceylon. From time to time it was usual for High Commissioners to be sent out to review the affairs of the Colony, inquire into any abuses in administration and to suggest improvements.

The best known of these High Commissioners was van Reede van Drakestein who visited the Cape in 1685 and introduced many useful changes. Many of the laws instituted by van Reede van Drakestein survive to this day and the settlement now known as Drakestein in South Africa was named in his honour.

To us in Ceylon it is interesting to recall the fact that on a high gap overlooking the sea at Trincomalie there is a memorial stone to his daughter Francina, round which a beautiful legend, for which there is no historical basis, has grown.

The means adopted to increase the numerical strength of the little Colony at the Cape is of the greatest interest for us in Ceylon. But let the author tell his own fascinating tale :

"The Colonists were always on the alert to increase by all possible means the number of settlers. Persons on board the numerous ships calling at Table Bay were, if suitable, encouraged to establish themselves in the Colony as farmers or free burghers. Thirty years after the date of the settlement there was already a fairly numerous progeny of the pioneers, but the feminine element continued to be relatively small. For this reason girls from the Municipal orphanages at Amsterdam and Rotterdam were sent out on attractive terms. This actually was done for a few years after 1685, but no greater number than 7 or 8 at a time ever went out, and their total number was very small. As a rule these orphans were married to the most prosperous Cape burghers, practically within a few weeks after their arrival. During this period however the Colony was considerably reinforced by a fairly large number of Huguenots, who had left France to take refuge in the Netherlands after the revolution of the Edict of Nantes. The Governors were rightly of opinion that these Frenchmen possessed special knowledge of the cultivation of the grape and of oil and other products. Consequently their emigration to the Cape was encouraged and subsidised in various ways."

The Peace of Utrecht in 1713 gave a great stimulus to Dutch trade. In 1742, Simon's Bay was made a port of refuge for part of the year owing to the numerous ship-wrecks in the neighbourhood of Table Bay. Van Imhoff, who had served earlier as Governor of Ceylon, and was now appointed Governor-General of India laid the foundations of Simonstad in 1743.

During the next fifty years the Colony was making steady progress, but at the end of the eighteenth century it was drawn into the European whirlpool.

To quote from our historian :

"The events in Europe hastened the end. The French had been enthusiastically received in the Netherlands by the Patriots, the Stadtholder had fled to England, and the new, the Batavian, Republic, made a treaty with France. England then immediately sent out a fleet to occupy the Cape Colony, which arrived in June 1795. The Commander, Admiral Elphinstone, had brought a written command from the exiled Stadtholder to admit the British troops to the castle and the forts as a friendly force which would defend the Colony against the attacks of the French."

The concluding events were exactly the same as in Ceylon and we feel as it were recounting the end of Dutch rule in Ceylon when we conclude with the words of our historian : "This was the end of the East India Company in South Africa, after a rule of 148 years."

E. H. v. D. W.

DUTCH PREDIKANTS OF CEYLON.

TRANSLATED BY C. E. DE VOS.

(Continued from page 74.)

Arnold Swem—or Schwem, wrongly referred to as Swen, was born at Rees, matriculated at Francker on the 15th September, 1693, and arrived as predikant at Batavia on the 17th October, 1701, in the ship "Drielingen." He travelled to Bantam in connection with the ministry and returned thence on the 5th December. He was appointed to Ceylon on the 17th July, 1702, and was stationed in Galle in 1704. He took up his examination at Colombo and in 1705 was selected for the revived Singhalese Seminary. He lived at Galle till 1711 and returned home in the following year and resided at Hoorn. For several years longer he enjoyed his rest and then died in that town.

Bartholomaeus Teyeke, Teyken Tijke or Tyken was born at Leyden and was on the 22nd February, 1723, appointed by the classis of Delft to the East Indies. On the 2nd March following he was permitted by the Directors to take with him, besides the usual one, two additional chests of books. He arrived in Ceylon in the same year and was stationed at Colombo. He returned to Batavia in 1728 where he was employed and on the 5th October of the same year went back to the Netherlands.

Johannes Tholig or Tholly was a visitor of the sick and was appointed proponent on the 29th July, 1667. He was already dead in 1671.

Arent Johan van den Tijd, a predikant, was at Batavia in 1723 without a fixed appointment and returned to Ceylon in the following year.

Dirk Jan van den Tijd, van der Tijd or v d Tijd, arrived in Ceylon in 1723 and was stationed at Colombo and in 1726, temporarily, on the Coromandal Coast. He went to Negapatam on the 22nd February, 1727, and served in the ministry also at Paleacotte. On the 12th October 1730 he was invited to take charge of the Portuguese congregation at Batavia and died there in 1740. A new school and a new church were built at Tegoe in June 1735. The church was dedicated by him on the 9th November, 1737.

Dominicus Vinsemius, Winsemius Weijnschemius, or Winsemius was born at Amsterdam in 1623 and matriculated at Leyden at the States College. He was sent out by the classis of Walcheren. On his arrival in Ceylon in the ship "Wapen van Zeeland" no great expectations were formed of him when he was appointed to Galle on the 26th August, 1652. Not long after he appears to have returned home.

Johannes de Voogd, de Voogt or de Vooght was appointed to the ministry of the Indian Churches on the 23rd February, 1665, and on the 8th October of the same year sent out by the classis of Amsterdam. He arrived at the Cape of Good Hope in February, 1666 and was in the ministry there till December. On the 9th January, 1667 he arrived in Ceylon and left for Batavia in the following month. In March he was sent to Jaffnapatam and was officiating at Jaffna and Galle. In 1669 he was invited to Colombo where he arrived in March. In 1679 he returned home. From Amsterdam he was again sent out to the Indies and was intended for his old station in Ceylon: but after returning to India on the 15th December, 1681 he was in September, 1682, invited to Batavia to assist the Revds. Linduis and Ferreira in their ministry. In 1687 he returned home. He was very proficient in the Tamil and Portuguese languages and had composed a Tamil grammar in 1691.

Michael Christiaan Vos was born in the Cape in December, 1759. He studied at Utrecht from 1781 to 1784. He was an assistant predikant at Amsterdam in 1784 and was predikant at Wouderberg in 1785, at Pijnakker in 1789 and at Woerden in 1790. Being invited to the ministry at the Cape, he journeyed thither in the ship "de Hertog van Brunswijk" and reached the Cape 1794. His application for a higher salary was allowed in June 1801. Via St. Helena he travelled to England; thence, in 1804, he left for London and reached Tranquebar on the Coromandel Coast and, later on, Colombo. He was predikant at Galle and Colombo and returned to Tranquebar in 1808. He had been 5 years in Asia, including Paleakotte and Madras, and returned to the Cape on the 26th November, 1809. He was predikant at Swartland and founded a congregation at Caledon and was Emeritus in August 1818. He

was twice married; on the first occasion, long before his first trip to Europe, with a lady whom he left behind at the Cape but who lived with him at Wouderberg after he had been separated from her for several years. He died at Tranquebar in 1804.

Philippus de Vriest or **Vries**, was chosen for the Indian ministry by the classis of Walcheren. He left for Java in the ship "Oost-Souburg" which sailed for the Chamber of Zeeland. The voyage lasted from April, 1691 to March, 1692 when he reached Batavia. In the following April he was invited to Ceylon and was stationed at Jaffna. There he was appointed Rector of the Malabar Seminary 1694. Unhappily disputes arose there between himself and his colleague Johannes Roman of Zeeland. He was sent on to Batavia without employment, with loss of salary and without any testimonials and he arrived there in September, 1699. The Consistory of Batavia brought about his rehabilitation and thus he returned, in the following year, to his former station, there to commence again the duties both of teacher, 1701, and Rector 1702. Through his knowledge of the language he was instrumental in doing much good both to the Church as well as to the Malabar Seminary. And although previously 4 or 5 teachers were employed, in 1707 he was compelled to serve the congregation and the Seminary all by himself. In compliance with his wishes he was transferred to Colombo in 1712. There he died in 1725. According to a report sent by him to Governor-General W. van Outhoorn there were at the beginning of the 18th century in the jurisdiction of Jaffnapatam 100,000 Christians, 47 Churches and as many schools.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Proceedings of the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of the Dutch Burgher Union held at the Union Hall on Saturday, 27th February, 1926, at 4-30 p.m.

There were present Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, I.S.O., President of the Union, in the Chair, and the following members among others:—
Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Anthonisz and Miss Anthonisz, Mr. P. E. Anthonisz, Mr. D. V. Altendorff, Mr. C. E. Albrecht, Mr. E. P. Albrecht, Mr. H. P. Beling, Mr. W. W. Beling, (Jr.), Mr. C. L. Beling, Mr. A. R. Bartholomeusz, Mr. L. E. Blazé, Mr. Aelian Bartholomeusz, Mr. W. S. Christoffelsz, I.S.O., Mr. T. W. Collette, Mr. H. H. Collette, Miss Collette, Mr. W. P. Conderlag, Mr. H. P. Christoffelsz, Mr. Wace de Niese, Mr. Basil Drieberg, Miss Grace Van Dort, Mr. Ernest VanDort, Mr. E. F. Ebert, Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Ebell, Mr. Alden VanGeyzel, Mr. W. Herft, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Joseph, Revd. D. E. Joseph, Mr. John Josef, Mr. and Mrs. Rosslyn Koch, Mr. Gladwyn Koch, Mr. Denzil Koch, Mrs. M. Kalenberg, Mr. Denis Keegel, Mr. A. A. Keuneman, Mr. P. H. de Kretser, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Kellar, Mr. and Mrs. W. Ludovici, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Loos, the Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz and Mrs. Maartensz, Mr. J. A. Martensz, Mr. L. A. Muller, P. J. Muller, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Mack, Mr. A. W. Metzeling, Mr. T. R. Modder, Mr. B. H. Ohlmüs, Mr. J. G. Paulusz, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. V. Poulter, Mr. J. A. Poulter, Dr. L. A. Prins, Mr. D. Raffel, Mr. A. Raffel, Mr. Colin Reimers, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. V. de Rooy, Mr. A. Rode, Mr. E. A. VanderStraaten, Mr. Alex. VanderStraaten, Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Spittel, Mr. M. O. VanderStraaten, Miss Spittel, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Toussaint, Mr. T. K. Toussaint, Mr. J. P. de Vos, (Jr.), Mr. H. C. de Vos, Miss F. de Vos, Mr. E. H. Vanderwall, the Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille, Mrs. L. M. Weinman, Mr. A. N. Weinman.

2. The Honorary Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

3. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th February, 1925, were read and confirmed.

4. The President then addressed the meeting as follows:—

I have had the honour and privilege of addressing you from this chair now for ten successive years. It is an honour and privilege which I owe to the trust and confidence which you have so long kindly placed in me, and to the generosity with which you have overlookd many of my shortcomings—shortcomings, of which no one is more cognisant than myself. I would that I had been placed in a position of greater advantage, so as to further the objects of the Union in a more effectual way. But we can each only do his best according to his influence and capacity, and, you will see, I have been hampered in many ways. Yet I may assure you that the Dutch Burgher Union has always had a warm place in my heart and that from its first inception I have watched with much solicitude the effect of every action which, from time to time, had to be taken by our executive in the furtherance of our objects; and I hope, that, in the short space of time I may yet be alive, I shall never be reduced to a position which will oblige me to relax this solicitude over the efforts put forward by well-wishers of the Union and the community to remedy existing evils.

My purpose at present, however, is not to enter upon any explanation of my personal connection with or interest in the Union. There are matters of greater moment that require your consideration now. I would not also dwell on this occasion on the facts and figures placed before you in the admirable Report which we owe to the intelligence and ability of our Honorary Secretary. Those facts and figures will speak for themselves, and I believe they will show you that the position of the Union, in various spheres of activity, has considerably improved during the year under review.

The most conspicuous thought in my mind as I address you to-day is, that the Union has now been nearly twenty years in existence, and that this passage of time has wrought many changes in our midst. It is well for us to consider the effect of some of these changes. We have lost many of those who took an active interest in the formation of the Union, whose ripe judgment and whole-hearted support helped in launching our barque amid the adverse currents and quicksands which beset its course in those early days. It is ever present to the minds of those of us of the older generation who still survive, that it was in the teeth of much opposition, of

sneers and ridicule from some in our own community, and of unreasonable suspicion and jealousy among our neighbours, that the Dutch Burgher Union was brought into existence. We have outlived all those hindrances and are in a clearer atmosphere now; but I think this fact must never be forgotten, especially whenever the stability or the existence of the Union is at any time jeopardised by circumstances that may arise. Although most of the veteran pioneers of the movement have gone and the few who still survive must follow them sooner or later, our community is by no means poor in men of intelligence, ability, and influence, who are well able to carry on the objects for which the Dutch Burgher Union was formed. But we have to reckon with the spirit of the present age. It was a sense of danger, united with patriotism and enthusiasm, that actuated the promoters of the movement twenty years ago. Can we say that these incentives to action exist in the present generation, or does a false sense of security divert our attention from the main objects of the Union to others of less importance? I hope I shall be pardoned for raising the question here. I do so in no spirit of depreciation, but because it seems to me the issue is one of vital importance to the future of the Union and the welfare of the Community. We, who perhaps would be dubbed "men of the old school" by those holding modern views, must soon give over the conduct of affairs to younger men. Are these prepared to carry on the work in the spirit in which it was begun and to keep in mind the objects which the promoters of the Union had in view? Let us pause for a moment to enquire what these objects were. I need not enumerate them here, for they are given under eight heads in the Constitution of the Union of which no doubt you have each a copy. It will be seen at once that these objects introduced no innovations. What the framers of the Constitution set out to do was to revive, to conserve, and to preserve certain conditions and circumstances which already existed in relation to the Dutch Burghers of Ceylon. There was no novelty in the name which was adopted for the Union, because Dutch Burghers existed in Ceylon from at least the beginning of the British rule. They have continued to exist to this day and they bore this name without demur up to a time within the recollection of some of us who are now living, till a wave of decadence set in which changed for a time the sentiments of the Dutch Burghers and turned

their thoughts away from their hereditary predilections. I call this change a wave of decadence because it was born of personal ambition, self-interest, and a disregard of our finest national traditions, and it was manifestly disintegrating in effect. It was to stem the tide which thus set in, which threatened to engulf us, and to destroy our identity as a distinct community, that the Dutch Burgher Union was evolved. To those who believe that such a movement was uncalled for, ill-timed, or ill-advised, that the name Dutch Burgher, or even Burgher, should have been allowed to disappear, and that we should have been content to allow ourselves to be called only "Ceylonese," in common with our Sinhalese and Tamil countrymen, who yet retained their specific racial denominations: to such, I have not a word to say. They are at liberty to hold their views. But I do not suppose there are any of this cosmopolitan class of thinkers here. I am sure you all agree with me that love of race, regard for our common ancestry, and pride in the achievements of our forbears, ought to compel us to attach ourselves firmly to the class to which we rightly belong. We are nothing more or less than that Dutch community described by the first British writers on Ceylon—by Cordiner, sympathetically, by Percival, with animosity, and by others in various moods—who came in contact with our grandparents and great-grandparents when they were living their simple lives in those primitive times. We have for the most part married amongst ourselves, and though, as a matter of course, we have had accretions into our circle—for what community is there on the face of this earth that has not changed in this way in the course of time?—we have yet retained most of the characteristics of our ancestors and still take pride in those characteristics. At least I hope we do so, however we may be attracted and beguiled by modern conventions and present day conveniences. This is our heritage, and must we not do all in our power to retain it? An expression from one of the speakers at the meeting of the Legislative Council this week, during the debate on Ceylon's Policy of Education, will have shown you the danger of disregarding the warning which has been repeatedly given us. I am sure that no true Dutch Burgher can fail to resent having his community described as "non-descriptors who had no language and non-descriptors who had no race." Yet these words were used by one of

the elected members of the Reformed Legislative Council only two days ago. It was fortunate for us that the Honourable Mr. Loos was present on the occasion, and that on behalf of the Dutch Burghers he promptly objected to this language. He said the Dutch had both a language and a nationality. Of course I need not mention here that the Dutch Burghers of Ceylon are and have always been loyal British subjects, but they have never ceased to claim and to be proud of their Dutch origin. I may remind you, that, although the circumstances in which we were placed, brought about the general disuse among us of our mother tongue, there are some of us who speak and read it fluently and keep up a constant correspondence in it with friends in the Fatherland. I may also mention that opportunities and facilities for the study and use of the language are not wanting, and that if these facilities are not availed of, at least by the youth of our community, we shall continue to expose ourselves to misrepresentations and rudeness of all kinds.

I said that I did not intend to dwell on the subject matter of the Report which will be presented to you this evening; but you will find in the notice attached to the Report an important proposal that is to be brought before the meeting. It is a proposal that will probably lead to some discussion. I ought not therefore, to anticipate, by any remarks of mine here, what the mover of the resolution would want to say by way of introduction and any discussion which would arise on the subject of his motion. But the occasion and the circumstances are such that I feel it my duty to offer, without going into the subject of the resolution, a few general remarks which the circumstances seem to suggest. In other words, to use a hackneyed quotation, I must seize the opportunity "to point a moral and adorn a tale" relating to the Union and its members which will throw some light on our present situation. Of the Union itself you have heard a good deal, at least from myself whenever I had an opportunity of addressing you on the subject. It is of the relation of the members to the Union I would wish to speak now. I may say that the spirit which moved the pioneers of the undertaking was indeed a liberal one. The hope was entertained that all those, high and low, rich and poor, who would come within the definition laid down would be brought within the fold. No effort was spared,

with all the tact which the circumstances necessitated, to invite them to join. The subscription fixed—for it was impossible to carry out any undertaking of this kind without some fund—was as low as possible, viz., 50 cents a month, and this included at first a quarterly journal issued to every member. The response at the start was seemingly satisfactory, when it is considered that at that time very little sympathy was to be found in the more influential ranks of the community. But within a short time the interest first roused began to wane. This was to be gauged by a falling off in the payment of the subscription. The general complaint was that the collectors were neglecting their duty, but it is to be feared that the true explanation was that these members were not satisfied with the *quid pro quo*. They did not consider mere membership of the Dutch Burgher Union worth 50 cts. a month! I must confess that I find it difficult to comprehend the mentality of this class of people, because it can hardly be said that the trifling sum was beyond their means, nor can we imagine that they failed to realize that it was an honour to belong to a respectable community such as this and be included among its members. Meanwhile the executive of the Union, viz., the Office-bearers, the General Committee and the Sub-Committees, were unsparing in their efforts to carry out their honorary duties with zeal and regularity. It is with some hesitation that I refer here in passing to another cause of complaint which is said to exist, the justice of which may perhaps be open to doubt, or regarding which, at least, some explanation should be forthcoming, viz., that the poorer members of the Union have been, and are, at a disadvantage because of a cliquism which had entered the circle of the Union. I merely mention the subject here because it is well that we should not lose sight of a single point which might go to elucidate a state of things which we are most anxious to remedy.

It is necessary that I should now make some reference to the Dutch Burgher Union Club. This was formed a few years after the Union itself had come into existence, as an adjunct to the Union, and it was open to all members of the Union who paid an entrance fee and a further subscription. But the number of members who joined it was proportionately small. Some of the original members of the Union did not want a Club and others said they could not afford it. The Committee of Management, by reducing the rate of

subscription from time to time, made efforts to induce a larger number to join, but without success. The Club, however, continued to be maintained and to afford social recreation and entertainment to a number of members and their families. It has had its ups and downs, but is, as you know, carrying on in a fairly satisfactory manner, although, like the Union it is in need of more support.

I think I have now, briefly and concisely, sketched the position of the Union and the Club as they stand at present. I am sorry if in doing so I have tried your patience by repeating what I have been harping on on previous occasions. It is my firm opinion that this subject requires repetition every time we meet together, at least once a year; so that the facts may be always present in our minds. On the present occasion, when what appears to be a momentous question is to be decided, some knowledge of the past history of the Union will I am sure help us in our deliberations. I do not wish to proceed further on this subject for fear of trespassing on the purview of Dr. Spittel's motion.

A word in conclusion. You will of course see that there is much room for improvement in matters relating to the Union and its Club. We ought to have more support from the general body of members and some manifestation of interest in its objects. This interest may be shown in various ways: one of these is by a prompt and regular payment of dues. Other ways which should commend themselves to the members are, by regular attendance at functions, social and literary; by support of the Dutch Burgher Union Journal; and last, but not least, by contributions, however small, to that righteous and magnanimous undertaking, the Social Service Fund, by which the lot of many unfortunate and helpless members of our community is sought to be alleviated. I need not mention that this is both a religious and a social duty which devolves on us all in our present condition of life.

5. Mr. W. Herft proposed, seconded by Mr. A. E. Keuneman, that the Report and Accounts which had been circulated for the year, 1925, be taken as read and adopted.

Mr. H. P. Beling proposed as an amendment, seconded by Mr. C. L. Beling, that the meeting do go into Committee to consider the Report and Accounts.

Mr. Beling's amendment on being put to the meeting was lost.

Mr. D. V. Altendorff commented on the Report and Accounts and suggested certain amendments in paragraphs 3 and 6. After some discussion these paragraphs were amended accordingly.

Mr. H. P. Beling proposed, seconded by Mr. D. V. Altendorff, that the paragraph in the Report regarding the proposal to amalgamate the Union and the Club be deleted. The motion was put to the meeting and lost.

The motion for the adoption of the Report and Accounts as amended was then put to the meeting and carried.

6. Dr. R. L. Spittel then proposed the following motion standing in his name:—

That in the interests of the Union it is desirable that the distinction between the Club and the Union should cease and that the two institutions be amalgamated under the name of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon, in terms of the circular letter dated 10th August, 1925, and subject to the following resolutions approved by the Club:—

(1) That the proprietary members of the Club are in favour of the amalgamation of the Dutch Burgher Union and Dutch Burgher Union Club, provided that the majority of the members assembled at General Meeting consider the proposal of the scheme a desirable one.

(2) That the proprietary members of the Club are willing to surrender their rights in the property of the Club to the Union temporarily, and to suspend the activities of the Club for a period of one year, to enable the new scheme to be tried. That subject to Rule 36, if at the end of that period the scheme proves a success, their rights in the property of the Club be vested in the Union, provided, however, that if at any subsequent date the Union is unable to carry on under the new scheme, the property of the Club should be re-vested in the proprietary members or the survivors of them.

Dr. Spittel in the course of his address reviewed the circumstances which induced him to bring forward his motion for amalgamation. He referred to the large sum of Rs. 5,320 which had been written off as arrears the previous year and said that there was nothing to prevent the same thing recurring again. He attributed the non-payment of subscriptions to utter indifference on the

part of members. Thanks to the energy shown by the new Treasurer, the financial position was better now, but the figures were not a true index to the state of the finances. They represented long-standing arrears recovered, and merely showed what energetic and conciliatory methods could do. Some members were of opinion that the improved financial position rendered the necessity for any change unnecessary, but that was the cry of the faint-hearted and timorous who did not realise the situation. The criterion of vitality was not the state of the finances or the number of members on the roll, but the number of members who attended the place regularly. Judged by that standard, the D. B. U. was very unpopular. Except on special occasions such as a dance or a lecture, the place was deserted. One of the reasons for this unpopularity was that members of the Union got very little in return for their money, and, as for the Club, if the dozen or so members who attended it regularly kept away, the whole place might as well be shut down. If that happened, the Burghers would once again become the nameless and scattered community that they were before they were brought together at so much pains. Another reason for the unpopularity of the D. B. U. was that there was an idea that the members of the Club looked down with an air of patronage on those who were only members of the Union, but as long as there was such a division, such inferences were inevitable.

Dr. Spittel then proceeded to deal with the remedy for this unpopularity. Those who had given this matter serious thought—and they were some of the oldest and staunchest members of the Union—were of opinion that the remedy was to be found in the proposals embodied in the resolution before the meeting. They recognised that the Club subscription was too high to make the Club popular, and the Union subscription too low to make it practicable to throw open to members the advantages of the Club, and they were of opinion that the solution was to be found in the mean between the two.

The advantages of the new scheme would be that every one would meet in the Union Hall on an equal footing and on equal terms. The wall of partition would be broken down, mutual distrust would disappear and a friendlier spirit would prevail. The principle of single control would obviate the necessity for maintain-

ing unwieldy machinery as at present, with its duplicated Chairmen and Secretaries and Committees whose interests often clashed and led to unpleasant situations. The new Union would consist of one Central Committee which would control all activities and dictate the policy of the Union. This Committee would include the Secretaries of all Sub-Committees and also include young and energetic members who would put their shoulders to the wheel. Stricter rules would be introduced in regard to the payment of subscriptions. There would be a whole-time Secretary and Librarian. Every-day attractions would be provided in addition to the annual Fête and monthly lectures. Members would enjoy the advantages of a Club where they could bring their friends and give them a good time. There would be a Library and Reading Room and a trimmer garden and more pleasant surroundings. In short, every endeavour would be made to render the place so attractive that it would be a pride to belong to it, and new members would be eager to join. Dr. Spittel said he thought he heard some members say: "All this sounds very good, but where are the funds to come from?" They did not require so very much after all. A little extra expenditure would be required on secretarial fees. The furnishing could be done by organising concerts and sweeps. As for the reading room, that was an easy matter.

There was one argument against the scheme that had to be met. They had heard it before and would hear it again that day, and that was that the community was a poor one, but some of them could not even pay the 50 cents a month now and that many of the members would drop out if the subscription was raised to Rs. 2.50. The reply to that argument was that the failure to pay the 50 cents a month was in most cases not due to inability but to utter indifference. The number of those who could not afford to pay 50 cents a month was very small, and it would be a ruinous policy to lower the standard to suit this small minority, and to drag on spiritlessly as at present towards certain extinction. Besides, this class of members would lose nothing under the proposed scheme. They would still continue to be on the roll and would be entitled to attend the monthly functions and the annual Fête.

In conclusion Dr. Spittel said that this was not the time for timidity. They were not taking much risk. Bigger enterprises

were being launched every day with less support. They must take courage in their hands and launch on the new enterprise. Having such a fine building in which the Union was cradled, they must not be indifferent to its possibilities and allow it to pass into the hands of others. That would be the greatest calamity that could befall the community. They must perpetuate the old name and inspire the younger generation with a living interest and pride in their community. If the meeting would give the motion proposed by him its support, it will have touched the button that will set them moving towards higher things.

Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy, in seconding the motion, dealt with the legal aspect of the proposal. He said that under the present constitution, those members who were not willing to pay the enhanced subscription as set out in Dr. Spittel's motion could still continue to be members of the Union on payment of the old subscription; but would not be entitled to the additional privileges which the amalgamation would provide.

After some discussion in which several members took part, the following motion was put to the meeting and carried, the voting being 43 for and 6 against it:—"That in the interests of the Union it is desirable that the distinction between the Club and the Union should cease and that the two institutions be amalgamated under the name of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon, in terms of the circular letter dated 10th August, 1925."

The meeting then proceeded to consider the amendment proposed by the Dr. Spittel to clause (c) of the Constitution of the Union, and after some discussion it was, on the motion of Mr. J. A. Martensz, seconded by Mr. John Josef, passed in the following form, the whole voting being 41 for and 2 against:—

The admission fee shall be Rs. 5, and the subscription, which shall entitle a member to all the advantages of the Union for himself, his wife and his children excepting sons over 21 years of age, shall be as follows:—

<i>Members resident in Colombo</i>	<i>Rs. 2 50 a month</i>
<i>Members between the ages of 21 & 25 years</i>	<i>„ 1 00 „</i>
<i>Members resident at outstations</i>	<i>„ 1 00 „</i>
<i>Ladies desiring independent membership</i>	<i>„ 1 00 „</i>

Provided, however, that in special cases the Committee shall have power to waive the admission fee and the subscription during such time as they shall think fit; but no candidate, although elected, shall be considered to be a member until he has paid his admission fee. Provided also that should any person who was a member on the 27th February, 1926, and has not agreed to pay the enhanced subscription desire to do so, he may continue to pay his annual subscription of Rs. 6.

The following further amendments proposed by Dr. Spittel were then put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—

That clause 6 (d) be amended by the deletion of the words "for non-payment of six months' subscription, or."

That the following new clauses be added:—

(a) *Subscriptions are payable on or before the 10th of each month. Members are responsible for the subscription of each successive month, unless they have given notice in writing on or before the first of the month preceding, of their intention to resign from the Union.*

(b) *All bills must be settled by members by the close of the month following that in which the liability is incurred. Failing payment by the end of that month the amount shall become an arrear.*

(c) *On a debt becoming an arrear a reminder shall be addressed by the Secretary to the defaulting member by registered letter; and should the arrear still remain unpaid after the lapse of a month from the date of the Secretary's letter, the name of the member shall be posted in the Union Hall by the Secretary. An intimation of the same shall be sent to him by registered letter. Should he not pay by the end of one month after the date of the said intimation, his name shall be erased from the list of members, and he can only be admitted again after a fresh election. His name shall remain posted until the amount due is paid.*

(d) *No credit shall be given to any member who is in arrear, or who is in debt to the Union to a greater amount than rupees forty (Rs. 40.).*

7. At this stage the President vacated the Chair, and on the motion of Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy, seconded by Dr. R. L. Spittel, the Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz was appointed Chairman *pro tem*.

On taking the Chair, the Hon. Mr. Maartensz said that the meeting would agree with him that there was but one name that they could connect with the office of President, and that was the name of Mr. Anthonisz, who had been their President for many years. They all regretted that the state of Mr. Anthonisz's health deprived them of his regular presence at their Committee Meetings, but they lost nothing by that as he was ever ready to help and advise them by letter whenever his assistance was sought. If proof of Mr. Anthonisz's interest in the Union was needed, it was supplied by the fact that he continues to take the greatest interest in the publication of the journal. Mr. Maartensz had much pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. Anthonisz.

The motion was seconded by Mr. T. D. Mack and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Anthonisz, in resuming the Chair, thanked the meeting for the great honour they had done him. He regretted that owing to his present state of health he was not able to be of as much service to the Union as he would wish to, but perhaps they thought that his remaining as President for some time longer would be to the interests of the Union. He did not mean to suggest that there were not worthier men than himself to fill the office of President. There were men in the community like the Hon. Mr. Maartensz for instance, who would adorn the office, but perhaps they thought that he (Mr. Anthonisz) had been so long associated with this office that it would be convenient at the present juncture that he should remain in it. That was his only reason for accepting the office.

8. The President proposed the re-election of Mr. J. R. Toussaint as Honorary Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. A. E. Keuneman and carried unanimously.

9. The Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz proposed the re-election of Mr. Wace de Niese as Honorary Secretary and referred to the good work done by him. He had drawn water from the dry rock and had made an excellent Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. A. E. Keuneman and carried unanimously.

10. On the motion of Mr. A. E. Keuneman seconded by Mr. Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy, Mr. F. E. Loos was re-elected Auditor.

11. Mr. E. H. Vanderwall proposed and Mr. J. R. Toussaint seconded that the following gentlemen do form the Committee of Management for the ensuing year:—

COLOMBO:—D. V. Altendorff, H. H. Bartholomeusz, H. P. Beling, W. W. Beling, L. E. Blazé, W. S. Christoffelsz, I. S. O., Allan Drieberg, A. VanGeyzel, G. H. Gratiaen, Col. E. H. Joseph, Dr. H. P. Joseph, A. E. Kenneman, Gladwin Koch, Rosslyn Koch, Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, F. E. Loos, W. Ludovici, Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz, J. A. Martensz, J. G. Paulusz, R. S. V. Poulrier, Dr. L. A. Prins, E. Reimers, W. E. V. de Rooy, Dr. R. L. Spittel, L. P. Stork, E. A. Vanderstraaten, I.S.O., J. P. de Vos, Jr., E. H. Vanderwall, A. N. Weinman, the Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille.

OUTSTATION:—G. H. Altendorff, Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz, C. P. Brohier, E. J. Buultjens, W. E. Grenier, W. Horft, G. P. Keuneman, O. L. de Kretser, the Hon. Mr. H. A. Loos, Dr. E. Ludovici, the Hon. Mr. N. J. Martin, E. J. Meurling, L. G. Poulrier, J. T. Van Twest, C. E. de Vos.

The motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by the Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz it was resolved that the Committee be empowered to take such steps as may be necessary to give effect to the resolutions adopted at the meeting by embodying in the Constitution such clauses and modifications as would render the rules operative.

A collection was then taken in aid of the Social Service Benevolent Fund of the Union.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Eighteenth Annual Report

(As amended at the Annual General Meeting.)

Your Committee beg to submit the following report for the year 1925:—

MEMBERSHIP:—Fifteen new members were admitted during the year, while the loss by resignation and death was six. The death of two members in particular calls for special mention, viz., Mr. P. D. Siebel and Mr. E. de Kretser, I.S.O. These gentlemen were both original members of the Union and took a warm interest

in its welfare. They both served at one time or another on the Committee, whose deliberations they did much to assist by their mature and sound advice. The number of members on the roll on 31st December, 1925, was 512 as compared with 503 on 31st December, 1924.

GENERAL COMMITTEE:—Thirteen Meetings were held during the year, with an average attendance of 14.

CHANGES AMONG OFFICE-BEARERS AND COMMITTEE:—During the course of the year changes occurred in the offices of both the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer. Mr. A. R. Bartholomeusz, who had for a period of nine years performed with zeal the duties of Honorary Treasurer, tendered his resignation, and the vacancy was filled by the appointment of Mr. J. R. Toussaint. A few months later Mr. D. V. Altendorff resigned the Honorary Secretaryship, an office which he had held with much acceptance for six years. Mr. J. R. Toussaint was appointed in his place, the resulting vacancy in the office of Honorary Treasurer being filled by Mr. Wace de Niese.

Mr. D. V. Altendorff was elected a member of the Committee in place of Mr. Wace de Niese, and Dr. L. A. Prins was elected to fill the vacancy on the Committee caused by the death of Mr. E. de Kretser, I.S.O.

WORK OF STANDING COMMITTEES:—1. *Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes.* The Committee followed the same lines of work as in previous years and arranged for a series of lectures which were held monthly, except for a slight interruption during the early part of the year owing to the absence of the Secretary from Colombo. The lecturers were again drawn both from among the Members of the Union as well as from those unconnected with it. The subjects dealt with covered a wide range and the lectures were much appreciated.

2. *Committee for Purposes of Genealogical Research:—*Three Meetings were held during the year and fourteen applications for membership dealt with.

3. *Committee for Purposes of Social Service:—*On the departure from the Island at the end of October last of Mrs. Schneider who had worked with much acceptance on this Com-

mittee for a number of years, Mrs. Maartensz was elected Secretary in her place. It was decided by the Social Service Committee that the Treasurer of the Union should be the custodian of the funds.

Revd. G. H. P. Leembruggen, who had acted as Almoner of the Social Service Fund for a number of years, and who had devoted much of his time to the work of collecting funds as well as making disbursements, was obliged owing to pressure of his other duties to resign this office towards the end of the year. The Committee desire to express their grateful thanks to him for his invaluable services.

Four applications for assistance were received and temporary help was given in each case. Monthly help continued to be given as follows:—

- (a) School fees to seven children.
- (b) Monthly aid to two boys.
- (c) Monthly aid to seven widows and one girl.

Hitherto the funds for Social Service have been obtained by spasmodic appeals to individual members. This is unsatisfactory because no organised monthly assistance is possible without a fairly correct estimate of what funds will be available for use during the year. The Committee has now approved a scheme for circulating an appeal to all the members of the Union asking them to promise the payment of an annual subscription which can be paid in monthly instalments if desired. Immediate relief is no doubt necessary in cases of acute distress, but the main object of the Committee is to encourage self-help.

Members of the Union are invited to bring to the notice of the Committee all cases of genuine distress in the community, as there is reason to believe that as a result of the steps recently taken there will be more funds at the disposal of the Committee for this benevolent and desirable object. In this connection the Committee desire to thank the members who have already so generously subscribed to the Social Service Fund, and they wish to make special mention of the handsome contributions received from Mrs. F. C. Loos and Mr. E. O. Felsingier.

4. *Committee for Purposes of Entertainment*:—Six Socials were held during the year. The attendance at the November Social

unfortunately suffered owing to the very inclement weather prevailing, but apart from this, considerable support was received. The thanks of the Committee are due to all those who generously consented to contribute musical items at these functions.

A Fancy Dress Dance was held in August and another on 31st December, both of which proved very popular.

The arrangements for the St. Nicolaas' Fête were again this year in the capable hands of Mrs. H. P. Joseph, who received much willing assistance from the other members of the Entertainment Committee, with the result that the function was an unqualified success.

PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF UNION AND CLUB:—At a meeting of the Committee held on 6th July, 1925, Dr. R. L. Spittel moved the following resolution:—

(1) That the present distinction between the Club and the Union is prejudicial to the future welfare of the Union, and that the time has now come when the two should be merged in one under the common name of the Dutch Burgher Union, with an uniform subscription rate of Rs. 2 or 2-50 per month which will secure to all members of the Union Club rights.

(2) That rules with regard to the non-payment of subscriptions be enforced more rigorously than has hitherto been the practice.

The resolution was referred to a Sub-Committee, who recommended that the views of the whole body of members should be obtained on the proposal. A circular letter was accordingly sent out, and an analysis of the replies received showed that 200 members were in favour of the proposal and 41 against it. The question was then referred to the Committee of the Club for their views, and the Club have now stated the conditions on which they are prepared to agree to the proposal. These conditions are embodied in the resolutions which will be moved by Dr. Spittel at the Annual General Meeting.

ARMISTICE DAY:—A wreath of poppies was placed on the Cenotaph in Colombo on Armistice Day on behalf of the Union.

STUDY OF DUTCH:—During the course of the year there was a revival of interest in the study of Dutch. The subject has been ardently taken up and considerable progress made by a few mem-

bers, who have met for reading and conversation. The accession of one or two Hollanders, permanently resident in Colombo, as members of the Union will it is hoped facilitate these studies to some extent.

One of the avowed objects of the Union is the establishment of a Library composed of all obtainable books and papers relating to the Dutch occupation of Ceylon, and standard works in Dutch literature. It is much to be regretted that up to quite recently it has not been possible to realise this object. The revival of the study of Dutch however, has created a demand for Dutch works and books relating to the Dutch occupation of Ceylon, and a library has been formed, though on a very modest scale, the books generously donated by the late Mr. F. H. de Vos serving as a nucleus. The Committee trust that those who have books which they can spare will donate them to the Library and thus enable a collection of books to be got together which will be worthy of the Union.

D. B. U. JOURNAL:—The journal was issued with commendable regularity during the year and maintained the high standard which has always characterised it. It should be a point of honour with every member of the Union to be a subscriber to the journal, but only about a hundred members actually subscribe to it. The Committee trust, now that the matter has been pointedly referred to, that there will be a large accession of subscribers. The subscription is only Rs. 5 a year, a sum well within the means of every member.

FINANCES:—The accounts of the Honorary Treasurer, duly audited, are herewith submitted. The Balance Sheet for the previous year showed a sum of Rs. 700 due as rent of the Hall for a period of fourteen months. During the course of the year the Committee took vigorous steps to wipe off this outstanding. An appeal was made for special contributions and members in arrears were written to. The response was very encouraging. A sum of Rs. 181-50 was received as special contributions, while several members promised to pay to the Union the dividends on shares held by them in the D. B. U. Building Company. The balance required to settle the outstanding was met from a sum of Rs. 1,000 held in Fixed Deposit. As will be seen from the Balance Sheet, the present financial position is very satisfactory, thanks to the energy, zeal and efficiency of Mr. Wace de Niese, the Honorary Treasurer.

J. R. TOUSSAINT,

Honorary Secretary.

10th February, 1926.

THE DUTCH BURGHER UNION OF CEYLON.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1925.

	R. c.	R. c.
RECEIPTS.		
To Balance from last Account	14 00	375 00
" Entrance Fees received	215 50	60 00
" Arrears of Subscription	1,414 00	105 00
" Subscription for current year	69 00	64 95
" Subscriptions in Advance	75 00	40 00
" Refund on a/c St. Nicolaas' Fête	181 50	1,050 00
" Special Subscriptions	127 15	85 61
" Balance proceeds of Fixed Deposit	508 75	27 78
" Fixed Deposit withdrawn	40 56	
" Miscellaneous Receipts		56 50
		25 00
	2,645 46	
EXPENDITURE.		
By Salary of Clerk		375 00
" Wages of Servant		60 00
" Printing and Advertising		105 00
" Commission to Collector		64 95
" Lighting		40 00
" Rent		1,050 00
" Postage and Stationery		85 61
" Petty expenses		27 78
" Amount misappropriated by collector in 1924 now written off		56 50
" Cost of wreaths for Armistice Day		25 00
" Subscription to D. B. U. Journal credited to D. B. U.		105 00
" Funds and now refunded		105 00
" Electric light for War Memorial Panel		31 85
" Balance in Bank on 31-12-25		2,026 69
		894 70
	Rs. 2,921 39	Rs. 2,921 39

Audited and found correct.

FRANK E. LOOS,

Auditor.

Colombo, 6th February, 1926.

WACE DE NIESE,

Hon. Treasurer.

THE DUTCH BURGHER UNION OF CEYLON.

Balance Sheet on 31st December, 1925.

LIABILITIES.	R. c.	ASSETS.	R. c.
To Rent of Hall, August to December, 1925	250 00	By Fixed Deposit in Imperial Bank	500 00
„ Salary of Clerk, Nov. and Dec.	75 00	„ Value of Furniture	397 00
„ Lighting & Servants, Sep. and Dec.	50 00	„ Ladies' Room Furniture	57 00
„ Balance	3,315 38	„ Piano	1,283 00
		„ Subscriptions outstanding on 31-12-25	1,737 00
		„ Cash in Imperial Bank	558 68
			894 70
	Rs. 3,690 38		Rs. 3,690 38

Audited and found correct.

FRANK E. LOOS,
Auditor.

Colombo, 6th February, 1926.

WACE DE NIESE,
Hon. Treasurer.

DUTCH BURGHER UNION BENEVOLENT FUND.

Balance Sheet for year 1925.

RECEIPTS.	R. c.	EXPENDITURE.	R. c.
Balance from 1924	102 03	Aid to School Children	474 00
Collection at Annual Meeting (1925)	50 00	Allowances to Widows	406 00
Donations and Subscriptions during the year	1,452 00	Incidental Expenses	18 18
		Balance in Imperial Bank 31-12-25.	705 85
	Rs. 1,604 03		Rs. 1,604 03

Audited and found correct.

FRANK E. LOOS,
Auditor.

Colombo, 6th February, 1926.

WACE DE NIESE,
Hon. Treasurer.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on a/c St Nicolaas' Fête, 1925.

RECEIPTS.

	Rs.	c.
Balance brought forward	8	24
Subscriptions collected by:—		
Mrs. H. P. Joseph	181	00
" E. H. Joseph	118	00
" T. K. Carron	115	50
" W. Ludovici	87	50
" E. A. Vander-Straaten	87	00
" T. D. Mack	40	00
" W. E. V. de Rooy	10	00
Mr. Wace de Niese	29	00
" J. R. Toussaint	45	00
	721	24

Audited and found correct.

FRANK E. LOOS,
Auditor.

EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	c.
Toys
Refreshments
Printing and Postage	67	90
Music	27	00
Decorations	16	20
Servants	10	00
Lights	5	00
Cart hire, &c.	3	60
Balance	68	12
	721	24

BLANCHE JOSEPH,
Honorary Secretary,
St. Nicolaas' Fête.

WOMEN IN LITERATURE.

The present age has been variously characterised, according to prominent occurrences of the moment. It has been called the Age of Advertisement, the Motor Age, the Age of Democracy, the Age of Labour, and so on. But there is quite as much reason for calling it the Age of Woman, since the revolution in our ideas of womanhood is one of the most striking and one of the most momentous changes that have occurred in times quite recent. Woman has at last succeeded, and by what would seem a sudden leap, in establishing her claims to more respectful recognition as an active partner in national as well as social affairs, and she is still occupied in claiming more and obtaining more. She has not yet come into her proper place, and perhaps she is as little aware as man himself of what that place will be eventually.

All these years, all these centuries, she was denied, and not without reason, the elementary rights which man saw and believed she was unable to exercise. She was "undeveloped man," the "weaker sex," "he for God only, she for God in him," he for "absolute rule," she for "implied subjection . . . yielded with coy submission;" and not all her manifold and manifest charms could raise her, in the mass, to social or political equality.

"A beautiful strange thing,
Through every age and clime
Tracked by her radiant wing,
Yet leaving on all time
Only a cry of grief, only a stain of crime.

Jewelled in Eastern lands,
And painted with strange lures;
Carved goddess by Greek hands,
Sung round by Troubadours;
Still is her doom the same, this queen and toy of yours.

A Dalila, a Circe,
A Venus from the sea;
Loved, without faith or mercy,
A saint, yet scorned is she;
Idol and priestess both, yet never friend nor free."

That was written forty years ago, and long years of preparation, of striving and of waiting, of fierce debate and noisy clamour, were needed to convince the wise and overcome the ridicule of the scornful. The Suffragette audacities were the last phase before the end. But when the War of 1914 broke out, woman found her opportunity. Her patriotism, her courage, her devotion, and, more than all, her good sense, at that crisis in European history, won the unstinted admiration and ungrudging respect of all. A new frame of mind has been created, and of this, woman has taken the fullest advantage. When the not unnatural excesses of the moment have been exhausted, there will result a more reasonable and more harmonious relation between the sexes, and a further step will be taken in the onward march of social progress.

The time would thus seem appropriate for looking back on what influence woman has had in the past, in one department at least, of human activity. It will be seen that literature—the literature of all lands—would be of very small account if we took away from it all that relates to woman.

First of all, women have been the *subjects* of literature; and that in two ways. Many women have been written about because through their beauty, or their ability, or the power that came into their hands, they had a controlling influence on public affairs. Though generally kept in a subordinate position, and regarded as physical and political inferiors, many women have from time to time taken a prominent part in public life, and even grave historians have been obliged to record and comment upon their doings.

There have been famous Queens. The tragic story of *Mary Queen of Scots* has been the subject of numerous volumes, and almost every year there is a new solution offered of the mystery which surrounds her life. Contemporary with her, and in the reign of her great rival *Elizabeth*, flourished Spenser and Shakespeare and many another "bright particular star." The reign of Queen *Anne*, "great Anna, whom three realms obey," has been called the Augustan age of English Literature. *Queen Victoria* was not less great a Queen than *Elizabeth*, not less a woman than *Anne*, and her reign was not less renowned in literature, art, or discovery, than *Anne's* or *Elizabeth's*.

There were famous queens, of course, who were not British. *Zenobia* was a Queen of Palmyra, in the Syrian desert, whose ruins were explored three years ago. She had a court of such splendour that it attracted the Greek Longinus, reputed author of a famous treatise "On the Sublime." Conquered by the Romans, and exiled to Tivoli in Italy, she there lived in comfort and state. *Cleopatra* of Egypt has been the constant theme of prose and poetry.

"Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale
Her infinite variety"

She "died a Queen."

We must not omit *Catherine the Great* of Russia who, with all her vices, re-created that unhappy country; or *Catharine de Medici* who ruled France and was responsible for that hideous massacre on St. Bartholomew's Day which is one of the landmarks of European history. There is also the unfortunate *Marié Antoinette*, the last Queen of France, who will live, if nowhere else, in the glittering pages of Burke and Carlyle.

But we must pass from the Queens to other women of lower social rank but some of superior greatness and more enduring renown. Patriotism claims *Joan of Arc*, whose fame has been recently revived. Heroism shines in *Grace Darling*, the lighthouse keeper's daughter, in *Florence Nightingale*, the "Lady with a Lamp," and in *Flora Macdonald*, who risked her life to save Prince Charles when he was hunted by his enemies. Addison relates a story of German women in a town that was besieged. Finding that the town could not hold out they petitioned to be allowed to depart out of it with as much as each of them could carry. The petition was granted, and every woman came out of the town carrying her husband on her back.

Women of wit and beauty have had a prominent place in literary records. *Madame Pompadour* has given a new word to the English language. She ruled France and liberally encouraged the arts. *Nell Gwynn* was an actress, won the favour of Charles II, and was the subject of a novel by Charles Reade. *Lady Hester Stanhope*, the niece of William Pitt, abandoned the fascinations of the English Court and settled on Mount Lebanon, where she exercised a sort of despotic rule over the wild Arab tribes. *Lady Mary*

Worthy Montagu, of whom you heard quite recently, was first the friend and then the enemy of Pope. She introduced into England the practice of inoculation of small-pox. And this brings us to *Madame Curie* who, with her husband, discovered radium, and thus established herself in the first rank of scientific discoverers.

The woman of Bible history need not here be mentioned, though a little reflection will shew how large a place they occupy, not only in our thoughts but also in literature and art. No one, however, will grudge a passing reference to our common mother Eve, of whom Milton, for example, draws so alluring a portrait.

It is in the region of classical tradition, or history, or poetry—whichever you will—that women have very largely inspired literature. Foremost among these comes *Helen of Troy*.

“A daughter of the gods, divinely tall,
And most divinely fair;”

whose marvellously beautiful face it was

“That launch'd a thousand ships,
And burnt the topless towers of Ilium.”

From Homer to Tennyson the charm of Helen of Troy has been the theme of praise which is as immortal as her own beauty. There is also *Dido*, Queen of Carthage, of whose woes Vergil has written so feelingly; and *Hero*, to visit whom Leander braved the waves of the Hellespont; and *Psyche*, the bride of Cupid; and *Penelope*, the model of a faithful wife; and a hundred others whose stories are becoming increasingly familiar to us.

The literature of India gives us the names of many famous women. *Draupadi* and *Damayanti* are tenderly recorded in the “Mahabharata”; but the name of *Sita*, Rama's Queen, is more familiar to us in Ceylon.

In historical times, the luckless love of *Heloise* for Abelard has been noted. Most famous of all are the Platonic loves of Dante for his *Beatrice* and of Petrarch for his *Laura*. A similar story of unrequited, or rather unfulfilled, affection is told of the Portuguese poet Camoens, whose love for his *Katrina* spent itself in passionate rhymes.

But we must get on to another part of our main theme. As a subject of Literature, even more than individual women has been WOMAN and WOMANHOOD. This has been the principal motive of all poetry. Preachers have burdened themselves with anxious fears about the duties and responsibilities of the sex, and nearly all founders of religions have generally treated them with scant courtesy. Scientists are to this day in grave perplexity as to the exact place of women in social and natural evolution; while philosophers and ordinary men have given up the problem in despair. There is no understanding them.

“good as well as ill,

Woman's at best a contradiction still.”

So wrote the poet Pope, and through all the ages, down to the present moment, woman remains a contradiction, an enigma, a mystery, unsolved, and apparently unsolvable.

The enormous mass of references to women in Literature may be grouped round two attributes which seem to be peculiarly attached to her—Love and Beauty. It is assumed, rightly or wrongly, that the passion of love shews itself pre-eminently in her. “Thy love to me was wonderful,” said David of his friend Jonathan “passing the love of women.” And Byron was not entirely wrong when he wrote:

“Man's love is of man's life a thing apart;
'Tis woman's whole existence.”

But though it may be that women love more devotedly than men, it is men who have written most about that love, and who have sought to describe all its moods and characteristics. Volumes of prose and poetry have been published on this fascinating theme, and the volumes unpublished must be tenfold in number. It would not be surprising if many of us have, hidden away among our secret treasures, some outpourings of our own heart on this absorbing theme of love. But, confining ourselves to published volumes, we find an inexhaustible variety: the love of mother, wife, and maid; love unrequited, love untold, and cherished in secret; love that ripens out to its full natural development; love that breaks down the barriers of caste and race and creed; false love like Dalila's that allures only to destroy; and true love which gives itself freely,

which "doth not alter where it alteration finds," which "beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things" and "never faileth."

Then, there is the Beauty of women—another inexhaustible theme. What would be left of Literature if the praise of women's beauty were omitted from it? Beauty of face and form; *eyes*, blue, black, or grey, bent downcast in modesty, or "all radiant with celestial fire"; *hair*, raven, auburn, or golden, tangled like Næra's or flowing "down in wavy lightness to the ground," or curled and bound in many a cunning knot. How many poems have begun with, "Only a lock of a maiden's hair"?

The fashions of modern times leave no room for flowing tresses, but women need have no fear that their praise will be neglected. Bobbed and shingled hair will soon find new admirers and new poets.

Time will not allow of too many details, but the physical graces of woman have occupied, as you will perceive, no inconsiderable space in literature; not only in English literature but in the literature of all lands. And it is those graces that, doubtless, have been the cause of certain faults and weaknesses which have been no less the subjects of literature—perhaps more extensively of Eastern literature:—The vanity of women, the artifices and wiles which they seem to have instinctively at command, their jealousies and their hates, their frailties and inconstancy. "If minutely probed," wrote a Hindu, "it will be found that women are at the bottom of that mischievous discord which eats into the very vitals of domestic felicity." European verdicts are equally decisive, and Lady Mary Worthy Montague had so poor an opinion of her sex that she declared, "It goes far to reconcile me to being a woman, when I reflect that I am thus in no danger of ever marrying one."

Lastly: Women have not been only the subjects of literature; they have themselves added to the stock of literature. There probably is, and certainly there should be, a book dealing exclusively with women authors, and the study of such a book should prove particularly interesting. Only a rough and rapid summary can be attempted now of woman's literary work, and the summary must deal mainly with English writers. The Greeks were not without at

least one famous woman writer. Six hundred years before the Christian era lived *Sappho* who wrote nine books of lyrical poems, besides epigrams and elegies. Only a few fragments remain to-day, but the ancients classed her with Homer and modern critics do not dispute her greatness. John Stuart Mill was a pioneer in the cause of women, and he says: "The Greeks always accounted *Sappho* among their great poets; and we may well suppose that *Myrtis*, said to have been the teacher of Pindar, and *Corinna*, who five times bore away from him the prize of poetry, must at least have had sufficient merit to admit of being compared with that great name. *Aspasia* did not leave any philosophical writings; but it is an admitted fact that Socrates resorted to her for instruction, and avowed himself to have obtained it."

It is interesting to know that the women writers of modern times date back to the second half of the eighteenth century. Among the earliest of women-poets was *Hannah More*, Macaulay's governess. Her poems were mostly religious. *Anna Seward* was called the "Swan of Lichfield," and bequeathed her collected poems to Sir Walter Scott. Better known now than either is *Mrs. Barbauld*, a fragment of whose poems will be found in most anthologies:

"Life! we've been long together
Through pleasant and through cloudy weather;
'Tis hard to part when friends are dear—
Perhaps 'twill cost a sigh, a tear;—
Then steal away, give little warning,
Choose thine own time;
Say not Good Night, but in some brighter clime
Bid me Good Morning."

Joanna Baillie wrote many tragedies, now unread, but in those days so popular as to give her the name of "immortal." She lived to the middle of the nineteenth century, but the first great name of that century is that of *Mrs. Hemans*. Her poems are too full of sentiment for an age like ours, but she lives in "Casabianca," "The Graves of a Household," "The Better Land," and a few other poems. It is not difficult to anticipate a time when she will again be eagerly read. *Mrs. Landon*, popularly known as *L. E. L.*, was a contemporary of *Mrs. Hemans*, and even more full of melancholy.

And now we come to the great name of *Elizabeth Barrett Browning*, whom some would rank as the greatest of English women-poets. After her comes Miss Ingelow, famous for her ballads, but not so easily understood that she may be called popular. *Adelaide Ann Procter*, wife of "Barry Cornwall," became famous through her "Legends and Lyrics" which are far from the mystical character of Miss Ingelow's poems. Then we have *Miss Christina Rossetti*, sister of the Rossetti brothers, who divides with Mrs. Browning the place of greatness among English women-poets. One at least of her many inspired songs is sung as a hymn in the Christian Church. More widely known and popular as hymn writers are *Frances Ridley Havergal* and *Mrs. Alexander*.

This list might well close with *Ella Wheeler Wilcox*, the American poetess, who, in spite of 'high-brow' criticism, has achieved a remarkable and not wholly undeserved success. And it would be unpardonable to omit the names of two of the sweetest singers of India—*Toru Dutt* and *Sarojini Naidu*.

If, however, there are not many outstanding names of women in poetry, there are many among the novelists, some of whom were also poets. They start with *Aphra Behn*, described as a "licentious writer," and also as "the first English professional authoress and the first literary abolitionist." She wrote during the times of Charles II, and nearly a century passes before we come to *Fanny Burney*, the friend of Johnson and Burke. *Ann Radcliff* wrote "The Mysteries of Udolpho," due to what is called the Romantic Movement, which *Mrs. Inchbald*, more famous as an actress and dramatist, also greatly helped. *Maria Edgeworth*, who learnt Spanish when she was 70 years old, wrote novels which were instructive, and collaborated with her father on subjects connected with Education and with Ireland. *Mary Lamb*, as we all know, wrote in partnership with her brother Charles Lamb. *Amelia Opie* published her first novel at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and was followed soon after by *Jane Austen*, and, a little later, by *Susan Ferrier* whose tales were at one time attributed to Sir Walter Scott. *Mary Russell Mitford* wrote "Our Village" a quarter of a century before the *Bronte* sisters published their novels and poems, and the life of Charlotte Bronte was afterwards written by *Mrs. Gaskell* whose "Cranford" deserves to be more widely

read than it happens to be. Mrs. Margaret Oliphant was another novelist of the period. About this time, the middle of the nineteenth century, a French woman—*Madam Sand*—began to make a distinguished name for herself by a long series of novels.

With *Mrs. Craik*, author of "John Halifax," we enter upon more recent times. Mrs. Craik and Miss *Charlotte Mary Yonge*, who wrote the "Heir of Redclyffe," were both typical Victorians in literature; and the same may perhaps be said of *Mrs. Henry Wood*, who wrote "East Lynne." But *George Eliot*, the writer of "Adam Bede" and "Silas Marner," gave out more enduring literature. *Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's* "Uncle Tom's Cabin" created, or at least, assisted, one of the greatest political revolutions of modern time. *Ouida* is a name now hardly remembered, yet forty or fifty years ago her books were devoured, by those who could get them. The names of *Mrs. Humphrey Ward*, author of "Robert Elsmere," and of *Mary Kingsley* (who wrote as "Lucas Malet") will always find a place in the history of English literature.

L. E. B.

NOTICE.

Subscribers to the Journal are reminded that their subscriptions lapse with the issue of the present number, and they are kindly requested to renew their subscriptions for the period 1st April, 1926, to 31st March, 1927. The subscription is Rs. 5 per annum. Remittances should be sent direct to the undersigned and should not be included in the subscription to the Union as this causes difficulty in accounting.

J. R. TOUSSAINT,

Honorary Treasurer,

Board of Management.

"Muresk," Clifford Place, Bambalapitiya.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Portuguese Proverbs.—A correspondent writes to us as follows:—"I wonder whether there are any in the Dutch Burgher Community at present who speak or understand the Portuguese language. It was largely used, as we know, a generation or two back, but appears to be altogether forgotten now. This was brought to my mind the other day in a conversation I had with an old friend. We were on the subject of proverbs and the following Portuguese proverb was mentioned. *Quem te vizia tanque naõ more de segura*—he who guards the tank will not die of thirst. It will be seen how, apart from the sentiment, the words strike the ear with their Latin intonation. I think it a pity we are losing some of these beautiful aphorisms so familiar to the old folks. I have tried to recollect a few others but have not been very successful. Here is one in the form of a couplet: *Quem te busca prazeiro mista perde dinheiro*—he who pursues pleasure must lose his treasure. Another, *Nacaõ te mostra facaõ*—his manners shew his origin. The following is supposed to be muttered by an inebriate as he staggers along: *Minha challi pa'im te talli*—my money keeps pushing me about. The phrase *Elle paõ nun po'e falla* is said of a man whose tongue is too heavy through drink to utter the word for bread. Here the word *paõ* (Portuguese for bread) I think has been substituted for the Dutch word *brood*. The word *paõ* could be easily pronounced, whereas *brood* would indeed be a poser to a drunkard. Would any reader of the D. B. U. Journal be able to supplement these few Portuguese phrases I have given by others? A collection of them would indeed be interesting."

Muniandi.—This was the name of a humorous periodical published in Colombo during the years 1869—71. It was illustrated by lithographic sketches and cartoons, and the best artistic and literary talent available in Ceylon was combined in its production. The ostensible editor was Lieut. R. J. F. Edgecombe of the 73rd Regiment, but it was an open secret that several well-known local humorists had more than an ordinary interest in the publication. Of these, C. A. Lorenz's witticisms could not be mistaken, and he was recognised by his numerous admirers in many of the brilliant

topical skits which appeared. The first number drew forth a formidable attack from A. M. Ferguson, editor of the *Colombo Observer*, based on a cartoon to which he took exception. His remarks were considered libellous, and a memorable suit in the District Court, "*Edgecombe v. Ferguson*," was the result. The chief counsel engaged were Richard Cayley, Deputy Queen's Advocate (afterwards Chief Justice) for the plaintiff and the Honourable R. F. Morgan, Queen's Advocate, for the defendant. In the end Ferguson was condemned by Judge Berwick to pay 40 shillings and costs. Meanwhile the publication was continued and poor old Ferguson was never left in peace after that. He was made the butt of numerous jokes and of an endless series of witticisms, both in *woord en beeld*, as we would say in Dutch. In his second number *Muniandi* thus describes his reception by his brother editors:—

"Muniandi:—'Brethren, am I welcome?'

Govt. Gazette :—
Kandy Herald :—
Ceylon Examiner :—
Ceylon Times :—
Jaffna Freeman :—
Catholic Messenger :—
Lakrivikirana :—

} Welcome! Right Welcome

Colombo Observer :—'Ech, Sirs! But he's an unco' ugly customer'"

The sketch which accompanied this was a group of these ten editors and it gave remarkably good likenesses of these gentlemen. We hope to give our readers a few further specimens of this wit and humour of a half century ago in future numbers of our Journal.

NOTES OF EVENTS.

Summary of Proceedings of Meetings of the Committee :

Monday, 11th January 1926.—1. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. 2. Resolved that the attention of the Committee of the D. B. U. Club be invited to the proposal submitted regarding the amalgamation scheme. 3. The Treasurer's Statement of Accounts was laid on the table. 4. Read letter from Dr. Neil regarding the lax educational facilities for poor Burgher children and resolved that it be referred to the Social Service Committee for consideration and report. 5. Resolved, on the proposal of the Honorary Secretary, that a number of Dutch books for learners be procured at a cost not exceeding Rs. 25, the expenditure to be recouped by the sale of the books to members of the Dutch class. 6. The question whether the Committee should be "At Home" to the members after the Annual General Meeting was considered, and it was resolved that the Honorary Treasurer do endeavour to collect special subscriptions for the purpose, and that the matter should rest on his report. 7. The question whether the Secretaries of the Sub-Committees should be ex-officio members of the General Committee was deferred for further consideration. 8. The receipt of a cheque for Rs. 94'08 from Mrs. H. P. Joseph, being the balance remaining from the collection for the St. Nicholaas' Fête, was acknowledged. Resolved that the amount be credited to the Entertainment Fund. 9. The draft Annual Report for 1925 was read and considered. 10. Resolved that the non-paying members be reminded by a registered letter sent to them that under the rules non-payment of subscription would entail forfeiture of membership.

Monday, 1st February.—1. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. 2. A vote of condolence on the death of Dr. E. H. Ohlmus was proposed and solemnly passed. 3. Resolved that the date of the Annual General Meeting be altered to 27th February. 4. The following new members were elected:—Rev. A. J. K. de Klerk, J. P. de Vos, Jr., and H. W. Hatch. 5. Read correspondence with the Honorary Secretary of the D. B. U. Club regarding the amalgamation scheme. [This will be found set

out in the Annual Report.] It was resolved that the following proposition be submitted to the Annual General Meeting on the 27th February: "That in the interests of the Union it is desirable that the distinction between the Club and the Union should cease, and that the two institutions be amalgamated under the name of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon, in terms of the Circular Letter dated 10th August, 1925, and subject to the above resolutions passed by the Club."

Monday, 8th March.—1. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. 2. The resolution passed at the 18th Annual General Meeting regarding the amalgamation of the Union and the Club was considered, and it was resolved (1) that the work hitherto carried on by the Club be entrusted to the Sub-Committee for Entertainment and Sport and (2) that all members be informed by circular that the proposed amalgamation had been agreed to, and that with regard to the proviso allowing existing members, if they wished, to continue to pay the old subscription of Rs. 6 per annum, it was earnestly hoped this concession would not be generally availed of, as it would considerably handicap the working of the Union on the new lines, the proviso in question having been merely added to prevent any real hardship. 3. Resolved that the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer be authorised, if necessary, to employ an all-time clerk on a reasonable salary. 4. The following Sub-Committees were appointed:—

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR ETHICAL AND LITERARY PURPOSES.—The President, the Hony. Treasurer, the Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille, Miss Grace VanDort, Mr. C. Drieberg, Mr. L. E. Blazé, Dr. R. L. Spittel, Mr. C. E. de Vos, Mr. J. G. Paulusz, Dr. L. A. Prins, Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, Mr. R. S. V. Poulier, Mr. E. Reimers, Mr. Aubrey Weinman, the Hony. Secretary as Secretary and Convener.

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL SERVICE.—The President, the Honorary Secretary, the Hony. Treasurer, the Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille, Mrs. J. A. VanLangenberg, Mrs. E. A. VanderStraaten, Mrs. H. P. Joseph, Mrs. E. H. Joseph, Mrs. H. A. Loos, Mrs. E. G. Gratiaen, Miss H. Collette, Miss V. VanderStraaten, Mrs. W. S. Christoffelsz, Revd. D. E. Joseph, Revd. A. J. K. de Klerk, Miss Kathleen Schokman, Miss E. de Vos, Miss A. Spittel, Mrs. Kalenberg, Mrs. L. M. Maartensz, Secretary and Convener.

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH.—The President, the Hony. Secretary, the Hony. Treasurer, Mr. D. V. Altendorff, Mr. W. Ludovici, Mr. E. A. VanderStraaten, Mr. E. Reimers, Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy, Mr. L. E. Blazé, Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, Dr. L. A. Prins, Mr. G. H. Gratiaen, Secretary and Convener.

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS.—The President, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, the Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz, Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy, Mr. D. V. Altendorff, Mr. J. A. Martensz, Mr. E. A. VanderStraaten, Mr. A. E. Keuneman, Mr. W. Ludovici, Dr. L. A. Prins, Dr. H. P. Joseph, Mrs. L. M. Maartensz, Mrs. H. P. Joseph, Mr. Aubrey Weinman, Secretary and Convener.

Mr. E. H. van der Wall.—This gentleman left for Europe on a six months' furlough by the s.s. "Herefordshire" on the 3rd March. While wishing him a safe voyage and a pleasant sojourn in temperate climes, we cannot but express regret at the temporary loss we suffer by his absence. The regular appearance of this Journal hitherto was mainly due to his active interest and untiring efforts. It is understood that he will again visit the *Vaderland*, where he has several friends, and we hope to receive in the near future interesting and valuable papers from his pen in connection with his visit.

The Commissioner of Assize.—It is with unbounded pleasure we record here the fact that our much respected friend and countryman, the Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz, has been again appointed Commissioner of Assize. We venture to hope that it will not be long before he obtains a permanent seat in the highest tribunal of the land.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths.—Members of the Union are entitled, free of charge, to the insertion of notices of domestic occurrences. These notices must be restricted to a bare statement of the name or names, place, and date of occurrence, and must be sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Dutch Burghier Union.

Standing Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes.—The attention of members is invited to the need for co-operation in carrying out the object laid down in sub-section (f) of Rule 2 of the Constitution. Any suggestions on this subject are to be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Committee for Literary Purposes, Mr. J. R. Toussaint, Muresk, Clifford Place, Bambalapitiya.

The Journal will be issued at the end of every quarter, post free, to each member of the Union who pays a subscription of Rs. 5/- per annum towards its cost of publication. Literary and other contributions are invited and should be sent to Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, President of the Dutch Burghier Union, Toniston, Heneratgoda, while all remittances on account of the Journal should be made to Mr. J. R. Toussaint as above. Dr. L. A. Prins has been made a member of the Board of Management.

Changes of Address.—All change of address (especially within the last three years) should be notified without delay to the Honorary Secretary of the Union, Dutch Burghier Union Hall, Reid's Avenue, Colombo, or to the Honorary Treasurer of the Union. This will ensure the safe receipt by members of all notices, invitations, reports, etc.

Remittances.—Remittances, whether of subscriptions due to the Union or contributions for special objects, must be made to the Honorary Treasurer of the Union, Mr. Wace de Niese, Cherrydale, Bambalapitiya, and not to the Honorary Secretary.

Remittances on the account of the Social Service Fund must be made to Mrs. L. M. Maartensz, Horton Place, Colombo, the Honorary Secretary of the Standing Committee for purposes of Social Service.

Dutch Burghier Union of Ceylon Buildings Co., Ltd.—All communications should be addressed to G. H. Gratiaen, Esq., Secretary of the Company D. B. U. Hall, Reid's Avenue, Colombo.