

THE HOLLAND FESTIVAL

The Netherlands may well be called a land of flowers. It is a name which is applicable in every season of the year, but one which takes on an extra significance in Springtime, with the bulbs in bloom. In the same way, the arts flourish in the Netherlands all the year round, but they too have their special season—that of the Holland Festival. This "season", which lasts from June 15th to July 15th, is becoming a tradition. How did this Holland Festival come about, and why is it held? One can regard it as a reaction to the misery of the war years, 1940—1945, when culture was suppressed and only material things seemed to matter. Thus, in 1946 the first plans for a festival of the arts were made, and the next year—though not yet under that name—saw the first Holland Festival. Eight years have since passed. Culture is flowering again as never before, and yet it seems as if that special "season" is not out of place. While concerts and ballet, opera performances and art exhibitions are held from January through December, the idea of having a concentration of artistic manifestations once a year, has been widely accepted.

International Character

From its inception, the Holland Festival has been international rather than national. As citizens of a seafaring and trading nation, the Netherlanders have for centuries had an open eye and mind for happenings outside their own borders. By its geographical position between the Western countries, the Netherlands have been at the cross roads of the great cultural currents. All this would have made a narrow, strictly national festival impossible. While Netherlands culture has its place—and a prominent place—the Holland Festival aims to be a kind of window on the artistic achievements of the world. It not only wants to remind people of the role Europe has played and is still playing in the cultural field, but also to show what other parts of the world have to offer. Thus, it may present Dutch painters, Hungarian chamber music, Italian opera, ballet from the United States, drama from Britain or France, and dances from India or Spain.

Culled from the Siera Gazette.

The objects of the Union shall be :

To gather by degrees a library for the use of the Union composed of all obtainable books and, papers relating to the Dutch occupation of Ceylon and standard works in Dutch literature.

GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF BILSBOROUGH OF CEYLON

(Compiled by Mr. D. V. Attendorff)

I

William George Bilsborough, Covenanted Engine Driver, Ceylon Government Railway, born in Edinburgh Scotland, 16th June 1849, died in Colombo 19th July 1881, married in the Methodist Church, Pettah, Colombo, 22nd August 1879, Alexandrina Victoria Priscilla Pereira, born 26th August 1859, died 11th November 1941, daughter of John Pereira and Susan Sally de Haan. He had by her—

- 1 William John Alexander, who follows under II.
- 2 Priscilla Margaret Mabel, born 7th November 1881, died 16th September 1921, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapatiya, ;
 - (a) Edmund Morgan.
 - (b) Vincent Archibald Fernando.

II

William John Alexander Bilsborough, Appraiser in the Customs Department, born 24th May 1880, died 11th August 1927, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 29th December 1902, Minnie Claudia de Hoedt, born 20th September 1882, daughter of Ebenezer Frederick Adolphus de Hoedt and Helen Arabella Bulner. He had by her.—

- 1 Alexander Dennis Hugo, who follows under III.
- 2 George Henley Trevor, who follows under IV.
- 3 Bertram Claude Llewellyn, who follows under V.
- 4 Alton Vere Montague, who follows under VI.
- 5 Marie Victorine Norma, born 7th December 1919, married in St. Michaels' and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 30th November 1940, Neril Emiliai Misso, L.M.S. (Ceylon), D.T.M. and H., E.D., born 2nd September 1914, son of Eric Constant Misso and Daisy Irene Elaine Reimers. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. XXIX, page 72, and Vol. XXXIII, page 49).

III

Alexander Dennis Hugo Bilsborough, born 2nd March 1904, married in St. Michaels' and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 4th June 1929, Esme Olivia de Jong, born 22nd November 1910, daughter of Henry Olivia de Jong and Winifred Olivia Wait. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. IX, page 126). He had by her.—

