The Burgher community at the turn of the century was about 0.7 percent of the total population of Ceylon. In 1981 the number of Burghers had been reduced to about 30,000 or 0.25 percent of the total population of 15 million.

The problems confronting the Burghers after Independence in 1948 have been partly caused by their own mistakes, which made them vulnerable after the British left. They were too close to the British rulers and vested interests. They were out of sympathy with Buddhism and the Sinhala language and culture. And they also held more jobs in the public sector than other communities in proportion to their size. This caused a great deal of antipathy towards them.

Despite their small numbers, the Burghers can still make a useful contribution to the destiny of Sri Lanka by working together with other communities. They bring to the task a rich cultural heritage. And by standing both apart from and together with mainstream Sri Lankan society, they bring both objectivity and genuine concern to the great issues which face the country today.

GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF VAN EYCK OF CEYLON

Compiled by Cherise Pereira

Leenders Van Eyck of Holland came to Ceylon in 1769

His son Arei Van Eyck, born in 1771 at Galle, Assistant in the Government Secretariat, Colombo, married:

- (a) Anna Magdalena Peiris:
- (b) Sophia Louisa Abrahamsz at the Dutch Reformed Church Wolvendaal on 9th May 1789

Of the first marriage he had:

- (1) Sarah Dorothea Van Eyck, baptised 31 August 1788
 - Of the second marriage he had:
- (1) Arnold Wilhelm Hendrik Van Eyck, baptised 15th May 1791
- (2) Catherina Louisa Van Eyck, baptised 9th February 1794, married Jan Christoffel Melkers. She had by him:

Janette Charlotte Melkers born 8th August 1813, married on 15th March 1830, William Morgan, son of Richard Owen Morgan and Behrana Lucretia Lourensz

- (3) Ferdinand Carel Van Eyck who follows under II
- (4) Angenita Sophia Van Eyck, baptised 30th December 1798, married 30th July 1835, Frederick Lionel Lemphers, (born 16.9.1809, died 28.8.1866), son of Samuel Pieter Eregod Lempfert, Draughtsman, Survey Department, Colombo (born 4.7.1784,

- married 24.10.1806, died 26.3.1822) and Maria Johanna Perera, (died 21.4.1837); (DBU Journal Vol. XXXIV Jan. 1945 No. 3. page 84)
- (5) Maria Christina Van Eyck, baptised 8th February 1801
- (6) Arnoldina Margereta Van Eyck, baptised 5th August 1804 married on 19 January, 1837, Henry Meyer
- (7) Dorothea Cornelia Van Eyck, baptised 12th October 1806

II

Ferdinand Carel Van Eyck, baptised 8th January 1797 married:

- (a) Margerita Elizabeth Paulusz, born 1804, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolfendaal, on 15th July 1819, died 2nd April 1829. Daughter of Johannes Jacobus Paulusz and Wilhelmina Baarthouwer. (DBU Journal Vol. XLI Oct. 1951 No.4 page 169)
- (b) Susannah Cornelia Lemphers, born 1810, daughter of Samuel Pieter Eregod Lempfert and Maria Johanna Perera, referred to in (4) above

Of the first marriage he had:

- (1) Eliza Sophia Van Eyck, born 31st May 1820, married George Martin Schubert
- (2) Anna Amelia Van Eyck, born 22nd May 1822
- (3) John Henry Van Eyck who follows under III

 Of the second marriage he had:
- (1) Charles Frederick Van Eyck who follows under IV

- (2) Francis Gerard Van Eyck, born 9th October 1833
- (3) Seraphina Henrietta Van Eyck, born 22nd August 1835, married in 1855, John Henry Eardé. She had by him:
 - 1. Sarah Magdalena Eardé, born 29.10.1856
 - 2. Anne Lydia Eardé, born 12.4.1858, married John Augustus Sparkes Marshall
 - 3. Oscar John Henry Eardé, born 13.10.1861, married Laura Leticia
 - 4. Kate Millicent Eardé, born 22.1.1877, married Cyril Godolphin Van Eyck who follows under VIII
- (4) Louisa Petronella Van Eyck, born 23rd May 1837
- (5) Carolina Charlotta Van Eyck, born 24th March 1839, married Thomas Baldesing
- (6) John William Van Eyck who follows under V
- (7) Henrietta Margerita Van Eyck, and Susanna Jacomina Van Eyck (twins), born on 27th February 1845
- (8) William Theodore Van Eyck who follows under VI
- (9) Thelesia Frederica Van Eyck, born 28th January 1849
- (10) Sophia Louisa Van Eyck, born 18th December 1851, died 20th March 1875, married 25th July 1874 in the Dutch Feformed Church, Wolvendaal, Samuel Oliver Kelaart (born 1.9.1848 died 1912) Son of John William Kelaart and Henrietta Argina Schubert. (DBU Journal XLII April 1952 No.2 page 69)

Ш

John Henry Van Eyck, born 1st August 1826, married Janette Henrietta Sypst on 9th January 1850

IV

Charles Frederick Van Eyck, born 31st October 1830 married Dorothea Cornelia Zieglaar on 13th October 1853, and had by her:

(1) Vincent Arnold Van Eyck who follows under VII

V

John William Van Eyck, born 14th June 1842, married:

- (a) Margaret Caroline Nicolle on 29th June 1866, died 1st January 1873
- (b) Carolina Wilhelmina Paulusz on 27th December 1875, daughter of Johannes Gerhardus Paulusz* and Helen Catherine Jones

Of the first marriage he had:

(1) Henry Oliver Van Eyck, born 3rd July 1868

VI

William Theodore Van Eyck, born 14th March 1847, married Emily Sarah Fonseka on 4th November 1869, and had by her:

(1) Evangeline Rosella Van Eyck, born 28th January 1871, died 15th November 1896, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal 20th July 1892, Dennis Augustus Kelaart (born 18.1.1866, died 12.8.1927) son of Henry Gerard Kelaart and Maria Sophia le Dulx. She had by him:

- 1. Shirley Augustus van Eyck Kelaart, born 18.06.1894 married Ismay Claire Andriesz born (1.09.1903,) died 17.11.1944.
- 2. Alice Evangeline Edwina van Eyck Kelaart, born 15.11.1896
- (2) Orissa Amelia Van Eyck, born 21st June 1872, died 28 November 1928, married Charles Henry Pate, (born 19.9.1844, died 25.12.1943), son of Ananias Pate and Mary Poppleton. She had by him:
 - 1. Orissa Christine van Eyck Pate, born 24.6.1896, died a spinster
 - 2. Marjorie Iris van Eyck Pate, born 1.8.1897, married Percival Vernon Kronemberg
 - 3. Pearline Beryl van Eyck Pate, born 17.9.1898, died in childhood
 - 4. Ouida May van Eyck Pate, born 21.9.1901, died in childhood
 - 5. Charles Henry van Eyck Pate, born 25.2.1904, died a bachelor
 - 6. Vivian Ruby van Eyck Pate, born 17.6.1906, died 5.5.1985, married Edward Joseph Candappa, born 13.10.1903 died 23.6.1968.
 - 7. Phyllis Brenda van Eyck Pate, born 4.11.1907, died in childhood
 - 8. Elmore Bruce van Eyck Pate, born 8.12.1909' married Norah Gertrude Perera, born 23.10.1908, died 5.4.1980.

^{*} Son of Johannes Jacobus Paulusz referred to in II (a) above.

- 9. Doreen Merle van Eyck Pate, born 10.5.1912, died in infancy
- (3) Cyril Godolphin Van Eyck who follows under VIII
- (4) Mildred Arabella Van Eyck, born 21st April 1876, married on 5th July 1898, Wilfred Henry Auwardt. She had by him:
 - 1. Vilma Ruby Iris van Eyck Auwardt, born 31.10.1899, died 23.6.1985, married Christopher St. George Prout.
 - 2. Albert Henry William van Eyck Auwardt, born 28.5.1901
 - 3. Esme van Eyck Auwardt, born 16.3.1903
- (5) Mabel Laura Van Eyck, born 31st December 1878, died unmarried, on 18th December 1959
- (6) Muriel Enid Van Eyck, born 21st June 1883, married Owen Duncan Cecil de Vos. She had by him:
 - 1. Claire Muriel van Eyck de Vos, married: a. Albert William Victor Alagaratnam, widower of Millicent Isaaks, and b. George Vethacan
 - 2. Bertha van Eyck de Vos, married Vernon Mack
 - 3. Boniface van Eyck de Vos, married Leticia Fernando
 - 4. Miriam Constance van Eyck de Vos, married Samuel Andrew William Mottau, widower of Thelma Phyllis Foenander
 - 5. Gladys Dagmar van Eyck de Vos, married Kingsley Matthis
 - 6. Edward van Eyck de Vos, married Doris Reimers

- 7. George Paul van Eyck de Vos, married Avrille Joseph
- 8. Noeline van Eyck de Vos, married Shelley Anderson
- 9. Pansy van Eyck de Vos, married Clancy Abeykoon

VII

Vincent Arnold Van Eyck, born 28th September 1854 married:

- (a) Alice Emily Ebert, on 20th December 1877, born 5th January 1858, died 19.6.1889, daughter of Adrianus Johanne Ebert and Emily Jane Eardé,* born 3rd April, 1840
- (b) Agatha Bona Emma Rodé on 10th December 1891 in the Dutch Reformed Church Wolvendaal, daughter of John Rodé and Ellen Alice Bennet

Of the first marriage he had:

- (1) Percival Arnold Van Eyck, born 19th November 1878
- (2) (Dr.) Evan Clarence Ellis Van Eyck, born 16th January 1881, died September 1946
- (3) Alice Louis Estelle Van Eyck, born 13th March 1882

Of the second marriage he had:

- (4) Doris Augusta Van Eyck, born 17th February 1902
- (5) Roy Arnold Van Eyck who follows under IX

^{*} Daughter of George Earde, and Johanna Engeltine Van Geyzel, born 13.11.1817.

VIII

Cyril Godolphin Van Eyck, born 7th May 1874, died February 1908, married Kate Millicent Earde, born 22.1.1877, died 5th May 1920, daughter of John Henry Earde and Seraphina Henrietta Van Eyck, (referred to in II(3) above. He had by her:

- (1) Norma Kathleen Van Eyck, born 3rd December 1901, died 1953, married on 9th April, 1927, Betram H. Blacker of the Ways & Works, CGR
- (2) Earle Van Eyck, born 7th July 1906, died 13th July 1906
- (3) Percival Carl who follows under X

IX

Roy Arnold Van Eyck, born 13th June 1903

\mathbf{X}

Percival Carl Van Eyck, born 11th May 1908, died 4th November 1964, married on 26th December 1939 at the Dutch Reformed Church, Regent Street, Neliya Edith Blanche Alagaratnam, (born 11.4.1917) daughter of Victor Alagaratnam and Millicent Isaaks, referred to in VI(6) above. He had by her:

- (1) Norman Earl Van Eyck, born 30th March 1941, married on 27th December 1972, Aloma Agnes Pereira, daughetr of Peter Lynwood Oswald Pereira and Agnes May De Lay
- (2) Carlene Anita Van Eyck, born 31st January 1943, married on 18th April 1968, Darian Egerton de Meuron Joseph, born 6.2.1944, son of Ronald Edwin De Meuron Joseph and Louisa Orelia de Silva. She had by him:
 - 1. Ian Michael Joseph, born 6th November 1971

- 2. Alan David Joseph, born 2nd October, 1974
- (3) Caryl Rowena Van Eyck, born 1st August 1944, married on 23rd October 1980, Ralph Peter Clifford de Zilwa, born 16.10.1941, son of Hindley Peter de Zilwa and Therese Ziska Mortier
- (4) Neville Carlson Evan who follows under XI
- (5) Cherise Kathleen Rosemarie Van Eyck, born 13th April 1948, married on 27th December 1971, Kingsley Oswald Joachim Pereira, born 26.7.1946, died 3.7.1991, son of Peter Lynwood Oswald Pereira and Agnes May De Lay
- (6) Percival David Neal who follows under XII

XI

Neville Carlson Evan Van Eyck, born 28th November 1946, died 8th October 1981, married on 15th June 1969, Sherine Patricia Joseph, born 3.1.1948, daughter of Ronald Edwin De Meuron Joseph and Louisa Orelia de Silva. He had by her:

- (1) Shane Neville Van Eyck, born 28th February 1971
- (2) Johanne Neal Van Eyck, born 13th February 1978

XII

Percival David Neal Van Eyck, born 9th November 1956, married on 2nd August 1980, Melanic Mary Manickam, born 6.8.1959, daughter of Felix Manickam and Mavis Neydorff. He had by her:

- (1) Amanda Janice Van Eyck, born 4th August 1983
- (2) Samantha Carol Van Eyck, born 8th October 1984