

FAUST

Conducted by
Sir THOS. BEECHAM



**SUNG IN
ENGLISH**

Columbia

THE popularity of "Faust" among longer operas has never been equalled, and the issue of it by Columbia in English, with Sir Thomas Beecham conducting, will be acclaimed as the greatest thing of its kind. As will be seen, only the best artists were chosen to sing in Gounod's most successful opera, and the result is thoroughly understandable English throughout—a veritable delight to the opera-lover who likes to hear what the story is about. All who know of the success attending the Columbia "Pagliacci" and "Cavalleria Rusticana" (both in English) will expect a similar high standard in "Faust", they will find an even greater triumph. The brilliant singing of the famous airs, the magnificence of the chorus, and the many dramatic moments so well brought out—these are features that stamp this as the finest opera production of its kind.

THE CAST

Faust	...	...	...	HEDDIE NASH
Mephistopheles	...	...	...	ROBERT EASTON
Venentine	...	...	...	HAROLD WILLIAMS
Weigner ...	...	...	...	ROBERT CARR
Margamite	...	...	...	MIRIAM LIOLETTE
Martha	...	...	...	MURIEL BRENSKILL
Siebel	...	...	...	DORIS VANE

Chorus of Students, Soldiers, Spirits, Peoples, etc.
by THE B. B. C. CHOIR.

A Booklet of the English words is given with the Album.
16 Records, Nos. DX88 to DX103 Rs. 4.00 each.



MILLERS

GRAMOPHONE SALONS,
COLOMBO AND KANDY.

VOL. XX.]

APRIL, 1931.

[No. 4.

Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

"Eendracht maakt Macht"

CONTENTS.

				PAGE.
1.	Five Notable Careers	...	...	165
2.	A Dutch Doctor at Kandy in 1739	...	...	169
3.	Annual General Meeting	...	...	173
4.	D. B. U. Annual Report	...	...	181
5.	Glimpses into the Past	...	...	189
6.	Rachael de Beer	...	...	198
7.	The Late Mr. J. P. de Vos	...	...	201
8.	A Fascinating Study	...	...	205
9.	The Quarter	...	...	207
10.	By the Way	...	...	210
11.	Notes and Queries	...	...	213
12.	Notes of Events	...	...	216
13.	Editorial Notes	...	...	220

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.

— THE —
DUTCH IN CEYLON

VOL. I.

BY
R. G. ANTHONISZ, I. S. O.

*Copies may be had at the D.B.U. Hall
at Rs. 5 each.*

Journal of the
Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

VOL. XX.]

APRIL, 1931.

[No. 4.]

FIVE NOTABLE CAREERS.

By the time this issue of the JOURNAL reaches the hands of our readers, there will have retired from Government Service five members of our Community each having completed a distinguished career in his own sphere of work. Such commonplace incidents as retirements do not usually call for special comment, but what gives a special significance to the retirements in question is not only that they all come practically together but that the individuals concerned have been among the most loyal members of the Union from its inception, who have, by their personal influence and example, helped to raise not only the Union but the entire Community in general estimation. Like, perhaps, all members of the Burgher Community who have risen to eminence, these gentlemen began their official life at the bottom of the ladder, with no special advantages that wealth or education confers, and rose by sheer industry and merit to the highest positions open to them.

Mr. E. H. Vanderwall.

The first of this distinguished company whom we shall refer to is Mr. Vanderwall. Born in the town of Matara, which has produced many men of note, Harry Vanderwall, after just missing the University Scholarship, the examination for which he took from St. Thomas's College, began life as an Assistant Master in the rival institution, the Royal College. Forty years ago the number of appointments open to Ceylonese, especially in the Education Department, was very limited, and promotions usually went by seniority instead of by merit. After fifteen years' work at the Royal College, Vanderwall's outstanding merits clamoured for recognition, and at the age of thirty-five he was appointed Inspector of Schools. In this capacity he served at Kandy and Jaffna with marked success, and after acting for a short time as Chief Inspector of Schools, he was confirmed in that appointment on 1st July, 1929, being the first Ceylonese to fill that responsible office.

An outstanding trait of Vanderwall's character is his sturdy independence of thought and action. Possessing talents much above

the ordinary, he is able to hold his own easily against those who have enjoyed better opportunities than himself, and he has always strenuously but tactfully fought against everything suggestive of differential treatment. Slow and deliberate in speech and action, Vanderwall gives the impression of immense power held in reserve. He is not quick at forming friendships, and only the very few whom he has admitted into the inner circle of his life understand and appreciate his great qualities of head and heart.

Harry Vanderwall's name is inseparably associated with the Dutch Burgher Union, of which he is one of the original members. His presence on the Committee has helped to give the Union stability. When counsels are divided and feeling runs high, it is his voice that eventually controls the situation, and his calm judgment has often helped the Committee out of a difficult position. He has taken his full share in the activities of the Union. As a lecturer he has scarcely a rival, while he has also made many notable contributions to the pages of the JOURNAL, which we hope will now be enriched by many more articles from his pen, for we understand that he intends to devote a good deal of his leisure to literary pursuits.

Mr. D. V. Altendorff, I.S.O.

Our second name is that of Mr. Durand Altendorff, who, like all but one of our five, received his education at St. Thomas's College, where he was easily the leading spirit in all the most daring acts of adventure perpetrated within the four walls of that famous seat of learning. On leaving College Durand Altendorff intended to study engineering in England, but he was destined to fill quite a different role, and on the advice of an old friend of the family, Mr. H. Holland, Superintendent of Police, he joined the Police Department where, according to his official record, he "held various offices" for four years, when he was promoted Inspector of Police. As Courts Inspector he did very useful work and soon proved his capacity for higher office. In 1906 he received his appointment as Assistant Superintendent of Police, Colombo. He next served at Kalutara and Matara, but he was too useful an officer to be employed long in an outstation, and in 1913 he was brought down to Colombo to act as Superintendent of Police, Headquarters. This promotion gave Altendorff great satisfaction as he had now risen to the post held at one time by the friend of his early days, Mr. Holland. For eleven years he discharged the heavy duties of this office with conspicuous ability, and from 1925 he was appointed to act off and on as Deputy Inspector-General of Police, either in charge of the Provinces or of the Criminal Investigation Department. He was confirmed as Deputy Inspector-General of Police (Provinces) in 1928, and in 1930 he had the distinction of acting for a short period as the Head of the Department. This, in conjunction with the Imperial Service

Order which was conferred on him the same year, set the seal to a career as honourable as it was distinguished.

Durand Altendorff has also done notable work for the Dutch Burgher Union, of which he has been a valued member from the beginning. Having served on the Committee for a number of years, he was in November, 1919, appointed to fill the post of Honorary Secretary, and efficiently performed the duties of this office until the latter part of 1925, when the pressure of his official duties obliged him to resign. His services were again requisitioned as a member of the Committee, where his opinions command respect even when sometimes they do not accord with the generally accepted view.

Mr. W. Ludovici.

The career of Mr. William Ludovici, known to his intimate friends by the more homely name "Willie," differs very little from that of his colleague Mr. Altendorff. Entering the Police Department in 1898 as an Inspector of Police, Ludovici followed very closely on the heels of Altendorff in his promotions to the various grades of the higher service. He broke new ground when, while on leave in England in 1927, he went through a course of instruction at Scotland Yard. Shortly after his return to Ceylon, he acted successively as Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Provinces, and Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Criminal Investigation Department, his special knowledge acquired while in England standing him in good stead in the latter post. With the highest appointment open to Ceylonese well within his reach, Willie Ludovici has been regretfully compelled, owing to a slight breakdown in health, to retire from service at the comparatively early age of fifty-five years, rather than risk a complete breakdown by continuing to perform the arduous duties attaching to his office.

Ludovici's success in his official career is not to be wondered at, seeing that he possesses all the attributes that go to the making of an ideal Police Officer. Stern and unbending while on duty, he is the soul of kindness in his private life, and exhibits nothing of that bluster and swagger which are usually associated with persons "drest in a little brief authority." His services to the Union have been rendered in the same unassuming manner. He is not given to much speaking at meetings of the Union, but he holds very decided views on most questions, and is always prepared to stand by them.

Mr. E. A. Vanderstraaten, I.S.O.

Mr. Edgar Vanderstraaten began life as a Clerk in the Colombo Kachcheri when he was just over eighteen years of age. He did not, however, remain here long, for three years later he joined the Customs Department where he was to rise to heights not hitherto attained by any one starting at the bottom. His work from the very first was characterised by a keenness and thoroughness which

were rarely met with in the Department in those early days, and his promotion in due course to the Chief Clerkship was only to be expected. He held this post for nine years, and in 1921 was appointed Third Landing Surveyor. To the discharge of these responsible duties he brought to bear the same qualities that he had exhibited in his earlier career, with the result that he came to be regarded as the handy man of the Department. His appointment as Office Assistant to the Principal Collector of Customs in addition to his own duties followed as a matter of course, while the Imperial Service Order, which was conferred on him in 1925, was a well deserved recognition of valuable services rendered to the Department.

Possessing remarkable ability for organisation, Edgar Vanderstraeten naturally found himself selected to fill the office of Entertainment Secretary of the Dutch Burgher Union at an early stage, and the manner in which he organised the various functions connected with the Union is a matter of common knowledge. His name is also honourably associated with the old Dutch Burgher Union Club, for during the dark days of the war, when "men's hearts failed them because of the trouble," Edgar Vanderstraeten, by his dogged resolution, kept the flag flying and steered the Club safely through the rocks and shoals that beset its path. His genius for taking up what appeared to be lost causes was put to the test again recently, when the finances of the Union had to be put straight. Vanderstraeten threw himself into the work of re-organisation with his accustomed vigour and ability, and working almost singlehanded, he contrived to place the finances once again on a satisfactory footing. The Union indeed owes a heavy debt of gratitude to him for his loyalty and unstinted service.

Mr. J. G. Paulusz.

The last though not the least of the five whose careers we set out to sketch is Mr. J. G. Paulusz. Like Mr. Vanderwall, he began his career as an Assistant Master at the Royal College, but unlike him he was faithful to his first love. Loyalty and helpfulness to the Union have also been the characteristics of Mr. Paulusz who, at a difficult time, undertook and creditably performed the duties of Honorary Secretary of the Union. He is usually found at the Club, ready to make a fourth at Bridge or an antagonist at Billiards; ready to tell a good story or to pronounce a considered opinion on topics of general or special interest. His long period of service at the Royal College has given him a host of friends and admirers. On more than one occasion he acted as Vice-Principal of the College, and on Sports Day he regularly wins the Veterans' Race. He is just now experiencing the delights of a visit to England—perhaps the first real holiday he has ever had.

Such in brief is the record of the services rendered by these esteemed members of our community to the State as well as to the Union. While it is a source of pride to us that they should have attained to such high distinction, it must also be a matter for deep thankfulness that the years of arduous toil have affected them so little as to leave many more years of usefulness still before them.

A DUTCH DOCTOR AT KANDY IN 1739.

Every doctor pursues, throughout life, a phantom figure which he hopes to capture and grapple to his soul with hoops of steel. This figure represents the perfect patient, who possesses certain attributes that tend to heighten professional interest in his case. He is, for instance, a man of fabulous wealth; is afflicted with a lingering disease; is timorous and yet sufficiently undisciplined to flout orders and thereby incur a succession of opportune relapses. All these virtues appeared to have been happily combined in the person of King Narendra Sinha who occupied the throne of Kandy from 1707-1739. To any doctor he must have seemed a patient of infinite possibilities. It would not have been unnatural therefore if Dr. Danielsz, on receiving a summons to proceed to Kandy in order to treat the king for a certain disorder, entertained himself with pleasing speculations. These hopes however were destined to be dashed, but the story of the doctor's misadventures and disillusionment is preserved for us in the diary of his journey.

On 18th March, 1739, Dr. Danielsz, accompanied by his "disciple," set out from Colombo and, six days later, reached a village on the outskirts of Kandy. But here a hitch occurred. Two functionaries from the Court met him with the news that arrangements for his accommodation at Kandy were in progress; unhappily the building in which he was actually to be housed still remained unfinished (it appeared doubtful whether even its foundations had been laid). He was accordingly bidden to delay his advance until the signal should be given for his entry into Kandy.

In due course he was admitted into the capital and installed in a rest house which had been erected not far from the palace. The next morning he received a visit from three persons, the King's equerry, his groom of the chamber, and a physician, who, in guarded undertones, described His Majesty's symptoms. Five ulcers had broken out on his left foot which was swollen and caused an intense burning sensation; he felt pains in all his limbs and suffered from loss of appetite and occasionally from loss of memory.

To what cause, they inquired, could his illness be ascribed? Dr. Danielsz gave his diagnosis in evasive language; the king, he said, was suffering from impurity of blood.

"On the morning of March 28th" he writes, "these three persons called again and, in the name of His Imperial Majesty, asked me what was the root cause of his illness. I replied that I dared not name it for fear lest His Majesty should take offence. They came to my lodgings again the next day saying that the king would gladly hear the truth and that I should therefore speak without fear. I accordingly replied that the king had, for some years, been suffering from urethritis."

On the 31st the visitors returned, apparently in sceptical if not actually suspicious frame of mind. Did the doctor know of any remedy whereby the disease could be cured, they demanded. "Yes," he answered, "by means of a certain decoction." After prolonged consultation it was determined that this decoction should be given a trial on condition that it was prepared before their eyes. The diary then continues, "On the evening of April 1st my friends called again and said that His Majesty had taken the medicine but had found it exceedingly bitter. He would therefore have no more. Could I not make some other mixture with arrack as an ingredient? I said, Yes. They next inquired for what length of time His Majesty would have to continue with the medicine and I said 20 or 25 days. On the following day they asked me whether I could help a ratarala who had been ill with ague for upwards of a year and I replied that I would do my best to relieve him. They then left, but came back in the evening and told me that the king had ordered that I was to give this patient physic twice daily—which I did.

"April 3rd—The same three persons reported to me that the king had so far felt no improvement. Could I not prepare some remedy that might be applied by his own doctors? I answered that his doctors had not the knowledge to administer our medicines and added that, at his Majesty's request, I had been sent by the authorities at Colombo to cure him. I asked therefore that I might be accorded the privilege of dealing with His Majesty's disorder myself. To this request I was given no answer."

Nevertheless on April 5th the doctor was summoned to attend on the king in person. On approaching the bed-room door he had to kneel and ko-tow three times, whereupon he was permitted to rise and view the royal leg. "His Majesty inquired whether I saw any chance of healing it and I replied, Yes, if Your Majesty is willing to submit to a little pain". His Majesty, however, was under no temptation to yield himself up to "a little pain"; and yet, on the other hand, it was borne in upon him that some such ordeal was necessary. He sought refuge, therefore, in

delay and determined that the inevitable hour if it had to be faced should at least be postponed. "I will send for you again" he said "as soon as the New Year and other ceremonies are over." The next day a second minor patient was sent to the doctor for treatment and "on April 18th the king informed me that both these persons had (praise God) been cured through my agency."

The following day His Majesty migrated to the palace of Mahanuvara and Dr. Danielsz was carried along in his wake. "At 8 o'clock in the morning I was brought to a rest house which stood upon a hill adjacent to the home of two of their priests. The building was in ruins, full of snakes and scorpions.....I told the Mohottiar and the rata-ralahamies that the house was no place for a Christian to live in and that I was afraid that within three or four days I should fall ill. I therefore asked to be moved into better lodgings." Dr. Danielsz was accordingly given a more suitable habitation and bidden to hold himself in readiness with all his medicines against a possible summons. Towards dusk on the 22nd he was called in to the palace, "having kneeled and ko-towed in the manner already described I dressed the King's ulcers. His Majesty asked me whether there was any possibility of his being cured within a week. I replied that I could not say, but that I would do my very best to make him well soon. I also asked to be allowed to attend to his bandages by day since my eyesight was weak. His Majesty replied that I might call twice daily whenever I judged it to be time. He asked me what my name was, my age, how long I had been in the service of the Company—whether I was married and how many children I had—how old my pupil was, how many years he had devoted to the art—whether he was married—and what was the place of our birth. Having returned fitting answers to all these questions I took my leave. On April 23rd I presented myself before the palace at seven o'clock in the morning with my medicines, and was admitted after I had been standing there for half an hour. I dressed the wounds and withdrew. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon I returned to the palace and, after the lapse of half an hour, was called within."

No conspicuous improvement, however, appeared to be taking place in His Majesty's condition. As fast as one ulcer was healed another broke out. The King's vagaries increased and the doctor himself was becoming sulky and rebellious. As a last despairing effort he again counselled the use of internal medicines. But the suggestion fell on deaf ears. "On April 28th His Majesty asked me whether I could heal his ulcers within three days. I replied that I was not a god..... His Majesty then said that he was shortly getting another doctor from Colombo. The next day the King inquired whether some other mode of treatment could not be attempted. I replied 'Your Majesty can perceive for yourself that I keep varying my treatment with each day in order to bring about

your speedy recovery.' His Majesty thereupon instantly resolved to take internal treatment and gave orders that all the requisite drugs should be made ready."

A new decoction was duly prepared and carried to the King. But now a much more serious calamity seemed to be imminent. Dr. Danielsz had indicated the quantity to be consumed at each draught but the King held more advanced views. The amount prescribed was, in his judgment, inadequate; nothing less than two glassfuls at a time, he felt, could cope with his malady. "The larger the dose, the swifter the cure" became his slogan. At 3-30 on the afternoon of May 1st a crisis arose in the palace. Dr. Danielsz was summoned and informed that His Majesty had taken a turn for the worse. The patient's temperature had mounted and his leg was inflamed from the knee downwards. "I learned, however, to my great joy" writes the doctor, "that His Majesty had not drunk my medicine; otherwise he would certainly have thought that his fever was due to that. At 8 o'clock His Majesty intimated that I was not to visit him in the usual way but was to wait until called. On the morning of 2nd May he sent word that I was to pack up my belongings and depart for Colombo on the morrow." At mid-day on the 3rd the doctor was commanded to deliver up the prescription he had used. "I replied that I would not willingly see my remedies handed over to other physicians. I was told that this would not be done by His Majesty but that he would retain it for his own perusal. I replied that it was already noon and time for me to be having my lunch, but that on the following day I would send him the prescription written out in Portuguese. This I did on 4th May. The King immediately sent it back to me by the hand of his interpreter with the request that it should be translated into Sinhalese. This was done forthwith and the interpreter conveyed the Sinhalese version to His Majesty, who sent him back to my lodgings to say that I must send the Portuguese version as well. This too I did. At 8 o'clock in the evening His Majesty intimated that I was to go away the next morning."

The Court functionaries who came to speed the parting guest informed him that "23 years ago two doctors named Laengenoven and Kloppenburg had been there but had never had the good fortune to see His Majesty at such close range and to speak to him face to face in the manner that had fallen to my lot." "Whereupon" writes Dr. Danielsz (satirically, it is to be presumed) "I tendered His Majesty my heartfelt thanks for the benefits and great favour I had enjoyed at his hands."

On the morning of May 5th Dr. Danielsz shook the dust of Kandy off his feet. A few days later the King was dead.

J. H. O. P.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Proceedings of the Twenty-third Annual General Meeting of the Dutch Burgher Union held in the Union Hall on Saturday, 28th February, 1931, at 6 p.m.

Dr. L. A. Prins, the President, took the Chair, and there were about forty members present.

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were next read and confirmed.

Presidential Address.

The President then addressed the meeting. He began by apologising for not being able to deliver such a learned address as those present were accustomed to hear from their late President, who was a man of much learning and experience and did a great deal of research work. He would confine himself to reviewing the doings of the past year. Having referred to the trouble in connection with the finances, which he assured the meeting were now on a satisfactory footing, the President proceeded to give a brief account of the activities of the various Committees. Dealing first with the Literary Committee and the Journal Committee, he said the Secretaries in charge of these two Committees had done very good work. Some of the lectures delivered were intellectual treats and some made them think deeply on many matters. As regards the Journal, it was considered by many historians in Europe a source from which they could draw much knowledge of the activities of the Dutch East India Company in this Island.

The President then proceeded to pay a tribute to the excellent work done by the Social Service Committee in spite of the bad times and the comparatively small amount at their disposal. Every application for relief was investigated with the greatest care, and he assured the meeting that the money entrusted to the Committee was well spent.

Dealing next with the Entertainment Committee, the President said that a very delightful programme had been drawn up and worked off by this Committee. They had provided Variety Entertainments, Dances, and Bridge Tournaments, and as a result of their labours the sitting room upstairs had been elaborately furnished. He also referred to the splendid arrangements made for

the celebration of St. Nicolaas Day, which, he said, should be regarded as the National Day of the Dutch Burghers, as that was the day on which they realised that they were of Dutch ancestry.

The only matter which occasioned disappointment, continued the President, was the lack of interest taken in the study of Dutch. He emphasised the advantages that would accrue by reviving the language and pointed out the facilities that at present existed for studying it. He hoped that a larger number of members would join the classes being held in the Union Hall and at other centres.

In conclusion he thanked the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer for the splendid work they had done and the invaluable assistance they had given him. He also expressed his gratitude to Mr. E. A. vanderStraaten for the great assistance he had rendered in helping to place the accounts on a satisfactory footing. (Applause.)

Adoption of Report.

Mr. W. Ludovici moved the adoption of the Report and Accounts. Mr. A. E. Keuneman, in seconding the motion, suggested in regard to the study of Dutch, the organisation of classes for children.

The President stated that a member of the Union and also a Dutch gentleman now resident in the island were making arrangements to hold such classes.

Mr. D. V. Altendorff offered some criticism on the accounts to which the President and the Honorary Treasurer replied. The motion for the adoption of the Report and Accounts was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Election of President.

At this stage the President vacated the Chair, and on the motion of Mr. Keuneman, seconded by Mr. D. V. Altendorff, the Chair was occupied by Mr. T. D. Mack *pro tem*.

Mr. D. V. Altendorff proposed the re-election of Dr. Prins as President. He said it was not necessary to speak of the services rendered by Dr. Prins to the Union as they were so well-known. They could do no better than re-elect him.

Mr. E. H. vanderWall, in seconding the motion, said that a year ago, in electing Dr. Prins as President, they were conscious of the very fierce light which beat upon the seat which was so worthily held by their late distinguished President. He could only say that judging Dr. Prins by all the various events during his Presidentship, he had answered very fully to their expectations. In his very modest way, which was one of his chief qualifications for holding

that exalted post, he did not say too much. He had made reference to the study of Dutch. While there was no doubt that it was the utilitarian test that finally decided questions of that kind, it had to be admitted that under the inspiration of Dr. Prins a very much larger number of persons were at the present time learning Dutch than ever before. Dr. Prins had kept his seat during a very difficult time indeed. Not only was there a general depression in the island, but there had been other depressing circumstances. In spite of all this Dr. Prins had kept the home fires burning brightly, and he did not think they could get any other person so well qualified to fill the office of President. He had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

Mr. J. R. Toussaint, in supporting the motion, congratulated Dr. Prins on his appointment as Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services. He also took the opportunity of congratulating Dr. H. U. Leembruggen on being appointed to succeed Dr. Prins.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried with acclamation. Dr. Prins then resumed the Chair and thanked the meeting for re-electing him.

Election of Secretary.

Mr. A. E. Keuneman, in proposing the re-election of Mr. A. N. Weinman as Honorary Secretary, said that the success of the past year, in spite of all the adverse circumstances which had prevailed, was a very good reason why Mr. Weinman should continue to hold that office.

Dr. Leembruggen, who seconded the motion, remarked that they had had a succession of worthy Honorary Secretaries, and the mantle had now fallen on the capable shoulders of Mr. Weinman who had done very useful work.

The motion on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

Election of Treasurer.

Mr. J. R. Toussaint proposed the re-election of Mr. Rosslyn Koch as Honorary Treasurer. He referred to the tribute paid to his work by the President, and said he had no doubt that he would add still further to his reputation for thoroughness.

The motion was seconded by Mr. D. V. Altendorff and carried unanimously.

Election of Auditors.

Mr. A. E. Keuneman proposed and Mr. Evan Koch seconded that Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Thornton & Co. be appointed Auditors. Dr. V. van Langenberg suggested that the words "at a remuneration not exceeding Rs. 150/-" be added. This having been agreed to, the motion as amended was passed unanimously.

Election of Committee.

The Honorary Secretary proposed and Dr. Eric Brohier seconded the election of the following Committee:—

Colombo.—Messrs. D. V. Altendorff, L. E. Blaze, W. S. Christoffelsz, B. Driberg, N. E. Ernst, E. F. N. Gratiaen, Dr. F. Foenander, Messrs. F. C. W. van Geyzel, G. H. Gratiaen, W. W. Beling, E. H. Joseph, A. E. Keuneman, Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, Mr. A. H. Martin, the Hon. Mr. L. M. Maartensz, Messrs. W. Ludovici, Gerald Mack, T. D. Mack, Wace de Niese, Frank E. Loos, Rex Wambeek, F. W. de Vos, E. Reimers, Dr. R. L. Spittel, Messrs. E. A. vander Straaten, J. R. Toussaint, E. H. vander Wall, W. E. V. de Rooy, Dr. V. van Langenberg, Dr. Michael de Jong, Messrs. Mervyn Joseph, O. L. de Kretser, the Hon. Mr. G. A. Wille, and Mr. Percy Stork.

Outstations.—Messrs. G. H. Altendorff, C. P. Brohier, E. J. Buultjens, Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz, Mr. G. P. Keuneman, Dr. E. Ludovici, Messrs. R. L. Brohier, L. G. Poulier, Gladwin Koch, Dr. Andreas Nell, the Hon. Mr. C. E. de Vos, Mr. A. C. B. Jonklaas, Dr. Ivor Meier, Dr. H. Ludovici, and Mr. J. Ludovici.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Amendments to Constitution and By-laws.

In the absence of Mr. Wace de Niese, the motion for the adoption of the following amendments and additions to the Constitution and By-laws, due notice of which had been given, was moved by Dr. H. U. Leembruggen and seconded by Mr. J. R. Toussaint:—

OLD CLAUSE.

Clause 6 (c)—The admission fee shall be Rs. 5-00, and the monthly 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:—

	Rs. c.
Members resident in Colombo	2 50
Members between the ages of 21 and 25 years	... 1 00
Members resident at Outstations	... 1 00
Ladies desiring independent Membership	... 1 00

NEW CLAUSE.

Clause 6 (c)—The admission fee shall be Rs. 5-00 and the monthly 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, subject to the right of the General Committee to make any rules from time to time with regard to the introduction of children into the Union premises:—

	Rs. c.
Members resident in Colombo	2-50
Members between the ages of 21 and 25 years	... 1-00
Members resident at Outstations	... 1-00
Ladies desiring independent Membership	... 1-00

Mr. D. V. Altendorff inquired what was the necessity for the proposed addition to this clause.

Dr. R. L. Spittel replied that in most Clubs children were not allowed. If children made the Club a rendezvous they would become a nuisance. The Committee would consider the matter carefully and see that no hardship was inflicted.

The new clause was then passed.

The following new clauses were passed without amendment:—

OLD CLAUSE.

Clause 6 (d)—Any person who was a member on the 27th February, 1928, and has not agreed to pay the rates herein prescribed may, if he so desire, continue to pay the annual subscription of Rs. 6-00 as heretofore. Provided that in special cases the Committee shall have power to waive the subscription during such time as they think fit; but no candidate, although elected, shall be considered to be a member until he has paid his admission fee.

Clause 6 (e)—The subscription shall be due on the 1st of each month in advance and be payable on or before the 10th day of the month. Any member whose subscription remains unpaid at the end of the month shall be promptly notified of the fact by the Honorary Secretary, and, at the expiration of two months from the date of such notification, should he be still in default, his name shall, after due notice given to him by the Honorary Secretary, be transferred to a separate list to be kept entitled "List of non-active Members," unless or until he has tendered his resignation from the Union.

Non-active members shall not be entitled to any of the privileges of ordinary members. They shall receive no notice of nor be entitled, to participate in, any of the functions of the Union, but may be restored to the rights and privileges of active members on payment of three months' subscription at the rates prescribed in section 6 (c); and if application for the re-instatement has not been made within six months of the date of the transfer, on an additional payment of Rs. 2-50. Any member so restored to the active list shall, without exception,

NEW CLAUSE.

Clause 6 (d)—Any person who was a member on the 27th February, 1926, and has not agreed to pay the rates herein prescribed, may, if he so desire, continue to pay the annual subscription of Rs. 6-00 as heretofore. No candidate, although elected, shall be considered to be a member until he has paid his admission fee.

Clause 6 (e)—The subscription shall be due on the 1st of each month in advance and be payable on or before the 10th day of the month. Any member whose subscription remains unpaid at the end of the month shall be promptly notified by the Honorary Treasurer, and, at the expiration of three months from the date of such notification, should he be still in default, his name shall, after due notice being given to him by the Honorary Treasurer, be erased from the list of members.

OLD CLAUSE.

pay the subscription prescribed in clause 6 (c), and shall not be entitled to claim the privilege of paying subscription in terms of clause 6 (d).

NEW CLAUSE.

Clause 6 (f)—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.

On a debt becoming an arrear a reminder shall be addressed by the Honorary Treasurer to the defaulting member; and should the arrear still remain unpaid after the lapse of a month from the date of the Treasurer's letter, the name of the member should be posted up in some conspicuous place in the Union Hall by the Honorary Secretary, who shall at the same time send him an intimation of this by registered letter. Should he not pay by the end of one month after the date of the second intimation, his name shall be erased from the list of members, and he can only be admitted again after a fresh election.

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 Rs. 20/-

Clause 6 (g)—Members leaving the Island should notify the date of their departure, so that they shall not become liable for subscription during their temporary absence.

The amendment proposed to clause 6 (h) was as follows:—

OLD CLAUSE.

Old clause 6 (f) now 6 (h)—The Committee shall have power, by a vote of at least two-thirds of their number, to cancel the membership of any member for conduct on his part likely in their opinion to endanger the welfare, interest, or character of the Union, an opportunity being first given such member to be heard before a meeting in his defence.

NEW CLAUSE.

Clause 6 (h)—The Committee shall have power, by a vote of at least two-thirds of their number present at the meeting and voting, to cancel or suspend the membership of any member for conduct on his part likely in their opinion to endanger the welfare, interest, or character of the Union, an opportunity being first given such member to be heard before a meeting in his defence.

Mr. E. F. N. Gratiaen pointed out that seven members formed a quorum for a Committee Meeting, and if only seven out of 45 members were present, it would be unwise to vest in them the

power of expelling a member from the Club. He thought that at least 15 members should be present.

Dr. V. vanLangenberg suggested the insertion of the following words at the beginning of the clause and before the words "The Committee":—"Provided that at least 15 members shall be present."

The amendment was agreed to and the new clause was passed as amended.

The following new clauses were passed without amendment:—

OLD CLAUSE.

7. (a) The Annual Meeting of the Union shall be held in the month of February.

BY-LAWS OF THE DUTCH BURGER UNION OF CEYLON.

II. Meetings of Committee.—The Committee shall hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month or on such other date as the Committee may decide after due notice given.

Special meetings of the Committee may be called by order of the President, or, in his absence by the Secretary.

NEW CLAUSE.

Clause 7 (a)—The Annual Meeting of the Union shall be held before the 15th of March each year.

BY-LAWS OF THE DUTCH BURGER UNION OF CEYLON.

II. Meetings of Committee.—The Committee shall hold meetings on the third Tuesday of each month or on such other date as the Committee may decide after due consideration.

Special meetings of the Committee may be called by order of the President, or, in his absence, by the Secretary.

The following new clause was proposed:—

XII. Hours and Rules for the use of the Club House.

(a) The Club House shall be open till 9 p.m. daily including Sundays, even if no member is present. If members are at the Club, or if any member has previously notified the Butler that he will arrive after 9 p.m., the Club shall be kept open till after 9 p.m., but after 12 midnight, except on special occasions, a charge of Rs. 1/- shall be recovered from each member present, half of which may be paid to the servants on duty. A book shall be kept and signed by all members after 12 midnight. Once the Club is closed, it shall on no account be opened except on the instructions of the Honorary Secretary.

On the suggestion of Mr. A. E. Keuneman, the words "Union premises" were substituted for the words "Club house" and "Club" and the new clause was passed as amended.

The following sub-clause to new clause xii was passed without amendment:—

(b) The entire control of the Club establishment shall be vested in the Honorary Secretary, subject to the general supervision of the Committee.

The following sub-clause to new clause xii was proposed:—

(c) Non-members, whether resident or not resident in Ceylon, shall not be admitted to the Union premises unless in company of the member introducing him. A member shall enter such stranger's name in the Visitor's Book, pay the expenses of his friend's refreshments, and be responsible for his conforming with the Rules and By-Laws of the Club.

Mr. J. R. Toussaint proposed that the new sub-clause should read as follows:—

"Non-members whether resident or not resident in Ceylon shall not be admitted to the Union premises unless in company of the member introducing them. The latter shall enter such visitors' names in the book kept for the purpose, pay the cost of their refreshments, if any, and be responsible for their conforming to the Rules and By-Laws of the Union."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. A. E. Keuneman proposed the following new sub-clause to clause XII:—

"The Committee shall have power to extend the rights of membership to members of the community not resident in the Island during the period of their visit to the Island."

The new sub-clause was agreed to.

The following new sub-clauses to clause XII. were passed without amendment:—

(d) *No member shall take or permit to be taken away from the Union premises under any pretence whatever, or injure or destroy, any newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets, books, or other articles, the property of the Institution.*

(e) *All damage to Union property shall be paid for by the person or persons causing the damage at a price to be fixed by the Committee.*

(f) *All complaints, representations, or suggestions, relative to the management, or connected with the interests of the Union, shall be made in writing in the book kept for the purpose, or by letter to the Honorary Secretary.*

(g) *The conduct of a servant shall in no instance be made a matter of personal reprimand by any member. All complaints respecting the servants, or arrangement of the Club, shall be made in the complaint book, or to the Honorary Secretary.*

The following new sub-clause to clause xii was proposed:—

(h) *Members are requested to communicate their addresses from time to time to the Honorary Secretary.*

After discussion it was resolved not to adopt this sub-clause.

The following sub-clauses to clause xii were passed without amendment:—

(i) *No vehicle shall be kept under the portico or in such place or manner as to cause obstruction.*

(j) *Dogs shall not be allowed within the Union premises.*

Vote of Thanks to Chair.

Mr. E. A. vanderStraaten proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Chair. This was seconded by Mr. W. Ludóvici and carried with acclamation.

At the close of the meeting a collection was made in aid of the Social Service Benevolent Fund of the Union and realised Rs. 25/-

DUTCH BURGHER UNION OF CEYLON.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting the following report for the year 1930:—

Membership.—12 new members were admitted during the year, while the loss by resignation and death was 12. Five members were struck off as defaulters for non-payment of club dues. The number of members on the roll on 31st December, 1930 was 325 as compared with 330 on 31st December, 1929.

General Committee.—12 meetings were held during the year, with an average attendance of 13.4.

Changes among Office-Bearers and Committees.—At the last Annual General Meeting, Mr. A. N. Weinman was elected Honorary Secretary in place of Mr. J. G. Paulusz who had filled that office with great acceptance, and Mr. Rosslyn Koch succeeded Dr. John Blazé as Honorary Treasurer. Messrs. Guy Grenier, H. P. Christoffelsz, Frank vander Smaght and Mervyn Joseph were elected to fill vacancies in the General Committee.

Work of Standing Committees:

1. **Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes.**—This Committee has been very energetic and under the guidance of their learned Secretary, Mr. L. E. Blazé, arranged five interesting lectures:—"Some Impressions of South Africa" by Dr. Adalbert Ernst on June 6, "Some Dutch Painters" by Dr. H. U. Leembruggen on August 6, "Slavery in Dutch Times and After" by Mr. J. R. Toussaint on September 26, "Lore and Legend from Jungle Villages" by Mr. R. L. Brohier on November 7, and "My Experiences in Holland and South Africa" by Mr. A. N. K. Coomaraswamy on December 17. The attendance at all these lectures was large and very encouraging. Three of the lectures were published in the D. B. U. Journal.

2. **Committee for the Purposes of Genealogical Research.**—Under the able guidance of Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, this Committee has held several meetings during the year.

3. **Committee for Purposes of Social Service.**—This Committee under the leadership of their enthusiastic Secretary, Mr. Wace de Niese, continues to do the good work they have undertaken. Several members of the community, in indigent circumstances were assisted, and the school fees of many poor children paid. Subscriptions and contributions from Concerts and other organizations amounted *in toto* to Rs. 2,015/04 during the year, and disbursements were in keeping with the funds in hand. During the latter part of the year contributions were meagre and disappointing. It is earnestly hoped that greater encouragement will be given this body in the useful work they are doing towards the uplift of poorer members of the community.

4. **Committee for Purposes of Entertainment and Sport.**—The activities of this Committee have been many and varied. During the year a very successful concert organized by Dr. F. Foenander, a Billiard Tournament for which Mr. W. W. Beling was responsible, a Bridge Tournament arranged by Mrs. Gerald Mack, and a very enjoyable Variety Entertainment organized by Mr. Gerald Mack, were very happily worked off. The year was fittingly brought to a close by a most enjoyable Fancy Dress Dance on New Year's Eve. The proceeds of the various functions organized by this Committee, which were placed to the credit of a separate fund, have been utilized in furnishing and generally improving the amenities of the Reading Room.

Honour Conferred on a Member of the Union.—During the year we look back upon, a well-merited honour was conferred on one of our most loyal members, Mr. D. V. Altendorff, who was awarded the Imperial Service Order, by His Majesty the King, in recognition of faithful and devoted service in the Police Force. Mr. Altendorff is a credit to our community, and an inspiration to the younger members of the Union. His record in the Police Force is something we are all proud of.

Study of Dutch.—The Dutch classes have been carried on with marked keenness throughout the year under review, under the tutelage of Mrs. Lourensz and Drs. Prins and Leembruggen. Classes for conversation and reading have been regularly held in the D. B. U. Hall, and, latterly, one was started at Regent Street by Mr. J. A. Poulier. Some of the students have progressed to an

appreciable extent, and it is hoped that they will soon be of assistance in promoting the study of the Dutch Language among members of the community.

The D. B. U. Journal has appeared regularly. Several new contributors have found their way into its pages, while the high standard which has always characterized it has been maintained. It is a matter for regret that more members of the Union do not subscribe to this Journal, as the subscription is only Rs. 5/- per annum, while it affords all members a means of keeping in touch with the objects and activities of the D. B. U. The untiring efforts of its editor, Mr. J. R. Toussaint, have made it a valuable work of reference, as well as of historical interest, and it is hoped that the New Year will see a large accession of subscribers.

Reading Room and Library.—The Reading Room is well patronised, the Periodicals available being numerous and varied. Its attractions have been enhanced by the beautiful furniture and carpet purchased from the proceeds of the Variety Entertainment organized by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Mack, to whose interest is due the very suitable selection made.

Armistice Day.—A wreath of poppies was placed on the War Memorial in Colombo, on Armistice Day, on behalf of the Union.

St. Nicholas' Fete.—This annual fixture is mainly for the entertainment of the children of members, and the day is essentially Children's Day. Mrs. F. Foenander assisted by a willing band of helpers saw to all the arrangements, and no pains were spared to make the function a success. Notable features this year were the tuneful welcome to St. Nicholas by boys and girls in Dutch costumes, and the entertainment provided for our little friends by the Indian Juggler. On the departure of the children, dancing commenced amongst the older folk, and when the time for closing arrived the exodus took place with general regret.

Premises.—It has been noticed that a portion of the lawn will be encroached upon for the purposes of road extension in the near future. This will detract to a marked extent from the appearance of the Club Building. This may in a way prove to be a blessing in disguise, as we shall then be compelled to seek "fresh fields and pastures new," where it is hoped land will be available for a

DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1930.—(Continued)

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.	
	R.	c.	R.	c.
Brought Forward			3,824	71
SURPLUS ACCOUNT—(Contd.)				
Brought Forward	8267	18		
Less:				
Balance of Dance Committee				
1929 Account written off	109	22		
Amount due from S. Nicholaas				
Fete	77	90		
Cash Sales written off	133	84		
Remuneration to clerk for				
writing 1929 books	200	00		
Irrecoverable debts written off	2689	22		
Warrant Fee on 1926				
Assessment Tax	12	50		
		3222	68	
		5044	50	
Less: Excess of Expenditure				
over income for the year	439	71		
		4,604	79	
		Rs	8,429	50

Rs. 8,429 50

We have audited the books of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon for the year ended 31st December 1930. Subject to our Report of this date addressed to the Chairman and Committee of the said Union the foregoing Balance Sheet is, to the best of our knowledge and belief a true statement of the affairs as shown by the books.

FORD, RHODES, THORNTON & Co.
Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

Colombo, 14th February, 1931.

ROSSLYN KOCH,
Hon. Treasurer,
Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

Dr. Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1930. Cr.

Colombo, 14th February, 1931.

ROSSLYN KOCH,
Hon. Treasurer,
Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

Dr. Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1930. Cr.

	R.	c.		R.	c.
To Rent	2,100	00	By Entrance Fees	75	00
Less: Room Rents recovered	280	00	" Subscriptions	5,279	00
		1,820			5,354
" Assessment Tax		700	" Donation from H. C. Antho-		20
" Electric Current for lighting, etc.	689	60	nisz, Esq.		
Less: Recovered from Y.D.B.			" Profits on:—		
Comrades	10	00	Spirits	780	60
		679	Wines	155	72
" Gas Consumed		52	Liqueur	154	27
" Wages of Butler, Markers,			Ales and Stout	172	25
Water, etc.		2,079	Cigars and Cigarettes	70	52
" Linen		13	Aerated Waters	534	54
" Tray Glasses		11	Refreshment		05
" Fitting New Gates, Building			Billiards	785	00
Steps, Stage, etc.		179	Sale of Billiard Balls	26	00
" Fixing Ceiling Fan, Bulbs, Rent					811
of Fan at Office		100	Cards		60
" Telephone		269			2,739
" Books & Stationery		384	" SUNDRY INCOME—		
" Subscription to Newspapers &			Lease of Trees	8	00
Periodicals less Recoveries		105	Interest on Fixed		
" Salary of Clerks	900	00	Deposit	17	50
" Bonus to Clerk V. Murugasu	25	00			25
" Fidelity Guarantee Insurance			" Balance Excess of		
Premium to Clerk V. Muru-			Expenditure over Income		439
gasu.	10	25			
		935			
" Audit Fee		150			
" Commission to Subscription					
Collector		167			
" Hire of Chairs		37			
" Subscription to Algemeen					
Nederlandsch Verbond		22			
" Upkeep		595			
" Sundries or Miscellaneous		274			
		Rs. 8,578			Rs. 8,578
		68			68

DUTCH BURGHER UNION.

SUNDRY CREDITORS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1930.

			Rs.	c.
Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon Building Co., Ltd.,				
May to December	...	...	1,400	00
Colombo Gas & Water Co., Ltd.	...	...	13	11
H. W. Cave & Co.	...	...	13	25
Director of Electrical Undertakings Decc. A/c	...	...	49	80
A. C. Sumps	...	...	15	00
Frewin & Co.	...	...	49	00
Caxton Printing Works	...	...	47	25
Hirdramani	...	...	60	00
Plate Ltd.	...	...	1	00
K. P. Joseph	...	...	16	20
V. Murugesu	...	...	2	45
Ford, Rhodes, Thornton & Co.	...	...	150	00
Miller & Co., Ltd.	...	...	681	31
New Colombo Ice Co., Ltd.	...	...	30	71
			Rs. 2,529 08	

GLIMPSES INTO THE PAST.

(COMPILED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE D.B.U. JOURNAL ONLY.)

Two previous references have been made in the pages of this Journal to the Van Ranzow family. The one, purely presenting the genealogy, compiled by the late Mr. F. H. de Vos, appeared on page 102 of the first volume. The other, in the form of a historical sketch, from the pen of the late President of the Union—Mr. R. G. Anthonisz—was published in volume 2, page 42. Some old papers, letters and references, which are in the possession of the compiler, have prompted this further contribution, which ventures into more intimate touch with a family to all intents and purposes very well-known in the Island to generations who have long passed away.

There is a certain dolefulness which attaches itself to the story of the Counts of Ranzow, as they were commonly called. It tells but too truly of the fluctuations in status and fortune which is no respecter of individual or nation. Merely to stress such an impression, the reader will perhaps bear with me for taking him over certain ground he has previously been made acquainted with.

In the year 1730, there came out to Ceylon a person who called himself Ferdinand Anthon Scholtz, concerning whom rumour had it that he was compelled to leave his homeland on a charge laid against him "Of connivance in matters which upset public tranquillity." Yet, notwithstanding what rumour did tell, he was given high office under the Dutch authorities, who presumably were aware that the man who called himself Scholtz was the second son of Count Alexander Leopold van Ranzow of Schmool and Hogenvelde and of the Countess who was in her own right Baroness van Hoyaen.

Six years after his arrival, (Christoff) Ferdinand Anthon (Count) van Ranzow, to refer to him by his rightful name, married Josina Schokman, the daughter of Arent Schokman of Colombo and of Cornelia Verschuur. Incidentally, it may be remarked that it is unfortunate that the late Mr. J. P. Lewis should have made only a vague reference to this event in his wonderfully complete compilation entitled "Tombstones and Monuments in Ceylon," by merely recording that the Count married "Josina."

To pass on; there were four daughters and eight sons of this marriage. It would appear that while in Ceylon the Count was stationed at Colombo and Jaffna, at which latter place he served for four years (1745—49) in the capacity of *Opferkoopman* and *Dissave*.

In 1750, Count Ferdinand Anthon proceeded to Batavia with his family. An announcement which he made shortly before this to the effect that he would in future resume his family name leads to the conclusion that, if as rumour had it, he was originally banished for some offence against his home-state, he had been granted a reprieve. After a stay of eight years in Batavia, immediately after the death of his wife, he returned with his children to his homeland.

To supplement this introduction with a brief notice of such subsequent information as is available, it would appear that on his return home the Count married Louisa Henrietta, Baroness Breckenburg, the daughter by a morganatic marriage of Prince Wilhelm Ludwig von Schwarzburg, first cousin of Augusta, Princess of Wales, mother of George II. By her he had six sons and one daughter. Thus leaving a quiverful—nineteen children in all—he died at a ripe old age in the year 1802, at Holsminder, in Germany, having exceeded the allotted span by twenty-one years.

There is need to refer to but three of his children, since only these carved out for themselves portions of a career in Ceylon. One of them, by the first marriage, is Daniel Ditloff; the two others, by the second marriage, are August Carl Fredrik, and August Christiaan Anthon.

Concerning the first of these, Daniel Ditloff, it would appear on reference to the genealogical table compiled by Mr. de Vos, that he rose to positions of trust in the service of the Dutch East India Company. It is with reference to him that the Dutch traveller and scientist, Thunberg, writes:—

"Dec: 7th: (1777). I made a second journey from Columbo to Mature at the instigation of the Governor to visit Count Ranzouw's lady who laboured under a severe and tedious illness. On the 28th. I travelled from Mature back again to Columbo in company with the young Count Ranzouw, who was now going on a visit to his brother and sailed as

a gunner on board a Dutch ship. This youth, who was of a very hasty disposition, had at the same time the misfortune to be lame on his feet. Notwithstanding, he had learnt to fence with great skill and, in spite of his crooked legs and thighs, to dance incomparably well."

The lady alluded to is in all probability his first wife, Anna Sophia van Lier, the widow of Jean Eli du Mourin. She would appear to have died shortly after Thunberg's visit. It is just possible that the youth referred to was one of the Count's younger brothers who paid him a visit. His two step-brothers who later came out, as might rightly be surmised on his invitation, were not in the island before 1788. The importance attached to dancing as an accomplishment of the period, cited moreover by such a keen observer and student of culture, presents a side-light which brings into focus the precept:—

"Example is a living law, whose sway
Men more than all the written laws obey."

To get back from this digression, Thunberg also gives us to understand that at the time of his visit, the Count was Comptroller of the Company's factory at Matara, and that there was nothing about cinnamon and the cinnamon trade which he did not know.

In the year 1800, he was Commissioner of Government to the assembly of Deacons of Colombo, and President Director of the Orphan House. This appointment, dating back as it does to four years after Colombo was surrendered to the British, would naturally appear to have been made by Governor North. With it, he took up residence in the Pettah.

A large and prominent building, abutting on what we to-day call Prince Street, served as this Orphanage, which was many years previously organised on the orders of the Dutch Government to serve the purpose of an asylum for the care and custody of male and female orphans. The boys, it is suggested, were taught the usual school subjects, and were allowed to remain till they were of sufficient age to be apprenticed to a trade. The girls remained, and were looked after until they managed to find a suitable partner in life who was only too glad to look after them!

Unfortunately no further facts throwing light on this institution have been gleaned by the writer, but of the building it would

appear that, passing through many vicissitudes, it has been in turn used as a hospital, the head-quarters of the Ceylon Volunteers, and as a second-rate hotel.*

Either resigning his appointment under the British Government, or, it may be, in consequence of the institution he was in charge of being closed down, Daniel Ditloff left for Batavia in the year 1808 taking his family with him.

A link forged nearly fifty years later by a series of letters which passed between Peter Isaac John Brohier in Ceylon, the father of Richard Annesley Brohier (Sr) and Lodewyck Carl van Ranzouw, one of this Count's sons in Batavia, presents a few more fragments of information connected with this branch of the family. The following is extracted from the original pages of a letter dated 24th May, 1850, from Batavia, written in English:—

My Dear Friend—My long silence in writing to you, I beg you do not attribute to anything else but merely for want of matters, as I don't know what may be interesting to you from Java. The return in April last from Holland of our son and heir, Ferdinand Henrick Wilhelm, after an absence of nine years, affords me the pleasure of writing to you. You will recollect that he was sent to Europe in 1841 for accomplishing his education. He was for two and a half years a student at the University of Utrecht (Netherlands). He has made good progress in his learning; he speaks and writes different languages, viz., Dutch, French, English, German, Latin and Greek. He is a well accomplished fine young man of the age of about 22, and according to the promise of our Governor-General we may expect to see him soon established as a Civilian in the Government's office.

My wife and my two daughters, Victoria of the age of 19, Elizabeth of 17, and youngest son Christopher of 15 years of age, myself and Ferdinand, are all, thanks be to God, enjoying good state of health.....

The writer who signs himself L. C. van Ranzow, had established himself as a merchant in Batavia and would appear to have lineal descendants living at the present time in Java. However, it is to Daniel Ditloff's other son, concerning whom little is known

* See C. L. R., Vol. ii, 1887, p. 37—*Ed.*

other than such inference as may be drawn from the designation he appends to his name in the subsequent notice, that we owe the information regarding his father's death.

The following obituary notice is a translation from the original which appeared in a Batavian paper, in Dutch:—

It has pleased the Almighty God to call to his eternal rest, out of this temporary life, about midnight to-day, at the age of 81 years, 7 months, and 21 days, my revered father Daniel Ditloff Count van Ranzouw, former member of the Council of Justice, here; of which event I hereby inform his friends and acquaintances, with the request that I may be spared letters of condolence.

H. VAN RANZOUW,
Captain.

Sourabaya,

11th August, 1822.

The order of sequence demands that at this stage I should venture to present the available information relating to the other two Counts who came out to Ceylon—sons of the second marriage with the Baroness of Brockenburg.

However, I would ask the further indulgence of the reader to get back for a few moments to the series of letters I made previous reference to, which were addressed to the descendant of the van Ranzouw family in Batavia. They afford many "Glimpses into the Past", picturing conditions, and diffusing singular information of eighty years ago. Moreover the extracts referring to people may help some readers to bridge an unspanned gap.

Extract from a letter dated 8th February, 1841:

"It is to be wished you can come and have a glance at Colombo now. The changes which an absence of 34 years have brought in the city, would indeed be a surprise to you. Bridge of boats laid, a Savings Bank established, Mail coaches plying to and fro, School Commission appointed, Friend in Need Society and an Academy established, Cinnamon Monopoly trade thrown open, Kandyan Territories added to the Crown, Government Waste Lands selling off and very promising estates rising up. Two Colonial Free Presses established and the Editors whereof showing grim faces to each other. A Scotch Presbyterian Church in progress of

being built, Banking System about to be established. Ceylon youths sent to Calcutta for education at the expense of Government, Ceylon Agricultural Joint Stock Company formed, and many such other projects are daily ripening and no doubt will ere long burst forth.

* * *

"The house which had belonged to your late father is now converted into three small ones and belongs to two different owners. Many a proprietor of houses situated within the precincts have profited of its vast compound, and by attaching some pieces to theirs have thereby rendered their own more accommodating. I live in the one opposite which formerly belonged to Mr. Robert Aldons, and which I had purchased in 1834 for Rds : 1800, and as many an improvement has since been made by me to it by throwing an outside roof etc., under the enhanced price of land will fetch Rds : 5000 at least if sold."

* * *

"The widow van Ebbenhorst, whom you may perhaps recollect as the daughter of Captain Jean Brohier, was married a second time in 1810 to a gentleman by the name of Hughes. He died in Calcutta and left three children, two sons and one daughter. Henry Edmond the eldest is a Proctor in the District Court of Matalle in the Kandyan Provinces, Edward is under mercantile pursuits and has established himself in the Fort of Colombo, and Jane Hortensia is married to Mr. J. L. Siebel."

* * *

The following information has been gleaned and rearranged from the same letter and from others bearing a subsequent date. Frequent reference is made to Mr. and Mrs. Roosmalecocq. The lady was the cousin of the van Ranzouw in Batavia, and her husband was Petrus Jacobus Roosmalecocq, who was Sitting Magistrate of the Girawe Pattu (Hambantota District), concerning whom I shall deal more fully in the course of this compilation. A Mr. Christian Constantine Ludekens, who had proceeded to Batavia with a Mr. Franz in 1806 or 1807, is enquired after, "as the family have not had any tidings from him since he left." In another letter, undated, but apparently written a few months later, a request is made for information respecting the estate of a Miss

Charlotte Antonette de Boer, who went to Batavia "some years ago" and died at Samarang. The deceased is described as being a niece of the late Mr. John Godfried Jansz of Colombo, who "also died at Samarang some time ago." It also states, bearing on this enquiry, that a letter was received from the Principal Officer of the Weeskamer, Batavia, addressed to the mother of the deceased intimating her death.

A certain sum of money deposited in the Weeskmer (Colombo) as belonging to Anna Sophia Brands (deceased), a near connection of the family of van Ranzouw, was drawn by her relatives in Batavia through their attorneys, states a letter dated 2 Aug: 1841. Vincent William Vanderstraaten appears from the correspondence to have been at the time (1841) Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature. The same letter affords the information that in a list of minors in the transactions of the Loan Board, whose property was in the possession of their natural guardian, there appear the names L. C. van Ranzouw and H. M. van Ranzouw. As Daniel Ditloff (Count) van Ranzouw, appeared as natural guardian, the correspondence points to the inference that the property was apparently the estate of their mother. This would have reference to Johanna Elizabeth Cramer, Daniel Ditloff's second wife, who died shortly after 1804, when the elder of the two boys mentioned was 17 years of age.

Yet another extract from the letter dated 2nd August, 1841, throws light on the designation of the mercantile establishment with which the correspondent in Batavia was connected. It reads as follows:—

"I have done all I could to recommend the Agency House of Messrs. Van Dasten and Co.; but (as) I hear the merchants of this place have little or no dealings with Batavia save the house of Reid and Co., but they have their Agents already. I shall not however fail to give due weight to your recommendation whenever I can serve you in that respect. For the present, if the gentlemen concerned in the house think proper to send out some articles answering this market whenever opportunity offered, my nephew Hughes, who is employed in mercantile pursuits, will be happy to sell the articles on their account and see due remittance made either in Produce or Bill, as may best suit them."

"There was a comet here for some time", states the Colombo correspondent, "with a tail of an enormous length. Soon after its disappearance we have had such an abundant quantity of rain as was seldom witnessed. Much injury has been done to the country by the swelling of the Calany River and the overflowing of its banks and thereby causing a destruction of property. A slight shock of an earthquake has also been lately felt about midnight which have alarmed many a family as to rouse them from their beds."

Rather unfortunately, the copy of the letter from which this extract has been culled bears no date. Consequently the information tantalizingly dangles as a loose thread, which we may venture to tie fast, merely on presumption. However, leaving a very small margin for doubt, it may be assumed that the incidents mentioned occurred some time prior to the year, to judge from collateral dates, in which the letter was actually written.

Judging from the interest aroused on the subsequent appearance in 1910 of Halley's Comet, which most of my readers will readily remember, it might naturally be imagined that this abstract ideal of beauty and awe which periodically emerges from the void, given to man, it may be, to see once, hardly ever twice, created sufficient impression on its earlier visit to be recalled a few years after it had wandered off on its unknown course.

The impending changes in the Island's Constitution will no doubt contribute its quota of interest to the next extract from a letter dated 1st February 1844, which reads:—"There has been of late a good number of Ordinances on various subjects in our Colonial Parliament which assembles yearly for the despatch of public business, the members whereof consist of officials and non-officials. The latter are composed of gentlemen drawn from European, Burgher and natives of the Island. Mr. Giffening, son of the late Revd. Giffening, represents at present the Burgher Community."

In the same letter the origin of the appointments of Justices of the Peace in the Island is referred to as follows:—"From the great influx of European merchants as well as planters, and the improving state of the commerce of the Island, it has been found necessary to appoint Justices of the Peace owing to the great in-

convenience which is experienced by parties in settling petty offences, swearing affidavits etc., which must otherwise invariably pass the two District Courts only.

The rise in value of land, quoted as an indication that the importance of the Colony was progressing by leaps and bounds, is shewn by the statement, also extracted from the letter dated 1st February 1844, that a plot of ground in the vicinity of Colombo—"at Marandahn or Grand Pass, which was formerly worth 500 Rds. is not to be procured at the present day for as many pounds."

The same letter goes on to state that:—"A small house in the Pettah which had been negotiated 10 years ago for Rs. 12 or 1500 Rds. has a month ago fetched 4060 Rds."*

Some of these letters were sent through the regular post while others were entrusted to the kind care of people for disposal. The opening paragraph of a letter dated 4th June 1849, tells:—

"A vessel, the "Dewan", is now here ready to proceed to Malacca, with some convicts, and as her commander, Mr. Bartholomew, is known to me and has kindly promised to take charge and forward this letter, I avail myself of the opportunity....."

Again, a letter of the 8th March, 1850, is entrusted "to the kind care of Mr. Benson, who is now ready to proceed to Malacca with some convicts and has been so good to promise to see it safely forwarded to you."

The same letter expresses regret for not making the most of an earlier opportunity which was presented for forwarding a letter. "A year ago" states the writer, "a gentleman by name C. N. Vanderbeek, in command of a Dutch barque, the "Almochland", on her way to Batavia, put in here for water. I had the pleasure to have seen him and spoken to him. He appeared to have had a perfect knowledge of you. I asked him should he meet you, to remember me most kindly to you and family."

From the dates of the letters making acknowledgment, it would appear that the period occupied by letters in transit by the regular post between Colombo and Java was anything from forty days to two months.

* There is an error in the figures here, as 1500 Rds. could not have been the equivalent of Rs. 12. Possibly "Rs. 12" was used as an abbreviation for "1200 Rds." According to Bertolacci, there was no particular coin for the rix-dollar: it was merely an ideal one, divided into twelve fanams, and each fanam into four stivers.—Ed.

The correspondence affords occasional glimpses of humour. The writer in Batavia was anxious to have "some cinnamon walking canes" from Ceylon, while the writer at this end asked for some "curiosities or things rare in this place, such as *Catchverede pickled red Buts or Roode Vish*."* Whatever this may be, the apologies by the one and the other for delay in complying with the request, and the careful instructions as to how the packages should be despatched, supply a lighter side to this interesting series of letters.

R. L. B.

(To be continued.)

RACHAEL 'DE BEER.

A TALE OF DUTCH HEROISM.

There are many kinds and many degrees of bravery. The soldier often performs deeds of valour unthinkingly in the heat of battle. Some bear pain unflinchingly and some suffer the most appalling adversity without a murmur. But there is no one who is braver than he who stays at a post of danger to perform what he believes his duty, to face appalling and certain death when salvation is within reach and when no one in all the world would blame him for seeking safety.

About eighty years ago there lived in the Harrismith district in South Africa a poor farmer named Herman de Beer. He had two children, Rachael aged 12, and Boetie, four years old. De Beer's livestock consisted of about a hundred sheep, a few horses, and about thirty head of cattle. He lived in a small house of unburnt brick in a "leegte", i.e., a wide shallow valley between two rises (S. A. "bulte") near a small trickle of water. A few yards from his house was the "kraal"—a walled enclosure built of stone but with no roof in which the cattle, sheep and horses were kept at night for shelter and for protection against marauding natives and animals—very plentiful in the Free State at that time.

Now the Harrismith district is one of the highest in S. Africa, and in winter it can become bitterly cold, reaching fifteen degrees of frost often, with snow storms as an occasional event.

* Evidently some kind of preserved red fish peculiar to Batavia.—Ed.

In summer the rolling veld is covered with waving grass, but in winter the grass is sere and dead. The veld is dotted with numerous ant-hills, many of these being up to three feet high. When an ant-bear has attacked the hill he leaves an opening on one side of it into which a child can crawl.

One bitterly cold windy day in winter, de Beer's herd-boy brought the livestock in about an hour before sunset. There was every indication of a bitterly cold night—wind, sleet, hail, and rain—and it was necessary to get everything snug before the storm broke.

As he was counting the cattle, de Beer noticed that a cow had that day calved in the veld and had come home without her calf. Already it was getting dark. The wind was rising, and the first few streaks of sleet showed what they were in for that night.

Herman de Beer determined to save the calf. All day the cattle had been grazing within half a mile of the house, never being out of sight, so the search did not promise to be long. Husband and wife and herd-boy and the daughter Rachael therefore set out to search for the calf. But little Boetie wanted to accompany his twelve-year-old sister, so Mrs. de Beer wrapped a sheep-skin used as a floor mat round his shoulders. None of the others had any special protection, for they were very poor. The father told his little girl not to go far from the house and to return before it was quite dark.

No sooner had they all separated than the storm broke, and darkness fell with startling suddenness. The adults returned home, but the children had not arrived. Imagine the consternation of the parents! Frantically they shouted and fired shots to guide Rachael. Lamps they had none, and a big fire they could not light, for the only fuel was "mis," (dried dung) which does not flare up. Besides what fire could have lived in that raging nightmare of sleet, hail and rain? The cold was intense, for next day the water in the spruit (stream) was frozen solid.

Madly, feverishly, the poor parents searched throughout that bitter night, with their hearts more numb with misery than their bodies were with cold. After midnight the wind died down, and the moon which had risen showed a white countryside which then settled down to freeze in real earnest.

And the children? One can merely conjecture. In the storm it was very easy for Rachael to lose her way, for all was flat with no outstanding landmarks. They must have wandered about searching for the house, and then Boetie—but a baby after all—started crying and wanted to go home as children will. How his wails must have torn Rachael's heart, for he was her only playmate in all that lone district—indeed the only other child she had ever played with.

Boetie soon became mumb with cold, so Rachael told him to crawl into the side of an anthill that had been robbed by an ant-bear. But it was not large enough for Boetie, so with a sharp stone she enlarged it. When the moon came through and the storm had passed, Rachael saw her home, not more than half a mile away. But how could she go for help leaving Boetie whimpering, whimpering...? She mightn't find the same anthill again; Boetie might die before she could return; a jackal might frighten him. So Rachael reasoned and decided to stay with her brother.

Next morning at day-break the father found the children. Boetie was all but frozen, but he soon recovered. And Rachael? Bit by bit, that bitter night, as Boetie's whimpers became weaker and weaker, this great little heroine had removed her own pitiful garments and put them on Boetie; first her little print dress, then her two calico petticoats, and finally her "hempie" (a thin little calico vest). These were all she wore, except for her home-made hide shoes but no stockings.

When her father found her she was blocking up the hole in the anthill with her meagre little dead body, to keep the icy wind from her little brother—quite naked except for her shoes. Life had been extinct but a short while.

Talk of bravery? In all the wide world there has been no nobler or braver being than little Rachael de Beer. She could easily have saved herself. Her home was within half a mile; it was within sight; who would have blamed her—a twelve year old little girl—if she *had* left her brother to call for aid? But consciously, deliberately, she faced a horrible death, divesting herself of her scanty clothing bit by bit that her brother might live.

THE LATE MR. J. P. DE VOS.

We regret to record the death, which occurred on 22nd January last, of Mr. J. P. de Vos at the ripe age of 81. The close of a life so full of years and achievement deserves something more than a mere passing reference in the pages of the JOURNAL. Having received his education at St. Thomas's College, Mr. de Vos entered the Colonial Secretary's Office at an early age, and soon made a very favourable impression on his superiors. Promotion came to him very rapidly, and on the Third Clerkship of the Colombo Kachecheri falling vacant, Mr. de Vos applied for and was appointed to the post. Here he came under the personal notice of Sir Charles Peter Layard, Government Agent, who appreciated his good work. On the retirement of Mr. Ginger, the Head Clerk, Mr. de Vos was appointed to succeed him, although he was then only 39 years old. Mr. de Vos fully justified his promotion by the capable manner in which he discharged the duties of this important office. He specialised in the valuation of property, and his services were utilised in connection with some of the largest land acquisition cases in Colombo, in all of which he acquitted himself very creditably. He was an especial favourite of Mr. F. R. Ellis, who, himself a blunt and plain-spoken man, appreciated the same traits in his Chief Clerk. The promotion of Mr. E. de Kretser to be Assistant Auditor-General in succession to Mr. R. A. Brohier caused a vacancy in the Chief Clerkship of the Colonial Secretary's Office, and Mr. de Vos was appointed to this post which at that time was the stepping stone to the higher service. Mr. de Vos set about his new duties with characteristic vigour and initiated many reforms in the office, but after a time he longed for the freer atmosphere of the Colombo Kachecheri and went back at his own request. Here he continued to do very useful work, and on attaining the age for retirement he was given an extension. When at last he finally retired, he did not seek the slippered ease which he had so well earned, but continued to act as appraiser to the Loan Board and the Ceylon Savings Bank, in addition to writing to the press on public questions.

Mr. de Vos was connected with the Dutch Burgher Union from its very inception and evinced a deep and abiding interest in its welfare. He was one of its earliest Committee Members and served in that capacity for many years. He enlivened the meetings with

well-directed criticism and took a large share in shaping the Constitution. The portraits of four past Presidents hanging in the Union Hall were secured by him on his own initiative. At one period when there were large arrears of subscriptions outstanding, Mr. de Vos voluntarily undertook to interview some of the members in default, and succeeded in recovering a very appreciable amount.



His services to the Dutch Reformed Church, of which he was a very loyal member, were of no less value than his services to the Union. An appreciative article on this aspect of his life, written by one who was closely associated with him, appeared in the pages of THE HERALD for February, and we reproduce it by kind permission of the Editor, who has also allowed us the use of the block for the photograph which appears on this page.

"The work of the late Mr. J. P. de Vos in connection with the Church began more than sixty years ago, though for the last twenty years or so for many reasons he ceased to have any active share in it. In the minutes of the Sunday School from August, 1871, his

name appears regularly up to 1874, when it is to be presumed that he no longer continued in the capacity of a Sunday School teacher. That he was deeply interested in Sunday School work is shewn in the records; and the fact that he was appointed collector for the Sunday School that existed at Slave Island in 1874 seems to indicate that he worked in that locality. A list of the names of those associated with him in Sunday School work, as recorded in the minutes of August, 1874, recalls sad memories. Can there be found to-day in any part of the Island six such men engaged in Sunday School work as Messrs. Jas. Jansz, Philip Bartholomeusz, Horace de Kretser, Gerald van Houten, Cecil Schokman and J. P. de Vos, all of whom have long since gone to their reward? Strangely, the paths of the first and last named of these six intertwined. Mr. James Jansz succeeded Mr. J. P. de Vos as third clerk of the Colombo Kacheheri at about the same time as Mr. de Vos succeeded Mr. Jansz in the Treasurership of Wolvendaal Consistory. The present writer became associated with the late Mr. J. P. de Vos in 1889, when he joined the Wolvendaal Consistory. He then learnt to appreciate the good qualities of Mr. J. P. de Vos, whom he styled the "unofficial leader of the opposition." Mr. de Vos's fearless independence of speech and action was refreshing; and the writer always sought his aid and advice in matters that came up for consideration at the Consistorial meetings. The writer rejoices to-day that at least one of the objects with which he joined the Consistory forty years ago has been accomplished; and, in spite of the taunt of Congregationalism, the right to elect members of Consistory is now placed more or less in the hands of the Congregation.

"That Mr. de Vos was a man of large experience, whose advice could always be relied on, was shewn by the Consistory of that day in his frequent appointment to value properties on which loans were desired from the Church. In this capacity, too, the writer was several times associated with him, and saw for himself the business acumen which placed the late Mr. de Vos in the front rank of assessors and won for him an enduring fame as a thorough man of business.

"Mr. de Vos was one of the early settlers in Bambalapitiya, and had a large share in the building of the Church, which stands to-day as a memento of what earnest desire and steadfast purpose

can accomplish. He was the second largest subscriber to the Building Fund. In the early days, with *one* minister to carry on the work at Wolvendaal and Bambalapitiya, especially when the permanent minister was on leave, only one service at Bambalapitiya was possible, and that too at 7 p.m., after the service at Wolvendaal. Mr. de Vos was one of those who felt the utter inadequacy of such arrangements; and then it was that the services of the Evangelists, duly licensed by the Ceylon Presbytery (of whom the writer is the only survivor) came to be requisitioned, and a morning service arranged to be taken entirely by these Evangelists. It is the fashion to-day to decry lay-preachers and lay-preaching; but it is well to bear in mind that these men served a useful purpose at one time in the history of the Church, and that without their services the work of the Church could not have been carried on. No one was more appreciative of their labours than the late Mr. J. P. de Vos."

The deceased gentleman was twice married. His first wife was Agnes Leonora Schokman, sister of the late Dr. G. P. Schokman, by whom he had four sons and three daughters. She died in 1893. He contracted a second marriage with Joseline Margaret Foenander, daughter of the late Mr. F. J. T. Foenander. There were three sons and one daughter by this marriage. Mr. de Vos lived to enjoy the happiness of seeing his sons settled in life and two of his daughters married. He celebrated the 25th anniversary of his second marriage in 1920.



A FASCINATING STUDY.

"*The proper study of mankind is man.*"—POPE.

The quotation given above was indirectly responsible for the germs of an interesting hobby to the writer—a hobby one can indulge in at all times and in all places, and which affords one a good deal of harmless amusement.

Studying character is a thrilling hobby but it goes farther than this. It teaches one to know all kinds of human nature, to look for the motive before one blames the act, and to learn how the minds of other people work. It is the most humanizing amusement in the world, and anybody who takes it up without malice helps himself or herself to understand people he or she meets.

Study the people you come in contact with, guess about them, notice their ways, try to reconstruct their ideas, their lives and their occupations. This is not as difficult as it sounds. For instance it is not a hard matter to notice the pricked finger that betrays the expert needlewoman, and you can get almost uncannily accurate in determining whether a woman is married or single without looking at her left hand. The difference is indefinable but in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it is there.

Don't always sit buried in a newspaper or book when travelling by train. It is much more fun to watch people's faces and notice their gestures, to guess about them from the scraps of conversation you unwillingly overhear, and to try to glimpse their lives from the places they get in and get out, at the books they read *en route*, the people who meet them at the end of the journey. In short, be a benevolent sort of amateur detective—a Sherlock Holmes in embryo, and you will always be amused wherever you are.

If the waiter at your favourite tea room is determined to leave you to the last, don't get annoyed and irritated, but look round and study the various types eating and drinking. Most people give themselves away deplorably at such times. You can always detect the girl who thinks she is "so refined" and is a bit of a poseuse altogether, by the ultra-elegant manner in which she curves her

little finger as she raises her tea-cup to her lips, and you can get a very good idea of people's dispositions by their manners to the waiters.

There is nothing more entertaining than restaurant observations. One is supposed to be able to tell a man's character from the company he keeps, but it is safer to guess it from the food he chooses for himself. For instance, the very fluffy-looking girl, you find, has an appetite that is anything but fluffy, and she sustains herself with a meat dish, two vegetables and a jam roll, while the lady who is spending ages in deciding what to have, and ends with a cup of tea after the sweet course, is evidently a suburban shopper in town for the day. The artistic looking girl in a futurist sort of frock, hung with bead chains, can be relied upon to order a freak lunch. Curried prawns and rice with mango chutney, followed by stewed prunes and an ice, is one selection consumed by a damsel of this type.

Cultivate the observation habit at dances and cinemas, and you will discover all sorts of interesting things. After a short time you will acquire a sort of sixth sense that will enable you to tell something about strangers at a glance.

You can practise observation going to work in the morning; at work all day; when out shopping; at tea-time in restaurants; at the pictures, the theatres or a dance. It only needs a taste for observation and a keen interest in your fellow-beings.

But this is not a pastime for those maliciously inclined; the results would be positively dangerous.

L. M. W.

THE QUARTER.

NOTES ON CURRENT TOPICS.

At Home.

Sir Herbert Stanley's departure from Ceylon on the 11th February was unexpected, as his term of office in the island had not extended to even four years. His new post will be that of High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in the Union of South Africa. In July last year, when Sir Herbert was in England, there were rumours that he would not return to Ceylon,—rumours which were definitely contradicted. The news of his South African appointment came in December. His last official act was to appoint the Historical Commission, of which there was so much said months before.

Our new Governor is to be Sir Graeme Thomson, who was Colonial Secretary here for three years, 1919—22, during the rule of Sir William Manning. Sir Graeme Thomson's administration is likely to be an eventful one, with the remarkable experiment of an entirely new State Council, election turmoils, retrenchment measures in full operation, unemployment, and the neighbourhood of a New India alive with the excitement of kindling hopes and unknown perils.

The elections for the State Council will probably begin soon after the arrival of the new Governor, and the publication of the Order-in-Council regarding the elections, and, indeed, establishing the new Constitution, is eagerly awaited. The present Unofficial members of the Legislative Council appear to have asked that the Order should be discussed in the Legislative Council for three days before it was promulgated, but the request has been refused. The weary discussions before the Donoughmore Scheme was accepted are still remembered, and a repetition of them will serve no useful purpose. Dr. Drummond Shiels is said to be as confident as ever that the constitutional experiment will be a success, with adult suffrage, no communal electorates, and the Committee System. "There may be lessons to be learnt from its working, even by the Great Mother of Parliaments herself." That is interesting, and Ceylon's new role of instructress should make her proud.

A curious development has taken place in regard to the elections for the State Council. A lady has come forward for one of the seats, and has secured a large measure of support. But she happens to be the wife of a Government servant, and a General Order has been decided upon prohibiting the wives of Public Officers from becoming candidates or in any other way taking an active part in a State Council election. If she does, "the Public Officer himself shall be deemed to have committed a breach of this order."

A Census of Ceylon was taken on the night of Thursday the 26th February. A full Census was taken of Colombo alone—the Municipal area, excluding the military and shipping—while the rest of the Island is to have a partial Census. This disappointing distinction is one of the measures of retrenchment which were found necessary. The City of Colombo shews a total of 283,293 persons, of whom 176,307 are males and 106,986 females. In none of the seventeen Census divisions into which the City was divided (foreshadowing, doubtless, the future wards of a reformed Municipality), was there a preponderance of females over males, or anything approaching equality; and there are 69,321 more males than females. The increase in population from 1921 is 39,130.

Half the population of Colombo must be "over-age," since the city has 98,870 registered male electors for the State Council, and 34,584 female electors, making a total of 113,454. The total number of registered voters in the fifty electorates is 1,576,076, roughly about a third of the whole population. It may not be unfair to infer from this that, not only has the soul of the people been awakened, but also the candidates for seats have been remarkably busy.

The Census of All India taken on the same day as ours, 26 February 1931, shews that the population is slightly under 351,500,000, an increase of 32,000,000 in ten years.

The scholarship offered by the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music was won last year by a Kandyan girl. A morning paper states that in 1926 an effort was made to induce the Legislative Council to sanction the award of a Government Scholarship, but it was defeated on the ground that "no Sinhalese girl was ever likely to secure the Music Scholarship."

Abroad.

Unquestionably, the most important of the happenings outside Ceylon is the constitutional revolution which has begun in India. It is too early to speak of it with any definiteness, for nothing has been finally decided, and it is never wise to halloo till you are well out of the wood. After the Round Table Conference in London came the Irwin-Gandhi conversations, to be followed by a Round Table Conference in India. But whatever may happen, one thing seems to be certain—that the political relations between England and India cannot again be what they have been for the last two hundred years. The Hindu-Moslem disunion has been made up, and the Princes of India have joined their British-Indian countrymen in the plea for a new and politically free India. Perhaps it was the adhesion of the Princes to the national cause which finally overcame the reluctance of the British people to consent to so revolutionary a change. It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of the change when India wins her new constitution. Briefly put, it means that the Indian will be in India very largely what a Japanese or a Chinese is in his own country; or perhaps more accurately, what an Afrikaner is in South Africa, or a Canadian in Canada, or an Australian in Australia. The change will prove unpalatable to many, but it is inevitable. Lord Irwin's remarkable tact and wisdom and patience have secured for him a very high place among the foremost statesmen of the age, and Mahatma Gandhi has proved again that dreamers and visionaries have no small place in a world overborne by material aims and interests.

The English political situation invites attention. The three great parties are each curiously divided into contending groups. The Conservatives are divided between Mr. Baldwin and what Mr. Baldwin calls "an insolent and irresponsible plutocracy," with Mr. Winston Churchill intervening. The Liberals have to choose between Mr. Lloyd George and Sir John Simon. The Labour Party has a Right, a Left, wing led by Sir Oswald Moseley. Protection or Free Trade, India, and Unemployment are the main issues in dispute. It will not be surprising, if these divisions abandon their old and apparently inappropriate grounds of difference, and two entirely new parties emerge, divided on more modern issues.

BY THE WAY.

NOTES BY NIEMAND.

A book was published in December last year to teach young writers the art of "writing for Profit"; that is, how to write and sell short stories, long stories, and articles for newspapers, so that the writer might make some money out of his literary efforts. The single review of the book that has come my way is not altogether favourable. The reviewer does not think that literary success is to be measured in terms of cash, and not very many of us will agree with him.

Byron, we all know, disdained, or affected to disdain, money payment for his writings. On the other hand, Tennyson could drive a hard bargain with his publishers, and Longmans' cheque for £20,000 to Macaulay is still remembered. Why should not authors and smaller writers use their gifts to make money by their writings, as other people, film-actresses, for example, profit by their advantage? The book under review teaches that the task of literary authorship is easy, at all events not very difficult.

One of the contributors to the book gives this shrewd advice:—"The most practical method I know of how to make free-lance journalism pay is to deliberately write what is known in Fleet Street as 'tosh.' By 'tosh' I mean the kind of innocuous twaddle which a very large number of perfectly respectable newspapers and periodicals require for the immense lower-middle class public upon which they depend for their existence."

The truth of this is only too evident—in Ceylon as well as in England. Publishers of newspapers, periodicals, and fiction are forced to supply what their readers demand, if publishing is to be a financial success; and the demand is a clear indication of the literary tastes and general mentality of the demanding public. "Tosh" is the word.

The writer of the book on "Writing for Profit" frankly calls journalism a "trade", and "makes the selling of newspaper articles as matter of fact as that of selling boots or button-hooks." He is

quite right, if the newspaper articles are no more than the usual "tosh"; if they are merely commonplaces decked out in vulgarly sensational language. But the answer to this contention is well put by Sir Philip Gibbs in his Foreword to the book.

"Anyone who enters the literary side of journalism merely as a trade is, in my opinion, bound to hideous disappointment. The great prizes, even the moderate prizes, of this career do not go to the man with the trading mind, but to those who put their work first and their pay second.....who have a touch of art, a feeling for the *mot juste*, some quality of character or humour... Without some such qualities beyond mere hack work there are no prizes, and men or women lacking them and remaining on the lowest rungs of the journalistic ladder could get greater rewards in the ordinary business world."

From writers we turn to readers. The correspondent of a local evening paper tells us that the intellectual reading public of France is no more than 40,000 in a population of 40 million. "Even in England an optimistic publisher places the number of those who enjoy literature, as distinct from what is vulgarly known as 'tripe,' at not more than 2 millions—2 million out of 42 million!" From which it follows that the average is very much higher in England than in France. The English estimate is based on the sales of books—not quite a good basis, for books are bought as gifts or prizes as well as for reading.

The French estimate of one in every thousand looks pessimistic, but it will serve as a guide for Ceylon, when one consideration must be taken with another. That will give us 5,000 "intellectuals" in Ceylon—a most unlikely number. Who, for instance, will be so rash as to maintain that 5,000 copies of any Ceylon book (other than a school-book or a railway time-table) is ever sold in the Island?

The definition given by the correspondent will help: "By an intellectual reader is meant one who reads and appreciates reading matter that has not been written merely for the purpose of entertaining or diverting."

The mail brought me a letter which describes a state of things common enough, but so little considered by those who should consider it most seriously, that extracts will be useful. My correspondent voyaged to Europe in a ship containing a crowd of some seventeen different nationalists. "To hear all these folks talking in their various languages, all congregated together, gives one an idea of what the Tower of Babel must have been like."

* * *

"This is the point that affects me most. In all this crowd of people it is heart-rending to find myself a—cosmopolitan, may I say? Our different peoples have their different languages, and use them as naturally as we use English. To them it is their mother tongue, and by that language are they known by nationality..... Time and again how I long to be able to talk fluently in Dutch or German, which might be some claim to my calling myself a national of either race.....I feel so deeply on this subject, not for myself alone, but for all the members of our Community. My eyes have been opened to this state of affairs within recent years, and this has been due to the humiliating circumstances I have been subjected to, in my journeyings out of Ceylon, so that my one wish is to change the present most deplorable state of affairs, rouse the people out of their lethargy, and goad them into overcoming a disability which undoubtedly exists."

* * *

True words, well worth pondering over. One views rather cynically the prospect before the Community, and notes that what years of counsel and effort by far-seeing leaders have failed to accomplish will be made possible by the rapidly changing conditions of our times.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Historical Documents.—His Excellency the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council has appointed a Commission:—

(1) To enquire into the existence of unpublished manuscripts in the possession of private persons and in institutions calculated to throw light on the civil, ecclesiastical, literary or scientific history of the Island and to give advice as to the housing and keeping of valuable papers and the repair of any that may be in a state of decay.

(2) To make recommendations as to the housing and preserving of public records and how to make them easily accessible and readily available in order to facilitate and encourage research.

(3) To make recommendations regarding the translation and publication of unpublished documents.

The members of the Commission are :—Professor S. A. Pakeman (Chairman), the Hon. Mr. D. B. Jayatilaka, The Hon. Mr. E. W. Perera, Dr. P. E. Pieris, Messrs. H. W. Codrington, C. H. Collins, The Rev. Father S. G. Perera, S. J., Dr. A. Nell, Messrs. E. Reimers and C. Rasanayagam, Mudaliyar.

In this connection it is interesting to note that a similar attempt was made by Government in 1838 to get together old manuscripts in the hands of private persons, as the following letter kindly placed at our disposal by Mr. R. L. Brohier will show:—

Colombo,

3rd. July 1838.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your Circular letter of the 10th. April last, I beg most respectfully to state that with every desire to meet the view therein expressed, I have made a careful search for the papers connected with the late Dutch Administration among those of old dates now in my possession, and the few that are forthcoming, though apparently of little importance, I am prepared to deliver to your order, should they be required, of which a list is annexed.*

* Not reproduced.

I take leave to add that a good many other papers of information which had been among my late father's owing to various accidents have been lost or destroyed, though the most valuable of them, namely, certain original plans of the fortification of Calcutta, and of most of the forts on the Coast, together with those of the profits (sic) of Bengal, which had belonged to his uncle, who was Chief Engineer in India, in consequence of an overture from French Agents for the possession of them, were under a refusal of high pecuniary consideration presented by him to Lord Cornwallis, then Governor-General of British India.

I beg to subscribe &c.,
P. Brohier.

The Hon.

P. Anstruther Esq.,
Colonial Secretary.

A Historic Tamarind Tree.—Residents of the southern suburbs of Colombo may remember seeing, until quite recently, a very old Tamarind Tree growing by the roadside at Bambalapitiya which, judging from its gnarled trunk, must have been at least two or three hundred years old. This tree, which was cut down about six months ago in connection with the widening of the Galle Road, has now been identified as the one referred to by the late Mr. J. P. Lewis in his book "Ceylon in Early British Times" as the rendezvous of the European Civil and Military officers and merchants in the early years of the Nineteenth Century. The third mile-stone mentioned in the extract given below stands close to the building occupied by the I. C. Drug Stores, and the Tamarind Tree in question stood a little higher up in the garden attached to the building now used by the Imperial Dye Works. This is what Mr. Lewis says:—

"Leave we now these sounds of revelry by night—the after-dinner diversions, the 'private theatre' opened to the Colombo public with the inevitable midnight suppers to follow, which so much disturbed voyage home, and let us return for the nonce to the tropical broad daylight and the sultry open air. The Mrs. Smith of Baltiboy's, on her post honeymoon morning rides and walks were, and are always likely to be, an established institution; and in the

thirties the general rendezvous was a tamarind tree near the third mile-stone—we will not, after the Ceylon fashion, say 'mile-post'—on the Galle Road, i.e., at Bambalapitiya. An interesting description of Colombo taking the air in the morning was published some years ago in a contemporary, taken from some book of which we do not know the title. * * * * 'It is at this hour that, upon review days, the troops are seen marching to their ground upon the race-course, and that the early risers of Colombo are setting out upon their morning drills, rides or walks, very many of whom look forward with unalloyed pleasure, except when the rainy season prevents it, to the general rendezvous of the European Civil and Military officers and merchants—the well-known Tamarind Tree (near the third mile-stone on the Galle Road) to quaff the wholesome and renovating nectar, fresh from the toddy palm, before fermentation, which is very rapid, commences.'"

Our Storyette.—In sending us the very interesting Storyette which appears elsewhere, Dr. A. H. Ernst of South Africa, who is evincing a great interest in the Union and its activities, writes as follows:—

"The story has been written by my friend, Mr. Deakanah, Principal of the Dutch School, Politsi, for publication in the Journal of the Dutch Burghier Union. It is an absolutely true story, and Mr. Deakanah tells me that nothing he had ever heard of or read gripped him so profoundly as this story of Rachael de Beer. * * * Mr. Deakanah was very much interested in all I had to say of the Dutch Burghers of Ceylon and their Union. He thought the Journal was very well got up."

Neerlandia.—This interesting publication appears in an enlarged form from the beginning of the New Year, while the familiar orange colour has also given place to a light yellow. It contains, among other articles, an account of the celebration of St. Nicolaas Fête at Colombo, written by Dr. Prins in Dutch.

NOTES OF EVENTS.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Tuesday, 18th November, 1930:—(1) A Sub-Committee was appointed to go into the question of framing rules for the working of the Club. (2) The names of four members were taken off the books and the amounts due by them written off as bad debts. The name of another member was transferred to the non-active list. (3) Resolved that the Y. D. B. C. be informed that they must suspend their activities within the Union premises until the General Committee decide whether the existing organisation be allowed to continue or not, and that the matter be brought up for discussion at the next meeting at which the Committee are prepared to meet two representatives of the Y. D. B. C. and hear their views. (4) The report of the Sub-Committee appointed to frame rules for the Y. D. B. C. was tabled and it was decided to defer the matter for the present. (5) A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Mack and Dr. Michael de Jong, the two former for their assistance in connection with the Variety Entertainment and Bridge Tournament, and the latter for providing at his own expense the music for the Dance which followed the variety Entertainment. (6) The resignation from the Union of Messrs. L. B. Kelaart and B. Sansoni was accepted.

Tuesday, 16th December, 1930:—(1) Considered and passed rules drawn up for the guidance of the Y. D. B. C. Resolved that a copy be sent to the Honorary Secretary, Y. D. B. C. and that he be asked whether the members were willing to accept and abide by the rules. (2) Resolved that a Race Sweep be run in connection with the funds of the Entertainment Committee. (3) Resolved that Mr. H. L. Austin's resignation be accepted with regret. (4) Resolved that Mr. V. Murugesu, the Clerk of the Union, be paid a bonus of Rs. 25/-. (5) Resolved that Mr. Murugesu be asked to make arrangements with a Guarantee Association regarding his security, failing which that he furnish cash security. (6) Resolved that the Building Company be asked to have the building whitewashed and painted and the necessary repairs effected, and to refund the sum of Rs. 15 expended by the Union for a flight of steps leading into the back garden.

Tuesday, 20th January, 1931.—(1) Read letter from the Honorary Secretary, Y. D. B. C. intimating that the rules framed by the Union had been rejected by them *in toto*. Resolved that in the circumstances they must cease their activities within the Union premises in future, (2) The following new members were admitted:—Messrs. M. E. Vanderstraaten, F. C. Loos, and C. J. Oorloff. (3) The Draft Annual Report for 1930 was read and passed subject to the audited accounts being brought up for consideration at a subsequent meeting. (4) The report of the Sub-Committee appointed to go into the question of the rules was considered and passed with certain amendments, and it was resolved that the amendments be proposed by Mr. Wase de Niese and seconded by Mr. H. U. Leembruggen at the Annual General Meeting. (5) Resolved to accept Mr. Lionel Wendt's resignation of membership. (6) Resolved that an objection be lodged against the Municipal assessment of the Union building, and that Mr. Wase de Niese do interview the Municipal Assessor on the subject. (7) Tabled accounts in connection with St. Nicolaas Fete and the New Year Dance. Resolved that the balances be placed to the credit of the Entertainment Fund. (8) Resolved that a hearty vote of thanks be conveyed to Mrs. F. Foenander and her band of helpers for the splendid work done by them in connection with St. Nicolaas Fête.

Tuesday, 17th February, 1931.—(1) Passed draft Annual Report and Accounts. (2) Tabled St. Valentine's Day Dance Account. Resolved that the credit balance, Rs. 20, be credited to the Entertainment Fund. (3) Resolved that Rs. 10 be recovered from a member for damages to the Billiard table cloth. (4) Accepted Mrs. Blanche Joseph's resignation of membership with regret.

New Year Dance.—The annual foregathering of the members of the Dutch Burgher Union and their friends took place on December 31st and was most successful.

The Club premises had been brilliantly illuminated, and prettily decorated. There was a large gathering, and a programme of eighteen dances, with a good many extras thrown in, was gone through.

At midnight, following the time-honoured custom, all present united in singing "Auld Lang Syne."

The New Year was welcomed in with the utmost conviviality. The scene at this stage with the many charming fancy costumes worn made a brilliant picture.

The interval on the programme was filled in by an enthusiastic "Treasure Hunt," the "treasure" being ultimately discovered by Miss Rachael Kalenberg and her partner.

Dancing was again resumed with zest and carried on till 3-30 a.m., when "God Save the King" brought one of the happiest functions of the D.B.U. to a close.

Mr. A. Oudeyn.—The following particulars of Mr. A. Oudeyn, which appeared in a local paper, will be of interest to our readers:—

A Young Dutchman, A. Oudeyn, just turned 22, who started out on a lone trail round the world on foot and bicycle, has just arrived in Colombo.

He started out from Rotterdam, his native town, in 1928, and now knows many countries in the world better than his own.

His first great feat was walking all the way down from Rotterdam to Gibraltar. He spent three months in Spain and knows every Spanish town and village by heart.

Curiously enough, he has had very few adventures. He was robbed only three times. He says he met with the most wonderful hospitality wherever he went. Frenchmen, Spaniards, Belgians, Italians, Rumanians, Arabs, Persians, Indians, and Englishmen, all gave him a ready welcome, so that he has not had much to complain of in the way of starvation and thirst. He has been paying his way most of the time, selling photographs which he took on the trip, delivering lectures, etc. When he started out he did not know a word of English or French. Today he is a fluent speaker in both.

The only real adventure he had was in Persia, over a year ago. He says he was travelling in the middle of Persia through snow-bound roads. Persia, he told a "Sunday Observer" representative, is a land of extremes in climate.

During winter it snows at night and the temperature is normally 25 degrees below zero. In the day it is as hot as Colombo.

On the day of his adventure himself and seven other travellers hired a Ford car and drove in the day time through roads deep in mud. Snow had fallen overnight, and when the sun shone the following day the snow had melted, leaving the roads like quagmires. But the Ford car being light they managed to scramble along.

When evening came on, however, snow fell again and by midnight 12 feet of snow had fallen. For ten days the sky remained overcast and the snow did not melt. During these ten days they all had to go without a morsel of food, since they were far from any human habitation.

At last the sun shone again, the snow melted, and they were able to go ahead. Two heavily built cars, also with travellers, got stuck in the mud and had to be abandoned, as their weight militated against their being able to make any progress.

Before coming to Ceylon Mr. Oudeyn travelled extensively through India on his push-bicycle. He possesses an autographed photograph presented to him by Lord Irwin, the Viceroy of India. He also possesses a huge album of autographed photographs of Mussolini, King Feisal of Iraq, several Governors of Indian provinces, and others.

He intends spending a year in Ceylon. At present he maintains himself here by teaching Dutch to members of the Burgher community."

News about our members.—Dr. L. A. Prins has been appointed to act as Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services and will, we have no doubt, be confirmed in the appointment in due course. Dr. H. U. Leembruggen has been appointed to act for Dr. Prins as Assistant Director of Medical Services. We offer our hearty congratulations to these two gentlemen.

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 Burgher 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. L. E. Blazé, Arthur's Place Bambalapitiya.

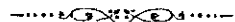
The Journal will be issued at the end of every quarter, post free, to each member of the Union who pays a subscription of Rs. 5/- per annum towards its cost of publication. Literary and other contributions are invited and should be sent to Mr. J. R. Toussaint, "Muresk", Clifford Place, Bambalapitiya, to whom also all remittances on account of the Journal should be made.

Changes of Address.—All changes of address (especially within the last three years) should be notified without delay to the Honorary Secretary of the Union, Dutch Burgher 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. Rosslyn Koch, Skelton Road, and not to the Hony. Secretary.

Remittances on the account of the Social Service Fund must be made to Mr. Wace de Niese, Bambalapitiya, the Hony. Treasurer of the Standing Committee for purposes of Social Service.

Dutch Burgher 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.



Printing

— for the —

Public

WE OFFER THE SERVICES
OF A SKILLED STAFF
AND UP-TO-DATE PLANT
FOR HIGH-CLASS JOB AND
BOOK WORK. WE HAVE
OVER 30 YEARS' EX-
PERIENCE IN HIGH-
GRADE LETTERPRESS
PRINTING

STRICT FAITH KEPT



Frewin & Co.,

PRINTERS, STATIONERS AND
RUBBER STAMP MAKERS:

40, Baillie St., Fort, Colombo.

PHONE 96

P. O. BOX 58