



## Take Good Care Of Your Cycle...

Because new cycles and spare parts are hard to get these days, you'll have to make the most of your present cycle . . . so take good care of it . . . have it regularly cleaned and oiled by Millers' Cycle Department. The charge for this service is only Rs. 1-50.

**millers**

VOL. XXXII]

APRIL, 1943.

[No. 4.

# Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.



"Eendracht maakt Macht"

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
1. The Story of Hendala . . . . .	129
2. Gabriel Schade and his invention of Sinhalese Type. . . . .	134
3. Genealogy of the Sproule Family of Ceylon . . . . .	140
4. Annual General Meeting . . . . .	143
5. Notes of Events . . . . .	153
6. Notes and Queries . . . . .	154

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, Rs. 1-50 to be had at the D. B. U. Hall.

# 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

**Freeman & Co.,**

PRINTERS, STATIONERS AND  
RUBBER STAMP MAKERS;

40, Baillie Street, Fort, Colombo.

PHONE 2896 P. O. Box 58

## Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

VOL. XXXII.]

APRIL, 1943.

[No. 4.]

### THE STORY OF HENDALA\*

I would wish to associate my talk this evening on "The Story of Hendala", with the ancient and modern views of a subject not too well known, namely Leprosy.

Leprosy is a chronic, infectious disease caused by the *Micrococcus Leprae* discovered by Hansen of Bergen in 1871 characterised by the presence of nodules in the skin, mucous membranes, and nerve trunks. Research workers have not yet succeeded in cultivating the organism. It is not common at present in Europe except in Norway, but it is found in some parts of South Europe, in India, Burma, Siam, China, Japan, North East Africa, West Indies, Central America, Mexico, parts of South America and many islands of the Pacific.

In Ceylon there are about 1100 cases segregated in the Hospitals of Hendala and Mantivu, and about 1000 cases under treatment and home isolation. The cause of infection and how it is conveyed has not been clearly proved, but direct contact of persons and for a long period, has been accepted as one method of the transmission of the disease. It attacks persons of all ages, particularly children of the age of 5 to 15 years. Father Damian in the Sandwich Islands, whilst living and working with the lepers of Molokai, and Father Boglioli in New Orleans, both fell victims in the discharge of their priestly duties.

It is generally held that the surviving Crusaders brought Leprosy back to Europe with them from the East. The Jesuit Velly says that it was very common in France about the middle of the 8th century under Pepin, and Voltaire has endorsed this, saying that leper hospitals were already very numerous in Charlemagne's time, (768-814). At all events it is quite clear it was common from the 11th to the 14th century, and that in the 12th it had become a general plague.

The disease was by no means confined to the lowest classes. Robert the Bruce died of it in 1329, and when the Order of the Knights of St. Lazarus was founded for the care of lepers, it was

\* A paper read by Dr. Frank Bartholomeusz before the D. B. U. Literary Circle on 25th January, 1943.

one of its leading rules that its Grandmaster should always be a leper, so that a supreme fellow-feeling for the stricken should be of the essence of its government. This one fact alone may show us how general Leprosy must then have become. The rule was clearly in operation at least until 1253, when the infidels having slain all the leper Knights of the hospital at Jerusalem, the Order had to petition Pope Innocent IV. for a dispensation to choose a Grandmaster who was of sound health.

In the Latin will of St. Francis of Assissi, the Seraphic Father Francis as he was called, he declares his belief that the tenderness he bore the lepers was the sole merit which began to draw upon him, a sinner, the mercy of God. At the same time he confessed that in his unregenerate state, it was all too bitter to him even to look on a leper. The laws, both civil and ecclesiastical, were nevertheless (for it was a terrible necessity) awful in their severity to the poor lepers. They were not alone cut off from their fellow-men, but even if only suspected of Leprosy, any legal act of theirs became null and void *ipso facto*, unless they made declaration therein of their horrible misfortune. In 1346 an Ordinance was made to exclude lepers from the city of London, during the time of King Edward III, so wide spread was the disease, and there were 100 leper houses established during this period.

Until they became so feeble as to be driven into a leper hospital, lepers were in France at least hunted from the society of men into wooden huts built for them. The leper was given a grey cloak, a hat and a wallet, together with a wooden clapper or a small bell with which he had to warn approaching people so that they should give him a wide berth. A dish or his hat, placed on the opposite side of the road, invited the compassionate wayfarer to drop an offering. The horror in which this disease had been held may be gathered from mediaeval records. We learn from these, that a person on being recognised as a leper, shall be approached by the Priest and by him told of his condition and fate. He may make his last confession before he becomes an outcast, and afterwards he is led out into the Church-yard as one dead. The earth is cast over him with the words "Be thou dead to the world but alive to God"; then he is left alone to die. This sad and solemn service and its oath sufficiently show the outcast, outlawed condition of the European Christian leper of the middle ages.

Under the Mosaic law, Leprosy was considered a plague, and such a person was brought to the priest—vide chapters 13 and 14 of Leviticus in the Old Testament. It was enjoined that if the priest considered the person was suffering from Leprosy, his clothes should be rent, the hair of his head shall go loose, he shall cover his upper lip, and shall cry "Unclean, unclean". All the days wherein the plague is in him he shall be unclean and he shall dwell alone without the camp. All the garments and linen of the leper were also pronounced unclean, and should the leper be cleansed by the

priest from Leprosy, he had according to the law to perform the sin offering and burnt offering in the temple.

Having briefly dealt with the ancient view of Leprosy, may I now take you over to the Leper Hospital at Hendala to which I had the honour of being appointed as Medical Superintendent in 1932. I am indebted to my friends Mr. R. L. Brohier, F.R.G.S., whose literary articles are so greatly prized for some of the information, also to Mr. L. E. Blazé, O.B.E., J.P., for the opportunity given me of examining records in his possession. The Institution at Hendala which has exercised a permanent influence up to the present day should rightly be associated with the name of the Dutch Governor Cornelis Joan Simons. The building was commenced during his brief rule of four years (1703—1707), but was left incomplete to be perfected by his successor Hendricus Von Becker.

Until the year 1914, a halo of romance appears to have been woven round the story of this building and the establishment of the Hendala Leper Asylum. In a haze of uncertainty the story was grounded in the belief that the Asylum had been built by the daughter of a Dutch Governor, who being herself a leper, wished to show her compassionate sympathy with her fellow sufferers by erecting at her own private expense a Hospital and Asylum for the relief of such unfortunates. Mr. R. G. Anthonisz I.S.O., the erstwhile Archivist and President Founder of this Union, dispelled this romantic story by the light thrown on the subject by the records which had hitherto not been translated. The cryptic monogram "H. V. B.", with the date 1708 sculptured on a gable over a part of the building, stands for the initials of Hendricus Von Becker, Dutch Governor of Ceylon during the year 1707-1716, during whose administration the building was completed. This sculptured monogram, which was originally at the entrance of the bungalow occupied by the Medical Superintendent, was subsequently removed and placed at the entrance of the Administration block. The Dutch records prove beyond doubt that the cost of construction and equipment of this Hospital was borne entirely by the Dutch Government, who were for some time previously deeply concerned about the existence and spread of this dire disease in Ceylon.

The minutes of the Dutch Council of Colombo under the presidency of Governor Simons dated the 10 March 1685 state, that the Chief Physician to the Government reported that there had been several cases of Leprosy in the Hospital, a disease which was spreading in an alarming manner among the children of native women married to Europeans, so much so that it was feared the disease would soon attack the Europeans. As a result of this report a resolution was passed requiring the Wardens of the Fort of Colombo and the City, assisted by the Chief Physician, to hold house to house inspection in regard to this as a preliminary measure. Very little is known of Governor Cornelis Joan Simons during whose administration the foundation of the present Institution was laid, beyond what may be gathered from the Dutch records and from

isolated passages in different parts of Valentyn. Two important events however of permanent value to this Island have always been associated with the name of Governor Simons. These are, the compilation of the Thesavalamai or "the laws and customs of the Malabar inhabitants of Jaffnapatam", and the building of the Leper Asylum at Hendala. The former work was carried out under his orders by the Dissawe of Jaffnapatam, Claas Isaaksz, and the latter was commenced during his administration but left incomplete to be perfected by his successor in office Hendricus Von Becker.

Governor Simons seems to have been a noble gentleman of a humane and charitable disposition, greatly interested in the building and progress of this Institution. In his "Memoirs and Directions dated 16 December 1707" we find him commending the continuance of the good work he had commenced to his successor Governor Hendricus Von Becker. He says, "the Leper Asylum on which already twice the amount granted by their Excellencies has been spent has given me a great deal of worry, the more so because owing to my illness I was not able to inspect the place myself although I did so just before I was taken ill. The present condition of the unfortunate patients is described in the Report of the Commissioners who were assisted by the Chief Surgeons of the vessels lying in the harbour. It appears that our late Chief Surgeon had somewhat exaggerated the state of affairs. I hope this is true, especially for the sake of those who were summarily dismissed on his hasty report". To his successor Hendricus Von Becker is due the credit of having completed the whole work begun by his predecessor, and of having the Institution on a firm footing so as to ensure its permanence and usefulness.

Hendricus Von Becker, in his "Memoirs and Instructions" to his successor in office, Governor Isaac Augustyn Rumpf, dated 25th November, 1716, gives an account of the work he had accomplished with reference to this Asylum. He says, "the Leper Hospital commenced by His Excellency Cornelis Joan Simons but completed by me is a very large building, about 8 times the size required. Their Excellencies the Supreme Government have been justly displeased regarding this matter, and because the expenditure for its upkeep amounted yearly to a considerable sum, I proposed to their Excellencies, to break down part of it and sell the materials. Authority having been received, this has been done much to the benefit of this Hospital. With a view to its affairs being properly managed, I have appointed the Coopman and the Negotie Boekhauder, Jacob Bouer, besides the Head Physician of the Dutch Hospital and Dr. Van Der Stadt, as regents, and have provided them with instructions regarding the Hospital which are preserved at the Secretariat".

Hendricus Von Becker had been in Ceylon as a Captain in the Military Service of the Dutch East India Company sometime previous to his return here as Governor. He is mentioned in Governor de Heere's Diary of his tour in Jaffnapatam in 1697 as

one of the deputation which met the Governor at Negombo. He succeeded Governor Simons in the Government of Ceylon on 22nd, December 1707, and after 9 years rule left Ceylon for Europe on 7th December 1716 as Admiral of the Return Fleet. He was married to Anna Catherina Collardt and died at Amsterdam in 1722.

There is no certain information available with regard to the state of medical practice in this Island during the Dutch period extending from 1656 to 1795. It is reasonable to suppose that there were army surgeons among the Dutch as under the British, and that some of these were probably regularly qualified men from the Colleges of Amsterdam, Utrecht and Leyden, with the latter of which the name of the great Boerhaave will ever be connected. It is also interesting to note that the first European writer on Tropical diseases was a Dutchman, named Bontius. There are no records extant to show that any effort was made by the Dutch to teach the science of medicine systematically to the natives, but it appears that the Kings of Kandy often requested through the Government the medical aid of Dutch Doctors which the Dutch Governor of Colombo complied with. The mission of Dr. Danielsz as recounted by the late Dr. E. Lawson Koch to the Court of Kandy in 1739 to cure King Rajasinha of a bad leg is replete with interest.

Further records of the Dutch and early British periods are unobtainable, hence one has to conclude that Hendala continued to be the isolation centre and Hospital for all cases of Leprosy till the second Hospital at Mantivu was opened about 20 years ago to accommodate cases detected in the Eastern Province and those transferred from the Leper Wards of Kalmunai Hospital. In a brief article on Lepers in Ceylon Revd. Fr. Neut, Rector of St. Xavier's College, India, who visited Hendala in August, 1887, writes as follows: "The English Doctor", presumably Dr. Meier, "who lives there with his family, was delighted to see us, and ordered us to be taken round. There were 187 lepers, not a single bed was vacant, and many applications had constantly to be put off. The neatness and cleanliness of the place was remarkable".

In passing, I may mention that Dr. W. H. Meier who joined the Medical Dept. as an Asst. Col. Surgeon in 1872, left Ceylon in 1878 for study in the Calcutta Medical College, and five years later left India to complete his medical studies in Europe. On his return to Ceylon he was appointed to take charge of the Leper Colony at Hendala. Dr. Meier was the first and only L. M. S. Ceylon (Honoris Causa) He was a remarkable personality, bore a very strong resemblance to the late King Edward VII, and anyone seeing him for the first time might have considered him a Dutch Admiral, he was always immaculately dressed in white coat, trousers and shoes, had a ruddy appearance and a nautical gait, was greatly loved by his patients, and ruled over them for a period of well nigh 30 years. Dr. J. L. Vander Straaten in his book "Progress of medical science in Ceylon" records that Dr. Meier published a complete report on Leprosy which was sent by Government to England. Time will not permit me to give you in greater detail the rare

## GABRIEL SCHADE AND HIS INVENTION OF THE SINHALESE TYPE.\*

BY M. W. JURRIAANSE.

Anyone who has seen some production of his own pen in print will have felt at least once that thrill which a Frenchman has described as "le bonheur de se voir imprimé". Apart from a proper satisfaction that some task has been completed, it is largely human vanity which evokes this feeling, and only persons of wholly unworldly character will be denied the pleasure.

There are however other pleasures to be derived from the task of seeing one's work through the press. Take a book from your shelves, open it, and notice whether your first reaction to it—a reaction which has nothing whatever to do with its contents—is one of sympathy or antipathy. It is not so much the design and the size of the type, the make and the shape of the paper, or the division of the page, but rather the combination of these three, which inclines you to keep the book in your hand or to replace it on the shelf.

The story of the development of that most powerful weapon of modern times, the printing press, is a long one, which would fill many volumes. As it begins with a still unresolved dispute about who was the inventor of the art of printing, it is not surprising that there is by now a vast literature on the subject. Like several other inventions, printing appeared simultaneously in two countries. Haarlem in Holland has a statue of Laurens Janszoon Coster; Mainz in Germany has one of Johann Gutenberg. Although the unbiased author of the exhaustive article on "Typography" in the "Encyclopaedia Britannica" shows that the German appropriated the Hollander's invention and developed it in Germany under his own name, it will probably never really be decided who should be called the Father of Printing—the Hollander or the Rheinlander.

At the time of the arrival of the Portuguese in Ceylon, the infancy of the printing press, when printing of books ("incunabula") was done from engraved blocks—the books published up to the year 1500 being known for that reason as "blockbooks"—was nearly at an end and movable metal type had recently come into use. It was only at this stage of development of the art of printing that it became possible to print books of the kind we know nowadays, and when a hundred and fifty years later another wave of European immigration reached this Island, printing on the Continent of Europe had developed to such an extent that the newcomers, the Dutch, were already accustomed to read printed books, among which books of travel, like that of Joris van Spilbergen, which has entertaining chapters on Ceylon, had become favourites with the reading public in the Low Countries. The European of those days coming out to the east could not of course expect to find anything here to satisfy his cultural needs and provide the material

comforts to which he was accustomed. If he wanted them he had to import them from home. The printing press had now become another of the necessary complications of social life. Plans were made as early as 1624 for the establishment in Batavia, the headquarters in the East of the Dutch East India Company, of a printing office for the promotion of education, although the oldest printed document preserved there is dated only 1668.<sup>1</sup> By 1677<sup>2</sup> it had already proved to be possible to publish there the "Thesaurus medicus insulae Ceyloniae" by Crim, a physician who had at one time practised in Colombo. During the later years of the 17th century certain of the official documents issued from Batavia and addressed to the different subordinate agencies were sent out in print.

In Ceylon every document had still to be copied by hand. Rag paper, ink, quills and other items of stationery formed part of the cargoes of ships leaving Holland for the East. In the Secretariats at Colombo, Jaffna, Galle and elsewhere, numerous clerks sitting on their high stools were engaged day after day in copying Minutes of the Council, letters, and other documents, for the Boards at home. Their calligraphic efforts had to satisfy not only the high and mighty on the other side of the Ocean, but also to be read and understood by the people in the Island. If for instance the Government had to inform the inhabitants of the Colombo and Matara dessavonies that the unlicensed cutting of cinnamon bushes was an offence, or to let them know when the allocation of lands for paddy cultivation was to take place, or if it had to make a proclamation about the relative values of certain coins, notifications such as would today appear in the Government Gazette had to be copied out by hand again and again. These notifications were translated into Sinhalese and Tamil by local interpreters, and after being written out on large sheets of paper were posted up in conspicuous places so that they might be read by all concerned.

Apart from being the heart of their business world, Ceylon was also the cultural centre of the Company's Western Agencies. Two seminaries were established in Colombo and in Jaffna, for the training of native clergy to shed the light of civilisation and culture for the guidance of the islanders. Schools were established in connection with the parish churches all over the Dutch part of the Island, and as many as fifty-two of them were to be found in the thickly populated Colombo dessavony—the modern Western Province—alone. The village schoolmaster taught his pupils the principles of Christianity, together with reading, writing, and arithmetic, in one of the vernaculars. The methods of teaching were extremely primitive. Sand strewn on a plank or on the floor took the place of a blackboard. The gospels of St. Matthew and St. Luke, up till 1733 the only books of the New Testament translated into Sinhalese, were occasionally obtainable written on olas. Even the most advanced examinations were founded chiefly on knowledge of the Catechisms and the Gospels. The same need for schoolbooks which

1. de Haan, *Oud Batavia II*, p. 282.

2. *Op. cit.* p. 283.

\* Reproduced from the Ceylon Daily News by kind courtesy of the Editor.



had been a contributing influence in the establishment of printing presses in Europe, and later on in Batavia, was now felt in Ceylon; but whereas in Europe the first steps taken were the result of private initiative and enterprise, in the colonies the initiative in such undertakings was bound to come from the Government. The difficulty was to get Sinhalese and Tamil type made. Baldaeus, in his book on the Coromandel Coast and Ceylon, which appeared in Amsterdam in 1672, prints the alphabet and the Lord's prayer in Tamil. His book therefore provides the first example of one of these vernaculars printed by Dutch printers. In 1707 a Sinhalese grammar, compiled by the Rev. Joannes Roëll and printed by order of the Company, was published in Amsterdam.<sup>3</sup>

The study of Oriental languages was at this time flourishing at the University of Leiden, but who in Holland was likely to have sufficient knowledge of, and enthusiasm about Sinhalese and Tamil to undertake the preparation of standard Sinhalese and Tamil type for Ceylon? On the other hand, who on this side of the Ocean knew enough about printing and printing machinery to take upon himself the responsibilities connected with this enterprise? The only place where it was possible to meet such a man was in the Company's Armoury in Colombo, and when asked, the "baas" of that establishment, Gabriël Schade, was in fact found to be prepared to do his utmost to forward the Government's ambitious plans. He must have been a man of intelligence and a fine craftsman with an exceptional interest in mechanics, otherwise he would never have succeeded in preparing the tools and moulds for fourteen large Sinhalese letters and another fourteen of a medium size, as he is recorded to have done in the first instance.<sup>4</sup> This of course does not mean that he was necessarily familiar with the language, because, given a good example, any body can copy characters in a foreign script. On the other hand he showed such interest in the matter that it may well be that he did have the linguistic knowledge too.

Schade must have spent a considerable amount of time in preparing his moulds, and we can imagine his disappointment when, during the troublous times following the mismanagement of the affairs of the Island by Governor Vuyst, the plans for the establishment of a press were dropped altogether. A "baas" of the armoury was not a "big noise" to use a piece of American slang—among the Company's servants, and when he retired, his moulds were forgotten and stored away somewhere in the armoury and his fount of Dutch type, prepared at the same time, was lost altogether. It was only in 1734, when Jacob Christiaan Pielat, the son of a minister of the "Eglise Walonne"—the French Protestant Church in Holland—became governor of Ceylon, that the question of the printing press was taken up again. Governor Pielat was Governor of Ceylon for one year only; but he had a genuine interest in the country, particularly in its handicrafts, and he left a

3. No. 75. Van Troostenburg de Bruyn, de Hervormde Kerk in Nederlandsch Oost Indie, where he wrongly is referred to as Ruel.

4. No. 70.

recommendation to his successor—which is quite remarkable for those days—to pay occasional personal visits to the Company's factory. He had specially at heart the improvement of the arts of weaving and dyeing. The correctness of this statement, derived from his memorandum to his successor, is evidenced by two tea-cloths with his crest and initials framed in beautiful multi-coloured designs of flowers and leaves, which are preserved among the family treasures of his direct descendants in Holland.

As the son of a clergyman he was also not unnaturally concerned about the state of religion and education. He was fortunate enough to find in the Dutch Reformed Church in Colombo two scholarly ministers who were well acquainted with the vernaculars. At the Governor's request these two clergymen, Conijn and Wetzelius, accompanied by Schade, inspected the moulds lying in the armoury. Their report, which gives valuable information about the early history of the Colombo press, is still to be found among the Dutch archives in Colombo. "Schade, who is the inventor of the above-mentioned type and of the roughly-made implements belonging thereto, when asked if he would be able to resume and complete the work he had started, bravely replied that he deplored that this invention of his had not been successful, but agreed to carry on and complete the work of the establishment of the printing press on condition that he was supplied with the means".

Unfortunately the inclination to please is sometimes stronger than the inclination to be just. Even Wetzelius could not resist this temptation, and in his preface to the first Sinhalese edition of the four Gospels, of 1739, he bestowed upon the popular young Governor, Baron van Imhoff, the credit of having been the originator of printing in Sinhalese. He speaks of "the fatherly care of our illustrious supreme commander, who in less than two years time has set up a Sinhalese printing press". The florid style of this, characteristic of the 18th century, is the more distasteful because we know that the compliment is no more than a half truth. Why should the initiative of Governor Pielat and the ingenuity of "baas" Schade be hidden from posterity? Governor van Imhoff arrived in Ceylon on 23 July 1736 and eight months later, on 5 April 1737, a document in Sinhalese characters was turned out by the press in the armoury—a "plakkaat". The number of copies printed is unknown, but one of them, escaping the destruction which was the usual fate of documents of this type, has been found in the Archives, catalogued, and carefully repaired, and affords an opportunity of studying Schade's craftsmanship.<sup>5</sup>

Although it is quite impossible to say whether this is really the first product of his press, it is certainly the oldest Sinhalese document locally printed, and the only document of its kind printed in the armoury which has survived. The paper is 24½ inches in width by 21½ inches from top to bottom and the print occupies a space 19 inches by 17½ inches and is pleasing to the eye as regards type, setting, and ornamentation of the initial letter. That there exists a close relationship between this early Sinhalese print and the Sinhalese script of the time is evident from the

5. No. 2440.

designs which fill up lines in which the print is not carried to the end—a feature which also appears in the 18th century Sinhalese manuscripts in the Archives. The "plakkaat" relates to land given out for the cultivation of chillies in the Galle korale and the Matara dessavony. It has not been sealed at the Secretariat, as was usual with proclamations of this type, and as it has not been signed by the Governor and the Secretary to the Government it has the incomplete appearance of a spare copy.

The work turned out in the armoury was in fact so good that the Governor decided that matters were at the stage when the press ought to be formally taken over by Government. Accordingly on 6 September 1737 he announced in council that the Armoury press had three or four months previously—that is a month or two after the printing of the "plakkaat" just mentioned—been moved and given the status of a Government establishment, and that progress with the fitting up of its new quarters had been such that it would be functioning by the end of that month. As he told the Council that a start had been made with casting letters in the now completed moulds, one wonders how the "plakkaats" of 5 April had been printed. There are two possible explanations. The "plakkaat" may have been wrongly dated 5 April 1737; but this explanation is hardly acceptable, since the date has been printed in extenso. Alternatively the technical portion of the statement in Council may not have been correct. A reading of the more or less confused Dutch in which this statement has been recorded in the Council Minutes suggests that this latter explanation is the more likely.<sup>6</sup>

Turning to plans for the future, the Governor moved the appointment of two good linguists, the Rev. Johannes Philippus Wetzelius, the Rector of the Colombo Seminary, who has been mentioned above, and the Maha Mudaliyar, Louis de Saram, who was an elder of the Dutch Reformed Church in Cotta, to supervise future publications. This small committee, which was to be responsible to the Governor only, was to select other Sinhalese scholars to prepare translations of the books which were wanted. These books, and others from time to time written by private individuals, were not to be published until they had been finally approved by the complete Church Council, assisted by the Maha Mudaliyar and certain other Christian Sinhalese scholars. The imprimatur of this distinguished censorship-committee was to be printed on the back of every title page. In later years this procedure was altered to bring it into accord with the procedure in Batavia; but from the earlier productions of the Colombo press it is evident that the rules laid down by the Governor in Council were observed—at any rate at first.

Pending the revision of the Sinhalese version of the Four Gospels prepared by Conijn, who was now dead, some schoolbooks which were urgently required, such as a prayer book and a confession of faith written by Wetzelius, were published in Sinhalese in the years 1737 and 1738. In 1739 there came from the Colombo press the first catechism and prayerbook in "Mallabaarsch," i. e., Tamil. By contrast, the first document printed in Colombo in Dutch of which we know is a "plakkaat"

dated 31st May 1740. It is thus seen that the vernaculars were definitely a matter of primary concern to the Dutch authorities.

A few years later Governor van Imhoff decided that the now well-established printing office should not in future concentrate on the publication of religious works, but should also do general printing for the Government. Before leaving this Island for Batavia he devoted a good deal of time to the setting up of a "Landraad" for the Colombo dessavony, in connexion with which he wrote a special memorandum addressed to Headquarters in Batavia. He recommended among other things that the Colombo Government Press should be used for printing the Landraad's announcements and notifications. The large number of such documents, e. g., "plakkaten", published in print proves that his advice was accepted. The quality of the typography at the Colombo press remained satisfactory throughout the Dutch period, as may be seen from the few specimens preserved in private collections in Ceylon and in the libraries in Holland.

The story of this interesting Dutch official printing establishment in Colombo has not been altogether neglected by 19th century historians. After a period of either depreciation of, or silence about, the former Dutch Government of Ceylon—explicable on the principle that new brooms sweep clean—the writer of an exemplary series of articles in the first volume (1846) of the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch—Rev. J. D. Palm—did at last justice to the educational and religious establishments, including the press, of the Netherlands in this Island. In the first volume (1865) of the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society in Great Britain and Ireland, the late M. P. J. Ondaatje followed this up with a list of the books turned out. Among Dutch publications on the subject, the article by Dr. Th. Ch. L. Wijnmalen, which was probably printed in Amsterdam in 1877 in the "Journal of Oriental Bibliography" which he edited, is of particular interest, because it provides us with a descriptive list of the copies of books printed in Ceylon which he found in public libraries in Holland. The above-mentioned publications, however, deal only with the books, the very few copies of which existing in private collections in this Island are practically inaccessible to the research student. On the other hand, the collection of printed "plakkaten" and other documents in the vernaculars to be found in the Dutch section of the Archives, which is public property, provides a rich vein of material which is open to students of the Sinhalese and Tamil languages and scripts during the so-called "Kandyan period" in the history of Ceylon, and which has hitherto scarcely been touched. Apart from this, the "plakkaaten" offer the student of history economic and social data relating to this Island and its administration which he cannot obtain anywhere else.

A full history of the printing office in Colombo and of the works which it produced during the days of Dutch rule over the coastal regions of Ceylon is beyond the scope of this article. Much more research remains to be done before this most interesting theme can be dealt with in a really satisfactory manner.

## GENEALOGY OF THE SPROULE FAMILY OF CEYLON.

### I.

William Bernard Sproule of Drogheda in Ireland was in the British Army as a Regimental Schoolmaster, and subsequently he was an Assistant Master in the Academy in Colombo. He married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 11th March 1841, Mary Anne Hoffman, and had by her:—

- 1 James Hugh, who follows under II.
- 2 Mary Anne Lucy, born 5th February 1845, married Reverend Crampton and left the Island.

### II.

James Hugh Sproule, Proctor, born 30th March 1843, died 15th December 1907, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 4th January 1866, Gertrude Arabella Piercz, born 30th May 1844, died 30th November 1903, daughter of Thomas Andreas Piercz, Assistant Colonial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, and Bella Emelia Siers. He had by her:—

- 1 Edith Alice, born 3rd December 1867, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 30th June 1898, Eugene Ellis Modder, L.F.P. & S. (Glas.), Assistant Colonial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, Captain, Ceylon Medical Corps, born 22nd April 1855, died 1st November 1913, widower of Elizabeth Sophia Kalenberg, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 157), and son of John William Modder and Caroline Frances Anjon. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, pages 71 and 72).
- 2 Constance Evelyn, born 10th March 1869, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, Henry Kriekenbeek Keyt, son of Frederick Theobald Keyt, M.D. (Aber.) Colonial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, and Henrietta Elizabeth Kriekenbeek.
- 3 Charlotte Lucy, born 17th March 1871, died 17th April 1919, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, John Henricus de Saram, Proctor, son of John Henricus de Saram and Henrietta Van Langenberg.
- 4 James Hugh Collingwood, Barrister-at-Law, born 7th August 1872, married in the Church of St. Dunstan-in-the-West, England, 16th October 1902, Aileen Spicer.
- 5 Percy Julian, B.A., B.L., Puisne Justice, Supreme Court, Straits Settlements, born 4th December 1873, married in St. Mary's Church, Beddington, Surrey, 18th October 1902, Alice Graburn.
- 6 Frank William, who follows under III.
- 7 Gertrude Mabel, born 27th June 1877, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 25th June 1898, Charles Allan Kalenberg, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), L.F.S. (Glas.), Provincial Surgeon, Civil Medical Department, born 5th February 1866, died 15th January 1923, son of Charles William Kalenberg, Proctor, and Eugenie Har-

riet Andréé. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. X, page 15, and Vol. XXV, pages 157 and 158).

- 8 Edward Cyril Lambert, who follows under IV.
- 9 Eileen Muriel, born 18th January 1884, died 26th March 1936, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 18th November 1904, Frederick Nell Daniels, J.P., Crown Proctor, Kurunegalle, Captain, Ceylon Light Infantry, born 9th April 1867, died 29th April 1941, son of Jacobus Valentinus (James Valentine) Daniels and Arnoldina Carolina Eusonia Carron. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, pages 50, 52, and 134).
- 10 Reginald St. Quentin, born 1st November 1885, married and settled in England.

### III.

Frank William Sproule, Provincial Engineer, Public Works Department, born 7th April 1875, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 27th December 1906, Charlotte Jane Garvin, born 22nd October 1879, daughter of Thomas Forrest Garvin, M.B., C.M. (Aber.), F.C.S. (Lond.), Superintendent, General Hospital, Colombo, and Grace Louisa VanderSmagt. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, page 86). He had by her:—

- 1 James Hugh, who follows under V.
- 2 Thomas Ian, born 30th June 1916, killed in an air-raid in London, 8th March 1941.

### IV.

Edward Cyril Lambert (Cox) Sproule, Proctor, born 13th June 1879, died 9th November 1935, married in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 17th June 1907, Minnie Treherne Cooke, born 4th February 1884, died 27th November 1942, daughter of Nathaniel Ernest Cooke, B.A. (Cantab.), Barrister-at-Law, Crown Counsel, and Grace Treherne de Saram. He had by her:—

- 1 Grace Sheila Gertrude, born 27th July 1908, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 21st April 1930, Arthur Douglas Raffel, Proctor and Notary Public, born 29th November 1900, son of Arthur Wilfred Raffel and Alice Rosalind de Waas.
- 2 Patrick Cyril Bernard, who follows under VI.
- 3 Ernest Elton Lambert, born 7th July 1920, died 19th October 1922.

### V.

James Hugh (Hamish) Sproule, L.M.S. (Ceylon), L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (Lond), born 9th March 1909, married in St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 31st October 1938, Geraldine Isabel Louise de Saram, born 11th December 1916, daughter of Frederick de Saram, Proctor and Notary Public, and Myra Loos. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. IX, page 100). He had by her:—

- 1 Suzanne Isabel, born 19th December 1939.
- 2 Michael Frederick, born 13th February 1941.



## VI.

Patrick Cyril Bernard Sproule, Inspector of Police, born 9th October 1909, killed in a motor accident, 14th November 1937, married in St. Paul's Church, Kandy, 17th April 1933, Peggy Noel Laurette Bawa, born 4th November 1911, daughter of Alfred James Bawa, Planter, and Martha Elaine de Zilwa Van Twest. He had by her:—

1 Patricia Diane, born 15th February 1934.

NOTE:—The following lines appeared in "The Times of Ceylon" of 6th December 1942, and refer to Minnie Treherne Sproule, mentioned under IV supra:

### Mrs. Sproule of Kandy

I picture her still, as she always will be  
Working and praying for the plain "you and me"  
Surrounded by eggs, cakes and baskets and boys,  
Smiling, encouraging, and full of life's joys.

--:-- --:-- --:--

With her heart full of love and a desire to be  
A mother, a sister to the plain "you and me",  
She gave hope to thousands and served to the end  
God knows we all loved her, The Services' Friend.

--:-- --:-- --:--

Through pain and grey clouds, and sorrows long past  
She smiled and continued in faith to the last,  
And that torch which she lighted will never go out  
For she planted the seeds which grow and kill doubt.

--:-- --:-- --:--

Yes, I picture her still, as she always will be  
Working and praying for the plain "you and me"  
I picture her too, at peace now, and rest  
Because in her life, she gave of her best.

"J.A."

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Proceedings of the Thirty-fifth Annual General Meeting of the Dutch Burgher Union, held in the Union Hall on Saturday, 27th March, 1943, at 6-30 p.m.

The President, Mr. H. K. de Kretser, occupied the Chair, and there were about 130 members present.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, after which the minutes of the 34th Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

### Presidential Address.

The President then addressed the meeting. He reviewed the work of the various Standing Committees and eulogised the services performed by them. He referred to the various outstanding events that had occurred during the year, such as the new circumstances brought about by the War, and the steps taken to meet them, the presence of Dutch visitors and others in our midst, and the affiliation scheme. He emphasised the necessity of the Union keeping more in touch with the outstation members. Finally he paid a tribute to the untiring labours of Mr. C. A. Speldewinde and Mr. E. A. vanderStraaten, I.S.O.

Mr. de Kretser then vacated the Chair and Mr. J. R. Toussaint was proposed to it *pro tem*.

### Election of Office Bearers and Committee.

Mr. J. R. Toussaint proposed the re-election of Mr. H. K. de Kretser as President for the year 1943. He referred to the active part taken by Mr. de Kretser, ably assisted by Mrs. de Kretser, in every branch of the Union's work, notwithstanding the fact that the year was one of the busiest in the annals of the Union. He expressed his conviction that Mr. de Kretser would do even better during his second term of office. The motion having been seconded by Mr. D. V. Altendorff, I.S.O., and carried with acclamation, Mr. de Kretser re-occupied the Chair and thanked the members for that proof of their confidence in him.

Dr. V. R. Schokman proposed a vote of appreciation of the services of the retiring office-bearers. This was seconded by Mr. D. V. Altendorff and Messrs. Speldewinde and vanderStraaten expressed their thanks.

Dr. V. R. Schokman proposed and Dr. R. L. Spittel seconded the election of Mr. F. R. Loos as Honorary Secretary.

Mr. R. L. Brohier proposed as an amendment the name of Mr. W. J. F. LaBrooy, and this was seconded by Mr. E. A. vanderStraaten I. S. O.

On a show of hands being taken, a majority was found to be in favour of Mr. F. R. Loos, who was accordingly elected Honorary Secretary.

Mr. C. A. Speldewinde proposed and Mr. E. A. vanderStraaten seconded the election of Mr. A. L. B. Ferdinand as Honorary Treasurer.

As an amendment, Dr. V. R. Schokman proposed the name of Mr. O. L. de Kretser, Jr., but on Mr. de Kretser withdrawing, Mr. Ferdinand was unanimously elected Honorary Treasurer.

Mr. R. S. V. Poulier proposed and it was duly seconded that the following gentlemen do form the Committee of Management for 1943:—*Colombo*: Mr. D. V. Altendorff, I. S. O., Mr. L. E. Blazé, O. B. E., Dr. J. R. Blazé, Mr. R. L. Brohier, Dr. Frank Bartholomeusz, Dr. H. S. Christoffelsz, Mr. A. E. Christoffelsz, Mr. C. L. Beling, Mr. O. L. de Kretser Jr., Dr. Sam de Vos, Mr. O. P. Brohier, Mr. H. L. Bartholomeusz, Dr. H. A. Dirckze, Mr. H. E. de Kretser, Mr. G. H. Gratiaen, Hon. Mr. A. E. Keuneman, K. C., Mr. F. E. Loos, Mr. A. J. H. Martin, Mr. J. A. Martensz, Dr. V. R. Schokman, Mr. C. C. Schokman, Dr. R. L. Spittel, C.B.E., Mr. C. A. Speldewinde, Mr. J. R. Toussaint, Mr. W. J. F. LaBrooy, Mr. W. J. A. VanLangenberg, Mr. E. A. VanderStraaten, I.S.O., Mr. J. J. Weinman, Mr. G. A. Willé, M. S. C., Mr. H. Willé. *Outstation*: Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz, Dr. E. S. Brohier, Dr. E. L. Christoffelsz, Dr. C. F. Deutrom, Hon. Mr. O. L. de Kretser, Mr. H. C. de Vos, Mr. F. W. E. de Vos, Mr. Waco de Niese, Mr. G. V. Grenier, Col. A. C. B. Jonklaas, Mr. E. G. Jonklaas, Mr. G. P. Keuneman, M.B.E., Mr. H. R. Kriekenbeek, Dr. H. U. Leembruggen, Dr. H. Ludovici.

An amended list was proposed by Mr. Fred Loos and duly seconded. The proposers of the two lists then conferred with the Honorary Secretary, and agreement was reached, that 29 members on Mr. Poulier's list should serve on the Committee, the names of Messrs. G. H. Gratiaen and L. Thomasz being proposed for the last place on the list. A vote was accordingly taken, and Mr. G. H. Gratiaen was declared elected by a large majority.

Mr. Lawrie MuthuKrishna was re-appointed Auditor on the same fee as before.

### Proposed Amendment of By-laws.

Pursuant to notice, Mr. O. L. de Kretser, Jr. proposed and Dr. Sam de Vos seconded, "That by-law xvii (5)—'No liquor of any description shall be brought into the Union premises by any individual member for consumption on the premises' be suspended for the duration of the War". The following spoke in favour of the motion:—Dr. V. R. Schokman, Mr. Douglas Toussaint, and Mr. F. C. W. Van Geyzel, while those who opposed the motion were Hon. Mr. A. E. Keuneman, Hon. Mr. O. L. de Kretser, Mr. J. A. Martensz, Mr. Walter Grenier, Mr. R. L. Brohier, Mr. B. R. Blazé and the President. Dr. R. L. Spittel who also spoke proposed to remain neutral. The motion on being put to the meeting was lost, 37 voting for and 69 against it.

A collection was taken in aid of Social Service Funds and realised Rs. 167-50.

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

## Thirty-Fifth Annual Report

Your Committee have much pleasure in submitting the following report for the year 1942:—

**Membership.**—The number of members on the roll at the end of the year under review was 474, as compared with 433 at the end of the previous year. The net increase of 41 members is arrived at as follows:—

At 31st December 1941	...	433
Add new members	...	57
old members rejoined	...	5
		<hr/> 495
Less resigned	...	8
struck off under Rule 6 (c)	...	8
died	...	5
		<hr/> 21
		<hr/> 474

This total includes 68 lady members and 80 temporary residents in the Island.

<b>Colombo Members.</b>	<b>1941</b>	<b>1942</b>
Paying Rs. 2-50	...	63
" Re. 1	...	81
" Cts. 50	...	148
		<hr/> 136
<b>Outstation Members.</b>		
Paying Re. 1	...	57
" Cts. 50	...	72
Out of the Island	...	12
		<hr/> 13
	<hr/> 433	<hr/> 474

In July the Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands Forces in the East, Sir Conrad Helfrich, K.C.B., and the Officers of the Netherlands Forces in Ceylon accepted an invitation to be Honorary Members of the Union during their stay in the Island.

**General Committee and Office-bearers.**—Twelve Committee Meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 19. Messrs. C. E. Foenander and C. L. Beling were elected to fill two vacancies. Mr. O. L. de Kretser (jr.) was appointed Secretary of the Entertainment Committee in place of Mr. Fred Loos who resigned. Mr. J. R. Toussaint acted as Secretary of the Genealogical Committee for a part of the year.

**Standing Committee for Ethical and Literary Purposes.**—The system of monthly talks on subjects of general interest was continued throughout the year and produced some very good papers, although

on occasions the attendance was so poor as to raise serious doubts as to whether the general body of members was interested in this branch of the Union's work.

The **Journal** and the **Bulletin** made their appearance regularly and contained much information of value. The cost of publishing the **Journal** for 1942 was Rs. 572-73. Of this sum Rs. 284-73 was defrayed from the annual subscriptions and the balance Rs. 288 was charged to Donation Account.

Many valuable additions were made to the **Reference Library**, and a catalogue of books was published in the **Bulletin** for December 1942. The collection is still far from complete, and gifts of books from members will be greatly appreciated.

Owing to war conditions, it was not possible to maintain a regular supply of magazines in the **Reading Room**, but what was available, supplemented by gifts from members, was sufficient to meet all demands.

**Standing Committee for Purposes of Social Service.**—Twelve meetings were held during the year, with an average attendance of 10. The total receipts for the Social Service Fund during the year amounted to Rs. 2,905-98 and the payments therefrom to Rs. 2,922-56. Regular help was given to 39 persons during the year. An analysis of the receipts and payments appears in the statement of accounts. Our thanks are due to the "Desert Rats", a concert party of the R.A.F., who provided the programme for a concert in aid of Social Service Funds.

**Standing Committee for Purposes of Genealogical Research.**—Nine meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 5. The number of applications dealt with was 61, nearly half being from members of the Dutch Community temporarily resident in the Island.

**Standing Committee for Purposes of Social Recreation, Entertainment and Sport.**—Members interested in this branch of the Union's activities were well catered for this year. In addition to the usual functions, there were an "At Home" to welcome His Excellency Vice-Admiral Sir Conrad Helfrich, K.C.B., and a Dutch Tea at which the Honorary Members were the guests of the Union. The Honorary Members were the hosts at two very enjoyable dances. There were also a musical evening provided by the Hawaiian Band of a Dutch ship and two special functions at which the members of the Dutch Forces in the Island were entertained.

The amount to the credit of the Entertainment Fund at the end of the year was Rs. 88-33.

The work of this Committee was greatly facilitated by the gift of a valuable Radiogram from the officers of one of the Dutch ships.

It was decided that the scope of the activities of this Committee should be the subject of review by a special sub-committee and proposals have since been formulated with a view to using the activities of this Committee to remind members of the aims and objects of the Union.

**Standing Committee for Increasing the Membership.**—This Committee met three times during the year. An attempt has been

made to complete a list of persons eligible for membership in the Union.

**Standing Committee for Historical Manuscripts and Monuments.**—This Committee has been responsible during the year for the production of the unique collection of Coats-of-Arms which adorn the walls of the main Reception Room.

**Standing Committee for Purposes of Education.**—This Committee held 4 meetings during the year with an average attendance of 8.

A special fund has been opened to enable the Committee to carry out their aims and objects as set out in By-law XIII, which was recently added to the By-laws of the Union.

The sum of Rs. 250 standing to the credit of this fund at the end of the year represents the donation received from one member. A general appeal is at present being made to all members and it is hoped that the response will be generous.

This fund should not be confused with the **Vocation Fund** referred to elsewhere in this report. The monies in this fund will be used to help children of the Community requiring assistance at any stage of their scholastic career. The Vocation Fund is reserved for helping, by way of loans, students of proved ability to enter professions or specialised vocations for which their talents and training are best adapted.

A determined effort was made to bring home to members the full benefits of the **Schneider Scholarships** at St. Thomas' College, and it is encouraging to report that both scholarships that were available for competition at the end of the year under review, among candidates recommended by the Union, have been won. New scholarships will no doubt be available at the end of 1943.

**Agricultural Scholarship.**—Through the generosity of a member, a lad is now going through a course at the School of Agriculture.

**Sub-Committee for Building Shares.**—The Articles of Association of the D.B.U. Building Co., Ltd., have now been amended to permit of shares being held by the D.B.U. Board as Trustees of the Union. Shares so held now total 67.

A sum of Rs. 1225-61 is available for the purchase of shares.

Although this Committee was not able to meet during the year, arrangements have been made for the purchase of 21 shares for the Union and the transfer to the Union of twenty shares which the heirs of the late Mr. C. E. de Vos and Mrs. M. E. Loos (widow of the late Mr. Herman A. Loos) intend to gift to the Union.

**St. Nicolaas' Fete.**—This annual festival was celebrated in the usual manner, but the presence of our Dutch friends, a special scheme of decorations and the singing of Dutch songs, including a song of welcome to St. Nicolaas, and *Het Lieve Vaderland*, gave the Fete a distinctive note. Subscriptions collected to meet the expenses amounted to Rs. 1056/-. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 943-45 was spent. 146 children received gifts, as compared with 128 in the previous year.

**Vocation Fund.**—The position of this fund is as follows:—

In Bank on 1-1-42	...	...	Rs. 3686-74
Paid in during year	...	...	800-00
Interest	...	...	74-92

In Bank on 31-12-42	...	...	Rs. 4061-66
In promises	...	...	Rs. 1150-00

Rs. 5211-66

No payments were made during the year, but arrangements have just been made to help a deserving case.

**Loos Legacy.**—The interest accrued during the year amounted to Rs. 175-28, and Rs. 150-00 was used to meet the cost of the Christmas hampers for needy members of the Community. The balance to the credit of the fund, which is to be used for Social Service purposes, is Rs. 5858-94.

**Speldewinde Trust Fund.**—The balance to the credit of this fund, the interest of which is to be used for educational purposes, is Rs. 2514-00.

**Beling Memorial Fund.**—The amount to the credit of this fund at the end of the year was Rs. 564-45; less Rs. 30-00, being the amount spent during last year to help a young lady student who was following a course of Art at the Technical College.

**Arndt Trust Fund.**—This new fund was created this year by a donation of Rs. 2000-00 received from Dr. and Mrs. E. W. Arndt in memory of Dr. Arndt's parents. The money is to be held in trust and the income used by the Social Service Committee towards helping widows and orphans or any deserving case. The money is deposited in the Ceylon Savings Bank. Interest for the year amounted to Rs. 15-00.

**Dr. de Hoedt Medical Scholarship Fund.**—Your Committee has pleasure in publishing for your information the following report received from the Trustees of this Fund:—"Four students were assisted by the Fund. During the year one passed the Final Examination in Class I and another the Second Professional, Part I. Assistance to one student was discontinued. Medical College Fees paid during the year amounted to Rs. 695-00.

The cash in Bank on 31st December 1942 was Rs. 1376-31. Funds of the Trust amounting to Rs. 15,000-00 have been invested in mortgage of house property at 6%."

**Affiliation.**—In terms of Rule 10 of the Constitution and in accordance with rules framed by the Committee, the D. B. U. Tennis Club and the D. B. Comrades were affiliated to the Union in April 1942. Owing to paper control, the annual reports and statements of accounts of these bodies are not printed with this report. Copies are available at the office for the information of members.

**Constitution and By-laws.**—During the year it became necessary to reprint the Constitution and By-laws, and advantage was taken of the fact to bring the By-laws into line with amendments that had previously been made in the Constitution and to embody in them certain decisions made by the Committee from time to time.

**War Funds.**—During the year a donation of Rs. 100-00 was sent from Union funds to the Send-a-Plane Fund and the following donations made of monies collected from members by circulation of subscription papers:—

Gloucester Fund	...	...	Rs. 207-50
Ceylonese Forces Gift Fund	...	...	Rs. 105-00

**Finance.**—Eleven meetings of the Committee were held during the year with an average attendance of 6 members.

The accounts for the year, duly audited and submitted herewith, disclose an excess of Income over Expenditure of Rs. 1958-39.

It will be observed that there has been a marked improvement in the financial position, as compared with the figures of the previous year.

The Treasurer desires once again to express his personal thanks to all members for their ready support and co-operation.

C. A. SPELDEWINDE,  
*Hony. Secretary.*

13th March, 1943.

# Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended the 31st December, 1942.

## THE DUTCH BURGER UNION OF CEYLON, COLOMBO.

### SOCIAL SERVICE CONTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

#### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended the 31st December, 1942.

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
		Rs. cts.			Rs. cts.
To Balance at beginning	...	1,481 34	By Collector's Commission on		
„ Sundry Contributions	...	2,844 68	Contributions collected	...	8 10
„ Dividends on :—			„ Postal Charges	...	19 56
29 Shares of The Dutch Burgher Union			„ Printing and Stationery	...	8 75
Building Co., Ltd.		48 50	„ Sundry Disbursements	...	2,886 15
„ Interest from 'Loos Legacy'	...	150 00	„ Balance at close	...	1,464 76
„ Proceeds of Concerts	...	302 85			
„ Refund of Loan	...	65 00			
		Rs. 4,387 32			Rs. 4,387 32

Certified as correct:

LAWRIE MUTHU KRISHNA  
Public Auditor.

Certified as correct:

E. A. VANDER STRAATEN  
Honorary Treasurer.



# THE DUTCH BURGER UNION OF CEYLON. COLOMBO.

Less Depreciation at 10% per annum 29 23 263 07

8,414 74

Excess of Income over Expenditure

1,958 39 10,873 13

## 2 Billiard Tables:

As per last Balance Sheet 2,000 00  
Less Depreciation at 10% per annum 200 00 1,800 00

## Furniture and Fixtures:

As per last Balance Sheet 1,243 51  
Add Additions 79 50 1,323 01

Deduct Sale of old Radiogram 26 00  
" Depreciation at 10% per annum 124 35 1,173 66

## 1 G.L.C. Radiogram

32,705 53

Rs. 32,705 53

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing Balance Sheet has been properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct record of the state of affairs of the Dutch Burger Union of Ceylon according to the books of accounts and the information and explanations given me, and subject to my report of this date:

LAWRIE MUTHU KRISHNA,  
Public Auditor.

Certified as correct:

E. A. VANDER STRAATEN,  
Honorary Treasurer.

26th February, 1943.

## NOTES OF EVENTS.

*Summary of Proceedings of the General Committee, 15th. December, 1942.*—The following new members were elected:—Mrs. C. L. van Langenberg, Messrs. F. Nieuwenhuizen, T. E. Aldons, R. C. I. Andree, J. H. Koch, B. W. Jansz, R. S. O. Stork, S. Wielhouwer, J. Blohland, M. Muller, R. J. Koelman, J. H. Dubach, D. Smit and M. Lezer.

*19th. January, 1943.*—(1) A vote of condolence was passed on the death of Mr. T. K. Beven. (2) The Secretary reported that C. G. D. Jonklaas and S. J. H. Schokman had been awarded Schneider Scholarships. (3) The following new members were elected:—Messrs. E. A. Albrecht, N. J. Leembruggen, E. C. T. LaBrooy and L. G. Maartensz, *Re-enrolled*:—Messrs. D. de La Harpe and W. D. Martin.

*16th. February, 1943.*—(1) Resolved that the report of the Sub-Committee on the recreational activities of the Union be printed and supplied to all members, and that an Educational Supplement of the Bulletin be published. (2) The following new members were elected:—Miss U. K. A. Alwis, Miss Ruth M. Christoffelsz, Mr. D. W. Schokman, and Mr. J. E. Bruijniz. *Re-enrolled*: Mr. C. M. Koch.

*16th March, 1943.*—(1) The Secretary reported that Mrs. M. E. Loos had gifted ten Building Company shares to the Union. (2) The following new members were elected:—Messrs. J. Pruis, M. H. Bloemhard, H. A. Verhouteren, A. O. Chevalier, H. Weehuizen, J. P. Jansen, G. E. Direkze, S. C. K. R. Misso, C. R. C. Meier, H. D. Jansz, Mrs. A. G. Kriekenbeek, and Mrs. Agnes Martin. *Re-enrolled*: Mr. H. A. R. Paulusz.

*6th April, 1943.* Mr. W. J. F. LaBrooy was elected Assistant Secretary and Mr. A. L. B. Ferdinand was elected Bar Secretary.

## D. B. U. Journal

A new volume of the Journal—Vol: xxxiii—begins with the issue for July. Members are kindly requested to forward their subscription of Rs. 5 to Mr. J. R. Toussaint, Clifford Place, Bambalapitiya.

## NOTES AND QUERIES.

*Introduction of Leprosy into Ceylon:* With reference to the suggestion, made by one of those present at the talk given by Dr. Frank Bartholomeusz in the Union Hall on "The Story of Hendala," that Leprosy was introduced into Ceylon by either the Portuguese or the Dutch, Dr. J. R. Blaze contributes the following interesting note:—

With regard to the alleged introduction of Leprosy into Ceylon by the Dutch, not only was this disease, as you have pointed out, prevalent in Ceylon long before the Dutch period, but it was almost unknown in the Netherlands from the Seventeenth Century. It is therefore doubtful whether, at the time of the Dutch Conquest of Ceylon, there were in the Netherlands any lepers by whom the disease could have been introduced into Ceylon.

Leprosy was probably introduced into Europe in the first century B. C. by Romans returning from campaigns in the East, and spread by them to the rest of Europe. "There is no proof of the presence of this disease in Europe before the century preceeding the Christian era, but by the eighth century A. D. it had become sufficiently diffuse for precautions to be taken and enactments made regulating the marriage of lepers, and appointing places for their reception. The increase in the number of leper houses was rapid." (H. Harold Scott, *History of Tropical Medicine*, 1939, Vol. i., pages 580, 581). "The prevalence seems to have reached its height in Western Europe about A. D. 1200, but (it) was common for the next 200 years, during and after which it declined and by the seventeenth century had almost died out. (ibid, page 572).

It may be added that India was a much nearer reservoir of the disease, and a more convenient source of contagion. "Leprosy is thought to have existed in India for at least 3,000 years; certainly it is mentioned in Atreya's Rig Veda Sanita under the name *Kushta*, in the fourteenth-fifteenth century B. C., and from the writings of Charaka and Susruta it was common in the country in the seventh century B. C." (ibid, page 587), that is, not long before Vijaya is said to have left India for Ceylon. It is therefore almost certain that Leprosy was brought into Ceylon from India. Even today there are more lepers in India than in any other country in the world.

— 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.*