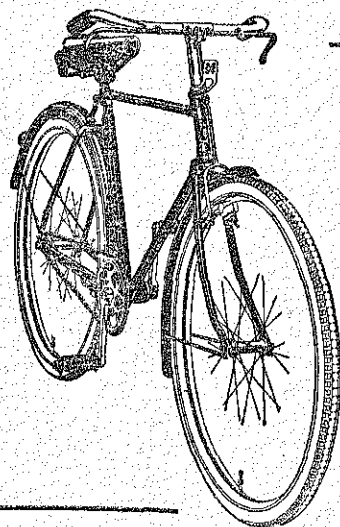


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VOL. XXXIV.]

APRIL, 1945.

[No. 4.

# Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.



"Eendracht maakt Macht"

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*Contributions are invited from members on subjects calculated  
to be of interest to the Union. MSS. must be written on one side  
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## Journal of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon.

VOL. XXXIV.]

FEBRUARY, 1945.

[No. 4.]

### THE REFORM OF THE CONSTITUTION.

[We give below a copy of the Memorandum presented to the Soulbury Commission on behalf of the Dutch Burgher Union. A deputation consisting of Mr. G. A. Wille, Mr. H. K. de Kretser, Dr. V. R. Schokman, Mr. J. R. Toussaint, Mr. G. H. Gratiaen, and Mr. Douglas Toussaint was appointed to appear before the Commission and give oral evidence, which they did on the 23rd of January, 1945. Mr. G. A. Wille acted as spokesman and elaborated the points set out in the Memorandum, while Dr. V. R. Schokman supplemented his remarks in regard to matters on which the Commission required further information.—Ed.]

The Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon was established in January 1938 to conserve the racial and general interests of the lawful descendants of those Dutch Colonists who remained in Ceylon after the capitulation of February, 1796. Throughout the last hundred and fifty years the Dutch Burgher Community have freely associated with and usually identified itself with other Ceylonese communities in public affairs, and they have been regarded as part of the permanent population of the Island. They have been conspicuously loyal to the British Crown, as was proved, for example, in the War of 1914—18, when so many of their number volunteered for service overseas.

This Community has also taken a leading part in the social and political development of the Island. It formed at first a necessary and valuable link between the new British rulers and the Sinhalese and Tamil inhabitants. The spread of higher education, closer contact with European thought and industry, and the more recent rise and growth of national aspirations in the other communities have, as was to be expected, combined to throw the Burgher community somewhat into the background, but they continue to maintain their identity and to fill a not unimportant place in the Island.

The claims now made for extended political power compel the whole Burgher Community to examine their position in regard to these claims, and to see that their interests do not suffer. They would not deny any community any lawful privilege to which it feels itself entitled, but they realize that their community should not be overlooked in any extension of political privileges in a new Constitution.

They are generally in favour of the new political development now proposed, and would submit the following observations on particular points.

**The Franchise.** The introduction of universal adult franchise can be traced back to the Report of the Donoughmore Commissioners and the Ceylon (State Council Elections) Order in Council. In considering the question, therefore, as to whether adult franchise should be continued, or as to whether proposals should be made for its curtailment, we have considered it pertinent to enquire into the reasons which led the Commissioners to suggest conditions for the grant of the franchise which, as embodied in the Ceylon (State Council Elections) Order in Council, resulted in the enfranchisement of the masses.

In the forefront of their reasons the Commissioners placed the principle that a further grant of responsible government could not be considered unless that government was made fully representative of the great body of the people. The Island is once again on the threshold of reforms designed to confer "full responsible government under the Crown in all matters of civil administration", and we feel therefore that if the question of the franchise were judged purely from the constitutional point of view, any suggestion that the grant of full responsible government should be accompanied by the imposition of conditions under which the franchise would be exercised by a smaller proportion of the population would not be entertained.

Apart from this principle, the Donoughmore Commissioners were influenced by considerations of expediency, and recommended an extension of the franchise in the belief that a wider franchise would (1) expedite the passing of such social and industrial legislation as finds a place in the Statute Book of all progressive countries, and (2) diminish corruption and manipulation of the electorate. To prove that the hopes of the Commissioners in the first regard have been justified, it would suffice to point to the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, the Shops Ordinance, and the Factories Ordinance; to prove that their hopes in the second regard have been belied, it is sufficient to refer to the sale and trafficking in ballot papers, and the cases of impersonation and of intimidation of voters at elections which have formed the subject of election petitions. These evils and malpractices are not, however, in our opinion sufficient to base a case for the recall of the political privileges granted to the masses, particularly as that demand does not receive the support of all the communities. The remedy would appear to lie in other directions, that is to say, in the devising of machinery calculated to reduce these evils and malpractices to a minimum.

We have considered the suggestion that a literacy qualification, such as ability to read and write English, Sinhalese or Tamil, should be imposed. This same suggestion was made before the Donoughmore Commissioners, and was dismissed among other reasons on the ground of the difficulty of ensuring that the test was a real one. With this expression of opinion we respectfully agree.

The recommendation we make therefore is that, while deprecating the premature enfranchisement of the masses and the conditions brought about by that enfranchisement, we make no suggestions directed towards restricting the franchise, but we press for the introduction of machinery designed to secure its better working, and calculated to reduce to a minimum the evils and malpractices which it has brought about.

**Qualifications of Councillors.** Under the existing constitution, membership of the State Council is open to all persons who are registered as voters, and who are not subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in Article 9 of the Ceylon (State Council) Order in Council. A property qualification, i.e., the ownership or occupation of property of a specified value, is not a pre-requisite for membership, although a literacy qualification in the form of ability to speak, read and write the English language is required.

The imposition of a property qualification would not, in our opinion, be in keeping with democratic ideas and principles, nor is the imposition of a higher literacy qualification in our opinion desirable. We are of opinion that the existing literacy qualification should be retained.

**Representation.** Representation under the Ceylon (Legislative Council) Order in Council of 1923 was partly territorial and partly communal, and the Donoughmore Commissioners, after surveying the situation, expressed the opinion that communal representation effectively prevented the development of a national or corporate spirit. They recommended therefore that, subject to the powers of the Governor to nominate to the State Council, after a General Election, a limited number of unofficial members, in order to make the Council more generally representative of the national interests, representation should be mainly territorial, and that constituencies might be delimited, with due regard to concentrations of particular races in certain areas, so as to afford opportunity for territorial election of minority members.

The recommendations of the Donoughmore Commissioners were given effect to in this regard, but history has belied their expectations. Elections to the State Council, during the two periods of its existence, have resulted in the return of a preponderant number of members of the Sinhalese community, and in the concentration of legislative and executive power in their hands; voting at elections has been on religious and racial lines; and communal tension is today at its highest. The grant of "full responsible government under the Crown in all matters of internal civil administration" is contemplated; and if this grant is to ensure to the minority communities an effectual voice in the government of the country, and one which is not only to be raised in protest, we think that a scheme of representation should be devised which would ensure that there would not be an undue preponderance of one community in the legislature.

Turning to our community, we would observe that the Reformed Legislative Council of 1924 provided us with 2 elected seats in a

Council which included 84 elected members, in addition to which one Burgher was nominated, whereas, under the present constitution, we have had to depend on nomination under the provisions of the Order in Council for securing representation in the Legislature. The single seat allotted to the Community has been considered grossly inadequate, and we view with disquietude any provision which enables the Governor to appoint to the Council members to represent unrepresented interests after an election has taken place.

In the event of the Council under the new Constitution consisting of 100 members, we ask for (1) the creation of a Burgher electorate similar to that which obtained under the Legislative Council Ordinance No. 13 of 1910, and (2) the election to the Council by this electorate of 5 members from its number.

**Legislature.** We have considered the question as to the form of the Legislature under the proposed new constitution, that is to say, as to whether it should be unicameral or bicameral. In doing so we have borne in mind the fact that the role of a Second Chamber is recognized in modern democracies as being essentially subordinate to the First Chamber or People's House. Notwithstanding this, we consider the establishment of a Second Chamber desirable on two grounds, namely (1) as serving to interpose such delay in the passing of a measure into law as is sufficient to enable public opinion to express itself thereon, and (2) enabling the representation of varied interests—this latter object being achieved (a) by the Second Chamber consisting of representatives elected by professional, commercial and agricultural associations and bodies, as well as by local authorities, etc., and (b) by the nomination of persons on ground of special merit.

**The Executive.** We deal under this heading with two questions, namely (a) the introduction of a Cabinet System, and (b) the place of minorities in it.

Under the existing constitution, executive power is vested in Council sitting in executive session, and in the Executive Committees into which members divide themselves on the assembly of a new Council. While we have no knowledge as regards the working of the system, we would point out that it has been strongly criticised by Sir Andrew Caldecott in his reforms despatch dated 18th June, 1937, on grounds which we have not thought it necessary to reproduce. We have assumed however that a strong case will be made out for the abolition of the Committee System, and for the introduction of the Cabinet System of Government on the British model, where the King selects his Chief Minister from the political party in power, and the Chief Minister selects his colleagues, who together constitute the Cabinet, and are charged with the general direction and control of government.

In considering the question as to what our attitude should be regarding the suggested introduction of the Cabinet System, we cannot do better than preface our remarks by referring to the observations made by the Donoughmore Commissioners as to the difficulty of introducing a purely parliamentary system of government on the British model in the absence of a party system and a balance of parties. This objection, to our mind, still holds, but if the system is to be introduced, we would call

attention to the necessity of introducing the system with such modifications as are designed to suit local conditions, and as are calculated to ensure that the claims of the minorities to hold ministerial office do not pass unheeded. The history of the not distant past, when the formation of a Pan-Sinhalese Ministry was planned and executed under the existing Constitution, notwithstanding the presence of minority members on each Executive Committee, inclines us to the view that the minorities cannot hope that, with the introduction of the Cabinet System of Government, on the British model, a political convention will become established, as in the case of the Dominion of Canada, which recognises the claim of the minorities to a share of the ministerial appointments, and also for the insertion, in the Order in Council, of a provision requiring that at least one-third of the members of the Cabinet should be members of the minority communities, the right of the Prime Minister to choose his colleagues being conceded subject to this proviso.

**The Public Services.** The Donoughmore Commissioners, in dealing with the question of the extent to which the Executive Committees envisaged in their report would be responsible for appointments in Departments under their control, recommended that in the case of all appointments and promotions made by the Governor personally, or subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the Committee should be entrusted with the responsibility of recommending to the Governor the candidate whom they considered best qualified to fill it in cases where the appointment was of a class falling within the purview of an Executive Committee. In so doing they expressed the hope that this function would encourage in the members of the Executive Committees a sense of the high responsibility which they would be called upon to discharge, and that the sense of this responsibility would lead to the growth of a tradition which would not admit of the exercise of political or communal pressure in support of particular candidates for appointment to or promotion in the Public Service. To assist the Governor in the matter of making appointments and promotions, and to protect members of Council from the pressure of their constituents, they advised the setting up of a Public Services Commission. It is admitted on all sides that the Public Services should be placed beyond the pale of political influence, and we therefore favour the establishment of an independent Public Services Commission. We suggest that it should consist of 5 members, whose appointment and remuneration should be subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the Chairman being selected from abroad and the remaining four members being selected locally, so as to secure the representation on the Commission of a member of each community. Members of Council and serving public officers should not of course be eligible for election.

We consider that the members of the Commission should be full time officers in order that they may bring to the discharge of their functions the thought and care demanded. We also suggest that there should be a Judicial Commission corresponding to the Public Services Commission.

F. R. LOOS,  
*Honorary Secretary.*

KENNETH DE KRETZER,  
*President.*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

[We reproduce below the Address delivered by Mr. H. K. de Kretser, the President, at the Annual General Meeting on 24th March. Owing to want of space, the proceedings have been held over for the next issue.—Ed.]

"Once again it is my pleasure and privilege, before moving the adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts, to briefly review the work we have done during the past year. As you are doubtless aware we have a Committee system of working, so I propose to briefly tell you what the more important Committees have done during this period.

**The Literary Committee.**

The work of this Committee was again entrusted to Mr. H. E. Grenier, and he arranged for some excellent talks during the year, and I am pleased to say the attendance was on the whole good and a great improvement on the previous years. I wish to make special mention in this connection of the talks of that gifted speaker, Captain W. R. Bett, R.A.M.C., which were novel, attractive and exceedingly interesting. All the talks we had were very instructive but insufficient in themselves. We must organize debates, reading circles and so forth. A little time ago we had informal circle discussions on various subjects and they were very interesting but as usual they gradually dropped off for want of support, so I would once again appeal to the younger members in particular, in their own interests, to come forward and take part in the activities of this Committee.

**The Social Service Committee**

As in previous years this Committee continues its excellent work under the guiding hand of Mrs. A. L. B. Ferdinand. At every meeting fresh applications for help were considered and the Committee is doing its best to allay in some small measure the hardship that is being experienced by so many. With prices of commodities soaring ceiling high I am afraid there is a great deal of suffering and misery among our poor, so I earnestly appeal to the whole Union to do something tangible to help. When I was in Germany I was very struck at the very practical way money is collected for the poor. Periodically a house to house collecting campaign takes place and each householder is expected to give to charity what would normally be spent that day on food—the members of each household depriving themselves of as much food as possible that day, to bring home to them what it is to be without food. I pass on this suggestion on self-sacrifice to you in the hope that you too would put it into practice. It is an excellent idea and has a great psychological effect. A special feature this year were the treats given to the pensioners, one by Dr. and Mrs. Sam de Vos and another by my wife. I wish to gratefully acknowledge these kindly gestures: the pensioners greatly enjoyed these unexpected treats and what is more this enabled the members of the Committee to meet the pensioners and find out more about them.

As usual hampers were distributed at Christmas both here and in Kandy and were of course greatly appreciated. When I tell you that each hamper cost about Rs. 10/- as against Rs 3/- or so pre-war it will be realized that for our Social Work at present we require more than double we used to spend before. One hears of how fearfully expensive textiles are—the prices are of course beyond the reach of these poor folk so I appeal to all of you to make a parcel of any old clothes you may have and send them to our office addressed to Mrs. A. L. B. Ferdinand for distribution—these gifts are very greatly appreciated.

**The Entertainment Committee.**

Although perhaps there were not quite so many functions as in the last year or two yet we had quite a number of entertainments and dances. Mr. Fred Loos, our popular Union Secretary, was Secretary of this Committee as well, and we all know how he enters heart and soul into anything he undertakes. Among our major events mention may be made of our New Year's Dance, and the dance in honour of Her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina's birthday which was held instead of our usual August Race dance, and then we had for the 2nd year our Founder's day celebration and lastly quite recently we were "At Home" to Lord Soulbury and his colleagues.

You will remember that I remarked in my last year's review that we should devote more attention on St. Nicolaas' Day to the enjoyment of the Children than to the grown ups, and I am pleased to say that we did this on the latest occasion by the inclusion of a Cinema Show and more outdoor amusements. We seem to be so dogged with bad weather for this celebration that it is for consideration as to whether we should not hold this function in some more spacious building. I wish to mention in passing that in recent years, owing to liberal subscriptions, we were able to build up a small reserve, called the St. Nicolaas' Fund, but we had to very reluctantly use up all our balances this year owing to the exorbitant prices of toys. We will be up against funds for our next celebration but I know I can rely on you, for you will not let the little ones down.

Under this heading I wish also to say a few words about the work of our **Dramatic and Choral Group**. This group has gone on from strength to strength and has provided us with excellent entertainment during the year. They organised two entertainments and the fact that they were requested to repeat the performances is I think sufficient proof of the quality of their fare. The standard of acting and the quality of the vocal items were of a high order. The success achieved has been a great incentive, for the members are at present organising themselves with much enthusiasm for greater efforts and we shall hear more about them soon. I wish to record my grateful thanks to them not only for the entertainment they provide but for affording facilities for bringing together our younger members and making them incidentally interested in our Union. I wish to specially thank Mr. and Mrs. Bert Van Langenberg, Miss Rode, Mrs. Speldewinde, the accompanist, and Mr. Johann Leembruggen as leaders of this group.



### The Genealogical Committee.

With Mr. J. R. Toussaint as Secretary this Committee continued to do its useful work and 54 applications were scrutinized in the year. During the last 3 years we had a large number of applications from the men of the Dutch Forces—it was not so during the year under review for most of our Dutch friends have left us. The strength of the Union is only about 600—a very insignificant number considering that there are a few thousands eligible for membership. I wish therefore to appeal to the members of the Union to induce others to join. The more we have the more we can do, and I do not think there is any Association in the Island where for a paltry sum of Rs. 1/50 a month a member could obtain better value.

### The Education Committee.

I now come to this Committee—I called it the baby Committee last year as it was only 2 years old—at the age of 3 she has passed the baby stage and is now a child and growing in strength. I reckon this to be one of our most important Committees—the very word **Education** connotes all kinds of important questions. The Committee is doing excellent work with Mr. Cecil Speldewinde as Secretary, and its scope is unlimited. Generally speaking the work is divided into two branches—elementary and higher education and is meant to help the poor. The former really amounts to Social Service work and is of course not so important as the other from an educational point of view. The desire and aim of the Union is to provide facilities for the poor boys and girls, particularly the brainy ones, to continue their studies when the parents find it impossible to afford to pay the necessary fees. What nobler object could one find? If you just pause and think, many deserving names would probably flash through your mind—it is these we want to help. Our Community has been too lethargic over this question of education, but we must awake—we are almost too late now, but better late than never. Our boys must not only be able to compete with other boys but be able to beat them, if our Community is to continue to retain its place in the social and political life of the country. Coming down to brass tacks, our Committee could do very little without funds, and those parents here who have children to educate know only too well how expensive education is, so I very earnestly appeal to you all to even make a sacrifice in giving for it is fully worth it, and your Community needs your help.

### Schneider Scholarships.

As you are aware, through the benefaction of the late Sir Stewart Schneider there are Scholarships at St. Thomas' College for the boys of our Community, and I am happy to say that 6 boys are at present helped in this way. This gesture and foresight on the part of the Schneider Family to help our boys is one that we shall never forget.

I may also mention that through the generosity of another of our members a student is being trained at the Agricultural College—Peradeniya.

### The Finance Committee.

Thanks to the efforts of our watchful Treasurer, Mr. A. L. B. Ferdinand, and the judicious disbursements made by the General Committee, the finances of the Union are in a very satisfactory state to-day. During the year we have transferred to our Reserve no less a sum than Rs. 5,312/85, a very wise precaution, and we close the year with a surplus balance of Rs. 2,637/42. It may be noted that through the energies of the Treasurer the outstanding dues are very small. Mr. Ferdinand is also our Bar Secretary, and, very difficult though it may be, he somehow manages to work the oracle and gets sufficient "mountain dew" to moisten the lips of his patrons!

I do not propose to refer to Legacies and Funds held in Trust by the Union as an account of these appears in the Annual report before you.

### The Committee to Increase Membership.

This Committee was not perhaps as active as last year, but the valuable work done by Mr. Douglas Toussaint and his Committee the previous year has borne fruit, for I have no doubt that out of the 54 applications received during the year quite a number was the result of last year's "drive". I would urge this Committee to renew its efforts in the coming year for its work is very important.

Owing to the difficulty of transport it is not so easy to contact people now-a-days, so may I suggest for the consideration of this Committee that Colombo be divided, say, into 4 divisions, and that one or two members be deputed in each division to make house to house visits of all those eligible for membership and induce them to join. As I told you last year, the stronger we are in numbers the more we can achieve and do, for not only will we have more money from subscriptions, but we will also have a larger selection of members to help us in our different activities.

I wish to take this opportunity of once again thanking the 74 members who joined the Rs. 1/50 class as a result of my personal appeal.

As you know we are endeavouring to have one class for Colombo at Rs. 1/50. The Colombo membership now amounts to approximately 400 and approximately  $\frac{2}{3}$  of this—i.e. 300, belong to the 1/50 class, leaving 43 in the Re. 1/- and 55 in the 50 cts. class.

As it is most unsatisfactory having so many classes we are most anxious to reduce them to one, so will those who have not already done so please do so. As I pointed out before, we are only asking you to give 1½ cts. extra a day, and I am sure you will not grudge giving this to our Union.

And now before I pass on to a few matters of general interest, I wish to thank Mr. J. R. Toussaint for the great work he is doing for the Union in editing and seeing to the publication of the **Journal**—this is a labour of love and few people realize the amount of time and care taken in its preparation, such as the very valuable genealogies published therein compiled mostly by our good friend Mr. Durand Altendorff. The **Journal** is our official magazine but it is very badly supported by the members. It has excellent and valuable information and the annual

subscription is only Rs. 5/-. May I appeal to you to be a subscriber? Then again we have our monthly **Bulletin**—containing a fund of information including a list of the events of the month. The Editor-in-Chief of this compilation is Mr. R. L. Brohier who is assisted by a few others. I wish to record our grateful thanks to him.

### Obituary.

I wish also to record with deep regret the deaths of 10 useful members during the year. Two of them were octogenarians, I refer to Dr. F. V. Foenander and Mr. H. P. Beling. In their time they did valuable work, the latter being a Founder Member.

## GENERAL.

### The War.

The war is still with us in all its fury, but it is with grateful hearts that we see the tide turned in our favour after 5 years of bitter fighting against relentless and formidable foes. In my foreword for the year I expressed the hope that this may be the year of **Victory and Peace**, and pray God that it may be so. We all hope and pray that the silver lining we now see emerging from the dark clouds will soon burst forth into a glorious and happy day of **Peace on Earth and Goodwill to Men**. When this happens it will take us a considerable time to re-adjust ourselves to normal conditions, for during the last few years our outlook and views on most matters have so changed that it will now be necessary for us to re-orientate and adjust ourselves to the changing times. There is no doubt that, as predicted by the late Wendell Wilkie, the nations will aim at the creation of a **One World**, in which there will be an equality of opportunity for every race and every nation, and a **New Society** in which men and women all the world over can live and grow invigorated by independence and freedom. As I mentioned the other day at a Rotary function, in this **One World, East and West** must go hand in hand—there must be confidence and no suspicion.

### Outstation Work.

I am far from happy with our work in the outstations. I have touched on this matter previously and I do feel that we should do something to keep in closer touch with our Community in these towns. We elect 15 Outstation members to our General Committee, but we seldom or never see them at our meetings except those living near Colombo. We know that difficulty in transport and lack of accommodation makes contact a bit difficult but these difficulties are not insurmountable. I planned to go to Galle a few months ago but unfortunately the date was unsuitable to those at the other end, and I am now awaiting an invitation from them. I feel that it is up to our outstation representatives to periodically arrange for a "Social" to be followed by a talk and discussion, and invite the President and Members of the General Committee from Colombo and other towns to join them. This will go a long way to keep our members together and clear any misconceptions that may perhaps exist. I would rejoice to go to Galle, Kandy or anywhere to meet the members of our Community and tell them what we are doing in Colombo and help them to take a greater interest in what we stand for. I know that Galle has recently awakened and means to keep awake and

watch the interests of the Community. I would appeal to the other towns to do likewise, and it must always be remembered that Colombo, the parent Association, will always be happy to assist and advise her children.

### Extension of our Premises.

To those of us who regularly attend functions here and partake of the amenities offered it has been quite apparent for a long time that our premises need extension urgently. I salute all those who conceived the idea and had the foresight to have this excellent building constructed some 32 years ago, and for the information of the younger generation I wish to mention the name of Mr. W. E. V. de Rooy on whose shoulders most of this work and financial commitments fell. This building has been our Home and has undoubtedly been one of the principal means of keeping our Community together, but the activities of the Union have now outgrown the capacity of the building and it is necessary for us to expand—we require a proper office, a Committee Meeting room, a library, a reading room, a lounge, an extended Bar, a larger Dance and Public Hall and so forth—in short we need an extensive and well conceived reconstruction scheme. I feel very strongly on this matter and feel confident that our membership would increase by leaps and bounds as soon as we provide an attractive Home where old and young could meet their old friends and form new friendships. We were hoping that it would be possible for the Union to purchase by degrees all the shares and thus own this Building, which now belongs to the Dutch Burger Building Co. As that proposal is working very slowly the other alternative is for the Dutch Burger Building Co. to issue another lot of, say, 500 shares and with the money thus obtained extend the building themselves. Now is the time to do this as there is a good deal of money circulating and there will be no difficulty in selling shares. A definite Scheme should now be prepared to enable us to launch out as soon as the war is over when it is probable that second hand materials would be procurable fairly cheap. I very strongly commend this proposal and suggest that the Board of Directors of the Building Co. and a sub-Committee of the Union should meet as soon as possible to discuss and formulate a Scheme of extension.

I shall be happy to undertake to get the best Architects available to draw up the necessary plans.

### The Dutch Forces with us.

We have only a small number of our Dutch friends with us as most of them have been transferred, but those who are here still come over and we are happy to see them. You will remember that as a token of their appreciation and gratitude to us H. E. Admiral Sir C. E. Helfrich at the dance we had in honour of Her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina's birthday presented to us and unveiled the large oil painting you see in this Hall depicting the landing of Admiral Spilbergen in Batticaloa in 1662.

Speaking of the Dutch I wish to offer our best thanks to Corp. J. Bakker for continuing the Dutch Classes. He has taken a great interest in this work and I suggest that we convey to him our appreciation.

### Proposed New Constitution.

The question of a New Constitution for Ceylon has been for some time the topic of the hour and the climax was reached when Lord Soulbury and his colleagues arrived to receive representations and record evidence. What with Press Propaganda and Mass Meetings excitement ran very high and very soon even our happy-go-lucky Dutch Burghers were right in the thick of the fray. Very soon we were all Politicians and knew exactly what is required for the New Constitution—very soon we all lost our tempers, and at this critical stage it fell to my unhappy lot to "soothe the savage breasts"—I endeavoured my best but I am not so sure whether it would be wise even now for me to venture out unprotected!

With this back-ground, the members of the General Committee felt it incumbent on them, as representatives of the premier association of the Burghers, and having for its members a typical cross-section of the Community, to go into this vital matter very carefully and place their views before the Commission. A Special sub-Committee was therefore appointed to study the question and all its implications; and after long deliberations, discussions and consultations the General Committee prepared a memorandum to be submitted to the Commissioners and deputed six members to go before them. I do not propose to give you details of all this, as accounts have appeared in our Bulletins; suffice it to say that the memorandum contained the views of what the Union considered essential for a good government and for the adequate representation of its Community. It was unfortunate that we could not get unanimity on all the points, but I am afraid Utopia has not yet been reached, but it was remarkable on what a very few points we did defer. Well, Members of the Union, you can take it from me that this matter received our most earnest and careful consideration and that we did our best. We can now do nothing more than await results, so let us in the meantime forget all the heated discussions that took place and plan for the future. This whole question has done the Community an excellent turn in that it has awakened us from our lackadaisical attitude to one of alertness. We now realise as we never did before, the necessity to keep together, to preserve our identity and to maintain the heritage and prestige left to us by our forefathers.

### Conclusion.

In conclusion I wish to express my appreciation of the great help so readily given me by the Office-Bearers and the General Committee. Mr. Fred Loos, our Secretary, had to shoulder most of the work and he did it cheerfully and whole-heartedly. We all know with what zest he enters into anything that has to be done—he did excellently and sacrificed a very great deal of his own time to this work—I think on an average he spent 5 days of the week at the Club, that in itself must be a record and that has gone on for 2 years. He is no longer continuing as our Secretary for he himself is a busy man and owing to staff changes in his firm he cannot spare the time to go on. I wish therefore to record our very great appreciation for all he has done. No President could have wished for a more willing and happy worker. Mr. A. L. B. Ferdinand has also done a very good job of work and the very satisfactory state of

our finances is doubtless due to his alertness and careful handling. I wish therefore to express our gratitude to him for all he is doing in spite of his heavy official duties.

I wish now to thank the members of the General Committee for their patience, co-operation and readiness to help. During the last 3 years we have had all manner of complex questions coming before us and I thank you, gentlemen, for helping me in arriving at decisions. In all our deliberations we never lost sight of what the Union stands for and endeavoured our best to uphold the traditions so dear to us.

In conclusion I wish to refer to the good work done by our clerk, Mr. Johnson; our work continues to increase and his work is getting heavier in consequence, but he cheerfully carries on and I wish therefore to express my appreciation to him for all he has done. Mr. Berenger, his assistant, has gained some useful experience since last year and is very helpful in many ways. As you know he is our Collector as well, and is an excellent beggar!

When I look back on the year which has gone all too quickly, and the work we have accomplished, I realize what a great deal there still remains to be done, and I earnestly hope that we shall go on from strength to strength and be a source of great usefulness to our Community and a credit to the country we serve.

## GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF GARVIN OF CEYLON

(Compiled by Mr. D. V. Altendorff).

### I.

Thomas Garvin, Sergeant Major in the Royal Artillery, of Port Glenoi, Antrim, Ireland, married in St. Peter's Church, Colombo, 6th November 1812, Maria Abigail Palm, born at Matara, 12th November 1790, widow of James Eckley, and daughter of Mattheus Fredrik Palm, Doctor of Laws, who was in the Judicial Service of the Dutch East India Company at Matara, where he died in 1794. He had by her:—

- 1 Eliza, born 1813, died 17th December 1852, married in St. Peter's Church, Colombo, 2nd January 1832, William Austin, baptised in St. Peter's Church, Colombo, 29th May 1808, died 25th October 1860, son of Nathaniel Austin, 3rd Ceylon Rifle Regiment, Deputy Assistant Commissary General, Galle, and Sophia Frederica Calesky. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol VII, page 28).
- 2 George, who follows under II.
- 3 Sophia Elizabeth, married in Holy Trinity Church, Colombo 22nd December 1845, William Barendsz Bartholomeusz, Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court, born 15th September 1812, son of Johannes Bartholomeusz and Anthonetta Cornelia Barendsz.
- 4 John, who follows under III.



- 5 Ellen, born 18th June 1822, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 13th January 1840, John Edmund Dionysius de Neys, son of Dionysius de Neys and Maria Petronella de Vos.
- 6 Mary Ann, married Cornelius Jacobus Piters.
- 7 Thomas Forrest, who follows under IV.

## II.

George Garvin married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal 6th May 1839, Anna Margaretta Gerlach, died 14th January 1866, and he had by her:—

- 1 Eliza Anne, born 30th March 1840, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 28th July 1858, Samuel Peter Foenander, born 23rd August 1834, son of Samuel Pieter Foenander and Maria Elizabeth Vander Straaten. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XI, page 28, and Vol. XXIII, page 159).
- 2 Amelia Maria, born 1st October 1841, married in the Methodist Church, Kalutara, 25th June 1864, Francis Dionysius de Neys, born 19th October 1834, son of Dionysius de Neys and Maria Petronella de Vos.
- 3 Georgiana Margaret, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 7th July 1862, Frederick Piters.
- 4 Mary Anne, born 21st September 1846, married William Arndt born 1840 son of Johan Carel Arndt, Colonial Chaplain, and Johanna Rudolphina Van Hek. (D. B. U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 101).
- 5 Maria, born 24th May 1848.
- 6 Louisa, born 4th February 1850.
- 7 George St. Patrick, born 17th March 1852, died 21st February 1853.
- 8 Alice Letitia, born 29th May 1854, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 1st December 1871, Charles Orlando de Zilva.
- 9 George William, born 4th August 1856, died 22nd October 1857.
- 10 Agnes Evelyn, born 14th January 1859.

## III.

John Garvin, Surgeon, born 31st March 1820, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 15th December 1842, Charlotta Annetta Angelina Foenander, born 5th August 1824, daughter of Samuel Pieter Foenander and Maria Elizabeth Vander Straaten. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XI, page 28, and Vol. XXIII, page 159). He had by her:—

- 1 George, M.B., C.M. (Aber.), born 2nd April 1844, died 22nd June 1866 in Edinburgh.
- 2 John, died young.

- 3 Julia Eliza, born 15th December 1847, died 15th January 1887, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal:—
  - (a) 22nd September 1871, Louis Joseph Pompeus, Proctor, born 15th September 1848, died 22nd January 1874, son of Henricus Jacobus Pompeus and Henrietta Arnoldina Fermer.
  - (b) 7th November 1881, William Piters de Zilva, born 3rd November 1856, died 29th March 1928, son of William Gilbert de Zilva and Caroline Piters.
- 4 Louis Percival, who follows under V.
- 5 Henry Foenander, Inspector of Police, born 10th May 1852, died unmarried.
- 6 Thomas Forrest, who follows under VI.
- 7 Edwin Francis, born 1st November 1855, died 19th June 1856.
- 8 James Frederick, born 6th September 1857, went to Australia and died there.
- 9 Walter Benjamin, Surgeon, born 6th October 1859, married in England, Alice Smith, and settled there.
- 10 Abigail Maria, born 25th September 1861, died 4th November 1924, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 18th December 1882, Peter Daniel Anthonisz Mack, Proctor and Notary Public, born 9th October 1857, died 9th August 1924, son of Martin Edmund Mack and Emelia Maria Ide.
- 11 Ellen Estelle, born 11th October 1863, died unmarried.

## IV.

Thomas Forrest Garvin married in St. John's Cathedral, Calcutta, 28th June 1847, Maria Georgiana....., and he had by her:—

- 1 Jane Anstice Maria, born 27th May 1848.
- 2 Herman Forrest, born 5th February 1851.
- 3 Reginald Forrest, born 29th October 1852, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 20th August 1884, Lucy Harriet Flanderka, born 9th November 1845, died 26th January 1887, widow of Henry Edward Weinman, and daughter of Petrus Francois Flanderka, J.P., Sub-Collector of Customs, Jaffna, and Julia Eliza Foenander. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XI, page 28).
- 4 Mary Anne Gertrude, born 29th October 1852, died 3rd January 1935, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, 1st January, 1872, Benjamin Marcus Armstrong, widower of Fredericka Amelia Speldewinde. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIII, page 74) and son of John Armstrong and Henrietta Anna Helena Bogaars.
- 5 Charlotte Jessie, born 23rd September 1855, married..... Purchase.

## V.

Louis Percival Garvin, Surveyor, born 16th April 1850, died 9th February 1900, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 4th May 1872, Mary Ann Flanderka born 15th September 1848, died

26th January 1887, daughter of Petrus Francis Flanderka, J.P., Sub-Collector of Customs, Jaffna, and Julia Eliza Foenander. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XI, page 28). He had by her:—

- 1 George Percival Flanderka, born 26th January 1874, died 31st October 1913, married in Darjeeling in India, ..... Ogilvy, widow of ..... Von Benché.
- 2 Isabel Mary Ano, born 13th April 1875, died in infancy.
- 3 Ruth Barbara, born 26th July 1876; married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 5th June 1905, Henry Keith Johnson, died 31st October 1913, son of Charles John Johnson and Matilda Abigail Christoffelsz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 15).
- 4 Charlotte Evangeline, born 23rd December 1877, died 16th September 1926, married in Christ Church, Kurunegalle, 22nd August 1904, Frank Adolphus Speldewinde, born 17th January 1880, son of Francis Adolphus Speldewinde and Eliza Alexandra Maartensz. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIII, pages 75 and 78).
- 5 Ida Marguerite, born 15th April 1879, died 5th November 1944, married in Christ Church, Kurunegalle, 27th June 1914, Edwin Godfried Koeb, born 27th October 1881, son of Ebenezer Theodore Koeb and Georgiana Elizabeth Schubert. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. X, page 133).

## VI.

Thomas Forrest Garvin, M.B., C.M., (Aber.), F.C.S. (Lond.) Superintendent of the General Hospital, Colombo, born 19th December 1853, died 10th April 1918, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal:—

- (a) 1st May 1876, Grace Louisa Vander Smagt, born 13th June 1848, died 15th August 1887, daughter of Cornelius Gerhardus Vander Smagt and Jane Juliet Sansoni. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, page 86).
- (b) 5th December 1888, Lillian Elsie Vander Smagt, born 23rd November 1869, sister of (a) supra.

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1 Grace Darling, born 22nd September 1877, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 28th January 1903, Frederick Alexander Campbell Schrader, born 30th July 1879, son of Frederick Justus Schrader and Elizabeth Harriet Campbell (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VI, page 73).
- 2 Nellie, born 16th September 1878.
- 3 Charlotte Jane, born 22nd October 1879, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 27th December 1906, Frank William Sproule, Provincial Engineer, Public Works Department, born 7th April 1875, son of James Hugh Sproule, Proctor, and Gertrude Arabella Pierez. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXII, pages 140 and 141).
- 4 Thomas Forrest, who follows under VII.

- 5 Myra, born 23rd November 1882, died 11th January 1917, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 12th January 1909, Glanville Hubert Frederick Altendorff, born 28th March 1876, son of Charles Henry Bartholomew Altendorff, Crown Proctor, Matara, Justice of the Peace for the Island, and Henrietta Charlotte Victoria Ludekens. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIII, page 170, and Vol. XXXIII, pages 102 and 105).
- 6 Edith, born 4th April 1884, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 29th October 1915, Rudolph Keller of Switzerland.
- 7 Kathleen, born 7th August 1885, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 26th December, 1908, Bertram Sansoni, born 22nd September 1881, died 23rd April 1937, son of Miliani Henri Sansoni, Proctor, and Alice Rosalind Aldons. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXII, page 117).
- 8 Gerard Walter, born 15th August 1887.  
Of the second marriage, he had:—
- 9 Herbert Eustace, born 27th December 1889.
- 10 Lillian May, born 14th June 1893, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 2nd March 1925, Leonard Owen Weinman, L.R.C.P. and S. (Edin.), L.F.P. and S. (Glas.), Civil Medical Department, born 17th September 1887, son of James Richard Weinman, Advocate, and Alice Maud Johnson.
- 11 Hubert Everard, who follows under VIII.
- 12 Beryl Elsie, born 9th September 1898, married in London, 1931, Lionel Goldsborough.
- 13 Pauline Daphne Vander Smagt, born 20th January 1901, married in London, August 1929, Kenneth Penny.

## VII.

Thomas Forrest Garvin, Kt., K.C., Barrister-at-Law, Gray's Inn, Senior Puisne Justice of the Supreme Court of Ceylon, born 8th August 1881, died in London, 18th June 1940, married:—

- (a) In St. Michael's and All Angels' Church, Colombo, 7th December 1905, Madeleine Louise (Mopsy) Alvis, born 26th November 1882, died 11th May 1920, daughter of Arthur William Alvis, Proctor and Notary Public, and Madeline Louise Daniel.
- (b) In London, Kathleen Vesey.

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1 Doreen Louise, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, Derek Gerardus Degenhart of Amsterdam, Manager of the Holland Colombo Trading Society, Limited.

## VIII.

Hubert Everard Garvin, Barrister-at-Law, District Judge, Ratnapura, born 17th July 1895, died 11th August 1936, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 23rd April 1924, Gertrude Elinor

VanLangenberg, born 26th October 1902, daughter of Vincent Carbery VanLangenberg, M.B., C.M., (Aber.), V.D., Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services, Lieutenant Colonel, Ceylon Light Infantry, and Frances Gertrude de Vos. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVII, page 143). He had by her:—

- 1 Thomas Forrest, born 15th August 1925.
- 2 Pamela Gertrude, born 8th November 1927.

Notes:—(1) Maria Abigail Palm and James Eckley, Bombardier, referred to under I, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Matara, on 30th April 1809.

- (2) Dionysius de Neys, referred to under I, 5, was a son of Jacobus de Neys of Amsterdam and Anna Maria Eksteen. He was baptised on 7th January 1791 in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, where he married on 25th June 1809, Maria Petronella de Vos, baptised 1st December 1793, died 8th May 1827, daughter of Pieter Cornelis de Vos, Boekhouder and Sworn Clerk of the Governor, and Johanna Elisabeth Van Cuylenburg. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. VII, page 78).

## AN ACCOUNT OF CEYLON.

By THOMAS PENNANT.

(Continued from page 77 of the issue for January, 1945.)

I now naturally pass to the *Laurus Cassia*, the rival to the last. It is the *carna* of Rheede Malab. 1. 107, tab. 59, Burman Ind. 91, Blackwell, tab. 319. I leave to botanists the settling of the dispute, whether it is distinct, or a variety of the last. The distinction between the bark of this and the real cinnamon, is, that this breaks smooth; the real, splinters. This has a flimsy mucilaginous taste; the true cinnamon, rough, and with a rich aromatic smell.

*Occidentale*, Rumph. 1. tab. 69, is common to East and West Indies. It is the *Cushew* of the last, the *Caghu* of the Ceylonese.

*Heptaphylla*,—iv. tab. 22, would be invaluable, was it not so common; it is the most admirable medicine in the *cholera*, and the *cholera fluxus*, bilious complaints, excessive vomiting, pleurisies, and poison: it is remarkable for its links of berries, connected like beads.

*Tomentosa*, and *Acuminata*, Burm. Zeyl. tab. 18, and Raii Hist. ii. 1558 are found here. The true ebony, which grows plentifully in this island is supposed to be a species of *Bauhinia*; yet this once valuable wood is not ascertained.

Various kinds of *Cassia*, or *Senna*, are natives of Ceylon; among others, the useful *C. Fistula*, ii. tab. 21, so good and fine a purge.

*Bonduc*, V. Rumph. tab. 48, *G. Nuga Sylvarum*, V.—tab. 50, are remarkable for their rough nuts, with a hook at the end, arresting the travellers.

The *G. Moringa*,—V. tab. 74—5, has a long slender pod, and erect strait stem.

*Monophylla*, Burm. Zeyl. tab. 65, and *L. Acidissima*,—ii. tab. 43. These bear small fruits resembling lemons.

*Bilimbi*,—i. tab. 36, is singular far being loaden with fruit issuing from the knots of the body of the tree; the *Av. Carambola*,—i. tab. 35, for its long angular apples; and the *Av. Acida*,—vii. tab. 17, for small rounded fruit, growing on the side of the stalk.

*Tapia Commel*, Hort. i. tab. 67, or garlick pear of the West Indies.

*Cr. Marmelos Rumph.* i. tab. 81, has a large pear-shaped fruit, of a disagreeable sweetness, and rank smell.

*Antiquorum Com. Hart.* i. tab. 12, *Euph. nereii folia*, Rumph. iv. tab. 40, an elegant slender angular species. *Euph. Tiraculli*, vii. tab. 29.

*Pyriferum*,—i. tab. 47, a roundish fruit, called in the West Indies, *Guava*, full of seed, and very indifferent to the taste.

*Malaccensis*,—i. tab. 36, 38, *Nati Schambu*, Rheede, i. tab. 18, *Raii Hist.* ii. 1478, is a pear-shaped fruit, growing to the bare stalk, a cooling and refreshing kind. *Eug. Jambos*, i. tab. 39, *Malacca Schambu*, Rheede, i. tab. 17, *Rau Hist.* ii. 1478, is remarkable for its crooked timber, useful for the ribs of ships.—*Eug. Acutangula*, iii. tab. 115, *Tsieria Samstravadi*, Rheede, iv. tab. 7, *Raii Hist.* ii. 1480, and—*Eug. Racemosa*, iii. tab. 116, *Samstravadi*, Rheede iv. tab. 16 *Rau Hist.* ii. 1479, bear edible fruits.

Ceylon has four species of myrtle: *M. Cumini*, Rumph. i. tab. 41, smelling like cumin seed; *M. Zeylanica*, remarkable for its great fragrantcy; *M. Androsoemoides*, *M. Caryophyllata*, from its aromatic smell; and *M. Pimenta*, or all-spice, common to both the Indies.

*Granata*, Woodville, i. tab. 58. The *Pomgranate*, is here cultivated, and prospers greatly.

*Gutta*, Blackwall, tab. 393, *Raii Hist. Pl. ii.* 1661, grows to be a large tree, and bears a roundish ribbed fruit, of a yellow color. The wood yields a fine yellow concrete solid juice, brought over in large cakes. It is in our dispensary, and acts powerfully both upwards and downwards. Some physicians hold it to be a dangerous medicine; others commend the use, but all recommend it with caution. It is prescribed in dropsies, and leprous cases. Painters know this drug as the richest of yellows.

*Lotus*, *Alpin. Aegypt.* 50, or water lilly, the *Lotus Aegyptiaca* of Pliny, lib. xiii. c. xvii, which appeared after the falling of the waters of the Nile. The old Egyptians laid the fruit in heaps, to putrify, and after drying them made bread of the farina.

*N. Nelumbo*, *Toratta*, Rumph. vi. tab. 63. This elegant plant was the antient *Faba Aegyptiaca*. The flower is of a beautiful rose colour. The fruit is well figured in *Gerard*, 1552; it is like a poppy cut in two, and with twenty-four round cells, in each of which is a bean. The root was reckoned by the ancients very delicious, either raw or

dress. The figure is so striking, that the Indians feign that cupid was first seen floating down the Ganges on one of them, but the lovely floating flowers would have been a more suitable couch for the amorous deity. It has also a grateful smell; not unlike cinnamon. The ancients feigned that this plant was shunned by the crocodiles of the Nile, on account of the prickly stalks. The Indians eat the beans.

*Squarrosa*, *Burm. Zeyl.* tab. lvi, a very elegant shrub.

*Inophyllum*, *Rumph.* ii. tab. 71. This grows to a vast size, and is a tree of amazing circumference; its leaves very large, of a fine green, and yield a delightful shade. *Rheed.* iv. 76, tab. 98, informs us it grows to the height of ninety feet and the circumference of twelve, and then it bears fruit three hundred years. The flowers small, but of a most fragrant odor; the fruit round. The wood is excellent for wheels, and the greater mechanical uses. Candles are made of the fruit. This magnificent tree adorns the shores of India. The Malabars call it *Ponna-maram*.

*Serrata*, iii. tab. 101, *Rumphius* calls it *Ganitri*, and says it is one of the smallest trees of India, and proportionably thick. The fruit is perfectly round, of the size of a muskuet ball, and of a bluish purple color; the stones seem elegantly carved, are collected in stacks, and sold at a good price, and being strung, serve for ornaments for the neck and breast, and for beads for the rosaries for the Mohometans. The timber is used for building; and is an inhabitant of watery places, and even mountains.

*Indica*, *Poenoe*, *Rheed.* Malab. iv. tab. 15, *Raii Hist.* Pl. ii. 1482. This tree grows to the height of sixty feet, and to sixteen in circumference, at the bottom, and if wounded exudes a rosin, is an evergreen, and will continue to bear fruit three hundred years. The fruit is of the size of a walnut and has a bitter kernel. Masts are made of the younger trees. The Indians excavate the bodies into canoes; which will hold sixty men.

*Capsularis*, *Rumph.* v. tab. 78. The Chinese make a thread of its stalks stronger than cotton.

*Alismoides*, *Rheed-Malab.* xi. tab. 46. *Alpin Aegypt.* ii. 51, tab. 86. 37, a water plant; found also in the Nile. Mentioned by Dioscorides and Pliny; is useful in Egypt as a styptic.

*Onampaca*, *Rumph.* ii. tab. 67, a most elegant flowering shrub. The flowers are of the richest saffron colour; and are used by the natives of India to strew over their beds and furniture. The females stick the flowers in their hair, a fine contrast to its jetty blackness.

*Asiatica*, i. *Burm. Zeyl.* 21. The roots are used by the dyers for dying red.

*Squamosa*, *Rumph.* 1. tab. 46. *Burm. Zeyl.* 21. [The fruit are of no value, and are chiefly devoured by the bats; sometimes are gathered before they are ripe, and left to ripen under heaps of rice, and then eaten.

*Indica*, *Rheed*, *Malab.* 1. tab. 45. *Raii Hist.* ii. 1741, a lofty, but not spreading tree; loves sandy places; its fruit of a great size, oblong and flat; the leaves useful in dying black.

*Oriente*, *Burm. Zeyl.* tab. 38, fig. 1. This is an annual, cultivated in Italy, in early times, on account of the seed from which abundance of oil used to be expressed. It is thought, that no vegetable contains such a quantity. *Arrian* frequently mentions the seeds or its oil,\* as a great article of commerce from India, and the other eastern region. It was used both as food and in medicine.† *Rumphius*, V. p. 204, tab. 76, describes another *Sesamum* used for the same purposes, universally cultivated in India.

(To be Continued).

## GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF MOLDRICH OF CEYLON.

(Compiled by Mr. D. V. Altendorff).

### I.

Johan Heinrich Moltrecht, born at Magdeburg in 1723, Lieutenant of the Burgery, Chief Magistrate, Chief Surgeon and Mayor at Batavia, married:—

- (a) 20th May 1756, Johanna Jacoba Van Veer of Lysenden.
- (b) 20th May 1758, Elisabeth Hellandaal of Utrecht.

Of the second marriage, he had:—

- 1. Carel Fredrik, who follows under II.

### II.

Carel Fredrik Moltrecht of Batavia, Assistance in the Dutch East India Company, married:—

- (a) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 19th February 1792, Dorothea Wilhelmina de Ly of Galle.
- (b) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Matara, 1804, Maria Theresia Mans, widow of Jan Abraham Booy of Galle.

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1. Carel, who follows under III.

### III.

Carel Moldrich, married in St. Lucia's Church, Kotahena, 17th September 1815, Eliza Maria Matheysz, and he had by her:—

- 1. Emanuel
- 2. Wilhelmina } died unmarried
- 3. Theodore Philip, who follows under IV.
- 4. John, died in infancy.
- 5. John Charles, who follows under V.

\* *Arrian*, *Mar. Erythr.* ii. p. 150. † *Plin lib.* xviii. c. 10 lib. xxiii. c. 4

- 6 Adriana, died unmarried.
- 7 Lodewyke William, married Mary Brohier, born 1st October 1838, daughter of Nathaniel Godfried Pierce Brohier and Wilhelmina Gertruida Spaar. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 122, and Vol. XXXI, page 197).
- 8 Margaret Euphrasia, married Bernard Gerald Keyzer.

## IV.

Theodore Philip Moldrich, Secretary of the District Court, Negombo, born 19th November 1819, died 2nd August 1882, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 30th October 1843, Helen Backhouse, born 1830, died 5th July 1888, daughter of Ralph Backhouse, of Mannar. He had by her:—

- 1 Bernard Orazio, who follows under VI.
- 2 Seraphina Elisabeth, born 21st March 1849, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 24th May 1866, John Henry Beling, born 10th November 1842, son of Willem Christiaan Beling and Maria Petronella Ferdinanda. (D.B.U. Journal Vol. VII, page 136, and Vol. XXV, page 77).
- 3 Margaret Euphrosina, born 1st June 1851, married William Charles Fredrik Pompeus, born 9th November 1844, son of William Charles Pompeus and Josina Petronella Estrop.
- 4 Ursula Wilhelmina, born 21st October 1854, married Bonifacio Louis Diaz.
- 5 Arthur Felix Napoleon, who follows under VII.
- 6 Vincent Robert who follows under VIII.
- 7 Thomas Ernest Waller, who follows under IX.
- 8 William Martin, born 13th November 1864.
- 9 Genevra Emelia Florence, born 27th September 1866, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 2nd April 1888, Oliver Theodore Mottau, born 4th July 1864, son of Edmund Oliver Mottau and Jane Elisabeth Von Hagt. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. V, page 87, and Vol. IX, page 129).

## V.

John Charles Moldrich, married at Trincomalee, 14th June 1852, Anne Mary Dudley, and he had by her:—

- 1 John Walter Charles, who follows under X.

## VI.

Bernard Orazio Moldrich, Proctor, born 10th September 1847, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 25th June 1868, Josephine Benedicta Phebus, born 1853, died 21st August 1906, daughter of George Emanuel (Louis) Phebus and Johanna Elisabeth Fernando. He had by her:—

- 1 Eva Helen, born 28th May 1869, married..... Pompeus.
- 2 Justus Brandt Emanuel, who follows under XI.
- 3 Louis Willibrard, born 3rd March 1872.

## VII.

Arthur Felix Napoleon Moldrich, born 7th July 1856, died 21st November 1904, married:—

- (a) Teresa Visser, daughter of Oliver Visser, and Mary Phebus.
- (b) Rosamund Arabella Visser, sister of (a).

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1 Teresa Esther, born 14th June 1893, married in St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, 12th May 1919, Francis Bernard Rosairo.
- 2 Earle Joseph, who follows under XII.

Of the second marriage, he had:—

- 3 Oliver Francis George, born 29th January 1902, died 1st August 1920.
- 4 Mary Rosamund Felicia, born 19th December 1904, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 18th October 1928, Alan Franklin Willibrard Moldrich, who follows under XVIII.

## VIII.

Vincent Robert Moldrich, J.P., Secretary of the District Court, Colombo, born 5th April 1860, died 8th November 1931, married in St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, 13th May 1885, Ida Marian Askey, born 21st March 1866, died 25th May 1934, daughter of Allan Henry Askey and Nancy Fernando. He had by her:—

- 1 Vita Beatrice, born 26th May 1886, married in St. Mary's Cathedral, Galle, 19th August 1912, Arthur Edward de Zilwa, born 4th October 1890, son of James Henry de Zilwa and Catherine Leonora Daviot.
- 2 Dulcie Claribel, born 9th January 1889, died 4th January 1889.
- 3 Vincent Rothwell, who follows under XIII.
- 4 Pearl Lillian, born 4th February 1892, married in St. Mary's Cathedral, Galle, 23rd September 1914, Randolph Churchill Basil Heyzer, Auctioneer and Commission Agent, born 22nd April 1885, son of Julian Jonathan Heyzer, Proctor, and Laura McCarthy. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVI, pages 29 and 31).
- 5 Maryan Conybel (Ruby), born 16th October 1894, married in St. Mary's Cathedral, Galle, 27th December 1916, Arthur Allan de Zilwa, born 22nd March 1887, died 11th April 1944, son of Augustine Lourain de Zilwa and Eveline Amanda Schokman. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXV, page 109).
- 6 Vincent Joseph, born 15th January 1897, died 12th September 1898.
- 7 Vincent Ridgeway, born 1st May 1900, died 22nd August 1900.
- 8 Ida Marion, born 17th May 1901, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 12th June 1922, Alex Edwin Oswald Joseph Misso, born 22nd July 1897, son of Benjamin Joseph Misso and Harriet Matilda Sielman. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIX, page 66 and 75).



## IX.

Thomas Ernest Waller Moldrich, Planter, born 22nd December 1862, died June 1938, married:—

- (a) In Holy Trinity Church, Colombo, 27th July 1887, Agnes Charlotte Prins, born 6th December 1866, died 31st May 1891, daughter of Richard Theobald Prins, Chief Clerk, District Court, Colombo, and Sophia Newman.
- (b) In St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 4th June 1894, Millicent Mary Jane Louisa Rudd, born 18th January 1874, died 6th October 1919, daughter of William Rudd, Assistant Superintendent, Convict Establishment, Colombo, and Jane Newman.

Of the first marriage, he had:—

- 1 Clarence Ernest Peter, who follows under XIV.

Of the second marriage, he had:—

- 2 Vincent Rudd, born 1896, died 18th December 1929, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 1928, Beatrice Obeyesekera.
- 3 Frederick Arthur, born 12th June 1898, married in St. Anne's Church, Kurunegala, 26th December 1931, Hazel Iris, Jobsz, born 10th February 1910, daughter of Henry Wilfred Jobsz and Florence Lucy Poulter *nee* Perkins. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol XXIX, page 136).
- 4 Joseph Scoble, who follows under XV.
- 5 Nellie, born 1906, died 1915.
- 6 Althea Ann, born 1909, married 3rd June 1926, George Archibald Staples.
- 7 Benjamin Augustus, born 1911, married 4th April 1936, Constance Holmes. They have issue.
- 8 Olive Mary, born 6th January 1914, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 8th May 1944, Claude Edward Lourensz, born 18th November 1903, son of Johnson Ball Lourensz and Lucy May Cooke.

## X.

John Walter Charles Moldrich, Planter, born 7th November 1852, married in St. Mary's Church, Negombo, 22nd May 1882, Mary Louisa Ann Thomas, and he had by her:—

- 1 Joseph Aumsly David, who follows under XVI.
- 2 Ann Hilda Theodora, born 1885, died 1925, married Frederick Sansoni.
- 3 Denzil, born 1887, died in infancy.
- 4 Ruth Ethel Olivia, married in All Saint's Church, Borella, 4th June 1919, Dudley George Jansz, Station Master, Ceylon Government Railway, born 31st August 1898, son of John Alexander Jansz and Helena Jane Polack.
- 5 Vistarini John Osmond who follows under XVII.

## XI.

Justus Brandt Emanuel Moldrich, born 2nd July 1870, died 23rd November 1929, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 8th January 1894, Daisy Florence Gauder, died 3rd April 1923, and he had by her:—

- 1 Eustace, born 1894, died 1896.
- 2 Joseph Bernard Orazio, born 14th November 1895, died 21st August 1916.
- 3 Alan Franklin Willibrard, who follows under XVIII.
- 4 Harry, born 1899, died 1900.
- 5 Kingsley George Orazio, who follows under XIX.
- 6 Gwendoline Daisy Rhoda, born 7th January 1903, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 28th December 1922, Vistarini John Osmond Moldrich, who follows under XVII.
- 7 Eva Augusta, born 7th January 1903, died 1905.
- 8 Louise Everil, born 16th August 1905.
- 9 Emilie Dorothy, born 7th September 1907, married Lutrel Maxwell de Niese, son of Francis William de Niese and Mildred Elizabeth La Faber.
- 10 Elizabeth Antoinette Helena, born 23rd May 1910.

## XII.

Earle Joseph Moldrich, Assistant on the Editorial Staff of "The Times of Ceylon", born 27th January 1894, married in St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, 27th December 1919, Dulcie Mary Ann Forbes, born 7th October 1893, daughter of Henry Justin Forbes and Lucretia Maria Pompeus. He had by her:—

- 1 Bernice Therese, born 27th September 1920, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 3rd January 1944, Charles Melville Francis Jennings, Captain, Ceylon Light Infantry, son of Charles Melville Jennings, M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., Assistant Water Works Engineer, Colombo Municipality, and Marguerite Frances Fernando.
- 2 Francis Desmond, born 1st December 1923.
- 3 Donovan Joseph, born 18th May 1928.

## XIII.

Vincent Rothwell (Terence) Moldrich, born 6th March 1890, died 30th March 1926, married in the Methodist Church, Batticaloa, 11th June 1921, Ethlyn Clarita Vander Hoeven, born 15th August 1901, daughter of Richard George Vander Hoeven and Arabella Drucilla Wambeek. He had by her:—

- 1 Richard Vincent, born 2nd September 1922.
- 2 Lynette Iris, born 7th July 1924.

## XIV.

Clarence Ernest Peter Moldrich, born 29th June 1889, died 12th February 1929, married:—

- (a) 1912, Beatrice Silvie, died 1922.

(b) Dorothy de Motte.

Of the second marriage, he had :—

1 Marcelene.

#### XV.

Joseph Scoble Moldrich, Engine Driver, Ceylon Government Railway, born 6th April 1902, married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 5th May 1928, Edith Muriel Walbeoff, born 31st March 1909, daughter of Richard Edward Walbeoff and Amy Mildred Batta. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIX, page 25). He had by her :—

- 1 Norma Olive Ann, born 3rd January 1929.
- 2 Oswald Bernard, born 7th July 1931.
- 3 Theckla Annette Mary, born 4th August 1932.
- 4 Marina Rosemary Therese, born 20th September 1934.
- 5 Elma Miriam Philomena, born 22nd January 1937.
- 6 Frederick Joseph, born 18th April 1939.
- 7 Patrick Clinton Scoble, born 25th June 1941.
- 8 Ivan Anthony Churchill, born 5th October 1943.

#### XVI.

Joseph Aurnsly David Moldrich, Divisional Superintendent of Post Offices, Regimental Sergeant Major in the Ceylon Medical Corps, born 11th September 1883, married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 16th March 1911, Elfreda Mercia Brohier, born 10th December 1880, daughter of Raoul Lucien Brohier and Hannah La Brooy. He had by her :—

- 1 Joseph Noel Rex, who follows under XX.
- 2 Hannah Mary Beatrice, born 8th May 1914.
- 3 Montague Ian Anthony, born 6th April 1915, died 4th January 1916.
- 4 Anthony Bernard, born 25th March 1918, died 17th October 1918.
- 5 Inez Louise Ann, born 24th June 1920, died 27th November 1920.
- 6 Eileen Winifreda Pauline, born 29th June 1921.
- 7 Aurnsly Denis Carmel, born 18th July 1923.
- 8 Therese St. Clair, born 9th July 1925, died 8th August 1929.

#### XVII.

Vistarini John Osmond Moldrich, born 17th January 1897, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 28th December 1922, Gwendoline Daisy Rhoda Moldrich, referred to under XI, 6, supra. He had by her :—

- 1 Alan Vistarini Anthony, born 2nd October 1923.
- 2 Vesta Mary Florence, born 18th December 1925.
- 3 Bernadette Gwendoline born 12th February 1931.
- 4 Bernard Orazio, born 6th January 1940.

#### XVIII.

Alan Franklin Willibrard Moldrich, Head Master, St. Mary's College, Negombo, born 10th June 1897, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 18th October 1928, Mary Rosamund Felicia Moldrich, referred to under VII, 4, supra. He had by her :—

- 1 Daisy Felicia Ann, born 27th August 1929.

- 2 Lourdes Therese, born 11th February 1933.
- 3 Neville Franklin Joseph, born 17th August 1934.
- 4 Brandt Felix Stanislaus, born 29th November 1937.
- 5 Marie Rosamund, born 24th September 1939.

#### XIX.

Kingsley George Orazio Moldrich, Travelling Ticket Inspector, Ceylon Government Railway, born 16th April 1901, married in S. Mary's Cathedral, Batticaloa, 18th April 1927, Mary Delia de Niese, born 15th November 1908, daughter of Francis William de Niese and Mildred Elizabeth La Faber. He had by her :—

- 1 Mary Dorraine Lynette, born 10th July 1929.
- 2 Marcia Bernardette Charmaine, born 6th September 1934.

#### XX.

Joseph Noel Rex Moldrich, born 9th October 1911, married in St. James Church, Mutwal, 1st July 1935, Iris Evelyn Mercia Atwell, born 11th September 1914, died 24th September 1944, daughter of John Valentine Atwell and Harriet Mary Balmond. He had by her :—

- 1 Shirley Philomena Mercia, born 23rd October 1935.
- 2 Joseph Steuart Ralph, born 10th January 1937.
- 3 Joseph, born 24th September 1938, died 29th September 1938.
- 4 Pamela Evelyn Anne, born 27th April 1941.
- 5 Joseph Anthony Ryle, born 24th August 1943.

- Notes :—(1) The Civil Political and Commercial Servants of the Dutch Government resident in Galle in 1796 were required to subscribe to an undertaking of loyalty to the British, and Carel Fredrik Moltrecht and Jan Abraham Booy, referred to under II, were among the signatories. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XIV, page 51).
- (2) In 1832, a sum of money was received from the Dutch Government in Batavia for the relief of widows and orphans of officers in Ceylon, who were employed under the late Dutch Government, and Maria Theresia Mans, second wife of Carel Fredrik Moltrecht, referred to under II, was one of the recipients. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXI page 154).
- (3) Jan Abraham Booy and Maria Theresia Mans, referred to under II, (b), married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Galle, on 23rd May 1784.
- (4) Joseph Bernard Moldrich, referred to under XI, 2, served in the Great War 1914—1918, and was killed in action in the Battle of the Somme on 21st August 1916. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XIV, page 5).
- (5) Vincent Rothwell (Terence) Moldrich, referred to under XIII, served in the Great War 1914—1918, in the 94th Siege Battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery, and returned to Ceylon after the Armistice. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XIV, page 5).
- (6) Vistarini John Osmond Moldrich, referred to under XVII, served in the Great War 1914—1918, having enlisted in 1915 in the Royal Fusiliers Regiment. He was wounded in France and taken prisoner to Germany. He was released after the Armistice. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XIV page 5).

## NEWS AND NOTES.

*(Communicated).*

*Obituary.* In the early hours of December 20th, 1944 there passed, at the age of forty-four, one of the most brilliant, original and versatile members of the Dutch Burgher Community in Ceylon—Lionel Wendt.

A son of the late Mr. Justice Wendt, a former President of the Union, Lionel Wendt was a lawyer by profession, a musician by preference and a photographer by choice.

Educated at Government Training College and later at S. Thomas' College, his ample proportions, brilliant mind and unusual modes of speech and dress set him apart from his fellows quite early in life. After leaving school he went to England where he was eventually called to the Bar. When on his return to Ceylon he began practising, he also intended to grow a beard. But a Judge who evidently did not favour beards rubbed the judicial chin and made a wry face. Mr. Wendt rose, bowed to the Bench and left the Bar for good.

Later, he neither practised law nor grew a beard, which was typical of the man.

As a pianist, his technical accomplishment, acquired under the celebrated Mark Hambourg, kept pace with his understanding, and his taste was catholic enough to range from the sonorities of Bach to the plangencies of Ravel.

As a critic he was equally at ease with music, letters and the fine arts and his knowledge of books was extremely wide.

A brilliant conversationalist with a significant assortment of expressive shrugs and gestures, he would tell a tale in a fascinating manner and there was in his wit a sophisticated urbanity, extremely irritating to those who attempted to impose on him. A man of warm, intense enthusiasms and small hatreds—it was always a joy to hear him venting his wrath on little incapacities or pouring out his appreciation on new discoveries, particularly in the realm of photography.

But his mordant sarcasm and impatience with mediocrity and pretence were always counterbalanced by his great personal kindness and his unfailing encouragement of artistic ability wherever he found it. He would stoop to fan the smallest spark of talent to a white flame where so many would have trodden on it and passed on.

In choosing his media for self-expression Lionel Wendt appeared to display a predilection for complicated mechanical apparatus—on the one hand his camera and on the other his piano. His appeared to be a scientific mind with an unusually wide bias towards art. Always very sure of himself and what he had to say—he had a great deal to say and yet could exercise rigid control over his emotions and select from them what he thought worth while externalising.

He was perhaps the only Ceylonese photographer who had to his credit one-man exhibitions both in Ceylon and London. The first of these was in London and on the special invitation of the well known firm of Leitz—an honour accorded to only one other living photographer, Dr. Paul Wolff. The second exhibition of his camera work was on view at the Art Gallery in Colombo from February 8rd, 1940 and those who were privileged to see that assembly of two hundred and sixty seven prints are not likely to forget it.

He left his mark on Studio Chitrafoto at Lake House and on the Photographic Society of Ceylon of which he was one of the founder members. He was also known to an even wider public outside this country from his association with the film "Song of Ceylon".

Those who were privileged to know him personally will always remember him as host, conversationalist and raconteur and it will perhaps be long ere we see his like again.

H.V.C.

We also regret to record the death of Mr. Claude Leembruggen of Colombo. The deceased was a son of Mr. Peter Leembruggen of Jaffna, and was married to Miss Gwen Foenander, eldest daughter of the late Dr. F. Foenander and of Mrs. Foenander of Bambalapitiya. The deceased served some years in Fiji as a Surveyor, and on his return to Ceylon took to planting. He was a staunch member of the Union, and his death is a loss to the Community.

## BY THE WAY.

NOTES BY NIEMAND.

## Facing the Facts.

We are again on the eve of vital changes in every department of our social and political life. Such changes are always inevitable. The political restlessness, not only in Ceylon but everywhere else, forewarns us of changes which many of us resent, because they upset our accustomed ways of living and may even be harmful to us. Let us face the facts.

After every great war in which a continent at least is involved, far-reaching changes have taken place. The boundaries of countries are redrawn, the methods of Government are altered, new leaders of the people come into power. These differences affect social relations, education, religion, and men's outlook on life generally. The present war is no exception to the rule, and the changes likely to be soon made will be far more significant than those made by former wars.

One feature of the present revolt is the rapid growth of anti-capitalist feeling. One cannot help believing that legislation is forthcoming in Europe to provide for a more equitable adjustment of incomes. But more important is the revolt of what may be called the East against the West. This description is not strictly accurate, for it is not in Eastern

lands alone that this revolt has arisen. The clash is really between White and Black, between "Native" and "European".

That this clash should have come about, and should have taken an organized, active form, every thinking man must have foreseen. We smile at the quaintly-worded schemes of Japan for co-prosperity in Asia under the leadership of that fanatical country. But if Japan had not too soon betrayed its real intentions by her conduct in this war, the Asiatic peoples might well have accepted her leadership.

Superiority in arms, in military organization, in scientific discoveries, and in "the European comfort which we call civilization" (*Disraeli*), enabled the West to "exploit" the East. The dark-skinned "Native" has always been held in contempt as ignorant, physically and mentally inferior, savage, and therefore ordained to be subject to the European White. He belongs to the "lesser breeds without the law". Hence conquest and subjugation, benevolent or otherwise. That was accepted everywhere as natural and inevitable. Only exceptional cruelty caused a protest.

Let us face the facts. It was not the West alone that was guilty of this exploitation. Exploration, conquest, exploitation was the rule, the accepted custom everywhere, and in all ages. The Aryans in Northern India, the Japanese in Korea and Formosa, the Sinhalese in Ceylon, the Dravidians in Southern India, the Moors in Spain, the Jews in Palestine—they were all "exploiters". There was always the conflict between the weak and the strong, between the enlightened and the unenlightened.

Some day the weak were bound to become strong and to realize their strength.\* The beginning of that day has come. Contact with the West, in War as well as in peace, has made the East familiar with the means and methods by which the West has maintained its supremacy. The East has learnt the secrets of Science, and knows how to use and to manufacture weapons of destruction. Also, the East has immense numbers to rely on.

Add to this the ingenuity and guile so commonly associated with the Oriental mind, exemplified to-day by the methods attributed to Japan. Readers of Sir Walter Scott's novels—if any such readers can be found nowadays—will recall the competition between Richard Lionheart's heavy, two-handed sword and Saladin's Keen-edged scimitar so dexterously used. We may prefer one to the other, but both have their uses in war.

In every country, then, where Europeans are dominant, there is a swelling wave of discontent and a desire for what is vaguely termed freedom. That is the position to-day. To resist it is merely to put off

\*See *The Changing East*, D.B.U.J. xiv. pp. 71 ff.

the change. To resent it and grumble about it is illogical. We have to adapt ourselves to the inevitable and to recognize the justice of natural claims and human rights.

Hence the change in the outlook of great nations like Britain and the United States. Increased political privileges are to be granted to colonies, the barriers of race and colour are to be withdrawn, Immigration Laws are to be modified, the old idea of a "Colony" has to give way to something which will give the Colonies more independence in internal affairs.

These questions do not concern Great Britain only; the Dominions must have their say; other Powers that have Colonies will need to be consulted. The answers to these questions are now exercising the minds of men who are interested in justice and fair play as well as the advancement of each great country. No settlement can be arrived at speedily, but when it is made, let us hope it will be for the benefit of all concerned.