

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 of the paper only and must reach the Editor at least a fortnight before the date of publication of the Journal.

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WHEN SINHALESE KING MET DANISH ADMIRAL

300-Year Old Travelogue of an Expedition to the
Kandyan Court

By

R. L. BROHIER

Many efforts have been made in recent times to unravel one or another episode tucked away in the tangled intricacies of Ceylon's colourful history. The latest venture is an attempt to review the travelogue of an envoy of Denmark who was sent out to establish a commercial connection with Ceylon a little over three centuries ago.

History was at that time moving quickly. The Portuguese were making desperate efforts to obtain possession of the hill zone held under Sinhalese kingship. The Dutch Admiral Spilbergen had made diplomatic contact with the Sinhalese monarch about eighteen years earlier. The call of the East was ringing out in loud voice to other Western countries who were anxious to secure a part of the considerable profits which were being divided between the Netherlands and Portugal.

On this political stage there appears a Dutchman, Marcellus de Boschouwer. He had found his way some time earlier to Kandy and gained the protection of the Sinhalese King. We must visualise him risen to great favour, appointed to the King's Council of State, accorded the full status of a Sinhalese dignitary and granted overlordship of Negombo and a few surrounding villages. As a result of the last mentioned circumstance he also acquires a new name, Migomuwa Rala.

It was to this Dutchman that King Senerat turned when dire necessity drove him to make some decided effort to shake off the never-ending hostilities and harassment of the Portuguese. The king decided that Boschouwens should himself go to Holland to solicit reinforcements, and lay a commission before the States General and the Prince of Orange.

Might have Changed History

Baldaens, the historian, says that Boschouwer was annoyed because he did not receive in Holland the honours due to his rank of Prince and Imperial Plenipotentiary of the Emperor of Ceylon. It was this accidental disagreement over a point of demeanour and prestige which caused Ceylon for a brief period to dazzle the newly-formed Danish East India Company, and led to a venture which might have entirely altered the history of Denmark and Holland and three centuries of European colonisation in this Island, had it succeeded.

It is impossible to believe that the Dutch were pleased when Boschouwers carried his diplomatic commission to Denmark. Apparently they did not hinder him as they were too busy at the time in exploring fickle and freakish waters, and, in keeping with the ethical standards of those times, beating their enemy Portugal at his own commercial game. What is more, they were possibly not quite ready to undertake hostilities or discharge any further functions in remote and unsafe East Indian Islands.

In the picturisation of events which followed we see Boschouwer, despite an undercurrent of suspicion, treated to various festivities and marks of favour in Copenhagen, and in due course about to leave for Ceylon on one of a flotilla of five well-manned ships flying the flag of Denmark. Ove Giedde, a Dane of ancient and noble family, is in command of the Expedition. He has been vested with the double personality as Admiral of the Danish Fleet and Ambassador from the King of Denmark to the Emperor of Ceylon. The fleet sets sail on the 29th of December 1618.

Woman Dies on Board

This was one of the earliest voyages which the Danes had undertaken so far away from the grey skies of north-western Europe. They were sailing by strange stars, with little experience of the monsoons and calms of the Indian Seas. The crews, according to the prevailing codes of enlistment of those rough-and-tumble days, were not exactly soft-spoken up-lifters. They were composed of Danes and Dutchmen, Germans, Norwegians, Swedes and other foreigners—all of them hardened characters out for adventure and gain.

The startling discovery was made after the fleet had sailed that the crew of one of the ships included a woman. She proved to be the fiancée of a young officer, Erik Grubbe, who had duped the authorities by masquerading as a man. Her happiness at finding herself summarily married to the man she had connived to accompany was however destined to be short. The rigours of the voyage proved too much for her and she died on board.

Much greater problems were in the offing. A feeling of mistrust grew between the Admiral and Boschouwers. Restlessness and bad feeling spread to the various national elements among the crews. Considerable discontent prevailed which nearly ended in open revolt, and very naturally, combined with the perils of unknown seas and bad weather, considerably retarded the progress of the Expedition.

In the southern waters below Africa the ship carrying Boschouwers lost contact with the rest of the fleet. Ove Giedde thought that it had been done intentionally, but it transpired later that the vessel had merely out-sailed the others and having failed to pick up the main fleet had proceeded to the rendezvous off the headland of Sangamandanda, the most easterly point of Ceylon a few miles north of Arugam Bay. Ove Giedde hailed her with delight when he too arrived later at this point and furled sail in the calm seas which a prevalent south-west monsoon cast off the bleak and desolate coastline of Panama Pattu.

The Admiral's delight at making contact with Boschouwer's ship was however shattered by the news he heard, and he saw his cherished hopes and well-considered plans fading away from his reach. Boschouwers had died on the voyage and had been buried at sea. Giedde was consequently faced with a mission which had become if anything more delicate and dangerous than it was represented to be in Denmark. According to instructions he had to see the Emperor in person. This was no mean task in a strange country deprived of the assistance he had counted on, to gain him audience with a monarch who was hedged in by a hostile invader, confined to mountain fastnesses, and cut off from communication with the sea. His efforts to succeed in his mission belong to those many achievements of hard endeavour which cannot fail to intrigue any imagination that can picture the spirit of enterprise and daring sunk into the pioneering adventures of the yester-years.

He Kept A Journal

Very fortunately there are few accounts of old-time sea and land travel associated with Ceylon which have been more minutely documented than this visit of the Danes. Ove Giedde kept a Journal and diligently set down every detail of the Expedition "so that the king might see the whole account". When he returned to his homeland, he placed the Journal in the hands of the Chancellor to be submitted to his Majesty. As a result of this precaution no epic of early pioneering in Ceylon has possibly more solid track-ground and material to illustrate the diplomacy, drama and tragedy of a past age.

It was primarily to explore the land-route taken by Ove Giedde, and re-cast the hazards and conditions of the journey from the bright position of the present, which brought Mr. Hans Seedorff of Denmark, Poet and explorer, on his third visit to Ceylon fourteen years ago.

He was inspired by the delight and interest he would be in a position to afford his countrymen by using the Ove Giedde Expedition as the ground-work for a series of broadcasts to make Lanka better known to the people of Denmark. He was also bent on obtaining exhibits of cultural value for the National Museum at Copenhagen.

It was my good fortune to be associated with Hans, in his quest and travelled with him over sections of the land-route to identify the place-names mentioned in the itinerary. We started by picking up the thread of the story at Muhattuvaram on the southern shore of the Batticaloa Bar. It was from here, after four months of futile cruising up the east coast to Kotiyar and Trincomalie, and after much frustration in his attempts to communicate personally with the Sinhalese king at "Candia", that the Danish Admiral eventually began his land-journey across the sultry and steaming jungles of the eastern plains with the mountain capital as his objective.

Picturing the Past

The serene setting where the Batticaloa Lake runs inland from the sea has apparently changed very little with the passage of time. The only modern feature in the landscape is the light-house. The goat's feet *Ipomea* still mats the sand to the very brink of the sea, and light sailing-craft to this day occasionally cast anchor in fine weather to water, or work cargo. Imagination is therefore not unduly taxed to let the mind's eye picture two foreign caravels riding at anchor on a sea-lake with a tossing ocean beyond. Nor is it difficult to see a concourse of people on the foreshore, the principal figure—a Vannia, clad in ceremonial attire. They are standing at gaze, one and another excitedly pointing to a ship's boat which is putting off from the larger of the two vessels and being rowed shorewards.

The ceremony of the landing of Ove Giedde was simple. Schooled to the idea that the reigning monarch of Kandy was "Emperor", and "Chief of the Order of the Golden Sun", Giedde seems to have tumbled to the conclusion that all the Vannias and Headmen were petty kings. He says of this meeting: "I took food with the king of Palligamme, and rowed away with the king himself with other boats to the sound of music, and came about 10 o'clock at night to Palligamm where the king bade me welcome with great splendour and music". He adds a curious statement that according to custom he was handed the yolk of an egg when he alighted. It is doubtful if such a custom ever existed. What possibly passed quickly from "king" to Admiral, and was as equally quickly passed to an officer in attendance, was a ripe lime fruit.

We found that Palligamme was one of those many Sinhalese place names in the Eastern Province which had been changed by Tamil influence. The modern Palukamam, about 16 miles by water from the Bar, is the most likely identification of its location. By way of kindling atmosphere we rowed down the placid waters of the Lake over a part of the route taken by the boats, and listened in at night to the singing fish, which no doubt, three centuries ago, as they do now, on still nights when the wind ceases to sigh and the surface of the Lake is undisturbed by ripples, raise their submarine chorus in musical cadences.

With the Admiral's Party—in Fancy

Suppose for the next day's Journey, which is also by boat, we attach ourselves in fancy to the Admiral's party. We meet besides Ove Giedde, two ships' officers: Heinrich Haess and Peter V. Sante. There is also Martin Finche, a Dutchman, who is being taken to function as Portuguese interpreter, and a superior Sinhalese interpreter and guide familiar with the customs and usages accorded diplomatic missions. The oars are handled by Danish sailors and Musketeers. There are about 17 foreigners in the party.

All day long we head southward on a quiet back-water fringed by dense thickets of ever-green mangroves whose roots go right into the muddy ooze. A pitiless sun takes full toll. The sweat pours down the faces of the tired rowers whose exertions are rendered even more laborious by the thick sedge which fouls the bows of the boats and entangles their oars.

In the cool evening hours the boats reach Sammanturai, so called from the derivation Sampan Turai, which means "the harbour of the Sampans (dug-out boats)". News of the Admiral's itinerary has spread and a hospitable welcome awaits the visitors. Ove Giedde writes of the place as "Siambandure" and describes it as "a town which the King of Matalou is residing in". By the term King he means the over-lord of the Eastern territory of the Sinhalese King. This Chieftain being ill, is prevented from greeting Ove Giedde in person at the landing place but has arranged to have him conducted in procession to his residence. Consequently, to the throbbing of drums the strange visitors are led through the town followed by a large crowd of people composed of Sinhalese: some of them clad in rich apparel of office, turbaned Tamils whose forebears had settled here twelve hundred years earlier, Muslim descendants of the Arab sailors and traders who came in the eighth century, Mukuwah emigrants and Veddahs who had taken up pastoral abodes.

Once A Port

Few readers possibly know that the crowded and congested Muslim settlement called Sammanturai on modern maps was at one time a port and the principal town of the District. The lower reaches of the Lake which have now silted and have been converted into paddy fields were at the time of Giedde's visit known as Mattaikalapu. When the Portuguese, eight years later, built a fort on the island called Puliyan Tivu, a short distance from the Bar, they borrowed the name Mattaikalapu (later corrupted to Batticaloa), to describe it. This was the first hurdle in our attempt to identify places on the route. A distance of 32 miles by water separates the two spots which caused confusion.

The landing place at Sammanturai, where in later years the Dutch built large go-downs, can still be identified, and the ruins of a more pretentious building as represented to this day by a few stone pillars and carved balusters, are doubtless what is left of the residence of the "king of Matalou".

A point which invites both speculation and surmise is why Ove Giedde preferred to make his land-journey to Kandy from Matalacou, through Nilgala, Bibile and Alutnuwara, when he might have taken the more frequented and popular route from Kottiyar, off Trincomalie. Giedde explains that it was partly because there were more provisions to be obtained there for the ships, and partly too, because the land-route to Kandy was shorter and easier from there."

A further incentive was perhaps the fact that the same route had been taken by the Dutch Admiral Spilbergen, and the petty prince of Matalacou had, despite jealousies and a reluctant reception, been largely responsible for organising the journey. The first Dutch ship seen in Ceylon, "La Brebis", commanded by Admiral Spilbergen cast anchor in the "Port of Batticaloa" on the 30th of May 1602. Having detained him a month, the "petty prince of Matalacou" eventually facilitated his journey to Kandy where the Admiral presented his credentials to Wimala Dharma, the successful usurper and the husband of Donna Catharina who was at that time the Sovereign at Kandy. However, as things turned out for Giedde, any advantage in the matter of provisioning did not materialise for he found many villages on the route abandoned by the inhabitants who had fled in panic before marauding bands of Portuguese and insurgents who were plundering and sacking the country. He observes, as a result, that there was considerable difficulty in procuring men at Sammanturai to carry for his party, and that they were only able to persuade a few by giving them large presents.

After being entertained "right well according to custom", Admiral Ove Giedde and his party set out from Sammanturai, at midnight on the day after their arrival on the long and difficult land-trek. Giedde glosses over the trials of the journey by saying; "that the way, which according to the map could scarcely have been twenty geographical miles, proved to be very difficult."

This statement as to distance has to be reconciled in terms of the *Danish mile* which is between four and five times the statutory English measure. Few of the entries in the Admiral's journal are more confusing than the distances between intermediate stages of the journey. The causes which warrant such errors and confusion are many, primarily that they were travelling through unknown country and mostly through forest and jungle. Besides this, allowance must be made for other matters to which he turned his mind, and the constant dread of treachery or hostile attack; but it is also clear that the Admiral found it difficult to keep off mixing land distances and nautical measure. In sea-miles, the *Danish* and English standard of measure were the same.

Killed What They Required for Food

The first lap of the journey from Sammanturai was about twenty-three miles. Leaving when it was still dark, the travellers stopped at a village en route to "kill and boil two calves," for Giedde says: "we had nothing else to eat." That night they slept in a village called "Patipal, which the people had deserted."

The only evidence we had to locate this stop was an early British map which indicated the existence at that time of a village called Pattipolagama. Having checked up on parts of the route, we made sure that the village must have been on the banks of the Namal Oya. Since it had been long abandoned as a habitation there was no trace of cultivation to help in locating the actual site of the village on the ground.

Nothing perhaps can offer greater contrast than the transformation, in a comparative sense, of what the country, covered on that day's trek, must have been 300 years ago, into, what it is now.

While today the eye may rest on thousands of acres of moist-green waving paddyfields watered by channels from the Senanayake Samudra and other great storage tanks linked to the Gal Oya development scheme, what Giedde and his fellow-travellers saw was mile on mile of tangled thorny scrub which radiated and intensified a burning tropical heat. Amparai and Kondavattavan Kulam, which they passed, were wide expanses of malarial swamp with bunds badly breached.

Another circumstance which merits notice is that the Danes made this journey in the month of August. As any person who has experienced it knows, conditions are at their worst in these Eastern plains at that time of the year. It is the month when the hot Katchan or land-breeze blows and burns every blade and leaf, even blistering the skin. It is the time when all but the larger rivers and waterholes dry up, when the ground is baked to cast-iron hardness, and when one's sight is dazzled by dancing liquid waves with a temperature which stands at.....but what matter, very hot,

Imagine men with heavily visored head-gear, clothed in full sleeved, front-buttoned doublet with ruffled collar, loose breeches of skin gathered in at the knees, hose and buckled shoes; plodding along under such conditions which were entirely alien to them. Although they were hardy musketeers, who will gainsay that it must have been a very tired and footsore company which underwent their experience of a first-night in a deserted Ceylon jungle village. "We killed what we required for food," writes Giedde.

Hunting Ground

There was little difficulty in rekindling impressions of the track which the party took the following day to Nilgala. It traverses the foot-hills, on the verge of a region which has for two thousand years and more been the happy hunting ground of the aboriginal vedha tribes, and runs through country interspersed by patches of forest, and glades of park-land or scrub.

This country was at the time of Giedde's visit, and still is, remote and secluded. It has changed very little if at all. The rivers and water holes which we pick out from our modern maps along this tract are the discoveries of surveyors only within the past forty-five years.

The valleys and hills, the Galges or rock caves the old fortress which was possibly in use as a Kandyan out-post when Giedde went past it, and that most curious relic of a bygone civilization: the Kalugal Bamme—a wide thoroughfare paved with large round water-worn stones which trails through the jungles for 40 miles and more, and crosses the track taken by the party near Nilgala—have all found their place on maps in comparatively recent times. Giedde can hardly be expected to have taken any particular note of them.

The 15 mile trek from Patipal to Nilgala was covered before mid-day and Giedde tells in his narrative that at night they slept "in a town called Hocheville." This place-name proved to be the most difficult to identify.

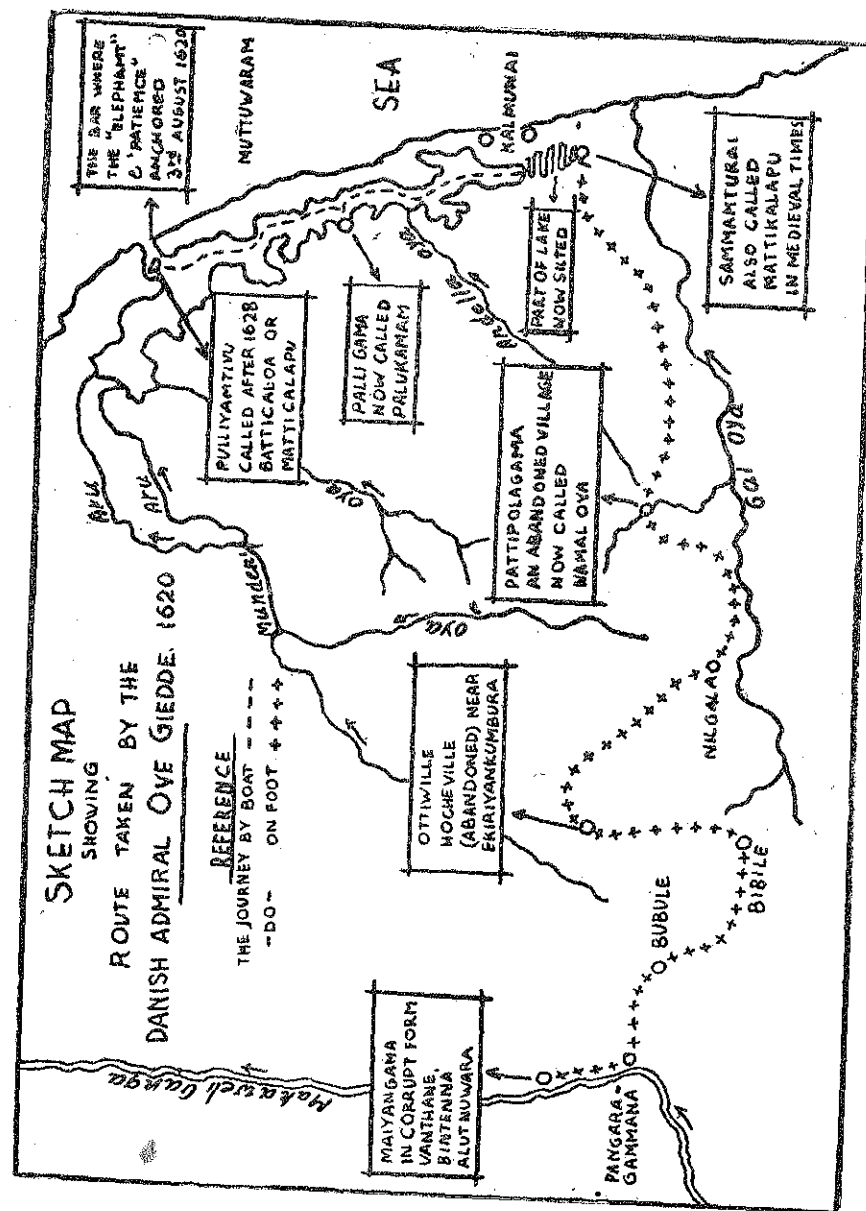
No amount of search discloses any name on the modern map which by any stretch of imagination lends itself to be phonetically miswritten Hocheville. It was a Dutch Kaart of Ceylon on a small scale, produced about 1766, which helped us with a clue. There we found the name Ottiwille used to describe a place in the vicinity of Ekiriyanakumbura. Our next move was to go in search of a venerable Gamarala, who was reputed to be a village traditionalist, and well acquainted with the lore and old-time geography of these regions. Our quest was not in vain. Having traced him to his house in an isolated chena, we had confirmation that there was "long ago" a village called Ottakumbura, recognised today by the breached bund of a large tank, which is now described as Yoda Wewa Kandiya.

The foot-path which links the site of this deserted village to Nilgala, and still connects a few far flung jungle hamlets, is twelve miles long. In reputation, and from visible traces too, it is obviously an ancient trace. Checking up the identification from every angle, there seems little doubt of the location of the "town" where Giedde and his company spent their second night.

There is perhaps one point which remains to be cleared up. It will be noticed that Giedde has covered twenty-seven miles on the day's trek. While this may seem a pretty long distance to travel on foot from sunrise to sundown, there is a factor not hitherto disclosed, that the Admiral who led this expedition was only 27 years old at the time. Since he no doubt picked out some young and energetic men to accompany him, such an achievement does not appear to be very extraordinary.

At Bibile

The next morning's march of twelve miles took the party to Bibile. Giedde says they reached this place by noon. He refers to people who treated them very kindly, to the pepper which grew near the town, and to some of the inhabitants who wanted to sell pepper to him but were driven away by the Sinhalese interpreter before he could have ascertained the price of the commodity. "That night," he writes, "we slept three miles from this, in a wood by a stream called Cannpadubula."



Allowing for the conversion of this distance from a Danish to an English basis, the wood and stream must have been near a village which still goes by the name Babula, and lies on the old route to Alutnuwara. It seems very possible that Giedde was given the name of the stream as Kandura, a term usually applied to all hill streams. Any attempt to combine the stream with the name of the village would have resulted in something like Kandura-bubula. Apparently this proved too difficult for Giedde to spell out.

The next halting place was described as being "near a Lake." There is little room for error in identifying this as one of the two tanks at Pangaragammana, both of which must have been functioning in those times. Giedde writes: "When we were there word was brought that the Emperor was at Vanthanen and would meet me in the evening." Vantanen was the foreign corruption for Bintenne, the famous city which Tennent identifies as the Maagammun, or the metropolis of Taprobane, described by Ptolemy in his map of Taprobane, 1,500 years before Giedde's visit, which we now call Alutnuwara.

The chance circumstance that the King had come from Kandy to this city in the plains, saved the ambassador and his party a march of nearly fifty miles over the steep country which lies between the mountain capital and Alutnuwara.

Giedde describes his entry to Bintenna very tersely. "A nobleman came to meet me half a mile from the town with a large crowd of musicians and forty or fifty excited people who followed me into the town. There they spread coarse linen on the ground 20 or 30 paces from the house, on which I could walk, and then I was ushered into a little house, of which the roof was of linen."

Meagre Descriptions

A Fault which must be laid against this youthful ambassador, whose chief claim for selection to fix Denmark's interests in the East was his ancestry and noble blood, is the limited use he made of his definite ability to write down what he saw. His descriptions are meagre. He tells us nothing of the city, and even much less of the country and of the people he met on his journey. By giving his mind only to the object of meeting the Sinhalese king and getting his business settled, he has denied posterity what might have been a very human historical story.

Fortunately, we have a picture of Venthannen drawn for us by Spilbergen, and we see through his eyes what Giedde must have seen eighteen years later. "Its most spectacular and dominating feature is the dagoba—a huge, circular mound of brick-work towering skywards, comparatively perfect, as white as marble and surmounted by a gilded pyramid."

"Close by, in a square quadrangle bounded by streets, there is a temple remarkable for the richness of its decorations, a walled bo-tree, and other monuments. The Mahaweli-Ganga, queen of Ceylon rivers, flows by the pansala or dwelling place of the priests attached to the great temple. Nearby, also bordering the river, stands the pavilion occupied by the king on his visits to the city. The dwellings of the inhabitants lie in a connected line under one roof along a street which leads northwards from the quadrangle."

The strangeness of the scene, the quaintly clad figures of the priests who moved along the streets under the shade of large umbrellas the throb of temple drums, the clang of bells, and the odour of burning incense, cannot have left Ove Giedde unimpressed: yet, all he says after his brief reference to his arrival is that on the following day "the secretary came to me and said that the king was a little way off and begged that I would go to meet him.....but I excused myself saying I had various matters of business to transact. So he went away and came back and said the king had halted a little way off for his council and he would come to me at once.....he desired me not to blame the king because he had not met me with a large number of people."

Describing his first meeting with Senerat, the stately ex-priest King, he says: "When the Emperor arrived I had myself announced by Hendrich Haess, as having been sent to him as His Majesty the King's ambassador, and begged to be informed whether I could be received in audience. Thereupon I received a reply saying I would be received the next morning, as the Emperor wished to have his head washed".

Audience with King

Ove Giedde would appear to have subsequently had audience with the King on seven occasions. He addressed the Court in German, it was repeated by Martin Finche in Portuguese, and rendered in Sinhalese by an interpreter. The proceedings were perhaps not quite so ceremonial as they usually were in the case of foreign ambassadors who visited the King at Kandy, but provided many amusing interludes. Giedde says: "When I enumerated the Emperor's titles, he put his hand before his mouth, looked at the Council, and laughed."

Apparently what humoured Senerat most was the appellation: Master of the Order of the Golden Sun. The titles had been chosen by Boschouwer in order to represent the power and wealth of the king of Ceylon as far greater than the reality, in the hope of increasing the impression of his mission to Denmark.

Much to Giedde's discomfiture, and although he found great difficulty in believing it, there seemed little doubt that Boschouwer was guilty of deceit and that the people in Denmark had placed too much

confidence in this foreign "Prince". He had supplemented his credentials with a document of his own invention, granting most important reciprocal trade concessions which were outside the power of Senerat the Sinhalese king to fulfil.

Three days seemed to have passed sluggishly with short and futile visits to the King. Ove Giedde pleaded his case with specious argument, with an ever-increasing youthful heat and anger, and with threats which were grim and full of suggestion. Senerat, on the other hand, vacillating, as he was weighted with anxiety to secure the support and protection of Denmark should there be another break in the patched up truce he had made with the Portuguese, contributed to the argument by only harping back to the sentence "that he neither ought, nor could agree to Boschouwers' treacherous behaviour."

The King was apparently prepared to make a fresh agreement with the Danes, and because of the kindness of the King of Denmark, or as Ove Giedde writes: "Of my lord's kindness" he offered to make his ambassador: "Admiral of the seas, and a Prince" and would present him with the property which had been earlier gifted to Boschouwer.

"To this", says Ove Giedde, "I replied that I thanked him, that I desired no other title, property, or gift from him save that he would carry out what had been promised, to order that my lord might be informed of it, and that he himself might receive more help at the earliest possible moment."

On the fourth day Ove Giedde seems to have found himself seeking to control his indignation, and committing himself to accept Senerat's offer to draw up a fresh treaty. Little did he realize at the time that he was to secure for his country terms which were as advantageous as any which Boschouwer had set down, on which he had expended threats and endless palaver to render valid.

Cession of Trincomalee

The most outstanding article in the new treaty was the formal cession of Trincomalee and the enviroing lands, to the Danish throne. It conveyed assurance to the Danish King that this territory shall remain for ever in his possession and that he could rule there as he pleasedas in the Kingdom of Denmark. Summarised briefly, the other terms expressed agreement: to the introduction of the Christian religion, to the ambassador constructing a fortress as soon as he pleases, and astoundingly important from a strategical angle and the establishment of Danish power in the East: that "any fortress which may be captured by their joint efforts shall together with their ammunition belong to the King of Denmark alone, the spoil being equally divided between the two rulers."

The concessions which were made in trading interests included the promise of help to Danish ships of the exclusive monopoly of what cargo they required: areca, cardamon, wax, cinnamon, pearls, pepper, crystal, ivory and timber, at the current prices in the country. Finally, the Danes were conceded the liberty to coin larins and fanams, and other units of money.

The treaty was signed by Senerat and two of his councilors on the 22nd of August, 1620, at 10 o'clock in the evening. It would seem that everybody was happy for Giedde mentions that there was "much laughter and talk."

Lounging on the verandah of the Waragantota Resthouse after a day spent examining the old monuments at Alutnuwara, most of which were at the time of my visit a shamble of brick and debris, we discussed these happenings.

The very fact that the treaty had been so expeditiously concluded rather emphasises the favourable opportunity it offered. It was drawn up in Portuguese and translated into Sinhalese. Both copies, I learnt in conversation with Hans Seedorf, are extant in the Archives at Copenhagen.

It was also disclosed that the latter in particular had scarcely been handled, to judge from external appearances, and that its small seal is still intact. This was obviously because the oriental text could not be readily translated and the Portuguese copy was the more popular document for all official purposes and research.

Unnecessary Delay

On the eighth day after his arrival at Venthane, Ove Giedde received leave from the King to proceed to the coast. As a matter of fact, he had been chafing for some time over what he considered unnecessary delay, for he had planned a voyage to Tranquebar on the Coromandel coast and was afraid of losing the favourable winds.

He must, in these circumstances, have been overjoyed when the King, as a parting gift, presented him with his son's horse.

There were other presents, too, precious stones, which Giedde seems to have considered "of little value, but in their eyes meant a great deal." There was also a gift of an elephant to the King of Denmark. This, as far as can be gathered, never reached him. On the first attempt to take this great animal on board, they hired a sampan. It put its foot through the bottom. Eventually, they bought a large boat, from the "King" of Palligama, which he undertook to equip so that they could transport the elephant to the ship.

The Return Journey

The route taken by the Danish Ambassador on the return journey from Alutnuwara to the coast was very nearly the same as the one he had taken on his outward journey. Mounted on the horse presented to

him by the Sinhaless King, he set out from the city with a few of his men who were on foot, in the afternoon. The rest of the company followed with the elephant gifted to the King of Denmark, and the baggage. Giedde writes in his diary: "We travelled six miles in the evening to a village called Varagama where we obtained tolerable supplies of food."

His men must have been put to considerable pressure to keep going with Giedde. On the justifiable assumption that Varagama is the village we now call Weragama, he must have covered eighteen miles in this first half-day lap.

The journey carried out the following day also seems to have been a very forced march. Giedde's diary on that occasion reads: "We slept in a wood by a house and some lemon trees called Milgal, when our followers came with the elephant and baggage". Since he goes on to say that they were at "Patifal" (Pattipolagama) by noon the following day, this halt must obviously have been near Nilgala, which he has rendered "Milgal".

At Pattipolagama, Giedde seems to have made a detour and followed an alternate route to Sammanturai, which is yet open and lies through Uhana and Chadayantalawa. He says: "I took five men with me and went five miles in the evening and spent the night by a lake near a town called Talleville."

Our endeavour to identify this place was just another headache. It proved to be another instance where all the help we could get was from old maps. The name has gone completely out of use but Schneider's map of 1822, shows that there was at that time a tract of jungle known as Talwilla Wappeme, about ten miles north of Pattipolagama, and not far from the large abandoned tank we have more recently named Mahakandiya.

Long Tank

The entry in Giedde's diary is specially interesting as it tends to suggest that Mahakandiya, which is popularly identified as the historic Digaha-vapi or "long-tank", built by Sadda-tissa, circa 161 B. C. justified the appellation "lake" to even so recent a period as 300 years ago. It had perhaps breached but continued to hold up some water.

The next day, according to the narrative, Giedde came to the town of Talleville, and later on arrived at Battevitti where they obtained some fresh milk. At mid-day they came to "Siambandure." There is no doubt that Battevitti is an incorrect recording of Kadawatti, which was a term used to describe a station established on the gravets of towns, or the boundaries of Districts, and used as a watching-post in order to check illicit practices. This particular station is indicated and described in General Fraser's map of Ceylon.

In summary, Giedde's journey back involved laps of 18 miles on the first half day, 28 miles on the second day, 25 miles on the third day, and 18 miles on the last half day.

One must expect that such hard going could not be done without paying toll. Giedde says he was compelled to leave some of his men at Venthanen as they were "fatally ill", and he was obliged in due course to leave two others at Palligama "on account of blood poisoning."

The narrative goes on to tell that on arriving at Sammanturai, Giedde immediately obtained a canoe which he describes as "formed of a large oak with wood at the sides to prevent it from 'over-turning'; and having talked to 'the King of Matecalou who came down to the shore with a great crowd of people, with music', he continued his journey by water, and 'at 10 o' clock at night came in turn to the King of Palligamme.'" Apparently as Giedde was in the van of his baggage party, and with only five men, two of whom were sick, he left the large ship boats in which the party originally arrived at Sammanturai to be used by those who followed.

The progress by canoe must have been quick. Giedde waited at Palligamme until 4 o' Clock the next day for his other men and the baggage. Seeing that they did not come, he rowed down to Muttuvaram at the Bar off Batticaloa, taking the "King of Palligamme" with him, and arrived there at "10 o' Clock at night."

The two ships he had left at anchor off the Bar when he set out on his journey, had in the Admiral's absence spent their time coasting, one of them had by good chance got back to the rendezvous, for Giedde says: "That same night the Captain of the ship 'Patience', came up to me in the town." He nevertheless delayed his embarkation until day-light on the day after the next, in order to see all his baggage aboard, and was with the main fleet at Trincomalie in twenty-four hours. Thus the expedition which set out from the Bar of the Batticaloa Lake on the 8th of August, 1640, returned to Trincomalie on the 30th of August, having spent twenty-two days on their mission.

End of Our Quest

This, of course, is where the curtain should drop, as it marks the end of our quest. We have made the best attempt possible to travel with Ove Giedde, and besides schooling ourselves to some idea of the rigours he and his party went through, have seen what was done to promote the interests of Denmark in the East. The sequel to these happenings, showing how far the Danes succeeded in improving and consolidating the advantages won by hard travel and palaver, cannot however be very well left unsaid.

The fraud perpetrated by Boschouwer was uppermost in Gieddes' mind and even the time which had elapsed since he first heard of the deception had failed to soothe the anger of the young and impulsive admiral. He brooded over the possibility of avenging himself in some way. The weight of it eventually fell on Finche, but more particularly on Peter von Zante, both of whom the reader will recall, had accompanied Giedde to the Court of the Sinhalese king.

It transpires that they were Dutch-men, and had been associated with Boschouwers in Denmark. Despite a good deal of evidence which made them less blame-worthy, Giedde seems to have reached conviction that they were accomplices. Consequently, one of his first acts when he rejoined the fleet was to place Zante on a charge of sundry breaches of discipline and as a wilful offender of the King of Denmark's commands. He was tried and sentenced to be turned out of his cabin "bag and baggage", to eat and sleep with the crew, and to be dismissed from the ship's Council.

At the end of September, before the monsoon had changed, Giedde sailed for Tranquebar to effect negotiations there with the Naichen of Tanjore concerning a new colony which Denmark was simultaneously endeavouring to establish on the Coromandel coast. He left two ships of his fleet in Trincomalie, and handed over the conduct of affairs in Ceylon to Erich Grubbe.

The principal task entrusted to Grubbe was the erection of a fortress "at the earliest possible moment" on the shores of the Bay of Koddigar. As a secondary task he was directed to load up two ships with ebony which the sailors were to cut from the forests and with such other produce he could obtain, for shipment to Denmark.

Senerat, the Sinhalese King, sent sixty men, without materials money, or food, to assist the Danes in constructing the fortress which they attempted to site at the mouth of the river near Muttur. The name Koddai-Aru, by which this river is known, and which means the river by the fort (Kottai) supports history.

No Disciplinarian

Grubbe did not prove himself equal to the responsibility imposed on him. He was no disciplinarian, and his selection to depute for Giedde does not appear to have been sufficiently considered. The reader will recall that he was the officer who was married on board under very romantic circumstances after the expedition set out. The story is told that he never righted himself from the shock of his wife's untimely death.

Very little progress, if any at all, seems to have been made by him in raising the fortress. The Danish workers lapsed into idleness and indiscipline. Indolence spread to the labour which the Sinhalese king had provided. The net result of the disorganisation and dilatoriness was that Senerat began to doubt the ability of his newly found ally to support him against the Portuguese. He consequently became cautious.

Affairs seem to have been getting so bad that Grubbe followed the leader of the expedition to Tranquebar for consultation. He was sent back to Ceylon almost immediately, under perhaps very peremptory orders to put matters straight. Giedde himself was back at Trincomalie three months later, having satisfactorily settled his

business with the Naichen of Tanjore. He found that one of the ships he had left behind: The "David," had sailed for home with a cargo of ebony and spices, and that the other: the "Christian," had been wrecked.

The former circumstance at least proved that one clause of the treaty had been implemented, and trade between Ceylon and Denmark had been opened. It hardly matters that it was the only ship which did so. Giedde also saw for the first time a Danish coin which was minted in Ceylon in accordance with another clause of the treaty. It was a larin, but the most surprising point about it was that Erich Grubbe had assumed the responsibility to put his own name in large capital letters on the coin, prefixing to it the title "DON" which the Portuguese had made a custom of using. We are not told what Giedde's reaction to this act of arrogance was. Perhaps he was more concerned at this time with the delay in the erection of the fortress.

Although, as we have seen, the fault apparently lay with the unruly attitude of the Danish soldiers, Giedde showed definite inclination to blame the Sinhalese King on the grounds that he had given him very little assistance in the work and was not observing his part of the contract. He fretted and fumed.

From Bad to Worse.

Meanwhile matters were going from bad to worse. There was so much mutiny, confusion and indiscipline as to invite a boast from the foreign elements of the crews that they would kill all the Danes. The excessive importunity and aggressiveness which the young Admiral could not divorce from all his actions increased as his crews became more and more insubordinate. He despatched notes couched in very threatening tone to "the Emperor." He condemned the chief mutineers to death, and some of his nationals to banishment from Denmark for life. He docked the pay of his soldiers for other minor offences and sentenced some of them "to go under the keel."

The first inkling to Giedde's contemplation of returning to Denmark appears in an entry against the 18th of April, 1861. He says, "the chief mate came to me and said it was impossible to make the voyage home with our people, but he advised us to sail to Mesulapatam, where we should find good seamen among the blacks." Nonetheless, while busily engaged on preparations to get back to his home, he was still not unmindful of the desirability of making his peace with the King and his ministers.

He first sent Martin Finche to "Candia", with a letter to "the Emperor" pointing out that he had already sent two letters to him, and received no reply, and he was now sending a letter with an interpreter. Giedde waited some days but received no reply. He writes in his diary: "I believe this letter did not arrive, for the messenger, who was a scoundrel, ran away."

He next sent Erich Grubbe to the Emperor drawing attention to the several letters he had sent him about the treaty, and since he had received no reply, he did not know whether he was to be regarded as friend and ally, or as enemy. He moreover asked him to send by this Captain, any letters and whatever gifts he wished to send his King, and also asked that the ambassador "the Emperor" had earlier asked Giedde to take, be sent to accompany them to Denmark. Giedde added that he would wait eight days at Palligama, so that "the Emperor" might send back the captain.

Letters from the King

Giedde waited three weeks and two days for Erich Grubbe and an answer to his letter. Neither arrived, but meanwhile there came an "old nobleman from the King of Candia", bringing two letters from the King. In summary it told Ove Giedde that it was not the King's fault that the fort was not ready, but the fault of the Danes; that the King was placing great reliance on the assistance of the Danes although it cost him much trouble with the Portuguese; that he was to come again with a greater fleet since he now knew the enemy's power, and that all would be accomplished then; finally, that he had had his ambassador in readiness but had promised him in marriage so that it would be some time before he could get him.

Giedde's reply to this was characteristic of the man. The King could not expect forts to be built with the 60 men he had sent without material and money. He desired the King to reflect that no ruler in the world would have done for another ruler what his lord at great personal disadvantage had done for him, for which "the Emperor" had not shown the smallest courtesy.

If the King wishes to obtain any aid he was to send a great and worthy reward, or he must come down himself within twelve days and make all necessary arrangements. He also added that he was getting no help from the "King of Palligamme", who was enticing his men away from him.

The tragedy thereafter moved quickly to its climax. Giedde never saw Grubbe again in Ceylon although no ill befell him and he eventually got home. Senerat, the Sinhalese king wrote no more letters to Giedde, neither did he send any reward or come down to meet him. The "King of Palligamme" continued to be as unhelpful as ever. Describing the final scrap they had, Giedde says, "he ran after me secretly with a naked dagger, so I pointed to my sword and said I would be obliged to use it against him if he came in my way." Nevertheless, to conciliate him Giedde later sent him and his officers "some pieces of cotton and other trumpery", stressing in a letter that he must assist Grubbe if he were alive.

Sailed for Home

The expedition sailed back for home on the 1st of June, 1621. The rate of progress was much quicker than on the outward one, for despite halts at Table Bay, St. Helena and Plymouth, they arrived at Karmsund in Norway, in not much more than nine months. According to the narrative none of the company which set out to establish a colony in Ceylon appear to have remained behind, except Erich Grubbe and his servants and a few of the crew who had deserted.

Thus ends the story of the Danes in Ceylon, and another restless search to bring home the merchandise of distant shores. It was partly the weakness of their fleet which was intended to pave the way for their future fortunes, and partly unwise selection of the men who were entrusted with the responsibility of fixing their power in the East, that lost to Denmark the monopoly of trade in one of the finest countries in Asia, which the Portuguese would not have had the power, nor possibly the Dutch the desire, to deny them.

The objects of the Union shall be :

To cause to be prepared and.....printed and published, papers, essays, etc : on questions relating to the history and origin of the Dutch Burghers of Ceylon, and to publish the genealogies of the Dutch families now in Ceylon.

VANDENDRIESEN GENEALOGY.

D. B. U. Journal, Vol. XXV, Page 56, Additions.

Vernon Neil Vandendriesen, mentioned in section XI, item 1, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Regent Street, Colombo, 28th November 1936, Doris Lucille Joseph, born 1st October 1912, daughter of Lloyd Annesley Joseph and Ruth Van Geyzel. (D.B.U. Journal Vol. X, page 76, and Vol. XLIV page 188). He had by her :—

- 1 Geoffrey Richard Lloyd, born 1st September 1937.
- 2 Jennifer Ruth, born 23rd June 1939, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 14th November 1959, Thomas Cuthburt Bede Kelaart born 6th November 1934, son of Leonard Thomas Henry Kelaart and Alexandrina Bartlett— (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLII, page 73).

D.V.A.

JOSEPH GENEALOGY.

D. B. U. Journal Vol. XLIV, Page 176, Additions,

Walter Frederick Joseph mentioned in section XXIX item 8 married in All Saints' Church Borella, Colombo, 30th June 1937, Aline Carmel Ohlmus, born 19th October 1909, daughter of Edward Haddon Ohlmus and Ethel Winifred Rodrigue—(D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, page 175)—He had by her :—

- 1 David Haddon Cyril, born 18th September 1938.
- 2 Frederick Allan, born 27th December 1939.
- 3 George Anthony Milas born, 21st October 1947.
- 4 Roger Philip Louis, born 16th February 1953.

D.V.A.

KRELTSZHEIM GENEALOGY.

D. B. U. Journal Vol. L. Page 78, Corrections.

- 1 In Section I, line 1 for Kreetzshhein read "KRYTSHEIM"
- 2 In section II, line 1, for 'Kreetzshhein read 'KREILSHEIM'—

D.V.A.

GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF RAYMOND OF CEYLON

(Compiled by Mr. D. V. Attendorf)

I.

Jacob Raymond of Geneva in Switzerland, died in Colombo, 12th July 1837, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal :

- (a) 23rd November 1800, Susanna de Zilva
- (b) 12th December 1802, Henrica Antonia Christoffelsz, born 28th May 1780, died 30th May 1865, daughter of Anthony Christoffelz (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIV, page 14).

Of the first marriage, he had :—

- 1 Maria Elisabeth, born 2nd September 1801.

Of the second marriage, he had :—

- 2 Henrica Adriana, born 9th January 1804, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 12th October 1837, James Cornelius Koenitz, died 30th July 1843, son of Cornelius Koenitz of Sluis in Flanders and Christina Van Oosten.
- 3 Andries Pieter, born 6th January 1809.
- 4 Arnoldus, who follows under II.
- 5 Jacob Benedictus Nicolas, born 11th March 1814.

II.

Arnoldus Raymond, born 6th January 1810 died 10th December 1879, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal :

- (a) 2nd October 1832, Maria Creciana de Neys, born 4th May 1810, died 15th July 1835, daughter of Dionysius de Neys and Maria Petronella de Vos (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVII page 11).
- (b) 23rd December 1839, Johanna Martenstyn, died 4th January 1840, daughter of Johannes Andreas Martenstyn and Elizabeth Carolina Trek (D.B.U. Journal Vol. XLI, page 119).
- (c) 17th October 1844, Elfsabeth Petronella Condill, born 17th July 1828.

Of the first marriage, he had :—

- 1 John Andrew, who follows under III.
- 2 Robert, born 8th July 1835, died 15th February 1857.

Of the third marriage, he had :—

- 3 Son, born 3rd January 1846, died 13th January 1846.
- 4 Henrica Roemana, born 24th December 1846, died 22nd March 1906, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 3rd September 1868, Stephen Andrew Keuneman born 30th January 1848, son of Adolphus Keuneman and Charlotta Hermina Solomonsz.
- 5 Sarah Lydia, born 16th December 1850, died 27th September 1899, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 15th October 1874, Henry Ebenezer de Silva, born 1st March 1847, died 27th December 1922, son of John Matthew de Silva and Margaret Hindle.
- 6 William Francis Arthur, who follows under IV.
- 7 Cecilia Roemana, born 12th July 1856, died 13th August 1860.
- 8 Eleanor Alice, born 24th March 1858, died 22nd May 1883, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 26th July 1876, Francis Edward Maas.
- 9 Patrick Norman, who follows under V.
- 10 Charlotte Jemima, born 17 September 1864, died 2nd April 1924 married George John Gauder, son of John George Andree Gauder and Emily Louisa Bennet (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLVII, pages 68 and 70).

III.

John Andrew Raymond, born 28th November 1833, married in St. Paul's Church, Pettah, Colombo, 1st May 1873, Marian Young, and he had by her —

- 1 Richard Francis, who follows under VI.
- 2 Robert Francis, born 10th October 1863, died 14th January 1889.

IV.

William Francis Arthur Raymond, born 21st January 1853, died 27th June 1910, married :—

- (a) 14th February 1881, Letitia Eleanor Jansz, born 1st June 1862, died 12th November, 1887.

- (b) In the Dutch Reformed Church Wolvendaal, 18th November 1891, Frances Margaret Rodrigo, born 9th May 1859, died 6th October 1908, daughter of Arnold William Rodrigo and Anna Petronella Poppenbeek, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXIX, page 23).

Of the first marriage, he had :—

- 1 Ethel Frances, born 11th December 1882, died 3rd February 1956, married in St. Sebastian Church, Hulftsdorp, Colombo, 12th December 1906, Harris Godwin Gauder, born 11th December 1882, died 20th August 1927, son of George John Gauder and Charlotte Jemima Raymond, referred to in section II, 10 Supra.
- 2 Lilian Hester, born 18th October 1884, died 3rd July 1889.
- 3 Arthur Franklin born 10th October 1886, died 3rd February 1890.

Of the second marriage, he had :—

- 4 Arnold Franklin, born 21st February 1893, died 26th February 1895.
- 5 Arthur Arion, who follows under VII.
- 6 Beatrice Mary, born 25th October 1895, died 24th February 1897
- 7 Sydney Rutherford, who follows under VIII.
- 8 Leslie Lionel, who follows under IX.
- 9 Collin Edward, who follows under X.
- 10 Melita Florinda, born 27th December 1901, died 28th July 1952, married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 27th December 1927, Henry Atheling Stanislaus Hamer, died 5th December 1957, son of Cecil Hamer and Matilda Orr.
- 11 Herman Lloyd, born 1st June 1904, died 1st April 1938, married in Christ Church, Galle Face, Colombo, Noeline Gertrude Assauw, daughter of Bernard Francis Assauw and Evelyn Susan Templar.

V.

Patrick Norman Raymond, born 3rd July 1860, died 27th August 1916, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 4th September 1882, Georgiana Frederica Jansz, and he had by her :

- 1 Patrick Neville, who follows under XI.

VI

Richard Francis Raymond, born 24th June 1860, died 3rd March 1951, married in the Baptist Church, Pettah Colombo, 24th September 1884, Cecilia Jane Corner, born 13th March 1859, died 31st March 1933, daughter of John George Corner. He had by her :—

- 1 Daughter, born 20th August 1885, died 2nd November 1885.
- 2 Arnold Archibald, who follows under XII.

VII.

Arthur Arion Raymond, born 18th July 1894, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Regent Street, Colombo, 27th December 1916. Hazel Amybel Blanche Rodrigo, born 14th January 1896, daughter of Walter Dionysius Rodrigo and Cecilia Amanda Ferreira. He had by her :—

- 1 Walter Arthur Annesley, who follows under XIII.
- 2 Bertha Joyce Amybel, born 2nd July 1920.
- 3 Marjorie Victoria, born 24th July 1925.

VIII.

Sydney Rutherford Raymond, born 17th November 1896, married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 29th July 1922, Adela Mary Bottoni, born 8th September 1898, daughter of James Joseph Bottoni and Jane Ellen Hunter. He had by her :—

- 1 Irene Frances Adela, born 5th April 1923, married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 12th September 1942, Walter Reginald Lodewyke, L.M.S. (Ceylon), M.R.C.S. (Eng), L.R.C.P. (Lond), born 25th October 1910, son of Walter Reginald Ludewyke and Ursula Raux.
- 2 Edith Joyce Carmelia, born 16th September 1924 married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 27th September 1947, Edward Francis Corteling, born 3rd July 1923, son of Francis Thomas Corteling, and Frances Cecilia Wyse.
- 3 Mavis Hyacinth Ellen, born 31st January, 1927, married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 29th October 1954, Melville Louis Kerkoven born 8th December 1926, son of Louis Gregory Kerkoven and Gilda Hazel Souza.
- 4 Nicholas Francis Sidney Bottoni, born 6th December 1928.
- 5 Francis Anthony Maurice, born 16th June 1933.
- 6 Venantius Aubrey Atheling Bottoni, born 18th May 1938.

IX.

Leslie Lionel Raymond, born 28th September 1898, died 27th March 1947, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Regent Street, Colombo, 24th December 1919, Clarice Lilian Holmes, born 17th November 1901, daughter of Austin Charles Holmes and Bella Frances Schokman. He had by her :—

- 1 Clarice Annette Frances, born 19th June 1921, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 2nd May 1942, Leonard Percival Maloney, born 27th September 1918, son of John Patrick Maloney and Zuila Rose Nugara.
- 2 Arthur Leslie, who follows under XIV.
- 3 Clifford Albert, born 26th October 1925.
- 4 Horatio Edgar Stanley, born 16th September 1929, died 15th October 1929.
- 5 Lesley Rita Charmaine, born 1st April 1933.
- 6 Lesley Elizabeth, born 7th May 1937.

X.

Collin Edward Raymond, born 24th October 1900, died 15th January 1961, married in Christ Church, Galle Free, Colombo, 27th December 1922, Alma Doris Assauw, born 6th February 1904, daughter of Bernard Francis Assauw and Lena Templar. He had by her:—

- 1 Edward Herman Francis, who follows under XV.
- 2 Anton Bernard William, born 13th June 1927.
- 3 St. Elmo Carlisle, born 16th July 1928, married in All Saints' Church, Borella, 28th August 1955, Halina Czajka born 16th August 1925, daughter of Felix Czajka and Natalia Stepinska of Wroblew in Poland.
- 4 Joan Doris Colleen, born 28th January 1930.
- 5 Adrian David Maurice, born 8th December 1931.

XI.

Patrick Neville Raymond, born 26th May 1883, married in the Dutch Reformed Church, Wolvendaal, 26th December 1908, Ann Mabel Rode, born 25th February 1882, died 21st June 1944, daughter of Martin Alexander Rode and Ann Rode. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIX, pages 100 and 107). He had by her:—

- 1 Frederica Uriel, born 14th October 1909, Married :
 - (a) In the Dutch Reformed Church, Bambalapitiya, 24th January 1929, Oscar James Joseph, born 4th April 1908, died 15th July 1953, son of Cyril Louis Joseph, Advocate and Melissa Theodora de Kretser. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XLIV, pages 187 and 193, and Vol. XLVII page 63).
 - (b) In the Registrar's Office, Negombo, 14th February 1951, Ernest Atkinson of Newcastle on Tyne, England, died in 1956.

XII.

Arnold Archibald Raymond, born 22nd October 1887, died 11th March 1941, married in St. Philip Neri's Church, Pettah, Colombo :

- (a) 14th January 1915, Myra Maria Raymond, born 5th December 1896, died 29th November 1918, daughter of Norbert Michael Raymond and Agnes Louisa Lawrence.
- (b) 27th December 1922, Anna Margaret Raymond, born 25th July 1903, sister of Myra Maria Raymond mentioned in (a) supra.

Of the first marriage, he had :—

- 1 John Andrew, who follows under XVI.
- 2 Christobel Henrietta, born 28th October 1918, died 27th November 1918.

Of the second marriage, he had :—

- 3 Christobel Henrietta, born 31st January 1924, married in St. Mary's Church, Dehiwala, 22nd November 1948, St. Quintus George Raymond, born 11th November 1919, son of Arthur Martin Raymond and Josephine Margaret Kronemberz.
- 4 Barbara Therese, born 21st September 1926, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 17th January 1948, Charles Lionel Layman,
- 5 Maurice Joseph, born 8th October 1928.
- 6 Richard Francis Anthony, born 1st April 1930.
- 7 Joan Antoinette, born 12th June 1932.
- 8 James John, born 17th June 1934.
- 9 Myra Maria, born 3rd August 1936.
- 10 Peter Francis, born 4th December 1939.

XIII.

Walter Arthur Annesley Raymond, born 6th November 1917, married in St. Anne's Church, Kurunegalle, 11th April 1953, Christine Marie Daniels, born 25th April 1930, daughter of Noel Maurice Carlisle Daniels and Marie Antoinette Ivy Holsinger—(D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVIII, page 55)—He had by her :—

- 1 Christopher Noel born 9th February 1954.
- 2 Pamela Ann, born 30th August 1956.
- 3 Johan Michael born 30th June 1959.

XIV.

Arthur Leslie Raymond, born 21st August 1922, married in All Saint' Church, Borella, 10th June 1948, Hortense Viola Rita Rode born 20th March 1929, daughter of Hector Vincent Rode, and Margaret Ethel Ebert, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXIX, page 114). He had by her:—

- 1 Keith Anthony, born 18th November 1954.

XV.

Edward Herman Francis, (Barney) Raymond, born 12th November 1923, married in Christ Church, Galle Face, Colombo, 27th December 1944, Joyce Marie Raneë Driberg, born 16th November 1925, daughter of John Frederick Harold Driberg, and Ione Esmeralda Buultjens—(D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXX, page 28 and Vol. XXXIV, page 15). He had by her:—

- 1 Denham Edward, born 16th September 1945.
- 2 Rosanna Eileen Joyce, born 18th January 1947.
- 3 Jeremy Edward, born 2nd October 1950.
- 4 Christopher Edward, born 9th July 1953.

XVI.

John Andrew Raymond, born 15th October 1915, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 22nd November 1952, Ivy Mary Theresa Sielman, born 21st August 1927, daughter of Charles Augustus Sielman and Grace Lucille Van Sanden. He had by her:—

- 1 Sandra Marrie Louise, born 4th May 1954.
- 2 Johan, born 31st October 1955, died 3rd November 1955.
- 3 Jan Gerard, born 25th January 1957.

The objects of the Union shall be:

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

GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF HOLE OF CEYLON.

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

I.

George Hole came to Ceylon early in the 19th Century as a Wesleyan Methodist Missionary. He married Selina Tranchell, daughter of Gustavus Adolphus Tranchell Lieutenant Colonel in The Ceylon Rifle Regiment, and Elisabeth Selway. He had by her:—

- 1 George Augustus, who follows under II

II.

George Augustus Hole, Superintendent of The Salt Department in Puttalam, married Katherine Jane Wallbeoff daughter of John Edward Wallbeoff and Charlotte Elizabeth Rosmale Cocq. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XIV, page 19, and Vol. XXIX, page 22). He had by her:—

- 1 Katherine Charlotte Selina, born 20th July 1866, died 8th January 1904, married in Christ Church, Galle Face, Colombo, 30th May 1892, Edwin Ludovici, L.M.S. (Ceylon), born 28th June 1865, died 22nd February 1942, son of Edwin Andrew Lorenz Ludovici Secretary of the Municipal Council, Colombo, and Maria Evelyn Toussaint, (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. III page 63, and Vol. IV, page 37).

- 2 George Adolphus Edward, who follows under III.

III.

George Adolphus Edward Hole, L.M.S., (Ceylon), born 8th September 1868, died 24th April 1904, married in St. Philip Neris Church, Pettah, Colombo, 30th September 1896, Florence Mabel Wright, born 27th September 1872, died 29th August 1933, daughter of John Michanx de Quintoe's Wright and Cecilia Elizabeth de La Harpe. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXX, page 44 and Vol. XXXVI, page 22.) He had by her:—

- 1 Florence Evelyn, born 10th July 1897, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 28th April 1919, Vernon Louis St. Clair Swan, Puisne Justice of The Supreme Court, Ceylon, born 19th March 1894, son of William Henry Swan, M.B.C.M. (Edin), L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin), Ceylon Medical Department, and Rosalind Caroline Modder. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXVI, pages 69 and 72, Vol. XXVIII, page 71)

- 2 Glencora Mavis, born 18th August 1898, married in St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, 4th June 1925, Wilhelm Loos Mack, born 26th October 1899, died at Calcutta, 12th August 1944, son of William Edmund Mack, and Ethel Sophia Loos. (D.B.U. Journal, Vol. XXXVIII, pages 145 and 149, and Vol. XXXIX, page 111).

SEVENTY-ONE YEARS AGO.

This article, with a title amended, is a well-prepared lecture on "Fifty Years Ago" which Mr. C. A. Wille delivered at the Union Hall on the 15th of July, 1940. It concentrates chiefly on the general features and notable incidents of the early nineties, as also on outstanding personalities of that period, but the lecturer's recollections and reflections also range from the years of early boyhood to 50 years later. It has not been previously published.

Mr. Wille was a notable figure in the public life of Ceylon and had earned for himself a great reputation as a scholar, a lawyer, a legislator and a student of politics. He was born in 1871 and died in his 81st year. In Vol. XLI, No. 4 of the Journal there will be found a full account of his achievements. (Note by Editor.)

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It is my intention this evening to cast a look back at the days of my youth. It is just fifty years ago that I emerged from the tutelage of college life to enter upon the World and I trust that the general features and incidents of that period which I shall recall will be of some interest and profit to the younger at least of my hearers. It is for them in particular that I intend this lecture. I cannot of course speak of the particular year 1890 without referring at times to the years just preceding it and just following it, for they were so connected in their wider aspects by a natural thread that they earned at one time the special sobriquet of *fin de siècle* with no little depreciatory significance. As I have kept no diary it is the larger aspects of those times that I shall try to reproduce from memory.

In this matter of not keeping a diary I must ask my young friends not to follow me as I feel it to be a regrettable omission when I think of the store house of memories and impressions of men and things I might have saved from oblivion so far as my own mind is concerned and some of those impressions valuable because they were contemporaneously garnered in the course of a life which whatever else it was has not been inactive.

This lecture is intended to be as little personal as possible, except so far as is necessary to illustrate a general truth. For this purpose let me state that my life has not been free from disappointment and even sorrows whether in earlier or later years but I consider myself fortunate to have had the boyhood I had and to have gone through my youth at the period I did. As regards the latter point I have often been called a Victorian but my only retort has been that I did not envy those who were born too late to earn the designation. When I

say that I lost my father at 6 years of age and was left to the care of a mother who had to depend for the most part on the charity of friends—there were no Widows Funds or even Provident Associations those days—it might be thought that I had a painful boyhood; quite the contrary. The frugal and simple ways of those days even if accompanied by what would be now considered hardships had their uses or compensations; and whatever may be said as to the need of changing with the times the greater comforts and conveniences today and new pleasures and advantages have on the whole been more than balanced by the greater difficulties and artificialities they have brought into the lives of particularly the less well to do. Ceylon in general was then not quite so unhappy a place as it seems to be now. There was at any rate more contentment then. At this point perhaps I should add that one of the compensations of even straightened circumstances is that it gives you a true value of money and impresses you with the advantages of Thrift—that simple virtue the absence of which leads, to so much trouble and unhappiness in life and which cannot be too strongly inculcated on those beginning life especially today when there are so many seductive sources of expenditure. One of the objects of this Union is to promote Thrift and one of the earliest lectures delivered under its auspices was one on that subject by Dr. Van Dort. Dr. Van Dort was a litterateur and a scientist and when I asked him to deliver a lecture for the old Pettah Library he chose for his subject. “The Poetry of Common Things” such as a drop of water or a snow flake. But when he was asked to lecture for the Union his subject was the homely one of thrift. The choice is significant. In this matter we cannot get away with impunity from Micawber’s principle—fixed income high or low for each man according to his station in life—expenditure within it by however narrow a margin happiness—expenditure above it, however small, misery. The moral in short is whatever your income regulate your expenditure accordingly.

As illustrating the position of educated youths in Ceylon at the time, I have to mention that when I left College the examination that determined the award of the University Scholarship was the Senior Cambridge Local, hardly a couple of students each year taking the London Matriculation; and it may interest you to know that in the year before I left College the order of merit, taking scripture also into account, was E. H. Vanderwall and J. P. Salgadoe of St. Thomas College and C. E. de Vos and myself from Royal. But when Scripture was eliminated the order was C. E. de Vos, who was hard to beat at any Examination, myself, E. H. Vanderwall and Salgadoe. Except for those who could afford to go to England these examinations represented the *Ultima-Thule* of College Education in Ceylon and present day youth have advantages in educational facilities which were beyond the reach of the Ceylonese of previous generations who however did not fail to give to the Public Services and to public life many an outstanding figure. How they did it is worth wondering.

All I know is that although trained teachers were not dreamt of education seems to have been thorough and students for the most part went out into the World with a better grounding in and keener appreciation of literature as embodying the best that has been thought and said in the World. Claims of the modern side and the greater multiplicity of subjects now required are held to blame, but in the Royal College of fifty years ago a 6th Form boy learnt English Literature, History, Geography, Political Economy, Latin, Greek, French, pure and applied Mathematics and some Science subjects.

The Senior student was not a mere devotee of text books either. He took parts in debates and followed the course of events in Ceylon and elsewhere with keen interest and the names of those in public life in Ceylon or outside still live, though our disadvantages were great. There was not that plethora of books and magazines that there is now. The Royal College Library had about a hundred books where as the University College Library today has 6000, and the only bookshop at the time was that of Cave’s followed by that of Wahid Bros, who dealt only in text books for the Cambridge Examinations. A copy of Macaulay’s Essays which I still possess was purchased by me for 30 cts in the Iron boutiques of Third cross Street Pettah which then dealt in Second Hand Books. This copy was wanting in four pages and the transcript I made of them from the copy in the Pettah Library is still in my copy, showing a calligraphy which I can now only wistfully regret. In the matter of local English news papers the position was such that many could truthfully say that Ceylon had not advanced since 50 years ago so far as its newspapers are concerned. Two great figures, A. M. & John Ferguson, conducted the “Ceylon Observer”. The “Times” was controlled by the Cappers. The “Ceylon Examiner” had a galaxy of talent supporting it from Hulftsdorp while the “Ceylon Independent” had for its leader writer the stalwart George Wall who could write one day on Bi-metallism and the next on Intellectual and Manual Training in our schools. My connection with journalism started shortly after I left college as a bi-weekly commentator on current topics in the “Ceylon Examiner.” The straight thoughts of a quill driver appeared for some years in that paper and I took my cue from the well known column in it fed by many legal luminaries, *de omnibus rebus*. Perhaps my idea was to add the *et quibusdam aliis*.

With these brief more or less personal reminiscences I pass on to things more general. The Condition of Ceylon in 1890 as compared first with 1815 when the whole country came under British rule and secondly with today 125 years thereafter will be seen from the following table of figures comprising the more important of the usual heads of the country’s statistics:—

It is a record of great strides made, as the progress of the country in general goes, in that it shows that great developments are taking place in the administration of the country and the question for our own young men is what they should do to take their due place in it, as the Burghers

of an older generation did. These developments have meant the emergence of legitimate forces which they have to meet by way of greater competition. It does not mean greater in quality, as Burgher youths have had their chances of progress as much as others, but only, though of no little consequence as regards numbers. I cannot help thinking that it is social distractions, if not the counter-attraction of amusements and pleasures that prevent our students from being successful in greater numbers in the academic examinations that are today the pass-port to higher administrative posts. I shall give figures presently in regard to the proportion of Burghers in the various offices of Government but look at the two decades before 1890 and see how young Burghers fared in open competition with the best intellects of other communities. In the course of these two decades which produced Scholars like Ponnambalam Arunachalam, James Peiris, Thomas de Sampayo, the gifted brothers H.M. & C. M. Fernando, the University Scholarship was won on twelve occasions by Burghers. The winners were J. T. Blaze, Mack, C. B. Nicholas, Arthur Joseph, Labrooy, Anthonisz, Morgan, Charles Vanderwall, Buultjens, Frank Grenier, Ernest Stork, and C. E. de Vos. With equal opportunities of studies cannot the proportion of successful Burgher candidates even if it must be smaller than before because of the greater number of others competing be better than it is?

A comparison of establishments will reveal both the extension of government activities during the past 50 years and the changes in the respective proportions in which the different communities have taken part in the administration. There were in the Civil Service in the First Class fifteen officers all Europeans. In the Second Class, 11 Europeans and two Sinhalese (J. H. de Saram and F. J. de Livera) in the Third Class 19 Europeans, 1 Burgher G. C. Rosemalecocq and one Tamil, Ponnambalam Arunachalam. In the Fourth 17 Europeans and 1 Burgher R. A. Brohier. In the Fifth Class 19 Europeans 1 Sinhalese and 1 Tamil and in the Cadet Class 8 officers, all Europeans. There were 12 acting appointments in Judicial offices forming part of Civil Service, and 4 of the 12 were filled by N. E. Cooke, J. S. Driberg, Edward Swan and J. H. Eaton while out of four acting Cadetships one was filled by W. Vanlangenberg. That is to say the permanent appointments so far as Ceylonese were concerned were held by 3 Sinhalese, 2 Burghers and 2 Tamils.

What is the position today? of 24 in Class 1 of the Civil Service besides 12 Europeans and 5 Indians and others there are 3 Burghers, two Sinhalese and two Tamils, the comparatively favourable position of the Burghers being the result of the conditions in earlier years which no longer obtain, as in class 2 of the Service there are only 7 Burghers against 35 Europeans, 29 Sinhalese and 15 Tamils.

In the Survey Department there were in 1890, 23 Europeans and 1 Burgher Mr. Garret Leembruggen. In the P. W. D. there were 12 Provincial Engineers, 11 Europeans and 1 Burgher (Mr. Cecil Koch father of Mr. F. H. B. Koch) and 34 District Engineers, that is 30 Euro-

peans, 1 Burgher (Fretz) and 3 Tamils. In the Irrigation Department there were 3 Europeans and 1 Burgher (E. S. Barber). Superintendent of Village tanks. In the Legal Department there was Sir, Samuel Grenier and as Crown Counsel with Templer, Hay, Dumbleton and Fisher-Dick Morgan and Louis Nell, (father of our friend Dr. Andreas Nell), while C. L. Ferdinands was District Judge of Colombo. (I may digress here to state that I worked for a short time under Dumbleton and Fisher.) Dumbleton was a great favourite with every one at the Bar and was affectionately called by his friends by a sort of spoonerism Mr. Tumbledown. He used to be compared to Sir. Frank Lockwood at the English Bar both owing to his literary talents and his gift of striking off little sketches of court figures as a case was proceeding. C. L. Ferdinands was well known as a great Roman Dutch Law Scholar and was a familiar figure in Wolvendaal Church.

In the Medical Department the Burghers were well represented. Among Colonial Surgeons were Morgan, A. L. Vanderstraaten, Keith and Vandersmägt, while in the lower ranks were the familiar figures of Garvin, Gratiaen, Thomasz, Woutersz, Lourensz, Bartholomeusz, de Kretser Vanrooyan and last but not least Dr. Andreas Nell. Among others still happily among us is Dr. Edwin Ludovici. Out of 105 Doctors in the Medical Department 49 were Burghers in 1890. Today out of 351 Doctors there are only 48 Burghers.

It was not only in Departments like the Medical in particular that the Burghers held a pre-eminent position in skill and a satisfactory position as regards numbers. No doubt larger numbers of Sinhalese and Tamils have gone in for higher education than was the case in 1890.; and nobody can grudge them their due place in the administration. But why should not the Burghers have a better proportion than they have today? In the Scientific Departments in particular and where Mathematics are concerned the number of Burghers is not satisfactory. Is it only the want of means to go to England that accounts for this? What was the Clerical Examination? Unlike in 1890 it now holds out prospects of appointments with higher salaries in various Departments. If in the legal profession, where there is a fair field and no favour, they can hold their own they should be able to qualify for more places in other spheres of life? In the Field Staff of the Survey General's Office I find that out of 26 Assistant Superintendents there are one European, 12 Sinhalese, 12 Tamils and one Burgher.

I cannot refrain from a passing reference to J. P. Lewis who was one of the greatest literary figures among our Civil Servants, and contributed no small share of the extent writings relating to Ceylon and all that pertains to it. Nor can I pass over Mr S. M. Burrows, Stephen Montague Burrows as some one called him whose eloquence often rivalled that of Sir West Ridgeway on the same platform, to the secret embarrassment it was said of the latter and who also like H. H. Cameron engaged in scholastic studies after his retirement. A Civil Servant of a different type, though he afforded two sensational incidents, was J. D. Mason. In one instance, he ordered two horses to be brought up which

were the subject of a case before him and which were harnessed to a carriage which was to take Chief Justice Burnside home from the Courts on that day. He was hauled up for contempt of the Supreme Court and fined Rs. 200/-. It was whispered that Government secretly remitted the fine. In the other instance Mason told Mr. Dornhorst that in some argument urged by the latter there was more sound than sense. Mr. Dornhorst retorted by saying that he was not accustomed to such language from a petty Magistrate. Mason wanted to have Mr. Dornhorst brought up for contempt. It happened an hour or so before a prize giving at Royal College which was to take place that evening, and I remember Mr. Dornhorst having a flushed face when he spoke at the Prize Giving and referred sarcastically to the narrow escape he had had from arrest. Sir Samuel Grenier and others intervening, the matter did not go further. Another Civil Servant I must mention is Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam who was then the only Ceylonese who had won a place in the Civil Service as the result of the competitive examination held in England.

The Civil Servants at the time in order of seniority were Sir William Twynam who served Government for 50 years from 1845 to 1895, holding the office of Government Agent for over quarter of a century. He was an official of the old colonial conservative days, but his interest in the people was very great and active and he donated to the Friend-in-Need Society of Jaffna a sum of Rs. 10,000 which had been subscribed by his friends, on his attaining his official jubilee.

Next, there was Edward Elliot, father of Mr. Brooke Elliot. He had begun life as Private Secretary to a Puisne Judge and was appointed to the Service by the Governor before the days of appointment by the Secretary of State as a result of the competitive examinations held in England. He made many endeavours to render paddy cultivation more remunerative and was so interested in the project that he tried paddy cultivation himself. He settled down in Ceylon after his retirement.

Then there was F. C. Fisher who entered the Service at the age of 16 years. His frank reports as Government Agent of Uva in 1890 dealing with the operations of the paddy tax contributed to its repeal.

H. W. Green was another interesting figure. In 1890 he was serving as Director of Public Instruction (as the office was then designated) having been seconded for service in that post. He was a scholarly man and of kind disposition. He had seen my papers in the Director's Prize Examination for Classics and having heard from the Principal that owing to my pecuniary position I feared I might not be able to pursue studies in England even if I won the University Scholarship he sent for me to his office and gave me some kindly and encouraging advice. He was a great friend of our Principal, John Barnaby Cull. He was a little too fond of my Lady Nicotine and I cannot even today recall his face without being mentally confronted with his favourite pipe. His excess in this indulgence is said to have led to his final nervous break-down. He took a great interest in the old Agricultural School and found an able assistant in the late Mr. Christie Drieberg.

Another scholarly member of the Civil Service at the time was Mr. H. H. Cameron, son of the Cameron who was associated with Col. Colebrooke in reporting on the Judicial and Administration System of the Island in 1831. It was a torture to him to be Chairman of the Municipal Council, Colombo, at the time when it was dominated by a member who owing to his obstructive tactics was known as the Ceylon Parnell. To this member we owe the name Avondale given to one of our roads, that having been also the name of the birthplace of the great Irish leader who had recently introduced obstruction into the British Parliament in order to call attention to the Irish cause. When Mr. Cameron retired from Ceylon he went back to his beloved University of Oxford to complete a Classical Course he had left unfinished in his student days.

Mr. F. R. Ellis was another outstanding figure in the Service. If Government wanted any mischief or some crooked tactics ferreted out he was the handy man. When Mr. Herbert White startled both Government and the public by adopting an unorthodox method of exposing what he discovered in the Colombo Municipal Council soon after his appointment as Chairman (by issuing a questionnaire which he himself answered in incisive fashion)—the gist of all of which was to suggest that the local Parnell had both hands in the Municipal Pie—Mr. Ellis was the officer selected to investigate and report. His Report was not encouraging to Herbert White who received a rebuff also from the Supreme Court when he complained to it that in the action in which he got involved as a result of his magnificent indiscretion he was not able to find a Counsel who had not already received a retainer from "Parnell".

Time would fail me to tell of others. There was C. J. R. Le Mesurier who, apart from his land transactions and litigations with Sir Hector Van Cuylenberg as Proprietor of the "Ceylon Independent", supplied in connection with his matrimonial escapades and his dismissal from Government service two leading cases to our Law Reports—Sir Alexander Ashmore was another outstanding figure. He was an able Administrator who after serving in Ceylon for a short time during which he had given evidence of a hasty temper went outside and returned as Lieut. Governor when he became the subject of two public meetings over (i) a remark of his about the Ceylon standard of character and (ii) his new Salary scheme into which Sterling salaries were introduced for the first time, the bitterness against him being fomented by his unyielding attitude over another matter, in which the public was less interested. When he died, under an operation for Appendicitis, in the midst of the opprobrium he had incurred, the voice of censure became silent and only tributes to his great work were heard. He was a great humorist and the story goes that when his offending appendix which had been removed was shown him just after the operation he asked his Doctor (Dr. Garvin) to send it with his compliments to the Editor of the Ceylon Independent (the paper which had dealt with him rather unsparingly)

The Legislative Council in 1890 was composed of the Governor Sir Arthur Gordon and later in the year Sir Arthur Havelock with 8 officials and 7 non-officials. Sir Arthur Gordon had not been very popular and the

regime of the new Governor was as usual looked forward to with hope. Among the officials were Sir Samuel Grenier Attorney General, and Sir G. T. M. O'Brien who had succeeded the popular W. H. Ravenscroft, the latter having died after holding office for 13 years. Sir G. T. M. O'Brien who had been Treasurer of the Island for over 4 years was succeeded by Sir Frederick Saunders.

The meetings of the Council were, I need hardly state, very short. The Session of 90/91 which Sir Arthur Havelock opened in October of 1890 lasted till 12th August of the following year but consisted of only 15 meetings, each lasting between 2 and 3 hours on an average. Hansard for the year consists of a few pages as against today. It will be of interest to mention that the duration of the appointments of unofficial members had just been extended from 3 to 5 years.

Among the business that came or was about to come before the Council was the Report of the Select Committee on the historic Grain Tax. A Select Committee was also sitting to suggest means in order to prevent the continued diminution of the attractions of Nuwara Eliya as a Health Resort. Another Select Committee was about to be appointed to consider the desirability of proceeding with registration of titles to lands. We are still considering the same desirability. The Special Commissioner Mr. J. H. de Saram had completed the registration of titles in Dehiwala and Wellawatte and was engaged in investigating claims in Kirillapone having still been unable to touch Kalubowila and Talangama which were among the 5 divisions which had been brought within the operation of the Land Registration Ordinance. The cost and rate of progress were both necessarily discouraging.

The Governor in his address complained of the want of revenue for social services where the current needs of the administration had been met. The increasing value of tea as a contributor to the revenue was emphasised but not without anxiety in view of the fact that the value of the tea exported was considerably more than 1/3 of that of the total exports of the Island.

Many of our present complaints were troubling the Government of that day. There was drought in certain parts of the Island necessitating advances to buy seed. Lands and irrigation works failed to attract purchasers or settlers and the distribution of population between the more fertile districts and the dry zones was very uneven. The crime record due to frequent use of the knife was soon to lead to a special Ordinance dealing with the subject. In accordance with the English Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885, in connection with which men like W. T. Stead had played a great part, the age of consent under our Penal Code was to be raised.

Fifty years ago I need hardly say was a simpler time in mode of living and in the conveniences of life than the present day. As regards dress the fashion of the males seemed never to change and whether ladies

costumes were also as stereotyped as ours I do not know. The kaleidoscope of fashion would then be but of praise. Whether female dress was ampler in 1890 than it is today would depend perhaps on one point of view. There were no doubt much artificiality. Collars were constricted while balloon sleeves were not unknown and while waists were made unduly small skirts were, even though the crinoline had long gone out, unduly ample. But to their credit be it said that Ladies' skirts in those days concealed more than ankles and as for Mrs. Bloomer's divided skirts they would have been regarded as an abomination. I will say no more on this subject but leave to the ladies to discuss it at the close of this lecture.

As to mode of living, to take a detail of home life there was not so much of reliance on imported articles of food and dress and home made things had a much better chance. We are all of course creatures of habits and while I studied with the aid of a cocoanut oil lamp without feeling the need of something better (even gas was not common in those days) to the people of today nothing short of electric lights would suffice. A special feature of drawing rooms in that period was the anti-macassar and perhaps the ladies here would be able to throw light on their origin, their life and their extinction.

Taking Society in its general external aspects the chief contrasting feature with today is perhaps that people even the younger sought less after extra domestic pleasure. Not that special occasions which called for them were not marked by merriment. The 25th Anniversaries, for instance, were usually celebrated not by one night's enjoyment at a Public Hall but by two or three nights' successive entertainments at the House of the Hosts except for the few who were more or less formal friends of the family. Even Birth-day parties were not without hilarity but there were more domesticity in all these matters and people did not seek their amusements to such an extent outside home. I am not sitting in judgment on the present generation for each has its particular ethos but merely noting the difference in this sphere between 50 years ago and now, so that any tendencies to excess may be corrected. Tennis and other Clubs were hardly known among the fair-sex and exercise was not such a fetish as it is today, even among males. Whether the younger folk of the present generation are healthier in body and mind than those of the earlier generations I will not presume to say.

Perhaps the quicker and the easier means of communication today have much to do with a more pleasure loving and less serious temperament. Walking was the mode of locomotion where today many would go about in a Rickshaw or in a Car. I have often said to those who asked me why I take no exercise that in my younger days I put in enough walking to last me a life time.

If the Galle Face promenade could speak it would tell how often I trod up and down on the same evening. In 1890 there were few rickshaws. The safety bicycle, that marvel of cheapness combined

with simplicity, to which I owed a good deal in later years, had not come in 1890. The tall bone-shaker was a forbidding thing but in England evidently by then the safety bicycles had become popular even for young ladies.

As for motor cars we had not in Ceylon any spectacle corresponding to even King Edward the VII's petrol-driven road vehicle—he was then Prince of Wales, as Queen Victoria was still alive. It used to go at 5 miles per hour with a man who carried a red flag walking in front. In England the red flag and the speed limit of 5 miles per hour were in force till 1896, six years after our fifty years ago.

The petrol engine was invented, (I am sorry to say that so many things the Germans in their cleverness misuse) by a German called Daimler. The first motor car I saw, excepting a little so called pise-colo car owned by a German residing in Retreat Road Bambalapitiya, was I think the well known one of the late Mr. F. J. de Saram which he purchased about 1907 for I believe about Rs. 10,000/-. As for Flying machines which were to come from the much older idea of the Frenchmen's balloon filled with hydrogen gas plus Daimler's petrol engines we in our youth never had a whisper of them. It almost makes one wish that Daimler had never invented the engine which if it has given us the motor car has also ended in the diabolical air raid machine.

In the matter of what we read in those days it can be guessed from the men who dominated English thought, literature and science at the time. The influence of those who were then dead whether recently or in earlier decades be it a Browning, Mathew Arnold, Carlisle Mill, Dickens, Thackeray, Darwin would still remain; but they were living at the time such men as Tennyson, Meredith, William Morris, Cardinal Newman, Walter Pater, Freud, Coventry Patmore, Ruskin, R. L. Stevenson, Professor Tindale, Huxley, Lord Acton, Herbert Spencer, Professor Lecky, Canon Doyle, (though his immortal Sherlock Holmes was yet to be born) Edmund Goss, Andrew Lang, Frederick Harrison, Stopford Brooke, James Payn, Leslie Stephen, Thomas Hardy, Rider Haggard, Anthony Hope, Zangwill, Joseph Conrad, William Watson, Galsworthy, Arnold Bennett, G. W. Stephens. When the young Stephens and the aged Ruskin both died on the same day at the beginning of the present century it was my melancholy duty to contribute to the local press an appreciation of both. I have mentioned so many names though I could easily add to the list to show that the nineties of last century was about the richest age of English Literature. Of course the decade was supposed to have brought in a new era. The Victorian age was thought to be in its death throes for ten years or so before Queen Victoria's death and the usurping trend of thought had already, it was urged, set in. The reference is of course to what is called the decadence represented by Oscar Wilde and the authors of such books "The Heavenly Twins" and "The Woman who Did" (Sara Grand and Grant Allen) and there were

writers who dealt with the new fiction and new paganism, the new hedonism, (or pleasure as the Chief good) the new humor, the new realism. But there were also H. G. Wells and Bernard Shaw, both still very much alive today even if we think the latter too much of an iconoclast. There were novelists like Mrs. Humphrey Ward, the niece of Mathew Arnold who just a year before had startled the thinking portion of the Christian World by her "Robert Elsmere". Men like Gladstone contributed articles to the 19th Century magazine on the famous novel and I remember as a youngster hearing a Sermon on it in the Pettah Methodist Chapel by Revd. Thomas Moscrop, one of the great preachers of the Wesleyan Church in Ceylon in those days.

We owed a great deal also to that remarkable Journalist W. T. Stead who went down in the famous "Titanic" in 1912 with about 1500 souls. He made literature accessible to the poorest and I still have with me a copy of William Morris's "Earthly Paradise" in Stead's Penny Poets Series and as I recall, when I read the paper for the English Association on that poet some years ago, it was the means of my introduction to him, but he became more widely known by inaugurating what Mathew Arnold called the New Journalism. It however only meant new movements for good, promoted with a new dash and vivacity. I have already referred to the amendments of our Criminal Law with regard to the age of consent. It followed the publication of Stead's "The Tribute of Modern Babylon". He could not get evidence for something he wrote in connection with the movement and so went to jail for three months but that did not diminish his influence. In fact it was said that nothing happened in England after his association with men like Lord Morley and Lord Milner on the Pall Mall Gazette which was not influenced by his personality.

On 1st January 1890 he started the well-known Review of Reviews which was as popular here as elsewhere and in it he strove for the cause of International Peace. The Spiritualist belief which he developed and with which many did not sympathise did not affect their estimate of him as a great public force. When he went down in the Titanic the World lost one of its most courageous publicists.

It is alleged as illustrating the flippancy of the last century that it produced the well known nonsense chorus, which was sung in Ceylon as elsewhere, of "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay". It went round the English speaking World like an epidemic and when it reached Ceylon early in the nineties just when the volunteers were about to have their first camp in Urugasmanhandiya the song was improved upon by rhyming it with "Urugasmanhandiya". But if the nineties produced this laugh-provoking ditty it also produced Kipling who, besides much else that is good, gave us on the morrow of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee,

when all England went almost frantic with the elation of power which the Jubilee celebration evoked, the necessary corrective in that magnificent Reoessional with its solemn refrain "Lest we Forget" which has secured a place in our Hymn Books. One of the literary treats which I have enjoyed was to hear the late Mr. Senior recite Kipling's poem. I am not, be it remembered, offering a critical literary estimate of the nineties — a puzzling period — but am giving you my straight thoughts on its opposing features, both serious and frivolous.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BY

BAAS KEUVELAAR

There can be no harm in revealing that the stories by "Baas Keuvelaar", literally Boss Chatterbox or in modern parlance Old Gramophone, which appeared in the early ten volumes of the Journal, were by F. H. de Vos who died in July 1920.

It was by his pen that Mr. de Vos elected to serve the Union and his Community. Nearly every number of the Journal issued prior to the date of his death bears witness to his zeal and wide research. All the Genealogies published in the early years of the Union were compiled by him and he also wrote many articles of interest and of value to students of Dutch colonial history.

But to think that F. H. de Vos was unable in the circumstances to indulge in lighter vein would be a travesty. His Baas Keuvelaar stories of the Good Old Days are brimming over with jest and wit. They make both easy and pleasant reading. If these stories were, as we understand, read again and again with advantage in the yester-years, by a community of members of an earnest frame of mind given to things that really mattered, no apology seems needed for reprinting them in changed conditions where the light side of things is the social craze of the moment. Besides, very few today even know of the existence of these stories in the back volumes of the Journal. They justly merit being called to notice.

The stories are meant to give some idea of social conditions in Ceylon during the Dutch period under the guise of light fiction. They should not be taken seriously from the historical angle, and are definitely not intended to give offence to anybody.— PREFACE BY EDITOR.

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Hendrik de Haagenaar was an antiquarian—an oriental scholar. His wife was Eugenie Lavalliere. Major Beauroux, who had been long resident in Ceylon, once as a military officer and afterwards on the retired list, was living at Galle. Major Beauroux had a mania for rare books on Ceylon. His collection was the envy and admiration of every one who visited his *buitenplaats*¹ at Mahamodere and was privileged to enter his Library. It was thus not surprising that Major Beauroux should fructify into an author, and when his magnum opus "*Appu Sinno Et Son Ile*"² appeared, it created such a sensation, that the Governor ordered every Civil Servant to be provided free gratis and for nothing with a copy. Major Beauroux happened to be in

1 Country house.

2 French for "Appu Sinno and his Island."

Paris, having gone there for a change, when he met at a meeting of the "*Societe pour l'Europeenisation des Races de Couleur*"³ Miss Constantia Lavilliere, the sister of Mrs. de Haagenaar. Miss Constantina was blessed with a good balance at her bankers, and had devoted a great deal of her time to the study of the history of the gorgeous East and its religions. As was to be expected she and Major Beauroux soon struck up an acquaintanceship which soon ripened into the friendship of two persons with kindred tastes. She read "*Appu Sinno et son ile*" with much relish and handed it to Broer⁴ Hendrik. The book so fired the imagination of Hendrik de Haagenaar that he at once resolved to sail to Ceylon with his wife in the same ship in which Major Beauroux was returning to the Island with his friend the Rajah of Anuradhapura. The de Haagenaaers were to stay at Galle with Major Beauroux, an opportunity which gave the orientalist access to the numerous tomes in Major Beauroux's Library. Mrs. de Haagenaar, whose delicate state of health could not even induce Hendrik to postpone his visit, not long afterwards presented her spouse with a little daughter, the second child in the family, the first Jan having been left in Amsterdam in charge of his Aunt Constantia. Needless to say that Hendrik de Haagenaar made good use of Major Beauroux's library during his six months stay with the savant. It was not long however before the Rajah invited Mr. and Mrs. de Haagenaar to spend some time at his Palace at Anuradhapura, stating that there were numerous old stone ruins about the place with strange inscriptions on them, which he was sure would interest Hendrik: and that the Ranee, his sister, was dying to see Mrs. de Haagenaar and the baby. The Rajah and Ranee were both educated in Holland as children and were quite Dutch in their manner, habits and tastes, though still true to their Buddhist religion.

The time had now arrived for the departure of the de Haagenaaers for Anuradhapura. They had already made many friends at Galle among the Dutch community there, and the Galle people were very sorry to lose them. The Commandeur made all the necessary preparations for their journey to Colombo. Palankeens were engaged, rooms secured at the Resthouses on the road, and the local headmen requested to attend to their wants. The Governor at the other end also made his arrangements for their journey to Anuradhapura, the Rajah sending an armed escort of his trusty lascoreens all the way from the ancient city. The de Haagenaaers were eventually comfortably installed in the Palace, and Mr. de Haagenaar was busy all day copying the inscriptions and translating them.

About this time a great controversy arose at Colombo as to the right of the Kandyan Ambassadors to beat tom-toms on their way from their quarters at Hulftsdorf to the Fort, past the Fort Church. The Governor, whose policy was to conciliate these Ambassadors from

3 "Society for the Europeanisation of Coloured Races,"

4 Brother,

the Kandyan Court, had no objection, but numerous residents in the Fort, headed by the Predikant, thought the nuisance should not for a moment be tolerated, the Predikant taking high ground and saying that it was a direct insult and menace to the Christian Religion that heathens should be allowed by the Governor to pass Christian Churches on Christian territory making heathenish noises euphemistically called "native music." The Revd. Victor Sterkhartius (for that was the Predikant's name) maintained that even if, as alleged by the Governor, there was a convention between the Kandyan Court which permitted the "music" in question the same was what lawyers called ultra vires, and the "high" "contracting parties" could not by means of a "convention" run counter to the wishes of the European and other Christian inhabitants of Colombo. The Political Council had a special sitting to discuss this grave question and delegates from the various Churches in Ceylon were invited to attend a special meeting of the Consistory at Colombo to protest against the action of the Governor.

Major Beauroux could not agree with the Predikants. He thought that native "music" was an interesting survival, deserving of encouragement. If the ancient Israelites could indulge in the sackbut and dulcimar, why should not the Sinhalese, an historic race, be permitted to have their "concord of sweet sounds."

The Predikant was obdurate. Taking for his text Psalm II. I. "*Waarom woeden de Heidenen en bedenken de volken ydelheid*"⁵ he preached his great sermon worthy of a great occasion. "Dearly beloved brethren" he said "the time has arrived when all true Christians will have to put on the armour of the elect and fight the good fight.

The quiet and sanctity of Christian households are endangered, their devotions interrupted by the sounds of heathen music—music forsooth, the diabolical revels of unregenerate natives. The Government has turned a deaf ear to the earnest entreaties of the clergy and has given official sanction to these heathen practices" etc.

It was not long before these matters came to be known to the King of Kandy, who was naturally very wroth against the Dutch inhabitants of Ceylon. All heathendom was roused against the Christians.

They had reviled the Buddhist Faith and had imported into the Island a Mr. de Haagenaar who was sacrilegiously dispoiling the ancient city of Anuradhapura of its relics and disturbing its ancient shrines in conjunction with their Rajah, whom European civilisation had denationalized and converted into a rank apostate, filled with the damnable materialism of the West. The news soon spread throughout the length and breadth of the Island, and of course reached the ears of the notorious outlaw, Sardiel Appu, who lost no time to

5 "Why do the heathen so furiously rage together" etc.

call to arms his famed band of Veddah archers. Haagenaar who had foolishly shown himself on the balcony to appease the infuriated mob, was shot through the heart by a well-directed arrow. The historic cannon and blunderbusses of the Palace could not be used as the Rajah's gunners and riflemen were away chewing betel in their villages. There was nothing for it but to barricade themselves and await re-inforcements. A punitive force of Dutch soldiers was at once despatched by the authorities, but before it could arrive, Sardiel Appu and his men betook themselves to their mountain fastnesses. In the midst of all this confusion it was discovered that Robertina d' Orta, the baby's tupas ayah, and the baby were not to be found. Robertina had taken the child out as usual in its palankeen. The weeping and lamentation which ensued can better be imagined than described.

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Some months after the grief-stricken widow left Galle for Holland, having given up all hopes of for ever seeing her little daughter. But she had the consolation of having Major Beauroux as a fellow-passenger. He tried to cheer her up as best he could during the voyage, and accompanied her to Amsterdam where they were met by Jan and Miss Constantia.

As regards Robertina, on hearing of the commotion previous to the attack on the Palace, she picked up the baby from the palankeen and took refuge in a neighbouring boutique. Knowing the logic of the Ranee, she feared to face her. She was sure to call her a wretch for having taken the child out at an unlucky hour, and could expect no mercy from her. She therefore determined, with the assistance of the boutique keeper's wife, to flee to the hinterland. She could call the child her albino daughter, and the ignorant villagers would be none the wiser, the colour of the child lending itself easily to the deception. Thus Robertina and the child disappeared and could not be traced. Many years had passed since the occurrences above detailed and Jan de Haagenaar had entered the service of the Dutch East India Company and was an assistant stationed at Galle. His aunt Constantia though now a trifle "long in the tooth", being of a restless nature determined to pay a visit to her nephew, taking with her the daughter of Colonel Leeuwhart, called Amanda, who had been sent to Holland for her education. They arrived in due course, and Amanda created quite a flutter in the social dovecote at Galle. Being a young lady of more advanced views than the benighted sisters of a distant colony like Ceylon, she somewhat startled the staid and stay-at-home juffrouws of the place, but she found an able ally in Miss Constantia, who backed her up in the suggestion that the dreary monotony of the place could be broken by a little mixed bathing at Watering Point, across the harbour. The party were to consist of the Commandeur and family, Major Beauroux and Madame Beauroux (widow de Haagenaar), Jan, Amanda, the Rajah, the Ranee, Col. and Mrs. Leeuwhart and others. It was a picnic on a grand scale, a special temporary shed having been

put up to accommodate the party. Old and young were disporting themselves in the water when Amanda uttered a shriek, her big toe having been pierced through her bathing shoes by a piece of broken glass. She was brought ashore and the Ranee and Madame Beauroux, in attending to her foot discovered a birth mark on it which made Madame Beauroux clasp Amanda in her arms as her long lost child. The Colonel and Mrs. Leeuwhart had to admit that they adopted the child, having taken her from the Weeshuis at Trincomalee, when they were stationed there. The mingled feelings of joy and surprise created by this discovery caused a temporary cessation of the merriment which prevailed, soon to be followed by the greatest conviviality. An extract from the books of the Weeshuis subsequently confirmed the statement of the Colonel.

Mrs. Constantia made up her mind to make Ceylon her home, and she, Amanda and Jan quietly settled at Jaffna where Jan had served as Commandeur, Major and Madame Beauroux staying in their beloved Galle, though paying frequent visits to the North.

The news of the discovery created quite a stir in Ceylon and Col. Leeuwhart, who was living in retirement at The Hauge, was never tired of relating this incident in his life in Ceylon in the "Good Old Days".

THE FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1961.

The 53rd, Annual General Meeting of the Union was held on Saturday, 27th, May 1961, in the Union Hall. Dr. E. S. Brohier, the President, occupied the Chair and about forty members were present.

After confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting, the President addressed the members as follows:—

Ladies and Gentlemen. It gives me pleasure to present to you the report of the General Committee of the Dutch Burgher Union of Ceylon, together with the audited accounts for the year 1960.

Before doing so may I claim the privilege to make a few general remarks about the Union and the Community to which we belong.

When I had the honour of addressing you last year, I prefaced my remarks by stating that we had been through a troublous and a disturbing period. I feel I am justified in striking a similar note to-day too.

One practical result of the troubles we had faced was, I then remarked, the fact that our Community was being dispersed and our families broken up by reason of emigration from Ceylon. This feature of our communal life has been no less pronounced during the past year—and the good wishes and fervent hopes of those of us who remain here will no doubt go out in full measure to all those who wish to make new homes elsewhere.

Their departure from our midst, however, not only makes our community numerically smaller, but also casts a heavier burden on us if we are to survive at all as a recognisable entity.

This survival involves not only the need for our daily bread, for our continued racial distinctiveness has also to be safe guarded. If I may repeat myself, I would say again that this can only be done by remembering that, despite all our contacts with the indigenous communities, contacts which will perhaps become more frequent in the future, we are of the West, in origin, in our communal history, in our social habits and our culture, and in our hopes for the future.

Co-existence, of which we hear so much nowadays, is of course an admirable principle, which we should honour not merely ideologically but also in practice. May we not claim that we have been true to this principle all along? Have we not lived amicably with all other communities? Have we not given of our best in service to the country through our doctors, lawyers, engineers, surveyors, school-masters, schoolmistresses, police officers, social workers and others? Have we not proved acceptable as employers? Have we not also formed sincere friendships with those of other communities? Does all this not constitute a worthy record of co-existence on our part and does it not entitle us to sympathetic consideration from other citizens of this country, not to mention the powers that be?

We must beware though, lest our willingness to co-exist be interpreted as willingness to be absorbed and extinguished as a social entity on the ground that we are, as some critics hold, "an insignificant minority". I do not of course here suggest that such an attempt at our extinction is being made by the authorities, but it must be recognised that the new conditions of life in Ceylon are a potential danger to the survival of racial minorities. Take for instance the introduction of the Sinhala Only Act. Does it not create a situation with which we, and in particular our young people, may not be able to cope in the future? We are being gradually out-numbered by non-Burghers who find it more easy than we do to attain proficiency in Sinhala, and in Tamil too, so that in competition with them the scales are heavily weighted against us. The desire to emigrate, therefore to lands where we can still freely use the English language and thereby perhaps find suitable employment, is a natural one.

But here we have of late been faced with another difficulty, for the new Exchange Regulations limit considerably the funds which emigrants can take out of the country.

As you are aware, both with regard to the continued use of English and the Exchange Regulations, representations have been made to Government asking for necessary relief. In making these representations we have joined with other Burgher Associations. This step I feel sure you will approve, for economically and educationally our case is not different from the other Burghers for whom these Associations speak.

We have yet had no final replies from Government to our representations, but we live in hope that justice will yet be done to us all.

It is apparently only by making such representations that we can now-a-days expect any relief, for the time has passed when the spokesman for a minority can sway the vote of a Parliamentary majority, as was the case when Charles Lorenz and George Wall were accepted by their fellow representatives as leaders. But this new state of affairs need not be helplessly acquiesced in by us, for, apart from the futility of such an attitude, it also gives the impression that the Burghers of to-day will take anything lying down and have no fight now left in them, apart from which we must also remember that posterity will be entitled to pass judgment on us for any inaction. To make such representations as we have done is therefore the only course open to us.

I also referred last year to the need to organise the help of our younger folk. There was some hope of a revival of the young Comrades Branch of our Union. This was welcomed and thought most desirable, for such a body, existing as it would under the aegis of the Union, would help to keep them true to its basic principles and provide us with valuable members in the future. But alas, this has not materialised.

I have in this address referred mainly to the sterner issues that now confront us, but let us not forget that the day to day work of the Union has also to be done, which in particular includes the accumulation of sufficient funds for the assistance of our needy ones and their families.

Finally let me express my personal appreciation of all the strenuous work that has been done during the past year by the Office-bearers and the members of all committees.

"May the Union never lack for selfless helpers."

At the conclusion of his address the Report and Accounts were put to the Meeting and adopted.

Election of Office Bearers:

President: Dr. E. S. Brohier proposed the Election of Dr. V. H. L. Anthonisz as President. The Proposal was carried with acclamation and Dr. Anthonisz occupied the Chair and thanked the Members for the confidence reposed in him.

Honorary Secretary: Mr. George F. Arndt was on the proposition of Mr. G. E. S. Dirckze seconded by Mr. M. S. Wallbeoff unanimously elected Honorary Secretary.

Honorary Treasurer: Mr. O. L. de Kretser proposed and Mr. C. P. Brohier seconded the election of Mr. H. C. Ivcr Wendt as Honorary Treasurer. The proposal was carried unanimously, and Mr. Wendt was declared elected to the office of Honorary Treasurer for the twelfth successive year.

General Committee: The following members were elected to the General Committee:

Colombo:—Messrs. D. V. Altendorff, I.S.O., J.P.; C. L. Beling, W. W. Beling, C. P. Brohier, A. E. Christoffelsz, C.M.G. Dr. H. S. Christoffelsz, Dr. H. A. Dirckze, Messrs. H. V. Claasz, O. L. de Kretser, C. G. Ebell, A. L. B. Ferdinand, I.S.O. F. R. L. Ferdinands, I. L. Ferdinands, G. V. Grenier, F. M. Keegel, Frank E. Loos, C. L. H. Paulusz, R. D. P. Paulusz, D. Jansze, O.B.E., W. A. R. Leembruggen, M.V.O. C. J. Van Alphen, M. E. Van der Straaten, H. Vanden Driesen, W. J. A. van Langen Berg, M.B.E. E. N. Wambeek, C. P. Wambeek, M. S. Wallbeoff and W. G. Woutersz.

Outstation:—Drs. F. J. Beling and L. J. O. Conderlag, Messrs. A. E. Buultjens, T. P. C. Carron, F. W. de Vos, A. R. Demmer, V. C. Modder, E. F. N. Bartholomeusz, D. M. A. Speldewinde, W. D. Martin, C. L. N. Toussaint, C. J. Oorloff, W. J. F. LaBrooy, P. N. Bartholomeusz, and J. F. VanTwest.

The following Past Presidents are *ex officio* members of the General Committee:

Dr. R. L. Spittel, C.M.G. Mr. R. L. Brohier, O.B.E.
Mr. R. S. V. Poulier, C.B.E. and Dr. E. S. Brohier.

Auditors:—Messrs. Satchithananda, Schokman, Wijeyeratne and Co were on the proposition of Mr. E. F. N. Bartholomeusz, seconded by Mr. G. E. S. Dirckze elected Auditors for the current year.

Vote of Thanks:—Mr. G. V. Grenier proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring office bearers. Mr. Frank, E. Loos seconded and the motion was carried with applause.

Motion by Mr. O. L. De Kretser:—Mr. O. L. de Kretser next moved the motion standing in his name which is printed in the Agenda. On the discussion which took place Mr. de Kretser, with the permission of the seconder of the motion, Mr. R. S. V. Poulier, put up several amendments. After some further discussion the motion as amended was put to the meeting and declared lost, as it failed to secure the requisite two-thirds majority.

The meeting terminated with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair. A collection was taken after the meeting for the Social Service Work of the Union and realised Rs. 89-75.

The retiring General Committee were hosts to these present at a Social Gathering which followed.

NEWS AND NOTES

Our New President:—The Union, at its last General Meeting added another worthy successor to the list of Presidents who have guided the destinies of the Institution since its inauguration in January 1908. Dr. V. H. Ludovici Anthonisz, O.B.E., V.D. has served the public of Ceylon in many capacities, and is well known, more especially in Kandy, both in his professional and public life.

By birth and family connections, Dr. Anthonisz is a representative of the best traditions of the Dutch Burghers of Ceylon. With his reputation for being a good organiser, easy of address, courteous and complaisant, there is little doubt he will fill the office to which he has been elected with great acceptance.

We need hardly dilate here on the wide interests and the public services of this gentleman. What suffices at the moment is that he has given his support to many a movement organised for the benefit of the dwindling clan to which he belongs. With this record of social activity, and the added advantage of contact in his public life extending to people of all classes and creeds, who, with us share this Island as our home, we can confidently look to him for good service in the betterment of the wider Community in general, and the Union and its members in particular.

It remains for us to only add that at no time in the history of the Union or of this minority community, has the need for leadership, tact and ability, been at greater premium.

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A Query.—A correspondent writes: I wonder if you can help me in some antiquarian research. Can you tell me how and why the British Coat-of-Arms came to be prominently built in embossed masonry on the front wall of the portico of Dr. Frank Bartholomeusz's bungalow, "Gracelgrove" in 5th Lane, Colpetty? It has apparently been there from the time the doctor's father bought the bungalow, nearly sixty years ago.

Could some high British Official have resided there in early British times, or could the person who built the bungalow have got the British Coat-of-Arms so prominently displayed out of loyalty to the Crown?

Both surmises are possible, but can any reader give any authentic reason how the British Coat-of-Arms came to be displayed in this apparently private-owned building?

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Emigration:—Interest in Emigration to Australia seems to have increased in tempo more recently to judge from the widespread enthusiasm devoted to the subject in Burgher circles.

The following figures culled chiefly from the reports of the Controller of Immigration and Emigration indicate the number of Ceylonese who settled in Australia during the last few years. Since Australia welcomes citizens from Ceylon who conform to certain genetic conditions, it follows that all emigrants to that country from Ceylon necessarily belong to the Burgher Community. In 1953, there were 89 emigrants; in 1954—100; in 1955—133; in 1956—189; in 1957—250; in 1958—408; in 1959—321; in 1960—242. Thus for the past eight years 1732 Burghers and Euro-Ceylonese of a possible 46-thousand, have emigrated to Australia.

The figures indicated are specially interesting when they are reviewed with the political scene at the time as a background, but they do not indicate the extent of the prevalent desire to quit, for while many apply to go only some are chosen.

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Burghers in Australia.—Australia has for some considerable time allured the Burghers from Ceylon. The first emigrant to our knowledge to settle there was Roland Garvin Foenander, the father of S.P. and E. W. Foenander. He went out in 1880 and died in Australia at an early age. His brother, Lancelot Foenander also went to Australia about the same time. He rose to great eminence in the service of the Government and was at one time Private Secretary to Edmond Barton, the first Commonwealth Prime Minister of Australia.

Another early settler was William Henry de Boer Leembruggen who left Ceylon at the early age of 18 about the year 1904. He started in the hard way working on a farm in Queensland but later graduated at the Brisbane University in Divinity and held many important charges as a minister of the Wesleyan Mission. Several years of his missionary life were spent in the Solomon Islands which had a sinister reputation at that time. He died a few years ago leaving three sons. Willie Leembruggen was later followed by many another of the same family stock bearing the name, who settled and established themselves in Australia.

Nell, a brother of Dr. Andreas Nell, was another early emigrant from Ceylon to Australia. He married and left sons to establish the name in the country of his adoption. Thereafter sporadically, following the first world war, one or another Burgher left Ceylon to settle "down under". The names Beven, Raffel (Cyril), Albrecht, de Vos, Toussaint, Mrs. Brohier with her two daughters, and vander Hoven, cross the mind. Dr. Willie Arndt the now famous oculist and his cousin Carl E. Arndt, who retired from office in the Medical Department and the Civil Service respectively, under the terms of the Donoughmore Report, broke ice by emigrating each as a full family unit.

This brings us to about the year 1935. Came the war, 1939—46, and the Australian troops to Ceylon. This opportunity for making personal contact sparked off a small annual exodus which spread over succeeding years, seemed to be trickling out by 1952, but thereafter gathering momentum swept several Burghers and their families away from Ceylon. The first note of alarm which stirred an urge to get away was the State of Emergency proclaimed in 1953. Language trends, which were unfolded in the passing of the Sinhala Only Bill in 1956, stimulated restlessness and the urge to quit. The climax was reached when the feeling of security was shattered by the unfortunate riots of May 1958. The growing feeling that there was no future in the land of their birth for the Burgher, and for his children, becoming more evident as year succeeded year, the urge to leave the country has therefore since spread with gradually increasing volume. It spread, for very good reason no doubt, to even those who morally had their feet firmly planted on Ceylon's soil and could not by any stretch be categorically labelled "the rootless young".

Besides the restlessness caused by local trends there seems to be another growing urge which combines with it to draw the Burgher away. Many a family in Ceylon have relatives and friends already in Australia. This very naturally stimulates anxiety to close gaps in family circles, and of course, it makes crossing over easier with contacts on the other side who are in a position to soften the difficulties which would otherwise arise by not having a job lined out, or immediate accommodation on arriving in the new country.

But far and by, it would be feeble to assume that all these people are uprooting themselves lightly. A new tribalism and an increasing intolerance have no doubt made them feel that they will be happier elsewhere.

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A Legend.—Once there was a Malabar king whose usual meal was bread fruit, coconut sambol, and dried fish. He wished to have a statue of himself made. The sculptor made an excellent job of it, as you will see for yourself if you will pause a while to look to your right when you come to the railway crossing just before the road enters Weligama Town between Galle and Matara.

The king planted the villages surrounding his statue with his favourite bread fruit. This too you will notice as you motor through. It is said that excess of bread fruit as a diet caused both the king and his subjects a skin disease, and so they nicknamed the king Kustaraja and his statue Kustaraja-gala. (*Kusta* means leprosy.)

In contrast to the legend we have the tradition that bread fruit and sambol originated with the Dutch and came from Sumatra and Java.

Who is St. Nicolaas? As one year gives way to another year this question has been repeatedly asked when Members of the Union and their families foregather, as the practice is, to commemorate St. Nicolaas Day by a children's fete. Mr. C. J. van Alphen who has filled this role for very nearly the past decade will do so no longer. He, Mrs. van Alphen and the family have left Ceylon to settle down in Holland. The thanks of the community are due in great measure to him for the dignity he lent to the central figure in the national custom, and for the decorum with which he filled the part of the stately Bishop. Moving about, as he did, with his attendant carrying birch and bag for "naughty children", speaking a few words here, and a few words there, he infused an enthusiasm among the young folk which they must have carried away to remember long afterwards.

How the ceremony was very nearly foiled one year when Dr. V. R. Schokman was President, is known to but few and is worth re-telling. When the good Bishop opened a wardrobe on the morning of the fete to lay out his robes, he found to his horror that the wiring of the electric heater had fused. The robe and mitre were in flames, which he with bare hands endeavoured to extinguish. Needless to say St. Nicolaas had no apparel in which to appear, besides, his hands laved with soothing ointment were bandaged and he could not therefore ride a horse.

The resourceful President when he heard of this was however undismayed. He persuaded St. Nicolaas to appear on that occasion garbed in the attire of an English Santa Claus, with his hands sheathed in white gloves, but minus the white horse which he was wont to ride. The substitute costume had been used all that day and a week earlier to attire the funny man who was clowning the part at Miller's Christmas toy display in the Fort shop. Figuratively, it was so starched by the sweat which the fabric had absorbed that the costume stood up straight on its nether rim! But the play had to go on, and few who watched it were aware of what had taken place back-stage, to render the garment wearable.

We may be allowed to add that there are other avenues which we shall miss the great service Mr. and Mrs. van Alphen have rendered to the Union and towards the welfare of the community. Besides prominently associating themselves at one time in the work of the Entertainment Committee, it was entirely to their efforts that a steady liaison was maintained between the Dutch nationals residing in Ceylon, and the Union, and that we had a so many of them on our roll of members. If their departure is to cause a hiatus in so desirable a connection and reconciliation, their loss to the Union will indeed be great.

THE DUTCH BURGHER UNION
OF
CEYLON

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS 1960

The Rokeby Press

DUTCH BURGER UNION OF CEYLON

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The fifty-third Annual General Meeting of the Union will be held on Saturday, 27th May 1961 at the Union Hall, Reid Avenue, Colombo. 7, at 6-15 p.m.

BUSINESS

- (1) To read the notice convening the meeting.
- (2) To read and, if approved, to confirm the minutes of the last annual general meeting.
- (3) To consider and, if approved, to adopt the annual report and audited accounts.
- (4) Election of office-bearers:-
 - (a) President.
 - (b) Honorary Secretary.
 - (c) Honorary Treasurer.
- (5) Election of general committee.
- (6) Appointment of auditor.
- (7) Vote of thanks to retiring office-bearers.
- (8) Mr. O. L. de Kretser to move "That the Constitution be amended by the addition, as rule 6 (h), of the following:-"

"Non-Active Members"—:

- (i) A member of the Dutch Burger Community eligible otherwise than on the ground of age for membership of the Dutch Burger Union in terms of its rules, but who does not wish to partake of the Social, Cultural and Club activities of the Union may apply to the General Committee for registration as a non-active member.
- (ii) A Non-active member will pay a registration fee of Rs 5/-
- (iii) A Non-active member shall have no vote, except at a meeting of non-active members convened by the General Committee of the Union on any matter on which it considers it expedient to consult them.

- (iv) A Non-Active member shall have the right, subject to payment of any charge the General Committee may levy, to attend the St. Nikolaas' Fete and Founder's Day celebrations. At such functions he shall have the right to make use of the Bar on a cash basis.
- (v) A Non-Active member may if over 21 years of age become an active member of the Union paying the usual monthly subscription, and will not be liable to pay an admission fee.
- (vi) An active member may become a non-active member only with the permission of the General Committee.
- (vii) The General Committee shall have the power to call on a non-active member to join the Union as an active member or to forfeit his non-active membership.
- (9) Any other business of which due notice has been given.

G. E. S. DIRCKZE.
Honorary Secretary.

Colombo, 25th April, 1961.

A collection will be made at the end of the meeting
 in aid of the
 Social Service Fund of the Union.
 The General Committee will be
AT HOME
 to members and their families
 after the Meeting

FIFTY THIRD ANNUAL REPORT 1960

The General Committee of the Union presents the following report to members for the year 1960 :—

Membership :

As at 1st January 1960		356
Number of members joined	12	
Number of members re-elected	1	13
		<hr/> 369
<i>Less</i>		
Resigned	6	
Died	5	
Struck off under rule No. 6 (d) and E (3)	6	17
		<hr/> 352
Left the Island during the year		6
		<hr/> 346

These are distributed as follows :

Colombo members paying Rs. 3/- per month	170	
Lady members paying Re 1/- per month	61	231
		<hr/>
Outstation members paying Re. 1/- per month		115
		<hr/> 346

Comrades :

During the year an application was received to start a youth club, entitled the Comrades, under the patronage of the Union. The proposal fell through.

Appointments :

Mr. R. S. V. Poulier was appointed to the new Parliament. Mr. C. P. Wambeek was appointed Acting Deputy Inspector General of Police.

Obituary :

Amongst the members who passed away we remember the names of Mr. G. F. Ernst, Mr. P. Cassius Jansz and Mr. T. F. Blaze'.

Founder's Day :

This occasion was celebrated on the 22nd of October. After the President's address, Mr. C. L. Beling at the request of the President recounted a few anecdotes and reminiscences regarding our Founder, R. G. Anthonisz.

Rs.	Cts.
7,826	00
24	00
7,703	46
4,705	95

Scholarships :

Attention is invited to the annexure regarding the de Hoedt Fund, with which the Trustees have kindly favoured us.

Of Schneider Scholarships, the Warden of S. Thomas' College informs us that in 1960 fourteen Scholarships were awarded and seven as for 1961.

General Committee :

This Committee, which is responsible for conducting the Union's affairs, met thirteen times during the year with an average attendance of nineteen. We should like to see outstation committee members present more often.

Standing Committees :

Literary & Ethical:—Some difficulty was experienced in finding a Chairman and a Secretary for this Committee. However, Mr. O. L. de Kretser and Mr. C. L. Beling respectively were prevailed on to accept these offices, and since their election the committee has been very active. They were responsible for a very successful performance of the "Beggars Opera" amongst other activities.

Social Service:—Chairman Mr. D. Jansze', Secretary Mrs. E. N. Wambeek. The Secretary and her colleagues on this committee have been very keen and active during this year too, visiting those in want and helping them with monthly allowances and casual donations. A Christmas Treat was also given to the needy when fifty five food hampers, besides clothes and toys, were distributed. A benefit film show organised at the Savoy Cinema with the assistance of the Entertainment Committee brought in the handsome profit of Rs. 1,755/87 net.

St. Nikolaas' Home:—Chairman Mr. A. E. Christoffelsz, Secretary Mrs. A. L. B. Ferdinand. The Home has its full complement of eighteen residents and it is now possible to meet the many monthly expenses. Other items of expenditure such as drainage, telephone and extensions to buildings, are under consideration, and these will have to be met by regular generous donations. We were sorry to lose our Matron, Mrs. I. Modder, who did good work for nine years. She left us in June, 1960. Miss L. Van Buren took over from 1st August, 1960, and is managing the affairs of the Home in a very efficient and capable manner. Dr. O. C. Raffel and Dr. J. H. Sproule continue to render valuable service to the sick. There are also many members of the Union and many other friends outside the Union who give regular help in kind, and provide meals on special occasions. We are very grateful to all these for their generous donations from time to time. But to Mrs. Ferdinand we owe our special thanks for carrying the burden of the day to day running of the Home ; and to Dr. R. L. Spittel through whose generosity the Home is there today.

Social Recreation, Entertainment & Sport:—Chairman Mrs. W. J. A. Van Langenberg, Secretary Mr. C. P. Wambeek. Amongst the functions organised by this Committee was the very successful dance held on August 6th, with Gerry Crake and his Orchestra in attendance. The team representing the Union in the Nestle' Radio Quiz competition entered the semi-finals but was unfortunately beaten. The Bridge Group, whose keen convener is Mr. W. G. Woutersz, meets regularly and has been the means of our extending our hospitality to many guests of other communities. The D.B.U. Tennis Club which is affiliated to our Union urgently requires more members.

Genealogical Research and Increasing Membership:—

These committees met regularly throughout the year and a number of applications for membership were considered and recommended to the General Committee.

Historical Monuments & Manuscripts:

No occasion arose during the year for a meeting of this Committee.

Education:

Chairman Mr. D. Jansze', Secretary Miss M. E. vanden Driesen. Assistance was given to needy children by way of school fees, travelling allowances, allowances for school books, and part payment of hostel fees. One child was helped to qualify in Sinhalese shorthand and Typewriting. This Union assisted a girl at the University with a loan. Fuller attendance at meetings and more subscriptions towards the Education Fund are needed.

Finance:

This Committee met on nine occasions during the year with an average attendance of seven.

The Audited Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account as at 31st December, 1960 are appended to this report.

Our Office:

The regrettable illness of our Clerk Mr. P. A. Schokman has resulted in some disorganisation of business. Mr. S. Bartholomeusz filled his place for a few months with much acceptance.

The Office Room has been moved downstairs thus making another room available for a tenant.

The Union now employs no Subscription Collector and members are therefore requested to pay their dues at the Office.

The Dr. de Hoedt Medical Scholarship Fund:

The bulletin of the Dutch Burgher Union issued in March 1960 carried a fairly full account of the origin, terms and activities of the Fund since it was started in 1920.

At present two students, one a woman, are being aided through their medical course.

Both students are making good progress and show promise of early qualification.

The Trustees of the Fund are concerned as to the future of this Trust as no more medical students have of late applied for help.

It is a well known fact that medical students of the Burgher Community are very few indeed and as time goes on their number will be negligible.

To what other purpose can the income of this Trust Fund be put? According to the terms of the trust no other avenues of educational or vocational training were contemplated by Dr. de Hoedt. Legal opinion may perhaps have to be sought on this point.

The funds to the credit of the trust at the end of 1960 were:

On mortgage at 7% on Colombo property	...	12000 00
On 2½% Govt: National Development Loan	...	1000 00
Current account at the State Bank of-		
India as on 31-12-60		4091 74
Total		<u>17091 74</u>

The expenditure for the year was only Rs. 206-55 which was spent in the purchase of books and appliance which were necessary for the studies of the students who are being helped.

The present trustees of the Fund are Messrs. D. V. Altendorff, F. E. Loos, and Dr. E. S. Brohier and they will be pleased to give any member wishing to have it further information.