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DUTCH BURGHER UNION OF CEYLON.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Eendracht Maakt Macht.

Vol. XI, No. 7.

JULY, 1945.

Serial No. 161.

THE LIBRARY AND ETHICAL COMMITTEE.

Like the Black Girl, this Committee is conducting a search. But it is on a lower level. The object of the search is—a Secretary.

The Committee met at the end of May. Its first concern was to find some kind person who would agree to work the programme for the year. But no one was found. So the Committee did the next best thing. It drew up the programme, hoping for the best, hoping that one of the likely persons mentioned at the meeting would be so attracted by the programme that he would consent to work it.

And there the matter rests. A Secretary has not yet been found. In June, on the initiative of the President himself, we succeeded in arranging a lecture of great interest on Japan by Professor Graham Martyr, late of Tokyo University.

But without a Secretary, the future is bleak.

The programme is reproduced here in the hope that some member will volunteer to carry the baby. The Committee wishes to revive the intelligent discussions that took place monthly about ten years ago, and which were then abandoned for no apparent reason.

The following topics of discussion are suggested :—

1. Is the community making full use of new avenues of employment?
2. The future policy of the Union.

3. What part should the Community play in the affairs of the Island?
4. To what extent and in what way should we educate our children in the vernaculars?
5. What does youth expect of its elders?
6. Is woman's place—the home?
7. Should divorce be made easier in Ceylon?

In addition it is hoped to arrange the following lectures:—

1. To what extent is Communism likely to effect world politics?—by Mrs. Pieter Keuneman.
2. The Pacific War—by a lecturer to be supplied by the Public Relations Office.
3. The future of the Dutch East Indies—by a speaker to be supplied by the Dutch Naval Office.
4. Recently discovered drugs—by Dr. J. R. Blazé.

The *piece de resistance* will be a Mook Trial. The intention is to indict a member on a charge of which he is at least partially guilty! Suggestions will be welcome. Judging by the amount of arm-chair criticism one hears, there should be no lack of suggestions.

Now then, do you think this programme is worth carrying out? You do? Then will you be Secretary?

Letters to Editor.

Dear Mr. Editor,

It has been suggested by a number of members that a Bridge Group be formed with some or all of the purposes mentioned below:—

- 1 to play contract bridge
- 2 to play it well with enjoyment
- 3 to fix a regular weekly bridge day when all members can cut in.
- 4 to improve the present facilities for the game
- 5 to arrange duplicate tournaments and matches.

It is hoped that the prospect does not seem alarming and frighten away prospective grouper who might anticipate argumentative post-mortems. They might like to know how a glamorous blonde with an uncontrollable anxiety to let no opportunity slip of improving her partner's play, one day snapped a mild-looking stranger "why didn't you lead a spade?"; only to receive the soft answer "I know I should have, but I love you passionately and I just had to find out if you had a heart." But as the soft answer may not always be found readily at need, perhaps it may be as well to insist that nobody should ask a question at the bridge table unless an answer is really wanted.

Will members interested in the idea kindly enter their names in a list with the Butler or send them in to Dr. H. T. R. Kook, Havelock Road, so that a meeting may be held early.

Yours faithfully,

W. J. A. VAN LANGENBERG.

Personal.

We offer our best wishes to the following who have entered the besieged city of marriage:—

Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz W. A. Bartholomeusz.
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. H. Thiedeman.

Lt. Col. Neil Schokman, M.B.E., E.D., Officer Commanding Ceylon Engineers, has relinquished his command with effect from July 1st, after 29 years service, during which he rose from ranker to his present position. He served in Great War I and was mentioned in despatches.

We regret to record the death of Mr. C. E. Bogaars.

Meetings for July, 1945.

Monday July 9th	Genealogical	6-30 p.m.
" "	Finance	7-15 p.m.
Tuesday " 10th	Education	6-30 p.m.
Monday " 16th	Social Service	6-30 p.m.
" "	Entertainment and Sport.	7-15 p.m.
Tuesday " 17th	General Committee	6-30 p.m.

Calendar of Events—July 1945.

- 12th Thursday: Whist Drive 7 p.m.
21st Saturday: Dramatic Group's Entertainment 7 p.m.
26th Thursday: Discussion Circle 6-30 p.m.
Subject: Is the Community making full use of new avenues of employment?
28th Saturday: Guest Night 9 to 12.

Announcements.

Mr. F. W. ("Foss") de Vos has tasted blood. He is running another whist drive in July, and another Guest Night. The Whist drive will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday 12th. Tickets Re. 1/-. Phone Mr. de Vos at 2251 during office hours, or come down to the Tennis Courts where he is most evenings, and give in your names. As usual, friends may be introduced.

The Guest Night will be on Saturday 28th from 9 to 12. Tickets Rs. 2/- per head. Names of guests to Mr. de Vos or the D.B.U. office before 6 p.m. Thursday 26th. A band will play if it can be arranged.

The Choral and Dramatic Group will entertain you at 7 p.m. on Saturday, July 21st. Tickets can be bought from Mr. Ronnie de Kretser, the Secretary of the Group. An effort has been made to use new talent for this show, but only with partial success.

Glass Tumblers.

The rate at which tumblers have to be replaced is disgraceful. During the last twelve months each function has claimed a toll averaging forty tumblers broken and missing. If you run a house, you know that tumblers are hard to get, and expensive. The Union belongs to you, all its property is yours. Please be as careful with the tumblers at the Union as you would with those at home.

Of the tumblers written off at each function, more than half have been classified as "missing". Allegations have been made that members take them to their cars (it is whispered why) and then take them home. Please note this. You are accused of stealing!

There are other explanations, of course. But before steps can be taken to pin responsibility, alternative loopholes must be closed. An appeal is therefore made to you: firstly, to be careful with tumblers: and secondly, on no account to take them to your cars.

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Committee held on Tuesday, June 19th 1945, at 6-30 p.m.

A Vote of Condolence was passed on the tragic death of Mr. Clarence Edwin Bogaars. The Secretary was directed to convey the sympathies of the Committee to his family.

A Vote of Congratulation was passed on the award of the I.S.O. to Mr. C. E. E. Stork in the last Birthday Honours.

Business Arising from Minutes.

1. **Standing Committees.** The list of Standing Committees were complete and would be published in the next Bulletin.

2. **Dutch Books Lending Library Sub-Committee.** The President reported that a meeting of this Committee was called, but was so poorly attended that no business could be done. The Hon. Secretary had requested Mr. C. L. H. Paulusz to complete the work of listing and indexing the books as quickly as possible.

3. **Miss G. J. Paul's Land.** The President reported that Miss Paul was not willing to sell or lease the land. The Buildings Sub-Committee were recommending that there was no point in renting the land. Agreed that Miss Paul be informed that in the circumstances, the Union did not wish to avail itself of her offer.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Education. The report of the Committee was read. Dr. H. A. Dirakze enquired whether last year's prize-winners of the Sinhalese Examination were eligible to enter again and also to win the prizes again. Mr. C. A. Speldewinde replied that there was nothing in the conditions to prevent it.

Literary and Ethical. The report of the Committee was read. Hon. Mr. A. E. Keuneman said he thought the Committee should be

congratulated on the comprehensive programme it had mapped out. The Hon. Secretary said he would try to arrange a meeting for July. The President reported that he was hoping that Prof. Martyr would speak in June.

Social Service. The Secretary was not present, nor had a report been received. Agreed that all Secretaries of Standing Committees should be asked to report at General Committee Meetings.

On the general question of reports of committees, Dr. V. R. Schokman suggested that all special sub-committees elected in the past few years should be reviewed and the Secretaries asked for their reports, if they had not already sent them in. Approved.

Other Business.

1. A letter from the American Consul expressing his appreciation of the Committee's action in passing a special vote of condolence on the death of President Roosevelt was tabled.

2. The President reported that Mr. C. J. Oorloff had presented a Dutch Book to the Union. The Secretary was requested to thank him. Mr. C. L. Beling thought that most of the Dutch Books were too valuable to be placed in a Lending Library. They should be kept in the Union premises for reference only. Agreed to refer the matter to the Reference Library Committee.

3. Dr. V. R. Schokman enquired whether a message of congratulation was sent to the Commander-in-Chief of the Dutch Forces in Ceylon on the liberation of the Netherlands. The Hon. Secretary reported that a message was not sent.

Election of New Members. Messrs. W. J. G. Beling, O. M. Mack and J. F. R. Prins were balloted for and duly elected, the new ballot box being used. Mr. Fred van Houten was re-elected a member.

COMPLETED LIST OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Ethical and Literary Purposes.

Mr. W J F La Brooy (*Secretary and Convener*), Dr. R L Spittel, Mr. B A Kriekenbeek, Dr. J R Blazo, Mr. C L H Paulusz, Mrs. Z. Martin, Miss N Toussaint, Messrs. L A Arndt, H E Grenier, Douglas Toussaint, J R Toussaint, H D Jansz, W J A van Langenberg, Mrs. A E Keuneman, Mr. Geoffrey Janz.

Purposes of Social Service.

Mrs. A L B Ferdinand (*Secretary and Convener*), Mesdames H K de Kretser, J R Toussaint, C A Speldewinde, B C Kelaart, F E Loos, B E Loos, Sam de Voe, H A Dirakze, Misses N Toussaint, M vanden Driessen, Mrs. H Wambeek, Messrs. C A Speldewinde, Wace de Niese, Mesdames A E Keuneman, Hubert Austin, W E V de Rooy, Mr. A E Dirakze.

Purposes of Genealogical Research.

Mr. F R Loos (*Secretary and Convener*), Mr. R L Brohier, Dr. V R Schokman, Messrs. D V Altendorff, C L Beling, E A vander Straaten, C P Brohier, Wace de Niese, Dr. H A Dirakze, Mr. H E S de Kretser.

Purpose of Increasing the Membership.

Mr. Douglas Toussaint (*Secretary and Convener*), Messrs. C P Brohier, O L H Paulusz, M vander Straaten, Miss Y Mack, Messrs. T B Collette, L Thomas, G Ebell, Dr. H T R Koch.

Purposes connected with Historical Manuscripts and Monuments.

Mr. R L Brohier (*Secretary and Convener*), Messrs. J A Maartensz, L E Blaze, C L H Paulusz, C L Beling, W W Beling, H L Wendt, Hon. Mr. A E Keuneman, Dr. A Nell.

Purposes of Education.

Mr. C A Speldewinde (*Secretary and Convener*) Hon. Mr. A E Keuneman, Dr. R L Spittel, Messrs. J A Maartensz, R A Kriekenbeek, W J F La Brooy, Dr. A Nell, Messrs. G F Vander Hoven, G H Gratiaen, L A Arndt, B W Jansz, Miss A Spittel, Mr. H D Jansz, Miss C H A Paulusz, Messrs. H L Austin, W E V de Rooy, G E van Cuylenberg, Mrs. A L B Ferdinand, Dr. H A Dirckze, Mr. J W van Langenberg, Col. V H L Anthonisz.

Purposes of Finance.

A L B Ferdinand (*Treasurer and Convener*), Messrs. D V Altendorff, F E Loos, Dr. V R Schokman, Dr. Sam de Vos, Messrs. J R Toussaint, E A vander Straaten, Dr. F E R Bartholomeusz, Messrs. C C Schokman, H vanden Driesen, C E Foenander, G H Gratiaen, F R Loos, W E V de Rooy, Col. V H L Anthonisz, Dr. H S Christoffelsz.

Purposes of Entertainment and Sport.

Mr. H E S de Kretser (*Secretary and Convener*), Mesdames H K de Kretser, F E Loos, W J A van Langenberg, B E Loos, B C Kelaart, Miss M vanden Driesen, Messrs. L Thomas, G Ebell, Mrs. Z. Martin, Miss O Rode, Messrs. J W Wambeek, H L Austin, Mrs. H E S de Kretser, Mr. Ronnie de Kretser, Mrs. H L Austin, Messrs. C C Schokman, Noel Leembruggen, W J A van Langenberg, Herbert Collette, Mrs. C L Speldewinde, Messrs. F W de Vos, T B Collette.

Office Bearers 1945 - 1946.

President : Mr. H. K. de Kretser.
Secretary : Mr. J. A. Leembruggen.
Treasurer : Mr. A. L. B. Ferdinand.
Asst. Secretary : Mr. W. J. F. La Brooy.
Asst. Treasurer : Mr. F. R. Loos.
Bar Secretary : Mr. A. L. B. Ferdinand.

SINHALESE PRIZE EXAMINATION.

(For Dutch Burgher Children)

The Education Committee of the Dutch Burgher Union will award the following prizes on the results of an examination to be held at the Union Hall, Reid Avenue, Colombo, on Saturday the 15th December 1945.

Upper Grade :—For children under 18 years of age on 1.1. '46.

Prize Rs. 50/-

Lower Grade :—For children under 14 years of age on 1.1. '46.

1st Prize Rs. 30/-

2nd Prize Rs. 15/-

There will be an **Oral Test** for those candidates who reach a satisfactory standard in the written examination.

Candidates must be children of the Dutch Burgher Community and must be nominated by the Committee.

Applications for nomination must reach the Secretary of the Education Committee not later than the 12th November 1945. There are no special application forms, but candidates applying for nomination must give the following particulars :—

- (a) Full name and postal address,
- (b) Date of birth,
- (c) Name of school and standard attained in Sinhalese.
- (d) Full name of father,
- (e) Full maiden name of mother

The application must be signed by the candidate and countersigned by his or her parents or Principal of School.

Syllabus :—

Upper Grade. The Paper will include questions on (1) Comprehension. (2) Composition. (3) Translation. (4) Grammar.

Comprehension : Questions will be set to test the candidate's power of comprehending unprepared passages of ordinary difficulty *e. g.* articles and editorials in newspapers, magazines, etc.

Composition : Candidates will be required to write not more than two of the following :—(a) Letters (b) Descriptions (c) Dialogues (d) Text of Speeches. Specimen applications : Correspondence with friends, writing reports of incidents in school and outside, *e. g.* prizegivings sports meets, public meetings : dialogues on current topics ; a speech introducing a speaker, proposing a vote of thanks, etc.

Grammar : Simple questions will be set on parts of speech, case, number, gender, person of nouns ; number, tense, mood, voice of verbs ; these in connection with the concord of the nominative and the verb. Combination (sandhi), Compound words (samasa) ; analysis and parsing.

Translation: Translation from English to Sinhalese, and *vice versa*, of sentences and a continuous passage, *e. g.* instructions, regulations, letters and petitions, newspaper reports.

Lower Grade. Questions will be set to test the candidate's ability to comprehend:

- (a) Passages as given in a Fourth Standard Reader,
- (b) Reports and advertisements appearing in a newspaper.

Candidates will also be required to:—

- (a) Construct sentences using words of different parts of speech.
- (b) Convert sentences from the spoken form to the written.
- (c) Give the substance of what is read.
- (d) Write simple narratives, short descriptions and invitations.
- (e) Translate from English into Sinhalese, and *vice versa*, simple commands, questions and statements.

- N.B.** 1. Attention will be paid to hand-writing and spelling.
2. The examination is not restricted to children of the members of the Union.

C. A. Speldewinde,
Hon'y. Secretary,
Education Committee,
Dutch Burgher Union.

1-7-45.

Social Service Contributions.

24/3/45—17/4/45 (*not previously published.*)

Mr. A E Christoffelsz Rs. 24, Dr. H S Christoffelsz 60, Mr. G A Wille 15, Collections, Annual General Meeting 128-10, Mr. A E Keuneman 60, Miss A Spittel 12, Dr. E L Christoffelsz 25, Mr. C J Oorloff 30, Mrs. E G Gratiaen 50, Mr. V C Modder 20, Mrs. B C Kelaart 2, Mrs. M R Christoffelsz 1, Dr. L O Weinman 10, Mr. B W Jansz 5, Mrs. R B Jansz 2-50, Mr. H L Wendt 30, Mrs. H E S de Kretser 18, Mr. H J L Thomasz 1-50, Mrs. H J L Thomasz 1-50, Messrs. B H Ohlmus 1, C H Ohlmus 1, V Arndt 1.

20/5/45—20/6/45

Messrs. G E W Jansz 4, G P Keuneman 15, Mrs. B C Kelaart 1. *Per Miss V E vanderStraaten*:—Miss Oorloff Rs. 2, Mr. A M Spaar 4, Messrs. Pritchett 4, Kalenberg 4, Mr. L L Hunter 4, Mrs. LaBrooy 4, A Friend 4, Mr. Sansoni 4, Messrs. Ludovici 2, Misco 2, Dr. Winn 2, Mrs. vanTwest 1, Misses vanderStraaten 1, Wells 1, Stainton 1, V E vanderStraaten 8, E. Oorloff 4, A Friend 4, Mrs. Piachaud 4. Total Rs. 60. Messrs. B H Ohlmus 1, C H Ohlmus 1, V Arndt 1, Mrs. M B Christoffelsz 1, Messrs. C P Brohier 4, H K de Kretser 5, E A vanderStraaten 15, Mr. A G de Kretser 1, Mrs. H Wambeek 1, Mr. J R Tousaint 25. Total Rs 638-00.