

## EDITORIAL

Thanks to a grant from the *Leids Universiteits Fonds* we were able to commission an artist who specialises in graphics, Miss Suzanne Visser, to design four new covers for us - which we are sure you will consider a distinct improvement.

This issue contains an extensive report in French by Prof. Miège and his assistant Miss Martine Perney. Having established an English language policy we are pleased to suspend it, since, frankly, we like our weekends too. Besides, the French language will not offer any problems to most of our readership, while some may even appreciate an occasional escape from Anglo-Saxon Cultural Imperialism.

On December 18, we at the Centre brought out vol. 1 in our *Comparative Studies in Overseas History*. Our friend and interviewee Prof. Ronald Robinson was on hand for the ceremony and in the next issue we will publish his talk - which contains the substance of the article he promised us last March.

Finally, we wish to congratulate our Australian correspondent Frank Broeze, who returned to Holland last month and successfully defended his doctoral thesis, *De Stad Schiedam; de Schiedamse scheepsrederij en de Nederlandse vaart op Oost-Indië omstreeks 1840*. (The Town of Schiedam: Schiedam shipping-trade and Dutch shipping on the East-Indies around 1840).

The Editors.