

ANNUAL REPORT

1948

The Annual General Meeting terminating the year 1947 was held on March 7th, 1948 at the Society's Home, No. 60, Asoka Road, Bangkapi, with the President, H.H. Prince Dhani Nivat, in the chair.

The Council for 1948 was elected as follows :

H.H. Prince Dhani Nivat	President,
H.E. Phya Sarasastra Sirilakshna	Vice-President & Leader of Travel Section,
H.H. Prince Prem Purachatra	Vice-President,
M.C. Ajavadis Diskul	Hon. Secretary,
Mr. C. F. Grove	Hon. Treasurer,
Miss Dorothy Ward	Hon. Librarian,
Mr. J. J. Boeles	Hon. Editor of the Journal,
Phra Saroj Ratananimman	Hon. Architect,
Mr. Ariyant Manjikul	Leader of Natural History Section,

Luang Raksa Naves,
Mom Rajawongse Sumonajat Swasdikul,
M. L. Pin Malakul,
Nai Sanya Dharmasakdi,
H.E. Chao Phya Sri Dharmadhibes,
Lt.-Colonel William Law,
Dr. Chalerm Puranananda, M.D.,
H.E. Phya Anuvat Vanaraks.

The new Council upon taking office appointed the following standing committees :

FINANCE : The Senior Vice-President (H.E. Phya Sarasastra Sirilakshna), Chairman,
The Honorary Secretary,
The Honorary Treasurer.

EXCHANGE: The Honorary Librarian (Miss Dorothy Ward),
 Chairman,
 The Honorary Editor of the Journal,
 Lt.-Colonel William Law.

EDITORIAL: The Honorary Editor of the Journal (Mr. J. J.
 Boeles), Chairman,
 Leader of the Natural History Section,
 H.H. Prince Dhani Nivat.
 H.H. Prince Prem Purachatra,
 Mom Rajawongse Sumonajat Swasdikul.

The following changes had to be made on the Council during the year: Miss Dorothy Ward and Lt.-Colonel William Law resigned from the Council owing to their departure from Siam for the United States. M.R. Sumonajat Swasdikul took over the Honorary Librarianship of the Siam Society from Miss Dorothy Ward. Mr. J. J. Boeles resigned from the Honorary Editorship of the Journal, and this position was taken up by Mr. Teg C. Grondahl, who was co-opted later as member on the Council. As there was still vacant another Vice-Presidentship H.E. Chao Phya Sri Dharmadhibes was elected to fill the vacancy during the course of the year.

It is with great regret that the Society had to record the death of an active member on the Council, namely Luang Raksa Naves, who was attacked by two assassins and killed in June 1948.

During the year under review the President, H. H. Prince, Dhani Nivat, and the Vice-President, H.H. Prince Prem Purachatra, were both absent from Siam for some months: the former was invited to attend the Congress of Orientalists in Paris whilst the latter went on tour to Europe and the United States. During the President's absence, Phya Sarastra Sirilakshna, the Senior Vice-President, was in charge of the Society.

The Council held ten business meetings during the year. Five meetings were held at the Society's Home in Asoka Road and five meetings at the President's house in Pechaburi Road.

At the close of 1948 the Society's membership was as follows:

Honorary	17
Corresponding	12
Free	4
Life	20
Ordinary	254
Associate	36

making a total of 343 as compared with 292 in 1947, 207 in 1946, 160 in 1945, 157 in 1944 and 233 in 1940. The number of members is the highest on record and is regarded by the Council as a source of gratification since the Society is almost solely dependent on members' subscriptions.

During the year the Society arranged 12 meetings, namely:

Ordinary General Meetings :

On February 10th, 1948: Dr. B. L. Atreya, M.A., D. Litt., Professor and Head of the Department of Philosophy, Benares Hindu University and Birla Visiting Professor to the United States, lectured on "*The Influence of the Lord Buddha on Indian Outlook*";

On March 2nd, 1948: Mr. N. Warren Waterhouse, B. E., lectured on "*Cultural and Industrial Progress in Oceania*";

On March 24th, 1948: Mr. Paul Lindenberg lectured on "*The Necessity of Rewriting a Complete History of Siam*";

On December 7th, 1948: Dr. Lauriston Sharp, Professor of Anthropology in Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, Chairman of the National Research Council Committee on Asian Anthropology, and Director of the Southeast Asia Institute, lectured on "*Anthropology Today*".

Natural History Section's Meetings :

- On March 31st, 1948: Dr. Charles H. Smiley of the National Geographic Eclipse Expedition, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Brown University and Director of the Ladd Observatory at Providence, Rhode Island, lectured on "*Eclipses, Past, Present and Future*";
- On April 1st, 1948: Dr. R. Pendleton of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, U. S. A. lectured on "*Soils in Siam*";
- On April 4th, 1948: Dr. Krishna Ramiah lectured on "*Plant Breeding - An Art and a Science*";
- On December 2nd, 1948: Mr. R. E. Holttum, Curator of the Botanical Gardens, Singapore, lectured on "*The Vanda Tribe of the Orchid Family*".

Travel Section's Meetings :

- On January 18th, 1948: Excursion trip by road to Nakhon Pathom;
- On May 2nd, 1948: Visit to the observation post of the National Geographic Solar Eclipse Expedition at the University of Agriculture, Bangkok;
- On December 12th, 1948: Visit to the Vajiravudh College;
- On January 19th, 1949: One week excursion trip by rail to Chiangmai, ending on January 26th, 1949.

The Society issued one publication in 1948, namely the Journal of the Siam Society, Volume XXXVII, Part 1. Part 2 of this volume is scheduled for publication in June, 1949.

In November 1948 the Society was very fortunate in recovering a great number of its old publications from the premises of the former Bangkok Times Press, consisting of the Journals, Bulletins

the *Florae Siamensis Enumeratio* and Credner's *Observations in the Tali Region*, in all totalling 790 copies. These have been added to our stock of publications for sale.

The financial position of the Society as seen in the Financial Statement for the year 1948 is quite satisfactory. Although expenses have been high, it is gratifying to note that there has been a surplus of Baht 5,251.85 over the expenditure at the close of 1948, as compared with a deficit of Baht 20.42 in 1947. During the year under review we were able to transfer Baht 5,000.00 more to the fixed deposit account in the Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd., bringing the total of the fixed deposit from Baht 17,100.00 to Baht 22,100.00.

The Exchange Committee is now exchanging the Journals of the Siam Society and the Natural History Bulletin with 31 institutions abroad, as compared with 21 in the year before. Other exchanges are being negotiated.

Taking all into consideration, the position of the Society has been well maintained with good support from its members, and we may look forward to the coming year with every confidence and satisfaction.



THE SIAM
Balance Sheet as at

Liabilities

Sundry Creditors :

Subscriptions prepaid per 31/12/1948 Baht 700.00

Consignment Account :

Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig 671.10

Reserves :

General 	8,345.00	
Repairs 	3,000.00	
Book Purchases 	2,000.00	
Further Printing of Craib's Florae ...	1,655.00	
Home's Electric Wiring Overhauling	164.40	15,164.40

Surplus :

Balance brought forward from last year	7,716.96	
Add Excess of Receipts over		
Expenditure during 1948 ...	4,829.85	12,546.81

		Baht 29,082.31
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SOCIETY

31st December 1948

Assets

Fixed Deposit:

The Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd. Baht 22,100.00

Cash and Bank:

Cash in Hand 762.00

The Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd.,

Current Account 4,703.91 5,465.91

Sundry Debtors:

Orientalia, Inc., New York, US\$84.53

@ Baht 10.00 845.30

Consignment Account:

Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig 671.10

Baht 29,082.31

C. F. Grove

Hon. Treasurer
The Siam Society.

THE SIAM FINANCIAL RESUMÉ OF

Receipts

Subscriptions:

Ordinary Members, Current Year ...	7,900.00			
Ordinary Members, Overdue Accounts	625.00			
Associate Members	10.00			
Life Members	<u>1,200.00</u>	Baht	9,735.00	

Sale of Publications:

Journal of the Society	5,641.80			
The Bulletin (Natural History Supplement)	1,206.40			
Le May: Coinage of Siam	104.00			
Catalogue of the Stamps of Siam	42.00			
Craib's Florae •	188.00			
The Mon Dictionary	40.00			
W. Credner: Observations in the Tali Region	<u>2.40</u>	Baht	7,224.60	

Sundry Receipts:

Bank Interest				448.66
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Baht 17,408.26

SOCIETY

THE YEAR 1948

Expenditure

Home's Maintenance :

Wage to Caretaker	715.00	
Fire Insurance (Baht 300,000) ...	843.20	
Electric Current	82.30	
Water Supply	84.20	
White Ants Control	<u>150.00</u>	Baht 1,874.70

Library and Stock of Publications :

Salaries to Clerks	1,155.00	
Insurance of Library and Furniture ...	134.16	
Misc. Expenses and Delivery Charges	<u>974.10</u>	2,263.26

Secretarial and Editorial :

Postage and Revenue Stamps, Hon. Treasurer	59.20	
Misc. Expenses, Postage and Revenue Stamps, Hon. Secretary ...	623.25	
Printing of Publications	6,910.00	
Printing of Notices and Stationery Supplies	<u>848.00</u>	8,440.45

EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER EXPENDITURE ... 4,829.85

Baht 17,408.26

C. F. Grove

Hon. Treasurer
The Siam Society

OBITUARY NOTICE

The Siam Society regrets to record the death of its Honorary member, *Professor Dr. Wilhelm Credner*, who died of a stroke in Munich on 13th October, 1948. Dr. Credner was a geographer and geologist of international reputation. He was an Honorary member of many scientific societies and had been awarded several decorations for scientific research. His extensive travels all over the world enabled him to study geographical and geological problems in various countries and his new conception to include and connect the population in and with the morphological and geographical conditions of the country has been generally approved of by international science.

Dr. Credner was in Siam from 1927 to 1929 and traveled through all parts of the country. His book: "Siam das Land der Thai" is considered as a brilliant and unique monograph about this country. Full information about this work is given in the analysis by Major E. Seidenfaden. (J.S.S. Vol. XXXI/1).

Dr. Credner was Professor Ordinarius at the technical High School and at the University of Munich. He had just accepted a call as Professor Ordinarius to the University of Heidelberg when he died in the chair during a meeting of the German Geographical Association,

Dr. Credner had many friends in Siam, who will be sorry to learn of his untimely death. He loved Siam and intended to return here once more. The Siam Society will always honour the memory of this eminent scientist who contributed so much to the scientific research of Siam and who, by his book, has a large share in making Siam better known to the rest of the world.

U. G.

ERRATA ET CORRIGENDA

On page 87, paragraph 3, line 7, read "to use specialized air cameras".

On page 881, paragraph 2, line 5, place a comma after "sighting".

On page 90, next to last line, place a comma after "last".

On page 92, paragraph 2, line 3, for "charity" read "clarity". Same paragraph, line 5, read "minimize" for "minimise".

On page 150, lines 5 and 6, place periods after the parentheses.

On page 146, paragraph 3, line 3, read "of their food" in place of "to their food".

On page 155, paragraph 1, next to last line, read "informants" for "imformants".

On page 156, paragraph 2, line 4, read "innacuracies" for "accuracies".
Same page, last paragraph, line 2, place a comma after "educational".

On page 157, third line from the bottom, read "amicable" for "amical".

