

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1964

The Annual General Meeting of the Siam Society terminating the year 1963 was held at the Society's Home, 131 Asoka Road (Lane 21), Sukhumvit, Bangkok, on Tuesday, 24th March 1964 at 8.15 p.m. with His Highness Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh, President, in the Chair. The Meeting was attended by nearly 200 members and guests including the following members of the Council:

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| H.H. Prince Prem Purachattra | Senior Vice-President |
| H.E. Chao Phya Sri Dharmadhibes | Vice-President |
| H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul | Vice-President and Honorary Secretary |
| Mr. J.J. Boeles | Honorary Librarian and Director of the Research Centre |
| Mr. Kenneth J. MacCormac | Honorary Editor of the Journal |
| H.E. Mr. Ebbe Munck | Honorary Editor of the Natural History Bulletin |
| Mr. Ariyant Manjikul | |
| H.S.H. Prince Piyarangsit Rangsit | |
| Mr. J.H.W. Thompson | |

The Meeting by a unanimous resolution re-elected the Council en bloc with His Highness Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh, as President. The Meeting was followed by a lecture by Mr. W.A.R. Wood, the oldest British resident in Siam, on the subject of "OLD TALES RETOLD".

The Council upon taking office re-elected the following standing committees for carrying on the activities of the Society:

1) Finance Committee

- The Senior Vice-President (H.H. Prince Prem Purachattra), Chairman
- The Honorary Secretary
- The Honorary Treasurer

2) Editorial Committee

The Honorary Editor of the Journal (Mr. Kenneth J. MacCormac), Chairman
 H.H. Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh
 H.E. Mr. Ebbe Munck

3) National History Committee

Lt. General Phya Salwidhan Nidhes, Chairman
 H.E. Mr. Ebbe Munck
 Mr. Ariyant Manjikul
 H.S.H. Prince Piyarangsit Rangsit

4) Exchange Committee

H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul, Chairman
 Phya Anuman Rajadhon
 H.H. Prince Sukhuma Paribatra
 Mr. J.J. Boeles

5) Travel Committee

Mr. Sanya Dharmasakti, Chairman
 H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul
 H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul
 Mom Rajawongse Sumonajati Swasdikul

6) Research Committee

H.H. Prince Prem Purachattra, Chairman
 Mr. Kenneth J. MacCormac
 Mr. V.F. Hemmingsen
 H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul
 H.E. Mr. Ebbe Munck
 The Director of the Siam Society Research Centre (Mr. J.J. Boeles)

The Council has re-appointed Mr. Kenneth J. MacCormac and H.E. Mr. Ebbe Munck as Honorary Editor of the Journal and Honorary Editor of the Natural History Bulletin respectively. They are to be congratulated for having spent so much time and effort in producing highly commendable publications for the Society as follows :

Journal of the Siam Society, Volume 52, Part 1 (April 1964)

Journal of the Siam Society, Volume 52, Part 2 (July 1964)
 Bulletin of the Natural History, Volume 20, No. 4 (December
 1964)

Data Paper Number 1—1964 on “A Report on Tribal Peoples
 in Chiengrai Province, North of the Mae Kok River ”

The Council has much pleasure in reporting that the sale of
 our publications has proved to be the main source of our income. In
 1963 alone the total sales exceeded Baht 100,000.00: in 1964 almost
 Baht 85,000.00.

It is with profound regret that the Council has to announce
 one great loss to the Society: Mom Rajawongse Sumonajati Swasdi-
 kul, who was a member of the Council and had on several occasions
 lectured before the Society besides acting as guide on our popular
 excursions, passed away on 23rd May 1964 after a long illness. He
 had been on the Council for nearly 20 years and his loss is keenly felt.
 The Council also lost the service of our energetic Honorary Assistant
 Secretary, Mr. Pracha Guna-Kasem, in July 1964 because he was as-
 signed in his official capacity to the Royal Thai Embassy in Cairo.

The Council has co-opted two new members to sit on the
 Council, namely: Luang Thavil Sethapanijkarn and Mr. Kraisi
 Nimmanhaeminda, in order to fill the vacancies, and we feel very
 fortunate in securing the services of these two prominent gentlemen.

The Council held 11 business meetings during the year; 8 mee-
 tings at the Society's Home and 3 meetings at the President's residence.

The Society's membership of all categories up to the end of
 1964 was 1,026 as compared with 978 at the close of 1963, and this is
 the highest on record.

The classification of membership is as follows :

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| Royal Patron and Vice Patrons | 4 |
| Honorary Members | 2 |
| Free Members | 5 |
| Corresponding Members | 15 |
| Life Members | 199 |
| Ordinary Members | <u>801</u> |
| Total: | <u>1,026</u> |

The Society also has 28 subscribers to its Journal and Natural History Bulletin.

The financial position of the Society under the direction of our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. V.F. Hemmingsen, is sound as usual.

The high item of expenditure in the foreseeable future is the construction cost of the Khamthieng Memorial, which has been put up in the Society's compound and will serve as an Ethnological Museum. The Council cannot but express its deep gratitude and appreciation to various donors for this project, and special mention must be made of the Asia Foundation which has been most generous in granting a further sum of Baht 10,000.00 for this purpose apart from the previous contribution of Baht 135,000.00 as reported last year.

The Council also wishes to record its grateful appreciation for the following gifts :

1) Palm-leave manuscripts with Bali inccriptions presented by Mr. Kraisi Nimmanhaeminda to the Library;

2) 203 copies of Siamese publications presented by H.S.H. Princess Poon Pismai Diskul;

3) Cremation volumes presented by H.H. Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh;

4) One complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica—1947 Edition—presented by the British Council;

5) 200 sheets of corrugated asbestos sheets presented by the Siam Cement Co., Ltd. for making fence;

6) Epi-Diascope Machine presented by the B. Grimm & Co.; and lastly cash donations from members totalling Baht 29,870.50.

The Council takes this opportunity to announce that the John D. Rockefeller 3rd Fund has awarded a grant of U.S. \$25,000.00 to the Siam Society to assist over a period of 3 years in the acquisition and installation of artifacts in the Khamthieng Memorial, the continuing development of the library, and the creation of an archive of the visual and performing arts of Thailand not already maintained in other cultural institutions in Siam.

Meetings arranged by the Society during the year were as follows :

- 24th March 1964 Annual General Meeting and Lecture by Mr. W.A.R. Wood on the subject of "Old Tales Retold"
- 30th March 1965 Film show of "The Mekhong Project" by the courtesy of the Shell Company of Thailand, Ltd.
- 4th June 1965 Lecture by His Highness Prince Prem Purachatra on the subject of "Introduction to Thai Literature"
- 17th June 1965 Lecture with showing of slides by Dr. Raiko Ruzic on the subject of "Precious Stone Deposits in Thailand"
- 1st July 1965 Lecture with showing of slides by Dr. Wilhelm G. Solheim II on the subject of "Thailand and South East Asian Prehistory"
- 3rd July 1965 Lecture with showing of slides by Dr. Gunnar Seidenfaden on the subject of "Botanical Field Trip in North and Northeast Thailand"
- 15th July 1965 Lecture with showing of slides by Dr. Lucien M. Hanks and Dr. Lauriston Sharp on the subject of "Hill Peoples of Chiengrai"
- 11th August 1965 Lecture by Mr. Chun Prabhavivadh on the subject of "In a Siamese Garden: A Cultural Interlude"
- 27th August 1965 Lecture with showing of slides by Dr. Peter Kunstadter on the subject of "The Lawa of the Northern Thailand Hills"
- 8th October 1965 Lecture by His Highness Prince Hubertus Zu Lowenstein-Wertheim-Freudenberg on the subject of "Germany and Thailand-Their Spiritual and Cultural Relations"
- 23rd December 1965 Lecture with showing of film by Dr. E.M. Nicholson on the subject of "The Conservation of Wild Life and National Forests and its Problems"





