

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1967

The Annual General Meeting of the Siam Society terminating the year 1966 was held at the Society's Home, 131 Asoka Road (Lane 21) on Wednesday, 22nd March 1967 at 8.15 p.m. with His Highness Prince Prem Purachatra in the chair. The meeting was attended by some 200 members and guests.

In accordance with the agenda, the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 14th March 1966 as well as the Annual Report for 1966 and the Financial Statement for 1966 were adopted. Mr. Yukta na Thalang was re-elected Honorary Auditor for 1967.

The meeting then re-elected the standing Council for 1967 en bloc and approved raising the life membership fee to Baht 3000.

The meeting was followed by a lecture by Dr. Clark E. Cunningham on 'Physicians, Doctors, Curers, and Quacks: An Anthropological View of Health Arts in Rural Thailand.' The lecture was accompanied by a showing of slides.

STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 1967

1. Finance Committee

The Senior Vice-President (H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul)
Chairman
The Honorary Secretary (Luang Thavil Sethpanijkarn)
The Honorary Treasurer.

2. Editorial Committee

The Honorary Editor of the Journal (Dr. Lawrence Sternstein)
H.H. Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh
Mr. J.J. Boeles, Director Research Centre

3. Natural History Committee

Lt. General Phya Salwidhan Nidhes, Chairman
Mr. Ariyant Manjikul
H.S.H. Prince Piyarang 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**

H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul, Chairman
H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul
Mr. Kraisri Nimmanahaeminda

6. **Research Committee**

H.H. Prince Prem Purachatra, Chairman
H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul, Deputy Chairman
Mr. Kraisri Nimmanahaeminda
Luang Thavil Sethpanijkarn
Dr. Lawrence Sternstein
The Director of the Siam Society Research Centre (Mr. J.J. Boeles)

During the year the Council co-opted Mr. S. Gønge as Honorary Treasurer to replace Mr. V.F. Hemmingsen who was forced to resign under pressure of work after having served the Society for a number of years. The Council is particularly grateful to Mr. Hemmingsen for his having placed the finances to the Society on a solid foundation. The Council also co-opted H.E. Monsieur A.W. Kønigsfeldt as Honorary Editor of the *Natural History Bulletin* to succeed H.E. Monsieur Ebbe Munck who had left the country.

The year 1967 saw publication by the Society of the following periodicals and monographs :

The Journal of the Siam Society volume 55 parts 1 and 2;

The Natural History Bulletin of the Siam Society volume 22 numbers 1 and 2;

Erik Seidenfaden, *The Thai Peoples* (third edition); and

Larry Sternstein and Carl Springer, *An Annotated Bibliography of Material Concerning Southeast Asia from Petermanns Geographische Mitteilungen 1855-1966.*

The Council is pleased to report that our publications have proved of greater interest than ever before.

The Council held 11 business meetings during the year. The Society's membership at the end of 1967 reached a new high at 1,299 as compared to 1,208 at the close of 1966.

The classification of membership is as follows ;

Royal Patron and Vice-Patrons	4
Honorary Presidents	2
Honorary Vice-President	1
Honorary Members	3
Free Members	4
Corresponding Members	16
Life Members	231
Ordinary Members	<u>1038</u>
Total	1299

The Society has also 56 subscribers to its *Journal and Natural History Bulletin*.

The Society elected 244 new members and recorded 84 resignations and deaths. The number of visitors to the Library and Research Centre increased from 2,154 in 1966 to 2,678 in 1967. The Kamthieng House Museum was visited by 647 persons in 1967.

Outgoing office mail, including circulars to members, amounted to 15,024 pieces.

The financial position of the Society, under the laudable direction of the Honorary Treasurer, remains satisfactory as is reflected in the balance sheet for 1967.

Accrued benefits from the Society's capital of the Endowment Fund (Baht 2.3 million) are expected to become available for the first time in March 1968. This additional source of regular income will make it possible to finance the greater part of present operational expenses and, therefore, continuity of performance seems reasonably assured. It will be possible also to liquidate the present bank

overdraft shown in the balance sheet at 31st December 1967. In the coming years, however, additional capital donations from other institutions and private sources will be required. The Kamthieng House is not able to take care of itself financially and the Society, during 1967, could not budget for essential library acquisitions. During the year the Society saw an extension of the Kamthieng House Museum through the construction of a simple Sala that both protects and allows the display of wood carved teak panels acquired with funds from the John D. Rockefeller the Third Foundation.

During 1967 the Society's librarian and first museum assistant, Mrs. Chuchee Tiarabongse Boyle went to Denmark and later to the Netherlands on a State scholarship to study museum techniques for a period of five months. The Council is most grateful to the Danish and the Netherlands governments for making this training program possible. More than four months were spent in Denmark where study concentrated on the several open air museums.

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

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 16th February | Lecture by Mr. Chun Prabhavi-Vadhana: 'The Poetic Siamese.' |
| 22nd March | Lecture by Dr. Clark E. Cunningham: 'Physicians Doctors, Curers, and Quacks: An Anthropological View of Health Arts in Rural Thailand' with slides. |
| 11th April | Lecture by Dr. O.P. Agrawal: 'Introduction to the Conservation of Art Objects'. |
| 11th May | Lecture by Miss Elizabeth Lyons: 'International Art in Asia' with slides. |
| 14th May | Excursion to Pimai. |
| 3rd June | Visit to the new galleries at the National Museum. |
| 28th June | Lecture by H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul, 'The Cosmic Sleep of the Lord Vishnu in Khmer and Khmer-Lopburi Art' with slides. |
| 19th July | Lecture by Dr. Boonsong Lekagul: 'Common and Rare Civets of Thailand' with slides. |

- 16th August Lecture by Mr. Victor Kennedy: 'Murals of
Ayudhya' with slides.
- 29th October Excursion to Ayudhya for the Royal Kathin
Ceremony at Wat Suwan Dararam.

It is gratifying to note that lectures and excursions were much appreciated by members.

5th March 1968

