

Annual General Meeting.*

The 16th. Annual General Meeting of the Siam Society was held at Poh Yome House on Friday, January 30th. 1925 at 7 p. m.

PRESENT.

Mr. W. A. Graham, President, in the chair; Prof. G. Coedès and Major Seidenfaden, Vice-Presidents; Messrs le May, Sebastian, Fegen, Ayer, Lewis, Davy, Hjartved, Lingat, Hill-Madsen, Ardron, Blankwaardt, K. V. Nielsen, Bréal, Burnay, Ladell, Kerr, Robert, H. Mc C. Smith, Brändli, Bisgaard (Hon. Treasurer), Michell (Hon. Secretary), and Phra Aran Raksa.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary and confirmed.

ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS.

The President then presented the names of the following gentlemen for election as Honorary Members and, in doing so, explained that they had all formerly been Hon. Members of the late Natural History Society. Upon amalgamation, the Council had considered that they should be invited to join the Siam Society in the same capacity, as being distinguished men of science and especially interested in Natural History:—

- 1) Count Gyldenstolpe
Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm.
- 2) C. Boden Kloss Esq.
Raffles Museum, Singapore.
- 3) H. C. Robinson Esq.
F. M. S. Museums, Kuala Lumpur.
- 4) J. C. Moulton Esq.
Kuching, Sarawak.
- 5) E. C. Stuart Baker Esq.
Upper Norwood, England.

On their names being put to the vote, all the above-named gentlemen were elected unanimously.

* Omitted from Vol. XIX Pt. 1.

Dr. Robert suggested that the name of Dr. Malcolm Smith should be added to the list of Hon. Members, but the President explained that Dr. Smith wished to remain an ordinary member.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

The President then presented the name of Mr. C. A. Seymour Sewell as a Corresponding Member on his departure from Siam. On the proposal of Prof. Cœdès, seconded by Major Seidenfaden, this motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.*

The Hon. Secretary then read the Annual Report for the year 1924.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

The President then called for the Statement of Account, but Mr. Bisgaard explained that it was not available, as the printers had not yet delivered it, although promised for that morning. He had no copy with him.

The President said that he was at a loss what to do under these circumstances, as, properly speaking, the Accounts and the Report should be read and adopted together, and the accounts were not available. He asked the opinion of the meeting. Mr. Ardron said that, as the President had assured them that the Council were satisfied the Statement of Account was correct, he proposed that the Meeting should show their confidence in the Council by passing the Report and the Accounts "as read". This was seconded by Mr. Hill-Madsen, and carried unanimously. The President thanked the Meeting for their expression of confidence.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL.

Mr. Ardron proposed that the Council and Officers at present acting should be re-elected for the coming year, and asked the President to read a list of the names. The President did so, and explained that all of them were available with the exception of Mr. Sewell and Mr. Michell who were shortly leaving the country. Mr. Walton would also be leaving during the year, but he thought

that he might serve until he went, and a substitute could then be found. Prof. Cœdès would also be going on leave and vacating the positions of Hon. Librarian and Hon. Editor of the Journal. Mr. Sebastian had, however, kindly consented to fill this vacancy. As regards the Hon. Secretary, they would all regret that Mr. Michell, who had devoted much time and trouble to the office during the three years he had held it, was leaving. Mr. le May, however, who had already held the position during Mr. Michell's absence on leave, had kindly consented to take over the vacant office.

The President then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Michell for the good work he had done for the Society, which was cordially passed, and to which Mr. Michell briefly replied.

The President said that, owing to the recent fusion of the late Natural History Society with the Siam Society, it would be a good thing to elect two members from that body to the Council to look after the interests of the new Natural History Section. He asked Mr. Ardron to add the names of Dr. H. Mc. Cormick Smith and Mr. P. R. Kemp to his proposal for the new Council.

Mr. Bisgaard proposed the name of M. Bréal, which Mr. Ardron also accepted.

The new Council for 1925, as proposed by Mr. Ardron and seconded by Dr. Robert, was therefore as follows:—

President: Mr. W. A. Graham.

Vice-Presidents: Phya Indra Montri.

Prof. G. Cœdès.

Major E. Seidenfaden.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. S. le May.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. L. Bisgaard.

Hon. Librarian and Editor: Mr. E. G. Sebastian.

Members of Council: Dr. Ira Ayer, Dr. A. F. G. Kerr, Mr. W. H. Mundie, Mr. J. G. Raggi, Mr. E. J. Walton, Dr. H. Mc. Cormick Smith, Mr. P. R. Kemp, M. Bréal.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

THE REVISED RULES.

The President said that the Council had recently revised and re-drafted the Rules of the Society, copies of which had been on

view at the rooms for some time past for the perusal of members. He would not ask the Hon. Secretary to read them, as they were rather long, but, presuming that members had already studied them, he presented them to the meeting for adoption.

On the motion of Dr. Robert, seconded by M. Bréal, the new rules were "taken as read" and put to the meeting, which passed them unanimously.

This being all the business, the meeting terminated at 8.15 p. m.

Notes of the Quarter.

During the first three months of the present year the activities of the Society were confined to the Annual General Meeting, and the usual monthly meetings of the Council. It had been decided to hold the first Annual Dinner of the Society on January 30th, the night of the Annual General Meeting, but owing, first of all, to the death of H. R. H. Prince Prachaks, an uncle of His Majesty, it was postponed to February 19th, and then, owing to the sudden death on February 10th of H. R. H. Prince Asdang, the Heir Presumptive, it was finally abandoned altogether, as a mark of respect to the late Prince.

Since the beginning of May, however, the different Sections of the Society have been growing more active and various meetings have been held, which are recorded in the course of these Notes.

At the meeting of February 27th the President read a letter from Mr. E. J. Walton tendering his resignation from the Council, owing to his departure from Siam. At the meeting of May 29th, Dr. Ayer also sent in his resignation from the Council, owing to pressure of work in other directions. Both these resignations were accepted with great regret, and the President wrote thanking them for the services they had rendered the Society.

MEMBERSHIP.

Since the issue of the last Notes the following elections have taken place :—

Hon. Member : His Highness Prince Bidyalankarana, Vice-Minister of Commerce, and a Member of the Council of the Vajirānānā National Library.

Corresponding Members : Mr. C. A. S. Sewell, M. A., M. R. A. S., a member of the Council since February 1910: and Mr. J. Michell, F. R. G. S., the Hon. Secretary of the Society since January 1922, both of whom had now left Siam for good.

The five gentlemen, who were formerly Hon. Members of the Natural History Society, and who were elected to similar positions

in the Siam Society at the Annual General Meeting have now all signified acceptance of their election.

The following gentlemen have been elected Members of the Society.

- December 30th. 1924.* H. S. H. Môm Chao Sakol Warnakorn ;
Phya Manopakorn ; Mr. P. R. Rasmussen.
- January 23rd. 1925.* Mr. O. Björling ; Mr. T. Rambusch.
- February 27th. 1925.* Monsieur C. Baudart ; Mr. T. Wergeni ;
and Mr. F. S. Harrop.
- April 24th. 1925.* Sir Edward M. Cook, C.S.I., C.I.E. ; Mr.
W. W. Coultas ; Mr. T. M. Miles.
- May 29th. 1925.* H. E. Phya Daruphan ; Dr. R. A. Spaeth ;
Dr. T. H. Morrison ;

as well as the following 29 members of the late Natural History Society, who were, at the Council Meeting of January 23rd, 1925, all elected members of the Siam Society, subject to their acceptance :—

In Siam. Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Rooth, Messrs. C. J. Aagard, P. A. R. Barron, N. C. Braham, L. E. Chapple, S. H. Cole, E. J. Godfrey, A. S. Gould, R. Havmøller, H. W. Joynson, P. R. Kemp, S. G. Lambert, J. Macdonald, H. J. Macnamara, A. Queripel, Dr. Hugh Smith, A. B. Spigno, General P. L. E. Warming, C. M. Weston, and Phra Winit Wanadorn.

Abroad. Dr. M. E. Barnes, Dr. H. O'Brien, Messrs. G. Hope-Swonder, C. M. Inglis, P. W. May, J. M. W. Mackenzie, A. R. Somers Cox and A. S. Vernay.

Of the above, up to the present time, Mrs. Rooth, Mr. S. H. Cole, Dr. M. E. Barnes, and Mr. A. R. Somers Cox have declared their intention of not taking up their election to the Siam Society.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following members have resigned their membership of the Society :—

Miss Blount, Miss Siggins, Mr. G. Ganova, Commander Foss, Mr. J. H. Hee, H. E. Phya Nondisen, Mr. O. Schultz, Mr. J. E. Hunter, Mr. S. Brighthouse (from 31/12/25), Mr. Arnold Jones, Mr. P. Baissas, and Captain Flashman.

DEATHS.

There have been, unfortunately, two deaths since our last issue :— Mr. G. Rowland and Dr. R. A. Spaeth, the former while on leave in England, and the latter rather suddenly in Bangkok. The Council wish to express their sympathy with the relatives in each case.

REMOVALS.

At the Council Meeting of May 29th it was unanimously resolved to remove the names of the following members for non-payment of their subscriptions over periods varying from two to four years :—

Messrs. E. B. Eastwood, F. d'Arcy, H. B. Hart, C. L. Klitgaard-Lund, J. J. McBeth, A. Ferrero, and T. Vosper.

REVISED RULES.

The Revised Rules of the Society, which were passed at the Annual General Meeting, have now been printed and circularised to Members, whose kind attention is once again most earnestly drawn to the following important sections.

The annual subscription, which is Tcs. 25/—, is due in advance on January 1st of each year (Rule 7). Members are particularly requested to bear this in mind, and to remember that the Council must be assured of funds in hand before they can decide on the printing of any important publications, or on any other considerable expenditure within the scope and aims of the Society.

Members who neglect to pay their subscriptions will not receive the current journal until they have done so (Rule 32); and should they fail in such payment, after the receipt of the formal notices, they will automatically cease to be members at the close of the year, unless absent on leave from Siam, or for some other adequate reason (Rule 8).

The Council has been much distressed at the neglect shown by members in this respect in the past few years — a neglect which has thrown an unwarrantable amount of work and anxiety upon the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary — and earnestly invites all members to do their best to place the financing of the Society upon a more satisfactory basis in the future.

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

On the 29th. of July the Vice Patron, H. R. H. Prince Damrong, was kind enough to give an address in English to the Society entitled "Angkor from a Siamese Point of View", embodying the reflections caused by his recent visit to the world - famous ruins in Cambodia. The address was illustrated by a number of beautiful lantern slides, for which purpose Mr. Wening kindly lent and worked his own lantern. There was a very large gathering of nearly 150 members and their friends present to hear what proved to be an absorbing lecture, the main feature of which was the presentation of a number of interesting points that would appeal to the Siamese mind and eye, but would probably escape the European student. As the President said, in thanking the Prince at the close of the lecture, the Society now adds one more to the long list of debts it owes His Royal Highness for the deep interest he has taken in the work of the Society ever since its inception.

The Vice-Patron's address will be published in the Journal in due course.

THE STUDY SECTIONS.

1. The Natural History Section held its first meeting, as an integral part of the Siam Society, on May 6th. 1925, when Mr. E. J. Godfrey was elected Leader, and Mr. P. R. Kemp, Secretary. Mr. Kemp had previously been appointed by the Council Hon. Assistant Editor of the Society to take charge of Natural History publications: but he subsequently asked permission to withdraw his name, and Mr. Godfrey has now been appointed Hon. Assistant Editor in his place.

The second meeting of the Section was held on July 6th., when the attendance was unfortunately not as good as had been anticipated. Those present, however, much enjoyed the view of a fine collection of butterflies shown by Mr. Godfrey, and of some excellent specimens of Siamese cat -, and other fish brought by Dr. Hugh Smith, together with some beautiful coloured drawings of various fishes.

Dr. Hugh Smith has undertaken to give a lecture to the Section on Siamese fish at a date to be fixed later.

2. The Philatelic Section held its first meeting under the auspices of the Siam Society on July 23rd., the attendance numbering fifteen, including 3 members of the old Siam Philatelic Society.

Monsieur E. C. Monod was elected Leader, and Mr. E. G. Sebastian, Secretary. With the help of Monsieur Monod and Mr. E. Wyon Smith, Mr. R. S. le May then explained in some detail the activities of the late Siam Philatelic Society; and eventually, in order to give the Section a lead, Mr. Wyon Smith offered to give the Section a paper on the General Processes involved in the manufacture of Stamps. This was accepted with thanks, and Thursday, August 27th, was fixed as the date of the Meeting. During the course of the evening various members passed round a number of interesting stamps for examination.

“FLORAE SIAMENSIS ENUMERATIO.”

The first part of Professor Craib's Work on the “Flora of Siam,” the publication of which is being undertaken by the Siam Society, was issued in March last, and is now available to all interested at a cost of Tcs. 7/- (12s. 10d. at the present rate of exchange) to non-members, and Tcs. 5/- to members.

It is anticipated that this valuable work will entail the issue of several further parts before it is complete.

AGENTS OF THE SOCIETY ABROAD.

Messrs. Luzac & Co., of 46, Great Russell Street, London W. C., have now been appointed sole agents for all publications of the Society in Great Britain and Ireland.

Messrs. Harrassowitz of Leipzig have similarly been appointed sole agents for Germany.
