

## Notes of the Quarter.

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Meetings of the Council have been held regularly throughout the period under review April to June 1926.

### THE ROYAL PATRONAGE.

Intimation was made early in April that His Majesty would be pleased to present the Society with a copy of his portrait in due season.

A gift made by His Majesty to the Society totalling some 120 works from the pen of His late Majesty King Rama VI, was received during the quarter, and the Council requested H. H. Prince Dhani to convey the thanks of the Society for these valuable gifts.

It has been intimated to the Council that the Society would probably be presented with a set of the Tripitaka which is being reprinted as a memorial to the late Reign. A specially designed book case and table to house the edition has already been presented. The Council on behalf of the Society authorised a donation from the funds being made towards the cost of printing the Tripitaka.

The Council caused a letter of Condolence to be sent to H. R. H. Prince Damrong, the Vice-Patron of the Society, on the death of his son, Prince Songvudh.

### THE COUNCIL.

In the quarter under review, H. H. Prince Dhani Nivat was elected to a seat on the Council, and Mr. E. G. Sebastian was elected honorary Librarian.

The question of insuring the journals, library and furniture of the Society against loss by fire has been decided, and a policy has now been taken out for a total of Tcs. 19,000.

A design prepared by His Royal Highness Prince Narisara as an emblem of the Society—a representation of Ganesha's head with a wreath of flowers, with an inscription in Siamese—has been adopted, and is in course of being prepared for use on the cover of the Society's journal, on the letter headings and in the books of the Society's library.

### MEMBERSHIP.

Since the issue of the last Notes the following elections to

membership have taken place :—

June 22nd            The Wattana Wittaya Academy, Bibliothèque Royale du Cambodge, Mr. R. C. Edwards, Prof. Max Moller, Luang Thavil Sreshtabanijyakar.

#### RESIGNATIONS.

The following members have resigned from the Society during the quarter Dr. Paul McCullagh Lowell, Mr. C. E. Sandstrom, Mr. P. Scott and Mr. S. H. Hendrick.

#### ORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS.

Two ordinary general meetings have been held in the period under review. On April 28th Mr. Blankwaardt read an interesting paper on the old time relations between Holland and Siam the period covered being from the 16th century down to recent years. Mr. Blankwaardt brought out points of contact between the two countries not touched on by previous contributors to this subject. An interesting discussion followed the reading of the paper, in the course of which it was noted that the ground where the early Dutch merchants lie buried in Ayudhya has been permanently set aside as a graveyard.

On July 12, Mr. M. Bréal read a paper of note on "The Sepha of Khun Jang Khun Phēn" with special reference to customs concerning birth and early childhood. Prince Dhani subsequently congratulated Mr. Bréal on his paper, and on the original manner in which he had calculated the date of the events related in the poem, the era in which it is expressed beginning with the foundation of the capital of Ayudhya.

At this meeting it was decided to add to Rule No. 7 the following: "which election shall however not be deemed to be valid until the first year's subscription has been paid."

#### THE STUDY SECTIONS.

No meetings of the Study Sections were held during the quarter.

#### EXCURSION TO PETCHABURI.

On Sunday, June 20th, the Society organised a pleasant excursion to Petchaburi. The Royal State Railways made most

convenient arrangements and the visit to the caves and to the Palace of King Mongkut was undertaken with the minimum of inconvenience. The inspection of King Mongkut's palace indeed was a real peep into the early days of foreign influence at the Court of Siam. The furniture, fittings, pictures etc. are all as when used by King Mongkut, and it is seldom that foreigners have the opportunity of inspecting such an interesting link with the Fourth Reign. The whole of the catering was undertaken by the Royal State Railways Hotel service to the satisfaction of everyone making the journey. The attendance included a number of ladies, and an informative booklet was prepared and distributed to the members of the Society.

