

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1939.

THE COUNCIL.

The Council for 1939 was composed as follows:

Major Erik Seidenfaden	<i>President</i>
H. H. Prince Dhani Nivat	} <i>Vice-Presidents</i>
R. Lingat	
Phra Arj Vidayakom	
(Dr. Geo. B. McFarland)	
Phya Indra Montri (Mr. F. H. Giles)	
R. Adey Moore	<i>Hon. Secretary</i>
H. H. Prince Bidyalaukarana	
J. Burnay	
Rev. Father L. Chorin	
E. Healey	<i>Hon. Architect</i>
H. H. Prince Varnvaidyakara	
Phya Srishtikar Banchong	<i>Hon. Librarian</i>
U. L. Guehler	
H. S. H. Prince Sakol Varnakara Varavarn	
Phya Sarasastra Sirilaksana	
J. E. Davies	<i>Hon. Editor, Journal</i>
J. T. Edkins	<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>
Dr. R. L. Pendleton	
Dr. J. de Campos	<i>Leader, Travel Section</i>
Dr. A. Viehoever	<i>Leader and Hon. Secretary</i>
	<i>N. H. Section and Hon. Editor, N. H. Supp.</i>

The annual general meeting was held on February 22nd when the President, Major Erik Seidenfaden, who was re-elected, referred to the fact that the collection of tribal dresses had been handed to the National Museum and was on view there. The number of lectures

in 1938 had been fewer than in 1937; and the Natural History Section had had a quiet year. He also acknowledged the kindness of H. S. H. (now H. H.) Prince Varnvaidyakara Varavarn in helping the Society by translating the rules into the Thai language. A tribute was also paid to the invaluable assistance rendered to the Society by Phya Indra Montrri, a former president and a member for thirty-five years.

Mr. C. J. House, former Honorary Treasurer of the Society, was unanimously elected a Corresponding member, in recognition of his services to the Society.

On the 31st December, 1939, the membership was as follows:—

Honorary	Corresponding	Life	Ordinary	Associate	Free
18	11	4	147	16	4

making a total of 200, as compared with 186 in 1938; 171 in 1937; 176 in 1936; and 171 in 1935. The rise is due to the election, during the year, of one corresponding member and fifteen ordinary members against the resignation of two associate members.

PUBLICATIONS.

Volume XXXI, Part I, of the Journal was issued in March 1939, and Part II in December 1939, the former including an article on "Early trade relations between Denmark and Siam," by H. H. Prince Dhani Nivat and Major Erik Seidenfaden; and the latter, an article on "A French Garrison at Bangkok in 1687-1688" by Mr. E. W. Hutchinson. The Journal was edited by Professor J. E. Davies.

The Natural History Supplement, Volume XII, No. I, was issued in December 1939, under the Editorship of Dr. Arno Viehoveer, who succeeded Mr. U. L. Guehler (resigned) as Leader of the Natural History Section and Editor of the Supplement. This volume comprises 170 pages and deals mainly with the many lectures delivered before the Society and also includes articles on "Early Botanists in Thailand," by Dr. A. F. G. Kerr, and Thai Earthworms by Professor G. E. Gates. The volume is divided into four sections: Exploring and explorers of plant life; Development of soil and land resources; Records of animal life; Progress in human and animal welfare.

The question of printing a number of articles in the Thai language, on the suggestion made in Penang to Professor J. E. Davies by H. R. H. Prince Damrong, was considered by the Council, which

adopted it in principle, and expressed the hope that the Editorial Committee would be able to publish a part of the Journal in the form desired.

MEETINGS.

Ten lecture meetings were held during the year, and also the Annual General Meeting.

The lecture meetings were as follows:

January 11th:—Rev. K. L. Reichelt, Ph. D., of Tao Fong Shan, Hongkong, on "Buddhist and Christian viewpoints on some of the Fundamental Religious Ideas."

January 16th:—Rev. Father Henri Bernard, S. J., on "Les Essais de Modernisation occidentale du Siam avant Constance Phaulkon."

February 3rd:—Dr. R. L. Pendleton, on "Inter-relations of Agriculture and Forestry in Siam."

February 24th:—Professor Dr. Baron Egon von Eickstedt, on "Some racial problems in Further India."

May 11th:—Dr. M. Oberdoffer, on "Leprosy in Siam."

June 16th:—Dr. Arno Viehoveer, F. C., Ph. D., Ph. D., on "Natural Treasures and their Utilization."

July 28th:—Dr. J. de Campos, on "Thailand in the 16th Century and the early studies of its Cartography."

August 18th:—Mr. Ambrose Pratt, on "The Value of Wild Life."

November 17th:—Dr. Svasti Daengswang, on "The life-story of the Tua Chid, common parasitic round-worm."

December 15th:—Dr. R. L. Pendleton, on "Soils of Thailand—the Foundation of Our Wealth."

EXCURSIONS.

At the meeting of the Council on January 4th, the details of proposed excursions to Ayudhya, Sukothai, Sawankalok, Prabat and Angkor were considered, and deferred owing to the absence of the leader of the Travel Section. But on May 7th, an excursion was made to the excavations at Nakon Pathom and this was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part in it. Dr. J. de Campos, the leader of the Travel Section, was in charge of the party.

PRESERVATION OF WILD LIFE.

The President, who was authorized by the Council to approach H. E. Phya Phahon in order to solicit his assistance for promulgation

of a law for preservation of the life of the rare animals of this country, reported on July 5th that he had had an interview with His Excellency who had promised to give his aid to this end. His Excellency showed keen interest in, and sympathy with the work of the Society.

CRAIB'S FLORAE.

The statement of cost, and income, of Craib's *Florae Siamensis Enumeratio* showed a loss of Tcs. 2,487.23, as at December 31st, 1938, and a sub-committee consisting of Phya Indra Montri, Dr. Geo. B. McFarland, and Mr. J. Burnay, was appointed to review the whole position of the Society's attitude in regard to this work, and to make suggestions and proposals for a larger circulation. The report of the sub-committee was subsequently circulated to members and adopted. It was decided that Dr. Kerr should receive free copies in future of every part edited or prepared by him.

It was reported by the Hon. Librarian that several of the recommendations made by the President after studying the report had been attended to. Other points noted were :

- (a) That the Society had copyright in its publications.
- (b) That Dr. Kerr would arrange for a more uniform size of each part of Craib.
- (c) Stock books had been established.

A letter was also sent to Dr. Kerr to the effect that the Council was prepared to continue the publication of *Florae Siamensis Enumeratio* in parts of not more than one hundred pages each.

The sub-committee were thanked for their work.

GIFT OF JOURNALS.

The Council decided to present continuing volumes of the Society's journals to the Chulalongkorn University.

SOCIETY'S DELEGATES.

At the invitation of the Sixth Pacific Science Congress, sent through H. E. Mr. Edwin L. Neville, the American Minister, Dr. R. L. Pendleton, was elected to represent the Society at that Congress, and did so very efficiently.

An invitation to attend the Congress of Genetics in Edinburgh in August was directed to be sent to Dr. A. F. G. Kerr in the hope that he would be able to attend. He was, however, unable to do so and the inability of the Society to send a delegate was intimated to the Congress Secretary.

PHYA INDRA'S BIRTHDAY.

An address was presented to H. E. Phya Indra Montri in commemoration of his seventieth birthday and in recognition of all he had done for the Society.

The address was drawn up by the President, signed by all the members of the Council, and engrossed by Mr. Edward Healey, the Honorary Architect, who was thanked for his beautiful work.

LIBRARY ACCOMMODATION.

In the course of the year a sectional cupboard, as an extension to the library accommodation, was purchased at a cost of Tcs. 32.

CHANGE OF NAME.

At the meeting of the Council on September 6th it was unanimously agreed to change the name of the Siam Society to the Thailand Research Society. This was confirmed at a general meeting held on November 17th, 1939. It was also agreed that the Thai name of the Society should be สมาคมค้นคว้าประเทศไทย (Samakom Khon Vicha Prathet Thai).

THE FAULCON PAPERS.

The President was asked to reply to Mr. E. W. Hutchinson's application regarding the publication of the Falcon Papers that in view of all the circumstances the Society did not see their way to undertake publication but very gladly gave him permission to reproduce anything which had been published in the Society's Journal on this subject.

RESIGNATIONS.

During the year Mr. W. Zimmerman resigned from the Council; and Mr. U. L. Guehler, from the position of Leader and Honorary Secretary of the Natural History Section and Editor of the Supplement. Both were thanked for the services they had rendered to the Society.

H. H. PRINCE VARNVAIDYAKARA.

A letter of congratulation on behalf of the Society was sent to H. H. Prince Varnvaidyakara member of the Council, on his promotion in Royal rank.

MEMBERSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE.

With a view to enlarging the membership of the Society the following sub-Committee was formed: H. H. Prince Varnvaidyakara, Dr. Geo. B. McFarland, Professor J. E. Davies and Dr. Arno Viehoveer.

THE SOCIETY'S BUILDING.

The question of letting the Society's home for meetings of outside bodies was considered and, as the Council felt that this might render the Society liable to taxation at the hands of the revenue authorities, it was thought that before reaching a decision the authorities should be consulted.

DR. BERNATZIK'S BOOK.

The Council decided that the translation of Dr. Bernatzik's book relating to the Pi Tong Lüang, from German, should not be undertaken. An exhaustive and sympathetic review of the book had been written by Mr. E. W. Hutchinson, which was due to appear in an early number of the Journal.

ACCOUNTS.

Mr. J. T. Edkins has acted as Honorary Treasurer and as such done valuable work throughout the year. He has also checked the Society's stocks of Journals—over thirty volumes—and the stocks of Natural History Supplements, Craib's *Florae* and other publications of the Society.

Statement of Reserve Fund.

To Balance brought forward from 1938	...	...	Baht	4,621.74	By Deficit for 1939 of Craib's Florae a/c	...	...	Baht	149.90
.. Interest to 21/12/39	...	...	..	195.17	.. Balance forward to 1940	...	...	..	4,667.01
			Baht	<u>4,816.91</u>				Baht	<u>4,816.91</u>

Statement of Reserve "A" a/c.

To Sinking Fund for Repairs	...	...	Baht	100.00	By Balance at Bank forward to 1940	...	...	Baht	200.00
.. Book Purchase Fund	...	...	..	100.00					
			Baht	<u>200.00</u>				Baht	<u>200.00</u>

Statement of Craib's Florae a/c.

To Cost of Printing Vol. II, Part 5.	...	...	Baht	455.00	By Sales	...	...	Baht	305.10
					.. Balance transferred to Reserve Fund a/c	...	...	..	149.90
			Baht	<u>455.00</u>				Baht	<u>455.00</u>

Examined and found to agree with the books and vouchers,

J. H. W. MARSHALL,
Hon. Auditor.

Subscriptions outstanding.

1935	...	Baht	50
1936	...	..	75
1937	...	..	150
1938	...	..	275
1939	...	..	475
		Baht	<u>1,025</u>

Number of Members as at 31st. December 1939.

Honorary	...	18
Corresponding	...	11
Life	...	4
Ordinary	...	147
Associate	...	16
Free	...	4
		<u>200</u>

J. T. EDKINS,
Hon. Treasurer

Bangkok, 10th January 1940.