

conservation requires specialist training and assistance that often is not available within this region.

We hope that this conference marks a turning point in tropical South East Asia: first, in the awareness of conservation needs; and second, in the realization of sound conservation action both at national and international level.

Therefore, it is both with pleasure, and with high hopes, that I now declare this conference opened.

E.B. & T.S.

V. FLORA OF THAILAND PROJECT

The result of the Thai-Danish Botanical Studies was very impressive and led to the project on the Flora of Thailand, an Editorial Board of 6 persons was temporarily formed up and the first meeting was held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey in May 1965, participated by Mr. B.L. BURT, Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, Scotland; Mr. L.L. FORMAN, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Mr. J. VIDAL, Centre of National Research Council, Paris, France; Prof. KAI LARSEN, Botanical Institute, Aarhus, Denmark; Mr. BERTEL HANSEN, Botanical Museum of the University of Copenhagen, Denmark; and Mr. TEM SMITINAND, Forest Herbarium, Royal Forest Department, Bangkok. The omission of certain world famous botanical institutions is the short-coming of this meeting, but nevertheless, the meeting has drawn its attention and supportment.

The Flora of Thailand will have the schematic appearance as the *Flora of Tropical West Africa*, i.e. elaborately indented keys to Genera and Species; short description of families, genera, and species; illustration in line drawings at a maximum of one figure per 5 pages; publishing in Bangkok financed by either Thai or Danish capitals. As in the *Flora Malesiana* the publication will be issued as per available material.

Contributors are therefore kindly invited, and detail information can be supplied by any member of the Editorial Board. Any in-

formation pertaining collection and collectors of Thai plants is also welcome.

It is a pleasure to report here that for the fiscal year 1965-66, a grant has been given by the Thai National Research Council to support this project; and it is to be hoped that aids from Unesco and the Department of International Help, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Hague will be materialised in the future.

T.S.