

## Notes of the Quarter (January-March 1923.)

### MEMBERSHIP.

The following five members have been elected :

H. S. H. Prince Bovoradej

Messrs. H. Brändli

Kim Phong

W. T. Lewis

E. Wyon Smith

The following six members have resigned :

Messrs. A. C. Anderson.

F. Chalant

H. Elsoë

F. J. Ford

A. Holm

J. Huese

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The 14th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the Society's room on Tuesday January 23rd. 1923 at 6 p.m.

*Present:* Mr. W. A. Graham (President) in the chair; Messrs. Coedès, Cartwright (Vice presidents), Michell (Hon. Secretary), Raggi (Hon. Treasurer), Sewell, Walton (members of Council); Brewitt-Taylor, Davy, Duplatre, Fegen, Hale, James, Kerr, Lewis, Moore, Nicolas, Niel, Paulger.

The minutes of last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary then read the Annual report for 1922, after which the President invited comments or queries upon it. There being no response, he went on to say that it was not necessary to read the "statement of accounts" which they had all seen. In the absence of any remarks, he asked for a proposal to adopt the Annual report and Statement of accounts. This was done by Dr. Eldon James seconded by Mr. Sewell and passed unanimously. (The report and Statement are attached).

ALTERATION TO RULE.

The next business was a proposal to alter rule 21 which provided that a committee of four members of the Council should look after the publication of the Journal and the preparing of papers for publication in the same.

It was now proposed that this committee should be done away with, and an Editor appointed instead. The rule as altered would read as follows :—

“A Journal shall be published as often as practicable, which shall comprise a selection of the papers read before the Society, the Reports of the Council and Honorary Treasurer, and such other matter as the Council may deem it expedient to publish.

“The Council shall appoint one of their number as Editor of the Journal, who, as such, shall be responsible for the general arrangement and publication of the material selected by the Council.

“The Honorary Secretary shall assist the Editor in matters connected with the printing and publication of the Journal.

“Papers or communications presented to the Council may be of the following languages, viz :—English, French, German or Siamese.”

The President said that in the event of this alteration being approved, Prof. Cœdès the Hon. Librarian had kindly consented to become Editor.

The President then proposed that the alteration to rule 21 should be adopted, Mr. Walton seconded, and it was carried nem. con.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1923.

Mr. Brewitt-Taylor proposed that the officers and Council should be re-elected for 1923 en bloc, with the addition of Dr. A. F. G. Kerr as member of Council. Mr. Davy seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Raggi then made a statement that he had intended to resign the position of Hon. Treasurer at this meeting, but as he understood that his successor would not be able to take up the duties just yet, he had consented to “carry on” until he was ready.

The President expressed the regret of the council that Mr. Raggi had found it necessary to resign, and explained that Mr. L. Bisgaard had kindly consented to become Hon. Treasurer from April 1st.

#### ELECTION OF NEW MEMBER.

Mr. W. T. Lewis of the "The Bangkok Times" Ltd.

Proposed by Mr. R. Paulger

Seconded by Mr. Raggi

was elected an ordinary member.

#### RESIGNATIONS

The resignation of the following members was announced :

Mr. Herluf Elsøe ( S. E. C. )

Mr. A. Holm ( E. A. C. )

Mr. J. Huese, Great Eastern Life Assurance Co.

#### THE HON. AUDITORS.

Prof. G. Cœdès proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Brewitt-Taylor and Rae for having kindly undertaken the task of auditing the Accounts of the Society, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Brewitt-Taylor briefly replied.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

## Annual Report for 1922.

The year 1922 has been one of steady and continued progress in the history of the Society. The revival of interest in its activities, noted in the last Annual Report, has been maintained, to which the acquisition of a suitable headquarters has greatly contributed, giving it a local habitation in addition to its now thoroughly established name.

The Society has gratefully to acknowledge the continued interest of its Royal Patron—His Majesty the King, also of H. R. H. Prince Damrong, the Vice-Patron, who has, as always, shown his practical interest in the Society by his counsel and assistance on many occasions. It was a cause of peculiar satisfaction to the Society to be enabled in a small measure to acknowledge His Royal Highness' many kindnesses by presenting him with an address of congratulation on the occasion of his 60th birthday, which was celebrated in November.

H. R. H. The Prince of Kambaeng Bejra, Commissioner General for Railways, has accepted the position of Hon. Vice-President, and the thanks of the Society are due to H. R. H. for his practical interest in attending meetings and giving a display of cinema and other photographs dealing with Railway construction in Siam.

The Society hopes that the gracious patronage of His Majesty the King and the distinguished support of its Royal Vice-Patron and Hon. Vice-President, will result in the election of more Siamese members, whose knowledge in matters connected with their own country, would naturally be of great assistance to the Society.

### MEMBERSHIP.

During the year, thirty-one new members have been elected to the Society, including His Royal Highness Prince Purachatra of Kambaeng Bejra as Honorary Vice-President, and Mr. Josiah Crosby, C. I. E., O. B. E., as an Honorary Member. The number of resignations during this year was eleven. The membership of the Society, therefore at 31st. December 1922 was as follows :

Ordinary	-	Honorary	-	Corresponding
205	...	15	...	8

making a grand total of 228. This shows an increase over the total for 1921 of 28.

#### ORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS.

There "Ordinary General Meetings" were held, at which papers were read as follows:

March 2nd. "Pottery in Siam" by Mr. W. A. Graham.

March 29th. "Some Notes on Commercial Development in Siam" by Mr. W. Nunn.

October 2nd. Notes on "The Buddhist Votive Tablets of Siam" by Prof. G. Coedès.

The first two were held by permission at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club, and the last at the Society's room.

#### THE JOURNAL.

Four parts of the journal were published comprising Vol. XV, part 1 and 2, and Vol. XVI, parts 1 and 2.

A larger number of illustrations than usual were included with the parts, which added greatly to the interest—and also to the expense—of the journal. Besides the publications of papers read before the Society, two contributions of great scientific interest to naturalists were made—one by the distinguished Dr. Van Leeuwen of the Buitenzorg Botanical Gardens Java, on "The Insect Galls of Siam" and the other, a sequel to the first, on "The Thysanoptera from Siam and Indo-China" by H. H. Karry, of the same institution. These two papers are of great value in the field of original research. The preparation of the Journal for publication, which hitherto has been in the hand of a sub-committee of the Council, will, it is hoped, be made in future by Prof. G. Coedès who has kindly consented to act as Editor.

All the parts of the Journal published in any one year will, for the future, constitute a separate volume, the pagination running consecutively throughout.

#### EXCHANGES WITH OTHER SOCIETIES.

In 1921 the number of learned Societies and Libraries with which the Siam Society exchanges its journal was 16, but in response

to a circular sent out in August last, this has risen to 55. Exchanges now include the journals of such well known Societies as the Royal Asiatic Society (London), The Smithsonian Institution (Washington), The Société Asiatique (Paris), &c. &c.

At the request of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, the Society has presented a complete set of its Journal to that celebrated institution and has entered the name of that library in the list of those to whom in future copies will be supplied.

#### THE MON DICTIONARY.

Mr. Halliday's Mon-English Dictionary, the publication of which was undertaken by the Society some time ago, has now been completed and can be bought from the Society at Tcs. 18 per copy. The printing of this important work, the first of its kind to appear, was undertaken by the Assumption College Press in conjunction with the learned and reverend Phra Khan Chandakanto of Paklat, under the supervision of the author and of Prof. Cédès, and is an important contribution to Philology. A number of copies have been bespoken by foreign Universities, learned bodies and individuals, the Vajirañāna National Library of Bangkok taking twenty copies. The edition comprises 500 copies.

#### THE "QUESTIONNAIRE"

In response to the "questionnaire" issued by the Society in 1921 asking for particular information regarding the manners and customs of obscure tribes in Siam, seven replies have been received, six from Chiangmai, kindly sent by H. S. H. Prince Boveradej, dealing with the White Karens, Red Karens, Meao, Leu, Shans, and Yao, and another from H. E. The High Commissioner of Roi Ech about the Poo Thai, and the Kha, inhabiting the East of Siam. The first of these was translated by Mr. E. J. Walton and appeared in the journal, Vol. XVI, part 1, whilst the others are in course of preparation for publication.

#### STUDY SECTIONS.

The proposal of the Council to form "sections" or "groups" amongst the members, for the study of various scientific subjects, as

set forth in the circulars sent out at the end of last year, met with sufficient response to justify the formation of 5 sections as follows:—

1. Technolgy and Fine Arts.
2. Sociology.
3. Physical Anthropology.
4. Archaeology, Literature and Comparative Philology.
5. Agriculture, Transport and Travel.

It was not however, before the Society had acquired its new room, that the sections were able to begin operations. The opening meeting of each section took place in October, and meetings have been held periodically since. Sections 1, 4, and 5 have been well supported, but the other two have languished somewhat.

Section 5 (Agriculture, Travel and Transport) has had the energetic support of H. R. H. the Hon. Vice-President who has attended all the meetings and, as already mentioned, has contributed a very instructive display of cinema and other views dealing with transport in Siam.

It is to be regretted that these section meetings have not, so far, been better supported by the members. They afford an excellent opportunity for studying subjects connected with Siam and adjacent countries and for the exchange of informations regarding them. They offer also a means by which members, who may feel that the publication of an occasional journal is an inadequate return for their annual subscriptions, can make further use of the Society for their amusement and instruction. It should be pointed out that the sections are not confined to those who submitted their names, but that all members are entitled to attend the meetings at any time.

#### REPRESENTATION OF THE SOCIETY AT EUROPEAN CENTENARIES.

The Siam Society received an invitation to appoint delegates to assist at the celebration of the 7th. centenary of the University of Padua which took place last May, and requested Prof. F. L. Pulle of Bologna University (Corresponding Member) to attend on its behalf. A similar invitation was received from the "Société Asiatique de Paris" to take part in in their centenary celebration in July. Prof. F. Lorgeou of Paris (Hon. Member) was invited to represent the Society and in due time reported that he had done so.

## THE SOCIETY'S NEW HEADQUARTERS.

The acquisition of a "home" referred to in the opening paragraph of this report, is a matter of importance to the Society and constitutes a landmark in its history.

The need of a room or building where meetings could be held, and the library adequately housed, and which the Society could call its own, became urgent upon the revival of the Society after the war. The Library, through the kindness of H. R. H. Prince Damrong, had been for some time housed in the National Library building and General and Council meetings, for which the Bangkok Times Press Room was used for a time, were held latterly either at private houses, or, by the courtesy of its Committee, at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club. A suitable room was eventually found in Chartered Bank Lane on the first floor of the old Falck & Beidek building and this has been hired at a monthly rental of Tcs. 120 on a yearly agreement.

The room has been furnished, and the Library installed and, so far, has been found adequate for all purposes.

## THE DANISH SOCIETY OF SIAM.

By agreement with the Danish Society of Siam, their Library has also been installed in the room and is used by the members on two evenings each week, those on which the Danish Society's Library is open.

The Danish Society also has the right of holding committee meetings in the room once a month by arrangement. A monthly rental of Tcs. 35 is paid to the Siam Society for the use of the room.

## PRESENTATION TO THE VICE-PATRON.

On the occasion of the 60th birthday of H. R. H. Prince Damrong, our Vice-Patron, the Society presented him with an illuminated address of congratulation. The address which was the work of the Arts & Crafts school cost about Tcs. 600 which was subscribed by the members, and was presented by the President, Mr. W. A. Graham, on November 15th, at His Royal Highness' palace.



Photographs of the address and a report of the proceedings have already appeared in the Journal (Vol. XVI part 2).

#### OBITUARY.

The Society has to deplore the death of Dr. O. Frankfurter, which occurred in Hamburg in October. Dr. Frankfurter was one of the "founding members" of the Society and became President in 1906. He served in this capacity for many years and by his great interest and his contributions to the Journal did much to increase the success of the Society. A suitable letter of condolence has been sent to the widow on behalf of the Society.

#### MR. J. CROSBY.

Mr. J. Crosby, of the British Consulate General, who has been an active member of the Society for many years and who served on the Council since 1910, left the country during the year, having been appointed British Consul General at Batavia. The Council regrets the loss of his assistance but is assured of his continued interest in the Society. Mr. Crosby has been elected an Honorary Member.

Mr. R. Halliday the author of the Mon-English Dictionary, has also left Siam and removed to Burma.

#### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

From the attached statement of accounts it will be noted that expenditure has been exceptionally heavy during the year. This is largely accounted for by the cost of furnishing and fitting up the new room and producing the 4 parts of the Journal. The balance in hand amounts to Tes. 2851.96 and, with subscriptions for 1923 to be received, the Society should have sufficient funds to carry on comfortably, during the new year. It might be mentioned that over forty members have not yet paid their subscriptions for 1922.

If this matter has been overlooked, this reminder may be sufficient to stimulate their memories.

#### PROGRAMME OF 1923.

There is a large amount of material in hand for publication, and the Council have pleasure in announcing that arrangements are

being made for producing a work by Prof. W. Craib of Aberdeen on "The Flora of Siam", which will be the authoritative work on this subject. It will be published in instalments and the entire work will probably take 3 or 4 years to complete. It is expected that Ordinary General meetings will be held 3 or 4 times during the year when papers of interest will be read by members. Particulars of these will be published in the daily papers.

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1922.**

<b>Receipts.</b>				<b>Ticals.</b>	<b>Stgs.</b>	<b>Expenditure.</b>				<b>Ticals.</b>	<b>Stgs.</b>
To Balance brought forward from 1921:—						By Furniture and Fittings ..	..	..	..	1,548	26
HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.						" Books for Library ..	..	..	..	192	00
On fixed Deposit ..	Tes.	3,000.00				" Stationery ..	..	..	..	114	24
" Current account ..	"	779.91				" Printing Journals ..	..	..	..	1,594	90
" "D" account ..	"	465.65	4,245	56		" Cost of Plates, Blocks and Photos ..	..	..	..	1,331	50
						" Printing Forms, Circulars, &c. ..	..	..	..	199	18
Subscriptions received for 1920 ..	Tes.	20.00				" Typewriting Papers ..	..	..	..	57	00
1921 ..	"	580.00				" Refreshments at General Meetings ..	..	..	..	90	65
1922 ..	"	3,220.00				" Rent of Rooms ..	..	..	..	190	08
1923 ..	"	25.00	3,845	00		" Wages of Room Boy ..	..	..	..	40	00
						" Lighting of Room at Meetings ..	..	..	..	21	71
Sales of Journals ..	..	..	216	45		" Postages of Mr. Cartwright ..	..	..	..	30	15
Rent of Rooms received ..	..	..	15	00		" do. Mr. Michell ..	..	..	..	47	84
Dinner a/c. ..	..	..	85	00		" do. Mr. Raggi ..	..	..	..	153	04
Mon Dictionary a/c. ..	..	..	82	78		" Assistant Librarian's Salary ..	..	..	..	37	50
Subscriptions on account of Address to H. R. H. Prince						" Clerical Assistance ..	..	..	..	110	00
Damrong ..	..	..	725	00		" Sundries ..	..	..	..	54	50
Interest ..	..	..	133	81		" Mon Dictionary a/c. ..	..	..	..	63	59
						" Cost of Address to H. R. H. Prince Damrong ..	..	..	..	620	50
										6,496	64
						By Balance					
						On Fixed Deposit, Hongkong and					
						Shanghai Bank ..	..	Tes. 2,000.00			
						" Current a/c. Hongkong and	..	..			
						Shanghai Bank ..	..	386.31			
						" Current a/c. "D" Hongkong and	..	..			
						Shanghai Bank ..	..	465.65	2,851	96	
						Ticals. ..	9,348	60	Tes. ..	9,348	60

( 45 )

Examined and found to agree with the books and vouchers.  
L. BREWITT-TAYLOR. W. W. RAE 14/1/23.

J. G. RAGGI,  
Hon. Treasurer.

