

Notes : January-June 1927.

The Council has met on seven occasions during the first half of 1927.

MEMBERSHIP.

The following have been elected to Membership during that period:—

January 5th	Phya Bharata Raja, M. Decamp (Chiengrai), Mr. W. t'Hart.
February 18th	Mr. Axel Jonsen.
February 23rd	Mr. H. G. Wales, Mr. H. S. Townsend, Mr. C. T. Bauman, Phra Prasada Dhatu- karya and Mr. C. J. House.
April 13th	M. Pradère-Niquet.
May 4th	The Japanese Legation and Mr. A. H. Tandy.
June 1st.	Phra Rajadharin Nides.
June 6th	Mr. W. H. Perkins.

The following members have resigned from the Society during the same period: Mr. F. Cramer, Mr. A. Helvard, Mr. J. A. Hjartved, Mr. D. S. Bourke-Borrowes, Mr. W. J. Trustram, Mr. E. G. Meiklereid, Mr. H. R. Bird, Mr. M. Rees, Mr. E. G. Gollo, Dr. Ira Ayer, Dr. Ib Hansen, Mr. H. Kunz, Mr. F. S. Harrop, Mr. R. Paulger and Mr. J. Reith.

THE COUNCIL

The Hon. Librarian (Mr. E. G. Sebastian) having gone on a year's leave, Mr. J. Burnay was elected Hon. Librarian at the Council Meeting on February 23rd, and, at the Meeting of Council held on June 6th, Mr. A. Marcan was elected to the Council.

In April the Dansk Samfund vacated the room occupied by them at Poh Yome House, and this has provided much needed accommodation for the Library of the Society. The Council have been able to make allocations for the provision of book cases and the cataloguing and arranging of the library is proceeding.

The Council have sanctioned an application to allow the Lawn

Tennis Association of Siam to use the Society's rooms as their registered address, and to have a letter box erected in the entrance hall.

At the request of the Natural History Section, and with the sanction of the Council, the President forwarded a petition on the subject of the preservation of the wild animals of the country to be laid before the King. His Majesty's private secretary (Prince Damras) replied that by Royal Command enquiries are now being addressed to the interested Ministries asking for their opinion and suggestions as to the possibility of an Enactment.

STUDY SECTIONS.

A meeting of the Natural History Section was held on March 19th at the Society's rooms when Dr. T. F. Morrison read a paper entitled, "Some of the Microscopic Inhabitants of Bangkok Canals." Mr. Ladell exhibited some pupal cases of Cerambycid beetles, and Dr. Hugh Smith exhibited drawings of interesting Siamese fishes. The Leader of the Section (Dr. Hugh Smith) having resigned, owing to his leaving Siam for a protracted period, Dr. A. F. G. Kerr was unanimously elected to that position.

The above section held another meeting on June 9th in the Council Room of the Vajiravudh National Library, kindly placed at the disposal of the Society for the occasion by the Council of the Royal Institute. His Majesty the King, the Patron of the Society, with Her Majesty the Queen, honoured the Society with their presence. There were assembled to meet their Majesties: Prince Damrong, President of the Council of the Royal Institute of Literature, Archaeology and Fine Arts, and Vice-Patron of the Siam Society; the Prince of Kambaeng Bejra, Honorary Vice-President of the Siam Society; Prince Bidyalankarana, Vice-President of the Royal Institute and Honorary Member of the Siam Society; Prince Dhani Nivat, member of the Council of the Royal Institute and member of the Council of the Siam Society, etc. Mr. W. R. S. Ladell lectured on paddy pests in Siam; Dr. T. F. Morrison on (1) the electric organs of the ray fish, (2) accessory organs of fish, and (3) the pelvic girdle and limbs of the python; Mr. A. Marcan exhibited some Siamese specimen plants and dealt with their application to gardening; Dr. A.

The Annual Meeting.

The 18th Annual General Meeting of the Siam Society was held at the rooms of the Society on Thursday, February 24th, 1927, at 6.30 p.m. *Present*: Professor G. Cœdès, President, in the Chair: supported by Phya Indra Montri, Major Erik Seidenfaden, and Mr. R. S. le May, Vice-Presidents; Mr. L. Brewitt-Taylor, Rev. Father Chorin, and Dr. Hugh M. Smith, Members of the Council, Mr. V. H. Jaques, Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. R. Adey Moore, Hon. Secretary.

The general body of members included the Rev. C. R. Simmons, Dr. G. B. McFarland and Messrs. L. Bisgaard, J. Burnay, J. C. Bullock, T. Fox, W. W. Fegen, W. Mottershed, N. A. Landgren, René Nicolas, C. Rhodes and H. Tyrer.

After the Hon. Secretary had read the Notice convening the Meeting, the Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting were read and approved.

The President then asked the Hon. Secretary to read the Annual Report for 1926.

After the presentation of the report the President said that the Council had tried to carry on the traditions of the Society during the past year, despite the fact that all three Vice-Presidents were absent on leave. He was glad to welcome them back to their midst. He was happy to say that His Majesty the King had been graciously pleased to present to the Society a signed photograph. Referring to the post of Hon. Librarian the President said that Mr. Sebastian had left Bangkok, and that the Council had elected Mr. Burnay to that important position, subject of course to the approval of the annual general meeting.

The Hon. Treasurer presented the statement of accounts. Mr. Bullock asked if all the monies in connection with the excursions had been paid up, and Mr. Jaques replied that the greater proportion had—in fact there was only about Tes. 100 outstanding and that was due in part to members having left Bangkok on leave.

Phya Indra Montri drew attention to what he termed an error in the report of the Hon. Secretary. He said that Mr. Williamson had

been knighted and should be designed "Sir" and not "Mr."

The president replied that when the report was drawn up, Mr. Williamson had not yet been knighted, and Mr. le May suggested that, as the report had not been printed off, the words "now Sir Walter" should be bracketed after his name.

The Rev. Mr. Simmons proposed the adoption of the report and accounts. This was seconded by Dr. Geo. B. McFarland, and this was carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1927.

The next business was the election of the Council. The Rev. Mr. Simmons proposed that the Council be re-elected *en bloc* and, being seconded by Dr. McFarland, the resolution was unanimously carried.

The Council for 1927 is composed as follows:—

President	Prof. G. Cœdès, M.R.A.S.
Vice-Presidents	Phya Indra Montri
	Major E. Seidenfaden, M.R.A.S.
	M. R. S. le May, M.R.A.S.
Hon. Secretary	Mr. R. Adey Moore.
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. V. H. Jaques.
Hon. Librarian	Mr. J. Burnay.
<i>Members:</i>	H. H. Prince Dhani Nivat.
	Mr. M. Bréal.
	Mr. L. Brewitt Taylor.
	Rev. L. A. Chorin.
	Dr. A. F. G. Kerr.
	Major W. L. S. Ladell.
	Mr. W. H. Mundie, M.A.
	Dr. Hugh M. Smith.

The President thanked the members for the confidence they had shown in the Council. He announced that an excursion had been tentatively fixed for the 27th instant, but as that would be a busy day indeed the excursion had been postponed till the 13th March. The President hoped that the study sections would be very

active during the year. Visits to Wat Benchamabopitr and the National Museum were being arranged.

SUNDAY EXCURSIONS.

The following resolution had been put forward by the Rev. Cecil R. Simmons:—"That visits of the Society to places of archaeological interest take place during the time of local holidays and not on Sundays."

The proposer stated his reason for suggesting the alteration and his resolution was seconded by Dr. G. McFarland.

After a full discussion the resolution was put to the vote and no member other than the proposer and seconder voting in favour, it was lost.

Mr. Bullock proposed that:—

1. That on that occasion of future excursions arranged by the Siam Society payment should be made at the time of the excursion and that the list shall close forty-eight hours in advance of the time of departure.

2. In the event of Members finding that they are unable to be present at such an excursion, their notification shall be in the hands of the Honorary Secretary twenty-four hours before the start of the excursion. In this case their subscription will be returned to them.

Mr. Bullock's proposals were seconded by Mr. Mottershead.

After discussion the resolutions were put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The Rev. Cecil Simmons proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair; Mr. Fegen proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. L. Bisgaard for auditing the accounts; Mr. Brewitt-Taylor proposed a vote of thanks to Professor Coedès for his excellent conduct of the affairs of the Society during the year and of that meeting; and the President in acknowledging the vote said he had to thank all the members of the Council, and particularly Mr. Brewitt-Taylor, Mr. Adey Moore and Mr. V. H. Jaques for the very valuable help they had given him.

Annual Report for 1926.

The year 1926 may on the whole be characterised as one of steady progress. Interest in nearly all the study sections has been well maintained, and there is some prospect of a further section being founded embracing medicine and experimental science. This promises to interest a number of members not now directly represented by any of the existing sectional activities. The general body of members have had frequent opportunities during the year of attending meetings of these sections; and the attendances at the ordinary general meetings held in the twelve months under review, no less than the attendances at the meetings of the sections, have made evident the continued interest on the part of the members in the general aims of the Society.

As evidence of the continued interest taken in the Society by our Vice-Patron, Prince Damrong, it may be mentioned that, shortly after the opening of the National Museum, all the members were invited by His Royal Highness to spend an afternoon there, under competent guidance, inspecting the treasures which have been gathered together in buildings admirably suited to be the permanent home of a such an institution.

Gifts:—Copies of some 120 works from the pen of His late Majesty King Rama VI. have been presented to the Society by His Majesty the King; and in addition a handsome writing table and book case, designed to contain the Tripitaka when published, have also been given. The Council further learned with much gratification that it was probable a set of that memorial work would be presented to the Society upon publication. In support of the fund being raised to produce these volumes the Council, in the name of the Society, has donated Tcs. 100.

In the course of the year the Council received for the Library four volumes of Hampson's "Moths" and a volume of Bingham's "Butterflies," the gift of Mr. Graham, who also presented a lantern and epidiascope for use on the occasion of lectures.

Emblem of Society.—The Council after much consideration

was glad to accept a design drawn by H. R. H. Prince Narisara as the emblem of the Society. It is a representation of an elephant's head with a wreath of flowers. The inscription in Siamese, composed by Prince Damrong and Prince Dhani, will be explained, and the emblem will be reproduced, in the Journal now in the press, and thereafter will be used regularly on the cover, commencing with Vol. XXI.

Fire Insurance:—The Council during the current year insured the Society's property — furniture, electric light fittings, library, stock of journals, lantern, etc., for a sum of Tcs. 19,000.

Obituary.—The deaths of two honorary and three ordinary members have to be recorded with regret. Professor E. Lorgeou, of Paris, and formerly of the French Legation in Bangkok, died early in the year; and later the news was received of the passing of Mr. J. C. Moulton, formerly of Singapore and later of Sarawak. The ordinary members referred to were:—Dr. P. W. Thornely, Mr. T. R. Jenkins, and Mr. A. W. Mountain.

MEMBERSHIP.

In March Mr. W. A. Graham, on retirement from Siam, was elected an Honorary member in recognition of his work as Member of Council from 1911 and President from 1920. Mr. W. J. F. (now Sir Walter) Williamson was also elected an Honorary member, the Council having in view his services to the cause of Natural History in Siam.

No addition was made to the list of Corresponding members.

During the year the number of Ordinary members elected was 30, as compared with 47 in 1925. This at first sight appears a serious falling off, but it should be noted that the elections to Ordinary membership in 1925 included 24 members of the late Natural History Society who were elected members of the Siam Society as a result of the amalgamation, and subsequently accepted membership.

Against the 30 elections, there were 18 resignations, 15 removals, 3 deaths, and 2 transfers to Honorary membership, the ordinary membership of the Society being thus decreased by 8. Resignations as from December 31st. 1926, have been given effect to in arriving at the above figures.

The membership, at the 1st of January 1927, was as follows :—

Honorary	Corresponding	Life	Ordinary
22	12	1	218

making a grand total of 253 as compared with 260 in 1925, and 238 in 1924.

THE COUNCIL.

The principal change in the constitution of the Council during the year was the resignation of the President, Mr. W. A. Graham, (1920-1926), and the unanimous election of Prof. G. Coëdès to that position. The vacancy in the list of Vice-Presidents was filled by the election of Mr. R. S. le May, who acted for Mr. J. Michell as honorary Secretary in 1923 and succeeded that member in the position on his departure from Siam. All three Vice-Presidents were absent from Siam for the greater part of 1926.

In the course of the year the Council elected His Highness Prince Dhani Nivat as a Member, and on the resignation of Mr. P. R. Kemp, on his departure from Siam, Major W. R. S. Ladell was elected to the Council. Mr. E. G. Sebastian was elected to the post of Honorary Librarian during the year, a position of increasing importance in view of the many activities of the Society and the growth of its exchange list.

Ten Council Meetings were held during the year.

RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

Addition to Rule 7: At an ordinary general meeting of the Society held on July 12th 1926, the following alteration to Rule No. 7 approved by the Council was confirmed by the members :—*after the words "upon notification of election" delete the full stop, and add "which election shall, however, not be deemed valid until the first year's subscription has been paid."*

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS.

There have been four Ordinary General Meetings held during 1926. On February 10th, Monsieur René Nicolas read a paper on "The Shadow Plays of Siam," illustrated with a series of leather-cuts

which had been kindly lent for the occasion by the Royal Entertainments Department.

Another valuable paper, on a subject little touched upon by foreigners, was read by H. H. Prince Bidyalankarana on March 11th, entitled "The Pastime of Rhyme-making and Singing in Rural Siam". This paper conveyed a graphic description of the part this art plays in the life of the peasants of the country.

On April 28th Mr. W. Blankwaardt, who has studied the early trading ventures of his countrymen in Siam, read a paper on the relations between Holland and Siam from the 16th century to recent years, bringing out points not touched on by previous contributors to this subject.

On July 12th, Monsieur M. Bréal read a paper of note on "The Sepha of Khun Chang Khun Phaen."

Prior to the paper the following elections were confirmed by the meeting :—

President—Professor G. Ccedès.

Vice-President—Mr. R. S. le May.

Member of Council—H. H. Prince Dhani Nivat.

Hon. Librarian—Mr. E. G. Sebastian.

Hon. Secretary—Mr. R. Adey Moore.

Hon. Member—Mr. W. A. Graham.

THE STUDY SECTIONS.

The Study Sections have held several meetings during the year, as set forth below.

The Natural History Section.

Under the new leadership, this section held four meetings in the course of the year. Dr. Hugh Smith read a paper on the Siamese sole; Dr. Morrison contributed a paper on the fireflies of Siam; Dr. A. F. G. Kerr was responsible for an address on Siamese ant plants; and Siamese medicinal plants were described by Mr. A. Marcan towards the close of the year. The section has been able to use to much advantage the very useful new lantern and epidiascope presented to the Society by Mr. Graham.

Section of Philately.

No meeting of this Section was held during the year.

Section of History, Archaeology, Literature and Philology.

This Section held one meeting during the year, on March 23rd, when Monsieur J. Burnay read a technical paper on "Comparative and Descriptive Grammar of the Thai Dialects."

Agriculture, Travel and Transport.

Under this section early in the year Dr. Rogers, a visitor to Bangkok, gave some account of his impressions of India.

THE JOURNAL.

Three parts of the Journal were issued during the year, Vol. XIX. part 3, and Vol. XX. parts 1 and 2. Vol. XX. part 3 was in the press at the close of the year.

Vol. XIX part 3 included the paper read by H. R. H. Prince Damrong, the Vice-Patron, on "Angkor from a Siamese Point of View," a paper which members will doubtless be glad to possess in a permanent form. In Vol. XX. part 1, there was published an address by the same author, given before Bangkok Rotarians on a subject of interest to all foreigners dwelling in this country, "The Introduction of Western Culture into Siam." The paper read by H. H. Prince Bidyalankarana on "The Pastime of Rhyme-making and Singing in Rural Siam" was also included in this number of the Journal. In Vol. XX part 2, a paper by Professor Coedès on "Buddhist Votive Tablets," originally read in French before the Society in October 1922, and translated by Mr. W. A. Graham, was published. The journals issued during the year under review have included a continuation of the valuable series of notes on the tribes inhabiting the northern parts of the Kingdom of Siam, and the questionnaire sent out by the Society some years ago has been productive of a good deal of information as to the life, language and characteristics of these little known tribes.

The work of continuing the Natural History Supplement has been carried on during the year. Vol. VI. part 4 and the much needed

index to Vol. VI. have been published, and work commenced on Vol. VII. part I, which will include Dr. Hanitsch's paper on Cock-roaches.

Professor Coedès edited the Journal throughout the year, and Mr. E. J. Godfrey continued to act as Hon. Assistant Editor in charge of Natural History publications.

FLORAE SIAMENSIS ENUMERATIO PT. II.

Part II of the above work by Prof. Craib, of Aberdeen University, has been favourably received, and the support extended to Part I by neighbouring Governments seems likely to be forthcoming for the new volume. The complete work may run to five or more parts.

EXCURSIONS.

The Council was able to arrange during 1926 two excursions which were widely taken advantage of by members. Thanks to the very valuable assistance given by the Information Bureau of the Royal State Railways, the first journey was made to Petchaburi, and the second to Lopburi and Bang Pa-In. The State Railways relieved the Council of the necessity of making detailed arrangements, and members participating in these journeys, no less than their friends, have been fully appreciative of the smoothness and efficiency with which the arrangements were carried out.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

The slight falling off in the receipts during 1926 is mainly accounted for by the smaller sale of Journals which appeared as a large item in the last statement as it included the settlement of long out-standing accounts with the Society's agents abroad.

The expense of printing Part II of Professor Craib's Flora has not yet been met, and, as a consequence, there has been a reduction in expenditure producing a substantial balance—Tcs. 2,480.44—carried forward to 1927. This would have been larger but for the failure on the part of some members to pay promptly the expenses incurred by them in connection with the excursions arranged by the Society.

The outstanding subscriptions represent a much smaller sum

as a large number of members from whom subscriptions were long overdue were automatically removed from the list of members in accordance with the Rules of the Society.

The expenditure side of the Statement of Account appears in greater detail in order to show more clearly the different expenses incurred in connection with the printing and forwarding of the Society's publications, circulars and notices. A new item appears under the heading of Premium for Fire Insurance, the insurance covering the furniture and fittings in the Society's rooms, as well as the library, which were valued together at Tcs. 19,000.

R. ADEY MOORE,

Hon. Secretary.

Bangkok, February 18th 1927.

Receipts. Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of The Siam Society for the year 1926. Expenditure.

To Balance brought forward from 1925		1,580.30
„ Subscriptions received for 1924 Tes. 75.00		
do. do. 1925 „ 305.00		
do. do. 1926 „ 4,460.00		
do. do. 1927 „ 225.00		5,065.00
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To Sales of Journals		31.00
„ Sales of Natural History Journals		108.60
„ Sales of Mon Dictionaries		110.83
„ Sales of Craib's Flora of Siam		140.00
„ Rent of Rooms, Dec. 1925 to Nov. 1926		465.00
„ Natural History Society—Balance hand over on liquidation		37.60
„ Payment by members for expenses—luncheon to Mr. W. A. Graham 336.00		
„ „ „ —Petchaburi excursion 640.00		
„ „ „ —Lopburi excursion 1,220.00		
„ 1% Interest on Current account		36.78
„ Cash in hand—Hon. Treasurer for postage		5.05
	Tes.	<u>9,776.16</u>

By Furniture and Fittings		247.50
„ Electric Current—Dec. 1925 to Nov. 1926		114.69
„ Clerk's Salary, Dec. 1925 to Dec. 1926		195.00
„ Coolie's Salary, „ „		286.00
„ Postages of Hon. Treasurer		40.00
„ Postages of Hon. Secretary		30.24
„ Rent of Rooms—Dec. 1925 to Nov. 1926		600.90
„ Refreshments at lectures, etc.		113.50
„ Hire of chairs for lectures, etc.		38.00
„ Expenses—Lecture of M. Nicolas		47.00
„ Donation to Tripitaka Fund		100.00
„ Printing Journals		1,775.00
„ Printing Author's Separates		75.00
„ Blocks and Plates for Journals		202.80
„ Books bound for library		79.00
„ Stationary (including post cards)		66.75
„ Addressing, wrapping, and forwarding, etc., of Society's publications, circulars, etc.		142.10
„ Printing postcards, circulars and notices		148.16
„ Postage on forwarding publications, circulars, etc.		291.29
„ Cost of luncheon to Mr. W. A. Graham		350.34
„ Cost of excursion to Petchaburi		700.00
„ „ „ „ Lopburi		1,578.00
„ Premium for Fire Insurance		71.35
„ Loiry and Rickshaw hire		4.00
„ Balance for 1927		2 480.44
	Tica's	<u>9,776.16</u>

(78)

Examined and found to agree with the books and vouchers.
L. BISGAARD, Bangkok, January 1927.

No. of Members at January 1st. 1927.—Honorary 22, Corresponding 12, Life 1, Ordinary 215, Free 3. Total 253.

Bangkok, February 18th, 1927.

NOTE: Postage, stationary, printing journals and circulars for 1926 unpaid amount to Tes. 908.58; blocks and plates for journals Tes. 160.50; Rent for Dec. Tes. 50; Electric Current Tes. 6.25—Total 1,125.83. The sum of Tes. 424 in respect of the luncheon to Mr. W. A. Graham and the two excursions, and the sum of Tes. 925 for subscriptions, making Tes. 1,349 in all, is due from members.

V. H. JAQUES, Hon. Treasurer.

Outstanding Subscriptions.—1924 Tes. 50, 1925 Tes. 175, 1926 700, Total Tes. 925