

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1940.

## THE COUNCIL.

The Council for 1940 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 Bidyalankarana	
J. Burnay	
Rev. Father L. Chorin	
E. Healey	<i>Hon. Architect</i>
H. H. Prince Varnvaidyakara	
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 N. H. Section and Hon. Editor, N. H. Supp.</i>
H. E. Dr. Toa Labanukrom	
H. E. Nai Direk Jayanam	

The annual general meeting was held on February 28th, with Major Erik Seidenfaden, the President, in the Chair.

The President, in reviewing the year's work, mentioned that a satisfactory feature was the growing membership of the Society, and attributed the credit in this connection to H. H. Prince Varnvaidyakara whom he thanked for his wise counsel and good work carried out for the benefit of the Society. Reference was also made to the enthusiasm and indefatigable energy of Dr. Arno Viehoever, the leader of the Natural History Section, and the valuable work done by Mr. J. T. Edkins, the Honorary Treasurer.

On the 31st December, 1940, the membership was as follows:—

Honorary	Corresponding	Life	Ordinary	Associate	Free
17	11	4	178	19	4

making a total of 233, as compared with 200 in 1939; 186 in 1938; 171 in 1937; and 176 in 1936. The rise is due to the elections during the year.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

Volume XXXII, Part I of the Journal was issued in September 1940 and was edited by Professor J. E. Davies. Among the articles was one by Dr. Joaquim de Campos on the "Early Portuguese accounts of Thailand", and another, "The Lawa of Umphai and Middle Me Ping" compiled by Major Erik Seidenfaden.

Volume XXXII, Part 2, was an all Thai number in an edition of 500 copies, with contributions from H. R. H. Prince Damrong, on "The Origins of the names of Meklong and Jetavan;" H. H. Prince Varnvaidya, on "Philological Notes;" and H. H. Prince Dhani Nivat, on "The Origin of the *Kosa* with a Note by H. R. H. Prince Narisara." The labour entailed in the editing was borne by H. H. Prince Dhani Nivat.

The Natural History Supplement Volume XII, No. 2 was issued in December under the editorship of Dr. Arno Viehoever, the Leader. This number comprises 122 pages and contains verbatim reports, with illustrations of many lectures delivered before the Society. These lectures dealt with progress in human welfare; record of animal life and pest extermination; survey of land resources, utilisation of plant products and development of new tools for science.

#### MEETINGS.

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

The lecture meetings were as follows:

*January 16th*:—Douglas R. Collier on "Milestones in Leprosy."

*February 16th*:—Luang Binbukya on "Stone Formations in the Human Body."

*June 21st*:—Nai Ariant Manjikul on "Plant Fibres of Thailand."

*July 26th*:—Dr. Chaloei Puramananda on "Toxins"

*August 21st*:—H. H. Prince Bidyalankarana on "Sebha Recitation and the Story of Khun Chang Khun Phen."

*October 11th*:—Nai Samakr Buravas on "Mineral Resources of Thailand."

*November 22nd*:—Mr. F. W. Withers on "Helminth Parasites of Man and Animals."

#### CRAIB'S FLORAE.

At the first meeting of the Council on January 3rd, the announcement was made that Dr. Kerr had been written to in the terms of the Council's decisions at the previous meeting and the Council received a reply on March 6th from Dr. Kerr stating his great pleasure at the decision of the Council to continue publication of the important work.

#### POTENTIAL MEMBERS' SUB-COMMITTEE.

This Committee has been doing exceedingly useful work for the Society and has been adding many new members to the list. The Council accepted with thanks the offer of the Department of Fine Arts of a sum of Baht 100 per annum for five copies of the Journal.

#### HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.

Prince Rangsit resigned his honorary membership of the Society during the course of the year.

#### PATRONS AND HONORARY OFFICERS.

During the year the Council learnt with great pleasure that:

His Majesty the King had graciously consented to become First Patron of the Society; and

The President of the Council of Regency to be Vice-Patron;

H. E. Major-General Luang Pibulasonggram to be Honorary President;

H. H. Prince Bidyalankarana and H. E. Rear Admiral Luang Sindhu Songgramchai to be Honorary Vice-Presidents.

## BOOKS BY KING RAMA VI.

The President submitted a memorandum, sent him from abroad for publication in the Journal, concerning books presented to Cambridge University. The memorandum was examined by Prince Dhani, who found that it concerned a collection of works by King Rama VI presented to that University as well as other learned institutions on the occasion of the King's cremation by His brother, King Prajadhipok. It was decided to invite His Highness to consider the question of writing a general survey of the late King's works for the Society.

## PRESERVATION OF WILD LIFE.

The question of the preservation of wild life was raised at the meetings of the Council and the suggestion was made of a direct approach to H. E. the Premier in order to get the draft law on the subject approved by the National Assembly. Subsequently H. H. Prince Varnvaidya who was consulted said he understood the text of the Bill had been passed by the Juridical Council and the Bill would come before the Assembly in the next session.

## RESEARCH FUND.

A Sub-Committee consisting of Dr. Toa Labanukrom (Chairman) Professor J.E. Davies and Dr. Arno Viehoever was appointed to consider the feasibility of the Society establishing a research fund or giving a grant from its fund to encourage workers in Thailand in a manner similar to the decision of the Royal Institute of Thailand. The Sub-Committee finally reported but discussion on it was adjourned pending the receipt of proposals from the President based on information he had received from the Royal Asiatic Society. Dr. Toa suggested, and Prince Varnvaidyakara approved, that the gold medals proposed to be awarded by the Thailand Research Society should be presented by His Majesty.

## PRIZE ESSAYS.

The proposal for instituting a prize essay scheme with monetary awards was discussed by the Council, which finally accepted the President's draft in large and also decided that a donor of books be approached. If funds permitted, in addition to the rewards suggested a plaque might be provided for the winners.

## ROMANIZATION.

In regard to the new system of Romanization, published in the Gazette, H. H. Prince Varnvaidyakara undertook to arrange for a translation and the Council decided to include this in the next number of the Journal.

## HONORARY LIBRARIAN.

As Phya Srithikarn Banchong was appointed for duty at Lopburi he was compelled to resign his position as Honorary Librarian and was succeeded by Dr. J. de Campos.

## REVISION OF RULES.

The Council discussed the proposed revision of the rules of the Society at several meetings. Final discussion took place at the December meeting when the rules were approved and it was decided to submit them for approval to the General Meeting.

## THE BUILDING.

Minor repairs were carried out to the Society's building in the course of the year and improvements and alterations were made at a small cost on the recommendation of Mr. Healey, the Honorary Architect.

## EXCURSIONS.

It was not possible to arrange for excursions out of Bangkok in the course of the year but a visit to the Royal Museum, housing the Crown Jewels, took place in December. Several members and their friends made a party of about thirty. The officials of the Royal Household kindly gave valuable information as to the exhibits for those who could not read Thai.

**Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year 1940.**

Receipts.				Baht Stgs.	Expenditure.				Baht Stgs.
To Balance in Bank brought forward from 1939	...	...	...	635.78	<i>Home's Maintenance.</i>				
<i>Subscriptions.</i>					Wages of Caretaker	...	...	Baht 396.00	
Ordinary Members	1937	...	...	Baht 25.00	Insurance	...	...	86.67	
do.	1938	...	...	50.00	Light and Fans	...	...	77.35	
do.	1939	...	...	175.00	Water	...	...	11.99	
do.	1940	...	...	3,650.00	Sundries	...	...	10.95	
do.	1941 (in advance)	...	...	50.00	Repairs	...	...	94.00	
Associate Members	...	...	...	35.00	Sinking Fund for Repairs :				
Life Members	...	...	...	—	Annual Instalment	...	Baht 100		
				3,985.00	Less Repairs	...	94	6.00	682.96
<i>Sales of Publications.</i>					<i>Library &amp; Stocks of Publications.</i>				
Journal of the Society	...	...	...	821.31	Wages of Clerk	...	...	360.00	
Natural History Supplement	...	...	...	251.75	Book-binding	...	...	44.00	
Mon Dictionary	...	...	...	99.40	Insurance	...	...	60.00	
le May's "Coinage of Siam"	...	...	...	—	Book Purchase Fund	...	...	100.00	564.00
Stamp Catalogue	...	...	...	9.45	<i>Secretarial &amp; Editorial</i>				
Craib's "Florae"	...	...	...	169.50	Postage—Hon. Treasurer	...	...	27.53	
				1,342.41	—General & Hon. Secretary	...	...	307.58	
<i>Sundry a/c's.</i>					Hire P. O. Box	...	...	20.00	
Bank Interest	...	...	...	27.74	Printing Journal of the Society	...	...	767.68	
Exchange adjustment	...	...	...	7.93	.. Natural History Supp.	...	...	1,046.71	
					.. Authors' Separates	...	...	46.20	
					.. General (& Stationery)	...	...	202.14	
					Wrapping & Addressing	...	...	29.07	2,446.91
					<i>Sundry a/c's.</i>				
					Balance Craib's "Florae" a/c transferred to Reserve.	...	...	160.50	
					Transfer to Reserve from General Funds	...	...	1,305.81	
					By Balance at Bank forward to 1941	...	...	838.59	
				Baht				Baht	5,998.86
									5,998.86

**Statement of Reserve Fund.**

<i>General Reserve.</i>			
Balance forward from 1939	...	Baht	4,667.01
From General Funds during 1940	...	"	1,305.81
Interest at 31.12.40 on all Reserves to be added to General Reserve	...	"	<u>131.62</u>
			6,104.44
<i>Reserve for Repairs.</i>			
Balance forward from 1939	...	"	100.00
Annual instalment from General Fund for 1940	...	100.00	
Less expenses of repairs for 1940	...	<u>94.00</u>	
			6.00
			106.00
<i>Reserve for Book Purchases.</i>			
Balance forward from 1939	...	"	100.00
Annual Instalment for 1940	...	"	<u>100.00</u>
			200.00
<i>Craib's "Florae"</i>			
Proceeds sales for 1940	...	"	...
			<u>160.50</u>
		Baht	<u>6,570.94</u>

Total Reserve Fund forward to 1941 to be held on Fixed Deposit @ 2½% p. a. at Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Bangkok	Baht	6,570.94
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	Baht	<u>6,570.94</u>

**Statement of Craib's "Florae" a/c.**

By Sales during 1940	...	Baht	160.50
		Baht	<u>160.50</u>

To Cost of Printing during 1940	...	Baht	nil
Balance transferred to Reserve Fund	...	"	160.50
		Baht	<u>160.50</u>

**Subscriptions outstanding.**

1936	...	Baht	25
1937	...	"	25
1938	...	"	90
1939	...	"	155
1940	...	"	<u>755</u>
		Baht	<u>1,050</u>

**Number of Members as at 31st. December 1940.**

Honorary	...	17
Corresponding	...	11
Life	...	4
Ordinary	...	178
Associate	...	19
Free	...	4
		<u>233</u>

Examined and found to agree with the books and vouchers.

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

J. T. EDKINS,  
*Hon. Treasurer.*

Bangkok, 10th January 1941.

