

Preface

Following the untimely death of Richard H. Robinson, there was a strong wish on the part of many friends, colleagues, and former students to see the birth of a commemorative volume honoring Professor Robinson's contributions to the advancement of Buddhist studies. Actual plans for the making of such a volume began to take definite shape in the spring of 1971 at the meeting of the Association for Asian Studies in Washington, D.C., when a committee was formed for this purpose. The original committee consisted of Minoru Kiyota (then appointed chairman), Mrs. Richard Robinson, Willard Johnson, Arthur Link, and Kathryn Cissell. The committee made a selection of possible contributors and delegated the responsibility of final selection and compilation to Minoru Kiyota, who subsequently chose Mr. Elvin W. Jones as editorial assistant. Funds were forthcoming from the Robinson Memorial Fund, and contributions of papers were solicited. Response was immediate and extremely gratifying; it is unfortunate that, due to the limitations of size, many excellent papers could not be included.

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