

FILMHISTORISKA SAMLINGARNA

(The Swedish Film Archive)

1954-55.

The most important event during the last year was the decision of the Municipality of Stockholm to financially guarantee showings of old film classics by the Swedish Film Archive. This enabled us to present two series of films, each comprising 12 programs. The performances which were introduced by wellknown film historians took place in a centrally situated cinema in Stockholm which the company Svensk Filmindustri had put to our disposal without costs. Thanks to the valuable cooperation with other FIAF members, notably Denmark, England and France, many prominent films were shown and the interest of the public was much greater than anticipated. A third series is at present starting.

We have not for some time given an account at a FIAF congress of the extension of the Swedish Film Archive. Attached will be found a description of the current extent of the collections.

The renewed interest in Greta Garbo has been very much felt by our archive. An extensive research by several authors and journalists writing books and articles about this famous artist has been undertaken at the archive and the demands for stills have been many and diversified.

The film society movement in Sweden has grown considerably in the last year. In addition to the 7 old established film societies, who are usually attached to the universities, no less than 42 societies are currently in operation. They are all grouped together in an association called The Swedish Federation of Film Clubs, and they are now taxing the lending capacities of our archive to the limit.

The Swedish Film Archive.

The collections comprise on one hand museum exhibits, and on the other a department of records.

The most important exhibits in the first group are the cameras, projection apparatus etc. of technical historical interest, besides which there are models, mounted displays and tables showing firstly the growth and development of the film industry and secondly, the creation of the picture itself. Herein are also included certain costumes and props used in famous old Swedish pictures of the silent era.

In the second group are to be found, among other things:

A collection of Swedish and foreign film literature, comprising 1.967 volumes and 834 folders, containing 411 different periodicals, including both trade papers and fan magazines;

about 276 500 stills from 8 514 different pictures (as well as about 64 200 stills from 2 263 films never played in Sweden, and approximately 330 000 stills in duplicate), 184 folders containing about 29 000 stills from 161 films, which have been produced in Råsunda between 1930 and 1953;

about 24 000 program sheets and about 19 000 posters, covering more than 7 900 pictures;

about 130 500 stills, reproductions and articles, largely illustrated, on approximately 8 530 players, directors, producers etc. (about 41 660 of these are on 499 stars, 39 240 on about 6 200 featured and bit players and 49 600 on various other material, e.g. 5 200 on 734 directors), also about 30 000 duplicates;

639 scenarios, 2 775 text and dialogue lists, etc.;

and lastly 676 prints of older and newer pictures (311 features and 365 shorts).

sept. 1955.