

REPORT TO THE 15th CONGRESS OF FIAF IN STOCKHOLM

September 1959

by

THE GEORGE EASTMAN HOUSE  
Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A.

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This year the George Eastman House is celebrating its tenth anniversary as a public educational institution. It is especially gratifying that on this occasion, we are able to renew one of the privileges of membership in the FIAF through direct representation by its Curator of Motion Pictures at the FIAF Congress for the first time since the meeting in Venice.

It should be noted that the late Director of the George Eastman House, General Oscar Solbert has been succeeded by Mr. Beaumont Newhall, formerly the Curator.

It was the attendance of Mr. Newhall at the FIAF Congress of Amsterdam, as observer, that was the occasion of the Eastman House having the opportunity of receiving its admittance as a member archive of the FIAF. It may therefore be expected that as Director of Eastman House, Mr. Newhall will wish to take an active part in the motion picture activities of Eastman House.

In the past two years, Eastman House has received to a most encouraging degree, an increasing expression of the confidence of the American motion picture industry. Warner Brothers, for example, have presented us with a collection of over two million stills and several hundred thousand feet of original negatives.

Loew's Incorporated, on their own initiative, have placed in our custody over 800,000 feet of MGM negatives.

In the Dryden Theatre, motion picture programs have been presented on an average of slightly more than one for every day in the year.

Special courses in motion pictures have been conducted for students of the Rochester Institute of Technology, meeting at Eastman House, and at the Salzburg Seminar for American Studies in Austria.

The major concern of the motion picture department remains, however, its program of motion picture preservation. To serve as a report on the progress of this activity, we have furnished, as a supplement to this report, a catalogue of titles selected from the motion picture study collection.

Eastman House has continued to enjoy exchanged of films with the Danish Film Museum, the British Film Archive and the Jugoslovenska kinoteka. Further exchanges are eagerly sought and we hope that distribution of the new catalogue will stimulate this possibility.

James Card  
Curator of Motion Pictures  
George Eastman House