

report on activities 1958-59

The Finnish Film Archives have still, during the second year of activity without any subsidies from the state or other public organisations. The activities have been financed by some cine-clubs in Finland, The Finnish Film Chamber (central organisation for the Film Industry in Finland) and by members. Autumn 1958 Archive presented a season of four films:

"Man of Aran", "Greed", "You Only Live Once" (all from the Danish Film Museum) and "Louisiana Story" (a print in Finland). January 1959 Archive presented with some financial help from Die Handelsvertretung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland a week of Silent German Classics, material coming from Archives in Copenhagen, Stockholm, Wiesbaden, Paris and Lausanne.

The Library (of c. 500 volumes) has been completed with new books and Stills are arranged in alphabetical order following the original name of the film. (In a big envelope are collected as many different stills as we have from a film, press cutings, pressbook and other material directly connected with that film). Stills department counts at the moment at least 5000 envelopes of this kind.

Archives are in two small rooms, but the location is good in the center of city. Office is kept open regularly four times in a week.

Films are in one 2000 kg vault and in different distributors' vaults. As the vaults of one of the oldest distribution and production houses were destroyed by fire this summer we lost an important part of the Finnish Film production from 1910-1939 and those prints which this company had preserved from their distribution of foreign films. At the moment The Finnish Film Archives still have c. 200 foreign films and c 3000 kg material from a Finnish producer (covering his production 1920 - 39). Most of the Finnish films are still kept by the producers.

Moscow Film Archives have given Eisensteins "Strike" and Pudovkins "Mother" as a permanent loan.

Duplicates, posters and some projectors are stored in a cellar.

Spring 1959 The Finnish Film Archives published a booklet containing statistics on all films premiered in Helsinki during calendar year 1958 (Elokuvan vuositilasto 1958). At the moment Archives prepare the publication of its Year Book "STUDIO 5" in November and has made arrangements with a publisher to give out for Christmas a Finnish translation of Huff's book "Charlie Chaplin".

For the autumn 1959 The Finnish Film Archives prepare a season of 6 film classics and a week of Finnish Films from the 40 years of production of Suomi-Filmi Oy.

Due to a British Council bursary The Archives' general secretary Aito Mäkinen studied The British Film Institute in November 1958.

The Archives are operated completely on voluntary basis, nobody receives a penny for his work. At the moment active co-workers are 3 or 4.