

REPORT OF 1961 ACTIVITIES OF CINETECA UNIVERSITARIA OF THE UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE TO THE XVII CONVENTION OF THE FIAF.

After the affiliation of the Cineteca Universitaria to FIAF in november 1960, when it was conferred the cathegory of 'member correspondent', this organization has constantly increased in spite of the scant economic resources.

The conditions that this organization is facing in Chile are a little peculiar: practically there is not a single private film collection, the Cine-Clubs activities are nearly none, the cinematographical critic has become reduced to shallow comments in their great majority, and serious and profound publicattions facing the problems of cinematographical art are not found. As a paradox, among the learned people and among the university young people there is great interest on movie art, interest that at present is held superficially but it will grow old when it faces serious and trascendental fulfilments.

The Cineteca Universitaria, conscious of this situation, has had to face in this way, too much varied labours that make difficult and slow its increasement, specially if the fact that, as of the end of the year, only two persons may be counted to make the whole work, is considered.

The organizations of Cine-Clubs has been encouraged in Santiago, in the north (La Serena and Antofagasta) and in the south (Osorno and Punta Arenas), which together with those ones already formed (University Cine-Clubs from Concepción and Santiago), have made possible the formation of the Federación Nacional de Cine-Clubs de Chile.

Till now, the most important event of the year has been the Retrospective Cycle of Italian Movie, sent to Chile from the film library of Milán, Italy, through the Chilean Italian Institute of Culture. If it is true that these films were not directly sent to the Cineteca Universitaria, a presentation of them in the most representative intelectual centers could be organized. The cycle included such films as Camerini's "Rotaie", a Silent Movie Anthology, Blasetti's "4 Passi Tra le Nuvole", Rossellini's "Roma, Citta Aperta", De Sica's "Sciuscia", etc. In spite of the absence of some works such those representing the naturalist currents of the first period or Visconti's of last post-war, the projections arose a great interest and the performances were made at full house.

Other important event would be the italian director Michelangelo Antonioni's visit to Chile and the organization of a show of his productions, from his very first documentals to his "La Notte". This will be next november.

The fundamental problem that the Cineteca Universitaria is now facing is the monetary one. Just from the next year it will count with a budget of its own and the present funds are quite scant. So the possibilities of getting copies from foreign film libraries are reduced to the generous donations we have received, and, in the same way, the works of copy and contratiped of old chilean films that could be made, must be posponed until next year. However, the head of the Universidad de Chile has confirmed that in 1962 the Cineteca will have a budget of its own which will be administrated by the Cineteca itself. In the same way the staff will count with one more person, so a more reasonable distribution of the work and a greater efficiency will be permitted.

New acquisitions: A donation from U.R.S.S. Gosfilmofond has been received. It consists of the films "The Baltic Deputy" and "Life Way". (When the convention be held, the copies should have arrived in Chile).



The USA Informative Service has contributed with 53 scientific films which will be very good to organize a special section of scientific movie to fulfil the necessities of educational labour of the University. If it is true that the Cineteca has no intentions to get specialized in this kind of movie, this section will serve a speciality of the University which it belongs to.

At present it is stored a 9,5 mm. copy of Fritz Lang's "Metropolis", in good condition.

A historic investigation of Chilean movie which was very fruitful in silent movie period, has been initiated. All the publications of the time will be revised, some interviews will be performed and filmographies will be prepared. As a parallel, the search of originals and copies of Chilean pictures has been started. Till now two pictures have been found: "Canta y no Llores Corazón" (1927) and "El Húsar de la Muerte" (1928), directed and protagonized by Pedro Sienna; this is the most representative film in the history of Chilean movie. Till now it has been impossible to get the pictures aboved mentioned, not even as a deposit, because of the oppositions of their owners. When the Cineteca be monetarily able they will be probably acquired.

In the same way the formation of a Photo Gallery (fototeca) has been initiated, in which some photos of old Chilean films, which can be useful for an exchange in the future, can be counted.

As far as projections is concerned, the present year 69 performances have been fulfilled; 35 of them in Santiago and 34 in provinces. The Retrospective Cycle of Italian Movie, a Cycle of Animated Movie with Walt Disney's, Trnka's, Hoffman's, Mac Laren's, Grimault's, John Hubley's and others' films, and the presentation of the now existing material of the Cineteca including "El Acorazado Potenkin" and "Louisiana History", were include in these performances.

Some pre-debut performances with forum were organized. Among others, "Hiroshima, Mon Amour", "La Dolce Vita", "Les 400 Coups", "Iván el Terrible", "L'Avventura" and "Pater Panchali" were presented.

An amateur movie Festival was performed in may and a great amount of amateurs collaborated enthusiastically; though the artistic quality level was not very high the experience was really interesting.

In July 1961 there was a change in the head of the Cineteca because the resignation of the preceding director. The new directive has decided to adopt the policy of restraining as much as possible the activities of despersion of the scant resources of the Cineteca. A primacy to investigation activities of Chilean Movie and to the search of old films has been resolved. The labour of the Cineteca will be guided to the attainment, presentation and study of latinamerican movie without neglecting the formation of a collection of the most important films in movie history; on this account a Retrospective Cycle of the Last 15 Years of Latinamerican Movie is being organized for a year-end presentation. The collaboration of foreign film libraries and the corresponding governments has been required.

#### GENERAL CONCLUSIONS:

The Cineteca Universitaria has kept a constant activity during 1961. If it true that the missing monetary resources and, it must be admitted, a lack of experience in the management of work scheming, have determined a not so positive result, as it would have been expected. It can be assured that when this first stage is completed we will be ready to face, in good conditions and with the right means to do it, an effective work program. We expect, in a short period time, to become in contact with different foreign film libraries to begin a group work and increase our connections with the FIAF.