

1963

*Photo by the
- Submittal must be
- Received 1932-1960*

REPORT OF THE U.S.S.R.

Gosfilmofond, member of FIAF on its activity during the period between the XVIII and XIX Congresses of the International Federation of Film Archives

During the period between the XVIII and XIX Congresses of FIAF (June 1962 - June 1963) the USSR Gosfilmofond continued its work along all the lines of its main activity connected with collection, keeping, scientific treatment, technical processing and popularization of cinema art pieces.

One of the most important events in the life of the Gosfilmofond was the completion of construction of two new film archives having 28 boxes each. The work of the scientific, production and technical departments was mainly directed at restoration and completing of Soviet and foreign films which present considerable artistic or historic value. During the given period the Gosfilmofond considerably increased its contribution to international cooperation.

NATIONAL ACTIVITY

a) Collection and Keeping of Films and Documents

New Entries

Since June 1962 till the present time the Gosfilmofond of the USSR acquired new home-made and foreign films for its collection, including 161 Soviet feature films and 125 Soviet popular science films and newreels.

During the given period 250 full length foreign made films were received by the Gosfilmofond from some Cinema organizations in the USSR and by means of exchange with film archives abroad. Their total number amounts to 536 entries.

Work on Film Restoration and Keeping

Scientific and technical personal of the Gosfilmofond has restored and completed a whole member of feature films.

12 home-made films were put in order. In cooperation with veterans of Russian Kinematography the Gosfilmofond sponsored in the Moscow House of Cinema the fifth "Evening of Unidentified Films" the purpose of which was to find out the titles and names of participants of some unknown pre-revolutionary films, and those of the early Soviet time which are stored in our archive.

During the period in question about 30 foreign films were restored (remontage, reproduction of missing pieces etc.) and about 20 films of foreign production were completed from separate parts. Great amount of work was also done in the form of analysis on some individual unknown parts and whole films; as well as on identification of their authorship and on determining whether it is justified to keep them in the archive.

Work on filmography and cataloguing

Piling up of facts and material was going on for reference books about masters of cinema art in the Soviet Union and abroad.

In particular, the work was carried out on the reference book "Scriptwriters of Soviet Feature Films" (about 1700 names) as well as on the reference book "Cinema Producers of European Countries of Peoples' Democracy", which is the first part of the planned work about producers of the world cinema.

Materials were also prepared for the fourth volume of the annotated catalogue "Soviet Feature Films" (1958-1962).

The Gosfilmofond has completed cataloguing 1375 Soviet popular science films which were received by it since 1958.

The Gosfilmofond has also completed the work on two catalogues of non-sound films of French and German origin which were shown in the USSR.

The gradual transition has been commenced from the old filmographic card index to a new unified card index of films of rational fund. It includes not only filmography but the data on the state of the complete set in store as well as on availability of archive literary documents and development of each film copy. The creation of the unified card index is connected with checking of the fund of prominent producers and with improving of the state of this fund. Thus, the archive of such producers as Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Dovzhenko, Protazanov and a number of others has been checked, which resulted in working out a plan of necessary additional processing, restoration and montage for a complete set of each film.

Work of a similar kind has been commenced on the foreign archive, too.

Archive, library and phototeque

During the given period the archive of the Gosfilmofond received for keeping about 5500 scenario sheets, 250 scripts of the "Mosfilm" cinema studio, about 300 pieces for keeping from the archive of the "Sovexportfilm" (comments of foreign press about Soviet films).

The library has purchased 260 books on cinema among which there are the following ones:

"About Cinema Art" by S. Rutkevich" Young Producers of Soviet Cinema", "Gerard Filipp", "Modern Japanese Cinema" by Ivashaki, "Soviet Historic and Revolutionary Film" by N. Zorkaya, "The Battleship Potemkin" by J. Rostovtsev, "Cinema Stories" by A. Kapler, "Production Art of Today" and others.

The phototeque has acquired 7872 new photographs from films with total volume of the phototeque amounting now to 160 thousand photographs.

b) Cinema Art Propaganda Film Shows

For the given period more than 160 Soviet films were shown by the Gosfilmofond to representatives of various scientific and artistic organisations including the Institute of History of Arts, the All-Union State Institute of Kinematography, all-union and republican cinema studios. Over 200 films were made available for work in the cutting rooms in parts or as complete sets and more than 220 film files were given for information purposes. During the same time three hundred foreign films were shown within the Gosfilmofond premises.

The Gosfilmofond also makes available some film materials for large scale lecture and educational work carried out by the Bureau of Cinema Art Propaganda of the USSR Union of Kinematography Workers and by other organizations, among them were: (en the course of the year) from the national fund: 9076 parts, including 953 copies 799 fragments from the foreign fond: 12050 parts, including 2560 copies, 2400 fragments.

EXHIBITIONS

Over two hundred photographs were chosen from the phototeque of the Gosfilmofond for the "Soviet Cinema Art" Exhibition which is being prepared now by the USSR Union of Kinematography Workers. Besides, new photographs were made from 50 films.

c) Publications

During the past period the Gosfilmofond published and issued for sale two books of the bulletin "Cinema and Time"

(the second issue), the content of them comprised the reference book "International Film Festivals" (1932-1960). The volume of the publication amounted to about 75 quires. The reference book "Soviet Cinema Producers", already published in the Gosfilmofond bulletin "Cinema and Time" (the third issue) is now in the print as a separate edition. Alongside with brief accounts of life and creative work (about seven hundred names) the reference book includes filmographic and bibliographic materials. The volume of the publication is 34 quires.

The fourth issue of the bulletin "Cinema and Time" containing a number of acientific and scientific reference materials is now being prepared for publication. A reference book dedicated to Soviet cartoon films and chronology "Soviet Cinema in Facts and Dates" (for the decade from 1953 till 1963) will be published in future as well as a reference book on foreign-made sound films shown in the Soviet Union.

d) Relations with Film Industry and Television

During the period between the Congresses of PIAP . The Gosfilmofond continued its active cooperation with cinema studios, cinema fabrics, and television.

Studios and fabrics were given:

from the national fund - 4660 parts including 397 copies,
303 fragments,

from the foreign fund: 2560 parts.

About 50 shooting groups from the USSR cinema studios have received assistance in selection of film materials.

In the course of the year the Gosfilmofond made available for television a great number of films and fragments to be used in its broadcasts. Among them were from national fund - 2457 parts, from foreign fund - 1954 parts.

e) Production and Technical Basis

In most cases the Gosfilmofond copied film materials to renew its fund for film festivals and for the purpose of exchanging with film archives abroad. Some fragments from different films were copied for cinema studios, television, the Bureau of Cinema Art Propaganda of the USSR Union of Kinematography Workers.

Total amount of material copied during the period between the Congresses comprises:

Duplicate negative	-	340	thou.m.
Positives	-	1000	"
Intermediate	-	140	"
Positives			
Phonograms	-	160	"
Dyed positives	-	115	"

Fragments were made from 830 parts of different films. Work in restoration of old films was carried out too: montage of full copies was achieved by means of comparison and mutual reproduction of separate uncomplete film materials. Nonsound films were supplied with subtitles.

Great amount of work has been done in profilactic and restoration treatment of films with machines:

negatives (treated)	850	thou. m.
positives (treated)	1800	"

Besides, hand work was done in repairing films, cleaning from various pollutions etc. Phonograms of negatives were started to be sounded anew.

International Activity

During the period between the XVIII and XIX Congresses of FIAP the Gosfilmofond considerably expanded its contacts

with foreign film archives. In the course of the year the Gosfilmofond sent to some other film archives 84 films under exchange conditions.

During the same time the Gosfilmofond made 42 films available for temporal usage by other film archives.

During the past period the Gosfilmofond received from other film archives 155 films, including 66 short ones, under exchange conditions. Two films were received for temporal usage.

The Gosfilmofond sent films abroad to be shown during the following cinema functions;

a) for the cinema cycle "The World Known Soviet Films" which was held in Austria during the autumn - winter period of 1962-1963, - seven films,

b) for Dovzhenko films shows in Great Britain in the second half of 1962; - two films,

c) for showing at the International Congress of Representatives of Theatre Colleges and Schools in Brussel, - two films,

d) for the "Month of the Soviet Film" which took place in Berlin in October-November, 1962, - nine films,

e) for retrospective film shows at the Festival in Venice in August - September, 1962, - five films,

f) for film shows dedicated to the history of the Soviet cinema, which was held in Warsaw in November 1962, - four films.

In 1963 the Gosfilmofond sent for keeping to the International Scientific Cinematheque in Brussels copies of the following popular science films: "Quadruped Astronauts", "True Story of Forest", "In the Pacific Ocean",

"History of a Ring", "Road to Stars", "Science and Technique, 1958", "Story about Stone", "Electronic Consultation", "In the Country of Nectar", "Bees and Crop", "NSE Secret".

This year a copy of the film "The Elephant and a Small Rope" was sent free of charge to the French children cinemateque "Cinderella".

During the given period the Gosfilmofond was visited by representatives of film archives from German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria, Roumania, Poland, Italy, by film producers from Chekoslovakia and Argentine, a representative of television from German Democratic Republic, a producer and scriptwriter from the USA. The purpose of their visit was to get acquainted with the activity of the Gosfilmofond and with film materials which they needed for their work.

In the course of implementation of the exchange of workers between the two archives two workers of the State Film Archive from German Democratic Republic stayed in the Gosfilmofond during two weeks in the second half of 1962. They got acquainted in detail with the organization of work in the Gosfilmofond and with all the materials they needed.

In 1963 the Gosfilmofond accomplished the delivery of the last films selected for the Service Fund the PIAP members.

The Gosfilmofond is confident that the XIX Congress of the International Federation of Film Archives will make its contribution to the cause of further activization of the work on development of film exchange and propaganda of the best pieces of the world cinema art.

Director of the Gosfilmofond
V. Privato.