REPORT OF THE FIAF DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION


The International Index to Film Periodicals began operating in January, 1972, with an exchange of cards among FIAF archives, and the contract for an annual publication in book form by the R. H. Bowker Company was signed in February, 1972. The following decisions were taken at the New York meeting:

1) To sell a limited number of subscriptions to the cards to institutions outside FIAF.

2) That those FIAF members who neither pay the subscription nor participate in the indexing should no longer receive the cards after June, 1972. There are five archives affected by this decision: Rome, Turin, The Imperial War Museum of London, and the two Istanbul archives.

It was further agreed to call to the attention of the General Meeting the fact that four archives promising to pay subscriptions at the Wiesbaden Congress have not yet done so, as this will have an effect on the 1972 budget: these archives are Palense, Melrion, and the two Istanbul archives.

Proposals of the Sub-Committee for a FIAF Scheme for the Classification of Film Literature were considered. It was agreed that the scheme shall be completed in time to apply to the subject classification of the first annual book publication of the International Index. It was further proposed to publish the classification scheme, together with the Commission's rules for indexing, as a useful tool for libraries and library schools outside FIAF. This publication is expected to be ready in 1973.

The first issue of the Commission on Documentation Newsletter was published in April, 1972. It has been decided to proceed with issue #2, as Wiesbaden had promised to support the first two issues. However, following that, the Commission will try to utilize the FIAF Newsletter as a means of disseminating documentation news, in order to avoid duplication of effort.

Other proposals now in the planning stage are:

1) The establishment of an International Filmography, along similar lines to the International Index to Film Periodicals;

2) Standard cataloguing rules for script holdings, leading to a more useful exchange of checklists;

3) A directory to documentation resources in FIAF archives, enlarging the concept of the Documentation Newsletter, to take the form of a semi-permanent loose-leaf volume;

4) Investigation of computer techniques applied to film documentation.

- Eberhard Spiess, Chairman