

OTTAWA - MONTREAL / XXXth CONGRESS

Agenda item 10

REPORT OF THE FIAF DOCUMENTATION COMMISSION

The Commission met in London in October, 1973, and in Amsterdam in February, 1974, and discussed the following projects :

COMPLETED PROJECTS :

1. Basic Manual . The commission completed the draft chapter on documentation for the proposed Basic Manual.
2. International Guidelines for Describing Unpublished Scripts. The work on this project was completed, and is expected to be published and distributed to FIAF members during the summer of 1974, as a recommendation of the Commission.

PROJECTS IN PROCESS :

1. International Index to Film Periodicals.

The 1972 annual volume was published by R.R. Bowker in September 1973, and distributed free to all FIAF members. The editor of the 1973 volume, Michael Moulds, completed the work on the index cards and turned them over to the publisher in March. Publication is expected by mid-summer 1974. An author index will be added to this year's volume.

The division of the project between London (editorial work) and Brussels (typing, printing and distribution) during 1973 was found to be impractical, and plans were made to move the work from the Secretariat to a London office, where the project will be under the supervision of Kevin Gough-Yates of the National Film Archive, acting on behalf of FIAF. The move will take place by the end of April.

Karen Jones has replaced Michael Moulds as Editor as of May 1, and has moved to London, taking a year's leave from her position at the Danish Filmmuseum. The Commission wishes to express its thanks to Michael Moulds for his work during this very difficult first year that the project began to stand on its own feet, to the Secretariat for taking on the enormous task of overseeing the work in Brussels during 1973, to the Danish Filmmuseum for granting leave to Karen Jones, and to Kevin Gough-Yates for undertaking the supervision of the London office.

The number of periodicals to be indexed in 1974 was increased to 77, including filmographic periodicals such as Variety (film reviews), Monthly Film Bulletin, and Film Facts. The Commission decided to offer a reduced subscription to the card index for the English-language periodicals only, beginning in 1974, for those libraries in English-speaking countries with insufficient need for the index to foreign-language periodicals. A questionnaire is being prepared to be sent to subscribing FIAF members to investigate the usefulness of the cards in the archives.

The year 1973 was completed with a small surplus, but it is anticipated that there may be a deficit for 1974, especially with the extra expenses of setting up an office in London. The financial report and the proposed budget will be presented at the 1974 Congress. Up-to-date figures were not available in time for inclusion with the present report.

2. The Classification of Film Literature. The sub-committee for this project has worked on two draft classification systems which it will submit to experts for their comments during 1974. Reports on this study are expected to be received by the Commission at its next meeting.
3. Directory of Documentation Resources in FIAF archives. Questionnaires were sent out to FIAF members during 1973, and 26 replies were received. A draft of the directory will be in preparation during the coming year.

FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

1. International Filmography. The Commission is studying the question of an exchange of filmographic information which could lead to the international filmography. We are discussing a joint meeting with the cataloguing Commission in order to combine our efforts for the project, a meeting which will probably take place during 1975.
2. Television Documentation. The Commission has investigated the current state of television documentation in several countries. It is planned to invite experts in this area to a future meeting of the Commission, in order to discuss the problems in the field and to decide the Commission's role in helping to find some solutions.
3. Data Processing. The future of data processing in film documentation is under study.
4. International Directory of Set Designers. The Commission has under consideration a proposal for this project.

We invite comments on the work of the Commission, and proposals for its future work.

Commission members :

Eileen Bowser, President
Brenda Davies, The National Film Archive
Karen Jones, Editor of the International Index
to Film Periodicals
Alfred Krautz, Staatliches Filmarchiv
John Luijckx, Nederlands Filmmuseum
Bujor Ripeanu, Arhiva Nationala de Filme
Anne Schlosser, The American Film Institute
Eberhard Spiess, Deutsches Institut f. Filmkunde
Vladimir Vimr, Cesky filmovy ustav.