

Report to the FIAF about the activities of the Dutch Filmarchives :
the NEDERLANDS HISTORISCH FILM ARCHIEF and the UITKLIJK ARCHIEF
(N.H.F.A. - U.A.)

The N.H.F.A.-U.A. have an office on the adress Nieuwe Achtergracht 142, AMSTERDAM C., tel. 57722.

On this office is the secretariat department, the library : about 300 books, the documentation department and a small department for meetings.

From the 1st of September on this office is also settled the secretariats of the Dutch Federation of Filmsocieties and the Amsterdam Filmsociety.

The filmarchives are collaborating very good now with the Dutch Federation of Filmsocieties and all the problems will be discussed together. This is a good start in the new season.

The FICC-congress at Venice has brought one good solution and that is that the FICC will try to come to a very close collaboration with the FIAF. The first result of this good news is made clear in Holland by the appointment of J. de Vaal as the General Secretary of the Dutch Federation of Filmsocieties and the establishment of the Secretariat of this filmsocieties' Federation on the office of the Dutch filmarchives, which foundation is a member of the FIAF. M. D. Hoekstra, who is the Dutch representative of the filmsocieties' Federation at the FICC is very willing to collaborate now. And on these terms the film archives have opened the new film-season.

The situation for the filmarchives and the filmsocieties too is still very difficult in holland.

The N.H.F.A.-U.A. still have not received a new subsidy from the Government. There is still a hope but it will take time and the subsidy to be given to the N.H.F.A.-U.A. shall be too small. The N.H.F.A.-U.A.'s filmstock is till now about 150 films. There is no money for preservation. Fortunately the filmarchives' office is situated in the building of the students cinema Kriterion, so that this cinema can be used as "a showroom" for our films and also for the performances of the Amsterdam Film Society.

The 16 mm Filmstock is very small and the same situation is with the archive of stills and photos (about 2.000).

The N.H.F.A.-U.A. has still become a cultural Film Centre of importance in Holland, but great help is urgent as this organisation is not great enough to fulfil its cultural task in Holland. Then there is a great lack of films. The N.H.F.A.-U.A. need many films for showings for the filmsocieties. The filmsocieties want old films as well as newer and modern ones. A great problem still is the contribution-regulations of many film societies.

- 1) There are some filmsocieties (f.i. Rotterdam and Leyden) who try to start this new season with one contribution for one year and without giving special tickets.
- 2) There are other filmsocieties who try to start this new season with a contribution, divided in payments of 6 till 10 times, and a ticket-system for seats to be sold only on the secretariat (f.i. Amsterdam Film Society, who sells the tickets in the N.H.F.A.-U.A. office)

3. And there are a few filmsocieties, who have a contribution and a ticketsystem only ^{on} the theatre.

It must be said that the filmsocieties, working together with the N.H.F.A.-U.A., are absolutely strict non-commercial working. And these filmsocieties are only organised into the Dutch Federation of Filmsocieties (about 15 filmsocieties). With their activities all these filmsocieties want to help the N.H.F.A.-U.A. And that is very important as the commercial Trade Union of Cinema Exhibition and Filmdistributors, the so called Nederlandse Bioscoop-Bond, has founded a Dutch Film Institute which institute is in purely cinema film distributors hands, so that this film institute is only commercial working. None of the Dutch filmsocieties organised in the Dutch Federation (and working together with other cultural organisations in Holland) is connected or collaborating with this commercial institute.

All these organisations together and also the N.H.F.A.-U.A. are organised in a committee that is called C.F.O. (Cultureel Film Overleg - Cultural Film Board), which committee is trying to get a clear solution in the film archives and filmsocieties and film groups movement in Holland. This committee is also connected with the Dutch Government.

The filmsocieties federation is very eager to hear the results of the next FIAF-congress and this federation really hopes there will be found a good solution between the FICC and the FIAF.

Very soon the Nederlands institut voor de Wetenschappelijke Film (the Netherlands Institute for the Scientific Film), Mr P. Loose, will also be settled on the filmarchives' office, as an institute collaborating with our foundation.

Also university groups and semi-university organisations as well as schools will work together with the filmarchives and many contacts already have been made.

N.H.F.A.-U.A. (Mr Sandberg and J. de Vaal) and the NFF (Dutch Federation of Filmsocieties), absolutely rely on a good future for the Filmarchive work, that's the FIAF's task.

Amsterdam, October 1949

NEDERLANDS HISTORISCH FILM ARCHIEF
UITKIJK ARCHIEF

J. de VAAL