

REPORT OF THE CATALOGING COMMISSION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

TOULOUSE, JANUARY 1984

The Cataloging Commission will be holding its 1984 meeting March 27-30 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. The meeting will be hosted by the Bulgarska Nacionalna Filmoteka who has generously offered to fund staying costs for commission members. The meeting will be held in conjunction with that of the Documentation Commission. Joint sessions are being scheduled to discuss topics of common interest, while separate sessions will be provided for continuation of ongoing work within the Commissions.

Agenda items for the Cataloging Commission will include: the polyglot dictionary of terms useful for film cataloging, the list of national filmographies, the development of a sample technical data form for use by developing archives, the development of a union catalog for members' nitrate holdings, and the results of the second computer survey.

1. Glossary.

Jon Gartenberg (MOMA) has continued his work on the polyglot dictionary of film terms. At present, he has completed the hierarchical restructuring of the English language draft and has prepared final copies of the draft together with its indexes. The German language draft will be revised and correlated with the English draft by Commission member Dorothea Gebauer (DIF), working in conjunction with Guenter Schulz (SFA); Catherine Gautier of the Filмотека Española has been asked to correlate the Spanish and English language drafts, while Jon Gartenberg will oversee the correlation of the French and English drafts. We still hope for a publication date in 1984.

2. National Filmographies

Harriet Harrison (LC) has now completed two-thirds of the final draft for the annotated list of national filmographies originally prepared by Dorothea Gebauer (DIF). Ms. Gebauer has written an introduction for the publication

which is being translated into English, and Ms. Harrison will prepare scope notes for it. Wolfgang Klaue has agreed to prepare an acknowledgements note thanking Ms. Gebauer for her excellent work in compiling the document. The anticipated date for publication of this work is still 1984. (I am trying my best to meet that deadline.)

3. Technical Data Form

Owing to the success of the POTESKIN Package at the Stockholm Technical Symposium, we received requests from developing archives to prepare a sample form or optimum list of technical data elements which can be distributed by our Secretariat. Dr. Schulz, who co-chaired the Stockholm session with Rolf Lindfors (SFI), has volunteered to undertake this work and will have a draft ready for our review at the upcoming Commission meeting. Following the Commission's review, we will present the document to Henning Schou and the Executive Committee for final comments.

4. Standardized Cataloging Rules

During the summer, Commission members sent the updated drafts of their working areas to Dorothea Gebauer (DIF) who is creating a single coordinated draft. The members will review this draft at the next Commission meeting. Roger Smither (IWM) will then prepare an introductory chapter, while Jon Gartenberg (MOMA) and Harriet Harrison (LC) will prepare a chapter on providing access points (index entries) to the cataloging records.

5. Nitrate Union Catalog

Following the suggestions made at the Stockholm Executive Committee meeting, Roger Holman (NFA) has been working on draft forms, guidelines, and standard abbreviations for this project. Brigitte van der Elst has written to him asking for the results of his work, and we hope that she will have something to report to you at your meeting.

6. Computer Survey

Roger Smither (IWM), who is coordinating this project, has still not received a sufficient response to make useful comparisons and to prepare an evaluative report. We will discuss the situation at our next meeting and decide how to proceed with this project.

7. UNESCO Article

Jon Gartenberg (MOMA) prepared an article for the FIAF issue of the UNESCO Courier on film cataloging and the activities and publications of the Cataloging Commission. His manuscript has been submitted to Robert Daudelin, who has forwarded it to UNESCO together with the other articles. We believe that this article could also serve as the basis for the film cataloging chapter of the new edition of the FIAF Handbook and will propose this possibility to the editors.

I am sorry that I cannot be with you to discuss these matters in person, and wish you all the best in your deliberations at Toulouse. If there are any further matters that you wish me to discuss when we meet in Vienna, please let me know, and I shall try to be prepared for them. Best wishes to everyone!

Respectfully Submitted,

Harriet Harrison
President, Cataloging Commission