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REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met in Helsinki February 15-17, as the guest of Suomen Elokuva Arkisto. The Commission to revise the statutes and rules met immediately before and during these days, and preliminary discussions on the question raised by this commission were held by the Executive Committee. The proposals centered on re-defining and clarifying the various categories of membership, according to the ideas in recent years at the annual Congresses. Among the changes suggested is to enlarge the category of correspondent, which should be re-named observer (or a similar name), to include a wider variety of institutions and organizations which are interested in having a contact with FIAF. Another proposal is that all members should be subject to periodic review of their qualifications, perhaps every five years. The Commission is also considering a proposal that candidates for membership should be accepted by the Executive Committee, making it more practical to hold administrative Congresses only every second year, and specialized Congresses in the alternate years. A list of proposals will be finally determined by this Commission and sent out well in advance of the 1974 Congress, in order that delegates will be prepared to express their views.

The Executive Committee received a report on the situation among the Latin American archives, together with some proposals from UCAL concerning films for a FIAF pool in Latin America. Although UCAL asked for 16mm prints with Spanish subtitles, Saul Yelin said that alternate proposals could be considered when it was impossible for an archive to meet these conditions. The discussion centered around the list of films submitted by UCAL for the proposed pool, and whether or not it should be revised to be more realistic. The decision was to circulate the list among FIAF members, at the same time asking for additional or alternate suggestions. UCAL also wishes to receive lists of holdings of Latin American materials in other archives, and the Cinemateca de Cuba is willing to be the central repository for the information.

The Copyright Commission, formerly headed by the late Ernest Lindgren, was reorganized, with John Kuiper serving as President. The following members of the Commission were approved: Jacques Ledoux, Wolfgang Klaue, Kevin Gough-Yates and Vladimir Pogacic, and Nevil March-Hunnings was retained as legal adviser. The Commission met for the first time immediately following the Executive Committee meeting. It was also arranged that John Kuiper and Jacques Ledoux should meet, as representatives of the Copyright Commission, with Mr. Gronich, the FIAPF representative in Paris, in the week following, to try to reopen negotiations between the two organizations. There were reports from the preservation Commission, the Cataloguing Commission, and the Documentation Commission, which are summarized in another section of this Bulletin. The Treasurer proposed to find another system of handling the finances of the commission meetings, in which each commission would have its own allocation of funds, and only if the funds remained unused by one commission, they might be used by another which had greater expenses. The reason advanced is that it is difficult for commissions to know a year ahead whether they will have a host archive paying the expenses for a meeting. In connection with the financial report generally, the Treasurer proposed to find ways to simplify the accounts and the budget proposals, to make them more easily understood.