

The Executive Committee agreed to cooperate with Variety on a special issue for FIAF on this occasion. Archives in cities where Variety has offices will be approached for interviews, and also for the names of those who might be willing to take out advertisements congratulating FIAF. Members are requested to give cooperation to this project, and to be prepared to give lists of their major suppliers and users of the archive services.

Lisbon Congress will take place 10-17 April 1989, with two symposiums: "Evolution of Film Editing 1900-1906", in association with André Gaudreault and his team, who will also organise the "Brighton Ten Years After" round table, now postponed from the Paris Congress to Lisbon; and "Cultural role of archives: the relationship between archiving and diffusion programming".

The 1990 Congress in Havana will possibly have a symposium on Film Archiving in Developing Countries, to be divided in three parts: 1) film preservation in tropical climates; 2) Latin American regional experiences; 3) film archive training sources and film schools.

MISCELLANEOUS: Cosme Alves Netto was invited into one session of the Executive Committee meeting as a member of the council of the Foundation for Latin American Cinema, in the absence of Gabriel Garcia Marques, founder and principal supporter of the Foundation. Cosme announced a project to establish the first of several centers for preserving Latin American cinema at the Cinemateca Brasileira in Sao Paulo. Maria Rita Galvao reported that the first step already underway is a survey of the situation in several places, with the idea of establishing a laboratory for film and video which could serve all of Latin America.

The next Executive Committee to be held after Paris is expected to take place in Montreal in November 1988, on the invitation of Robert Daudelin and on the occasion of an Emile Cohl exhibition.

Eileen Bowser

REPORT OF THE CATALOGUING COMMISSION

The members of the Cataloguing Commission met in early October in Brussels to complete the review of the draft "FIAF Cataloguing Rules". These rules are for bibliographic description. They are adapted from ISBD (International Standard Bibliographic Description) structures and punctuation standards, developed by IFLA, the International Federation of Library Association.

However, the commission's rules also incorporate basic film archival principles established in the 1980 manual, Film Cataloguing. We hope to have the final draft ready for review by FIAF members in the spring. At that time we will also send the draft to other interested international non-governmental organisations, such as FIAT, IFLA, ICA and IASA.

The commission also made progress with the first supplement to the Glossary. The supplement will include terms in Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, Italian, Portuguese, and Swedish. The terms will be organised and numbered in the same sequence as the original Glossary to facilitate reference to the definitions in the original.

The supplement will include separate alphabetical indexes.

Work on the FIAF cataloguing brochure is nearly complete. This brochure is designed for use in explaining the nature and importance of cataloguing in film archives. Member archives may use it in advertising and explaining their activities to professional colleagues from related disciplines such as librarians and print archivists. It may also be used to explain the central role of cataloguing to managers, preservation specialists and others in the archive who often do not understand enough about the nature of our work. In addition, it may prove useful for public relations in distribution to researchers, potential donors, and other archive clientele.

Another publication that will be available very soon is the Technical Guidelines manual. This text will give useful advice for organising and setting up files of technical information concerning the condition and physical characteristics of archival holdings. We plan to issue the Guidelines in English, German, Spanish and French.

Following the close of the meeting, the commission members attended a workshop on CDS/ISIS which was sponsored by Unesco and hosted by our colleague, Carlos Arnaldo. You will find a report of the workshop elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Harriet Harrison

WORKSHOP ON CDS/ISIS, A SOFTWARE PACKAGE FROM UNESCO

The Cataloguing Commission attended a workshop on the software package CDS/ISIS in October in Brussels, together with Unesco representatives and others using this package, R. Souto Pereira from the Cinemateca Brasileira and Brigitte van der Elst.

CDS/ISIS is available without charge to non-profit organisations in Unesco member countries, and especially in developing countries, and there has been interest among FIAF archives in considering its suitability for cataloguing and related operations in film archives. The package has been developed by Unesco as a microcomputer-compatible database management system derived from the earlier mainframe and mini-computer members of the ISIS family.

The group examined applications of the CDS/ISIS software from three very different points of view: the FIAF Union Register of Sound Feature Film Holdings from the Nitrate Era, a large file of simple records for a specific research/communications project; Unesco-OPI Production Library, a medium-sized library with despatch and movement control priorities; and Cinemateca Brasileira, an archive with a wide range of filmographic and collection management priorities.

It is unwise and perhaps also unethical for the Cataloguing Commission to endorse or recommend specific packages, for the reasons that there is no such thing as a single archive requirement for computer system. It is their responsibility to provide information. The Cataloguing Commission recommended:

- 1) That FIAF should recognise and publicise progress in computer developments through such means as the Bulletin, the Study on the Usage of Computers for Film Cataloguing, symposiums or workshops.
- 2) That the commission project of standard cataloguing rules should be given the highest priority.