

INTERNATIONAL INDEX TO FILM/TELEVISION PERIODICALS

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EDITOR'S REPORT

1. Annual volumes

The 1986 volume was delayed as a result of the office move, staff changes etc., but was finally published in December 1987. Invoicing and address labels were made in the office, but the volumes were stored and despatched from a warehouse: Vale Packaging in Tonbridge. They charge 32p for each copy despatched, and £7.00 per month for storage. Postage is at cost (with the benefit of a slight reduction from bulk postage).

Receipts for UK and Europe so far this year are £6310, and I estimate approximately £3400 is still to come. Against this must be set £893 in postage and £163 in service costs charged by Vale. US receipts are being collected by the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The 1987 volume will be printed from camera ready copy produced directly from the computer output by Computaprint. There is still some editing to do (adding film title and subject heading cross references etc.) and this is proceeding rather slowly because access to the computer is limited (see remarks under item 4.).

2. St. James Press

The standing order records were handed over to us much as we had given them to St. James three years ago. There did not seem to be the increase in sales we had hoped for from their "extensive publicity". Total income to date from St. James (UK) is £11,144 (for 1984 and 1985 volumes). Receipts from US sales are now at £11,248 (for 1983, 84 and 85 volumes). Cheques are still coming in from both UK and US, but the promised audited statement of US sales has not yet materialised.

3. Subscriptions

There were no new subscribers in 1987, and one cancellation (Cinémathèque Royale de Belgique, because cards could no longer be provided. This is in fact the only cancellation that we know to have been caused by our switch to microfiches).

Four 1987 subscriptions remain to be paid for:

American Film Institute (Film) (support is paid)
New York University (TV)
Rio de Janeiro: Cinemateca (Film)
Toulouse (Film)

We have received one new subscription so far in 1988 - The National Film Archive of India. One subscription has lapsed (Birmingham Triangle Media Centre, because their library has been closed down).

4. Computer

Early problems with the computer program are now largely overcome. Inputting proceeds smoothly, however it does not leave enough time during office hours to complete the various sorting, outputting and backing up operations which have to be carried out. My taking the computer home most weekends is not too convenient, and has not really solved the problem. Delays have resulted in the production of the final 1987 fiches, and the output of the 1987 volume, due to lack of computer time for me to complete the editing. We are seeking a solution to this problem.

5. Microfiches

We have hopes that we shall soon be able to reproduce accents and diacritical marks on the microfiches. Datacom Ltd have acquired new equipment and are conducting tests.

Reaction to the 48x reduction fiches seems to be favourable, and all is not lost for those who do not have an appropriate lens since they can still be read (just) on a 24x lens.

6. Periodical Indexing

My appeal at the last Congress for help in indexing did not produce any results.

The number of indexers inevitably declines each year as staff leave the archive or go on to other jobs. Sometimes it seems not enough effort is made to pass on this task to other members of staff.

Consequently many important periodicals no longer have an indexer, and we have no choice but to try to find the time to index as many as possible ourselves. We now spend up to a third of our time on indexing. This of course affects the amount of other work we can do. For instance, processing indexing for periodicals in minority languages tends to be postponed.

It must be emphasised that the PIP was never intended to be an indexer of periodicals. Our function is to check, edit and publish the indexing we receive from the FIAF archives, and this in itself is more than a full-time job for the available staff.

The situation has recently taken a turn for the worse since the BFI has stopped doing any indexing for us. This measure was supposed to be temporary, but has already continued for seven months.

Desirable though it is, I am now extremely reluctant to add any new periodicals to our list. If we lose subscribers because our service is incomplete or inadequate, we shall have to lay off staff and will enter a vicious circle which will lead to the failure of the project.

Another international meeting of documentation workers like the Danish Summer School would undoubtedly lead us to new indexers. However in the short term, I can see no other solution than that the heads of archives allocate the necessary staff time to the indexing of periodicals.

May 1988

PERIODICALS FOR WHICH WE NEED INDEXERS

Film

Avant-Scène du Cinéma
Cineaste*
Filméchange*
Journal of Film & Video
Journal of Pop. F & TV*
Literature/Film Qu.*
Positif*
Révue du Cinéma
Wide Angle*

Television

Broadcast*
Channels*
Dossier de l'audiovisuel
Emmy*
Journal of B'casting*
Listener*
Primetime*
TV World*
Television (RTS)*

FILM PERIODICALS - SOME INDEXING BACKLOGS

| | <u>Last issue indexed</u> | <u>Indexed by</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Cahiers de la Cinémathèque | 1979 | Toulouse |
| Cinema Canada | May, 1986 | Ottawa |
| Ekran | 1982 | Belgrade |
| Film og Kino | 1984 | Oslo |
| Filmnews | 1985 | Austr. F.I. |
| Film Quarterly | 1985 | A.F.I. |
| Frauen & Film | 1985 | Berlin |
| Films & Filming | July 1987 | B.F.I. |
| Screen | " | " |
| Sight & Sound | " | " |

* Indexed by PIP. Other periodicals indexed by PIP include Variety, Monthly Film Bulletin, Radio Times, and many journals which do not appear regularly such as Cinéthique, Velvet Light Trap, Enclitic, Movie etc.