

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Executive Committee

November 26-29 1960

Immediately after the Amsterdam meeting, absent members were sent all the documents distributed at the meeting, along with the list of the new Executive Committee.

Back in Paris, the Secretariat sent out letters to all absent members informing them of any changes in status of their archives or special decisions concerning them, and to all members whose status had undergone a change at the Amsterdam meeting confirming that change. Absent members were requested to send in all suggestions and additions to the resolution concerning the Arbitration Jury before six weeks. No suggestions were received, so it can be assumed that absent members approved the text.

Letters were also sent out to associate members. The C.I.F.E.S., the A.I.C.S. and the F.I.C.C. wrote to express their satisfaction and hopes for the establishment of a closer collaboration. A reunion with representatives of the F.I.C.C. was arranged for the 29th and 30th of November. The Secretariat has prepared copies of the Rome Agreement to be considered at this meeting. Members of the Executive Committee will find same in their folders.

Letters were written to the Cinemateca Argentina and the Latin American Section of F.I.A.F. informing them of the election by the General Assembly of the Films Museum of Argentina as Provisional Member if no valid objections to this decision were forthcoming. Mr Roland, of the Cinemateca Argentina, requested details concerning the Film Museum, and the Secretariat furnished copies of the elements contained in their demand for candidature. He then sent a letter stating his point of view on this candidate. Members will find a copy of this letter in their folders.

The Secretariat wrote to the newly formed Hollywood Motion Picture and Television Museum Commission whose candidature was presented by Madame Iris Barry at the Amsterdam meeting. This Commission was informed of the membership formalities, and this month, these conditions were completely satisfied. Members of the Executive Committee will find a copy of their letter of application in their folders .

On the 15th of July, was sent out to all Full and Provisional Members, the Informative Summary of Decisions and Resolutions of the Amsterdam Meeting in English and French, and at the same time, the Statutes of the Federation as rectified at the Amsterdam meeting, equally in French and English.

On the 15th, the Secretariat sent out to all Members a letter written by President Toeplitz, informing members of the results of his visit with Mr Fourre-Cormeray, Director General of the Centre, and the decisions made with the Centre and the lawyer of F.I.A.F. as to future actions which concerned the legal registration of the Statutes of F.I.A.F. and the recovery of F.I.A.F. goods sequestered at the Cinémathèque Française. Shortly afterwards, the Secretariat learned that the first action was not possible, as Mr Langlois had already registered F.I.A.F. with the French Police as a French organization. The officers of F.I.A.F. were immediately informed of this situation and photo-copies of the statutes registered by Mr Langlois were sent to them. Mr President informed Mr Fourre-Cormeray of this situation, stating that if there were no rectification, F.I.A.F. would have to take the necessary legal steps. A letter from the President, dated August 5th, was sent out to these officers of FIAP explaining the situation.

On August 1st, were sent out to those Members of the Executive Committee responsible for the revision of the Regulations of the Federation those chapters for which each is responsible. Mr Toeplitz for Internal Rules, Mr Lindgren on Rules for Film Exchanges, etc... The Secretariat was to have received this material by October 1st, but so far only Mr De Vaal has supplied material on the Pools. Mr Volkmann indicated that he had prepared material on UFA, but until he returned from South America he would be unable to provide material on the Regional Sections.

On August 20th, the Secretariat sent out letters to all Members of the Executive Committee announcing the November meeting. A letter was also sent to Mme Kawakita, who, tho' having renounced the post of Vice President, did not give any response to the letters of the General Secretary and the President asking her if she accepted membership in the Executive Committee.

In answer to a request for an up-to-date list of names and addresses of F.I.A.F. members from Mrs Fry, Mr Lindgren's Secretary, the Secretariat prepared this list for all members, bringing it

up-to-date not only for addressed and new members, but also for all changes in posts. This list was sent out on September 9th along with a questionnaire on Membership Data destined to complete the files of the Secretariat on Archive Members. General information, Status of Archive, Administration, Personnel, etc.. We also requested the Archives to send their Rules and information on their legal registration in the country. We have had responses from the following :Ireland, Austria, Holland, Wiesbaden, Norway, Berlin, Sweden, Roumania, Sao Paulo, Iran, Finland, Japan.

On September 16th, the Secretariat sent out its first request for material for the Fall Information Bulletin. On October 14th, the second request was sent in the form of a questionnaire. The response has been considerable, and we are happy to present this Executive Committee a Bulletin of some 85 pages with articles from 26 countries , a number of which are unusually interesting.

On September 20th, I wrote to Mr Fourre-Cormeray, Directeur General of the Centre National de la cinématographie Française, reminding him of his generous offer to house the meetings of the Executive Committee at the Centre, and on October 7th, I received confirmation of this offer from Mr Parent, Directeur General Adjoint of the Centre. At a later date, Mr Parent was kind enough to show me our meeting place, which is, as you see, eminently satisfactory.

On October 7th, Members of the Executive Committee were informed of the meeting place of the Executive Committee, and copies of the draft agenda were sent to each of them. No suggestions or additions were subsequently suggested .

The work continued very smoothly but in the middle of October, the financial situation developed some dark clouds. At Amsterdam, the financial situation was quite satisfactory, but naturally, the meeting depleted some of our reserves, and in the months from June through October very few dues payments were made. By mid-October, only 19 out of 32 paying members had fulfilled their 1960

obligations, and five were behind for 1959. The Secretariat prepared letters for our Treasurer for all members behind in their dues, letters sent out on October 20th. Since that date, three archives have paid their 1960 dues, leaving 16 in arrears for this year. You will find the dues situation in your folders. The situation is indeed serious, and our Treasurer will surely suggest measures to rectify it, for it's not possible for an organization to function on the basis of a budget based solely on yearly dues payments, where there is no guarantee that these payments will be fulfilled.

After many upsets, sweat blood and tears, the complete verbatim minutes of the Amsterdam meeting were sent out to all Full and Provisional Members on November 4th. I will spare you the details, but the original version had apparently been transmitted by someone whose knowledge of English was sadly lacking, and there was no page without its dozens errors, some of them very serious, changing the sense of the discussion. The Secretariat corrected some 10 pages by hand in each copy, and had 7 pages re-stencilled by the stenotypist, and on November 4th, the corrected copies were sent out. I do not know if at any previous F.I.A.F. Congresses copies of the Minutes were distributed to all members, but at any rate, it would appear that members, both present and absent at the Amsterdam meeting are pleased to receive a copy for their Archive. We will try to assure the same for the future General Assemblies.

Members of the Executive Committee will recall that at the January meeting it was decided that the President should send a letter to Mr Langlois in the name of all Members of the Federation whose films were destroyed in the fire at the Cinémathèque Française, requesting him to indicate by letter to each archive the necessary facts about the fire, titles of the Archive's films destroyed and the measures which the Cinémathèque Française considered taking to make up for the losses. On October 24th, the Secretariat sent out letters to those members susceptible of having lost films in the fire asking them if they had received satisfaction. These letters were sent to Messrs Griffith, Berkesi, Privato, Pogacic, Ledoux, Banaszkiwicz, Volkan, Lindgren, Lavies, Svoboda, Lauritzen De Vaal, Ib Monty, Okabe, Busche Wingard and Sonika Co. Answers have been received from eight archives on this matter. President Toeplitz has the dossier.

There have been several requests on which the Secretariat acted.

A. On August 3rd, Mr Ahmad Belhashmi, Director of the Centre Cinématographique Marocain, requested that F.I.A.F. send him for 15 days a good technician to counsel his archive in view of an efficient re-organization. It was explained to Mr Belhashmi, that usually, newly formed archives send their collaborators "en stage" to older members, but that the two possibilities would be presented to the November Executive Committee.

B. Dr Kelany, Director of Arts of the Ministry of Culture and National orientation of Syria, wrote, asking for information relative to the formation of an archive in his country. He wished information concerning the rules, functioning and budget of an Archive, and the means of provisioning films. We sent Dr Kelany a copy of the Statutes and Illustrated Booklet of F.I.A.F., and we informed him that we were asking a number of member archives to furnish the required information. We sent them copies of Dr Kelany's letter with a request that they supply what information they could, to 5 archives, London, Berlin, Brussels, Amsterdam, Prague. Mr Lindgren and Mr Svoboda responded to Mr Kelany, and perhaps others of which the Secretariat is not informed. In any case, Mr Lindgren suggested that a model statute be prepared for such cases, and wished the present Executive Committee to consider the preparation of same.

C. Mr Ledoux sent to the Secretariat in July a letter sent to the Cinémathèque de Belgique by the Department Audio-Visual of the Central University of Venezuela of Caracas, which projects the creation of a Venezuelan ~~xxhixx~~ Film Library in line with the aims of F.I.A.F. and will shortly present its candidature as provisional Member. Before formulating their own Statutes and Rules, they desire to make a comparative study of those of archives already formed abroad. The archive addressed a request for such documents to the Cinémathèque de Belgique. The Secretariat answered Mr Fasquali and sent him a copy of the Illustrated Booklet. Surely the model rules suggested by Mr Lindgren would be useful here also.

D. On September 10th, the Secretariat received a request for admittance as Provisional Member of F.I.A.F. by the Cinemateca de Cuba, including the list of directors, list of films and other related material. The Secretariat acknowledged this demand and informed the archive that their request would be considered by the Executive Committee in November. Members will find copies of their demand for membership in their folders.