

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FILM ARCHIVES

Executive Committee Meeting

Warsaw - March 17th - 19th, 1963REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
SECRETARIAT FROM NOVEMBER 27th, 1962, TO MARCH 17th, 1963White

Immediately following the November meeting of the Executive Committee, communications were sent to the various members, organizations and individuals concerning which decisions had been made at the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING :

Detailed Minutes were prepared on the November 24-26 sessions, and once these had been approved by the Secretary General were mimeographed and sent out to all Executive Committee members on January 25th. An annex contained a list of questions to be examined at the next meeting.

LAW SUIT AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION :

A number of consultations took place with the F.I.A.F. legal representants on questions concerning the texts of certain documents and the text of the civil suit.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS :

(a) F.I.C.C. (Fédération Internationale des Cine-Clubs) : on December 10th, a letter was sent to the membership recalling the terms of the F.I.A.F. - F.I.C.C. Agreement concerning the obligation of F.I.A.F. to furnish to F.I.C.C. each year a list of 12 short and 12 feature films and requesting our members to indicate those films in their collections which can be easily negotiated and which are considered important in the domain of film culture. Responses from our membership were forwarded to Mr. Ledoux.

(b) F.I.F.A. (Fédération Internationale du Film sur l'Art) : on the request of Madame Gille Delafon, the Executive Committee gave its agreement on the principle of help in the establishment of a Catalogue of Films on Art to be prepared by F.I.F.A. The Executive Secretary discussed the practicalities of this help with Madame Delafon, and an announcement of the project and the Executive Committee support was made on the first page of the F.I.A.F. Bulletin. Members were asked to suggest nationally produced films, whether in their collections or not, which they considered of special interest. Madame Gille Delafon was to follow this announcement with individual letters to the membership.

recu 2 lettres - Monty  
Kendrew.

F.I.A.F. PROJECTS AND SPECIALIZED COMMISSIONS :

Commission for the Development of Exchanges and Loan of Films : on the basis of material prepared by the President of this Commission, Mr. Pogacic, the Secretariat prepared a questionnaire on this matter and sent it to the membership with an explanatory note on January 7th. Members were asked to send their responses directly to Mr. Pogacic.

On February 6th, the Secretariat sent to the membership two questionnaires :

- (a) that submitted by President Toeplitz concerning HISTORICAL CINEMATOGRAPHIC RESEARCH,
- (b) that submitted by Mr. Monty concerning FILM THEATRES AND PROJECTIONS

Along with these questionnaires was sent a list made up by Mr. Ledoux of films which could not be included in the F.I.A.F. Catalogue of Silent Feature Films for lack of complete identification.

Heading each questionnaire was an explanatory note, and along with them was sent a letter from the Secretariat expressing the necessity, if positive results are to be obtained from the initiatives taken by the Executive Committee, for all members to take the time to respond. Answers were to be sent directly to Messrs Toeplitz, Monty and Ledoux

CATALOGUE PURCHASES

Out of 31 archives which collaborated on the Catalogue, 18 ordered copies. If it is considered advisable, the Secretariat will send out letters to these members reminding them that the Catalogue is available.

F.I.A.F. INFORMATION BULLETIN

A letter was sent to the membership on October 19th requesting material for the Winter Bulletin and suggesting matters of interest to be included. (Deadline November 20th - number of responses 6). On November 22nd, a second campaign was launched in the form of a questionnaire to be filled in and returned. (Deadline December 10th - number of responses 7). In addition, members of the Executive Committee were personally asked to contribute viva voce, and letters were sent to many of our members as reminders. At the end of this effort, on January 15th, we had received material from 23 archives. Two others sent in material after the Bulletin had been edited.

Since it is so difficult to get material, one can perhaps conclude that the Bulletin is of minor interest to our members. We have no idea if anyone ever reads it, and since the cost in time and money for the issuing of a Bulletin is considerable, it is perhaps opportune to consider the question of abandoning it altogether.

In this case, the value of maintaining the pre-Congress Bulletin, which in the past years has concerned itself primarily with a description of the archive host (history, development, scope of activities, staff, etc...) and material referring to the cultural cinematographic manifestation in the framework of the Congress should also be considered.

NEW MEMBERS :

The Secretariat was visited in January by Mr. Roussos Coundouros, who is one of the organizers of the new Greek Archive which will presumably receive State support. Mr. Coundouros was interested in all the activities of the Federation, and was given documentation on same and information on membership application requirements. He indicated that his organisation would propose its candidature for Provisional membership before the 1963 Congress, and hoped that a representative from the archive could attend this reunion.

Contact has been maintained with the Albanian Archive which has sent the additional elements required for its candidature to Mr. Toeplitz, and with the National Film Institute of Israel.

FINANCES

<sup>+</sup>Dues : On January 9th, individual letters of dues statements for the year 1963 were sent to our members along with a recall of back dues in cases where this was required.

<sup>x</sup> On January 23rd, letters were prepared for the Treasurer's signature and sent "Registered" to two Members whose dues payments are in arrears for over two years : Cinémathèque Suisse and Cineteca Italiana. An additional delay for payment up to March 1st was granted. The Cineteca Italiana responded at least partially to this final appeal.

Two other Full Members in arrears for over two years presented special problems. That of the Cinematca Brasileira, whose President, Mr. Almeida Sales, at present Cultural Attaché in Paris, volunteered to pay the sums due, but unfortunately has not done so in the specified period, and the Cinémathèque du Maroc which has not responded to F.I.A.F. appeals on financial or other matters for several years. The Executive Secretary, on the suggestion of the Geneva Executive Committee, visited the Moroccan Embassy in Paris in an attempt to learn something of the situation of this archive and of its intentions in regards to its dues obligations. The Executive Secretary had a long visit with one of the responsible officers of the Embassy, explained FIAF program and activities at length and provided a wide selection of FIAF documents plus copies of correspondence with the Cinémathèque du Maroc. This gentleman promised to furnish an answer within a few weeks. It was learned a month later that he had returned to Morocco and the Executive Secretary was invited to visit the Cultural Attaché. The day of the rendez vous turned out to be one on which the Embassy was closed for holiday and so the Executive Secretary wrote a letter explaining the situation and the risk of radiation of the Moroccan Archive to the Cultural Attaché, and requested an answer if this were possible before the present meeting. From what could be gathered from the discussion with the Embassy people, the Moroccan Center of Cinematography exists, but the functioning of the archive is less certain.

A document (N° 2) containing the actual dues situation can be found in the folders prepared for the members at the present meeting.

Monthly Accounts and Yearly Statement : Monthly dues statements have been prepared as usual for the Treasurer, and the 1962 Annual Statement of Revenue and Expenses has been prepared for the Treasurer's consideration. The books and elements forming a basis for this document have been controlled by an accountant.

The two F.I.A.F. Auditors for 1962, Messrs Bo Wingard and Wladyslaw Banaszkiwicz have been informed that the Books and Records for this year are at their disposition either in Paris or in Warsaw during the present sessions of the Executive Committee.

PREPARATION OF THE PRESENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Members were convened by letters sent on January 29th and informed that the Centralne Archiwum Filmowe would help with hotel reservations and visa formalities if desired. The Agenda was sent to the Members on February 25th.

The usual folders containing the Minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting, financial statements, etc.. have been prepared for the Members attending the meeting.