



XXIII. CONGRESS OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL  
FEDERATION OF  
FILM ARCHIVES  
BERLIN-GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
8-13 JUNE, 1967

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FILM ARCHIVES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Berlin (DDR) 6-8 June 1967

Report of the Executive Secretary

WORK FOLLOWING THE SOFIA CONGRESS

During the past year since the 1966 Congress in Sofia, the Executive Secretary has performed the various administrative tasks of the Federation in collaboration with and under the direction of the Secretary-General. These included in particular preparing the letters following the Congress, which were sent to the full members admitted at Sofia, as well as to the provisional members whose status was extended and the new corresponding members. Selected material from the Sofia Congress was also sent out to organizations outside the Federation with whom the FIAF had been in contact, such as Ceylon, Syria, Egypt, Mexico, New Zealand etc.

NEW CONTACTS

Immediately following the Congress Mr. Botha of the South African Film Board visited the Secretariat in Paris and a full report has already been made to the Secretary-General and to this Committee. Mr. Roffe representing a new archive in Caracas also visited the Secretariat during the summer months. No further word has come from this contact. In recent months several other archives have been contacted: the Cinematheque du Musée d'Art Modern of Rio, the Instituto Cinematografica Boliviana in Sucre and the Regie Nationale de Cinema of the Republic of Guinea, all of whom were sent the usual FIAF documentation. The Cinematheque of Rio has placed the Secretariat on its mailing list for regular news of its activities.

WORK WITH FIAF MEMBERS

In the course of the year the various individuals and archives were reminded of the projects and other FIAF tasks to be accomplished, and in collaboration with the Treasurer a special effort was made to encourage payment of the membership subscriptions on time.

The Executive Secretary sent circular letters to all members on the following matters: the offer of the "Film Index", the UNESCO article on Telex, the warning on the danger of certain nitrate films, the establishment of a catalogue card for fiction films, the coordination of indexing and the international film passport, the request for information on Indian films from Mr. Nair, a request for information on films on the ballet from the Hungarian archive, the retrospective on animated films from the Cinematheque Canadienne, the request for return of the cards for Mr. Leyda's short film project, the request for the activities' Report (which document has been made and is ready for the General meeting), the call for the films to be brought to this Congress) and a request for information for a full and detailed membership list to be reserved for members. (this list cannot be made available at this Congress as hoped, because approximately ten members have not yet replied).

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

In connection with the finances of the FIAF much work was done to reorganize this matter and a competent certified public accountant, Mr. Lachesnais, was engaged to establish a professional balance sheet, which was sent out to all members and of which a copy is in your folder. The 1968 budget which was discussed in some detail at the Brussels meeting was reorganized under the guidance of the Secretary-General and the Treasurer. All members were promptly sent receipts for payment of their yearly fee.

The Secretariat received visits during the year, apart from the persons already mentioned, from Mr. Frazer Smith of the International Federation of Film Societies and from the Indian film maker, Mr. Dharap, who is to be present at this Congress.

## THE LEGAL CASES

On returning to Paris following the Sofia Congress and in line with the instructions of the Executive Committee, the Executive Secretary took practical measures to prepare the office and the FIAF files for safe-keeping in view of the decision of the Minister of the Interior. Mr. Painlevé was requested to postpone the decision to have the office vacated.

The Executive Secretary contacted Me. Boré and provided him with the documentation necessary for the introduction of the recours gracieux.

In agreement with the President and the Secretary-General, the Executive Secretary arranged the visit of Vice-President Ernest Lindgren to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and established the documents for his interview.

In connection with the summons from the George Eastman House contact was maintained with Me. Faure and documents furnished for the pursual of this part of the case.

In collaboration with the Secretary-General, Mr. John Maddison was provided background and documents for his intersession on behalf of FIAF at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in September 1966.

At the request of the President the meeting between him and a high official of the government in late November was arranged and carried through. Contacts with Me. Boré were maintained and documents provided for the introduction at the end of December 1966 of the appeal before the Tribunal Administratif.

Full information and all documents in connection with the legal situation of the FIAF have been sent in every case to the Secretary-General as well as to President Toeplitz in the USA.

Finally, following the instructions of the Brussels Executive Committee Meeting, the Executive Secretary arranged to have the young typist help with the work in the past weeks as little as possible and of the premises of the Federation.

The Executive Secretary, in spite of the defects in her work, feels that some progress was made in improving the overall activities of the Secretariat and is happy to have contributed to the growing success of this interesting organization, the International Federation of Film Archives.