

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FILM ARCHIVES

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Paris, February 27-28, 1966

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SUMMARY AND DECISIONS

PRESENT - Honorary Member : Mr. LAURITZEN

Members : Messrs. DE VAAL  
LEDOUX  
LINDGREN  
MONTY  
POGACIC  
STOJANOV-BIGOR  
TOEPLITZ  
VOLKMANN

EXCUSED - President-Founder Mrs. BARRY  
Honorary Vice President Mr. BRUSENDORFF

Members : Dr. FIORAVANTI  
Messrs. PRIVATO  
SVOBODA

Deputy Member : FRIDA

Deputy Member Mr. Max Lippmann deceased Jan.26, 1966.

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A G E N D A :

- 1) Approval of the minutes of the preceding meeting
- 2) Report of the President
- 3) Report of the Secretary-General: Membership situation
- 4) Situation following death of Mr. Max Lippmann
- 5) Report of the Treasurer

- 6) Report of the Executive Secretary
- 7) Relations with other international organizations
- 8) Statutory Modifications
  - a) Propositions for modification of voting powers
  - b) Requirements for provisional members
  - c) Requirements for provisional members becoming full members
  - d) New category of corresponding members
- 9) Reports on activities concerning projects undertaken for or in conjunction with the Federation
  - a) Organigrams of archives (Mr. Ledoux)
  - b) Ideal archive building (Mr. De Vaal)
  - c) Coordination of documentation and research (Mr. Private)
  - d) Technical apparatus (Mr. Volkmann)
  - e) Ascertaining to which "generation" a copy belongs (Mr. Lindgren)
  - f) Supplement to silent feature film catalogue  
Catalogue of sound feature films (Mr. Ledoux)
  - g) Catalogue of American slapstick shorts (Mr. Frida)
  - h) Catalogue of short fiction films (Mr. Volkmann)
  - i) Bibliography of books (Mr. Ledoux)
  - j) Standard catalogue card for fiction films (Mr. Private)
  - k) Filmography of German silent films (German archives)
  - l) Copyright (Mr. Lindgren)
  - m) African project
  - n) Other projects
- 10) Exchange of films between members (Mr. Lindgren)
- 11) The 1966 Congress
- 12) New business

President Toeplitz greeted the members of the Executive Committee, noted that a quorum was attained and formally opened the meeting. At the suggestion of President Toeplitz, the members of the Committee rose and observed a minute of silence in memory of Mr. Max Lippmann, Director of the Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde and deputy member of the Executive Committee, deceased after a brief illness on January 26, 1966.

The Agenda was then read and adopted with the addition of points 4 and 9 n, as mentioned above.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Paris - November 6-7-8, 1965)

After discussion as to the possibility of altering the presentation of the Summary and Decisions so as to make these more readable, the résumé of the preceding meeting was unanimously adopted.

## II. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

### a) The Legal Cases

After a report on the present status of the legal cases following the signing in November of the Transaction by both parties to bring an end to the dispute, the President stressed that the following steps had been taken and progress made since November:

- 1) The Transaction had been signed by the opponents and legally and formally filed
- 2) Me. Boitard had been able to give the date of the withdrawal at the Préfecture de Police of the statutes of the false F.I.A.F. to President Toeplitz
- 3) Mr. Boitard had informed President Toeplitz that the Cautio Judicatum Solvi of F. 5.000 paid by the Federation could be recuperated without difficulty as soon as the two cases have been completely terminated following the carrying out of the terms of the Transaction
- 4) It was assumed that the fact that the Ministry of Interior had not given a reply yet as to the acceptance of the Federation's Statutes implied that such procedures take many months and that it was hoped that approval of the F.I.A.F. would come before the Congress meets.

The President then suggested and it was agreed to by all, that between this Executive Committee meeting and the Congress, the practical steps to be taken and accomplished by the Secretariat and the Executive Secretary should be as follows:

- 1) Ascertain with exactitude at the Préfecture that the statutes of the false F.I.A.F. really no longer exist;
- 2) Recuperate the files, office equipment and funds which were placed under sequestration in 1960, according to the terms of the Transaction;
- 3) Obtain the refund of the F. 5.000 caution as soon as possible after Transaction's terms carried out;

- 4) Try to obtain with the help of Me. Boitard some information as to the time within which the Ministry of the Interior and, afterwards, the Préfecture of Police, could be expected to grant the recognition of the F.I.A.F. Statutes and legal status, so that this information could be reported to the members at the General Meeting.

b) The President made an interesting report on his stay in India and his close contacts there with F.I.A.F. member, the National Film Archive of India. His report stressed the seriousness and good work of this archive, the fact that they possess a growing collection of good films of their own country in the various Indian dialects, that they desire an increase in exchanges with other archives and would like to obtain the Indian films now in member archives which the National Film Archive does not have, and that the National Film Archive is preparing an Indian Retrospective which will probably be ready by autumn 1967. The President spoke of his desire to see the publicity and public relations work of the Indian archive improved, as well as the possibility of having one or two members of the archive present in person at F.I.A.F. Congresses each year.

### III. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL (Mr. Ledoux)

Mr. Ledoux gave a full report on the membership situation in general and on specific cases which would call for consideration prior to or at the 1966 Congress in Sofia. It was agreed that Mr. Ledoux should:

a) Request a very detailed report on organization and activities of their archive from the Cinemateca Venezolana in connection with the request of this archive to become a Full member, and, in particular, full details on their possibilities of preserving films. It was agreed that the 1965 F.I.A.F. catalogue should be withheld until such a report was forthcoming.

b) Arrange with the two Greek archives the possibility of having a commission from the F.I.A.F. visit Athens at the end of May and prior to the holding of the Congress in Sofia, as was agreed in Oslo.

c) Reply to the letter of Mr. Bormanns of the International Scientific Film Association and express the hope that a delegate would attend the Congress in Sofia, in spite of the fact that no formula has yet been found to associate formally this organization and the F.I.A.F.

IV. THE SITUATION FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF MR. MAX LIPPMAN (Mr. Lindgren)

Mr. Lindgren, who represented the F.I.A.F. at the funeral of Executive Committee member Mr. Max Lippmann, late Director of the Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde, gave a full report on the status and situation of this archive. In particular, Mr. Lindgren stressed the efforts of Miss Dorothea Gebauer in trying to maintain the work of the archive and her desire to have the F.I.A.F. assist her and Mr. Lippmann's other collaborators in carrying on with the Deutsches Institut für Filmkunde. It was decided to send letters to the German Federal authorities and to the local authorities stressing the importance of maintaining and supporting the archive. It was also decided to assist Miss Gebauer as much as possible but to stress the need of this archive to develop and, in particular, to remedy the weak part of their work -- the collection and preservation of films.

V. REPORT OF THE TREASURER (Mr. De Vaal)

A report was made on the current financial situation of the Federation including monies in Swiss Bank, Barclay's Bank, Paris, and in cash at Secretariat. Mr. De Vaal presented a list of members whose membership subscriptions are still in arrears. These included for 1965 (5 Full Members - 6 Provisional Members); 1964 (3 Full Members - 3 Provisional Members, of whom two had made part payment) 1963 (3 Full Members) 1962 (1 Full Member). It was again pointed out that most of the members who are owing are the South American countries. Mr. De Vaal agreed to inquire at the Union Bank of Switzerland as to the names of the banks in the countries where the archives are located which are associated with the Swiss bank and to send this information to the members.

The deletion of the Cinemateca Argentina was definitely confirmed by the committee, since, following notification of the decision to delete the archive made at the Oslo Congress, no word had come from this organization.

It was also agreed that Mr. De Vaal should:

- a) write to the Cinemateca Brasileira for proof that their 1964 membership subscription had effectively been paid into a local bank;
- b) write to Cine Arte del S.O.D.R.E. at Montevideo for similar proof;

- c) write to Cinemateca Colombiana at Bogota for a clear explanation of their financial situation before Sofia (preferably in Spanish)
- d) write to Cineteca Italiana urging this archive to bring payments up-to-date by the time of the Sofia congress;
- e) write to Museo del Cinema of Turin linking the request for payments with the question of the votes of member archives at congresses as raised in their letter of June 1965.

VI. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (Mrs. Wheatley)

The Executive Secretary gave a general summing up of the work she had undertaken since coming to the post in October 1965. She mentioned that she now felt that she could undertake the work with hope of doing it competently after having spent some months becoming familiar with the tasks, reorganizing them and bringing them up-to-date. She requested all archives to keep the Secretariat fully informed of their work and of the details of the special F.I.A.F. projects.

VII. RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (Dr. Toeplitz, (Mr. Ledoux)

President Toeplitz gave a full report on the work of the C.I.C.T. as reflected in its Paris Executive Committee Meeting prior to our Executive Committee's meeting, as well as the Rome conference in November 1965. He also mentioned particular interest of the Federation in the question of the free flow of audiovisual materials which would form the topic of the C.I.C.T. Round Table conference in Rome in April 1966. The President asked for and received approval of the Executive Committee to pursue in F.I.A.F.'s name within the C.I.C.T. a policy calling for complete and free circulation of all films.

Mr. Ledoux also spoke of the Round Table Conference sponsored by Unesco and stressed that the conference would try to establish a program, specify the needs and try to coordinate the exchange of films between universities. President Toeplitz was to meet with Mr. Fulchignoni who was to preside the meeting and remind him of the F.I.A.F.'s participation.

Mr. Ledoux agreed to write to explain and outline the F.I.A.F. rules for exchange of films between members in reply to Professor Giuseppe Sala of Rome who had written in the name of the Nazionale Sussidi Audiovisivi inquiring as to this matter.



### VIII. MODIFICATION OF STATUTES

The three projects which had been discussed at the last meeting of the Executive Committee and which all members had studied in their full text prior to the present meeting, were adopted unanimously. These concerned:

- a) modification of voting powers at the General Meetings;
- b) new requirements for provisional members
- c) new requirements for provisional members becoming full members.

d) Mr. Ledoux then presented propositions for the reintroduction of a category of corresponding members. A thorough discussion of all the aspects of this problem was undertaken. The Secretary General will complete the formulation of the final text and the texts of the four propositions will be duly sent to all members before consideration and voting at the Sofia congress.

### IX. REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES CONCERNING PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN FOR OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FEDERATION

- a) Organigrams of archives (Mr. Ledoux)

Mr. Ledoux gave a list of the members archives who had not yet sent their organigrams and the decision was announced that he would publish as many organigrams as he had received by the time of the Congress in Sofia. Mr. Ledoux decided to ask members for an introduction and to write, himself, a preface to the volume containing these organigrams. The Executive Committee expressed their wholehearted thanks to Mr. Ledoux for his work on this project. (100 copies for members only, will be printed.)

- b) Ideal archive building (Mr. De Vaal)

In view of the difficulties (economic, lack of personnel, illness of his assistant) Mr. De Vaal was unable to report that this project would be complete in time for the Sofia congress. He agreed to present at Sofia a report on poster preservation and prepared a draft project and suggestions on Western shorts.

- c) Coordination of documentation and research (Mr. Private)

Despite the absence of Mr. Private, it was noted that all members had received the questionnaire on this project and should be urged to reply in cases where they have not done so.

d) Technical apparatus (Mr. Volkmann)

Mr. Volkmann reported that only four members had replied to his questionnaire and agreed to send a reminder to all members urging a rapid reply. In view of the difficulty in obtaining answers to a full questionnaire, Mr. Volkmann suggested that he would contact each archive asking specifically to be informed as to 1) what apparatus are manufactured in their countries and 2) which, in their opinions, are the apparatus which are the most needed or are the most important ones for an archive to possess.

e) Ascertaining for which "generation" a copy belongs (Mr. Lindgren)

A plan or proposal for this project will be presented at Sofia.

f) Supplement to silent feature film catalogue and Catalogue of sound feature films (Mr. Ledoux)

Mr. Ledoux reported that cards from members bearing the requested information for the catalogues were still arriving in regard to silent films. 250 films not mentioned previously had been found in studying the returns. In respect to the sound films, the results had not been sufficient enough to make a report. Mr. Ledoux would ask members not having answered to do so and would decide what could be made ready for Sofia and in what form.

g) American slapstick shorts (Mr. Frida)

In view of the absence of Mr. Frida, no report was forthcoming on this project.

h) Catalogue of short fiction films (Mr. Volkmann)

Mr. Volkmann would see that a report was made on this project at the congress in Sofia.

i) Bibliography of books (prior to 1914) (Mr. Ledoux)

Mr. Ledoux gave a precise list of the archives which had replied, reported that he awaited still 400 cards and that already 544 new books and 36 periodicals had been mentioned on the cards received. He stressed that all books which may contain articles on cinema, even if the book or periodical was not specifically on cinema, should be included. Mr. Ledoux will decide what can be published for the Sofia congress in view of the problem of slow replies.



j) Standard catalogue cards (Mr. Private)

In the absence of Mr. Private it was decided that President Toeplitz would contact him about the design for a standard catalogue card.

k) Filmography of German silent films (German archives)

Mr. Volkmann was to meet with his colleagues in West Berlin after his return home and have a plan ready for Sofia.

l) Copyright (Mr. Lindgren)

Members had not been contacted in view of the need to clarify this question with legal experts, but a questionnaire had been prepared in English and a French translation was underway. These questionnaires would be sent to all members immediately and Mr. Lindgren agreed to make a provisional report on the copyright question at the Sofia congress.

m) African project (President Toeplitz)

President Toeplitz again expressed his conviction that this project should be continued and had great importance for the future of film preservation, in particular in the African countries. He clearly outlined again the pros and cons of the situation in regard to the project and the difficulties facing its continuation. He suggested the type of action which might be undertaken, in particular, in Paris, by contacting the African representatives based here at Unesco, etc. He proposed that the Executive Secretary undertake the task of continuing in a regular fashion the contacts begun. The Executive Secretary agreed to carry on with the project and to devote a definite time each week to some task whose purpose would be to advance a little farther this long-range, but worth while project.

n) Other projects

- Mr. Lindgren distributed sample copies of the Preservation Manual in its English edition, explained the difficulties and disappointments its publication had caused and was heartily thanked for his work by the President and the committee. (The manual shall be sold to the public for  $\text{Fr. } 0.7.6.d$  each.)

- Mr. Ledoux reported that the French edition of the Manual would be available shortly.

- Mr. Lindgren reported on the equipping of the National Film Archive with a Telex machine. He urged all members, in line with former F.I.A.F. decision, to try to speed up the equipping of their archives with a Telex because of the great efficiency, speed and economy of this means of communication. Mr. Ledoux mentioned that the Cinémathèque Royale de Belgique would be equipped with Telex within a short time.

THE DECISION WAS TAKEN THAT A PLAN OR DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR ALL PROJECTS UNDERWAY BUT NOT COMPLETED SHOULD BE READY AND PRESENTED AT THE CONGRESS IN SOFIA.

#### X. EXCHANGE OF FILMS BETWEEN MEMBERS (Mr. Lindgren)

It was agreed, following the suggestion of Mr. Lindgren, that when films are lent by one archive to another and the borrowing archive then lend the film, some payment should be made to the original lending archive. The modalities of paying and the amount to be paid should be fixed and decided by the archives involved.

#### XI. THE 1966 CONGRESS

Mr. Stojanov-Bigor had prepared a report and circulated same and then reported verbally on the measures already taken and preparations already underway for the holding of the 1966 Congress in Sofia by the Bulgarska Nacionalna Filmoteka.

It was agreed that the Executive Committee should meet in Sofia on Saturday and Sunday May 28th and 29th; that the Congress would be inaugurated on Monday May 30th (with a press conference in the morning of that day and opening session in the afternoon); that the Congress would officially end on Sunday, June 5th. The daily working hours (sessions) should be from 9 to 12 and 3 to 6. Mr. Stojanov-Bigor agreed to send letters to all members and guests immediately after the sending of the invitations to inform them of the practical side of the congress - prices - visas - travel possibilities, etc. President Toeplitz warmly thanked Mr. Stojanov-Bigor in the name of F.I.A.F. for his report and for the work of himself and his collaborators up to the present in preparing for the annual F.I.A.F. Congress and General Meeting.

#### XII. NEW BUSINESS

a) President Toeplitz read a letter from Mr. W.B. Harris, founder of the National Film Archive of New Zealand, now retired, suggesting that the archive should now perhaps consider joining F.I.A.F. The Executive Secretary was to send documentation and reply to the letter.

b) The question of the need to vacate the present premises of the Secretariat and find a new office was again raised. The Executive Secretary was asked to find out immediately rental rates for Paris offices as a basis for further study of this urgent problem.

c) A letter from Mr. Jean Painlevé proposing a film "Methusalem" to the Federation members was read and would be replied to by President Toeplitz after further information was obtained by the Executive Secretary.

d) It was agreed that future Executive Committee meetings would cover 2 days instead of 3 and start preferably and when possible on Saturday.

President Toeplitz then declared the meeting closed.