

REPORT

IFLA ROUND TABLE OF EDITORS OF LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION JOURNALS

It may be recalled that the Unesco organised a symposium of editors of documentation, library science and archives journals, in May 1972, with the objective of bringing together the editors of the main journals in the field to enable them to discuss ways and means of reaching closer co-operation and co-ordination (reported in the Annals, Vol 19 no 3 Sept 1972, 160-61). A number of important recommendations were adopted at this Symposium held in Paris.

Since then, the recommendations and the line of action proposed are being discussed at various levels. The IFLA has taken great interest in the matter and has been supporting the editors to pursue the Paris recommendations further to bring in a better bibliographical control of library and documentation literature and effect other improvement. At the 1973 Annual Council meeting of IFLA held at Grenoble a useful meeting of editors of journals was held which is being referred to as the Round Table.

The Round Table warmly supported the resolutions of the Unesco Symposium, particularly with regard to the encouragement of the establishment of indexing or abstracting services where these do not exist and the provision of summary translation of major articles in lesser known languages. There was also some discussion on the problem of journals in developing countries and journals with limited circulation. It was agreed that a clearing house should be set up at Loughborough University of Technology so that contacts of editors could be facilitated and, for instance, editors of journals in developing countries be put in touch with editors of well established journals, so that permission for reprinting could be obtained and additional sources of articles be explored. It was hoped that editors in countries with well developed library systems would be prepared to help those who needed assistance and it was agreed that journals published in lesser known languages should be recommended to publish abstracts of major articles in more widely used languages. The Round Table agreed to recommend to the IFLA Executive Board that an annual meeting of editors of journals should take place within the frame-work of IFLA. The Grenoble meeting was chaired by Professor P Havard-Williams of the Loughborough University of Technology

A report by B. Guha

As desired the next meeting of the editors was held along with the IFLA 40th General Council meeting at Washington on 18 November 1974. It was disclosed at this meeting that the IFLA Clearing House at Loughborough had received only a few requests for articles. Some established library journals had been approached to make available suitable material. The response had been positive in principle, but very little concrete assistance had transpired. A much more active policy should be established to activate the Clearing House idea.

It was also stressed that colleagues in developing countries should state their needs in very clear terms so that journals having manuscripts which they were not going to use themselves could pass them on. The Clearing House would like to receive copies of journals so as to obtain a clear picture of the type of information and articles they needed. The Chairman (Professor Havard-Williams) said that a newsletter appearing twice a year and listing materials wanted and available (stating their length) would be helpful. Such a newsletter should help the editors of established journals to find out what kind of needs existed in developing countries in this respect.

The following committee, proposed by the Chairman, was approved:

D. Borchardt (Australia)
B. Guha (India)
P. Lewis (U.K.)
Miss M. A. Rantalin (Finland)
Mrs P. Soltani (Iran)
P. Havard-Williams (U.K.)

In the meantime the work of the Clearing House has progressed to a certain extent and we are pleased to put out the following notice for the benefit of editors of library and documentation journals in India and the neighbouring countries.

Under the auspices of the IFLA Round Table of Editors of Journals, the Department of Library and Information Studies has set up a Clearing House for editorial material particularly to assist editors of journals in developing countries. The Clearing House aims to put editors needing material in touch with those who have a surplus of material or who are prepared to allow reprinting. Editors who are in need of material should write to:

IFLA Journal Clearing House,
Department of Library and Information Studies,
Loughborough University of Technology,
LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire. LE11 3TU.
U. K.

The Clearing House will endeavour to find editors of appropriate material and either communicate it via the Clearing House or arrange direct communication between those who need it and those who have it. Not only is it foreseen that material will be produced in journals in developing countries from those of industrialised countries, but also that articles in one developing country will be of interest in another and may be reprinted or reproduced.

Membership of the Clearing House is free but journals wishing to avail themselves of the services will be required to send one copy of each of their publications to the Clearing House at the above address.

It is proposed to issue a current contents list based on issues received in order to make the material more widely known. Material wanted and available will be listed periodically.

Attention is drawn to information required for the World List of Documentation, Library and Archives Journals which currently is being revised: if your journal has not done so, it is asked to write with the appropriate details to the Secretary General, FID, 7 Hofweg, The Hague, Netherlands.

Statement about

"ANNALS OF LIBRARY SCIENCE AND DOCUMENTATION"

under Rule 8 of the Registration of Newspapers (Central) Rules 1956

1	Place of Publication	Insdoc, Hillside Road, Delhi 12
2	Periodicity of its publication	Quarterly
3	Printer's Name Nationality Address	V. Ramachandran Indian Insdoc, Hillside Road, Delhi 12
4	Publisher's Name Nationality Address	V. Ramachandran Indian Insdoc, Hillside Road, Delhi 12
5	Editor's Name Nationality Address	B. Guha Indian Insdoc, Hillside Road, Delhi 12
6	Names and addresses of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or shareholders holding more than one per cent of the total capital.	Insdoc, Hillside Road, Delhi 12 (an organisation of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research New Delhi)

I, V. Ramachandran, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sd. V. Ramachandran

Dated 21.2.75

Signature of Publisher