

NEWSPAPERS IN THE SHANGHAI LIBRARY



*The Shanghai Library
(photo printed with
permission from Huizu Wu)*

The Shanghai Library is the largest public library in China and is also one of the ten largest libraries in the world. The library consists of a main building and a support building. The main building has two towers and an annex. The two towers are 11 stories or 55.6 meters and 24 stories or 106 meters high. The library boasts a collection of 13.2 million volumes of books. The Bibliotheca Zi-Ka-Wei, as part of the Shanghai Library, is a renewed old library and it houses a treasure of the largest foreign-language collections in China. Through deliberate design and careful construction, the Bibliotheca Zi-Ka-Wei has been renovated as part of principle of "renewing the building as it was" which is required by the Shanghai Government. The building will reopen to the public on July 22, 2003 to celebrate the 51st birthday of the Shanghai Library.

Shanghai Library's Newspaper Collection

Shanghai Library's collection of newspapers has been largely built through the action of legal deposit. Currently about 1,100 Chinese newspapers are received and this represents over 95% of current acquisitions. This number includes the mainland of China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan newspapers and free newspapers, with the exception of those consisting entirely of advertising.

Major overseas newspapers are collected in English, French and Japanese languages and include the *New York Times* and *The Times* London, England. There are over 70 titles in this category.

Treasures of the Newspaper Collection

In the Shanghai Library, the most valuable collection of newspapers is the collection of old newspapers. As Shanghai was the largest economic centre in old China, a large number of newspapers were published here. The Shanghai Library has the oldest newspaper in Shanghai and in China. The most famous newspaper is *Shun Pao* published in Chinese. This paper was created in 1872 and was published for 77 years. The library has the entire run, a total of 25,600 issues, of *Shun Pao*. Another famous newspaper in the Shanghai Library is the English-language *North China Daily News*. It was created August 1850 and was the first newspaper published in Shang-

hai. In China, it was the most powerful newspaper in a foreign language and it was considered to be *The Times* of China.

Microfilm Collections

Newspapers are of great interest to a wide variety of Shanghai Library users. They are an indispensable record of all kinds of information on the day-to-day life in a country or on world-wide historical, economic and cultural facts or events. However, a newspaper is also a self-destructing item as it is printed with low-quality ink on poor-quality paper and it is generally quite large. It may crumble away in twenty or thirty years, or even less.

Authorities at the Shanghai Library have paid attention to the field of newspaper preservation. Over 500 old newspapers have been microfilmed. The total number of microfilm are now over 6,000 reels. The oldest Chinese newspaper, *Shanghai Hsin Pao*, which published from 1862 to 1872 is one of the newspapers filmed.

Bibliographic Access to Shanghai Newspapers

The database is the most important resource of the Shanghai Library. Newspapers and periodicals are available on the primary database, the *Index to Chinese Serials* whose editorial department is a separate department of the Shanghai Library. This database covers more than 8,000 periodicals published in Chi-

na, including Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. It contains almost all of the periodicals in the fields of philosophy, the social sciences, the natural sciences, engineering and technology. There are more than 5.6 million records accumulated in the Database with titles dating back to 1857.

It is one of the largest databases in China. Each record contains the following items: sequence number, classification number, title, author, serial title, date of publication, named person in title and subject words, etc. It can be linked to the Content database offering a basic description of the serials in the Content database. The "holding" field can provide information about the holdings in the



*(photo printed with permission
from Huizu Wu)*

Shanghai Library or other related libraries

Digital Resources

Digital resources have grown rapidly in recent years at the Shanghai Library. Last year, *Xinmin Evening News* and *Wen Hui Daily* DVD-ROMs were collected. These DVD-ROMs were donated by Wen Hui Ximin United Press

Group. *Xinmin Evening News* is one of the early newspapers in China and has had the longest history. It started publication on September 1929 in Nanjing. The DVD-ROM of *Xinmin Evening News* incor-

porates all of the graph and text data since the publication of *Xinmin Evening News*.

132,000 pages, with over 510 million words and over 270,000 pictures in total have

been incorporated. *Wen Hui Daily* DVD-ROM contains 108,000 newspaper layouts, more than three quarters of a billion Chinese words and 230,000 pictures. The DVD-ROM gives the detailed index

to the external characteristics of the articles. You can search what you need by using the date, issue number, headline, column, writer and special issue or column etc.

CENTRE FOR NEWSPAPERS AND NEWS IN CANADA

M. J. Starr, October 2003

A National consultation

In October 2002, Library and Archives Canada¹ convened a national consultation to examine the issue of Canadian newspapers online. Organized in conjunction with the Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries, the Canadian Newspaper Association, and the Association of Canadian Studies, the consultation drew together experts in the fields of newspaper publishing, micro-graphics, preservation, digitization, information dissemination, librarianship, archival science, and scholarly and genealogical research.

Over the course of two days, participants examined a range of questions concerning current and retrospective online newspapers: who's creating them; who's using them; what is being included; what is being preserved; what standards, if any, are being em-

ployed; what are newspaper publishers doing; what is the role of aggregators; and what role do national institutions play?

By the conclusion of the consultation, consensus emerged on a range of issues, including the need for a national digital strategy with a goal of comprehensive historical coverage built on private-public partnership with an agreed-upon set of standards and best practices. The comprehensive retrospective collection would be complemented by a comprehensive current collection, to be achieved through compulsory legal deposit. It was further agreed that a business case for the digitization of Canadian newspapers should be prepared and submitted to government funding sources.²

A Centre for Newspapers and News in Canada

In summer 2003, Library and Archives Canada (LAC) announced the creation of the Centre for Newspapers and News in Canada, in direct response to the consultation report that called for LAC to exercise leadership in ensuring long-term access to Canadian newspapers online.

(1) The Minister of Canadian Heritage announced the creation of Library and Archives Canada by bringing together the National Library of Canada and the National Archives of Canada on October 2nd, 2002. The legislation to create the new institution is at second reading in the Senate at the time of writing.

The consultation took place in Ottawa at the Library and Archives Canada. The International Coalition of Newspapers held a meeting the following day to which members of the IFLA RT were in attendance, including Sandra Burrows, Ed King, and Mark Sweeney.

(2) The report of the consultation is available in English and in French on the Library's Website.

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/8/3/r3-650-e.html> ;

<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/8/3/r3-650-f.html>

In creating the Centre, LAC recognized that its collection of news material is greater than the newspapers it holds. There is news material in a variety of formats, including published and broadcast media, and unpublished, unedited and archival materials. Within the collection there are newspapers, news photographs, editorial cartoons and caricature, television and radio news and public affairs programs, newsreels, news magazines, Internet broadcast, and archival collections of journalists, editors, caricaturists and publishers.



From Special Editions of
Canadian Newspapers
<http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/newspapers/h14-751-e.html>

Electronic News Media

LAC has also moved on another outcome of the national consultation, namely the call for compulsory legal deposit of digital newspapers. The legal deposit clause and its accompanying regulations shall require newspaper publishers to deposit a copy of their e-newspapers with LAC.

Although not formally addressed at the consultation, web sites of news media will also be affected by the new LAC legislation. LAC will be permitted to sample the Web for .ca domain sites. Using this approach, the Web site of a daily newspaper or a radio station can be gathered on a particular day. Sampling of Web sites and compulsory legal deposit are two new approaches towards comprehensive coverage of Canadian news media online.

Print Newspapers

LAC's concerns encompass not only our digital news heritage but also our print newspapers and newsmagazines. The policy of the founding institutions (National Archives and National Library) was to preserve newspapers in original print format even when microfilm copies were received. Sadly, however, the print collection has been stored in a woefully inadequate warehouse and the collection has deteriorated as a result. Now plans are being finalized for an interim storage facility with much improved environmental control. In preparation for the move of the print newspaper collection LAC is cleaning and boxing the bound volumes. This work is beginning in 2003 but will take several years to complete.

Access as the Primary Driver

The preamble to the legislation creating the Library and

Archives of Canada indicates that it is necessary that “the documentary heritage of Canada be preserved for the benefit of present and future generations” and that “Canada be served by an institution that is a source of enduring knowledge accessible to all.” Access is the primary driver of the new institution and the Centre for Newspapers and News in Canada is being designed to offer easy access to a complete array of Canadian news media from the first print newspaper in 1752 to the latest national news broadcast.



From Living Memory
http://www.archives.ca/05/0509_e.html

Canada’s news media have been a consistent observer of life in Canada: an eyewitness to our growth and development as a society; an enduring and accessible form of

memory; and a key to reflecting and projecting our collective identity. As such, the news media in the collection of the Library and Archives Canada function as an interpretive and contextual filter to navigate the documentary heritage of Canada. Through the Centre, Canadians and those interested in Canada will have a cohesive, comprehensive, integrated and logical access to the collection of news media.

A VISION FOR THE CENTRE

Library and Archives Canada enhances public access to the content of Canadian news media and public understanding of their impact and influence on Canadian life through a centre for newspapers and news in Canada. The Centre makes the content of the national collection of news media easily accessible to all Canadians.

69TH IFLA CONFERENCE BERLIN 2003



Photo of attendees at the 69th IFLA Conference Berlin, Satellite Session, Newspapers of Central and Eastern Europe, taken at the entrance to the Westhafen premises of the Staatsbibliothek on the 10 August. (Courtesy of Barbara Sigrist and Hartmut Walvravens)

The theme of the Satellite Session was: **Newspapers of Central and Eastern Europe** August 9-11, 2003

General Introduction: **Dr. Volker Schulze**, (Bundesverband Deutscher Zeitungsverleger/Federal Association of German Newspaper Proprietors): *Zeitungsstandort Deutschland (The position of newspapers in Germany today)*

Dr. Gottfried Kratz, (Moskauer Staatsuniversität für Kultur und Künste MGUKI/Moscow State University of Culture and Arts MGUKI): *Die Moskauer deutsche Zei-*

tung. 1870-1914 (The Moskauer deutsche Zeitung. 1870-1914).

Theme I. Keynote Address: *Newspaper Acquisitions Policies.* **Edmund King** (Head, Newspaper Collections, The British Library, London)
Speakers:

Dr. Christine Thomas (Head, Slavonic and East European Collections, The British Library, London): *The alternative Russian Press, 1987-2000: a British Library Collection*

Dr. Galina Mikheeva (Rossiiskaya Nazionalnaya Biblioteka/The National Library of Russia, St. Petersburg): *Nesovetskiye gazety (1918-1922). Sobraniye Rossiyskoy Nazionalnoy Biblioteki (Non Soviet newspapers (1918-1922). Collection of the Russian National Library* **Tatiana Afanasjeva** (Head, Acquisition Department, Ros-

siiskaya Gosudarstvennaya Biblioteka/The Russian State Library, Moscow): *New Concepts in Collection Development of Newspapers in Russia*

Theme II. Keynote Address: Copyright issues for newspaper Collection Management: **Director of EBLIDA (in-quired)**

Theme III. Keynote Address: Preservation and Digital Archiving: **Helen Shenton** Keynote Address: *Elektronische Archive in Bibliotheken und Archiven nach der EU-Richtlinie und dem revidierten deutschen Urheberrecht (Electronic archives in libraries and archives according to EU directive and the revised German copyright):* **Dr. Gabriele Beger**, (Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin/Berlin Public Library)

Speakers: **Dr. Anette Gerlach**, (Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin/ZLB (Berlin Public Library): *Zeitungen in der ZLB – Sammlung und Bestandserhaltung (Newspapers in the ZLB – collection and preservation)*

Dr. Joachim Zeller, (Staats-

bibliothek zu Berlin/Berlin State Library): *Von der Czernowitzer Allgemeinen bis zu Rigaer Zeitung – kooperative Bestandserhaltung deutschsprachiger Zeitungen Osteuropas (From Czernowitzer Allgemeine to Rigaer Zeitung – cooperative preservation of German language newspapers from Eastern Europe.)*

Theme IV. Keynote Address: Digitisation Projects and Electronic Newspapers. **Majlis Bremer-Laamanen** **Speakers:**

Ms. Krista Kiisa, (Project Manager, Information Systems Department, National Library of Estonia): *Digitising Estonian Newspapers from the 19th and 20th century. Problems and solutions.*

Christa Müller, (Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, Stabstelle für Digitalisierung /Austrian National Library, Administrative Department of Digitalisation): *ANNO – Austrian Newspapers Online. A digitisation initiative of the Austrian National Library.*

Alexander Kashtanyer, (National Library of Russia): *Electronic catalogues of Russian newspapers in NLR.*

MEMBERSHIP LIST JUNE, 2003

Chair

Dr Hartmut Walravens
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Canada Canadian Library Association. Don Butcher, Executive Director

Canada Library and Archives Canada. Pierrette Webster, Executive Administrative Assistant

China Shanghai Library. Wu Jianming, Head of International Cooperation Division

Denmark Statsbiblioteket. Niels Mark, Director

France Association des Bibliothécaires Français. Jean-François Jacques, Secretary General

Germany Staats-und Universitätsbibliothek Bremen. Annette Rath-Beckmann

Great Britain Cilip – the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals.

Great Britain National Library of Wales. Andrew Green, Librarian

Great Britain The British Library, Lynne Brindley

Great Britain Geoffrey Hamilton

Italy Associazione Italiana Biblioteche. Andrea Paoli, Secretary

Japan Japan Library Association. Katsura Yokoyama, Secretary General

Netherlands BOKHAUS Page
Norway Nasjonalbiblioteket / National Library of Norway.

Elisabeth S. Christensen, Higher Executive Officer

South Africa National Library of South Africa (NLSA). Andrew Malotle

Spain Biblioteca Nacional. Carmen Caro

Sweden Svensk Biblioteksförning / Swedish Library Association. Christina Stenberg, Secretary

Sweden Kungliga Biblioteket / The Royal Library. Catharina Melldahl

United States American Library Association. Keith Fiels, Executive Director

United States OCLC Library and Information Center. Larry Olszewski

Next Business Meeting.

RTN Members accepted an invitation from Huizu Wu to hold the Spring 2004 RTN Bu-

ness Meeting in Shanghai. The provisional date agreed is for March 2004.

Current Attending Members

Ed King, England
Elena Garcia-Puente Lillo (Spain)
Else Delaunay, France
Elza Erdeliji, Croatia
Hartmut Walravens, Germany
Jonny Edvardsen, Norway
Majlis Bremer-Laamanen, Finland

Sandra Burrows, (Editor) Canada
Geoffrey Hamilton, Scotland
Huizu Wu, China
Beti Jones, Wales
Lars Olsson, Sweden
Isabelle Rollet, France
Henry Snyder, USA
Sharon Clark, USA

REPORT OF THE 16TH BUSINESS MEETING

(1st Business Meeting, Newspaper Section, IFLA) held at the Hotel Seurahuone, Saronlinna and at the Helsinki University Library, Centre for Conservation, Mikkeli, Finland on 4th and 5th June 2002.

Prior to the meeting, attendees had a fascinating tour of the Centre for Conservation in Mikkeli, courtesy of Majlis Bremer-Laamanen and her staff, where we saw the complete processing of newspapers from arrival of the print versions to the final digitisation stages and had the opportunity to discuss with staff each stage of the process. RTN members thanked Majlis Bremer-Laamanen for organising the Business meeting in Finland.

Translations for the *Guidelines for newspaper preservation microfilming* will be done in Spanish, Russian, Slovakian, German and possibly Chinese. The Cornell University Conservation Department will provide information on newspaper microfilming activities in Asian countries. Majlis Bremer-Laamanen tabled an amended copy of *Microfilming for Digitisation and OCR. RTN 2002/2 a Supplement to the Guidelines for newspaper preservation microfilming* and it was agreed to convene a separate meeting of technical experts to discuss the amended paper at IFLA in Glasgow in 2002 and to attach examples and references and a small glossary to the paper.

The IFLA *Guidelines for Newspaper Cataloguing* are now mounted in IFLANET and work on a revised version will be considered. All members are to send comments to Edmund King. He will then draft a resolution for (national) agencies and bodies that deal with cataloguing standards to ensure that the separate needs of newspaper

collections and their bibliographic control are noted.

In 2003, the new RTN Strategic Plan will be needed for 2004-2006. This will be translated into Spanish in time for IFLA, Buenos Aires.

Hartmut Walravens reported that the final paper for the project, *Topography of newspaper collections in Germany* will be distributed in July 2002. This will be mounted on IFLANET in German and in English. The web address of the report will be circulated to RTN members. IFLA HQ will be informed of the Project results. The final



*Tour of the Helsinki University Library, Rare Books Room
(Photo by Sandra Burrows;
scanned by Sandy Rogan LAC)*

questionnaire for German libraries, archives and newspaper publishers, of not more than on A4 sheet, will be devised. Edmund King is to supply the web address of the existing RTN survey form on the IFLANET.

RTN members reported the current national situation on electronic newspapers. It was agreed to summarise the problems of electronic newspapers and to write a draft suggesting how (national) libraries can move forward on the matter of including newspapers in their web collecting policies. We discussed four new pro-

jects: the translation into French and Spanish of *Microfilming for Digitisation and OCR. RTN 2002/2 a Supplement to the Guidelines for newspaper preservation microfilming*; the writing of the *Basic newspapers management handbook*; an introduction in brief to the *Guidelines on Cataloguing Newspapers* and statistics collection of national newspaper production from national statistical offices. The first two projects will be proposed to the IFLA

Co-ordinating Board in August 2002.

The RTN will become the new IFLA Section on Newspapers. The Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, Hartmut Walravens and Edmund King respectively will alert existing members of the new section, place a new insert into the existing RTN Brochure, announcing the change, and circulate this to IFLA Glasgow delegates in August 2002; put a circular on the IFLANET;

contact the UK CILIP (formerly the Library Association) regarding the change of status and the way forward for the Section on Newspapers in alerting other national library associations of the change; and prepare immediately a statement for the Conference of Directors of National Libraries.

Hartmut Walravens circulated copies of selected pages of Volume I of the *Catalogue of Turkish newspapers, 1828-*

1928. This full listing of newspapers was very well published, and RTN members were urged to check to see if their libraries would purchase a copy. (Title: *Baslangıcından harf devrimine kadar Osmanlı-Türk süreli yayınlar ve gazeteler bibliyografyası ve toplu kataloğu, 1828-1928 / A bibliography and union catalogue of Ottoman-Turkish serials and newspapers from the beginning to the introduction of the modern Turkish alphabet, 1828-1928.*

REPORT OF THE 17TH BUSINESS MEETING

(2nd Business Meeting, Newspaper Section, IFLA) held at the Cape Milner Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa, 17th March 2003

Hartmut Walravens (Chair) welcomed our guest observers from South Africa, Dr. Peter Lor (National Librarian, National Library of South Africa), Douwe Drijfhout (National Library of South Africa), Coleen Goldsworthy (Digital Imaging SA), Pat Liebtrau (Digital Imaging SA), Johan Loubster (National Library of Namibia), Andrew Malotle (National Library of SA), Mathsepo Mohlaoli (Bloemfontein Pub-

and introduced the themes which will be the setting of standards of operation, a workshop for the managers of digital projects, the securing of digitisation implementation experience and an impartial overview of digital methods and experience within a national library and collaborative context.

IFLA Guidelines on Cataloguing Newspapers and its link to the development of a *Newspaper Management Handbook*: Edmund King will discuss the *Newspaper Management Handbook* with Geoffrey Hamilton to see if it is possible to secure student assistance in working on this within the context of a library school project.

The position of editor of the *Newsletter* will be assumed by Sandra Burrows, Newspaper Specialist, National Library of Canada. Members thanked Beti Jones (National Library of Wales) who has edited the *Newsletter* for the past ten years and will be retiring this autumn.

Edmund King requested past IFLA conference papers on newspapers to be collected

with a view to their publication as a book. A preliminary title is "The world of Newspapers in International Librarianship".

Else Delaunay tabled the full results of the JIPCA Survey on the presentation of newspapers and periodicals in Africa undertaken in 2001-2002. A shorter survey form would be prepared for sending to libraries in Africa, for newspapers only.

On March 18th IFLA Newspaper Section attendees were invited to present their country reports at the SA Newspaper Seminar *Opportunities for Newspaper Preservation and Access in South Africa*. Papers were given by the following members:

Canada (Sandra Burrows), France (Isabelle Rollet), Sweden (Lars Olsson), U.S. Newspaper Program (report by Mark Sweeney presented by Edmund King), UK Newspaper (Beti Jones), TIDEN digitisation project (Majlis Bremer-Laamanen).

Papers were presented as follows as part of the South African seminar: *Managing collections of Newspaper Clip-*

pings (Leslie Hart, University of Cape Town), *Digitising of Newspapers: the South African Experience* (Dale Peters, Pat Liebtrau, Colleen Goldsworthy, (Digital Imaging Project of South Africa)), *Preserving Newspapers in Namibia* (Johan Loubser, National Library of Namibia), *Indexing African News* (Peter Coates, National Library of South Africa), *Creating a Portal of Digital Journals in Southern Africa* (Pierre Malan, Sabinet), *Newspapers as a Source of Information* (Niel Hendriksz, JS Gericke Library, Stellenbosch University), *Newspapers and Copyright* (Denise Nicholson, University of the Witwatersrand, Library), *Microfilming of Newspapers in South Africa* (David Farrant, Microfile), *CAMP (Cooperative Africana Microform Project) and African Newspaper Microfilm Preservation and Digitisation* (Peter Limb, Africana Bibliographer and Adjunct Assistant Professor, History Department, Michigan State University).

Visits and hosts on March 19th to:

- National Library of South Africa, Cape Town (Lianda Martin)



Mary Minika, Parliamentary Library Conservation Lab showing conservation boxes (Photo by Sandra Burrows; scanned by Sandy Rogan, LAC)

lic Library), Alexio Motsi (National Archives of SA), Denise Nicholson (University of the Witwatersrand, Library), Dale Peters (Digital Imaging SA) and D. Maake (National Archives, SA).

Majlis Bremer-Laamanen distributed the brochures for *Hands on the Digital Chain*

- Parliament Conservation Centre (Mary Minicka)
- NSLA Conservation Lab (Oswald Cupido)
- NSLA newspaper collection store (Peter Coates)

- MGX/Metrofile Bureaux (Aziz Abbas)
- Stellenbosch University Conservation Lab (Henri Wirth)
- JS Gericke Library (Niel Hendriksz)

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Theme: Newspaper and Copyright Developments: Future Access and Preservation

The following abstracts are from the four papers as follows:

Newspaper Copyright Developments: A EU and UK Perspective by **Charles Oppenheim**, Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK

This paper examines how copyright has an impact on a newspaper librarian attempting to preserve copies of newspapers by copying, and attempting to provide ready access to newspapers for patrons. The perspective is from UK law, with recent development in EU law being highlighted. It is concluded that the law provides only limited help to newspaper librarians, and restricts their ability to make digital copies of newspapers. Recent EU Directives are unlikely to significantly change the situation, which is

a microcosm of problems all librarians face when trying to preserve and allow access to cultural materials to their patrons.

What has copyright got to do with newspapers? – A South African Perspective by **Denise Rosemary Nicholson**, Copyright Services Librarian, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

This paper gives a brief overview of the current copyright legislation of South Africa and its international and regional commitments with regard to copyright. It also focuses on the practical implications and complications that copyright creates for newspapers, libraries and archives depots, as well as for newspaper clipping services and preservation projects.

Both papers are available on pdf format at the IFLA site: <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla69/prog03.htm>

JICPA SURVEY ON THE SAFEGUARD OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS IN AFRICA

Update by Else Delaunay, November 2003

Last June, the IFLA Section on Newspapers together with IFLA PAC took up again the *JICPA survey on the safeguard of newspapers and periodicals in Africa* which was conducted by IFLA PAC in 2001. The Section has limited the new Survey to newspapers only, published in Africa (retrospective holdings as well as current files). The newspaper is by definition an ephemeral item which is normally printed on poor over-size paper with poor ink, whose preservation is precarious. In most cases holdings need restoration and/or transfer to another medium. In this regard the Section wants to locate and know about newspaper holdings kept in Africa in national or university libraries as well as in national archives.

In July, a simplified Query form : a single sheet in English and French was mailed

electronically or by fax to the person involved in each institution (more than a hundred letters). The Query is also mounted on IFLANET and has been announced in *International Preservation News* and in the Section's *Newsletter*, so as to reach a large number of professionals concerned with newspapers. To date the Newspaper Section has received almost 10 replies. The deadline for replies is **31 December, 2003**, and a reminder will be circulated during the next two weeks.

Thanks to precise replies the IFLA Section on Newspapers should be able to list holdings, possible gaps, equipment needs, microfilm and/or digitisation needs, in order to work out priority actions and funding requirements. It is therefore important that African colleagues involved should provide as complete replies as possible.

HANDS ON THE DIGITAL CHAIN

June 2-6, 2003, Mikkeli, Finland, Helsinki University Library, Centre for Preservation and Digitisation, IFLA Newspaper Section, Report by Mark Sweeney

“The choices we make in digitization and preservation now will have a significant impact on the future. Do we only emphasize access? How do we enable access and preserve our originals in a qualitative and productive way? What will actually be left of our cultural heritage in the next millennium?” – Majken Bremer-Laamanen, Head of the Centre for Preservation and Digitisation, June 2003.

Answers to these and other related questions is what motivated eight librarians and archivists from six institutions on three different continents to travel to Helsinki University Library's Centre for Preservation and Digitisation (Mikkeli, Finland) in June 2003 to attend an IFLA Newspaper Section sponsored weeklong workshop on the challenges of newspaper preservation and digitization.

The overriding philosophy of the workshop was that microfilm and digitization are not mutually exclusive but rather complimentary technologies that can be effectively combined. Working from a proven hybrid microfilm/digital model, Centre staff provided participants with lectures and practical exercises designed to build their understanding of the equipment, processes and

skills needed to successfully produce high quality microfilm that can be transformed into fully searchable digital text files.

In his opening day remarks Hartmut Walravens, Chairman, IFLA Newspaper Section, described how the Center's leadership and past accomplishments in newspaper preservation and digitization made it a natural to organize a

workshop. He noted their work in drafting the recent IFLA publication "Microfilming for Digitisation and Optical Character Recognition" (IFLA 2002), and their highly successful contributions to the Nordic Digital Newspaper Library (TIDEN) as examples of relevant workshop related accomplishments. The focuses of both are closely related to long-term newspaper preservation and electronic access.

Guided by a strong belief that microfilm produced to international standards can serve as a safety platform for long-term preservation and for future digitization, Centre staff provided workshop participants with a series of informative theoretical lectures and well crafted "hands on" exercises that clearly detailed the process "links" necessary to form a solid process chain for preservation and digital access. Central to this process is the development of an automated workflow management database capable of re-

coding all metadata necessary to effectively, select, prepare, image, evaluate, and store collections. Under Laboratory Manager Maria Sorjonen's careful guidance participants actually prepared, microfilmed, scanned and post processed a sample newspaper file into searchable OCR text. This experience reinforced what was learned in the more formal presentations.



Participants: Mark Sweeney, Pär Nilsson, Dr. Hartmut Walravens, Marko Tenkanen, Kaj Kristoffersen, Majlis Bremer-Laamanen, Maria Sorjonen, Anja C. Karlsen, Sandy Ryan, Hanna Arpiainen, Karl-Magnus Drake, Johan Loubser (Photo courtesy of Matti Reinola, Digitisation Department, Helsinki University, Centre for Preservation and Digitisation)

Senior Systems Analyst Marko Tenkanen stressed how rapid advancements in technology affected their digital workflow and capabilities. As a result of this almost constant change a key to successful digitization projects is the ability of managers to keep abreast of changes in technology and know when and how to apply new solutions to old problems. Again, "hands on" exercises in digital imaging,

page segmentation, and OCR text conversion provided practical understandings of the digital process.

Participants responded well to the workshops combination of lectures and "hands on" experiences. Many shared Sandy Ryan's (British Library) observation that the exercises were essential to developing an appreciation of the fundamental workflow management of the whole

process. The exercises spurred many exchanges of interests and experiences. Karl-Magnus Drake (National Archives of Sweden) presented his own findings on the costs of digitization processes and the need to develop automated workflows. Mark Sweeney (Library of Congress) detailed his experience recently in digitizing the World War I *Stars and Stripes* newspaper from pre-standard film.

Besides the professional programs, the participants greatly enjoyed the Finnish cultural events and hospitality provided by the Center's staff. They certainly proved the adage that "if its worth doing, its worth doing well!" Our heartfelt thanks to Majken Bremer-Laamanen and her staff for organizing a professionally rewarding workshop that accomplished the goal of informing participants of what it takes to reformat newspapers for both long-term preservation and digital access.

ICON (INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION ON NEWSPAPERS)

From two reports by James Simon, Director of International Resources, and Missy Roser, ICON Project Coordinator, March 11, 2003 and July 23, 2003 respectively.

Report on ICON March 11, 2003 by James Simon

The first phase of funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) was concluded June 30, 2002. A final report was sent to NEH, and a modified version will be made available from ICON's Web site in the future.

As was reported in May 2002, ICON was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to continue its work from July 2002 through June 2004.

ICON continues to produce preservation microfilm of sel-

ected international newspapers. Preservation microfilming was completed recently on holdings of *La Razon* (Buenos Aires, Argentina) from Harvard University and the Library of Congress to create a complete run of this important daily from 1920-1946. The hard copy originals of *La Razon* were shipped back to their country of origin and placed with the Archive of *La Clarin* which promotes research from newspaper sources to journalists, researchers and historians in Argentina.

Other newspaper titles recently completed or currently underway include:

- Caracas journal (Caracas, Venezuela), 1946-1949
- Dimineata (Bucharest, Romania) 1914-1927
- Laikas (Buenos Aires, Argentina : Lithuanian)
- Musu pastogė (Sydney, Australia : Lithuanian), 1949-1976
- La Politique (Bucharest, Romania) 1915-1916
- El Popular (Mexico City, Mexico), 1938-1949
- Rumänischer Lloyd (Bucharest, Romania) 1914-1915
- Spólnota (Warsaw, Poland) 1921-1939
- Tico Times (San José, Costa Rica), 1973-1980
- Turkish daily news (Ankara, Turkey), 1962-1980

ICON also continues to maintain the Database of International Newspapers. As of the end of the project in June 2002, the ICON database contained 22,000 bibliographic records and 10,000 holdings records. Plans for the second phase of funding call for the addition of holdings information from 30 additional institutions (to be determined after collecting survey responses).

The ICON web site and database are available at: <http://icon.crl.edu>

Through grant funds, ICON has appointed a Cataloguing Coordinator for the project.

Melissa Roser (roser@crl.edu) will be responsible for developing a work plan for the cataloguing of up to 1,000 international newspaper titles from ICON project participants over the course of the grant. Melissa will also be responsible for the maintenance and development of the ICON database.

It is with regret we announce that John Dorr has accepted a position at another institution. His contributions to the project and to CRL were immense, and we will miss his presence immensely. Details will be made available as to an eventual replacement. In the meanwhile, please contact James Simon, Director of International Resources, at simon@crl.edu.

Report on ICON NS 2003/8 by Missy Roser

ICON has undergone an administrative transition in the last few months, albeit a smooth one. John Dorr left for a new position at the end of February, and James Simon, CRL's Director of International Resources, took on a much more active role in overseeing the project. Missy Roser, ICON's Cataloguing Coordinator, gradually assumed more of the responsibilities for daily workings and was named Project Coordinator in June, with James Simon continuing to act as co-manager. The cataloguing duties will be ably fulfilled by Steve Early, a veteran CRL serials cataloguer and our CONSER representative.

ICON's proposal for the next phase of funding from the Division of Preservation and Access at the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) was submitted July 15, 2003. The application de-

tailed ICON's plans for the period of July 2004-June 2006:

1. Continue to reformat in microfilm international newspapers held by U.S. institutions, focusing on the most important resources for the study of world regions.

2. Actively coordinate and support continued cataloguing of international newspapers in participating U.S. libraries, increasing the availability of bibliographic and holdings records for scholars.

3. Enhance and expand the ICON Database of International Newspapers to include additional participant's contributions, integrate and incorporate information from disparate data sources, and explore advanced querying models such as the Open Archives Initiative.

4. Significantly augment the online availability of scholarly and professional information about international newspapers by converting key bibliographic aids to digital form and creating a tool to track microfilming schedules and filming intentions of non-profit and educational institutions.

5. Lay the groundwork for an ongoing, self-sustaining ICON program, expanding the number of participants and contributors, drawing upon expertise and resources available through related programs at CRL and other institutions, and creating a broader advocacy role for ICON.

We should hear from the NEH about the status of ICON's proposal by next April.

Meanwhile, we've just entered the second year of our current phase of funding. A pri-

mary focus has been a survey of international newspaper collections in the United States and Canada, which was sent directly and through SERIALST, (a discussion list for serials issues) to over 300 institutions and 2500 serials librarians. Building on the IFLA survey, the ICON survey was designed to elicit basic information from a broad cross-section of North American libraries. It also offered the opportunity for librarians to describe their foreign newspaper cataloguing, retention, storage, reformatting, and ILL policies in more depth. This "snapshot from the stacks" will inform ICON's planning, reveal both the best practices and necessary realities for different types of libraries, and help identify interested participants for the further development of the ICON database.

ICON continues to produce preservation microfilm of selected international newspapers. Filming was completed recently on the *Turkish Daily News* (Ankara, Turkey) from 1962 to 1980; holdings came primarily from the University of California-Berkeley, with several gaps filled in by the Hoover Institution's issues. Berkeley is one of our major partners for this phase, and in the coming months they will also be filming four Mexican titles and one from Egypt. Preparation work is nearly done on nine Slavic and Eastern European newspapers, most of which come from Columbia University:

Odjek (Sarajevo, Bosnia), 1904-1905, 1947-1949, 1969-1972;

Új szó (Bratislava, Slovakia), 1945-1955;

Magyar nemzet (Budapest, Hungary), 1940-1949, 1956-1961;

Literaturuli Sakartvelo (Tbilisi, Georgian Republic), 1963-1988;

Lidová demokracie (Prague, Czech Republic), 1952-1962; *Glas Slavonije* (Osijek, Croatia), 1946-1956;

Slovenija (Ljubljana, Slovenia), 1932-1941;

Előre (Bucharest, Romania), 1958-1971; and

Illustrirani vjesnik (Zagreb, Croatia), 1945-1952.

Missing issues from several of the Berkeley and Columbia titles are being supplied by the Library of Congress.

ICON has also continued to evaluate and improve the Database of International Newspapers. Working with our database consultant, we've added features for better navigation, default and reverse sorts, a dynamic dropdown list of languages, and the ability to jump between records in result lists. We'll also be adding nearly 1,000 records for non-U.S. newspapers from the University of Washington. The web site will have new content as well, with the results of the ICON survey posted this fall along with an initial attempt to provide a combined filming queue in the hopes of better communication and the elimination of redundant efforts. The ICON web site and database are available at: <http://icon.crl.edu>

FUTURE IFLA CONFERENCES

69th 2003 Berlin
70th 2004 Buenos Aires
71st 2005 Oslo
72nd 2006 Seoul
73rd 2007 Durban
74th 2008 Quebec City

Theme for the 70th 2004 Buenos Aires conference will be Newspapers of Latin America.