

CHANGE AT THE TOP

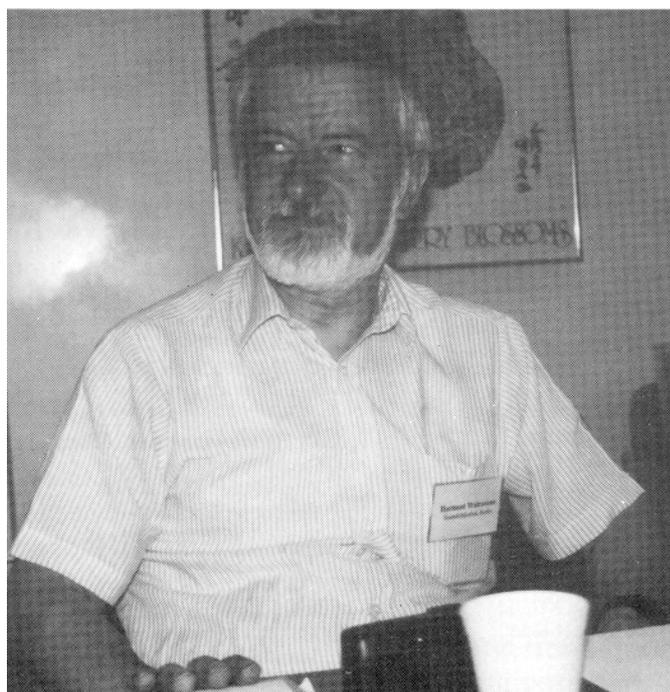
The Round Table has been quite successful over the years considering the difficult subject matter and the widely varying attention that is paid to newspapers - on one side we have advanced countries like the USA and the UL where nationwide newspaper programmes see to systematic cataloguing and security microfilming of extant holdings while on the other side librarians in many countries neither have the funds nor the expertise, often not even the awareness, to deal with newspapers in a competent way. It is regrettable that Robert Harriman stepped down as a chairman of the Round Table but after serving in this capacity for the last twelve years it is also understandable; also during the coming years we will be able to draw from his vast experience and the progressing achievements of the US Newspaper Program. While Hartmut Walravens was elected new chairperson of the Round Table at its Business meeting in May, 1997, there will be no revolutionary changes in its policy. The projects and activities for the next years have been outlined already; there will be a new focus on the eastern European countries with their large

newspaper holdings, and an attempt will be made to win the co-operation of more Asian, African and Latin American countries. The new chairperson is director of Bibliographical Services of the Berlin State Library which is now - after the unification - again Germany's largest library with about 9 million printed books, many special collections (music, maps, oriental and Western manuscripts, government publications etc.). The Bibliographic Services department focuses on the German Serials Database with about 900,000 serials titles and their holdings in German libraries. it includes also about 25,000 newspapers, and currently the holdings (estimate up to 20,000 titles) of the Archives of Parties and Mass Organisations (formerly Institute of Marxism-Leninism) are catalogued into the database. Unfortunately, there is no nationwide newspaper programme in Germany yet. In addition, the department is als6 in charge of the authority file of corporate bodies which is widely used by German libraries, and the international administration of both the ISBN and ISMN systems.

Hartmut Walravens



Bob Harriman who stands down as Chair of the Round Table this month. In interview with Bob will appear in the next issue due in March 1998.



Hartmut Walravens, New Chair



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IFLA '97 Copenhagen
Rare Books and Manuscripts joint with Newspapers
Wednesday, 3rd September (15.30-18.00)
Theme: Early Newspapers

1. *Early newspapers and their forerunners in Central Europe*
EVA BLIEMBACH and HARTMUT WALRAVENS
(Abteilung überregionale bibliographische Dienste,
Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Preussischer Kulturbesitz,
Berlin, Germany).

2. *News and modernization: newspaper structure and
developments in the earliest stages of the Scandinavian
press* JETTE D. SOLLINGE (Copenhagen, Denmark)

3. *Des feuilles volantes aux périodiques: la presse en France
au 17ème siècle*

PIERRE ALBERT (Institut Française de Presse,
Université de Paris II, Paris, France)

4. *Newsletters and newspapers: the circulation of news in
Britain in the 17th and 18th centuries*

HENRY SNYDER (University of California at
Riverside, Riverside, California, USA)

Thursday, 4th September

All day visit to the State Library, Aarhus, Jutland, and
to the premises of the biggest Danish newspaper
JYLLANDSPOSTEN. The State Library keeps the
Danish National Collection of Newspapers

Estonian Newspaper Microfilming Project

Helsinki University
Library and the National
Library of Estonia started
a joint microfilming
project in 1993. The aim
of the project is the
preservation microfilming
of Estonian newspapers,
their editions and
supplements from the
years of independence
1918- 1940. About 120
titles on 1211 reels of film
have been filmed during
this project, which will be
completed within a year.
Among the newspapers are
also titles printed in
Estonia in non- Estonian
languages. Seven titles
have been filmed in

German and 4- 5 titles will
be filmed in Russian
during 1997. The Estonian
Academy of Sciences and
Tartu University Library
participate by placing their
newspaper collections at the
projects disposal.

International standards are
followed. Guidance in
microfilming newspaper
standards is given by
Helsinki University Library,
which also has placed a
microfilming camera at the
disposal of the National
Library of Estonia. The
preparation of the
newspapers and the
microfilming is done in the
National Library of Estonia.
Unperforated 35mm
polyester based silverfilm of
archival quality is used. The

Audiovisual Centre of the University of Helsinki is responsible for the technical quality of the microfilms. The Archival Negatives are owned by Helsinki University Library. Positive copies are offered to the participating libraries.

Majken Bremer-Laamanen

Head of the Centre for Microfilming & Conservation Helsinki University Library

Newsplan and the Heritage Lottery Fund

The UK LINC NEWSPLAN Panel has submitted an application for the funding of a feasibility study into the establishment of a UK wide co-ordinated programme of preservation microfilming of UK local newspapers and the preparation of a full scale lottery application for funding for this programme. The feasibility study is regarded as essential to the success of the NEWSPLAN programme and its longer term programme of microfilming newspapers, in order to ensure their preservation and accessibility. Preliminary investigations have indicated the importance of continuing the co-operative efforts of all parts of the United Kingdom.

If the application is successful someone will be appointed and a programme of work will be drawn up in conjunction with the LINC NEWSPLAN PANEL through the Chair and Secretary of the Panel, Dr Ann Matheson, National Library of Scotland, and Mr John Byford, British Library.

John Byford

Head, British Library Newspaper Library

Canadian Newspapers at the National Library of Canada

The National Library of Canada currently collects in hardcopy a representative sample of Canadian dailies, all Canadian ethnic newspapers, all Canadian native newspapers and student newspaper received from the Canadian university press. All print issues may be consulted on-site, or requests for articles made through interlibrary loan. Various lists of newspapers currently received are available through the National Library's Web service.

The National Library of Canada's collection of Canadian newspapers on microform numbers over 200,000 reels. Recently, the National Library made its list of microform holdings

available on its Web service. The list, organized by province/territory and city, contains over 2,300 Canadian titles including the ethnic, native and student newspapers within the collection. Produced from an in-house finding aid, Canadian Newspapers on Microform. Held by the National Library of Canada provides researchers and librarians immediate access to information on the nature and extent of these research materials. All newspapers on microform are available on interlibrary loan, as well as on-site consultation.

The National Library of Canada's bilingual Web service address is <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca>. These guides to the newspaper collection are located at <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/services/enews.htm> for the English version and <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/services/fnews.htm> for the French version.

For more information on Canadian newspapers held by the National Library of Canada, please contact Sandra Burrows, Newspaper Specialist, Reference and Information Services Division, National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0N4, or by e-mail at Sandy.Burrows@nlc-bnc.ca.

Mary Jane Starr

Der Aprilaufstand 1876 in der Presse Österreich-Ungarns. Ein Sammelband aus Zeitschriften, Berichten, Mitteilungen und Artikeln in der Wiener Presse. Zusammenge stellt von Dr. Dimiter Drandijski. Redaktion, Kommentar und Bemerkungen Doz. Victoria Tileva. Sofia: Verlag der Nationalbibliothek St. st. Cyril und Methodius, 1996. 634pp.

The uprising against the Turkish rule in Bulgaria in April 1876 is considered one of the important national events in Bulgarian historiography. Sources for the historians are, of course, Turkish archives but also the numerous newspaper articles that were published by the press of the neighbouring Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Therefore it made a lot of sense that a Bulgarian patriot living in Vienna, Mr. Dandijski, spent a lot of time and effort to collect the respective articles and translate them into Bulgarian as German today is a little known language in the country. The material was passed on to the National Library in Sofia, and there Ms. Tileva edited it for publication while Prof. V. Paskaleva provided a preface that gives the historic context. For the newspaper specialist the introduction by the collector and translator is especially important as it provides lists

and brief characteristics of the analysed newspapers. The bulk of the volume is taken up by 380 newspaper articles in Bulgarian translation. A glossary of terms, many of them Turkish (pp. 607-612) proves helpful. The volume is concluded by two indexes, one of personal names and one of geographical terms, and the table of contents. The introductory material is provided both in Bulgarian and German while the articles themselves are offered in Bulgarian only. This makes sense as the publication turned out quite bulky already, and printing the original texts, too, would have been prohibitive.

This is an excellent example of the value of newspaper reports for historical research, especially when little other material is available. So far the use of newspapers to that extent has been rather unpopular - newspapers have not only a lower rating as historical sources, it is also time-consuming and labour-intensive to compile the respective material. The problems usually begin already when trying to locate the newspapers in question.

The volume is excellently produced considering the grave economic difficulties Bulgaria is going through at the moment.

The reviewer was able to receive a copy of the book directly from the director of the library, Ms. Gancrva, during a visit to Sofia. As the library was completely out of money for postage, it would have been impossible to mail it. Therefore it may not be easy for interested parties to get a copy, in spite of the edition of 700.

Χριστοπουλος, Παναγιωτης Φ.: Εφημεριδες αποκειμεζατη Βιβλιοθηκη της Βουληζ (1789-1970). Περιγραφικος καταλογος. Αθηνα: Βιβλιοθηκη της Βουληο τωυ Ελληνωυ, Κευτρο Νεοελληνικων Ερευνωυ, Ε. Ι. Ε. 1994. XL,472 pp.

Parallel title: *Newspapers in the Greek Chamber of Deputies (1789- 1970). Descriptive catalogue.*

The Parliamentary Library in Athens has a large collection of newspapers. An earlier catalogue registered 1,092 titles in 1900 while the present new catalogue lists 3,600 titles. In spite of the impressive bibliography on the Greek press provided by the compiler on pp. XXIII-XL bibliographic control of Greek newspapers is still a serious problem. After a preface by Mr. Christopoulos (pp.IX-XX; English abstract pp. XXI-XXII) the present catalogue lists the holdings of the Parliamentary Library in two sections, Greek newspapers (i.e. in the Greek language), and

foreign (pp. 385 - 422) newspapers. A number of items look more like journals but it is useful to have as much material as possible available - the determination of the borderline is of no practical value to the reader but more a matter for the librarians. The titles are filed alphabetically, subtitles, place of publication and holdings of the library are the most important data given. A number of cross references is helpful. The index gives the titles according to places of publication (pp.

423-469); a convenient feature is the addition of the dates of publication, resp. holdings.

The author hopes that the catalogue may provide an incentive for a Greek union catalogue of newspapers; at any rate the Parliamentary Library's microfilming unit is doing preservation filming in order to save rare material from deterioration and make it accessible to a wider circle of readers. The volume is very well printed and produced and deserves attention.



FUTURE IFLA CONFERENCES

1997 Copenhagen * 1998 Amsterdam . 1999 Bangkok
2000 Jerusalem * 2001 Boston . 2002 Glasgow . 2003 St. Petersburg?

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