

GOODBYE AND WELCOME

In March 1998, Elsé Delaunay retired from the Bibliothèque nationale de France after 40 years in the Periodicals Department. She first worked as a cataloguer in the office of the French Union Catalogue of Periodicals (Catalogue collectif de périodiques des origines à 1939). After the publishing of the 5 volumes of the Union Catalogue (1967-1981) she took over the direction of the Office of the General Catalogue of Periodicals of the Bibliothèque nationale where she was in charge of the edition on microfiches in 1989. (The Catalogue was published on a CD-ROM in 1993).

In 1983/84 Elsé was head of the Preservation Office and, finally, in 1989 she became head of the Microfilming Office within the Periodicals Department where she has been responsible for the microfilming programmes for almost 10 years.

Since 1987, E10 has been the RT's French representative. At the IFLA General Conference in Paris in 1989 she arranged a whole day workshop on the Freedom Press. Two of the RT's business meetings also took place in Paris (1993 and 1996). In 1996, the Round Table and the IFLA Section on Serial Publications published the *Guidelines for Newspaper Preservation Microfilming* as an IFLA *Professional Report* (No. 49) which was compiled by Elsé with help from RT members.

Elsé's colleague at the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Isabelle Rollet has taken over as the RT's French member. After graduating from Library School in Lyons Isabelle Rollet became a member of the staff of the Periodicals Department. She is now head of the Preservation Office of the Department (Law, economy, political science), on the new premises of the BNF in Paris. Isabelle is in charge of both preservation and rest-oration programmes as well as of the microfilming programme within the department. In the new organization of the BNF the Newspaper



Elsé Delaunay



Isabelle Rollet

Elsé made a significant contribution to the development of the RT. We wish her well in her retirement.

collection comes under this department so Isabelle is concerned particularly with all the RT's activities in which she will play an active part.

In the next issue we hope to bring you similar pieces re. Dora Secic of Croatia, who has recently moved to another post and whose position has been filled by Elza Erdelii.

IFLA'98 AMSTERDAM August 16 - August 21, 1988

Round Table Committee Meeting: Saturday 15th August, 3p.m.

Open meeting :Tuesday, 18th August 3p.m.

Theme: *Newspapers in Easter Europe*

1. *Russian newspapers in Germany*
WALTER ANDREESEN (Statsbibliothek zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany).
2. *Estonian newspapers past and present*
LEIE JUHA (National Library of Estonia, Tallin, Estonia).
3. *Hungarian newspapers past and present*
ANIKO NAGY and ELIZABETH GAZDAG (Szechenyi Orszagos Konyvtar, Budapest, Hungary).
4. *Russian newspapers past and present*
LUDMILLA PRONINA (Regional Library of Ajazan, Russian Federation)

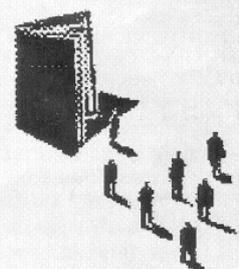
Workshop:Thursday, 20th August

Government Information and Official Publications joint with Newspapers (OFF - SITE)

Theme: *The Use of the Internet to Access Government Information and Information about Governments*

The workshop is planned to be a hands-on workshop for 40 participants offering guided tours of major sites and practical experience in their use.

1. *Web sites of governments, parliaments and international organisations*
HELEN M. SHEEHY (Pattee Library, Pennsylvania State Library, University Park, Pennsylvania, USA)
2. *Newspapers and periodicals on the Internet as sources of information about government activities: major Western sites, Eastern European sites, electronic versions of official gazettes.*
GEOFF SMITH (Modern Collections, British Library, London, UK)





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**ACRPP
Association for
Conservation and Photo-
graphic Reproduction of the
Press)**

Among French microfilm agencies ACRPP occupies a particular place as it is an association of several newspaper institutions such as the National Federation of the French Press, the French Newspaper Institute at the University of Paris, the Bibliothèque Nationale (cf. *News from the IFLA Round Table on Newspapers, Spring 1997, No. 4*).

ACRPP has just published its new Catalogue which has been totally re-organized since the 1995 edition. The introduction and presentation of the Catalogue are given both in French and English and the Catalogue is set up in a clear and easily understood method. It contains some 6000 French newspaper and periodical titles. So far it is the only real catalogue of periodicals on microfilm in France.

Microfilming newspapers is not only a question of safeguarding collections which are jeopardized by the poor quality of the paper. It is just as important to enable the duplication of single issues or complete holdings, thus making the wealth of documentary material available to as many people as possible, in France and abroad.

ACRPP has been engaged on that mission for the last forty years with recognized knowledge and professionalism. It is ongoing and will develop the quality of its services to match the cultural and technical progress which characterizes our times.

**NEWSPLAN
AND THE
HERITAGE
LOTTERY
FUND**

NEWSPLAN has submitted an application to the UK Heritage Lottery Fund for funding to support a UK-wide programme to microfilm historical files of local newspapers at risk to archival standards and by this means to preserve a unique part of the national heritage of the UK. The programme also envisages the provision of microfilm readers to enable users to have convenient access to the text of these newspapers and an investigation into the digitisation of newspaper text through the preservation medium of archival-quality microfilm to provide enhanced online access to them.

The investigation which has led to the full application was carried out with the assistance of a Feasibility Study supported by the HLF and the British Library. It showed that to meet the aim of saving UK local newspapers in peril, the programme will require to be of five years' duration, cover 3,460 titles, cost 83,816 reels of microfilm, and

include the provision of 800 microfilm readers, at a total cost of £16,303,708. Of this sum NEWSPLAN has requested 75% from the HLF, with the remaining 25 % to be found by the three UK national libraries, NEWSPLAN participants and the newspaper industry. Accommodation for the project - two full time member of staff are envisaged - has already been promised by the London Press Club and Freedom Forum.

All the NEWSPLAN regions have been active in the collection and presentation of information and at the third NEWSPLAN Conference in March, participants were brought up-to-date on progress by Dr Dennis Griffiths who carried out the Feasibility Study. Dr Ann Matheson, National Library of Scotland, and Mr John Byford, British Library, are the other two members of the Steering Group which prepared and submitted the full application.

A response from HLF is expected in 1998/99.

John Byford
Newspaper Librarian
British Library

**THE NEWSPAPER
COLLECTION OF THE
BERLIN STATE LIBRARY**

History

The Berlin State Library was founded in 1661 as the Electoral Library and focused on the acquisition of books. Newspapers were considered media of current information only; nevertheless a legal deposit edict of 1699 and following decrees by Prussian kings formed the basis for the collection and preservation of newspapers. But it was only library director Friedrich Wilken (1777-1840) who tackled the problem in a systematic way. In 1879 the director, the famous Egyptologist Richard Lepsius, promoted the idea of a newspaper museum while later on Adolf von Harnack proposed the establishment of a special newspaper department. World War I put an end to such designs.

AMBITIOUS PROJECT

In the meantime the library had started an ambitious union catalogue project which covered at first the Prussian libraries and was later extended to German libraries. An immense card file was built up and the first volumes went to the printer. A need was felt to also list the holdings of journals and newspapers but only the union lists of periodicals were realized. Urged by historians it was the Berlin Institute of Newspaper Research that took responsibility and published a still noteworthy *Standortskatalog wichtiger Zeirungsbestände* under the editorship of Hans Traub (Leipzig, 1933). This union list included the holdings of the then Prussian State Library which at the time held around 80,000 volumes (or packages, respectively) of newspapers. During World War II the library holdings were distributed among a larger number of storage facilities.

NEW START

The new start after 1945 was extremely difficult. The military administration of the occupation zones and the following East West conflict led to a split also with regard to the State Library. Only part of the holdings returned to the Public Scientific Library in the traditional Berlin building, which developed later on into the DeutscheStaatsbibliothek. A large



Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - Preussischer Kulterbesitz

amount of newspapers was given back by the Polish government that had taken over a number of depositories when the Polish state was moved westward to the Oder river. Not included were, however, newspapers from Silesia and other former German areas that had become Polish territory. Those publications that had been stored in the Western zones were assembled in the Marburg castle, gradually recatalogued (the catalogues had for the largest part remained in the East and were inaccessible) and later on moved to (West) Berlin where a new library building was erected close to the Berlin wall. While there were only fragments of the former newspaper collection in the holdings of this State Library of the Prussian Cultural Foundation the shared acquisitions scheme supported by the German Research Association assigned the responsibility for foreign newspapers to this library. When the German unification also led to a merger of the two state libraries (1992) a newspaper department was finally established. Its consolidated holdings comprised about 160,000 volumes of newspapers, 700 running subscriptions, and 20,000 reels of microfilm.

Focus on the collection

The majority of the newspapers relates to the former state of Prussia; in addition there are major German language papers like the *Hamburgische unparteyische Correspondent*, *Braunschweigische*

Anzeigen, *Allgemeine Zeitung*, and *Wiener Zeitung*. Some of the major foreign papers are also represented like *Le Moniteur universel*, *Journal de Paris*, *The Times*, and *St. Petersburger Zeitung*. Some of the foreign German language papers were also subscribed to, like *La Plata Zeitung* (Buenos Aires), and *Ostasiatischer Lloyd* (Shanghai). Special collections like the War Collection contains numerous papers relating to the wars of 1870/1871 and 1914-1918. Emigré papers are of special importance, like *Rul'*, *Nakanune*, and *Dziennik Berlinski* which catered to the needs of the Russian and Polish expatriats in Germany. In addition there is a near complete collection of the more important papers of the Soviet Occupation Zone and the later German Democratic Republic. Thus the library's newspapers now form the largest and most important collection in Germany.

Catalogues

There are two major ways of access to the collection:

- All papers are now recorded in the *Zeitschriftendatenbank* (German serials Database) which serves as a shared cataloguing system for German libraries and the central information resource for all serials. They can thus easily be tracked down without causing any trouble in definition - whether a paper is published daily, weekly, or monthly, or is a supplement to a journal, all titles are recorded indiscriminately in the database, with their holdings. The database

is available on the Internet (information: <http://dbfiink.de>), and also as a CD-ROM edition.

-There is a handwritten catalogue in the form of volumes, up to 1974, with indices (including a geographical index and an index of supplements).

Information on the collection

The library published a leaflet *Zeitungsabteilung. Löschnburg, Winfried: Die Zeitungs-bestände de Deutschen Staatsbibliothek. Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* 84.1970,278-283 Schochow, Werner: Bestandederehemaligen Preugischen Staatsbibliothek in West-Berlin. *Internationale Wissenschaftliche Korrespondenz zur Geschichte der deutschen Arbeiterbewegung.* 1964, H.4, pp.40-42 Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin. In: *Zeitungswörterbuch.* Hrsg. von Hans Böhrmann und Wilbert Ubbens. Berlin 1994, 244-247

Höfig, Willi: Die leidige Ephemere. Das Sondersammelngebiet Ausländische Zeitungen an der Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz Berlin. In: *Zeitungen in Bibliotheken.* Berlin 1986 (dbi-Materialien, 49), 84-103 Penzold, Leonhard: Die Zeitungssammlung der Deutschen Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin und ihre Verfilmung. *Info* 7. Jg51990, 72-76

A new handbook of newspaper cataloguing

Over the years the *Zeitschriftendatenbank* (German Serials Database) has developed into the major data resource for all kinds of serials in German libraries, including newspapers. At first only a few libraries recorded their holdings there but as soon as the then State Library of the Prussian Cultural Foundation had entered the more than 5,000 records of their union file of foreign newspapers, the database's attraction for newspaper purposes grew rapidly. Support by the German Research Association led to the incorporation of the holdings of the former Deutsche Staatsbibliothek (German State Library) and Archives of Parties and Mass Organisations, the former Institute of Marxism-Leninism, with its estimated



Deutsche Staatsbibliothek

12,000 newspaper titles. At the moment the database contains more than 30,000 newspaper records with holdings in German libraries and archives. While this number seems a satisfying result experts expect to find another up to 60,000 titles in German collections. There will be many fragments and short-lived items but the destructions of the wars make it imperative to collect, register and preserve what is still available. The ZDB started out as a simple union catalogue; when it turned into comprehensive online system it was necessary to adapt its structure and the interpretation of fields also to the needs of newspaper specialists. This was done so successfully that some cataloguers now complain about the too many options the system offers. Almost needless to say, there is a core cataloguing format and it is left to cataloguers to make the best use of the many additional options. The present publications is a special and independent version of the cataloguing manual as prepared for serials cataloguers.

The special features of newspapers are explained, and details of the cataloguing procedure give. The strong point of the presentation are the many examples and illustrations which make it immediately clear what is meant. For this reason one might call this publication simply a newspaper handbook; many readers will find a lot of useful information without ever wanting to go into cataloguing. There are a glossary of terms, indices, and a bibliography of literature on newspapers. Almost half of the book (pp.187-313) consists of illustrations which explain special characteristics of newspapers and their editions and versions. The handbook was compiled by Marieluise Schillig who has served as senior newspaper cataloguer of the State Library for many years - it gives the essence for her professional experience with the subject. Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin - Preußischer Kulturbesitz: *Zeitungen und zeitungssahnliche Periodika - ihre Beschreibung und Erfassung in der Zeitschriftendatenbank.* Bearbeitet von Marieluise Schillig. München: K. G. Saur, 1998. 313 pp.

MEMBERSHIP

It was felt desirable to attempt to increase the membership of the Round Table. Relevant and interested areas might include Denmark, Eastern Europe, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Israel and Arab States

EARLY SERIALS IN ESTC.

The English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC) has now passed its twentieth anniversary. It has grown beyond its original conception as a database of 18th century monographic imprints to include serials as well as monographs, and to extend back to the beginning of printing in the British Isles.

The Early Serials component of the ESTC got underway in late 1994. At the present time it includes records for nearly 1,500 titles. Upon completion of format integration, serials records will be loaded for North American imprints created at the American Antiquarian Society, taking the project halfway to its projected point of completion.

From the beginning, the biggest challenge has been to identify, and then to locate, surviving runs and scattered issues. No single bibliography exists. Therefore, the Early Serials team created an in-house database in which all the scattered information about titles found in a wide range of sources is brought together and organized. This database currently lists over 4,000 titles and 18,000 locations.

As project staff compile data and catalogue, the search for additional material continues. Previously unknown titles still come to light. Five issues of one extraordinarily rare item have recently been discovered in the National Library of Scotland. This crudely printed unsigned broadsheet of the 1760s or 1770s was issued with the evident purpose of attacking corrupt local city government. From the vehemence of its rhetoric it is unlikely to have survived officialdom for much longer than this brief recently re-discovered run. It is recorded in no list or bibliography. Its earliest known title: *The Coats Gazette.*

The Early Serials portion of the ESTC has already generated a number of inquiries from scholars eager to make use of this new and powerful bibliographic tool.

Juliet McLaren

(*Early Serials Project, ESTC*)

Hartmut Walravens

FUTURE IFLA CONFERENCES
1999 Bangkok - 2000 Jerusalem - 2001 Boston - 2002 Glasgow